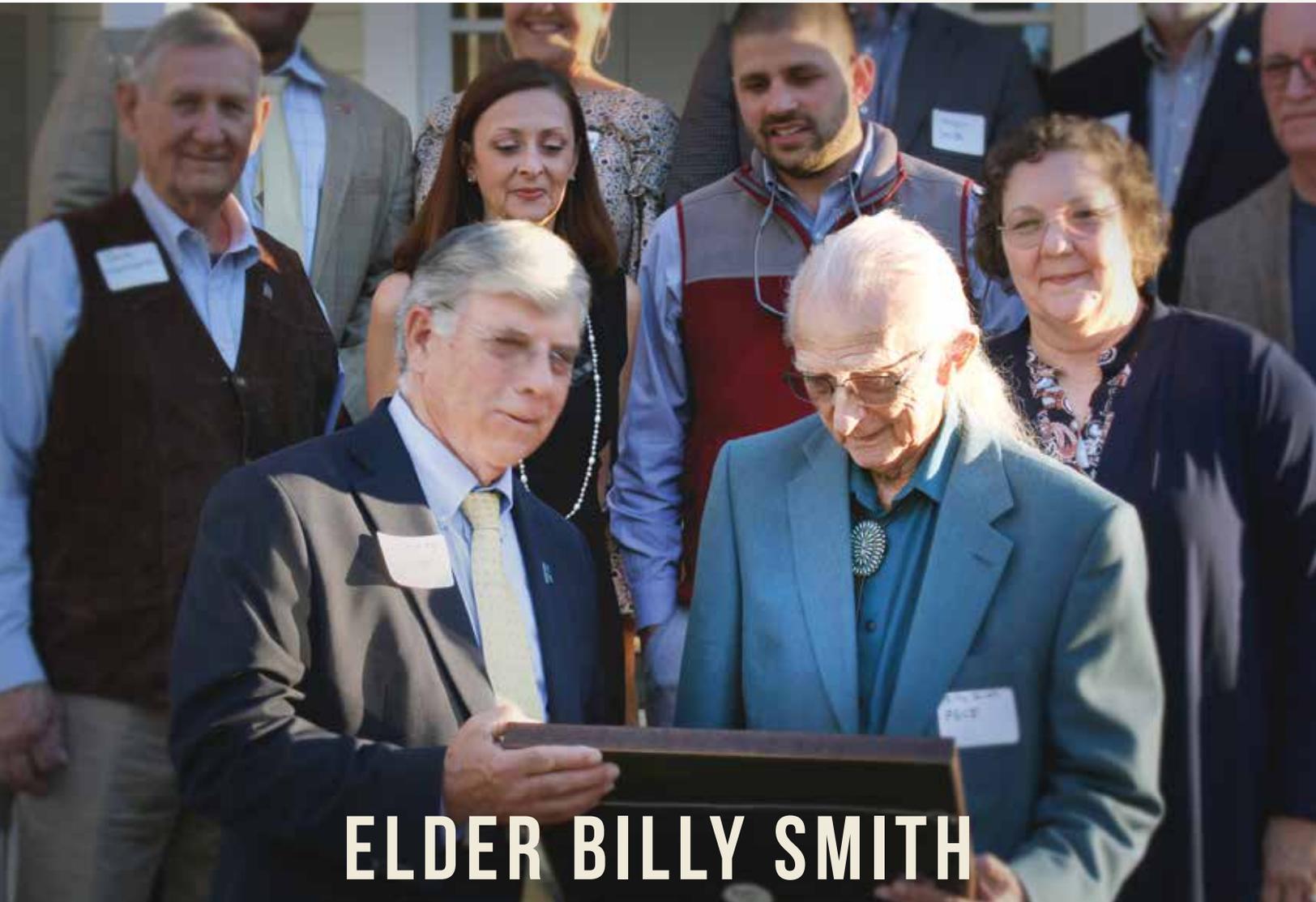


CREEK CORNER

ISSUE 05

The official magazine of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians



ELDER BILLY SMITH

Honored with Lifetime Partnership in Conservation Award

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



ELDER BILLY SMITH

Montgomery— Wednesday, March 2, 2022, Poarch Band of Creek Indians Elder Billy Smith received the first Lifetime Partnership in Conservation award from the Alabama Conservation Partnership, which is comprised of the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts, Alabama Agriculture Conservation Development Commission, Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee, and the Alabama state office for the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service. Johnny Lee, announced the honor during the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts' Open House, with an audience of conservation partners and public officials from throughout Alabama, including members of the legislature.



(Left to Right): Sabra Sutton, Alabama Association of Conservation Districts Executive Director, Honoree Billy Smith, Dr. Carol Knight, Chair, Alabama Agriculture Conservation Development Commission, Brandon McCray, Alabama USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service, Dr. Bill Puckett, Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee Executive Director, and Johnny Lee, President, Alabama Association of Conservation Districts.



Johnny Lee, Association of Conservation Districts Board President, presents Poarch Creek Elder Billy Smith with the Lifetime Conservation Partnership Award while surrounded by other representatives of the Alabama Conservation Partnership.

HONORED WITH LIFETIME PARTNERSHIP - IN CONSERVATION AWARD



(Front to Back, Left to Right) – Front row: Honoree Billy Smith, Johnny Lee, Association of Conservation Districts Board President, Jack Wadsworth, Alabama Association of Conservation Districts Area IV President, Justin House, Alabama Association of Conservation Districts Area VI President, Dr. Carol Knight, Alabama Agriculture Development Conservation Commission Chair, David Elliott, Poarch Band of Creek Indians Consultant, Vaughn Poe, Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee, Debbie Clements, Alabama Association of Conservation Districts Ex Officio Board, Cameron Smith, Alabama Association of Conservation Districts 2nd Vice President, and Dr. Bill Puckett, Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee Executive Director.

Mr. Billy, as he is referred to amongst those who have the privilege to know and work with him, was selected as the first recipient of this honor for his decades of service protecting and restoring natural resources and his perseverance in teaching all ages about the importance of these efforts. Selecting him as the inaugural honoree seems appropriate when considering the overwhelming influence his conservation efforts have had throughout Alabama. This includes his leadership for developing the Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve, an exemplary example of combining land restoration, wildlife management, and environmental education. Those within the Alabama Conservation Partnership consider it a privilege to work alongside Mr. Billy and are pleased to be able to honor decades of service advising and assisting our organizations.

For more information

Sabra Sutton

Alabama Association of Conservation Districts

Phone number: (334) 593-3363

Email: sabra@alconservationdistricts.org



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TAHO PROGRAM

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



ALS AWARENESS MAY 2022

May is ALS Awareness Month. Of course, this year is different than past years as the world has changed significantly in the face of a global pandemic. However, ALS doesn't stop and neither will we. During the month of May we have a full calendar to increase awareness of ALS and of the severe physical, emotional, and financial burdens it creates for people living with the disease and their families.

Because of their vulnerability to COVID-19, people living with ALS and their caregivers are practicing extreme social distancing, living in isolation, and unable to access traditional care and resources. Since the pandemic reached the US, the ALS Association has been working around the clock to adapt essential care services to virtual and online

platforms, and advocating tirelessly in Washington, D.C., to make sure those living with ALS are not left behind as important stimulus packages and other legislation are being considered.

We have a lot of information and opportunities to share in the weeks ahead, including our celebrations of #GivingTuesdayNow on May 5th, ALS Youth ActionDay on May 16th, Mothers Day, and Memorial Day. We also invite you to a series of webinars around ALS advocacy and our June 2nd Virtual Hill Day. [🔗](#)

Source: [als.org](https://www.als.org)

EVENTS

2022 Jacksonville Walk to Defeat ALS

8:00 am - 12:00 noon

April 9, 2022

Location:

Seven Bridges Grille & Brewery

Jacksonville, FL 32246

Caring for the Caregiver: Frontal Temporal Dementia (FTD) and Cognitive Changes as They Relate to ALS Webinar

March 24, 2022

2:00 - 3:30 pm ET

Visit als.org for more events near you! ☘



SAINT ANDREWS CHURCH



Services:

The 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of every month

10:00 AM

Anglican Catholic
Christ Is Our King



HOT AIR BALLOONS. FIREWORKS. *Fun* IN THE AIR ALL MONTH LONG!

Celebrate Mom at OWA this Mother's Day weekend, May 6-8. Treat her to "Legends of Country" at Legends in Concert or a Brandon Styles magic and variety show! The fun soars May 12-14—the Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival at OWA! Plan to celebrate Memorial Day weekend with us, and come back for fun all month long, like Gravity Island Wake Park & Aqua Play and great new tournaments at Clash eSports! See all May events at VisitOWA.com.

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A WORLD CLASS
DEVELOPMENT BY





PATRIOTIC SMOOTHIE

With Memorial Day being right around the corner, here's a healthy cold snack that will surely cool you off on this hot holiday.

This drink not only is healthy and delicious, it happens to be the same colors of our Country's flag that symbols our freedom that many women and men fought so bravely for.

Ingredients

1 frozen Banana
1 cup of Vanilla yogurt
½ cup of frozen Cherries
1 cup Acai Juice
¼ cup of Milk
1 ½ cup of ice

Instructions and Steps

1. In a blender combine ¼ banana, ¼ cup of yogurt, ½ cup of cherries, ½ cup of acai juice and ½ cup of ice. Blend until smooth. Divide evenly between 3 to 4 glasses and freeze for 30 minutes
2. In a blender combine ½ banana, ½ cup of yogurt, ¼ cup of milk, and ½ of ice. Blend until smooth. Divide evenly among the 3 or 4 glasses and freeze for 30 minutes
3. In a blender combine ¼ banana, ¼ cup of yogurt, ½ of blueberries, ½ cup of acai juice, and ½ cup of ice. Blend until smooth. Divide evenly between the 3 or 4 glasses and freeze until ready to serve.
4. Enjoy!

“EVEN THOUGH MEMORIAL DAY IS A FUN DAY TO CELEBRATE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, LET US NOT FORGET THE LIVES THAT WERE GIVEN SO WE COULD CELEBRATE THIS DAY.”

TOP PERFORMER

February
TOP PERFORMER

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Nettles

PCI
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Diner

fall in
love with
this local
fav

tomato gravy & rice

4740 JACK SPRING RD. **CREEK**
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**FIND
A NEW
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ACHIEVING HEALTHY TEETH TAKES A LIFETIME OF CARE. EVEN IF YOU'VE BEEN TOLD THAT YOU HAVE NICE TEETH, IT'S CRUCIAL TO TAKE THE RIGHT STEPS EVERY DAY TO TAKE CARE OF THEM AND PREVENT PROBLEMS.

11 WAYS TO KEEP YOUR

1. DON'T GO TO BED WITHOUT BRUSHING YOUR TEETH!

2. BRUSH PROPERLY!

Take your time, moving the toothbrush in gentle, circular motions to remove plaque. Unremoved plaque can harden, leading to calculus buildup and gingivitis.



3. DON'T NEGLECT YOUR TONGUE!

Plaque can also build up on your tongue. Not only can this lead to bad mouth odor, but it can lead to other oral health problems. Gently brush your tongue every time you brush your teeth.

4. USE A FLOURIDE TOOTHPASTE!

5. TREAT FLOSSING AS IMPORTANT AS BRUSHING!



THIS INVOLVES GETTING THE RIGHT ORAL CARE PRODUCTS, AS WELL AS BEING MINDFUL OF YOUR DAILY HABITS.

HEALTHLINE.COM

TEETH HEALTHY

6. DON'T LET FLOSSING DIFFICULTIES STOP YOU!

Flossing can be difficult, especially for young children and older adults with arthritis. Ready-to-us dental flossers from the drugstore can make a difference.

7. CONSIDER MOUTHWASH!



8. DRINK MORE WATER!

9. EAT CRUNCHY FRUITS AND VEGETABLES!

10. LIMIT SUGARY AND ACIDIC FOODS!

11. SEE YOUR DENTIST AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR! ✂



CIEDA

SMALL BUSINESS

Loan Program

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

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

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

- Yourself
- Your business
- Your financial needs

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

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

Lending Guidelines

Are you or have you ...

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

If so, you are a good match for the loan pro-

Will I have to disclose personal information?
Yes, personal information, such as tax returns, credit score and a personal financial statement, are required.

How do the rates compare to banks and financial institutions?
Often the CIEDA loan program lending rates are more competitive than traditional banks.

How successful is the CIEDA loan program?
To date this program has a 95 percent success rate.

It's A Boy!

Emiliano Perez Torres
Grandson of Lisa Torres
Great great grandson of
Lola Colbert



Submitted by Lisa Torres



**WE'VE GOT
YOUR SUPPLIES**



**NEXT TO
WIND CREEK
ATMORE**



SAFETY FIRST!

February
SAFETY AWARD



Bryant
Andrew



CCS WETUMPKA **STOCK UP AND EXPLORE!**



Next to Wind Creek
Wetumpka

PRESS RELEASE

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, audiotope, 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.

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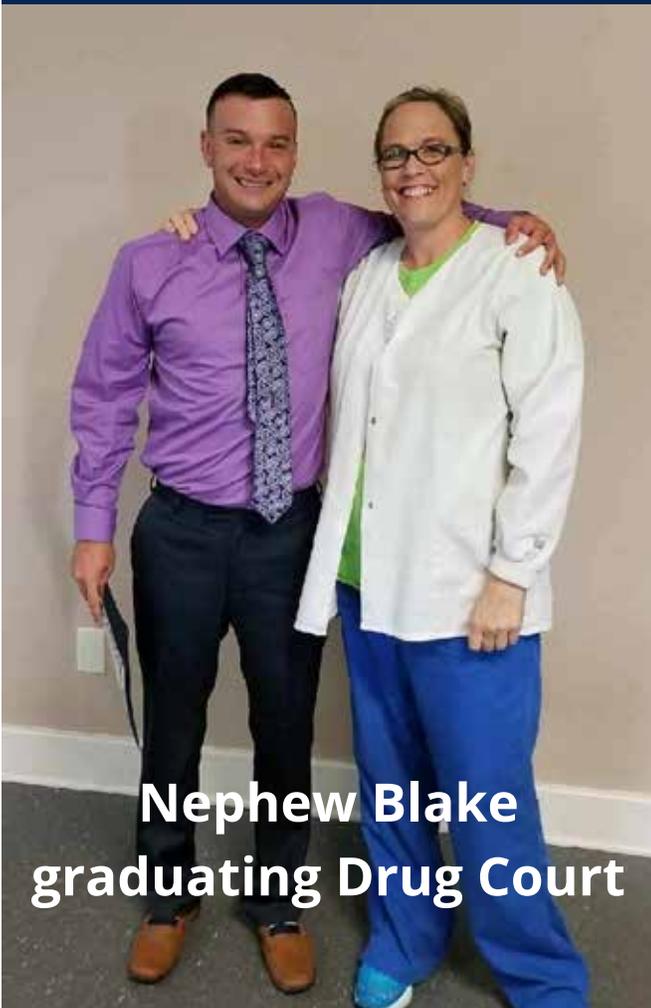
Addiction counselor and
additional psychiatrist

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Create on site rehab facility

***Focus on long term
recovery**

Wellness Court and community
outreach



**Nephew Blake
graduating Drug Court**



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WHAT'S NEW AT OWA

The sun is shining, and our calendars are filling up with fun things to do here at OWA Parks & Resort! Looking for a fantastic way to celebrate time spent with your family? Check out what we have going on this month and join us for some idyllic outdoor activities and iconic nightlife.

Looking to celebrate Mom? Join us for buy one, get one free general admission theme park tickets for Mom on Mother's Day weekend at Tropic Falls Theme Park! Don't forget to treat her to a special gift from Downtown OWA shops like Native Treasures and take her to enjoy a meal from Paula Deen's Family Kitchen before the day is done.

The Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival is back for 2022! May 12, 13, and 14, we'll cheers to 18 years of hot air balloon magic here in Foley, and two years of making it happen right here at OWA. Named the 2021 Alabama Tourism Event of the Year, we're looking forward to seeing the amazing designs of over 55 participating hot air balloons, meeting the pilots, dancing and singing along to live music, plus enjoying the vendors and activities. Come out to see this year's special balloon shapes, including Laska the Unicorn, Sunny Boy or new for 2022, Humpty!

More big celebrations on the calendar include our weekend of fun leading up to Memorial Day, like the annual firework celebration on Saturday, May 28. Snag a pair of fireworks glasses to see the event in 3D! We will also have kids' activities and crafts like the patriotic t-shirt, a crowd favorite. Live music is on the schedule and will be playing from the OWA Island, so be sure to check our calendar leading up to the weekend for a full schedule of events!

Ready to make a splash? The Aqua Play at Gravity Island Watersports is open for the 2022 season and offering some awesome deals on Tuesdays and Wednesdays! Bring a buddy for only \$5 more, when paying for aqua play sessions, with code BUDDY02. Feeling adventurous? First timers at the Wake Park can use code FIRSTTIME22 at checkout to book their first Wake Park session with gear and a coaching headset for only \$35++!



OWA
Parks & Resort

Submitted by:
Loren Powell
Social Media Coordinator

The clock is ticking...have you seen the iconic Legends of Country® lineup yet from Legends In Concert? It's time to put it on your schedule for nightlife if not, because these stars are only here through May 29. Catch dazzling tributes by Stacey Whitton Summers as she pays homage to Shania Twain and Martina McBride, Shawn Gerhard as country music superstar Garth Brooks and Patrick Dunn as Elvis Presley. Plus, Elvis tribute artist fans around the country will recognize Patrick, as he is the recently crowned 2021 Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Champion from Elvis Week in Memphis. Legends of Country® will be his first and only appearance in coastal Alabama, so don't miss out!

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.

Keep up with our new events, entertainment, and activities, plus new tenant openings in Downtown OWA via our website, VisitOWA.com or by following us on social media @VisitOWA or by searching OWA Parks & Resort. 🌀



Congratulations to Gayle Veasey! The Office of Archives and Records Management announces Gayle Veasey as the winner of our 2022 Best Recipe Contest. Ms. Veasey submitted the recipe, "Lemon Pecan Fruitcake Cookies," in honor of her mother Ms. Annie Ruth Walker Lewis, along with the above picture—appetizing recipe and priceless picture!

In addition to being published above in the Creek Corner Magazine, Ms. Veasey will receive a professionally framed picture of her winning recipe and photograph capturing a lifetime of memories. This could become a keepsake to pass down for generations to come.

In the March 2022 issue of the Creek Corner Magazine, we announced our Best Recipe Contest, with pictures of the cooks, to help us build our collection of best recipes from our community. We were disappointed that we did not receive entries this year, perhaps because of the bad-weather closure of Tribal Offices on the day of the deadline. Therefore, our Team, led by Digital Archivist Mr. Chad Parker, decided to award a winner from last year's submissions.

From the submissions of great recipes last year, our Team selected Honorable Mentions including submissions from Amanda Jackson and Ellen Henson Creel in honor of Girlie McGhee Henson and Ellen Colbert McGhee (Japanese Fruit Cake—recipe over one-hundred years old); Jett Tillery in honor of Arelene Mack (Macaroni & Cheese; Meatloaf); Destini Bethea in honor of Kattie Barnhill (Chicken & Dumplings); We found that our community has quite an interesting pallet for a diversity of foods.

Mr. Parker said, "We appreciate each person who took the time to enter our Best Recipe Contest last year." All recipes and photographs submitted have become part of this permanent collection.

If you would like any of these recipes, please contact Mr. Chad Parker at (251) 446-4965 for a copy. Mvto. ☞

Submitted by Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D

BEST RECIPE WINNER



Ms. Gayle Veasey with mother,
Ms. Annie Ruth Walker Lewis

Lemon Pecan Fruitcake cookies
 1/2 lb candied cherries (chopped)
 1/2 lb. candied pineapple (chopped)
 1 1/2 quarts pecans (chopped)
 4 cups flour
 6 egg yolks (beaten)
 6 egg whites (beaten)
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 1 (2oz) bottle lemon extract
 1 lb. brown sugar
 1 lb. butter

Cream together sugar & butter until smooth
 add egg yolks mix well. combine 2 cups
 flour + baking powder with creamed mixture.
 add lemon extract. coat pecans pineapple
 cherries with cups of flour and add to
 creamed mixture fold in beaten egg whites
 cover and let sit overnight. spray with
 muffer pan with pan. spoon a tablespoon
 of mixture into each. cook at 250° for
 20 minutes let cool on wired racks until
 cooled.

Submitted by Gayle Veasey
 in honor of her mother
 Annie Ruth Walker Lewis

Rediscover Your World WITH BETTER HEARING

May is Better Hearing & Speech Month—
what a great time to rediscover doing what you love!

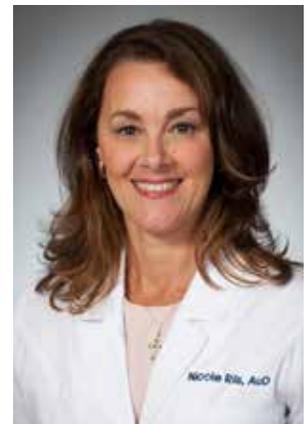
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Mobile, AL 36609



Elizabeth Pickett, Au.D., CCC-A

Nicole Riis, Au.D., CCC-A, FAAA

The Office of Archives and Records Management announces its first Before and After Photo Contest. We are building our collection of photographs from the Tribal community. Good examples of Before and After photographs are the above images of Ms. Eldnar McGhee's school picture and her picture today. Additional examples are the Before and After images of the Bingo Palace and Wind Creek; and the Before and After Tribal logos. Please use your imagination and interpret the Before and After theme in a broad creative manner. The photographs you submit could be old or new, black & white or color, paper or digital. Your photographs could become the exciting winner!

The winner will receive a professionally matted and framed image of the winning Before and After photographs which could capture a lifetime of memories. It could become a keepsake to pass down in your family for generations to come. The winning photographs will be published in Creek Corner Magazine. All photographs submitted will become part of the permanent collection of photographs.

Submissions: There are four ways you can submit your photographs. (1.) Our Office is now open so you can bring your photographs to 100 Brookwood Drive, Atmore, but please call first for an appointment at (251) 446-4965. (2.) You can send the photographs to Mr. Chad Parker's e-mail address at cparker@pci-nsn.gov as he is overseeing our contest series. (3.) You can text your photographs from your cell phone to (251) 253-9181. (4.) If you prefer, you can also mail paper copies in the U.S. mail to our mailing address: Attention Mr. Chad Parker, Office of Archives and Records Management, 100 Brookwood Drive, Atmore, AL 36502. Please do not mail originals which could become lost in the mail.

Rules: The deadline is May 20, 2022 at 5 p.m. All Tribal Member and Tribal employee households are eligible. Submit photographs with the name of the subjects or buildings. Include your name (person submitting photographs), mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number so we can contact you. Enter as many times as you want. Participants under 18 should obtain their parents' permission. For questions, call Mr. Chad Parker at (251) 446-4965. We look forward to receiving your Before and After photographs. Mvto. ☞



**BEFORE AND AFTER:
TRIBAL LOGO IN 1979 AND
TRIBAL LOGO TODAY, 2022**



BEFORE & AFTER

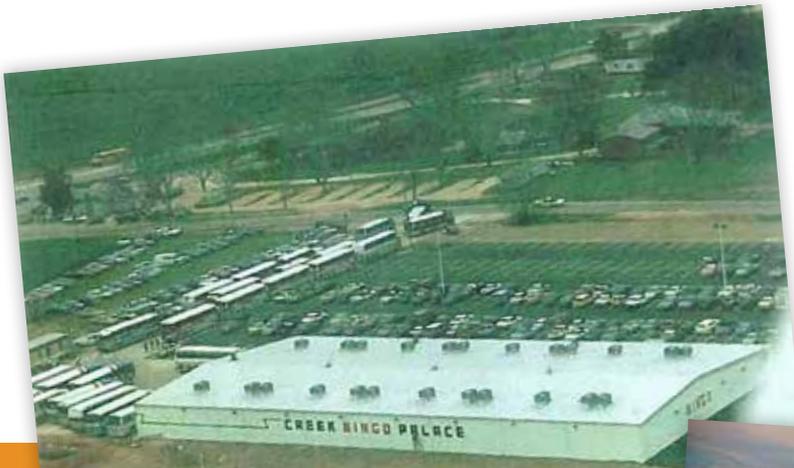
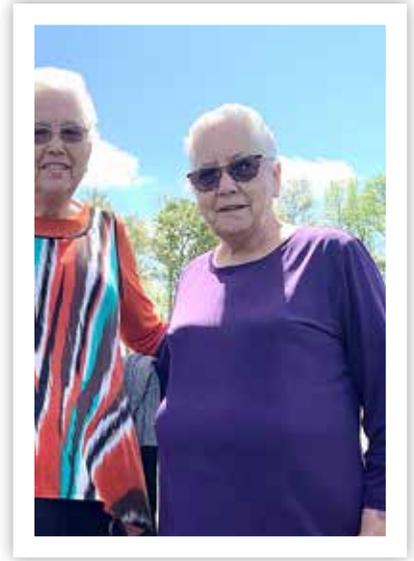
PHOTO CONTEST

Submitted by Deidra Suwane Dees, Ed.D.



**BEFORE AND AFTER:
ELDNAR MCGHEE'S SCHOOL
PICTURE AND TODAY, 2022;**

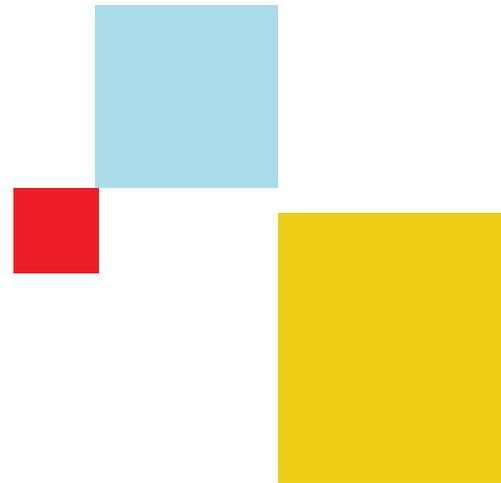
**PHOTO CREDIT (R):
DR. DEIDRA SUWANEE DEES**



BEFORE AND AFTER:

**BINGO PALACE AND
WIND CREEK ATMORE**

PHOTO PERMISSIONS: DAVID GEHMAN



MEMORIAL HEADSTONE DEDICATION SERVICE

Join us for the
Memorial Headstone Dedication Service

for

John A. Rikard

*Pvt. Co. G 36th AL Infantry
Confederate States Army*

Hosted by:

The Electra Semmes Colston Chapter 193

UDC

Sons of Confederate Veterans Camps of South Alabama

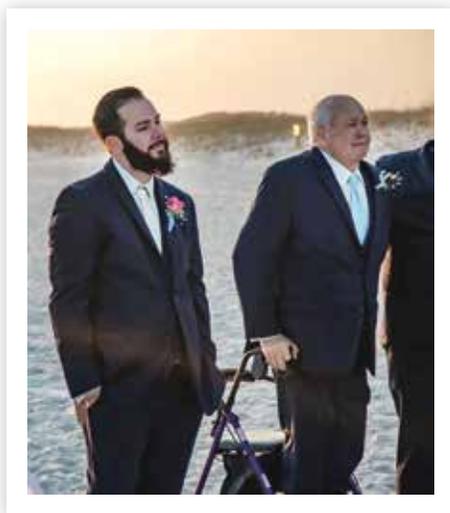
Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 2:00 PM

Judson Cemetery in Atmore, Alabama



LARRY ELLIOTT MCGHEE

August 2, 1947–February 18, 2022



Words could never express what you mean to me or how much. By name you were my uncle, but in my heart you were my Dad. You were my best friend, my best man, my person to talk with about anything, the father I never had, my EVERYTHING! You've always been there for me thru it all and I'll be forever grateful for you. I just want you to know that I'm down here missing you and still going to make you proud and do all the things you wanted. I know you're at peace now and walking streets of gold but I can't wait to see you again! I love you always and forever!

–Love,

Your nephew, Robbie (Pooh)

CONGRATULATIONS APRIL!

April Krusen is graduating from Pensacola Collage May 2022 top of her class from the Nursing Program Thanks to God and the Poarch Creek Indian Education Department. This would not be possible without your help and support.

Daughter of Regina Williams, sister of Logan Knowles and Reann Knowles Granddaughter of Pearl Presley Nall and Johnny Nall, Arthur Ramer, Sheila Ramer, Niece of Larry and Jennifer Ramer,

Jamie and Debra Ramer, Crystal Jackson, and Angela Ramer. We are all so proud of you.

It has been a long road to get to this day, Full time student, Single mom of 3, full time Emt for Pensacola Fl.

Only by the grace of God you could have done all of this at the same time.

Thank you, God, for giving me this daughter and best friend Love you always Mom.



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, May 13, 2022** from 8:00am - 4:00pm for all your hearing needs. Please call us TOLL FREE for an appointment at **(888) 593-4327**.

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Renaissance Wind Creek Curaçao took 2nd place in USA Today's 2022 10 Best Reader's Choice award contest for Best Caribbean Resort. Nominated by a group of travel experts for its private beach, infinity pool, casino, and other premium amenities, Renaissance Wind Creek Curaçao went head-to-head against other Caribbean Resorts—placing second overall—during a near one-month voting-style competition. Congratulations on this achievement, Renaissance Wind Creek Curaçao!



WIND CREEK BETHLEHEM EXPANSION

A new escape will soon debut at Wind Creek Hospitality's Pennsylvania resort, Wind Creek Bethlehem. Slated to open in Fall 2022, Wind Creek Bethlehem's expansion will redefine luxury with the opening of a second hotel tower. The expansion project will add:

- 35,000 square feet of meeting/events space—yielding a combined total of 60,000 square feet of space
- 24,000 square foot ballroom that will feature grand, 24' ceilings—making it the ideal space to accommodate weddings
- 270 lavish Guest rooms—yielding a combined total of 552 Guest rooms and 50 suites
- Rooftop indoor pool
- High-end lobby bar
- Custom art installations





Wind Creek Bethlehem is setting the standard for integrated resorts in the Northeast. We're eager for this addition to join our property's existing lineup of world-class gaming, dining, and premium amenities.

Kathy McCracken, Executive Vice President and General Manager at Wind Creek Bethlehem



Re-Elect AMY BRYAN GANTT Tribal Treasurer



Leadership is no longer about position, but passion.

Leadership is no longer about image, but impact.



251-253-9733 • amy4treasurer@yahoo.com



Engaged, Accountable, Resilient

The position of Tribal Treasurer should not be a figurehead or just another vote at the table. The Tribal Treasurer is responsible to report to the General Council on the fiscal health of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and their subsidiaries. This position should work hand in hand with the CFO, Chief of Staff, Accounting, Directors and Employees to analyze budgets, report financials, focus on cost-saving efforts, ensure maximized benefits to tribal members, and stay money-aware at all times. I propose to be that engaged Treasurer all tribal members deserve.

The last 3 years have been challenging to say the least. I have not been afforded the opportunity to supervise many aspects of our financial affairs, as our constitution and Tribal code dictates, *specifically within Tribal government*, nevertheless, **I have triumphed.**

I knew the people were hungry for **Solutions, Transparency, Ideas and Accountability**. I have fought every day to make sure Tribal members received exactly what they voted for when they voted for me.

I clearly understand the importance of fiscal responsibility, increasing our revenue stream, Tribal member focused governing and sovereign immunity protection. This is a delicate balance, where one must stay true to these objectives, making the difficult decisions and never being persuaded by partisan politics.

I would be honored to continue to be your voice at the table.

I humbly request you Vote AMY on June 4, 2022.



Never forget why you started!



251-253-9733 • amy4treasurer@yahoo.com

Tribal Member Ms. Sara Dalrymple attended the Poarch Consolidated Indian School which served Creek students from 1949 to 1970. She explained to Dr. Dees that she had been searching for official records showing her birthdate at the Escambia County Board of Education, but they were unable to locate them. She said she was birthed in her home by midwife, Ms. Joyce McGhee, Chief Calvin McGhee's wife, but over the years, her birth record was somehow mislaid. She hoped to use her first grade records to obtain an official birth certificate from the State of Alabama.

Dr. Dees regretted to inform her that she was unable to assist her at that time because the Tribe did not have access to the Poarch Consolidated Indian School records.

Education Director Ms. Sandra Hiebert said, in 2012, the Tribe partnered with the Escambia County Board of Education and began the digitization of the school records. "As the Education Department's Library Clerk, Ms. Leasha Martin was a driving force behind getting this project done," she said.

DISCOVERY OF POARCH

Ms. Leasha Martin said she worked with Superintendent Mr. Billy Hines who knew her mother, and Ms. Janet Benjamin at the Escambia County Board of Education, both of whom provided strong support for her research. Ms. Martin researched the school records using their microfiche reader which eventually broke, she said, and this ultimately led to their digitization.

CONSO

Once the records were digitized, the Tribe was provided digital copies of the school records. Ms. Martin worked alongside many people searching for their school records, Ms. Hiebert said. "Her mission was to make sure records belonging to our Tribal students, along with records for all who had attended Escambia County schools, were quickly and easily retrieved, and were safe and secure."

"In getting this project completed, Ms. Martin unwittingly began her journey toward working with the Archives," Ms. Hiebert said. In 2017, Ms. Martin was hired in the position of Archives Assistant in the Office of Archives and Records Management. Ms. Hiebert transferred the school records from the Education Department to the Office of Archives and Records Management for accessibility and dissemination. The records are stored on a specially designated computer in Ms. Martin's office with backup files stored on external hard drive which is kept in the fireproof Media Safe.

Since the acquisition, at intervals over the years, Ms. Martin, Ms. Ellen Daughtry O'Barr, and Dr. Dees conducted research in the digital records trying to find Ms. Dalrymple's records without success. The challenge is that the Poarch Consolidated Indian School records were handwritten in that era, rather than typed, therefore—although they are now digital—they are not searchable on the computer by OCR (Optical Character Recognition). The researcher must scroll through tens of thousands of school records, reading each page, to find an individual student's name. Our staff at the Office of Archives and Records Management recently revisited this Records Request on Ms. Dalrymple's request and conducted numerous hours of research stretched across days and weeks without finding them. Then, on March 24, 2022, staff found Ms. Dalrymple's first grade school records in the 1957-1958 school year—exciting news!

Dr. Dees immediately called Ms. Dalrymple on the telephone and let her know that her school records had finally been found. She was overjoyed! "I feel like I am a real person now," she said with laughter. This was the first time in her life that she had an official document with her birthdate on it, she said.

Who attended first grade with Sara Dalrymple? Some of the other students' names on the first grade roster include James E. Linam, Allen McGhee, Odell McGhee, Barbara A. Colbert, Eva Nell McGhee, and Janice Presley.

“I remember when she came into the Office of Archives and Records Management eleven years ago,” Director/Tribal Archivist Dr. Deidra Suwane Dees said. “She made a Records Request for her first grade school records. Our Office was located where the beautiful new Building 200 now stands.”

OLIDATED INDIAN SCHOOL RECORDS



Poarch Consolidated Indian School, 1968, courtesy Escambia County Historical Society



Ms. Sara Dalrymple searched for over a decade for records of her birth

“This is one of those projects that often doesn’t appear to pay dividends,” Ms. Hiebert said upon hearing the news of this find. The investment the Tribe made in the digitization of these school records “is not exciting or flashy, and can appear to be a waste of money. To that, I say its value may not be seen by most of us today, but will be crucial and of significance many years from now. This is the beauty of Archives and exceptional Records Management.” ❄



Did you know

MAY IS Better Hearing & Speech Month?

HEARING HEALTH SHOULD BE A PART OF ANNUAL HEALTH CHECKUPS, especially for those 60 years and older, but it is often forgotten and neglected. May is Better Hearing & Speech Month, and our audiologists at Premier Medical Group are here to remind you that your hearing health is important.

Below they've answered a few of the most common questions about hearing loss, including how to take advantage of your Poarch Creek Tribal member hearing benefit.

Q: What causes hearing loss?

A: A variety of factors can cause hearing loss; the two most common causes are:

Aging—Age-related hearing loss, known as presbycusis, affects an estimated one-third of adults by the age of 65.¹ The cumulative effects of noise exposure over a lifetime lead to a loss of hair cells in the inner ear, causing sensorineural hearing loss that interferes with high-pitched sounds in particular. Presbycusis is irreversible and ranges from mild to severe.

Noise exposure—Noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) results from damage to the hair cells of the inner ear following exposure to sounds that exceed a safe listening threshold (85 decibels). It may occur suddenly—when exposed to a particularly loud noise like a gunshot or explosion—or gradually over an extended period of time.

Other causes—Additional causes of hearing loss may include an excess buildup of earwax, ear infections caused by inflammation and abnormal bone growth in the middle ear. In addition, there are more than 200 ototoxic medications that can cause temporary or permanent hearing loss.

Q: Is there anything I can do to prevent hearing loss?

A: The main thing you can do to prevent or delay hearing loss is to protect your ears against loud noises.

Protect yourself from noise thresholds over 85 decibels (dB)—Noise-induced hearing loss can happen so gradually that you may not even realize you have it. Be mindful of loud noises—for instance, as loud as a motorbike—and carry ear protection, such as earplugs, when you can.

Maintain a healthy diet—While the old adage 'you are what you eat' may not be entirely true, your diet can have a positive effect on your hearing. Studies indicate foods rich in certain nutrients can help boost your hearing. In some cases, they may even help prevent or delay hearing loss.

Q: Aside from struggling to hear, what are some of the other negative effects of hearing loss?

A: Recent studies reveal that untreated hearing loss can lead to a variety of other conditions, including dementia, social isolation, cognitive decline, depression, relationship strain, higher risk of falls and fatigue. Treating hearing loss can improve a person's overall quality of life so that they can enjoy the things they love.

Q: Who should get their hearing checked?

A: Most people are accustomed to making regular checkups a routine part of their medical care. Annual physicals, dental exams and vision tests are all commonplace. Fewer individuals pay as much attention to their hearing, however.

Ultimately, when you need a test depends on your age. We recommend more frequent hearing tests for the following individuals:

- **People over the age of 60.** One out of three individuals experiences age-related hearing loss by the age of 65; that number increases to one out of two by the age of 75.¹ Annual hearing tests are recommended for all adults beginning at the age of 60, regardless of whether or not they are experiencing symptoms.
- **People who are exposed to loud noises.** Individuals frequently exposed to loud noises have a higher risk of suffering permanent damage to their hearing. People who work in noisy environments (e.g., construction and manufacturing), regularly participate in noisy activities (concerts, hunting, riding motorcycles) or are employed in professions where sudden loud noises are common—such as law enforcement and the military—should have their hearing checked once a year.
- **People with hearing loss.** This might seem counterproductive, but even if you have been diagnosed with hearing loss and wear hearing aids, it's more important than ever to have your hearing tested on a regular basis. Because hearing continues to change over time, your treatment must be as up to date as possible to ensure you are receiving the maximum benefit. These patients should have their hearing tested at least once a year.

Q: If I'm concerned about my hearing, what do I do?

A: The first step is to make an appointment with a hearing care professional to evaluate your hearing. The audiologists at Premier Medical Group East will work with each patient to find the best hearing aid to fit their needs and lifestyle.

Q: I understand that there is a significant hearing benefit available for Poarch Creek Tribal members—can you tell me about it?

A: That is accurate. Poarch Creek Tribal members have an exclusive hearing aid benefit. Any Tribal member who has a hearing loss can receive hearing aids up to the value of \$5,000. There are no limitations on the style, type or technology level of hearing aids you can receive.

CONTACT Premier Medical Group East today at 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.

2880 Dauphin St., Mobile, AL 36606 • 1302 US Hwy 98, Daphne, AL 36526
610 Providence Park Drive, Bldg. 2, Suite 203, Mobile, AL 36609



Elizabeth Pickett
Au.D., CCC-A



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www.hearingaidsmobile.com



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CREEK CORNER

MAY 2022

5/2/2022	Newsletter Deadline	June Issue	5:00 pm
5/2/2022 - 5/3/2022	Museum Gift Shop Closed	Inventory	
5/3/2022	Tribal Court	Tribal Court Office	9:00 am
5/3/2022	Tribal Council Meeting	Tribal Council Chambers	4:00 pm
5/13/2022	Family Court	Tribal Court Office	10:00 am
5/17/2022	Tribal Court	Tribal Court Office	9:00 am
5/19/2022	Tribal Council Meeting	Tribal Council Chambers	4:00 pm
5/20/2022	Family Court	Tribal Court Office	10:00 am
5/30/2022	Tribal Government Offices Closed	Memorial Day	

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