MEALS FOR HEROES

Photo provided by Wind Creek
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 Members 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.

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.

Top Row (left to right):
Stephanie Bryan (Tribal Chair), Robert McGhee (Vice Chair), Charlotte Meckel (Secretary), Amy Bryan (Treasurer)

Bottom Row (left to right):
At-Large Council Members: Dewitt Carter, Candace Fayard, Sandy Hollinger, Keith Martin, Arthur Mothershed
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*Editor:*
Katie Mothershed  
akmothershed@pci-nsn.gov
“Indigenous peoples took to the streets in political rallies in the 1950s and 1960s,” Office of Archives and Records Management Director, Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees, said to attendees at the 74th Alabama Historical Association Annual Meeting in Florence, Alabama on April 9. She and retired Regulatory Affairs Division Director, Ms. Carolyn White, attended the event representing the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

She showed archival images including this picture which documents Chief Calvin McGhee with other Tribal leaders rallying behind political candidates to make their voices heard.

Task Force One for Membership Diversity co-Chair, Mr. David Lawrenz, invited Dr. Dees speak at the conference which exceeded 200 attendees. Wearing her fire-colored stomp dance regalia hand-sewn by her Seminole cousins, she gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Indigenous Peoples in Present-Day Alabama” to provide information on the nine state-recognized tribes within the State of Alabama.

“The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is both state and federally recognized,” she said to attendees who had never heard a speaker representing the Poarch Band of Creek Indians at their conference, Mr. Lawrenz said. “We are the only federally recognized Tribe within this state,” Dr. Dees added.

Mr. Lawrenz said he appreciated someone giving a presentation like this which very engaging for the audience. The significance of the presentation showed a “much needed voice for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, as well as all other Native Americans in Alabama and our nation,” he said.

Alabama Historical Association Secretary, Dr. Mark Wilson, said the presentation “conveyed the complex history of Indigenous peoples of our state in a short amount of time, and our attendees found the presentation informative and inspiring. Dr. Dees’ work to preserve, assess, and interpret the Tribe’s history is critical to our entire state’s knowledge and understanding of Indigenous peoples.”
Alabama Historical Association President, Dr. Ben H. Severance, said, in addition to being both lively, her talk “was a much-needed reminder that Native Americans are not just an important part of Alabama’s historical past, but a vibrant part of the state’s culture in present day.”

As a part of the conference, Dr. Dees and Ms. White attended sessions by other presenters and toured the Indian Mound of our ancestors. The earthen Mound was built approximately 2,000 years ago and is situated on the Tennessee River in Florence. They experienced a connection to our ancestors as they walked atop the forty-three-foot high summit.

To learn more about the Indian Mound, you can visit

www.florencealmuseums.com/landing-page/indianmoundmuseum

You can learn more about the Alabama Historical Association at

www.alabamahistory.net

The conference leadership invited Dr. Dees and Ms. White to attend next year’s Alabama Historical Association conference to give another presentation on the historical significance of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Mvto.

Submitted by Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D.
Your family fun begins now.

Whether it’s a big competition at Strikes Bowling Alley, a hit movie night at Cinema or a memorable dinner at FIRE Steakhouse, we’ve got excitement for all ages. So grab the whole family or plan a date night, and make it unforgettable at Wind Creek Atmore.

Escape every day at Wind Creek.
Tribal Members 21 years of age or older who are interested in a new house must 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 2021 tax returns
- Social security card(s) of all persons listed on the application
- Tribal ID card(s)
- Driver’s License
- Letter of First Generation Indian Descendant
- Custody verification
- Homeless verification
- Substandard living verification
- Plus other required documents

**Other Requirements:**

- Must have a credit score of 550 or higher
- Must qualify for very low income, low income, or over income

**Application Period:**

May 2, 2022 - June 30, 2022
MEALS FOR HEROES

Over the past two years, Frontline workers have dedicated long hours and many sleepless nights to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. To show appreciation, Wind Creek Hospitality set out on a mission to feed local hospitals and healthcare workers throughout Alabama and Northwest Florida.

After working with local restaurants and caterers, a total of 20,352 meals were donated to 49 hospitals and healthcare facilities from September 2021 to December 2021. Not only did this initiative show gratitude to frontline workers, but it also resulted in over $271,000 of revenue for 15 local businesses.

NEMOURS CHILDREN’S HEALTH

Wind Creek Hospitality donated $25,000 to Nemours Children’s Health in Pensacola, Florida. A leader in pediatric research and clinical trials, the donation will support the organization’s Promise for Every Child Initiative—dedicated to easing the financial burden of low-to-moderate income patient families throughout Pensacola and the Gulf Coast region.
SEMMES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wind Creek Hospitality’s Facilities Team delivered a refrigerator to Semmes Middle School’s Special Education classroom, located in Semmes, Alabama. Previously, students in the classroom were unable to store perishable items. Wind Creek Hospitality was happy to assist and wishes the program and students much success.

SAINT ANDREWS CHURCH

Services:
The 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of every month
10:00 AM
Anglican Catholic
Christ Is Our King
Join us for the Dustin Lynch Concert on June 11. Celebrate Father’s Day Weekend, June 17-19, with BOGO Tropic Falls theme park tickets. Keep coming back for summer magic all month long! Catch a Brandon Styles magic/variety show and raise a glass to Thirsty Thursday specials throughout Downtown OWA. Then Dash for the Cash (June 18, details online) and look for the splash—Tropic Falls Indoor Water Park’s coming soon this summer! Get all the details at VisitOWA.com!
The PCI Recreation Department would like to thank the two teams that represented our tribe by participating in the 2022 NAYO Basketball Tournament in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

The tournament had over ninety teams total for all divisions and was completed over Easter weekend. The two teams that we had were Poarch Creek and Mvskoke Warriors. Poarch Creek was coached by Noah Martin and Mvskoke Warriors was coached by Johnny Rolin. Although neither team was able to compete for the championship, both teams gained valuable experience that is necessary for a championship run in the future.
ALTHOUGH SLEEP PROBLEMS ARE COMMON, THERE ARE SOME EASY WAYS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF YOUR SLEEP. MANY PEOPLE FIND THAT THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING ALSO IMPROVES WHEN THEIR SLEEP IMPROVES.

GETTING A GOOD NIGHT’S SLEEP

TIPS FOR A RESTFUL NIGHT OF SLUMBER

Tip #1 Avoid caffeine close to bedtime
Some people have problems sleeping when they have consumed too much caffeine. This is especially true as you get older. Coffee, tea, soft drinks and chocolate are the main source of caffeine for most people. Some medications for colds, allergies, pain relief and appetite suppression also contain caffeine.

Tip #2 Avoid alcohol close to bedtime
It might feel like drinking alcohol helps you fall asleep faster, but alcohol can disrupt your sleep. Drinking alcohol before bedtime can also cause breathing problems and jerky arms and legs. People with alcohol problems often have chronic sleep problems.

Tip #3 Unwind
Stress has a big impact on sleep, so it’s important to take time to relax before bed. Read a good book, do crosswords or Sudoku, take a bath or shower, listen to calming music or try a relaxation exercise. Screen time is stimulating and the blue light emitted by devices can affect sleep, so it’s best to avoid watching TV, going online or using other electronic devices at least 30 minutes before bed.
ARE THERE DIFFERENT SLEEP PROBLEMS?
» Trouble falling asleep: lying in bed for more than 30 minutes without being able to fall asleep
» Trouble staying asleep: waking up frequently during the night
» Early morning waking: waking in the early hours of the morning before you need to get up but not being able to fall back asleep
» Behaviors that interfere with sleep: such as snoring, grinding your teeth, restless legs, sleep walking and breathing problems
» Sleeping too much or for too long
» Excessive sleepiness or urge to nap during the day
» Excessive fatigue or lack of energy

HOW MUCH SLEEP DO I REALLY NEED?
The Public Health Agency of Canada recommends the following sleep times:
» Toddlers: 11-14 hours a night
» Preschoolers: 10-13 hours a night
» School-aged children: 9-11 hours a night
» Teens: 8-10 hours a night
» Adults: 7-9 hours a night
» Older adults: 7-8 hours a night

HOW DO SLEEP PROBLEMS AFFECT MENTAL HEALTH?
Sleep problems can have a negative effect on your mental health by influencing your emotions, thoughts, behaviors and body sensations.
» Emotions: If your sleep is disturbed, you might feel irritable, grumpy, numb, sad, anxious, worried or stressed.
» Behaviors: You’re more likely to avoid your usual activities when you are experiencing sleep problems.
» Body sensations: Sleep difficulties can leave you feeling tired, drowsy or worn out.

ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL WAYS TO IMPROVE SLEEP IS TO MAKE SMALL CHANGES IN EVERYDAY BEHAVIORS THAT IMPACT HOW FAST YOU FALL ASLEEP AND WHETHER YOU STAY ASLEEP. THE GOAL IS TO INCREASE THE BEHAVIORS THAT IMPROVE SLEEP WHILE REDUCING THE BEHAVIORS THAT INTERFERE WITH SLEEP.
The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all Boys & Girls club members without charge. Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all SFSP activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at all sites listed on the attached form showing the specified start and end times for meals.

Breakfast and lunch will be served beginning May 27, 2022 until August 5, 2022, Monday through Friday.

Breakfast will be served from 7:30 – 9:00 AM
Lunch will be served from 11:00 – 2:00 PM

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

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, 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, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter 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; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.
Congratulations

We would like to wish our daughter Autumn (Oaks) Maxwell a very big congratulations. She’s graduating from MGCCC, as a Registered Nurse. Thanks to the Tribe for all their support.

Love,
Mom & Dad
Sandy & Brian Oaks
The Office of Archives and Records Management received a new donation of audiocassette tape recordings from Ms. Venus McGhee Prince on April 22, 2022. Ms. McGhee Prince, who works as the Chief Compliance Officer at Wind Creek, said she taped the oral history interviews with interviewees from the Tribal community in 1994 for her Senior Thesis when she was a student at Harvard.

These oral history interviews document generational Creek history from grandchildren to grandparents. The interviewees define parentage in Ellen and Joe O’Barr, Eleanor Inez and Adam Daughtry, Virginia and Edward Albert Godwin, Martha and Ralph Jackson, Mary and Bennie McGhee, Pat and Frank Andrews, and many more.

In the interviews, Ms. McGhee Prince asks questions that address a diverse spectrum of subjects from Creek traditions, to racial discrimination, to Tribal identity. The recordings document the interviewees’ unique vantage point on these subjects thereby giving us insights into Tribal history within the decade following the Tribe becoming federally recognized in 1984. They are unique in that we do not have any other collections of audio recordings spanning this type of range from that era.

Ms. McGhee Prince said she loaned her interview tape recordings to the Tribe in 2007 through the Tribal Historic Preservation Office. Over the years, that Office moved a number of times, and no one knew where the tapes were located. Office of Archives and Records Management staff searched for the tapes, even going so far as to climb up on the attic of the old red brick schoolhouse, but were unable to locate them.

It was not until 2021, in the midst of the pandemic, that Records Coordinator Ms. Cheryl Thrower rediscovered the interview tapes in the original “Preservations” shoebox that Ms. McGhee Prince had placed them in. What a great rediscovery!

Because of Ms. Thrower’s rediscovery, for the month of March 2022, the Office of Archives and Records Management recognized her for our Certificate of Recognition Program. She
went above and beyond the call of duty in the research, rediscovery, and donation of the Venus McGhee Prince Collection. Through her work, we were able to digitize these valuable interviews which preserves Tribal Member voices for the long haul and provides a backup to the analog audiocassette recordings on which they were initially recorded.

“It feels like I’m getting too much credit!” Ms. Thrower said in earnest. “My older sister, Rachael, was the one who discovered the tapes several years ago when she was organizing our family records. We knew they were potentially historically significant and tried to preserve them the best we could. I remembered that we had tapes in a shoebox!”

“We are indebted to Ms. Thrower and her family for preserving these tapes whose whereabouts were unknown for almost fifteen years,” Dr. Dees said.

After the digitization was completed, staff delivered the tapes back to the original owner, Ms. McGhee Prince. With safeguarding in mind, she made the decision to donate the tapes to the Tribe so that they could be protected in the fireproof Media Safe in the Office of Archives and Records Management where they now reside.

Our next step is to have the digital recordings optimized and enhanced and then transcribed so that we can share the recordings with the Tribal community at our future Evening with the Elders legacy series which was eclipsed for two years by COVID-19. We will be able to hear these rediscovered voices from the Tribal community together in one setting.
Carol Cole
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251-765-2356
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• Flexible Schedule
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cost to you.

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Clint.Daughtrey@keytotheworldtravel.com

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TRIBAL MEMBERS ONLY

Vehicle Sold As Is—No Exceptions.
No Warranty or Repairs will be done.
All bids must be in a sealed envelope labeled with the vehicle name that you are bidding on.
Please make sure to include your name, contact phone number and tribal roll number on your bid submission.
Bid Closes: Monday, June 27, 2022 at 12:00PM CST
Bids turned in after the closing date and time will not be excepted.
Bids may be dropped off at Security at Wind Creek Atmore or sent via Fed-Ex/UPS

Wind Creek Hospitality
Attn: Jasmine Rackard, Corporate Senior Buyer II
303 Poarch Road
Atmore AL 36502
To set up a Viewing of the vehicle, please contact, Jasmine Rackard at 251-446-4300.

2009 Chevrolet HHR 1
4 Door
Color: White
Condition: Fair Sold AS IS
Mileage, 113,681
Minimum Bid $ 2,500.00

2009 Chevrolet HHR 2
4 Door
Color: White
Condition: Fair Sold AS IS
Mileage, 100,500
Minimum Bid $ 2,500.00

2009 Chevrolet HHR 3
4 Door
Color: White
Condition: Fair Sold AS IS
Mileage, 52,682
Minimum Bid $ 2,500.00
WHAT’S NEW AT OWA

Things are heating up at OWA Parks & Resort this June! Looking to enjoy some quality time with your family and friends? Come join us for some fun in the sun and make some lasting memories with your loved ones.

On June 8, high school students from across the state of Alabama will come to OWA to attend the first of its kind, RNT+ Experience presented by Reach and Teach, an educational nonprofit. Students will gain valuable experience working alongside industry professionals to plan and execute the Tunes and Tan Lines Music Fest featuring Dustin Lynch along with Bailey Zimmerman and Ella Langley on Saturday, June 11. Gates open at 5pm, the concert begins at 6pm. Ticket prices start at $25 with VIP Packages and Premium Parking also available. Tickets can be purchased at VisitOWA.com/Tunes-Tanlines or at the Tropic Falls Admission window.

Dads just want to have fun at Tropic Falls Theme Park this June! All Tropic Falls Day Passes are buy one, get one free for dad, June 18, 19 and 20 only. Plan a Father’s Day out and treat dad to a day of fun at OWA!

Grab your bathing suit and get ready to Dash to the Cash, June 18, on the Gravity Island Aqua Play with more than $550 in cash prizes up for grabs!

Submitted by:
Courtney Coutinho
Marketing Coordinator
Use your Aqua Play skills to compete and see who is the swiftest at completing the Aqua Play courses. Participants will be split into 4 different age categories and all participants must be pre-registered before the competition begins. Pre-register today at VisitOWA.com.

That’s not all that’s happening! Don’t forget to check out the Magic and Variety Shows from Brandon Styles Live, with shows weekly in Downtown! Plus, tournaments are back at Clash eSports Center! Flex your skills and compete for cash prizes every week.

Have you heard the news? Our new Indoor Water park is opening in late June! Keep up with all of the latest news on events, entertainment, and activities via our website VisitOWA.com or by following us on social media @VisitOWA.
The 2021/2022 school year has officially came to an end! It’s been a long two years with a lot of trials and tribulations. The pandemic really took a toll on everyone and we are so excited to see things back to normal. We are looking forward to a great 2022 summer program!

**Here are a few important dates for the BGC:**

- May 31  PCI/BGC closed for the Memorial Day holiday
- June 1–3  Fishing Rodeo
- June 6  BGC programs and classes begin
- July 4  PCI/ BGC closed for the Independence Day holiday
- July  will be open enrollment for the 2022/2023 BGC year
- Aug. 5  BGC will be closed

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

Submitted by Donna Koerhsen
Untreated hearing loss is linked to dementia, but hearing aids can reduce your cognitive burden and minimize your risk of developing it.¹

June is Brain Awareness Month—what a great time to schedule a hearing test!


Make use of your amazing zero out-of-pocket hearing aid benefit.

Call 251-272-8975 To Schedule An Appointment.

Questions regarding your Poarch Creek hearing aid benefit?
Contact Nioma Till, Case Manager, 251-368-9136, Ext. 2386.

Elizabeth Pickett, Au.D., CCC-A
Nicole Riis, Au.D., CCC-A, FAAA
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<td>Haley Madison</td>
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<td>Kevin McGhee</td>
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2022
BOARD/COMMITTEE/AUTHORITY/COMMISSION
APPOINTEES
**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Tribal Council announces openings on the following boards:

**UTILITY AUTHORITY**
1 year board term

**GRIEVANCE BOARD**
1 year board term

**ELECTION BOARD**
2 year term as an alternate

Please apply online on Poarch Creek Connect if you are interested in applying for a board, or an application can be emailed to you by contacting:

Debra Strickland, Legislative Coordinator
251-368-9136 ext. 2935
dstrickland@pci-nsn.gov

All applications must be received by close of business on June 30, 2022.

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**Did you know Hearing Loss can affect your Physical and Mental Health?**

Studies Show that untreated Hearing Loss can increase the risk of Alzheimer’s disease, Dementia and Depression in older Adults.

Come see Dr. Austin Black, Au.D., Beltone Audiologist at the Buford L. Rolin Health Clinic on Friday, June 17, 2022 from 8:00am - 4:00pm for all your hearing needs. Please call us TOLL FREE for an appointment at (888) 593-4327.

**Beltone makes it easy for you to re-connect with:**

- FREE Hearing Screenings for you and your family.
- Financing Available (see office for details).
- Hearing Solutions to fit almost every hearing loss, lifestyle and budget.
- 3 Generations of helping people hear better.

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* Tailored Design
* Tailored Care
* Tailored Connectivity

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Pensacola Office
6024 N 9th Avenue
Pensacola, FL

Atmore Office
401 E Church Street
Atmore, AL

(888) 593-4327
The Office of Archives and Records Management announces the children’s book launch of “Singy the Cow” by Ms. Roberta McGhee Sells (1917-2002). The book features the Mvskoke and English languages as well as artwork by the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Marcus Briggs-Cloud provided the Mvskoke translation from English. This exciting book tells the true story of Ms. Sells and her mother, Bessie McGhee, trading biddies for a sick cow that they doctored when Ms. Sells was a child.

The Office of Archives and Records Management Director, Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dees, recorded the story in 2001 when she was collecting oral history interview data for her dissertation at Harvard. She then donated the recording, along with others, to the Tribe.

The Office of Archives and Records Management staff decided to develop a children’s book series from stories by our elders such as this in order to disseminate information on Creek history to the Tribal community.

Staff solicited bids for the children’s book from over fifteen publishers in order to get the best price. Bluewater Publications, located in Florence, Alabama, won the bid. “Singy the Cow” is the first book in the children’s book series.

The Children’s Book Committee was formed in 2019 consisting of Dr. Deidra Suwanee Dee, Dr. Karla Martin, Dawson, Carolyn White, Mindy Jackson McGhee, Stephanie Agerton, Sandra Hiebert, and Leasha Martin. While the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the publication, the Committee is excited to launch this historic book in 2022.

For our book launch, staff will be passing out one book to each Tribal Member head of household who lives in the Atmore zip code at the Election Day/Chief Calvin McGhee Memorial Day event on June 4 at the Pow Wow Grounds from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For those who live outside the Atmore zip code, the publisher is mailing your book to the address on file at Tribal Member Benefits.

For Atmore residents who are unable to pick up the book at the event, please call Mr. Chad Parker at (251) 446-4965 and we will make arrangements for you to pick up your book.

We are excited to see the words of Ms. Roberta McGhee Sells in print! Mvto.
The Office of Archives and Records Management staff decided to develop a children’s book series from stories by our elders such as this in order to disseminate information on Creek history to the Tribal community.
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<td>Newsletter Deadline</td>
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<td>6/3/2022</td>
<td>Absentee Ballot Deadline</td>
<td>Election Board</td>
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<td>6/3/2022</td>
<td>Walk-in Voting ends</td>
<td>Pickrell House</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<td>6/4/2022</td>
<td>2022 Election</td>
<td>Pickrell House</td>
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<td>6/6/2022 - 6/7/2022</td>
<td>Museum Gift Shop Closed</td>
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<td>6/10/2022</td>
<td>Family Court</td>
<td>Tribal Court Office</td>
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<td>6/14/2022</td>
<td>Tribal Court</td>
<td>Tribal Court Office</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/16/2022</td>
<td>Tribal Council Meeting</td>
<td>Tribal Council Chambers</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/24/2022</td>
<td>Family Court</td>
<td>Tribal Court Office</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/26/2022</td>
<td>Tribal Court</td>
<td>Tribal Court Office</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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