



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

A Report to the people of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Ethics Commissioners Sworn In



(Left to right) Tom Wabnum, Rencie Eteeyan, Joyce Guerrero, Mamie Rupnicki, Camilla Chouteau and Kassie James.

Three new members of the Ethics Commission were sworn in to office July 30 at the Bingo Hall. Commissioners sworn in were Mamie Rupnicki, chairperson, Rencie Eteeyan, vice-chairperson, and Kassie James, secretary.

The purpose of the Ethics Commission is to investigate and hear complaints against Nation officials through a Code of Ethics.

Tribal Council Vice Chairperson Joyce Guerrero conducted the oaths of office for each member. Other Council members including Camilla Chouteau and Tom Wabnum also attended along with other employees and tribal members.

Following the ceremony cake and coffee was served. Members of the Election Committee are Sara Gartenmayer, Arlene Lingo and Sherri Landis. Paul Vega and Elizabeth Gaona are on the staff in the Member Services Department.

Dorothy Kiyukan New Gaming Commissioner

Dorothy Kiyukan was appointed to the Gaming Commission and sworn in to office July 14 by Chairperson Liana Onnen at the Bingo Hall.

Kiyukan is a tribal member and was an educator in South Dakota for many years where she received the honor of being National Indian Educator of the Year and South Dakota Indian Educator of the Year. She holds a master's degree from the University of South Dakota. She was an instructor and counselor at Marty Indian School and is a former President of the South Dakota Indian Counselor's Association.

Along with Rey Kitchkommie, Kiyukan joins Larry Mzhickteno who also serves on the Gaming Commission.

The purpose of the Gaming Commission is to act as the regulatory entity for all gaming enterprises. The commission also issues gaming licenses and ensures all gaming employees undergo background investigations.



Left to right: Kitchkommie, Camilla Chouteau, Mzhickteno, Kiyukan, Joyce Guerrero, Onnen and Junior Wahweotten. Chouteau, Guerrero, and Wahweotten are members of the Tribal Council along with Onnen, Hattie Mitchell, Carrie O'Toole, and Tom Wabnum.

Kiyukan and Mzhickteno's terms will expire in 2017 and Kitchkommie's in 2018. Commissioners are elected by the General Council for four years or appointed by the Tribal Council in the event of an unexpected vacancy.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Welcomes the New General Manager



Jona Rupnicki was selected as the new General Manager of Tribal Operations. She is a Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation enrolled tribal member. She has had years of experience of working for the Tribe and other Tribes in Indian Country in the areas of Gaming, Management and Leadership. Jona received her Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management and her Masters of Science Management degree from Friends University. In her role as the General Manager of Tribal

Operations, she will oversee and manage twenty-three (23) departments. Jona stated that she is looking forward to contributing to her Tribe, promoting, enhancing the general welfare of the programs, services, and long term strategic planning to meet to needs of PBP Nation Members. She said, "I was given the opportunity to obtain an Education with the help of the Nation, this is my opportunity to give back what was instilled through education." Jona's knowledge will be an asset to the Nation.

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Message to the Nation from Liana Onnen, Tribal Council Chairperson

Bosho Nishnabek! I hope all is well with you and your families. Since my last article I have stayed busy working hard on Nation business. I have to express to all of you again, how blessed I feel to be in the position I hold and my dedication to the people of this Nation. In the time since my last writing, I have had many visitors and phone calls to my office and want you all to know that I do have an open door policy and welcome those calls and visits. Sometimes I am not available exactly when you might want me due to meetings and other commitments but I will do all I can to follow up. And if you don't hear back from me, please do call again! Sometimes I get so many things going on, I do forget or something does fall through the cracks. Please know that is never my intention. If I do not have meetings, travel or other commitments, most days I am in my office and if I am not in my office I will be back soon! I believe in being available and I believe in communicating with our members. I may not always have the answer you want, but I will do everything I can to get you the answer to the question.

I believe in the transparency of government and want to let all tribal members know that although we do not currently have anything in place for our numerous members who are not local, we do have discussions about how we can solve that issue so that you are able to see your government at work. I would also remind those tribal members who are local that, per the Constitution, any tribal member may attend and observe Tribal Council meetings. Our meetings are not closed and are open. We do not have set monthly dates for our meetings due to the numerous travel commitments we make to attend to the Nation's business as is necessary. At the National level, many meetings, conventions and seminars are held in other states and we do our best to make sure we are there. However, if at any time you are interested in observing a meeting you may contact the Secretary's Office to find out the next scheduled meeting and if one has not been set, we will notify you as soon as it is set. I believe it is important for the people to have participation in their government. Without that we, as your leaders, do not know what issues are a priority for you. To facilitate good communication and transparency, I invite anyone who is able to come and see your government at work.

In the past quarter, I have attended an Economic Development Conference, meetings with Regional BIA staff, NCAI Mid-Year Conference, meetings with DeKalb County stakeholders in our Shabehnay Reservation, meeting with the PB

LLC Board of Directors, and numerous meetings and conference calls associated with our land into trust application, as well as continued internal team meetings and meetings with the State of Kansas regarding negotiations for a tobacco tax compact with the state to secure our tobacco businesses and to hopefully pave the way for more cooperative discussions about economic development and taxation that could be mutually beneficial to the Nation. I also was able to attend a community breakfast fundraiser for the Topeka Public Schools Foundation and was pleased to share the table with Topeka Mayor Larry Wolgast and his wife and Kansas State Senators Laura Kelly and Vicki Schmidt. It was a wonderful event and opportunity to foster positive relationships with those people. At all times, when attending any of these meetings or events the best interests of the Nation are first and foremost in my mind and ensuring I represent us in a positive and progressive way is my priority.

As I embark upon the autumn months, I will be participating on the newly formed Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee with the National Institutes of Health. My first meeting with the committee is at the end of September so I am excited to embark on this new journey that will hopefully help us to take a serious, comprehensive look at the health issues and concerns of Native Americans across the country. I am truly honored to be a part of this committee. On September 25, I and other members of Tribal Council will be meeting with Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Kevin Washburn to discuss our land into trust application for our Shabehnay reservation. This will be a key meeting in keeping the momentum going on Shabehnay so we can see a resolution to our never-ending efforts to reclaim our reservation.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our next General Council meeting in October and again, encourage you to participate in government in any way you can. Tribal Council works for all of you and for the best interests of the Nation as a whole. We need your input and feedback to do that to the best of our ability. Thank you.

Igwien,

Liana Onnen, Chairwoman

Calendar of Events

Fire Department Open House (for Fire Prevention Week)	October 03, 2015
General Council Meeting	October 18, 2015
AIHREA Community Research Forum & Pow Wow	November 07, 2015

Nation Closed

Veteran's Day	November 11, 2015
Thanksgiving Day	November 26, 2015
Native American Heritage Day	November 27, 2015
Christmas Eve	December 24, 2015
Christmas Day	December 25, 2015
New Years Eve	December 31, 2015



Potawatomi News

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The Prairie Band Potawatomi (PBP) News is a quarterly publication of the Prairie Band Potawatomi (PBP) Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the PBP News are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of attitude of the PBP News staff, Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation. The PBP News encourages Letters to the Editor but all letters upon submission must include the signatures, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. Please submit items by email or by other electronic means if possible. The PBP News reserves the right to reject any materials or letters submitted for publication and items submitted past the deadline. Photos submitted with news articles will be returned after publication with a SASE or can be scanned if brought to the News office.



Message to the Nation from Hattie Mitchell, Tribal Council Treasurer

This quarter, we will once again be holding a will and estate planning workshop for the Elders. The past workshops have been very beneficial to the Elders. In the past two workshops, forty Elders have signed up and now have their wills completed. This workshop has been a collaboration with the Kansas Legal Services and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The BIA also assisted the Elders by educating them on their trust land interests and rights.

Providence First Trust Company (PFTC) held a financial literacy class last quarter at the Boys and Girls Club. The agenda included how to budget, what investments are, and the importance of saving and contributing

Nation. We narrowed our discussion down to seven main goals. One of these goals included setting up an investment structure that can be used to help supplement the operating budgets of our burial and education programs. This project is currently underway and it allows the Nation to have perpetual income to support the education and burial programs long into the future.

One other Tribal Council objective is to combine purchasing power around the Nation to take advantage of economies of scale. For example, early this year PBPB and the PBPEC Casino combined health insurance plans. Increasing the number of employees crossed a threshold that resulted in immediate savings for both entities. This concept can apply to many areas in the Nation, the Casino and LLC, even with the other Potawatomi Tribes.

At this year's Potawatomi Gathering in Wisconsin, during the All Councils meeting, the other Potawatomi Tribes expressed how we can combine purchasing power of the Potawatomi tribes. This would result in tremendous savings for our Tribal entities and result in savings that would allow more services and benefits to our Tribal Members. We hope to continue this idea by making a committee encompassed of a representative from each Potawatomi Band to meet regularly with this focus.

From the PBPB finance department: We are working on finalizing the FY2014 annual audit of the Tribe's Financial Statements. Along with assisting and carrying out the day to day operations of the PBPB programs, the finance department and the budget committee are currently working with the other departments on the FY2016 Budget. Also as a reminder, please remember to update your address and banking information at least two weeks prior to the quarterly per capita distributions, this will allow the finance department to better process your per capita distribution.

As a leader for the Nation, I believe it is important to look forward and create programs and policies that will live on through the future political terms. In my position there is a lot of responsibility to protect the assets of the Nation. The finance department plays a major role in that objective. Their hard work has allowed me to perform my

duties to the best of my ability. I have seen many positive changes to the department, such as improved processes and more informative reports that are used for better decision making.

A major objective of mine is to focus on Indian taxation and how it affects the Tribe and Tribal Members. Education and collaboration with other taxing entities aids in strengthening the Nation's tax codes and enhancing the Tribe's economic development efforts through the collection of taxes.

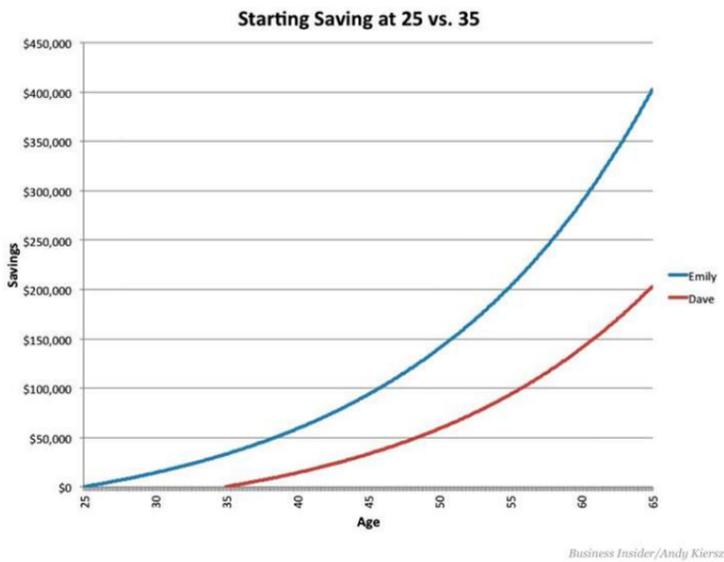
In my position as Treasurer, I continue to participate in any opportunities that may arise that will further enhance my education and knowledge of the current laws and legislation. Another important aspect for me is to meet with other Tribes to see how we can learn from each other's success as well as failures. This continuing education is important because we can create more innovative ways to increase revenues and work on decreasing expenses along with using the Federal and State programs. This will allow us to maximize the Gaming supplement we have for other needs. Continually improving and growing is necessary to position our Tribe for a more positive future.

Below are the notable events that I have attended on behalf of the Nation:

- ◆ First quarter: Milwaukee, Wisconsin for the Land Buy Back Program outreach to Tribal Members
- ◆ Second quarter: Attended Native American Financial Officer Association (NAFOA) in Austin, Texas
- ◆ Goldman Sachs 2015 Institutional Client Symposium in NYC
- ◆ Tribal Financial Management program in Tempe, Arizona
- ◆ National Congress of American Indians in Minnesota, Minneapolis
- ◆ Attended the Washburn Alumni Awards to receive the Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) award.
- ◆ Third quarter: Potawatomi Gathering in Wisconsin
- ◆ LPGA Symetra Tour in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and at Firekeeper Golf Course in Mayetta, KS
- ◆ NAFOA in Boston, MA
- ◆ National Intertribal Tax Alliance in Niagara Falls, New York

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Tribal Treasurer.

Hattie Mitchell



to retirement early. Some of the comments for the youth that attended the class included: "I learned that I need to plan ahead and save money" "I learned how to work with a budget" and "I learned that money is limited." Financial education will carry these young adults far and will help them make smart financial decisions that will build them a bright future. Here is an interesting graph that shows the importance of starting to save at an early age. You can also see what a difference the 10 year gap makes when starting initial savings.

Since inception, PFTC has set aside time to meet with Tribal Members face-to-face to address any questions and assist to resolve any issues. These meetings are held once a quarter and are scheduled to coincide with the General Council meetings.

In May, Tribal Council participated in a strategic planning retreat in Topeka to discuss the goals for the

Prairie Band LLC Open House



President and CEO of Prairie Band, LLC Burton Warrington (far left) gave a PowerPoint presentation at the open house on July 23, 2015. He described how the company has grown from one employee to over 40 since 2011. He also discussed the various aspects of the company and how it is well positioned to have a record year this year.



Visit their new website
at
www.prairiebandllc.com

Obama Signs

Kansas Disaster Declaration

(Washington, D.C.) The President declared yesterday that a major disaster exists in the State of Kansas and ordered federal aid to supplement state, tribal, and local recovery efforts in the area affected by severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds, and flooding during the period of May 4 to June 21, 2015.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is one of the Kansas tribes that will receive federal aid.

Federal funding also is available to state, tribal, and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding in the counties of Atchison, Barton, Brown, Butler, Chase, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Clay, Cloud, Coffey, Cowley, Doniphan, Edwards, Elk, Ellsworth, Franklin, Gray, Greenwood, Harper, Haskell, Hodgeman, Jackson, Jefferson, Jewell, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, McPherson, Meade, Miami, Morris, Nemaha, Neosho, Osage, Pottawatomie, Republic, Rice, Stevens, Sumner, Wabaunsee, and Washington.

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

W. Craig Fugate, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security, named Laura S. Hevesi as the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area.

FEMA said additional designations may be made at a later date if requested by the state and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.

The Late Jim Potter Inducted Into Holton Hall of Fame

It was a big evening in Holton last night when over sixty Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members and friends gathered to honor the late Jim Potter who served on the Tribal Council for over 18 years and was a great promoter of the Holton/Jackson community.

Others inducted into the Hall of Fame included Brad Stauffer, Bill and Debra Brown and Mike Ford. The event was held at the Evangel United Methodist Church in Holton.



From left to right: Carrie O'Toole, Camilla Chouteau, Patty Potter, Marilyn and Gary Revelle and Tom Wabnum after a tribute ceremony for Jim Potter who was a founding member of the Banner Creek Science Center Board.

General Manager Organizes Ad Hoc Inspection Committee of Department Leaders

Jona Rupnicki, General Manager of Tribal Operations, has organized an ad hoc inspection committee composed of department leaders, the Fire Department, and other staff that are visiting departments and programs within the PBPN government.

Since the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department conducts annual safety inspections, Rupnicki thought it would be a good idea this year to include managers from Construction/Maintenance and Member Services to come along and learn from department leaders about possible infrastructure changes and needs they might have. The visits are also familiarizing Rupnicki about the departments and allowing her to meet employees in person.

Carl Matousek, manager of Construction/Maintenance, who is on the inspection committee said Rupnicki's formulation of the committee was a really good idea because it offering greater communication between managers. He also said that it was the first time that mechanical and safety inspections have ever been conducted at the same time which should be a cost saving measure for the Nation in the long run.



Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Barbosa and Lucas Zeller, ham it up during a luncheon meeting of the newly formed Ad hoc Committee. The committee is visiting departments in the Nation's government to inspect for fire safety measures and to examine other departmental infrastructure needs.

EPIC ENTERTAINMENT IS HERE!

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Tickets are available at www.prairieband.com, in the Prairie Band Gift Shop during normal business hours, or by calling 1-888-PBP-4WIN.

**GEORGE THOROGOOD
& THE DESTROYERS**
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TICKETS START AT \$35!

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STARRING PETER NOONE**
SEPTEMBER 26, 2015 AT 8 PM
TICKETS START AT \$20!

AARON NEVILLE
OCTOBER 9, 2015 AT 8 PM
TICKETS START AT \$35!

MONTGOMERY GENTRY
OCTOBER 23, 2015 AT 8 PM
TICKETS START AT \$45!

MACY GRAY
NOVEMBER 14, 2015 AT 8 PM
TICKETS START AT \$25!

KC & THE SUNSHINE BAND
NOVEMBER 20, 2015 AT 8 PM
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Donations

Junior League of Topeka	\$4,000
Race Against Breast Cancer	\$3,000
Stormont Vail Hospital	\$3,500
JCMA Christmas Bureau	\$2,000
Mayetta Pioneer Days	\$1,000
Topeka Active 20/30 Club	\$5,000
El Centro of Topeka	\$1,000
Midland Care	\$10,000
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	\$1,000
United Way	\$5,000
ECKAN	\$2,000
Meals on Wheels	\$10,000
Family Service & Guidance Center	\$5,000
Tonantzin Society	\$1,000
Prairie Land Foods, Inc	\$2,000
TDC Learning Center	\$3,000
Junior Achievement of Ks	\$1,000
Sunshine Connection	\$2,800
East Topeka Council on Aging	\$2,000
Topeka Civic Theatre	\$2,500
Shawnee Co Allied Tribes, Inc	\$4,000

Total Awards= \$70,800.00



Prairie Band Casino and Resort
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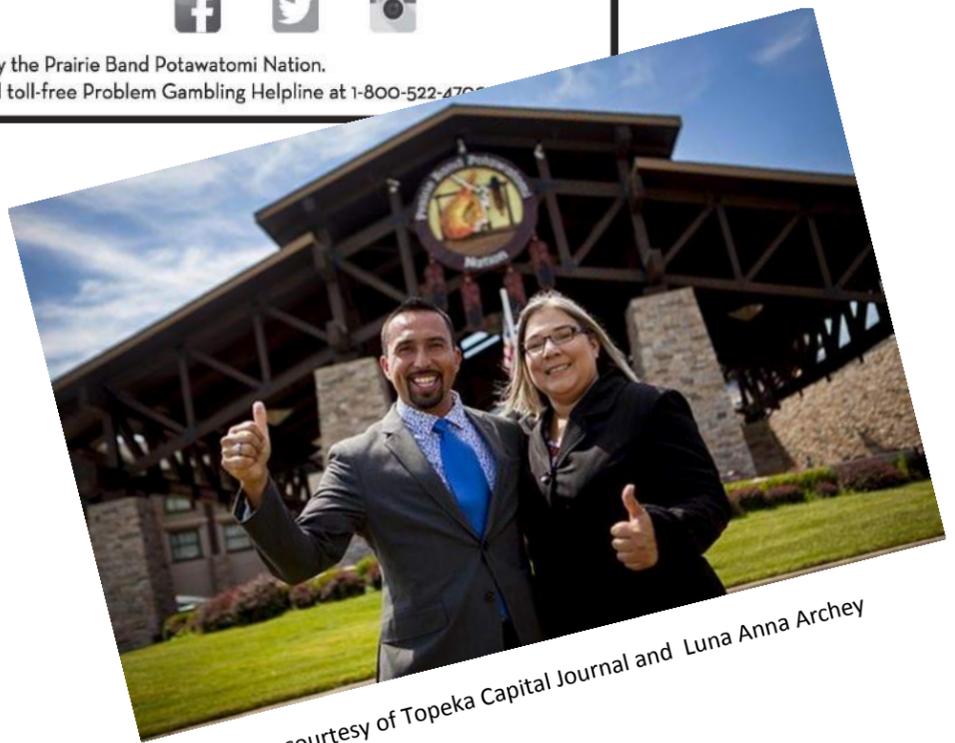


Photo courtesy of Topeka Capital Journal and Luna Anna Archey

2015 Healthy Kansas Tribal Summit held at Casino

The 2015 Healthy Kansas Tribal Health Summit and Tribal Training Day was held on August 18th and 19th at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort. This summit brought Kansas tribal leaders and various state, regional, and federal officials together to hear what health issues are important to tribal



William Thorne Jr. giving opening remarks



(left to right) Tony Fee (Iowa Tribe Council Secretary), Tim Rodd (Iowa tribe of KS and NE Chair), Carrie O'Toole (PBPB Tribal Council Member), Russell Bradley (Kickapoo tribe Tribal Council Treasurer)

people who belong to one of the four tribes in Kansas. During the opening ceremony, the presentation of colors was by the Iowa Tribal Ceremonial Honor Guard, the prayer was by The Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, and Little Soldier Creek was on the Drum.

Overviews of the Community Health Improvement Plans were delivered by a representative of the four tribes. William Thorne, Jr. gave the overview of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Community Health Assessment Team (CHAT). During this overview, he gave

the progress of the initiatives that are in place and discussed the workplace wellness program, "A Healthier You, A Healthier PBPB". Sandra Shopteese, Social Services Administrator, discussed the information from the Tribal Health Improvement Plan Work Session.

Day two of the summit was the Tribal Health Training Day. During this day, there were several breakout sessions for the attendees to choose from. Eddie Jo Mitchell, Project Coordinator in the Diabetes Program and Cora Flute, Cherokee Nation, presented on Traditional Foods, during one of the Breakout Session. In addition, there were several Exhibitors for attendees to visit.

The first Healthy Kansas Tribes 2020 Summit was held in 2013 with the

purpose of organizing ways to survey what health issues or concerns are important to the tribes. Community Health Assessment Teams (CHAT) were organized during that time. CHAT administered health surveys on their reservations.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is facilitating the health project. Other sponsors included the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Sunflower Foundation, Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board, and the Oklahoma Area Tribal Epidemiology Center. Emcees were William Thorne, Jr., Health Center Administrator and Dr. Dee Ann DeRoin, a medical expert in the health care field.



Other notables at today's summit included Tom Anderson, Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board, Director, Greg Crawford, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Jeffrey A. Henderson, MD, MPH, Black Hills Center for American Indian Health.

In attendance were Tribal Council Members, Camilla Chateau and Carrie O'Toole. Employees that attended the summit include: Hope Adame, Anna Boswell, Jeannie Combs, Ella Dawson, Maria Fairman, Allison Pahmahmie-Garcia, Rebekah Jones, Karen Kats, Lorrie Melchior, Eddie Jo Mitchell, Lauren Purtee, Jona Rupnicki, Sonya Sexton, Sandra Shopteese, William Thorne, Jr., Michelle Torres, Melinda Williamson, and Lance Wishkeno.



(left to right) Dr. Jeff Henderson, Mark Dodd, Jona Rupnicki

Anyone can get the flu. Even you.



Native people are at high risk for serious flu complications. In fact, pneumonia and flu are a leading cause of death among Native elders.

But there is something you can do to prevent the spread of flu.

Please get a flu vaccine each year.

- Protect yourself
- Protect your family and children
- Protect your community

The flu vaccine is safe.

You can't get the flu from a flu vaccine.

Protect the Circle of Life

**Your Flu Vaccine Protects Me
My Flu Vaccine Protects You**

Behavioral Health Program Receives Licensing

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center's Behavioral Health Program recently was awarded a license by the State of Kansas to provide treatment for Substance Use Disorder. The program has a new policy and procedure manual which was just approved by Tribal Council. The program also added the addition of two new staff. Jordan Mayfield is a Licensed Social Worker and a Licensed Addiction Counselor and Walter (Tony) Seibert is a Licensed Social Worker and a Licensed Addiction Counselor. The program has the goal of expansion in order to provide a holistic approach of best practices for the clients who come to us for support with both mental health symptoms and substance use disorder. The program plans on expanding into a new building in the near future and is working closely with the primary care providers to provide integrated health care for our community.

Congratulations on NEW Tribal promotions



Susie "Nis" Wilbur was selected as the new Director of Childhood Programs. Nis started in her role in on June 22, 2015. Previous to this position, Nis was the Child-care/Early Head Start Program Manager. She had worked in this capacity since 2012. Nis recently graduated with a degree in Youth, Culture, & Social Justice from Washburn University and will begin to study for her Master's degree in Public Policy at Northwestern University this fall. The Ben-no-tteh Wigwam has been an integral part of the community for nearly 30 years and it is her goal to maintain the tradition of giving the children a strong start to their lives. Nis

has a great Team and together they have been working on making minor changes to procedures, communication, and recordkeeping. In addition, they are working on building upgrades. It is her hope that these changes will make everyone's experience at the Center, safer and more enjoyable. Nis is an enrolled Tribal Member.

On August 10, 2015, **Christopher Mzhickteno** was named as the Information Technology (IT) Manager. Chris started working for the IT department in 2009. In 2010, he was promoted to the RPMS Site Manager in the Clinic. He recently finished his Bachelor of Business Management degree from Friends University. He is currently pursuing a Masters of Business Degree. Chris is excited and honored to be managing the IT Department for the Tribe. As IT Manager, he stated that his goals are to unify technologies across tribal buildings, increase network security, stay up to date with new technology, and shorten the time it takes to complete major IT projects. His hope is that technology will be a great asset that will help tribal employees work more efficiently and effectively. Chris is an enrolled Tribal Member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



Congratulations to **Sandra Shopteese!** Sandra was selected as the new Social Services Administrator. Sandra feels honored to be given the opportunity to serve the PBPN community. For the last four years, she has been active as a board member for the Jackson County resource center. She currently serves as the vice-president. She holds a Masters of Business Administration degree from Friends University and is currently in the process of obtaining Tribal welfare certification, specifically in Indian Country. Acquiring this certification assures professional proficiency within the tribal community, while maintaining the history, culture, values, honor family systems, and providing quality for Native families. Sandra's motto is "Take the High Road". Her goal is to continue the great work of the Social Services Team and celebrate their successes. Sandra is an enrolled Tribal Member.



Jean Howley is pleased to now be serving the Nation as Road and Bridge Specialist. She has been with the department for 3 years serving as their Recordkeeping/Contract Specialist. She has a diverse educational background which includes an Associate of Arts in Business and Indian Law from Haskell Indian Nations University, a Bachelor's of Arts in Business Administration and is currently completing a Master's of Science degree in Psychology with an emphasis in Organizational and Industrial Behavior.

Jean brings to her position an extensive background in disaster relief and recovery. She held a position with the American Red Cross National Disaster Team for 12 years and with the Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Cadre for 4 years. She is active in many youth projects and provides foster care for our Nation's children. Jean is an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe and belongs to the Thunder Clan.



Potawatomi tribal firefighter Bruce Coates Toughest Competitor Alive!

Bruce Coates, 45, Lieutenant-Paramedic for the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department (PTFD), won the Toughest Competitor Alive in the 40-49 year old heavy-weight category at the Fairfax World Police and Fire Games (www.fairfax2015.com) held June 26-July 5 in Fairfax, Virginia.

The games are designed to honor and celebrate public safety officers from around the world and have been held biennially since 1985. This year 12,000 competitors from over 70 countries participated in 65 sports that ranged from swimming and basketball to combination categories like Ultimate Firefighter and the contest Coates entered called the Toughest Competitor Alive.

Coates competed on June 28 and began his day at 7 a.m. by running in a 5 K. Following that, he heaved a shot put, sprinted 100 meters, swam 100 yards, and then climbed a 20 foot rope using only his arms. After that, he participated in power lifting a bench press, completing a maximum of 23 pull ups (3-second-pause dead hang), and running in an obstacle course to finish out the day around 4 p.m. Out of eight competitors Coates finished first in overall points to claim the gold medal.



Bruce Coates won the Toughest Competitor Alive at the Fairfax World Police and Fire Games in the 40-45 year old heavyweight category.

The Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department partially funded Coates' trip and he financed the rest. He told the News that winning the Toughest Competitor Alive category had been a goal of his for a long time and that he had finally attained a lifelong dream. "It is a test of fitness and that happened to be my day," he said. He also said that in order to prepare for each event he worked out from three to five hours each, six days a week and trained in each sport in the Toughest Competitor Alive category.

For more information about the category go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfjx4W8WAg>

EMS Director/Fire Chief Doug Schreiner said that Coates has worked for the department for almost 5 years and that he and others in the department are really proud of Coates achievement.

The PTFD is a 24-hour service that provides emergency medical care, rescue, and fire suppression. It is staffed by 21 full-time firefighters, EMTs and paramedics who are housed in a state-of-the-art fire station located at 15482 K Road on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) reservation near Mayetta. The PTFD has been in operation for 35 years and serves the PBPB and surrounding communities.

Tribal website wins award for Best Online Digital Publication by the Native American Journalists Association

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation website www.pbpindiantribe.com won the award for Best Online Digital Publication by the Native American Journalists Association (NAJA) for 2015.

The award was presented to Suzanne Heck, former *Potawatomi News* Editor, on behalf of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, at the National Native Media Awards Banquet on July 11 in Washington, D.C.

The award, listed in the Professional II Division competition, recognizes excellence in Indian Country reporting across the United States and Canada.

The *Potawatomi News* has been a member of NAJA since 2001. In 2005, the News department placed third in the General Excellence Monthly category for its print version of the *Potawatomi News*.

The Native American Journalists Association makes up a Native network of print, broadcast, and digital journalists who are dedicated to promoting Native Americans as distinct peoples, free speech and expression, and increasing the representation of Native journalists and people in mainstream media.



Send
it
to
the
News!



Road & Bridge mowers were able to cut grass on the sides of 158 Road on July 17 which was a very hot day. Crews have had a harder time this summer than in the past with all of the rainfall that has occurred on the reservation. 158 Road was partially closed between O Road and P Road due to collapse of a large cross drainage ditch but reopened on July 22.

We-Ta-Se American Legion Post #410 news

We-Ta-Se Pow wow
is
scheduled
for
Saturday, Sept. 26
at
Prairie Peoples Park



A **Flag Retirement Ceremony** was held on June 16 where old and tattered American flags were retired in accordance with the U.S. Flag Code. The ceremony was held at Prairie Peoples Park and following the ceremony sandwiches and refreshments were served.

Flags were also lowered at Half-Staff on the reservation from July 21-25 to honor the military soldiers and other victims of the tragedy in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

We-Ta-Se participated in a Quilts of Valor event on June 13 in Holton at the Jackson County Courthouse. Four Potawatomi veterans were honored for their service and presented with a quilt and a barbeque dinner.

Veterans honored included Orville Rice (Korean War), Jim Potts (Vietnam), Emery Hale (Korean) and Roy Hale (Korean).

We-Ta-Se veterans meet once a month in the We-Ta-Se conference room.

Youth attend 2015 UNITY Conference in Washington, D.C.

Creating leaders for the future was the purpose of the largest gathering of Native youth ever assembled at the 2015 Unity Conference held in the Nation's Capital from July 10-14. Overall, there were over 1,800 Native youth, chaperones and advisors who registered at the conference.

Four youth from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) and adult sponsor Joanna "Dumps" Mitchell attended the conference. They were the first to ever represent Kansas and the Southern Plains region that includes Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas.

Prairie Band youth who attended were Cecelia "Shobwas" Hubbard, Victor "Bem" Hubbard, Jason "Sognosh" Serna-Blakemore and Seds Pahmahmie-Arteaga.

The group was sponsored through the Youth Outreach and Prevention Program that Mitchell coordinates that is located in the Social Services Department.

Keynote speakers during the four-day conference included Minister Louis Farrakhan, actor Adam Beach, and Miss Indian America who all spoke about suicide, alcohol and drug prevention and Native American spirituality.

There were also caucus meetings and workshops the youth attended on topics like #weRnative (working together to spread positive vibes that promote community change) and a workshop on drug free communities for Native youth.

There were also other fun activities like a college and career fair expo, cultural and talent nights, a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and a dance.

The conference was held the same week as the White House Tribal Youth Gathering

that was initiated earlier this year by the Obama administration. First Lady Michelle Obama spoke at that event on its opening day.



Left to right: Cecelia "Shobwas" Hubbard, Victor "Bem" Hubbard, Jason "Sognosh" Serna-Blakemore and Seds Pahmahmie-Arteaga.

In the photo (right) were PBPB representatives mixing with other youth at one of the banquets. Over 1,800 youth attended the conference from various parts of the country.



The photo (left) shows Sognash Serna-Blakemore and Shobwas Hubbard showcasing a Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation flag that represented the group during the conference.



(Special thanks to Dumps Mitchell for submitting photos)

**Congratulations
Gene Evans
on
getting a diploma through
Fresh Start Learning Center
in
Holton, Kansas.**

Gene wanted to let people know that it is never too late to get an education. He has been working with Jeannie Combs, 3Rivers Independent Living Specialist, for two years who taught him computer skills and more.



**In the summer
issue of the News
the name of
Danette Huettl
was
misidentified.**

**The News regrets
the error**



Back to school time!



The Education Department's Johnson O Malley program (JOM) handed out school supplies on August 3-4. JOM assists Native American children that qualify for school aid from the ages of 3 to the 12th grade.

(Photo by Doris Potts)

Seeking Interested Persons for Higher Education Committee

Letters of Interest should be submitted to the Education Department by November 1, 2015

What are the Responsibilities of an Education Committee Member?

1. Attend regular meetings
2. Use fair and impartial processes for reviewing and approving/denying student applications.
3. Consider the maximum number of completed applications.
4. Abide by Education Committee Bylaws and all Education Policies

TWO Positions to be Appointed

- Letters of interest will be reviewed by the current Education Committee members.
- Current members will make selections and make recommendation to Tribal Council.
- Tribal Council will review recommendations at a regular scheduled meeting and confirm or deny recommendation.

Qualified Candidates

A qualified candidate must be an enrolled PBPB tribal member AND hold at least a bachelor's degree.

Documentation must be submitted with letters of interest to the Education Department.

Two (2) positions to serve an indefinite term. Submit letter of interest, Tribal Enrollment Card and copy of degree to the Education Department. All letters will be reviewed by the current Education Committee members in a regular scheduled meeting in November. Please contact Kristen Aitkens, Director of Education for more information: 785-966-2960
Education Department: 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509

**Download this flier
www.pbpindiantribe.com**

High school students learn to use their money wisely

Approximately 30 high school students learned about how to deal with their personal finances at a seminar at the Boys & Girls Club on July 17.

Jason Fuller from Providence First Trust Company, one of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's financial institutions, was the instructor for the course that also came with a workbook.

The class was organized by Tribal Council Treasurer Hattie Mitchell's office that collaborated with the Education Department's Summer Youth Work Program and the Boys & Girls Club.

Students were taught how to open and use a checking account, how to budget their income, and to use debit and credit cards. They were also served pizza and beverages.

After the class, students were asked to write about what they learned and below are some of the comments:

Sage Pahmahmie, 16, wrote, "Money is hard to organize. Money is not easy to get."

Charon Hill, 17, wrote, "Save your money, don't spend it on stuff you don't need."



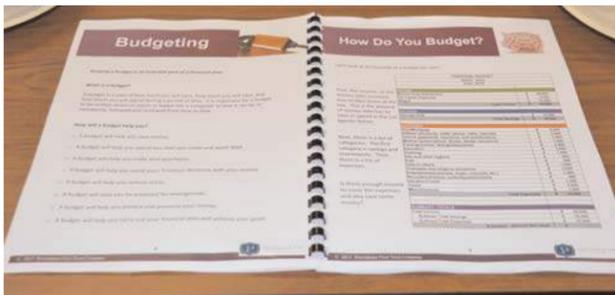
Jason Fuller from Providence First Trust Company was the instructor for the class.



General Manager Jona Rupnicki also pitched in to help students with their work.



Students used a workbook in the class that offered real life examples of how to budget money.



Summer Youth Work Program

The second session of the Summer Youth Work Program was held June 29 to July 24. PBPB teenagers or those who have recently graduated worked in the program that placed youth workers in various departments and programs around the reservation like the Division of Planning/EPA, Lands, and Tribal Council administrative offices. Youth were allowed to work 30 hours a week for a wage of \$7.25 per hour.

The first session was held June 1-June 26.

In order to be hired, youth were required to go through an application and interviewing process and to pass a drug screening test. The Education Department sponsors the Summer Youth Work Program that has been in operation for several years.



Youth workers took a field trip to the Jeffrey Westar Energy Center on July 28

Workshop on alcohol & drug abuse prevention



Youth Program Coordinator Joanna "Dumps" Mitchell taught workshops on how to prevent alcohol & drug abuse during both sessions of the Summer Youth Work Program. The photos are of first session of summer youth workers.



Thank you Education Department from Nicholas Starr Trudeau

Nicholas Starr Trudeau of Glenn Falls, New York wrote a letter to the Education Department on June 5 to thank them for funding his education that staff sent to the News. Below are excerpts taken from the letter:

By graduating college, I have completed the first step of a lifelong dream to become a student and teacher of history...Without the assistance of the great people in the department, and our nation, I would not have had the financial support to pursue my goal of an education, and I will be forever grateful to our people for this gift.

Two years ago, I struggled through a transition in my studies, and my spirits were buoyed up by the thoughtful care package sent to me by the staff of the Education Department. I was comforted and encouraged by their gift, and humbled by their generosity. That kindness reinvigorated me, and helped me through a trying time. It has long been a goal of mine to use the education I received to give something back to the tribal community, and I promise to be worthy of the great kindness bestowed upon me by our people.

Thanks for the opportunity to further my education provided by the tribal community. I have been accepted as a graduate student in Anthropology at the University of Michigan for the fall of 2015. I intend to use my education to learn more about our people's history and I hope to eventually have the honor of passing that knowledge to future generations of Potawatomi.

All my relations, migwetch.

Road & Bridge Paving the Way



The Road and Bridge Department maintains over 120 miles of roads on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. The types of driving surfaces are asphalt, gravel, and dirt roads. The roads cover the majority of the 121 square miles of the federally recognized reservation. The department is currently staffed with 20 full-time employees and 2 seasonal positions and the majority of staff are members of the PBP Nation. Many successful improvement projects, including upgrades of major roads and bridge replacements have been completed by Road and Bridge in the last decade.

The very first blacktop on the Reservation was built in 1997 and was (BIA) Bureau of Indian Affairs funded. When the PBP added casino gaming, which boosted tribal profits, much of the money in the general funds was devoted to the reservation infrastructure.

According to a Road and Bridge report in 2008, in a 25-year period, 29 BIA bridges were built, and in an 11-year period, 25 tribal bridges were built, all to an HS-20 load rating. There were also 14.2 miles of BIA funded roads and 16.5 miles of PBP funded roads to modern asphalt totaling 30.7 miles.

The department maintains roadway right of ways by tree trimming, ditch maintenance,

and mowing. This assists with visibility and drainage.

During the winter months ice and snow treatment of roadways are performed. Treatment rotation is the emergency routes, main roads, senior housing, housing developments, secondary roads, and program parking areas. The department utilizes dump trucks equipped with sand, salt spreaders, and plows. Road graders are utilized on gravel roadways as needed.

Maintaining reservation roadways is vital in striving for motorist safety. The Nation's infrastructure depends on the road system to move forward.

This department also provides grave digging services for reservation cemeteries. This service is done in a culturally and religiously appropriate manner, (Pahmahmie, B. 2014).

School Supplies donated to USD 501

The Prairie Band Casino & Resort recently conducted a "school supply drive". Prairie Band Casino & Resort Patrons were asked to donate school supplies in exchange for free play.

Employees of the casino delivered Forty-four (44) boxes of supplies to the Topeka Public Schools USD 501 administrative office, the Burnett Center.



Vision Service Plan (VSP) has an extensive nationwide network of doctors who provide quality eye care and materials. This plan is designed to provide for regular eye examinations and benefits toward vision care expenses including glasses or contact lenses.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your vision insurance, please call VSP toll free at 1-800-877-7195 to speak with a VSP representative or you can also use the VSP website www.vsp.com.

If you are needing to enroll please call 785-966-3060.

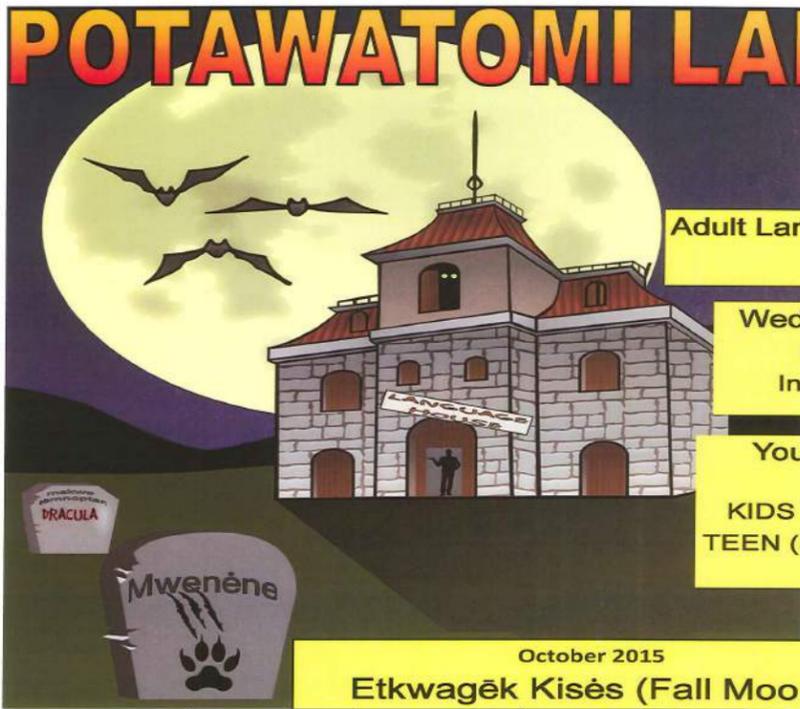
POTAWATOMI LANGUAGE

Language Department
15372 K Rd Mayetta, KS 66509
(basement of the Firekeepers Elder Center)
(785) 966-2138

Adult Language Classes on Mondays
5:30-7:30 pm

Wednesday Morning Language
Beginner 10:00-10:30 am
Intermediate 10:30-11:30 am

Youth Language Classes on Wednesdays
KIDS (K-4th) 5:00-5:45 pm @ BGC
TEEN (5th-12th) 6:30-7:30 pm @ BGC



October 2015
Etkwagék Kisès (Fall Moon)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE Youth Class @ BGC	8 CHILDCARE	9	10
11	12	13	14 BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE Youth Class @ BGC	15 CHILDCARE	16	17
18	19 Adult Language Class begins	20	21 BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE	22 CHILDCARE	23	24
25	26 ALC	27	28 BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE Youth Class @ BGC	29 CHILDCARE	30	31 T Tiwemmo Wapkon Gishék

We are counting on
YOU



FIGHT THE FLU IN '15

Be sure to schedule your vaccination.

Don't be knocked out by the Flu!

LOOKING FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS!

PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Certified Police Officer III - Open Until Filled

Uncertified Police Officer III/Youth Liaison—Open Until Filled

Uncertified Police Officer III – Open Until Filled **In House

If enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Member submit application and copy of Tribal Identification to:
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Human Resources
16281 Q Road – Mayetta, KS 66509 Fax (785) 966-3062
Call toll free 1-866-694-3937 for more information.

Go to our website: <http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/employment-main.aspx> for information on application.

ATTENTION:

Enrolled PBPB Tribal Members and existing PBPB Government Employees may apply for posted positions that are designated as ****In House**. Minimum requirements **must** be met by all applicants. All positions close at **4:00 pm** on the closing date. If offered a position, you will test for our Drug-Free Workplace Policy and may be required to successfully pass a background check and tuberculosis (TB) test as condition(s) of employment. A clerical and physical agility test may also be administered.

SAVE THE DATES

Purple represents Domestic Violence Awareness. Wear purple... get caught wearing purple... possibly win TVS gear for wearing purple.

OCT 10 Walk A Mile In Their Mocs
Join us for our annual awareness walk as we honor those impacted by Domestic Violence.
Noon - 1PM . PBPB Prairie Peoples Park

OCT 17 TRACKS Open House
Visit the TRACKS house and learn about our Batterers Intervention Program and Safe Visit/Safe Exchange
2PM - 4PM . 12573 158th RD, Mayetta KS

OCT 17 Splatters That Matter
Opportunities for artists to paint. And kids to create. A fun & free event for all ages!
6PM - Midnight . PBPB Bingo Hall

OCT 24 Movies @ the Park
Monthly cinematic event featuring a movie pick by the people... for the people.
Sundown . PBPB Prairie Peoples Park

OCT 29 Trunk-or-Treat
Ghosts, Goblins, and Ghouls... fun for all shapes and sizes as we celebrate Halloween
6PM - 8PM . PBPB Prairie Peoples Park

Tribal Victim Services • Domestic Violence Awareness Month

TVS Opens TRACKS House

Tribal Victims Services recently opened up the new TRACKS House (just west of 158th and Q on the south side of the road). They celebrated with an open house. At the open house they shared information about two newly developed services, TVS' Safe Visit/Safe Exchange and the native specific Batterers Intervention Program. The Safe Visit/Safe Exchange service plays a critical role in fostering the safety of children and adult victims during a time of increased danger when the parents separate. The Batterers Intervention Program has been created to assist those who use violence within their personal relationships. Working with participants of this BIP course, the hope is that by sharing knowledge, increasing accountability, and supporting change that the tribal women become safer within the community. TRACKS stands for Tradition, Respect, Accountability, Change, Knowledge and Safety. Rebekah Jones is the Manager of TVS. Other members of the TVS team include, Daniel Goombi, Terry McDaniel, Kent Miller, Shirley Rice and Samantha Wahwassuck.



Building with the Best: The Building Maintenance Department

The Building Maintenance Department has added several Housing homes (in excess of 15) to the extensive renovation list this summer and early fall.

Activities such as drainage and repairs on basements, regarding, and concrete replacement for Tom Jim's crew (Bob Levier and John Rupnicki) has been ongoing. Also, extensive repairs and remodeling to non-completed new houses has kept Gunzy Wahquahboshkuk and Tony Dominguez busy.

Rob Lange's crew of course has kept the pool open and Club clean while all the children were there. Pat Mills is now preparing for winter use and into next season. Rob and Pat are working on a maintenance event on the pool heater at this time. Dave Daubon & Gilbert Kent have prepared for an office move at the Clinic while successfully installing a new concrete berm home interior improvement to help the PBPN combat future mold intrusions. Jim Harvey has been busy working on electrical for make readies and renovations for houses, helping install the gate slide opener at the Police Department, maintenance on lights, and preparing for the electrical improvement at Prairie's Peoples Park.

Ernie Coleman's mowing crew has been in conversations with Mother Nature's rains. Let's all assume Mother Nature got her way. This has been a tough year for them to keep up or get to locations. The Custodial division, is always on it seems. Damon Wahquahboshkuk helped Pat at the Club and did a fantastic job as I hear so many compliments regarding his efforts. Kristina Throssell simply keeps it all running smoothly as it can.

Congratulations to Robbie Lange on his recent promotion to Assistant Construction Manager. Robbie is an enrolled Tribal Member.



HR Host Job Fair

On August 6th, 2015 Human Resources hosted the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Job Fair to advertise the Nation's current openings. This Job fair was located at the Boys & Girls Club from 2:00pm-5:00pm. HR also provided Subway catered-in to all visitors throughout the fair. The Director of Early Childhood Programs, Nis Wilbur and the Fire Department were present to greet all visitors throughout this event.



Departments and Programs

NOTICE

Housing is requesting all applicants on the rental waiting list to update their address and phone numbers with the Housing Office. Please remember Housing will notify applicants with a 10 day response period of any availability of open housing. After a non-response to the availability notification your application will be moved to the bottom of the list and after 3 non-response/rejections your application will be removed. If you have any updates, please call 785-966-2756 or stop in.

Housing is also requesting your feedback and participation to a small survey on housing needs in the community. Look for the survey link which will be posted to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation website soon. This will be anonymous feedback. If you are unable to access a computer, housing staff will also be available to assist in the survey completion.



Eligible for Federal Student Loan Forgiveness?

ARE YOU WORKING IN PUBLIC SERVICE?

You may qualify for forgiveness of any remaining balance on your eligible federal student loans thanks to the **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)** Program.

VISIT MyFedLoan.org/PSLF TODAY!

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- BORROW** - Have Eligible Loan Type(s)
ANY Direct Loan - Subsidized/Unsubsidized Stafford, PLUS, Consolidation
NOTE: If your federal loans are not Direct Loans, you may be able to consolidate and qualify. However, only payments made on the Direct Consolidation Loan count toward your required 120 monthly payments.
- WORK** - Maintain a Full-Time Employment Status While Working for a Qualifying Public Service Organization
- REPAY** - Make 120 Qualifying Payments Under an Eligible Repayment Plan

This program was created by Congress to encourage individuals to enter and continue to work full-time in public service jobs. Under PSLF, borrowers may qualify for forgiveness of the remaining balance due on their eligible federal student loans after they have made 120 payments on those loans under certain repayment plans while employed full-time by certain public service employers.

U.S. Department of Education
Information about your federal student loan

I'D LIKE MY PAYMENTS TO COUNT TOWARD PSLF. WHAT SHOULD I DO TO BE CONSIDERED?

- Consolidate any non-Direct Loans, if necessary.
- Get on an eligible repayment plan, preferably Income-Based Repayment (IBR).
- Make on-time, monthly payments - not exceeding your installment amount, preferably through Direct Debit.
- Work for a qualifying employer while you make your payments.
- SUBMIT THE EMPLOYER CERTIFICATION FORM, found at MyFedLoan.org/PSLF.

FedLoan Servicing was established by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) to support the U.S. Department of Education's ability to service student loans owned by the federal government. PHEAA conducts its student loan servicing activities nationally as FedLoan Servicing and American Education Services (AES).

FedLoan Servicing is one of a limited number of organizations approved by the Department of Education to service these loans and is dedicated to supporting borrowers with easy and convenient ways to manage their student loans. Additionally, the Department has chosen FedLoan Servicing as the sole federal servicer responsible for monitoring and tracking the eligibility for all Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) borrowers.

FLS-PSLFDAL 032212

A Report from EPA: Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5) on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation

By Billie Toledo

For the past 3 years the PBPN Division of Planning and Environmental Protection have been monitoring ambient air with a BAM-1020 (Beta Attenuation Monitor, which collects hourly averages of particulate matter, 2.5 micrometers in diameter) located at the Solid Waste Center on 142nd Road.

Particulate matter on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation is categorized under "fine particle". As defined by www.airnow.gov "fine particles" are so small they can only be viewed under an electron microscope and are produced from all types of combustion, including motor vehicles, power plants, residential wood burning, forest fires, agricultural burning, and some industrial processes; for example, gas from power plants.

Why are particulate matter levels important? PM2.5 can be found in a liquid or solid form so small that it's capable to travel further in the lungs and create numerous health risks. These health risks are premature death in individuals with heart or lung disease, nonfatal heart attacks, irregular heartbeat, aggravated asthma, increase

in respiratory symptoms and a decrease in lung function.

Data collected from the BAM-1020 is compared to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) which consist of *Primary* standards: provide public health protection, including protecting the health of "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly, and, *Secondary* standards: provide public welfare protection, including protection against decreased visibility and damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings.

Data comparison shown in Figure 1. The 2011 NAAQS Primary Standards are 15 micrograms per Annual Average (arithmetic) and 35 micrograms per 24 hour Averages. Figure 1. The Prairie Band Potawatomi's PM2.5 for 2012-2015; (based on 2011 NAAQS)

Year	NAAQS Annual Average	NAAQS 24-hr Average	PBPN PM2.5 (Annual Mean)	Minimum Daily Average	Maximum Daily Average
2012	15	35	10	.003	.025
2013	15	35	11	.002	.031
2014*	15	35	-	-	-
2015*	15	35	11	.001	.030

*2014-BAM-1020 did not collect data due to continuous maintenance complications.

*2015- Data was only collected January-September; data is currently being collected.

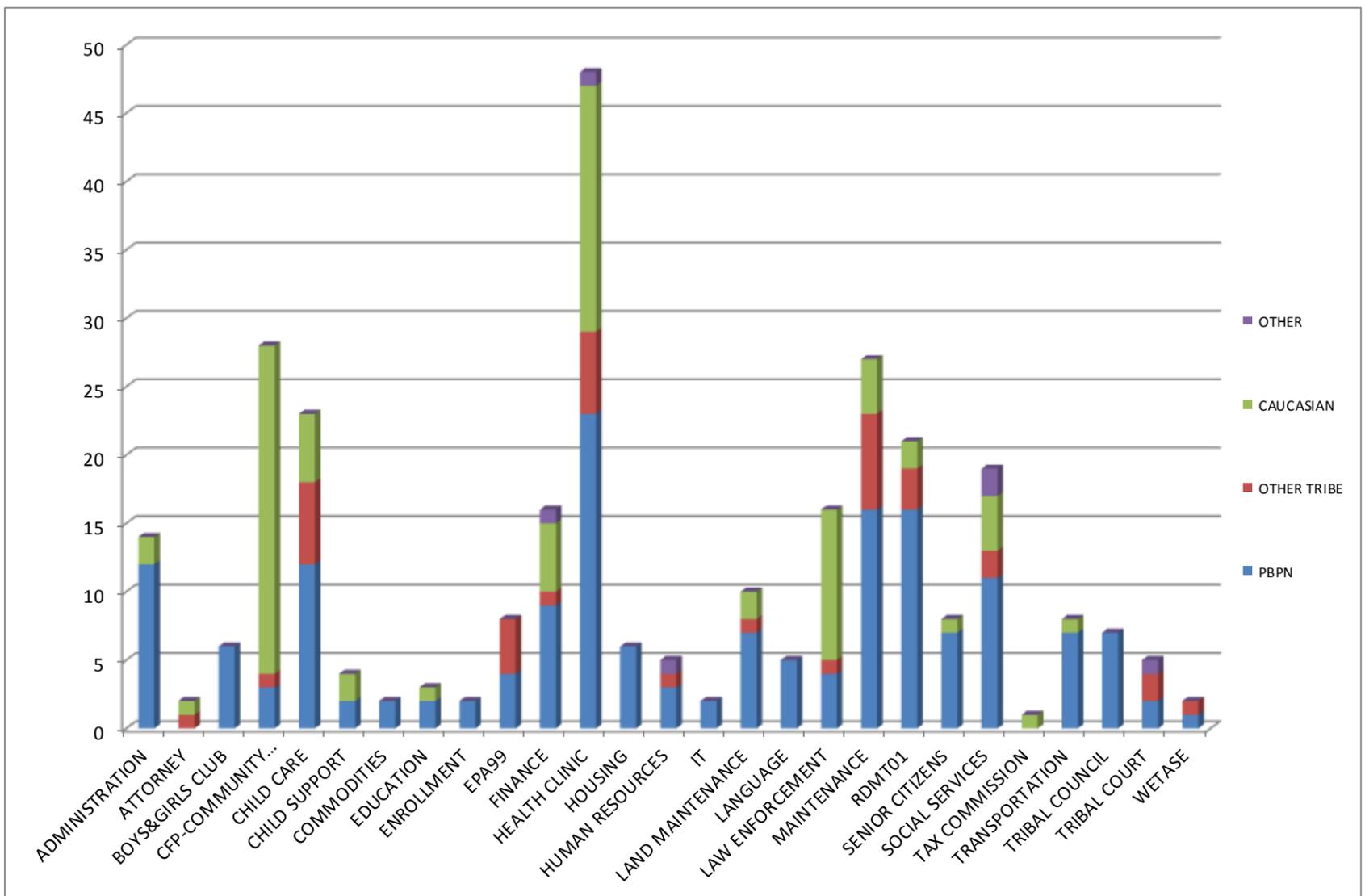
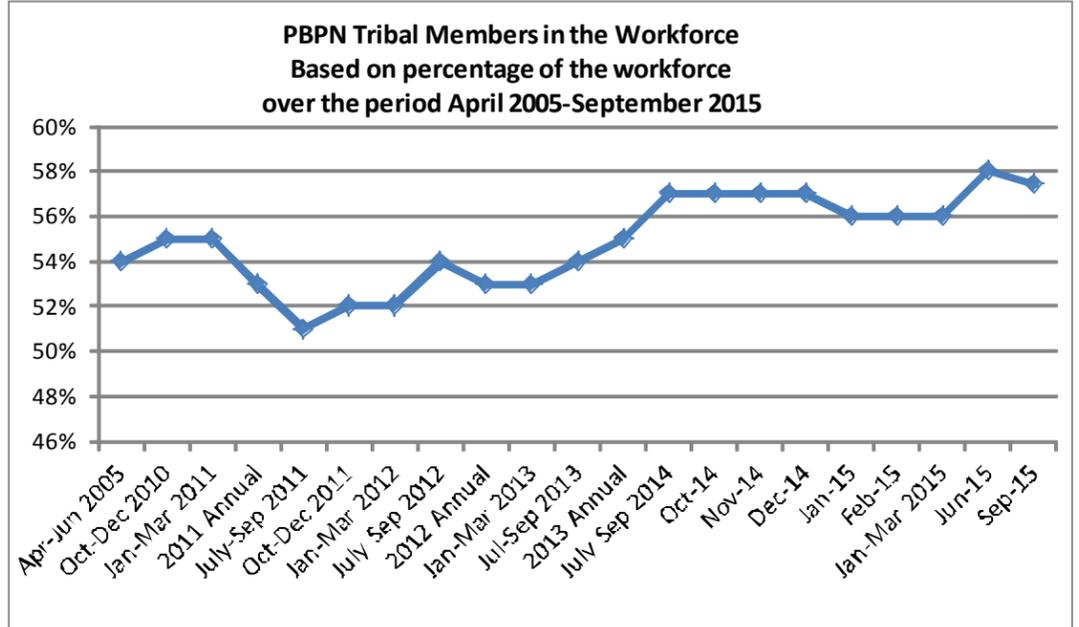
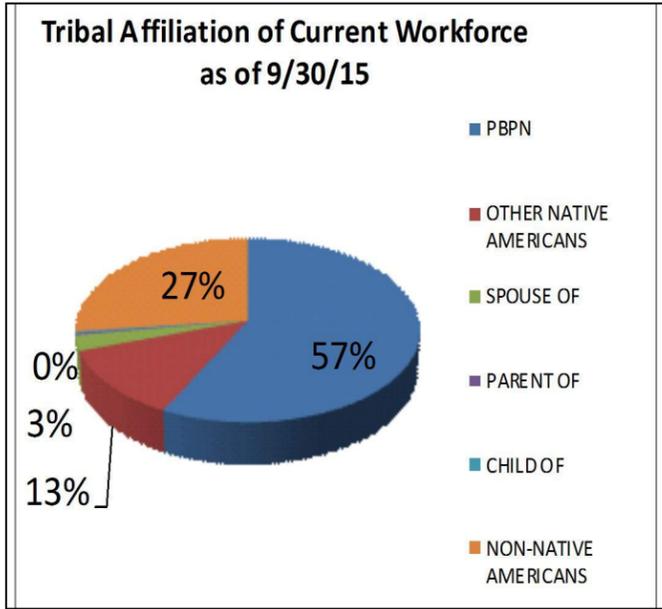
After, thoroughly, reviewing all the data it has been concluded that the PM2.5 on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation is within the 2011 National Ambient Air Quality Standards, or in attainment. However, due to the frequent number of days with high measurement values and local pollution emitters, the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection will continue monitoring and recording PM2.5 on the reservation.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the PBPN Division of Planning and Environmental Protection's Air Program at 785-966-2946.

PBPN Workforce

As of 9/30/15, The ethnicity of the PBPN workforce is 70% Native American, 28% Caucasian and 2% other races. The tribal affiliation is as follows: 57% of the current workforce is comprised of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation enrolled tribal members, 13% are other Native Americans, 3% are Spouse of PBPN tribal members, >1% are Parent of PBPN tribal members, >1% are Child of PBPN Tribal members and 27% are Non-Native Americans. We have experienced a .5% drop in the number of enrolled tribal members due to members retiring or those that have received a career advancement elsewhere. However, we recently filled four (4) director positions with PBPN enrolled tribal members. These positions were previously occupied by non-PBPN enrolled tribal members. From the time period 7/1/15-9/30/15, there were 22 vacancies that tribal members applied and interviewed for. 91% of the vacancies (20 positions), were filled with PBPN enrolled tribal members. The graph below show the progression of tribal members in the workforce since April 2005.

Note: These numbers are based on the employees that have self-identified.



PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



COVER CROP WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 15, 2015 - 9 A.M.

PBPN BINGO HALL, 16277 Q ROAD

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation will be hosting a workshop on the many benefits of planting cover crops. Topics will include soil health, reducing water pollution, seed selection, year-round grazing and more.

The event begins at 9 a.m. in the Potawatomi Bingo Hall (red building) located on the northwest corner of Q Road and 162 Road intersection. Event speakers include:

- **Bill Buessing**—A no-till farmer from Axtell, KS with many years of experience planting and grazing cover crops.
- **Dr. DeAnn Presley**—Associate Professor of Environmental Soil Science and Management at Kansas State University.
- **Colten Catterton**—Sales Agronomist at Green Cover Seed possessing a Masters degree focusing on cover crop research.

Additional speakers will be announced as information becomes available.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Kalonie at 785-966-2946 or kaloniehulbutta@pbpnation.org



Community invited to Fire Prevention Week Kickoff 2015



The Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department invites everyone to have fun while learning about fire safety at the annual **Fire Prevention Week Kickoff event on Saturday, October 3, 2015, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the fire station.**

Enjoy exciting demonstrations, Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations, the Teddy Bear Triage clinic and more.

This great family event is an interactive way for all ages to learn about the importance of fire prevention, including maintaining working smoke alarms and practicing a fire escape plan.

National Fire Prevention Week runs from October 4th to 10th, 2015. This year's theme is: **Hear the Beep where you Sleep.** Residents are encouraged to learn about the proper installation and maintenance of smoke alarms to keep family members and property safe.

Most fatal fires occur at night when people are asleep. A working smoke alarm will detect smoke and sound an alarm, giving everyone time to escape.

Open House activities: In addition to the fire safety presentations, other activities will include; fire apparatus on display from around the county, teaching demonstrations, a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog, and fire safety games for all ages, with inflatables for the kids. A free hot dog barbecue will be provided courtesy of the Fire Department.

The Fire Station is located at 15482 K Road. Free parking will be available.

Fire Prevention Week is a great time to practice your home escape plan, check your fire extinguishers, and test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. If you would like a free home safety inspection please contact the fire department to schedule one in your home.

Thank YOU!!



We would like to say a Big "Thank You" to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Fire and Police Department, Road & Bridge, the Land Department., and the Tribal Government General Manager for their quick and caring response to the unfortunate fire of our R.V. in Prairie People's Park; we believe it was due to a faulty electrical wire. A special thank you goes out to the Boys Scout troop that was camping out at the grounds and called 911, your fast actions and emergency response was honorable. Though we lost everything, we did not lose our sense of self; we rose to the occasion and praised God no one was hurt. In closing, we want to say thank you for all the kind phone calls, emails, and Facebook messages; you humbled us and for that I want to thank all of you. With a warm heart and a hearty hand shake, Martin "Tom" Ziegler and Dorothy Kiyukan.

Tribal Members from New York visit the PBPN Government Center



The Nation was happy to have Joe Kabance and his two daughters Marie Pashaw and Awendea visit early July of this year.

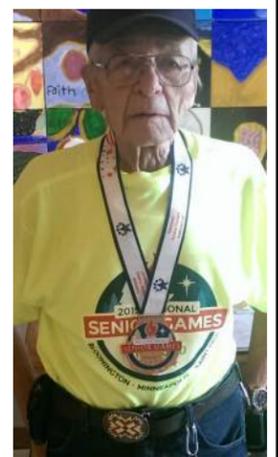
PBPN Elders Win Bronze in Bowling at National Senior Games



Emery Hale and Arlene Wahwasuck, both Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members, took third place and received a Bronze medal in Bowling at the National Senior Games presented by Humana Bloomington/Minneapolis/Saint Paul in Minnesota that was held from July 3-July 16. Approximately 12,000 athletes, 50 years and up, participated in a variety of games this year.

The couple qualified in the Mixed Doubles-80-84 age category through the Kansas Senior Olympics program that is sponsored by the Shawnee County Parks & Recreation. Hale and Wahwasuck have been bowling together in Kansas for a long time and have won several medals both individually and together. A variety of sports are included in the Olympics that is open to senior citizens who are 50 years or age and older.

The Firekeepers Elder Center held a fundraiser for the bowlers to help them with lodging and food during the five days they were there.



PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI ELDERS TRIP TO 2015 POTAWATOMI GATHERING

Submitted by LaVerne Hale

We began our journey on Sunday August 9th. During our first days travel we played Bingo and watched a movie on the bus. We had some nice donations for our Bingo prizes. Thanks to the ones that donated prizes. Linda Tecumseh made some beautiful pillows, Larry Cole always brings CD's that he makes and we used some of the donations from the One Stop for our prizes. Also I'd like to say a big Thank You to LaVonne Belair who always brings a big bag of candy for everyone in celebration of her birthday.

Our first night stay was at the Treasure Island Resort, Red Wing, Minnesota. We had a good time at this hotel. This place has, of course the Casino, but they also have a bowling alley, bingo, swimming pool and many fine eating places.

The next morning after a good night's rest we headed to the Gathering. For me one of the best things about this Gathering was that all events were right at the hotel we stayed at. We stayed at the Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel. The Language Conference was right there and the Gathering events were just down the hill from the hotel. It was most convenient for all the Elders. Once the Gathering events started the golf carts would come right to the hotel front door and pick up anyone that needed a ride.

The Elders attended the Language Conference. Our own Language Department had a wonderful presentation. They made us all proud.

I had asked some of the Forest County Potawatomi workers about the FCP Museum and Cultural Center. It was not listed on the schedule of events as a tour. I must have asked the right person because they kindly volunteered to open up for us the next day and give us a private tour. It is an amazing Museum. We then cruised over to Mole Lake and visited the Mole Lake Casino. Everyone had a nice lunch and a good time.

Finally the next day activities started happening. There was Elder Bingo and of course there were a lot of Elder Prairie Band in attendance and winning. The golf tournament took place that day also. We had no winning Prairie Band in the Golf Tournament but they had a good time.

All the PBP Elders participated in the learning sessions. Some made Hand Drums, Bows and Arrows, old style men's bells. Some of us learned new ways to make moccasins, dream catchers, and some beaded earrings. There was a basket making session also.

I was very proud of all the Prairie Band Elders and the helpers that participated in the sports activities. I will try and mention the winners I know about and apologize if I didn't get all the names of all the winners.

In the 5K run/walk Gilreath Atikens won 1st in her age group, Jeanette Little Sun won 2nd and Mary LeClere and Anthony Bogowith (our EMT) participated. Horseshoe Doubles 1st place went to Boney and Charles Nez. Men's single horseshoe winners was Elliot Masquat 1st, Andy Brown (our bus driver) 2nd place and Lyman Shipshee 3rd. In the woman's horseshoes Anita Torrez took 1st place. The volleyball winners took 2nd and they were Brandie Adame, Bill Jim, Jr., Stephanie Jim, Boney, Anthony Bogowith and Annie Potts. In the youth 3 on 3 basketball 1st place went to Masen, and Kwaki Spoonhunter and I don't know who the other boy was that was on their team. I'm not sure if he had a team but I saw our own ole Frank Parker hanging in there shooting the hoops. "Go Frank!"

We had so many participate from the Elders to the helpers and the Boys & Girls Club staff and youth and our Tribal Members that drove up on their own. There are just too many names to write down. When I walked around taking pictures of the activities from sports to the learning sessions our Prairie Band was participating in all of them. I was so proud and pleased.

Our bus driver, who is wonderful caring man, even volunteered to drive one of the Golf Carts. We were everywhere.

The food was excellent also. As always none of us went hungry and probably kept full most of the trip. It was all good.

Now, news from the Pow-wow. Of course we proudly had 2 drums representing the Prairie Band, Little Soldier Singers, or at least a few of them. Chago Hale, Naseka Hale, Don Don LeClere and Kwaki Spoonhunter. The other drum was Big Soldier Singers, which were Badger Wahwassuck, Trilby Wahwassuck, Gregg Suki, and Karen Wahwassuck. There were a couple of other ones but I don't know their names. Chago Hale took 2nd place in the Hand Drum Contest. Dania Wahwassuck was selected the new Potawatomi Gathering Princess. She is the daughter of Adrianna Wahwassuck and granddaughter of Badger and Karen Wahwassuck. We were all very proud of her and she looked so beautiful. The outgoing princess sponsored a contest for the teen girls and Felicity Price took 1st place on that one.

Also Felicity and Aislan Levier Jessepe won 1st in the Team Dance Contest. And I, me, LaVerne Hale won the Woman's Scrub Contest. This contest was what they call Tap Out meaning while you are dancing they will come tap you out to eliminate you. While I was trying to hang in there and dance I kept thinking "come tap me out". It was a tough won. We had a lot of dancers participate. And I think everyone enjoyed the Pow-wow.

I want to thank Tribal Council for approving the funding for our trip again this year. And a big thanks to all our helpers, Boney, Bill Jim, Jr., Chago Hale, Elliott Masquat, Joe Wishteyah, and Chris Decoteau. One or two of them was always at our area. They would get our chairs out and set things up. Offer us water when would sit down. They really do a wonderful job taking care of us Elders. Thank you doesn't seem like enough to say to our EMT's. We all thank them for being with us and taking care of us. Another thanks to Bill Matchie and Lyman Shipshee for driving the van up there. Thanks to

my helpers on the bus, Lisa Littleaxe, Spencer Shopteese, and Jason Matchie.

Thanks to the Tribal Departments, One Stop and the Casino for the Giveaway Gifts and the Bish that you donated to us.

Mostly I want to say again, thank you to all the Elders that travel on the bus. It makes my job so fulfilling the way you all treat each other. Everyone helps each other. Everyone visits and laughs. That's what it is all about. Each one of you enjoying the trip so much. Thanks!

I would like to throw a little thought out to our Tribal Members. I don't know exactly when but it will be coming around for our turn to host the Potawatomi Gathering. I just wanted to put that thought out there. Next year the Potawatomi Gathering will be hosted by the Citizen Band from Oklahoma. I hope we will get to travel again.



**PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION WANTS
TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANKS TO HAROLD
"GUS" FRANK, FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI
(FCP) COMMUNITY CHAIRMAN, AND THE
MEMBERS OF FCP FOR HOSTING THE 2015
GATHERING OF POTAWATOMI NATIONS HELD
IN CARTER, WISCONSIN.**

Gathering 2015



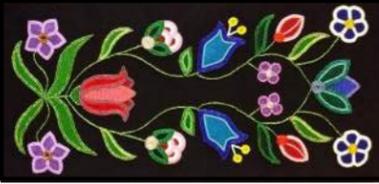
Bozho! I am the newly crowned Potawatomi Princess Dania Wahwasuck. I am granddaughter of Badger and Karen Wahwasuck. My Potawatomi name is Skep-gon-ko-kwa and I am thunder clan. I was recently crowned the 2015-2016 Miss Potawatomi at the Gathering held in Carter, Wisconsin, hosted by the Forest County Band of Potawatomi's.

Being a Native Women in today's society means a lot to me. I want to represent my people with pride. Women are the back bones of our society and as such we need to hold that title with honor. We need to be educated, well mannered, know our traditions, family history and culture. Native American women also need to be great leaders, because in today's society we are no longer confined to our traditional roles as caregivers. We are able to spread are wings and become whatever we want.

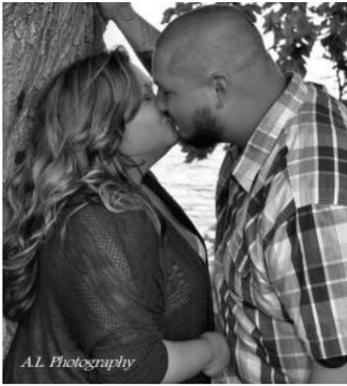
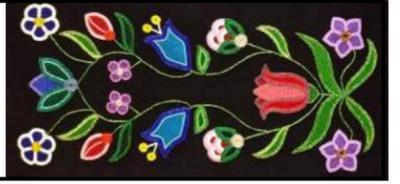
It is my duty as a Native American women to overcome and exceed negative stereotypes. I am a very proud young Potawatomi woman and as such it is my responsibility to show my peers that we can succeed. Being Miss Potawatomi is truly an honor I will represent my Potawatomi People with Pride.



Community



Celebrations



Congratulations on your engagement!
Amber Louise Thomas
&
Tanner Jean Shobney



Congratulations Jaiden
on being voted
Royal Valley Middle School President!
We are so proud of you!
Love,
Your Family

Congratulations on your advancement in Indian Country

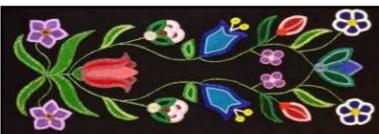


Shawn Walker has accepted a position with the Department of Homeland Security as a Regional Coordinator for the State, Local and Tribal Division. His assignment will be to provide law enforcement training and resources to tribes located in the northern part of the county. We wish him the best of luck on his new position.



Congratulation to Elaine Mzhickteno-Barr on her Retirement!

Send your good news to the Potawatomi News!



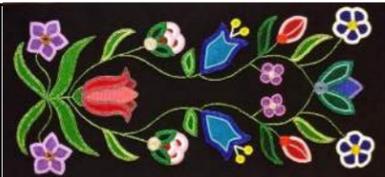
Ganittek (those who are born)



Keyan Alexander Mahkuk
Born August 08,2015
Proud Parents are Saida & Andreios
Proud Grandparents are Nevika & Mario
Proud Great Grandparent is Margret



Lilliana Faith Wahquahboshkuk
Born July 14, 2015
10lbs 1 oz 22 inches long
Parents: Jennifer Jackson and
Roy Wahquahboshkuk Jr.
Lilliana is a blessing and loved very much by her entire family!



Ttiwenmo eginigyen (happy day you were born)




Justin Torres Jr.
Justin Jr. is turning 1 on September 30! Happy 1st Birthday baby cakes!
Lots of Love from Mom, Dad and big brothers.



Ilan & Eli Torres
Twinkies are turning double digits on November 8th!
Happy 10th Birthday
Ilan and Eli!
Love you!
-Mom, Dad, Preston and Baby Justin



Taylor Faye Potts
December 23
Auntie & Gma Potts loves you, hope you have a Happy Birthday!



Nolan Pahmahmie
October 13th
Happy Birthday Ted love your momma!



Kaylyn Rupnicki
January 3rd
Happy Birthday KK, love you with all my heart! Mom & Dad



Preston Torres
Happy 13th Birthday Preston!
October 17th
Love You Lots!




Dorian Rupnicki
December 20th
Happy Birthday NEO, love you with all my heart! Mom & Dad

Send your good news to the Potawatomi News!

Elvon-Mae Belair
Happy 70th Birthday!

Sog Nosh Serna
Happy 17th Birthday!!
No matter how many Birthdays come and go, you will always be our Tu Tu Bear!
Love,
Your family



Sobie Scates
Happy 3rd Birthday
Love mom, dad and sisters Anna & Lilly!



Julia Kabance
Happy 105th Birthday!!



Wishing Meeks a very Happy 8th Birthday on October 26th. Wishing you many more happy days to come.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Sisters, and Grandma.



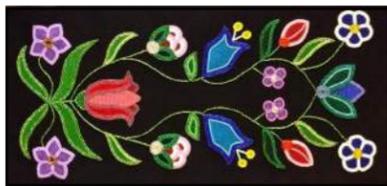
Happy 13th Birthday to **Patch Potts** on September 5th!



Happy 4th birthday to **Leo Wahquahboshkuk** on October 28th!!
Love, your family :)




Happy Birthday Braelynne (Nov. 9) and Adelynne (Nov. 22)
Love Always, All of Your Family and Friends



Kambottek (those who died)



Terri "T" Lou Ramirez Obituary



Terri "T" Lou Ramirez, 58, of Topeka, died June 24, 2015 at St. Francis Hospital.

She was born in Topeka, Kansas on September 2, 1956 the daughter of James V. and Nana Fern (Chandler) Blandin.

Terri held various jobs and was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

She married Andre Ramirez in Topeka in 1971. He predeceased her.

She is survived by her children, Andre "Sonny" (Misti) Ramirez II, Audra L. (Chris) Gragg, Ammi (Johnathon) Ramirez-Williams, Socorro "Cori" (Ashley) Ramirez, and a sister, Toni L. Dominguez, all of Topeka, and her grandchildren, T.J., Brendan, Garrett, Tristan, Makya and Mad-die. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents James and Nana (Chandler) Blandin and Aunt Creta Cloe Lutz.

A visitation will be held on Monday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home. A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrat-ed at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home, 800 SW 6th Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66603 and will be designated by the family at a later date.

John M. Vanderblomen, Sr. Obituary

John Matthew Vanderblomen, Sr., 72, of Topeka, KS passed away Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. He was born November 30, 1942 in Topeka, the son of Jacob Sylvester and Marion Celeste (Seymour) Vanderblomen.

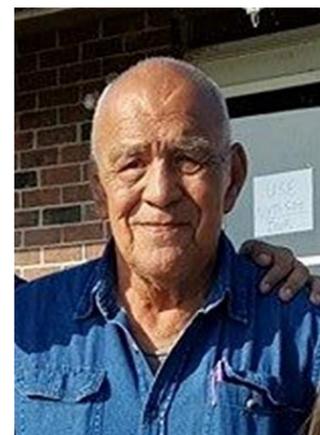
John attended Rossville High School until his sophomore year. He then joined and proudly served in the United States Army. John worked for Goodyear in Topeka and he later worked as a custodian for the Topeka Capital Journal and later retired from Haskell University as a custodian after many years.

He was a member of the Drum Religion and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

John married Ada Merle Wahquahboshkuk on May 10, 1965. She preceded him in death on December 17, 2008. He was also preceded in death by 2 sisters, Judy Harrison and Janice Hendrickson and a brother, Jim Vanderblomen.

Survivors include a daughter, Theresa Bravo of Topeka, KS; 3 sons, John Vanderblomen, Jr., Jacob Vanderblomen and Christopher Vanderblomen all of Topeka, KS; a sister, Joyce Cox of Alvin, TX; a brother, Bill Wilbur of Topeka, KS; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Drum services will be Monday evening, July 27, 2015 at the Danceground Building west of Mayetta. Burial will be Tuesday afternoon, July 28, 2015 in the Danceground Cemetery. John will lie in state at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton beginning Friday, July 24, 2015.



Chapel Oaks Funeral Services

Clyde "Se-bo-som" C. Cannon

(September 8, 1969 - July 16, 2015)

Cylde C. Cannon "Se-bo-som" 45, died July 16, 2015. He was born and raised in Virginia Beach VA. He was a tribal member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He also was a construction worker and a craftsman. He was preceded in death by his mother Diane Margie Kitchkommie and grandparents.



He is survived by his father Clyde H. Cannon and Dorothy of Norfolk VA, and his brother John Cannon of Mayetta KS. Viewing and Fellowship will be Thursday July 30, 2015 from 6pm-8pm at Our Lady of Snows Fellowship Hall on the Potawatomi Reservation 5971 166th Road Mayetta Ks.

JUDITH K. BURKE

KANSAS CITY, MO- Judith K. Burke, 67, of Kansas City, MO passed away March 27, 2015 at her home. She was born October 3, 1947 in Versailles, MO the daughter of Wendell H. and Rose Marie (Blandin) Burke.

Judith graduated from Versailles High School and later from Haskell Junior College. She worked for government services in the disability department in Kansas City. Judith was a member of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include a half-brother, Donald Burke in Versailles, MO and several cousins.

Graveside services will be 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at Prairie People's Cemetery on the Potawatomi Reservation west of Mayetta, KS. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements.

John Clayton Rice

DOB 04/21/1938 - DOD 07/01/2015

Naomi Marlow

DOB 03/27/1955 - DOD 09/12/2015



2015 Symetra Tour



Special Thanks to our guests Scott Brewer (Pokagon Band), Harold "Gus" Frank (Forest County), Frank Tecumseh (Huron Band), Russel Bradley, and Lester Randall (both of Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas). for their presence at the Symetra Tournament held at Firekeepers Golf Course, in Mayetta, KS.

The 2015 Potawatomi Cup comprises of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Hannahville Indian Community, and Forest County Potawatomi Indian Community.