



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Spring 2015

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation mourns the passing of Gary Mitchell -one of Nation's greatest tribal leaders

One of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's (PBPN) greatest tribal leaders Gary M. Mitchell, 63, passed away Jan. 23 surrounded by his family in Topeka.

Mitchell was serving as the chairman of the PBPN Gaming Commission at the time of his death and had been chairing the Gaming Commission off and on since 1997. Prior to that, he had been elected to serve on the Tribal Council as chairman, vice chairman, and treasurer for a total of 18 years of elected service. Academically he possessed a bachelor's degree in political science from Washburn University and a master's degree in history from Baker University.

Liana Onnen, PBPN Tribal Council chairperson, said: "He was a good man and a well respected member of the community. He understood the importance of preserving the culture, traditions and history of the Prairie Band Potawatomi people in a deeply profound way. He also took an active role in that preservation through not only his writings, but the way he lived his life. Gary served his people and his community through elected office for many years and his

passing is a great loss for our people and for all the lives he touched. We offer prayers of support for his family during this time and will remember Gary fondly and with great respect."



Rey Kitchkumme, who is on the Gaming Commission and had also worked with Mitchell on the Tribal Council, said: "On behalf of everyone who worked under his chairmanship the Gaming Commission is deeply saddened by his loss. He honored our Nation through service with tremendous passion and integrity. He was a good friend, mentor, co-worker and boss. His intelligence, wit, guidance, and graciousness will be forever remembered. His love for the Tribe, traditional ways, and his family were evident in everything that he did. Our thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathy are with

the Mitchell family at this difficult time."

During his tenure with the Nation, Mitchell was a driving force when the Tribal-State gaming compact was legislated in the 1990s and a casino was built on the Prairie Band reservation. Now known as the Prairie Band Casino & Resort (formerly Harrah's Prairie Band Casino), Mitchell was active in all phases of bringing gaming to the PBPN and overseeing the casino's woodlands design.

In addition, Mitchell was a life-long reservation resident and dedicated to ensuring that his people's traditions and language were maintained. He was a Potawatomi speaker and often gave invocations at powwows and other events. He was the tribe's historian and wrote many historical narratives that appeared in books and magazines. Among his other accomplishments was being the founder of the *Potawatomi News*, the Nation's newspaper that has been circulated to the tribal membership since 2000. Funeral arrangements were made with Mercer Funeral Home in Holton and can be found at www.mercerfuneralhomes.com. The obituary is also on page 22 inside this issue of the *News* and a tribute on page 8.

Kansas Governor visits PBPN



Kansas Governor Sam Brownback and members of his staff paid a visit to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) Feb. 6 to discuss government to government relations and to take a tour of the Government Center. On the front row, left to right, is Mark Dodd (Kansas Interim Native American Affairs Liaison), Gov. Brownback, and PBPN Chairperson Liana Onnen. On the back row, left to right, is Junior Wahweotten (PBPN member) Camilla Chouteau (PBPN Secretary), Tom Wabnum (PBPN Member), Joyce Guerrero (PBPN Vice Chairperson), Hattie Mitchell (PBPN Treasurer), Carrie O'Toole (PBPN Member), John Clauser (Kansas General Counsel), Vivien Olsen (PBPN Attorney), Brant Laue (Kansas Chief Counsel), Marzha Fritzler (PBPN Law Clerk), and Tracy Streeter (Kansas Director of Water Office). Present at the meeting but not pictured was Michael Hale (Kansas Attorney).

The late Jim Potter inducted into Holton/Jackson County Hall of Fame for 2015

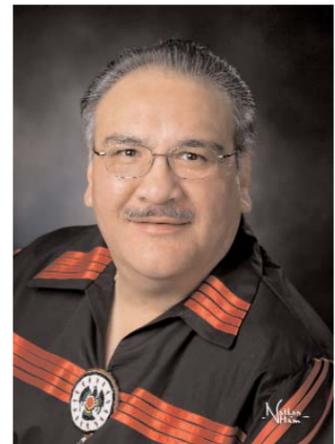
Former Tribal Council Secretary Jim Potter (deceased) was inducted into the Holton/Jackson County Hall of Fame award on Feb. 5 in Holton.

Chairperson Liana Onnen presented the award to Patty Potter and sons Robert Lara and Richard Clark.

Potter was nominated by the PBPN Tribal Council and selected unanimously by the Chamber of Commerce selection committee.

Potter served on the Tribal Council for 18 years and was also a great promoter of Mayetta and Jackson County.

He was a lifelong resident of Jackson County and was killed in a motorcycle/deer accident on June 11 on the reservation.



For more details see page 9.

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Message to the Nation from Liana Onnen, Tribal Council Chairperson

Since my last message to the Nation I have been busy attending meetings and conducting business.

The first week in December I attended the Annual White House Tribal Nations Conference that President Obama has hosted for the last six years. Each year leaders from 566 federally recognized tribes come together in Washington, D.C. to interface with the President and members of his Cabinet. This year I was able to meet with Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Kevin Washburn, and EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, and I also attended other consultation meetings and receptions. During my visit I came away with the feeling that President Obama has a deep commitment to strengthen government to government relationships with Indian Country. He has also broadened his interests by introducing new programs for Native American youth and several of them were invited to attend the conference.

I returned to Washington, D.C. Feb. 23-25 for the Winter session of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and was afforded the opportunity to meet with Kansas Senator Jerry Moran and U.S. Rep.(Kan.) Lynn Jenkins who have supported legislation that broadened the General Welfare Exclusion Act to include tribal governments. In essence, the legislation amended the Internal Revenue Code and requires the Treasury Secretary to establish a Tribal Advisory Committee that will help develop a mandatory education and training program for IRS field agents to learn about federal Indian law and our unique federal treaty and trust obligations. The NCAI supported this legislation and I was pleased that these two Kansas legislators backed the bill. Senator Moran

has also recently become a member of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs which will hopefully provide another avenue of support for our tribal efforts.

In other news, Tribal Council participated in the inaugural activities of Governor Sam Brownback in January. As you know, before he became governor and was a U.S. Senator, Brownback reached out to Native Americans by proposing a national apology to them. Since becoming governor he has issued three apology proclamations to various Kansas tribal groups. He was also an active participant at Native American Legislative Day at the Capitol held on Feb. 4 that the PBP was involved in. In its fourth year, the day involves interacting with legislators and others and this year tribal member Anita Evens and the Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers were recognized at the formal legislative session along with other tribal leaders. Following that, the Royal Valley Singers & Dancers performed in the Capitol rotunda with Gov. Brownback there and we were so proud of our youth. Dist. Rep. Ponka-We Victors from Wichita was instrumental in facilitating the day's activities which ended that evening with a traditional native feast held for tribal leaders at the Governor's mansion.

On Feb. 6 Gov. Brownback and some of his advisors made a visit to the reservation where Tribal Council and I met to discuss several government to government matters. Among them were developing a formal consultation policy, the Joint Committee on State Tribal Affairs, the proposed cigarette tax legislation and the State's Water Vision plan.

Also that week during the evening of Feb. 5 the late Jim Potter was inducted into the Holton/Jackson County Hall of Fame. I was honored to present the award to his widow Patty Potter and two sons. There was an outpouring of support by tribal members who attended the banquet and also spoke on

Jim's behalf. Jim was on the Tribal Council for many years and was a lifelong resident of Jackson County. He served on several community boards and committees and was well respected and loved before he was killed in a motorcycle/deer accident last June. I know that I miss him dearly as a friend and tribal leader and know that many of you do too.

In the day-to-day business operations for the Nation, Tribal Council continues to meet regularly and is working hard on projects and initiatives designed to protect our sovereignty. We have also been busy organizing and getting ready to launch the PBP Land Buy-Back program and are proud that we are one of the first tribes selected by the Department of Interior to implement the program. The program is designed to consolidate fractionated land back to the reservation through a voluntary program that will buy land as part of the Cobell Settlement. Much of the tribe's involvement is due to the hard work of Tribal Council member Tom Wabnum who has been instrumental in ensuring that the word gets out and that people are informed about the program. We have recently posted a PBP Land Buy-Back program webpage that can be accessed from our tribal website at www.pbpindi-antribe.com.

In conclusion, I want to recognize the work of Gary E. Mitchell who also passed away recently. I have known Gary all of my life and what strikes me most when I think of him was his dedication to the tribe and to preserving its culture and history. Gary was the chair of the Gaming Commission before he died and I will always remember a confident and assured man who had a wicked good sense of humor. Gary left a legacy of love and leadership to both his immediate family and that of his Nishnabe family.

Igwiem Shaw-nosh.

Potawatomi News schedule

Summer issue:

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Mailed out: Sept. 23

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Mailed out: Dec. 16



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P.O. Box 116
Mayetta, KS 66509-0116

Physical location:

16281 Q Road
Mayetta, KS
66509

Phone: 785.845.8370

Fax: 785.966.3912

Editor: Suzanne Heck

Email: suzanneh@pbpnation.org

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The *Potawatomi News* is a member of the Native American Journalists Association

State of Kansas water update

Submitted by Camilla Chouteau,
Tribal Council Secretary



Topeka, Kansas: The State of Kansas continues to process and update the Fifty Year Water Plan. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Jackson County are located in the designated Kansas Region area. Mostly recently, the Water Office has solicited comments on Vision Goals and especially the depleting future for the Kansas Water Supply from Ogallala Aquifer. The proposed Aqueduct Project continues to schedule public meetings with stakeholders mostly recently in Salina, Kansas in response to the 1982 Study. In the study, there is little indication on how the Aqueduct Project will be paid for and through the news media the State of Missouri has stated a non-favorable position for the project. To view the Water Plan and legislative updates and upcoming meetings go to:

www.kwo.org

**Tornado safety tips and more
at
www.pbpindiantribe.com**

Former Chairperson Steve Ortiz to be honored at National Indian Gaming Association Convention

Steve Ortiz, former PBPN chairperson, will be honored as a recipient of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) Chairman's Leadership Award at their convention planned for March 31 in San Diego.

Ortiz will be recognized by NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr for his accomplishments and achievements in Indian Country as chairman of the PBPN.

Ortiz was an elected official in the PBPN for approximately 15 years and served his last seven years as chairperson until 2014.

His other accomplishments were serving as the PBPN delegate to NIGA and the National Congress of American Indians, and being a member of the National Indian Gaming Commission Task Force on Health and Safety in Indian Casinos.

Ortiz also served on national



government committees including the Department of Health & Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee, the U.S. EPA Local Government Advisory Committee, and he was selected as one of twelve tribal leaders who met personally with President Obama in 2011 during the White House Tribal Nations Conference held in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 2.

Briefly

An article by **Chairperson Liana Onnen** about the Prairie Band Casino & Resort and an article about the death of **former Gaming Commission Chairperson Gary E. Mitchell** were published in the 2015 Buyer's Guide & Directory issue of **Indian Gaming Magazine**.

Prairie Band Tribal Operations has made some office moves. **Anna Boswell**, Member Services Director, has relocated to the Firekeepers Elder Center on K Road from the Government Center. **Ben Joslin**, IT Manager, has moved from the upper level of the Government Center to the lower level where Boswell's office was. A new Compliance Officer position that is staffed by **Elias Garcia** is located where Joslin's office was.

Several **We-Ta-Se veterans** traveled to Sacaton, Arizona during the last week of February to participate in the 70th Anniversary of the Iwo Jima Flag Raising. The event brings veterans together to commemorate Ira Hayes, a Native American soldier who was immortalized as one of six-flag raisers made famous in an iconic WWII photo that signified the end of the War. **Lorrie Melchior** and **Jessica Jim** staff the We-Ta-Se Department that is located in the We-Ta-Se building, 15434 K Road, Mayetta, KS.

Haskell Indian Nations University is hosting a 2015 Spring Career Fair on April 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Coffin Sports Complex on campus. Agencies and businesses who want a table should contact Janet White at 785.749.8455 in the Haskell Counseling Center.

President of Haskell Indian Nations University Dr. Venida Chenault and 11 students were selected to represent Haskell on stage when President Barack Obama delivered remarks at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan. on Jan. 22. During his short visit, the President also met with the KU basketball team and visited children at Lawrence's Community Children's Center.

The **Department of Education** announces the following opportunities for Native American students:

•**Sovereign Youth Leadership Academy** through the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs. Academy will take place at Doane College in Crete, Neb. from July 27-July 31. Application deadline is May 15. For details contact by email: bekka.schlichting@gmail.com.

•**Summer Scholarship Opportunity for Grades 9-12 to Washington, D.C.** sponsored by the Native American Indian Education Association and the National Museum of the American Indian. Students are asked to write an essay. For full details go to <http://nativewriters.hklaw.com/2015/index.asp>.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is helping to sponsor the annual **Flint Hills Wisdom Keepers Gathering** to be held April 24-27 near Council Grove, Kan. For details go to www.fhwisdomkeepers.org.

Haskell Indian Nations University was awarded with a Tribal Colleges and Universities Humanities Initiative to fund the "Summer Bridge Program in Literature" through the National Endowment for the Humanities. Haskell will develop and implement the

three year Summer Bridge Program for freshman students that require remedial classes in English. The program is for four weeks during the summer that will begin in 2016 and end in 2017. Around 60 students will be selected for the program and the staff will develop a culturally competent curriculum and student manual that will detail the components of the program.

An **Agent Orange Town Hall Meeting** was held to offer information on Agent Orange exposure from military service while in Vietnam and other locations at the **Prairie Band Casino & Resort** on March 8.

An **Active Shooter Workshop** will be held at the **Prairie Band Casino & Resort** on March 30. The workshop is designed to enhance awareness of, and response to, a possible active shooter event and is geared to corporate and facility security professionals. The workshop is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security. Chief of Police **Shawn Walker** with the **Potawatomi Tribal Police Department** is assisting with the workshop.

The **Boys & Girls Club** held Spring Break Camp from March 16-March 20 and went on several field trips during the week. Trips included the Manhattan Discovery Center, Science City in Kansas City, and Sky Zone in Topeka, to name a few. The Club is also enrolling for Summer Camp that will be held from May 26-July 31. For details call the club at 785.966.3031 or visit the tribal website at www.pbpindiantribe.com.

Prairie Band in forefront of Land Buy-Back Program



Tribal Council member Tom Wabnum discussed the Land Buy-Back program on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation on Feb. 13 at the casino. The PBPN were selected as one of the first tribes to enter into cooperative agreements with the Department of Interior to help implement the program.

Approximately 75 people attended an informational meeting on Feb. 13 about the Land Buy-Back program that is part of the Cobell Settlement. The purpose of the program is to purchase highly fractionated tracts of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation tribal trust land, consolidating the ownership, and transferring it to the PBPN in trust.

Tribal landowners who have interests in trust land were invited to learn about the program that was created by the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 which was part of the Cobell Settlement. The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) was selected in the first set of tribal nations to implement the Land Buy-Back program that is scheduled to begin this spring.

Representatives from the Department of Interior Land Buy-Back Program and Office of Special Trustee were on hand at both presentations where they discussed the PBPN's status in the program. In addition, Tribal Council member Tom Wabnum gave information about the reservation's land base at the local level at the Mayetta meeting. Representatives from the Horton BIA, PBPN Tribal Land Office and Attorney's Office were also on available to answer questions following the presentations.

For more information
go to
www.pbpindiantribe.com
and
search for
**PBP Land Buy-Back
Program on
left navigation panel
or call
Marzha Fritzler,
PBPN program
coordinator
at
785.966.4030**



(Left to right) is Katy Grounds, Senior Advisor -Tribal Relations for the Land Buy-Back Program, who gave a presentation at the casino on Feb. 13 and Marzha Fritzler, Law Clerk for the PBPN Attorney's office.

For more details contact
Tribal Land Planner Steve Duryea
at
785.966.3928

BIA announces selection of Prairie Band Potawatomi for Land Buy-Back

Washington, D.C. (Jan. 30) In the latest step of the U.S. Interior Department's work to reduce land fractionation and strengthen tribal sovereignty across Indian Country, Deputy Secretary of the Interior Michael Connor announced an agreement with the the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas that details what each tribal government will do to help implement the Buy-Back Program and provide resources to facilitate outreach and education. The Department also entered into cooperative or other agreements with nearly 20 other sovereign tribal nations.

"We continue to be encouraged by the growing momentum and excitement about the Buy-Back Program across Indian Country," said Deputy Secretary Connor. "As we have made clear, a significant factor in the Program's success is the ability to work effectively with tribal leadership to best tailor outreach and information to their community.

By working closely with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, we can maximize our ability to provide landowners with the information they need to make informed decisions about their land through this voluntary program."

Land fractionation is a serious problem across Indian Country. As lands are passed down through generations, they gain more owners. Many tracts now have hundreds and even thousands of individual owners. Because it is difficult to gain landowner consensus, the lands often lie idle and cannot be used for any beneficial purpose. There are more than 245,000 owners of three million fractionated interests, spanning approximately 150 Indian reservations,

who are eligible to participate in the Buy-Back Program.

The Buy-Back Program was created to implement the land consolidation component of the Cobell Settlement, which provided \$1.9 billion to consolidate fractional land interests across Indian Country. It allows interested individual owners to receive payments for voluntarily selling their land. Consolidated interests are immediately transferred to tribal governments and stay in trust for uses benefiting the tribes and their members. To date, the Buy-Back Program has made more than 46,000 purchase offers to owners of fractionated interests, successfully concluded transactions worth \$330 million and restored the equivalent of nearly 541,000 acres of land to tribal ownership.

"The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation looks forward to collaborating with the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations," said Liana Onnen, Chairperson of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. "Our participation in this program furthers the common goal to purchase highly fractionated trust land from voluntary sellers at fair market value. The consolidated ownership of these fractional interests on behalf of the Nation promotes tribal self-governance and benefits the Nation as a whole."

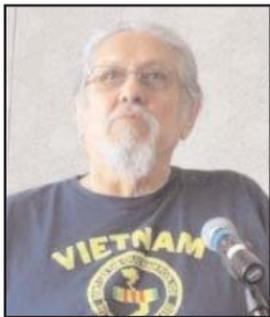
The Department has announced 42 locations where land consolidation activities such as planning, outreach, mapping, mineral evaluations, appraisals or acquisitions are expected to take place through the middle of 2017. These communities represent 83 percent of all outstanding fractional interests across Indian Country.

Land Buy-Back meeting held in Milwaukee



Left: Members of the PBPN Tribal Council and staff traveled to Milwaukee, Wis. on Feb. 28 to discuss the Land Buy-Back Program. BIA program staff also attended the meeting.

Right: Tribal member Don Perrot gave the invocation during the meeting. He lives in Waupun, Wisconsin and is active in the Potawatomi language program. Over 45 people attended the meeting that discussed how the Land Buy-Back program will work.



Prairie Band Potawatomi shine at Native American Legislative Day at the Capitol



The Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers were photographed with Gov. Sam Brownback in his office on Feb. 4. They were also recognized in front of the Kansas Legislature and performed at noon in the Capitol rotunda.

Native American Legislative Day at the Capitol was held on Feb. 4 and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation was out in full force. Members of the Tribal Council attended the day's activities and the award-winning Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers performed at noon and were recognized by Gov. Sam Brownback and the Kansas Legislature.

This is the fourth year that Native Americans have been recognized by the Kansas Legislature. A bill was passed in 2013 that officially designated the first Wednesday of February as Native American Legislative Day at the Capitol permanently but last year's activities were cancelled due to poor weather. Rep. Ponka-We Victors (Tohono O'odham), the first Native American woman ever elected to the Kansas Legislature, initiated the bill into law and is still a District 103 representative from the Wichita area.

The Royal Valley Singers & Dancers recently traveled to Bartlesville, Oklahoma and brought home the championship trophy in the 12th annual Battle of the Plains Native American Youth competition that is sponsored by Operation Eagle, the Indian Education Program administered through the Bartlesville Public Schools in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Several dancers also placed in individual competitions and took home awards.

The Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers is the only school-sponsored dance group in Kansas. The group is composed of young people from kindergarten to twelfth grade and is sponsored by Anita Evans and Connie Peters who are affiliated with the Royal Valley School District and the Prairie Band Boys & Girls Club. In addition, tribal members who perform with the Little Soldiers Drum group and many parents and family members are also active supporters of the young group that gives several performances each year.



PBPB Tribal Council members were informally photographed with Gov. Brownback that day.



Anita Evans was recognized for her work with the Royal Valley Singers and Dancers before the Kansas Legislature on Feb. 4 by Kansas Rep. Ponka-We Victors. State legislators gave Evans a standing ovation after the appreciation plaque was given.



Robert Jackson brought a display that was set up in one of the Capitol lobby areas. The display exhibits various components of the Nation's government and was created by the Human Resources Department where Robert works.



(Above) Royal Valley students Taryn Boswell (third from left) and Trent Blalock (seventh from left) were selected as pages at the Capitol and were photographed with members of the PBPB Tribal Council, Dist. Rep. Ponka-We Victors, Gov. Brownback and parent Mike Boswell. (Left to right) are Camilla Chouteau, Mike Boswell, Taryn Boswell, Rep. Victors, Gov. Brownback, Joyce Guerrero, Trent Blalock, and Carrie O'Toole.

Rep. Ponka-We Victors is the first Native American woman ever elected to the Kansas legislature and introduced the bill that designates the first Wednesday in February as Native American Legislative Day.

Photos by
Suzanne Heck



(Left) Gov. Brownback joined the dancing during one of the songs. To his left is Alista Thorne who is Ms. Haskell and Royal Valley dancer Brennah Wahweotten is on his right.



(Left) Mshewe Hale gave a solo hand drum performance in between dancing and being part of the drum. (Right) Little Soldier provided the drum for the dancers at the Capitol.



Royal Valley Singers & Dancers place 1st in the 12th Annual Battle of the Plains Championship

Listed below are the placings of the Royal Valley Dancers at the Battle of the Plains Competition held January 17 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma that was submitted by Anita Evans.

Girls Cloth (Ages 5-7)
2nd-Shawnot Evans

Girls Fancy Shawl (Ages 5-7)
1st-Karis Miller
2nd-Panno Wahwassuck

Girls Jingle(Ages 5-7)
1st-Tori Brossett

Boys Fancy (Ages 5-7)
2nd-Shanehse Williams

Girls Cloth(Ages 8-10)
3rd-Alyssa Levier

Girls Fancy Shawl(Ages 8-10)
1st-Nagos Hale

Girls Jingle(Ages 8-10)
1st-Shanokwe Price

Boys Fancy(Ages 8-10)
1st-Mshewe Hale

Boys Grass(Ages 8-10)
1st-Nachonbe Wahwassuck
3rd-KJ Miller

Girls Cloth(Ages 11-13)
1st-Aislan Levier

Girls Fancy(Ages 11-13)
1st-Mae Joslin
2nd-Adriana Suke
3rd-Autumn Wabaunsee

Girls Jingle(Ages 11-13)
1st-Hayley Harman
2nd-Sophia Suke

Boys Grass(Ages 11-13)
2nd-Isaac Hale

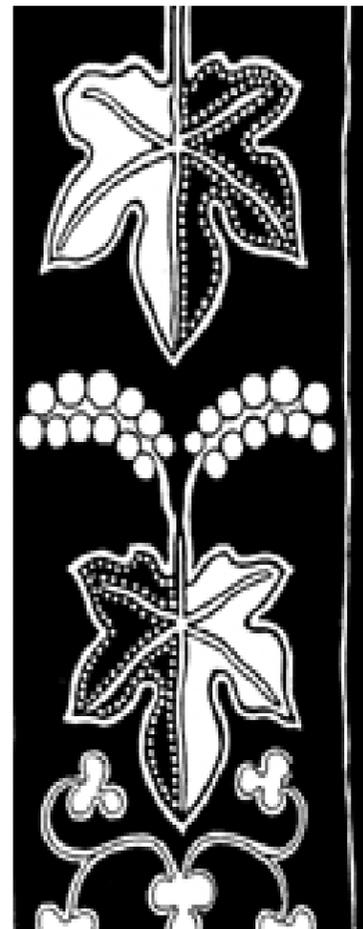
Boys Grass (Ages 14-18)
1st-Jimmy Locust

Special thanks to sponsors
Anita Evans and Connie Peters
and parents, family and friends
for making the PBPN proud of its youth.

Girls Cloth(Ages 14-18)
1st-Mittina Hale

Girls Fancy(Ages 14-18)
1st-Brennah Wahweotten
3rd-Bella Thompson

Girls Jingle(Ages 14-18)
3rd-Taryn Boswell



A thank you message from the family of Gary E. Mitchell

The family of Gary E. Mitchell wish to express our deepest gratitude for the outpouring of condolences expressed and help received during the passing of Shaw-Nosh, into the spirit world.

Gary lived his life in the manner his mother advised him to, helping others as much as he could when called upon during ceremonies. He will be remembered for naming many babies and adults, praying at funeral services, supper talks, and serving in many capacities in our religion. He loved and respected "our way". Gary loved each and every one of his family members for whom they were. He grew up in a large family and respected and enjoyed all of his adopted family members, too. He was adopted for Philip Wewenes and later his family adopted Judy Wabaunsee as their mother, both multiplying his family by ten times. The Wewenes/Hale families are two of the largest families on the Kickapoo and Potawatomi reservations.

Gary's education endeavors allowed him to help our people, the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation. He spent many years in historical research because he knew he had to have a grasp of his roots to understand how to make a better future for our people. Upon requests, he gave many history speeches, which some angered the audience because the historical truth is not what some like hearing. This did not discourage Gary because true history had to be told, not the text book version ingrained in to most people's minds. He loved sitting with elders and veterans to hear their stories and teachings. He was a great story teller. He knew how to captivate an audience, but he also knew when to throw in a few great punch lines and jokes, too!

We would like to give a special thank you to the PBPN EMT's, all co-workers and friends who said their good byes, to all the cooks, the pall bearers, the speakers, the singers, the chief, the women and his Indian Country gaming friends.

We Love You and will always miss you Shaw-Nosh! We know he is in the spirit world with his mother and brothers.

Igwien,

Voncile,
"Dumps",
Martie,
Tara,
Waskeh,
Kek,
Hootie,
Patko,
Tay,
Shug,
Oshketah,
Kwe-Kwe-Gee,
his brothers,
his sisters
and
his nieces and nephews!



*"The true sign of an Indian leader is when they
give something that will
withstand the passage of time."*

-Gary E. Mitchell

*(excerpt taken from the Potawatomi News
page 7 - January 2002)*

A nephew's story about Gary E. Mitchell



By Jacob "Tug"
Wamego

The ability to summarize a person's life into words is nearly an impossible endeavor. The enormity of the task is enough to make any writer think twice about even putting word to paper. This is especially the case with Gary

Mitchell. His recent passing has left a void in his family's lives that will likely never be filled. Gary was many things to many people but to his family he was the consistent calm in this storm we call life. His family lost a central presence in their lives and Indian Country lost a true leader.

Gary was born in 1951. He came into this world a few minutes after his twin brother, Larry. The twins would hold a special place in the heart of their mother even after the birth of 10 more siblings. The twins were "mama's boys" until the day she left this world. Gary and his siblings grew up on the Potawatomi Reservation during a challenging time period. There were very few jobs and poverty was common place. The Reservation families might not have owned much in a material sense but the community was rich in tradition, culture and perseverance. Gary and his siblings learned at a young age that it takes hard work and drive to make it in this world. Gary went to boarding school in Winnebago, Nebraska, during his elementary and junior high years. This experience would affect Gary and his family throughout their lives. Boarding school was similar to the military with its regiments and daily duties. But it left a bad mark on Gary. He would struggle with religion and spirituality for many years.

Gary eventually came to terms with religion but only after he met his wife, Voncile. Voncile would help him with the memories that haunted his experience with religion. Her family was strong in the spiritual traditions of the Potawatomi people. They would help guide him back to those traditional beliefs. Gary and Voncile raised two daughters and also played an important role to all of their grandchildren. They rarely missed an opportunity to support their children or grandchildren. From basketball games to powwows, Gary and Voncile tirelessly supported their family. The love and dedication they showed their family was an inspiration to those around them.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi language and traditions were a huge part of Gary's life. He spent countless hours studying in the effort of learning how to pray in Potawatomi. His numerous teachers included Maynard Potts, Meeks Jackson and his mother Alberta Wamego. He spent many precious hours at his mother's house learning phrases in Potawatomi. She was a difficult teacher and would not let Gary leave until he said the words right. Days later when Gary would speak in ceremonies, his mother would tell him to stop by the house afterward so that they

could work on some of the incorrect words he spoke. Those hours spent studying would not only benefit Gary but the many people in the community that needed assistance during baby namings, feasts, prayer services and funerals. He gave many invocations all over the country and never asked for recognition. The only affirmation he needed was the smile and nod of the head he received from his mother and the other teachers as he prayed for the people.

Politics would become another one of Gary's many passions. He served the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in several political capacities during his lifetime. The early days of his political service were during a time when the Nation's budget was a fraction of what it is today. The reservation's residents were few and even fewer people were interested in tribal politics or even fully understood what it meant to exercise tribal sovereignty. Gary played an important role in tribal politics during the 80s, 90s and on into the 21st century. He played a significant role in tribal leadership that saw the expansion of Indian gaming on the reservation. Gary often said, "Modern day tribal politics are no different than anywhere else. Some of it is good and some bad, but one thing for sure, there is never a dull moment on an Indian reservation."

Throughout his career, Gary showed tremendous dedication to the improvement of the reservation. He faithfully advocated for vital improvements to the reservation. His tenure on the Tribal Council saw the paving of many reservation roads, construction of state of the art buildings, new housing for young families and elders, and the construction of Prairie People's Park, to name a few. He was a firm believer that new revenues from the casino should be used to better our reservation's infrastructure and that the improved infrastructure would prepare the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation for opportunities well into the future.

Gary was also a great writer. He wrote several historical accounts of the Potawatomi People. He used his excellent communication skills to tell the stories of the people who lived through the tumultuous history of life on the Potawatomi Reservation. He spent many hours interviewing elders and other members of the reservation community to add to the Potawatomi story. He continued to write nearly every day, even after his books were published. Many of his thoughts and commentary would end up on his blog, in messages to his email buddies and later on the social media site, Facebook. His knowledge and witty observations would entertain many of his family and friends. He influenced many people on the reservation through his stories and writings. He once said, "the story of the Potawatomi People is just beginning."

On a personal level, Gary was one of my greatest heroes. Growing up I was impressed by his involvement in tribal government. He was a natural leader and knew how to communicate with people. He didn't take the most direct path to politics or academics. He started a family at a young age and worked difficult jobs to provide for them. It wasn't until he was 42 years old and had served several terms in tribal government that he graduated from Washburn with a degree in political science. It would take another couple

years and numerous miles commuting to get his Master's Degree. I saw how hard he worked and the pride he took in those accomplishments. It would have been easy to quit and no one in his family would have thought less of him but he didn't. It was a proud day for us all when he received his diploma. Copies of his diplomas were prominently displayed in his mother's home.

I worked with Gary for nearly 6 years and the day I told him I was leaving work to attend University of Kansas School of Law was difficult. I had one of the best places to work and would be leaving that for the difficult law school experience. He didn't discourage me from going to law school but I could tell it would be a difficult transition for both of us. He told me, "so, you really want to be a lawyer?" All I could say was, "yeah, I think so." Turns out, he would be one of my greatest supporters during my law school years. I was the leader of the Native American Law Student's Association and part of our job was to educate the law school and KU community on legal and social issues facing Indian Country. Gary attended every one of those events our group coordinated. I was proud to introduce my uncle to the law school community and appreciated that he took the time to support us.

Immediately after law school, I began the arduous task of studying for the bar exam. The courses were in Topeka and a couple days into the course I found out Gary was going to be in Topeka during the noon hour. I thought, well he can take me to lunch. We started texting each other and he told me he was at the doctor and we could go to lunch after the appointment. I drove over to the doctor's office and waited. I didn't really know what to expect but he came out and the look on his face scared me. He told me it wasn't good. The doctor said he had a lung disease and likely only had a few years to live. The only way he would get better was for a lung transplant. Our lunch date turned into one of the most difficult days of my life but somehow I kept my emotions in check. He was a proud man and didn't want others to know about the illness he was battling. He simply didn't want the attention or sympathy folks naturally feel. I initially tried to convince him to go through with the lung transplant or at the least see what the process entailed. Ultimately after some research and talking with Voncile, he decided that he would not get on the transplant list because he had lived a full life and all that remained was in the hands of the creator.

Gary's time in this world would end on January 23, 2015, with the love of his life by his side. He didn't want his illness to define who he was or for the rest of us to remember him as he was in those final days. People from all over the country sent their prayers and respects to Gary and his family. He earned the respect of the people through his life's work and dedication to better the lives of Indian people all over the country. His legacy will continue with his family, his writings, the numerous stories he left us with and the language he passed on to his grandson. Life will not be the same for the Potawatomi Reservation and for those closest to him.

(Left to right) Eddie Joe Mitchell, Gary E. Mitchell and Larry Mitchell at one of the Gatherings several years ago. Gary and Larry were twin brothers and are now both deceased. Eddie Joe resides on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation and works for the Prairie Band Health Center in the "Return to a Healthy Past" program which is part of the Diabetes program.

Learn more about life on the Potawatomi Reservation
at Eddie Joe Mitchell's website
at
www.Reznjun.com



Chamber to honor Jim Potter's work

Editor's Note: Reprinted by permission from Holton Recorder. Article appeared Dec. 10, 2014)

By Brian Sanders

Bridging and improving relations between Jackson County officials and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation was one of the late Jim Potter's goals, and in his lifetime, he managed to rise above and beyond that goal.

Known not only for his work on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council and within the nation, but also for his work in non-tribal endeavors throughout the county, Potter is one of this year's Holton/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame inductees. That, according to his fellow Tribal Council member and longtime friend, Steve Ortiz, is something Potter would be happy about.

It shows that we're a part of the community, and I know he'd be excited about that," said Ortiz, who retired from the tribal council earlier this year. He added that Potter would be proud to stand alongside fellow Potawatomis who have also been inducted into the Hall of Fame, including Roy Hale, the late Francis Jensen and the late Vestina Nonken.

Over the past two decades, Potter had served as a member of the Tribal Council, first as its treasurer and then as its secretary, and he served on the tribe's health board as the tribe's representative on the National Congress of American Indians. He was also instrumental in the development and growth of the tribe's casino and played a key role in bringing back the tribe's annual powwow.

But Potter's work also extended beyond the boundaries of the Potawatomi nation, including serving as a president of the Jackson County Economic Development Corporation and the Jackson County Tourism Council and on the Banner Creek Science Center board of directors.

He also served in leadership positions with the Mayetta Area Business Association and the Stormont-Vail Foundation.

"Jim was an exceptional community advocate, bridging a good rapport between our reservation and the surrounding communities," said Rey Kitchkumme, Potawatomi gaming commissioner and former Tribal Council member. "He had an incredible ease about him and he made everyone feel comfortable."

Born in 1958, Potter grew up on and around

the Potawatomi reservation and graduated from Royal Valley High School in 1976. Ortiz said he first met and befriended Potter in the early 1970s when the two of them would go hunting with other friends.

"He just seemed different from the other guys," Ortiz said of Potter. "The one thing he and I used to talk about was the way he would wet his finger and put it up in the air to see which way the wind was blowing. Back in those days, honest to God, he could go out to the reservation and get a limit of pheasant and quail."

As a youth, he and future wife Patricia Miller-whose mothers were best friends-would go to powwows all over Kansas and Oklahoma, Kitchkumme said.

"Jim always wanted to be a 'straight dancer,'" he said. "What eventually attracted Patti to Jim was the goodness he carried within and that he was tall."

Eventually, Potter would propose marriage to Miller, but would wait a year until she finally said yes, Kitchkumme said. They were married on June 6, 1992.

Potter and Ortiz would continue to hunt together through the years, but it wasn't until the 1990s that the two of them got involved in tribal politics. Potter ran for and won a position on the tribal council in 1998, which was, according to Ortiz, "the year the growth began."

That was the time that the tribe's casino was brought into the Harrah's family of casinos, water service to the reservation was improved dramatically with the extension of a larger water main from Jackson County Rural Water District 3 and relations between tribal and other governments began to improve. Potter, Ortiz said, was a key player in all three of those developments.

But it was Potter's commitment to improving intergovernmental relations that garnered him an incredible amount of recognition outside the boundaries of the reservation.

"He was always working on understanding the relationship we had to have between the tribe and the state," Ortiz said. "Back then, it wasn't near the level it's at today. There was a lot of animosity. The focus was to break that animosity, but it would take time, and it has. Maybe things aren't perfect, but it's better than it was."

Potter's communication skills made him an effective person in helping to improve relations

between the tribe and not only the State of Kansas, but also Jackson County, Ortiz added. He and Pam Bowman, who served as Potter's administrative assistant for 12 years, described Potter as a "bridge" between the tribe and county officials.

Much of it had to do with Potter's genial nature, Bowman said.

"He was just a good-hearted man," she said. "In all the years I worked for him, he never made me feel like an employee. He was more like a brother."

From 1998 to 2010, Potter served as the tribal council's treasurer, then served for four years as the council's secretary. During that time, however, Bowman noted that he was also a key player in the 1998 resurrection of one of the tribe's biggest events-its annual powwow, and he served as the powwow committee's co-chairman for several years.

"For a time, there was no powwow, and he was instrumental in bringing that back to the nation," Bowman said. "One of the tribal elders had asked him if they could bring it back, and even though he didn't do it alone, he was key to bringing it back."

Potter, whose term as tribal council secretary was reportedly set to end earlier this year, was getting ready for this year's powwow on June 11 when tragedy struck after leaving the powwow grounds on his motorcycle. His motorcycle struck a deer in the road, then went into a ditch, where he reportedly died from his injuries.

"It was a sad event," Ortiz said of Potter's death. "We were all sad to see Jim go, because we could always call Jim up and get a straight answer on anything, and we couldn't do that anymore. That was the great loss."

Indeed, in their years together on the tribal council, anytime Ortiz wanted a "straight answer" from Potter he would call on the "wet your finger" phrase from their hunting days in the 1970s.

"That phrase was more about tribal politics then," Ortiz said with a laugh. "I used to ask Jim, 'Which way is the wind blowing? Is this going to impact our decision?'"

Potter will be honored alongside Bill and Debra Brown, Mike Ford and Brad Stauffer at the 2015 Chamber Hall of Fame induction ceremony which is scheduled for February.



Rey Kitchkumme was interviewed about working with Potter in a video shown at the banquet.



Last year's Hall of Fame banquet honored Roy Hale (center). To Hale's left is Steve Ortiz and to his right is the late Jim Potter.



Pam Bowman was Potter's assistant for 12 years and now works for Secretary Chouteau.



Patty and Jim Potter in 2004.

One Stop Convenience Store opens



The Prairie Band One Stop Convenience store held its grand opening on January 2. The store sells native cigarettes, gas, gifts and snacks and is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. It is located on U.S. Highway 75 and 190th Road. For more information call 785.364.2328 or visit: www.prairiebandllc.com

The Prairie Band One Stop Convenience Store located at U.S. Highway 75 and 190th Road held its grand opening Jan. 2 and is now officially open for business.

The store sells gas, drinks, tobacco, gifts, and snacks and is open daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. A 24-hour gas pay-at-the-pump is also available.

The store is the newest business venture for Prairie Band, LLC that is owned by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Native American themed items are for sale in the store including a coffee brand from PT's Roasterie called Prairie Band Signature Blend.

The store was formerly known as Kathy's General Store and has been completely renovated. It has new flooring, reconstructed rooms that include a gift shop, tobacco sales area, snack bar section, large modern restrooms and new plumbing and electrical wiring. There are also adjacent rooms that include offices and a large storage space.

The entrance off of U.S. Highway 75 has been paved as well as the grounds around the store. There are three other buildings near the store that include the Prairie Band, LLC headquarters and two other structures that are available for retail or commercial space.



(Left) Former Kansas Tribal Liaison, Chris Howell, stopped by to visit with Chairperson Liana Onnen on Jan. 6 to talk about his new position as Director of Tribal Relations for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railway. Howell discussed outreach efforts that BNSF is developing with tribal nations across the United States.

Calendar of Events

April 3	PBP Government Closed Easter	July 3	PBP Government Closed Independence Day
April 4	Easter Eggstravaganza	July 18	General Council Meeting
April 7	Take Back the Night	July 25	Ethics Commission Election
April 18	General Council Meeting	August 13-17	Potawatomi Gathering Forrest County, Mich.
May 25	PBP Government Closed Memorial Day	August 22	Run-Off Ethics Commission Election (if needed)
June 5-7	Annual Powwow	Sept. 7	PBP Government Closed Labor Day

Helping a family in need

A canned food drive was held in the Prairie Band Potawatomi community to help a family who lost their home due to fire recently and Tribal Victim Services and Social Services organized the drive by placing donation boxes in various buildings around the reservation.

In addition, a friendly competition arose between the Tribal Police Department and the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department (PTFD) that resulted in 1,596 pounds of food being donated from the two groups. The Tribal Police Department won and received a free police vehicle car wash compliments of PTFD labor. Below are photographs of each department holding their donated goods that were submitted by TVS staff member Daniel Goombi.



ABOVE: The winning team of Tribal Police officers holding 1,189 pounds of canned goods that they donated to the drive. From left to right is Brandon Wells, Matt Simpson, Michael Holte and Tyler Shobney.

Thanks to members of the community who also donated food.

BELOW: Fire Department officers are (left to right) Lance Wishkeno, Paul Juedes, Eric Ganson, Doug Schreiner, Brady Nikkel, Andrew Naylor, Ronnie Sellens III, and Justin Dollard. The PTFD gathered 407 pounds of canned goods for the family.



Upcoming events with Tribal Victim Services

April 4-Easter EGGStravaganza
2 to 4 p.m. Prairie Peoples Park
(Egg hunt, 3 p.m. and other egg related games)

April 7-Take Back the Night
7 to 8 p.m.
Prairie Peoples Park
(National Sexual Assault Awareness Month)

First responders learn how to protect themselves against hazardous biological threats like Ebola

A training that taught first responders and other providers on how to protect themselves using proper gear from highly infectious diseases like Ebola was held at the Bingo Hall on December 15-16.

The Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department (PTFD) coordinated the training with the Center for Domestic Preparedness, Texas A & M Engineering Extension Service, and the Kansas Department of Emergency Management. The course was taught by instructors from the Texas A & M Engineering Extension Service out of College Station, Texas. Approximately 20 people attended the training including several from the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department.

The course provided an overview of potentially hazardous biological agents and trainees learned how to don and doff respiratory protection equipment and protective clothing that is needed to decontaminate hazardous biological environments.

The training program was Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events (PER-320) and was open to EMS, Fire Service, Law Enforcement, HazMat, Healthcare, and Public Health personnel.



Bruce Coates (far left) from the PTFD, listens to an instructor from Texas A & M Engineering Extension Service, who taught a course on taking protective measures during biological events. Trainees in the course took turns donning and doffing the plastic suits used during the training.



PTFD Cecil Mercer getting ready to put the personal protection equipment (PPE) on properly.

Ice and swift-water rescue training

The Fire Department conducted its annual ice and swift-water rescue training last January at a pond on the reservation.



Personnel preparing the ice rescue inflatable. Left to right: George Wiecken, Doug Schreiner, Jon Gwartney, Mike Moreno, Bruce Coates, and Jonathan Douglas.



Frank Zeller (rear) rescuing Mark Meinhardt on the ice.

Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department receives thank you from Health Center



Bill Thorne, Health Center Administrator, presented a thank you plaque to Fire Chief Doug Schreiner and his crews last winter at the Fire Station for their hard work in protecting the Health Center and Nation.



Back row, left to right: Brandon Myers (FF/EMT), Jon Gwartney (FF/Medic), Greg Bills (FF/EMT), Mark Meinhardt (FF), Eric Ganson (Cpt./Medic), Cecil Mercer (FF/EMT).

Center row, left to right: Lance Wishkeno (Lt/EMT), Justin Dollard (FF/Medic), Brady Nikkel (FF/EMT), Andrew Naylor (FF/EMT), Ben Green (Lt. EMT) and Ronnie Sellens (FF/EMT).

Front row, left to right: Joy Matchie (Administrative Assistant) and Doug Schreiner (Chief).



Paul Juedes



George Wiecken



Frank Zeller



Left to right: Mike Barbosa, Jonathan Douglas, Josh Johnson, and Mike Moreno are all members of the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department.

Hope Adame honored at Kansas Head Start Association annual conference as Administrator of the Year

**Also named
National Headstart Administrator of the Year
and will be honored at the national conference
in Washington, D.C. this spring**

Hope Adame, director of the PBPN Early Childhood Education Center, was honored as the Kansas Head Start Administrator of the Year at the Kansas Head Start Association annual conference on January 15 at the Webster Conference Center in Salina, Kansas.

Adame was first selected for the honor in Kansas and then won again at the regional VII district competition that included Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri. Following that, her name was forwarded on to the National Head Start Association (NHSA) which she also won. She will travel to Washington, D.C. from March 29 to April 2 to attend the national conference and will be recognized as the top National Head Start Administrator of the year.

Adame is being recognized for her achievements and services that were contributed during the 2013-2014 school year and she was nominated for the award by the PBPN Early Education Child Center staff.

The Head Start Association is a non-profit organization that supports and strengthens Kansas early learning programs through advocacy, professional development and leadership. High priority is given to children that are low income or have a disability.

The Early Childhood Education Center is also known as the "Ben-no-tteh Wigwam" (House of the Child) and consists of early childhood programs including Head Start, Early Head Start, Child Care, and Early Childhood Special Education. It is located at 15380 K Rd, Mayetta, KS. 66509.



Hope Adame receiving her award from Eric Vaughn, President of the Kansas Head Start Association, in Salina where she was honored as the Kansas Head Start Administrator of the Year. Later this month she will travel to Washington, D.C. to receive the National Head Start Administrator of the Year award.

Learn more about Ben-no-tteh Wigwam at
www.pbpindiantribe.com/early-childhood-educationprograms.aspx

HEALTH FAIR



SCREENINGS, RESOURCES
& DOOR PRIZES!

Please bring Proof of Income & CDIB cards
(if applicable) to your appointment if you are
interested in applying for Head Start.

This event is a collaborative effort of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Intergovernmental Coordinating Council & the
Health Advisory Board.

APRIL 10TH, 2015

8:30 AM-2:00 PM

PBP Early Childhood Education Center
15380 K Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

Thinking about Head Start or
kindergarten next year? Need
to update your child's health
assessment?

This health fair will focus on
providing a well-child clinic
for children aged 3-5.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR AN
APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CALL:

(785) 966-2707

Prairie Band Potawatomi
Early Childhood
Education Center
is accepting
2015-2016
Head Start Applications

Deadline:
June 30, 2015

Call 785.966.2707 for questions



Come
to the
Early Childhood
Education Center
graduation pow-wow
on
May 14
in
Prairie Peoples Park

Becoming a better parent: Love & Logic Parenting classes held

Learning how to become a better parent has been the focus of monthly dinner/training sessions called Love & Logic Parenting that were held at the Early Childhood Education Center on Jan. 21 and Feb. 25.

The trainings were free and taught by Tina Haefke, LSCSW, who worked at the Childcare Center for several years.

The Early Childhood Education Center provides services and resources that enhance children's physical and emotional well beings as well as offering an environment that develops strong cognitive skills. The educational component is designed to teach a pre-school educational curriculum that is compatible to national standards. In addition, health services are provided throughout the year that include screenings, health assessments, and dental check ups.

Education Department partners with Friends University to offer MBA program for PBPB

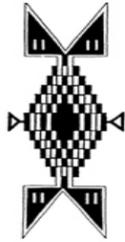
In its continuing effort of trying to improve the lives of people, The Education Department has partnered with Friends University in offering on-campus and online learning for those interested in wanting to attain a master's of business administration (MBA) degree.

On Jan. 29 an informational session was held for those interested in applying for the program. According to Kristen Aitkens, Director of Education, 13 students enrolled in the program that is presently being held on Thursday evenings at the Government Center. Nine of the 13 are tribal members and most of the enrollees also work in the tribal government or at one of its businesses.

There are six areas of concentration that students can choose from including accounting, business law, management information systems, change management, health care leadership and supply chain management and logistics.

Classes were scheduled to begin March 12 and are held in the evening which allows full-time working people the opportunity to go to school without having to go off site. Several courses are also taught online.

Several people have graduated from the bachelor degree programs through Friends and the Department of Education.



ABOVE: Education Director Kristen Aitkens (right) with Jennifer Brandaccio, a program representative from Friends, who came to the PBPB on Jan. 29.



ABOVE: (left) is David Hofmeister, Dean of the Graduate School from Friends University, visiting with Shawn Walker who was applying for the MBA program. The Dean and other representatives from Friends were on hand on Jan. 29 at the Government Center and later in the day at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort. For more information about Friends go to www.friends.edu.

LEFT: Rockell Otero filling out an application for the MBA program. Otero is a staff accountant at Prairie Band, LLC. and received her bachelor's degree from Friends University.

For upcoming college and intern scholarship opportunities go to the Education Department webpage at www.pbpindiantribe.com



2015 AIHREA
Summer Internship Program

Apply at:
www.aihrea.org
and click on "Internships"

*****Application Deadline***
April 3, 2015**

For more information or questions, please contact:

Jason Hale, MA
Internship Project Manager
jhale-ai@kumc.edu
913-945-7822

Julia Soap, MPH
Internship Coordinator
jsoap@kumc.edu
913-945-7805

AIHREA
AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH RESEARCH & EDUCATION ALLIANCE

3901 Rainbow Blvd. MS 1030, Kansas City, KS 66160 • 913-588-0866 • www.aihrea.org

About the AIHREA Summer Internship Program:

The American Indian Health Research & Education Alliance (AIHREA) is currently accepting applications from college students for the 2015 AIHREA Summer Internship Program.

The internship program begins on June 1, 2015. This is a **PAID** internship position. Interns will work 40 hours per week for 8 weeks. A majority of the time will be spent working at the Center for American Indian Community Health (CAICH) offices on the University of Kansas Medical Center campus in Kansas City, KS. Interns will also spend time at the Center for American Indian Studies at Johnson County Community College and at several community partner organizations and tribes. Some interns will have the opportunity to spend a week in Eagle Butte, South Dakota, helping youth on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation.

Interns will be paired with a mentor for the duration of the 8-week internship. The AIHREA Summer Internship Program provides interns with hands-on experience working on research projects addressing health issues and education among American Indian communities.

Internship Requirements:

- Program dates: June 1, 2015 – July 24, 2015
- Must be in good academic standing (Minimum GPA of 2.5)
- Complete the on-line application
- Copy of unofficial transcript(s)
- Two letters of reference
 - One letter from a faculty member at your school
 - The second letter can be from a faculty member, tribal official, or tribal leader
- Two essays submitted with application
 - 1 essay on a health topic affecting American Indians (1,000 words)
 - 1 essay on why you want to be an AIHREA intern (500 words)

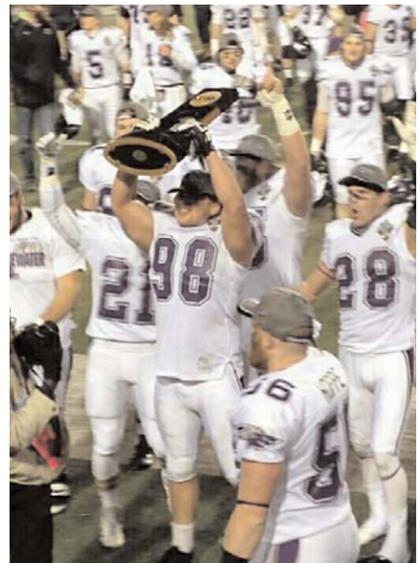
January Student Spotlight on Zach Franz

Editor's Note: This is the first in a monthly series called Student Spotlight being generated by the Education Department that will highlight a student who is in their programs.

Submitted by Stephanie Jim-Student Services

Zach Franz is a student-athlete currently attending the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater. He was nominated by Jack Franz for his outstanding accomplishments as a member of the football team. As a starting defensive tackle he was nominated as a first team selection, first team All Region and first team All American by D3football.com in 2014.

Zach's team has won the DIII National Championship in 2013 and 2014. Congratulations and keep up your hard work Zach!



For more information about Zach Franz

go to

www.uwwsports.com/roster.aspx?rp_id=8751&path=football
<http://d3football.com/awards/all-americans/2014>

Tribal Police Department collaborates with PBPB departments and programs to make improvements and upgrades

The Tribal Police Department has made some new additions and renovations with the help of other PBPB departments and programs.

For example, at their headquarters, located on Q Road, a new health and wellness fitness area has been installed in the maintenance area. The project was the brainchild of Derek Wamego and Tyler Shobney, according to Chief of Police Shawn Walker, and the two young officers organized recycled exercise equipment, floor mats and a television/dvr set with the help of donated items from the PBP Diabetes program. In addition, a volunteer from the department's Police Explorer program also built a push up bar in his welding class as added equipment.



An exercise area has been installed at tribal police headquarters.

The exercise area provides a convenient place where staff can work out before or after their shifts.

Another major upgrade to the department is the newly renovated shooting range that is located near 150 Road and L Road. The range has been in existence for several years but did not contain a build-

ing or any specified target areas. In 2013, with the help of Road & Bridge and Construction/Maintenance, a building was constructed along with a rifle range that has a 200-yard sight distance and a pistol range that has a 33-yard site distance.

Road & Bridge built large berms around each range and also smoothed out the entry road that has been extended east to the range sites. Crews from the Construction/ Maintenance Department oversaw the building's construction and also poured concrete pads that are used as firing points within each range. The building is also wired for electricity that can be run by a wheeled generator that the police department owns.

The building will be used as a training facility for hunter safety courses and Chief Walker said that future plans may call for a heating and cooling system to be installed.

Also at the site and near the building are two storage units where supplies are kept and three porta-potties are located.

Firing range policies and procedures are still

being developed by the police department and will be placed on the tribal website when formally approved by Tribal Council.



INSET PHOTO: The firing range includes a building that sits west of the ranges where hunter safety courses will be taught.

ABOVE: Tribal Police Chief Shawn Walker standing in front of the rifle range that has recently been upgraded. Road & Bridge built back-stops around the range (see hills in photo) and also improved the access roads and added fresh gravel. Construction/Maintenance crews oversaw the construction of the building and poured concrete firing point pads in several areas within each range.

Defensive Driving course taught



ABOVE: A defensive driving course was taught at the Government Center in February. The course was taught by Herb Nance who works for the Potawatomi Tribal Police Department. Tribal members and employees learned how to drive more defensively and were given a certificate of achievement upon their completion. Nance has taught Defensive Driving for several years and also teaches hunter safety courses. When he is not acting as an instructor he works in the automotive maintenance area at the police department.

RIGHT: Left to right is Ben Joslin, IT Manager, and Chief Walker going over paperwork related to the National Crime Information Center's computerized indexing system.



ABOVE: Video cameras have been installed in tribal police vehicles and law enforcement officers also wear video cameras on their person when on the job. Chief Walker stated that the cameras are meant to protect citizens as well as the police department and are a way to show what actually takes place during police stops.

Meet new officer Brandon Wells



Brandon Wells has recently joined the Potawatomi Tribal Police Department. Tyrell Askren has also joined the force as an officer but was not photographed.

Dental Clinic receives state-of-the-art digital imaging system

The Potawatomi Health Center Dental Clinic has recently received state-of-the-art digital imaging equipment that is lessening the time patients have to sit in the dentist's chair and is also offering them better information and a shared visual when consulting with the dentist.

New equipment was installed that allows for a full mouth x-ray that can be sent to the dentist's chair within seconds. The machine also has less radiation exposure and patient records are being stored electronically and can be immediately placed in patient files. Future plans call for all the dental clinic records to be scanned for electronic storage which will also save on storage space at the clinic.

The equipment and technology was installed by Patterson Dental with the help of Chris Mzhickteno, who works in the PBPN IT Department. In addition, Construction/Maintenance Department crews also helped with the installation.

Presently the dental staff is learning how to use the new digital imaging system and has hired a new staff person to help scan old hard-copy files and to help in the front office.

Before the system was installed, the clinic relied on an x-ray machine that used film and took about five minutes per patient to process. In addition, the old system could only photograph part of the mouth so more than one image was often needed which sometimes caused extra time for patients to sit in the dental chair.

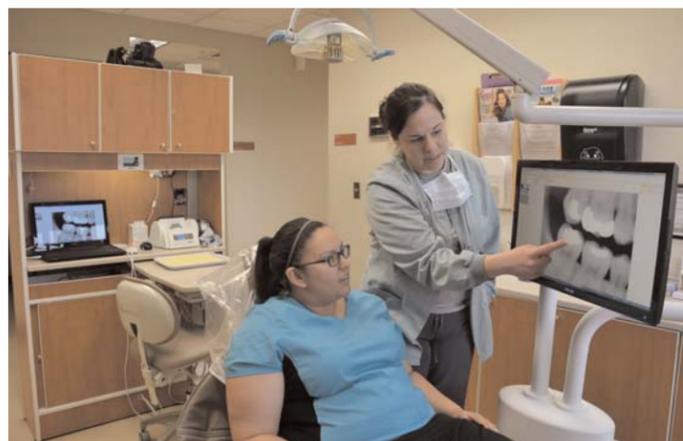
The dental clinic staff includes Dr. Blaine Knox, Gayle Lambrecht, Allison Catron, Deb Lowe and Stephanie Scates. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is located in the Potawatomi Health Center, 11400 158th Road, Mayetta, KS.



The new digital imaging machine. Patients stand in front of the machine that takes a full-mouth x-ray.



Dental Assistant Allison Catron is seen coding patient information on the control panel. Information is stored electronically and transferred to the patient's dental record. The patient is then ready to be x-rayed.



Stephanie Scates (in chair) and Allison Catron demonstrate that within seconds after an image is taken it pops up on a computer monitor in the dental chair and on the monitor seen in the background.

Meet Stephanie Scates

Stephanie Scates joined the Dental Clinic team on Jan. 12 as a receptionist and medical records assistant.

Previously she worked on the medical side of the health clinic but moved over to the dental clinic to a new position that assists with converting old hard copy files to the new electronic records system. She is also the office receptionist.

Stephanie is a tribal member and resides on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation.



Dental Clinic staff (left to right) are Deb Lowe, Gayle Lambrecht, Dr. Blaine Knox and Allison Catron.

Non-Indian governmental employees and families now served at the PBP Health Center

The Prairie Band Health Center is now providing services for Non-Indian government employees and their families. Services are limited to medical (including lab and x-ray) only, and not any dental, purchased care or on-site prescriptions. Necessary prescriptions can be e-scripted to employees own pharmacies. All medical visits to see a medical provider require a \$25 co-pay, payable at the time of the visit. To see a provider employees must bring a picture ID and their Blue Cross insurance card. For details call Health Center Administrator Bill Thorne at 785.966.8302.

Indian Health Services changing Contract Health Services name to Purchased Referral Care

The Oklahoma Area Indian Health Service announces that as authorized under the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2014, the Indian Health Service (IHS) has changed the name of Contract Health Services (CHS) program to Purchased Referred Care (PRC) program. Within the next year, the IHS will transition into using the new name, PRC, and all IHS Federal regulations, policies and other administrative documents that contain the word, CHS, will continue to apply until an update is completed.

It should be noted that the PRC functions will remain the same, and the IHS PRC funds will continue to be used to purchase health care services and to provide referrals to individuals to obtain health care from private sector health care providers when those services are not available with the Indian Health System (IHS/Tribal/Urban).

Potawatomi Food Distribution Program updates and reminders by Tracy Potts

The Potawatomi Food Distribution Program serves low-income families residing in Jackson County, Kansas in which at least one household member is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe; Prairie Band Potawatomi tribal members residing in Brown County, Kansas; and non-Natives residing within the PBPN reservation boundaries who meet all eligibility criteria. FDPIR is an alternative to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program. Household members are not permitted to receive USDA commodity food and SNAP benefits in the same month. Dual participation by any household member in SNAP or another Food Distribution Program is strictly prohibited.

As a reminder, current program participants are required to report the following changes within ten days from the date the change occurs:

- A change in household composition
- An increase in gross monthly income
- Address changes, even if it's a temporary move
- When the household no longer incurs a shelter or utility expense
- A change in the legal obligation to pay child support
- A change in marital status
- Any other changes that affects program eligibility or benefit level

If the household fails to report a change, and as a result, receives commodities they are not entitled to receive, a claim will be established against the household and/or they could be disqualified from participation in the Food Distribution Program.

Monthly calendars are distributed to clients. They show the dates and times we are closed. We are always closed on Friday afternoons for scheduled deliveries. We are also closed on the last working day of the month to perform inventory and complete reports. No orders or walk-ins after 4:00 p.m.. If clients want to pick up commodities after 4:00 p.m., it must be scheduled in advance. Walk-ins are served on a first come, first serve basis with scheduled orders taking first priority. If you are a walk-in, please be prepared to wait. Deliveries are only available to home-bound individuals &/or to households without transportation.



Tracy Potts coordinates the Potawatomi Food Distribution program that is located at 15189 K Road, Mayetta, Kan.

Check out the
the monthly PBPN food distribution calendar
at
www.pbpindiantribe.com/community-services.aspx.

For more information
about eligibility requirements and how to apply
please contact

Tracy Potts at 785.966.2718.

Prairie Band receives Indian Housing Block Grant from HUD

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced on February 19 more than \$651 million to 636 Native American tribes in 34 states. Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) allocations are distributed each year to eligible Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entities for a range of affordable housing activities.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation received \$249,430 and three other Kansas tribes also received grants. The Kickapoo in Kansas received \$846,597, Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri received \$212,772, and the Iowa Tribe in Kansas received \$426,141.

IHBG funds primarily benefit low-income families living on Indian reservations or in other American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The amount of each grant is based on a formula that considers local needs and housing units under management by the tribe or designated entity.

“Our nation is at its best when everyone has a fair chance to thrive,” said HUD Secretary Julián Castro. “These funds

will support the innovative work Native American tribes and families are doing to build a more prosperous future. Our partnership with these local leaders today will create better housing opportunities, more robust economic development and stronger communities tomorrow.”

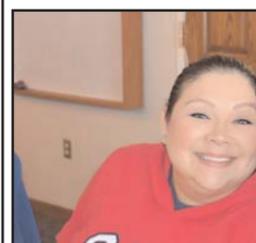
Eligible activities for the funds include housing development, assistance to housing developed under the Indian Housing Program of the 1937 Housing Act, housing services to eligible families and individuals, housing management services, crime prevention and safety, and model activities that provide creative approaches to solving affordable housing problems. The block grant approach to housing was enabled by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHAS-DA).

HUD’s proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Budget seeks \$748 million to address critical housing and community development needs in Native American communities, including \$660 million for IHBG allocations.



ABOVE: Georgia Smith is the Director of Housing for the PBPN and was enrolling in the MBA Friends University program when this photograph was taken.

BELOW: Season Dominquez is the National Program Specialist.



2015 National Housing program information available

Updated application and information regarding the three National Programs that operate under the Housing Department have been placed on the tribal website.

The three programs are Renovation & Repair, Down Payment, and Rental Assistance.

In addition to an application, each program has other documents available for download including Frequently Asked Questions and program guidelines and pamphlets.

The Renovation & Repair program and Down Payment program are based on income levels.

For more information contact Season Dominguez at 785.966.2756 or email her at seasons@pbpnation.org.

To download documents go to
www.pbpindiantribe.com/national-programs.aspx

**Homebuyer Workshops
Coming Up**

- May 21
 - August 20
 - November 19
- 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.-Bingo Hall**

Workshop designed to educate people on budgeting, credit issues and learning the other ins and outs of buying a home. For details call Season Dominguez at 785.966.2756.

**PBPN Transit Department
will be closed all day for training
on
April 9**

Notice!

Please remove plastic/styrofoam flower arrangements from reservation cemeteries by April 2. It's mowing time again and the Maintenance department requests your help. Call 785.966.4023 for details.

**Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!
Vacancy announcements**

**There are several
job positions open now with
the PBPN government.
Check them out
at**

www.pbpindiantribe.com/employment.aspx

Did you know that by being a PBPN tribal member you are eligible to apply for inhouse and other job positions with the PBPN Human Resources Department? All you need to do is to submit your application, a copy of your PBPN Tribal ID, and any other requirements that are requested for the position you are applying for:

Submit to:
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Human Resources
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, KS 66509
Phone: 785.966.3060
Toll free: 866.694.3937
Fax: 785.966.3062

**Join the weekly Potawatomi Language
Conversation classes**



ABOVE: Billy Matchie (standing) teaching the conversation classes that are held on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m.



RIGHT: (Left to right) Lyman Shipshee and Billy Matchie up close. Shipshee also assists with the classes.

The Language Department has been chatting it up during a series of weekly conversation classes that they began last December.

Billy Matchie and Lyman Shipshee, who both work for the department, have been holding the conversations on Wednesday morn-

ings for an hour in the basement of the Firekeepers Elder Center. People who want to learn the language or to expand their vocabulary are welcome to attend the activity at any time. For details call the department at 785.966.2138.

Congratulations to Environmental Art Contest winners!



- 1st place-Thomas Holcomb, 8, 2nd grade**
Assistant-Shawnda Holcomb, mother
- 2nd place-Hayley Harmon, 11, 6th grade**
Assistant-Rebecca Harmom, mother
- 3rd place-Eli Holcomb, 6, kindergarten**
Assistant-Shawnda Holcomb, mother
- 4th place-Micaella Wamego-Martinez, 17, 12th grade**
Assistant-Edith Wamego, mother

The contest was sponsored by the PBPN Planning & Environmental Protection and was open to K-12 students. Students were teamed up with one adult family member and entries could be any environmental topic or form of art media. Judges included Hardy Eteeyan, Jodi Webster and Joseph Brewer II.



**18th Annual Earth Day
Celebration**

**Sunday, April 19
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Prairie Peoples Park**

- EPA information booths
- Shrub/plant giveaway
- Predictor's walk/bike event
- Raffles

Free Earth Day T-shirts to those that register

For details call 785.966.2946

Senior moments

Thanks for the memories Julia Lewis



Julia Lewis reported to the News that she is retiring from organizing the community talent show after 8 years.

She told the News that she wanted to thank all the volunteers and people in the community who made the shows successful and worth attending.

Julia began the show in 2007 that allowed amateur talent acts the opportunity to perform in front of audiences and to compete for prizes. LaVerne Hale and her family provided good food for sale and PBPB members Chago Hale, Carol Dewitt and Juanita Jessepe were emcees for the shows through the years.

It was Julia Lewis who brought it all together and the community owes her a big thank you for all her hard work.

In memory of Myra Matchie
who gave audiences great laughs and a lot of fun, along with her sisters, Hedy Noland and Tutti Kern



Supremes
2007 & 2008



Hedy and the Hoolets
2009

2014
8th Annual Talent Show Winners

1st place -Too Hot to Trot (Debbie Garcia, Linda McCoy and Wanda Trujillo)

2nd place (tie)-Zumba Dancers (Kristina Throssell, Navika Kitchkomme and Ella Garcia) and Erika Knight singing "Stay with Me" by Sam Smith

The show was held at the Bingo Hall
Sept. 4 & 5

These two will bowl you over!

Elders headed to senior games



Two senior bowlers Emery Hale and Arlene Wahwasuck have qualified for the 2015 National Senior Games that will be held in July in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Both are tribal members and in their 80s and have been bowling together for several years.

They have both won several medals at the Kansas Senior Olympics through the years that is sponsored by Shawnee County Parks & Recreation. A variety of sports are included in the Olympics that is open to senior citizens who are 50 years of age and older.

The Firekeepers Elder Center is helping to raise funds to help the bowlers for lodging, fuel and food as they will be there for five days.

Want to donate to the bowlers?
Call LaVerne Hale
(Elders Center)
785.966.0041

Free income tax preparation at the Rossville Community Library 407 N Main Rossville, KS

Mondays, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon

For other appointment times and details call
Adrienne Olnick
785.584.6454

Sponsored by the
Volunteer IncomeTax Assistance program

For other assistance call the
Firekeepers Elder Center at
785.966.0040

Community Blood Drive



There were 18 units of blood collected at the winter blood drive held January 16 at the Health Center. The blood drive is cosponsored by the Community Blood Center in Topeka who administer the drive. Verna Simon, Executive Administrative Assistant for the Health Center, helps coordinate the drive each quarter.

The Elder Center will be closed
for
Easter (Good Friday)
April 3
&
Memorial Day
May 25

Editor's Note: See change in powwow weekend to first weekend in June this year.



Prairie Band POTAWATOMI POWWOW
JUNE 5-7, 2015

FEATURING
Host Drums: Black Bear
Midnite Express
Announcers: Ruben Littlehead
Isaiah Stewart
AD: Dana Warrington
Head Dance Judge: Tyler Lasley
Head Drum Judge: Wahpi Hale

SCHEDULE
Registration:
Friday 12-8PM
Grand Entries:
Friday 7PM
Saturday 1PM & 7 PM
Sunday 12PM

ADMISSION
Weekend: \$10 | Daily: \$5
Seniors 60+, Children under 6,
& PBPB Tribal Members with
Tribal ID: FREE

PARKING
Inside Park: \$5 per entry
Outside Park: FREE

POWWOW & VENDOR INFO
www.pbpindiantribe.com
1-888-727-4946 ext. 7701

ACCOMMODATIONS
Prairie Band Casino & Resort
1-888-727-4946 ext. 7701

PARKING
Holiday Inn Express North
Topeka, KS
785-861-7200
Group Code: Pow Wow

DRUM CONTEST
\$8000, \$6000, \$4000, \$2000, & Split

DANCE CONTEST
Golden Age Men & Women 60+
\$1000, \$800, \$599, \$400,
& (3) \$200 Consolations

SPECIALS
"WICKED Lord" Singers Special
\$2000 Winner Take All
Sponsored by:
The LeClere Family

Old Style Scrub Special 18+
Sponsored by:
Mittina Hale & Family

Jingle & Fancy Spotlight
Sponsored by:
Brennah Wahweotten & Family

Teen Jingle Special
Sponsored by:
Taryn Boswell & Family
2014-15 We-Ta-Se Princess

Men's Chicken 18+
Men's Southern Straight 18+
Women's Applique' 18+
Women's Southern Traditional 18+
\$1000, \$800, \$599, \$400

Jr. Adult (18-39) & Senior Adult (40-59)
Men's N. Traditional/Fancy/Grass
Women's N. Traditional/Fancy/Jingle
\$1000, \$800, \$599, \$400

Teen Boys & Teen Girls (13-17)
Traditional/Fancy/Grass/Jingle
\$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Jr. Boys & Jr. Girls (6-12)
Traditional/Fancy/Grass/Jingle
\$200, \$150, \$100, \$50

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PRAIRIE BAND CASINO & RESORT

Calling all Marty Kids!

An effort is being made by PBPB members Juanita Jessepe and Laura Abeyta who are trying to get the word out to students who attended Marty Indian School in Marty, South Dakota for a reunion scheduled for July 9-12.

A big bus is being planned and costs \$20 to reserve with time and location to be announced.

Registration for the reunion costs \$35 and hotel reservations can be made at the Ft. Randall Casino for \$39 per night. See flier for details.

Jessepe and Abeyta both graduated from Marty Indian School in the 1960s. They both reported that they had good experiences while there academically and socially. Jessepe graduated in 1964 and was vice president of her class and homecoming queen. Abeyta attended the school from 2nd grade to 8th grade graduating in 1968.

Marty Indian School opened in 1922 and students were Catholic and non Catholic. Many students came from several reservations and the school was important because it provided food and clothing for some Indian families who, during the 1920s to the 1970s, were often living in deplorable conditions.

The school is located on the Yankton Sioux Reservation in Marty, South Dakota and the Yankton Sioux tribe took control of the school in the 1970s.

Marty Indian School
Marty, South Dakota

MARTY REUNION 2015
Dates: **JULY 9th-12th 2015**

DETAILS:

- the bus will depart on Thursday July 9th, 2015. (The time and location of pickup will be disclosed at a later time).
- You will have to pay for the reunion registration fee of \$35.00.
- If you would like to stay at the Ft. Randall Casino during your visit room rates are \$39/night. Call now to reserve your room! 605-487-7871
- For updates visit our Email or Facebook page.

Attention ALL Kansas Marty Kids
Who wants to RIDE THE BIG BUS one last time to the 2015 Marty Reunion?
To reserve a seat it will cost only \$20.00!
ACT NOW as these seats are very limited.
If you are interested please contact us before **April 15th, 2015.**

Marty Indian School
9000 388th Avenue, Marty, SD 57361
Contact person: martyreunion@gmail.com
Or look us up on Facebook @ Marty K Reunion & add yourself to our Event!

Remembering the olden days
Photo submitted by the family of "Pack" Wabaunsee



Potawatomie Pow-Wow July, 1967

Education Department Student Spotlight for February



Trenton Wilbur was selected by the Education Department for making the honor roll at Royal Valley Middle School.



Blake Garrison selected Athlete of the Week

Blake Garrison, sophomore at Royal Valley, was selected as the State Farm Athlete of the Week that was featured in the Holton Recorder (Feb. 9). Garrison was noted for his ability in wrestling this season and the article reported that he had won up to 90 percent of his matches, both varsity and JV.



Hot shot!

Jaiden Wamego, seventh grader at Royal Valley Middle School, took 2nd place in the Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Contest held March 8 in Salina. He advanced in the competition representing Northeast Kansas and took second place in the state.



Rob and Corie Lange, proud parents of Private Rory W. Lange (Kakak-muk), 19, are pleased to announce his graduation from the U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) boot camp in San Diego on January 23, 2015. After 13 weeks of intensive basic training he was one of the recruits in Fox Company Training Platoon 2123.

Private Lange was home for a ten day leave and then returned to California to Camp Pendleton for one month of military combat training in the Military Occupation Specialty school. Following that, he will be stationed at Dam Neck, Virginia.

**JOM/Education
Student Recognition Banquet
April 15**



Isaac (MoenKa) Hale, 11, has qualified for the 2015 Hy-Vee Kids Road Race Championship that will be held on April 26 in Des Moines, Iowa.

Isaac was one of the top 10 finishers out of the 11-13 year old category who competed in the 5-K (3.1 mile) races held in 2014. There were 20 races held in six states in the Midwest and one of his sponsors included the We-Ta-Se Post #410 American Legion group. Isaac's motto is "I run in honor of our warriors one mile at a time."

Proud parents Jennifer Hale and Nathan Hale report that Isaac is a sixth grader at Royal Valley Middle School and is a straight-A student.

Grandparents are Aaron and Joyce Hale.

To follow Isaac visit #Team Moneka.



**Congratulations
to
Micaella Wamego
on
graduating with a
Certified Nurses Aide
Certificate
from
Washburn Tech
Topeka, Kan.**

**Micaella is a senior
at Hayden Catholic
High School and
plans to continue in
health education
when she graduates.**

**Her mother Edie Wamego
and family are very proud
of her.**

Ttiwenmo eginigyèn (happy day you were born)



Happy 10th Birthday Omar Higue

Love,
Mom & Dad

Photo below: Omar is a fourth grader at Royal Valley and recently performed for the Royal Valley High School drumline

Flippin out
to
Whip Out
with
a drummin
Omar!



Sweet sixteen!



Happy 16th Birthday
to
our beautiful and
talented daughter
Josie Matsapto
on
April 16

Love,
Mom & Dad

Happy Belated
1st Birthday
to
Harper Maxine Goslin
on
January 25

Your Mommy & Daddy
love you!



Happy 23rd Birthday
to
Roman Adame

From,
Mom & Damon

Message from Mom:

I am so happy you are a part of my life!



Kanibwettek
(the one's that stood up together)

Congratulations
to
Mr. & Mrs. Simon
who were married
Feb. 6, 2015

Love,
Mom & Family



Ganiñtëk
(those who are born)

Introducing
Nevaeh May Wahquahboshkuk



Born: January 13, 2015
Weight: 6 pounds, 12 ounces
Height: 19 3/4 inches
Parents: Angel Wahquahboshkuk &
Nigel Matchie
Grandmothers: April May
Wahquahboshkuk (deceased) &
Victoria Shopteese

Welcome to this world!



Callie Lynn Moss

Born: Oct. 8, 2014
Weight: 9 pounds, 13 ounces
Height: 22 inches

Parents: Corissa Panick &
Harold B. Moss III

Grandparents: Harold II &
Sylvia (Chaz) Moss
Mayetta, Kan.
Cora Panick and Fred Ackley III
Mole Lake, Wis.

The children of Robert & Nikki Jackson
wish them a
2nd Happy Anniversary
on
April 26, 2015

Special message from Robert (Debonen Wab-mi-mi)
to Nikki

*You have opened my eyes up into a beautiful and
wonderful world. I look forward to many
more years to come.*



Kambottek (those who died)

Logan Wesley Thomas Wamego
GTCHE-GETCH-TA

Logan Wesley Thomas Wamego
"GTCHE-GETCH-TA"(Little Warrior), age 9,
passed away peacefully at home with his loving
family at his side December 8, 2014 after a four-
year battle with osteosarcoma.

He was born on Christmas day 2004 to
Shannon Ducey and Phillip Wamego of Wabeno.
He is survived by his parents, one sister, Cheyenne,
and one brother, Phillip Richard Wamego; grand-
parents, Linda Roberts and the late Thomas Roberts, Pamela (Wamego) and
Lawrence Daniels and grandfather Phillip Wesley LaBarge.

Also survived by aunts and uncles; Lisa and Doug Davis, Christina
and David Wuinn, Jennifer Roberts, Stephanie Roberts, Danac LaBarge, Star
LaBarge, Darryl LaBarge. Cousins: Danielle, Thomas, Christopher, Sadie,
Destiny, Ariana, Brycon, Deiandra, Tanya, Andrienne, Adrienne, Star,
Monique, Darrius and other relatives and many friends.

Visitation was at the Presbyterian Church in Wabeno, Thursday, Dec.
11 from 4-8 p.m. and on Friday from 10 a.m. until lunch at noon. The Funeral
Service was at 1 p.m. with Pastor Lee Jennings officiating. Interment was at
the Forest Hill Cemetery, in Wabeno.



(Submitted by the family)

Dolly Christine Lewis

Dolly Christine Lewis, 50, of Topeka, KS died February 2, 2015 at the
University of Kansas Medical Center.

She was born July 2, 1964 in Topeka, the daughter of Carl Anthony and
Sylvia (Martinez) Frye.

Dolly was a before and after school care provider at the YMCA. She was
a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Dolly was a very caring and
giving person never meeting a stranger and always willing to help another in any
way possible.

She married Gary Joseph Lewis in Topeka, on September 23, 1983. He
survives. Other survivors include a son, Christopher Lewis, a daughter, Michelle
Mullens and her husband, Justin, four grandchildren, Anthony Paul Lewis,
Maguire Garrick Mullens, Maddox Xavier Mullens and Everleigh Quinn Mullens
all of Topeka. Two sisters Jennene Cromwell of Topeka, Karla Quick of
Manhattan, KS, her mother Sylvia Mattwaoshshe of Topeka also survive. Dolly
was preceded in death by her father Carl Anthony Frye and an Uncle Walter
Timothy Frye.

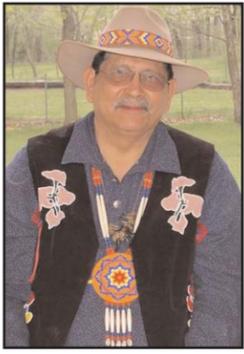
Dolly will lie in state after 2:00 P.M. Thursday at Brennan-Mathena
Funeral Home where the family will receive friends from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00
P.M. Funeral service will be 10:00 A.M. Friday at the Funeral Home. Interment
will follow at the Topeka Cemetery.

Dolly's favorite color was purple. So if you have purple attire please
wear it in her memory.

Memorial contributions may be made in Dolly's memory to Brennan-
Mathena Funeral Home, 800 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66603.

(Courtesy of Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home, Topeka, Kan.)

Kambottek (those who died)



Gary E. "Shaw-Nosh" Mitchell

MAYETTA- Gary E. "Shaw - Nosh" Mitchell, 63, of Mayetta, KS passed away Friday, January 23, 2015 at Stormont Vail Hospital. He was born February 8, 1951 in Holton, KS the son of Andrew Mitchell, Sr. and Alberta Marie Nagmo.

Gary graduated from Mayetta High School in 1969. He also graduated from Washburn University with a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and from Baker University with a Masters in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in History.

Gary served 28 years for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He was past Treasurer, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Tribal Council. He currently was Chairman of Tribal Gaming Commission. He was Tribal Historian, and spoke the Potawatomi language that he learned from his mother. He was a writer of many stories; including his published book "Stories of the Potawatomi". Gary loved reading, writing, gardening, friends, family, coaching "Big Red Machine" and watching KU Basketball.

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

He married Voncile Potts on April 20, 1971 in Hiawatha, KS. She survives of the home. Other survivors include his mother, Judith Wabaunsee of Topeka; 3 daughters, Joanna "Dumps" Mitchell and Martie Ann Mitchell both of Mayetta, KS and Rose Allen of Horton; 5 sisters, Jackie Mitchell of Mayetta, KS, Shirlene Seymour of Winnebago, NE, Sandy Mitchell, Lisa Wamego and Edie Wamego all of Mayetta, KS; 5 brothers, Eddie Joe Mitchell of Mayetta, KS, Leo Mitchell of Valley Falls, KS, Randy Mitchell, John LeClere and Mando Evans all of Mayetta, KS; 5 grandchildren, Tara, Waskeh, Kek, Luis and Patko and 4 great-grandchildren, Taylor, Shug, Oshketah and Kweh Gee.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Andy Mitchell, Sr. and Alberta Wamego and step-father, Algernon Wamego; his (1 spirit/ 2 hearts) twin brother, Larry Mitchell, Sr., brothers, Andrew Mitchell, Jr. and Mike Wamego.

Drum Service will be Monday evening, January 26, 2015 at the Danceground Building. Burial will be Tuesday afternoon, January 27, 2015 in Mitchell Cemetery. Gary will lie in state Saturday afternoon, January 24, 2015 at the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home, Holton, Kan.)

Clovis Mark M'joweta Bowles

Clovis Mark M'joweta Bowles, tribal member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, 60, of Lisbon, passed away January 19, 2015 at his residence. A private family graveside service will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 10AM at the Mason-Wallick Cemetery in Cedar Bluff, Iowa. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in Clovis' honor to help cover funeral expenses. Online condolences, memories, videos and pictures may be shared at www.fryfuneralhome.com.

Clovis was born May 2, 1954 in Topeka, Kansas, son of Sam Bowles and Theresa Masquat. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Black Hills State University in Spearfish, South Dakota. Clovis then earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Iowa, College of Law. He retired as a lawyer. Over his lifetime, Clovis lived in Iowa, South Dakota and Alaska.

Clovis had an incredible love for guitars; he had many guitars, but he had a special acoustic guitar he called "Dream Girl" that was his favorite. He was a historian; an avid animal lover; a cook; stubborn when he needed to be, but was always willing to help when he could. Clovis had many loves, but his greatest love was for his family, especially his grandchildren, who brought him the greatest joy.

Clovis is survived by his father, Sam Bowles; daughters, Chyla (Devon) Lamp of Oxford, Maine and Chenoa Christine (Jason) Moyer of Lisbon, Iowa; sons, Wade Bowles and Mark Bowles, both of Spearfish, South Dakota; sisters, Maria Kraft, Linda Bowles, Shawn Bowles and Susan Bowles, all of South Dakota; and his grandchildren, Preston, Niomi, Veronica & Elsie; Half-brothers, Kevin Divmang, Eli Wabnam Jr., Clinton Medovich, and Johnny Williams; Half-sisters, Clarnita Williams and Terranita Williams; Cousins, Victoria Spaid, Cecilia Williams, and Bobbi Darnell; and Uncle Thomas Spaid. He was preceded in death by his mother, Theresa Masquat; brother, Samuel Bowles; Grandmother Silver; and stepmother, Patricia Bowles.

(Submitted by Member Services and the family)

Martha Jean "Mishsekwe" Valdivia

Martha Jean "Mishsekwe" Valdivia, 67, of Topeka, died January 11, 2015 at the House at Midland Care surrounded by her family. She was born in Holton, Kansas on February 27, 1947 the daughter of Peter and Mary "Shugo" (Moore) Levier. Martha was retired as a Data Processor for Southwestern Bell after over 20 years of service. She was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. She married Florencio "Count" Valdivia on April 28, 1973 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. He survives. She is survived by her children, Steven Levier, Celeste Weber both of Topeka, Peter Spencer of Leavenworth, Donna Valdivia-Wofford and Angie Campos both of Topeka. Seven grandchildren; Paige, Ashley, Chelsie, Nathan, Amber, Lyrique, and Lorenzo, four great-grandchildren; Amiyah, Luis, Destiny and Analicia, along with four siblings, Geneva, Sharon, Bernadette and Glen also survive. Martha was preceded in death by her parents, a brother Albert Levier and a granddaughter, Luisa. Martha will lie in state at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church after 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, where the family will receive friends from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. A Parish Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at the church. Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to the Martha Valdivia Memorial Fund and sent in care of Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home, 800 SW 6th Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66603. Online condolences and fond memories may be left at www.brennanmathenafh.com

(Courtesy of Brennan Mathena Funeral Home, Topeka, Kan.)

Alfred "Butch" Lyle Knight

Alfred Lyle "Butch" Knight, the son of Willis Knight and Rozella (Mzhickteno) Knight, was born January 22, 1949, in Holton, Kansas and departed this life January 10, 2015, in Fayetteville, Arkansas at the age of 65.

Alfred was better known to family and friends as "Butch". Butch attended grade school in several different states from Texas to South Dakota. He graduated from U.S. Grant High School in 1968, where he participated in the wrestling program. He worked hard, practiced hard, and as a result, was state and regional champion for several years.

He and his older brother, Eldon, better known as "Beau", were baptized together on Easter morning when they were in late elementary school. He lived in Stilwell until his death.

Butch was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corp after serving from 1969 to 1971 during the Vietnam War.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Patty and brother, Eldon "Beau" Knight. His surviving family includes, his parents, Willis and Rozella Knight, of Stilwell; sisters, Sue Perdue and husband, John Mark, of Colorado and Joy Knight, of Stilwell; sister-in-law, Judi Hunter, of Anadarko, aunts, Norma Knight and Ramona Mason and husband, Arch, of Tulsa and many nieces, nephews, relatives and many friends.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at Montesoma Baptist Church in Okemah with Pastor Jay Downing officiating. Interment will follow at Montesoma Cemetery under the care and direction of Hart Funeral Home of Stilwell.

(Courtesy of Hart Funeral Home, Stilwell, Okla.)

Kambottek (those who died)

Joy "Sokikwe" Yoshida



MAYETTA – Joy Yoshida, Sokikwe, 80, of rural Mayetta, died Friday, December 26, 2014 at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka.

She was born June 14, 1934 at Mayetta, the daughter of Ernest and Angeline Whitefish Seymour. She graduated from Washburn University with an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice.

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

She had worked at the American Indian Center in Chicago and later at the Prairie Band Gift Shop and the Prairie Band Elder Center.

She married Giichi Yoshida on November 23, 1959 in Chicago. He died in September 30, 1993.

Joy was preceded in death by four brothers, John Seymour, Peter Seymour, Ernest Seymour and Robert Clements, and a sister, Elmira McClure.

Survivors include two sons, Mark Yoshida, Chicago, IL, and Kenneth Yoshida, Erie, Pennsylvania; one daughter, Michelle Yoshida, Topeka; a brother, Charles Seymour, Mayetta; and two grandchildren, Malakai Rice and Sabriel Thomas.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 31st at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt. Burial will follow in The Potts Cemetery on the Potawatomi Reservation. Joy will lie in state until service time at the funeral home, where family and friends will meet from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

(Courtesy of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, Hoyt, Kan.)

Sam Levine "Wah mi mi" Barrow

Sam Levine "Wah mi mi" Barrow, 43, Valley Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014, at Holton.

He was born Dec. 19, 1970, at Holton, the son of Vernon Charles "Red" and Myra Matchie Barrow. He graduated from Valley Falls High School in 1990.

Sam had worked at Cretex Engineering at Oskaloosa and for Cook Brothers Fencing. He enjoyed supporting community athletic programs. Sam was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

He married Stacy Vessar. They later divorced. He was preceded in death by his father, Vernon "Red" Barrow, and a brother, Paul Lawrence.

Survivors include his daughters, Montana Vessar, Sierra Vessar, Piper Barrow and Chesnie Barrow, all of Valley Falls; his mother, Myra Matchie, Mayetta; his step mother, Debbie Barrow, Valley Falls; his companion, Brandi Clark, Valley Falls; five brothers, Dr. Willie Barrow, Baltimore, MD, Zac Brown, Arvada, CO, Lacey Brown, Valley Falls, Bennie Nioce, Topeka, Raymond Nioce, Mayetta; two sisters, Ruda Mendez and Marji Heim, both of Mayetta; and a granddaughter, Kensli Bond.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Gathering will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014, at the Kendall State Bank Community Hall in Valley Falls. Refreshments will be served.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sam Barrow Children's Education Fund and sent c/o Mercer Funeral Home, PO Box 6, Valley Falls, KS 66088.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home, Valley Falls, Kan.)

Carole L. Havner

Carole L. Havner, 72, Albany, Missouri died Saturday, December 20, 2014 at Northwest Medical Center in Albany, Missouri. She was born July 28, 1942 to William and Helen (Dean) Fox in Topeka, Kansas. She married Jerry Glen Havner on July 4, 1964 in San Francisco, California. He survives of the home. Carole was an Emergency Medical Technician for the Grand River Ambulance for a long time prior to her illness. She was a member of Gentryville Baptist Church, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, and the Officers Wives Club at Port Hueneme. She was preceded in death by her parents; son, David L. Havner; daughter, Debra Havner; sister, Donna Jean Amerson; and great-grandchild, Mayetta Stout. Additional Survivors: sons, Jerry Havner, Jr., St. Joseph, Missouri and Ronald Havner (Patty), Nacogdoches, Texas; grandchildren, Jillian Stout (Dwayne), Jamie Tanner (David), Jenna Bossert, Jerry Glen Havner, III, Tristan Havner, Michael Havner, Shae Sierer (Ross), Levi Havner and Audrey Havner; great-grandchildren, Dominick, Clara, Dakota, Henry, Sully, Jade and Abigail; and sisters, Beverly Brant and Sharon Landess. Graveside Services will be held at a later date at Miller Cemetery, Denver, Missouri. Mrs. Havner was a member of the Missouri Cremation Service. Memorial donations may be made to the Gentryville Baptist Church.

(Submitted by PBPB Member Services)

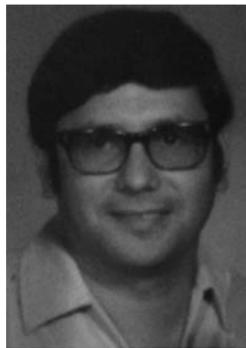


In memory
of
Erin Eileen House

July 23,1964-December 6, 2014

(Submitted by
PBPB Member Services)

Ronald J. Sanchez



TOPEKA - Ronald J. Sanchez, 68, formerly of Topeka, died December 24, 2014 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tacoma, WA. He was born on April 17, 1946, in Topeka the son of Joseph and Julia LeClere Sanchez. He was a disabled U.S. Army Veteran of the Vietnam War and a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Ronald was formerly married to Patricia Sanchez, Topeka, KS. Survivors include son, Robert J. Sanchez, Kansas City, MO and a sister, Linda Leavitt, Kauai, HI. He was preceded in death by sister, Mary Ortiz, and

two brothers, Frederick and Dennis Sanchez.

Graveside inurnment with military honors will be 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 16, 2015 at the Danceground Cemetery. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home, Holton, Kan.)

Myra Lee Matchie



MAYETTA- Myra Lee "Osh te se kwe" Matchie, 68, of Mayetta, KS passed away Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at her home. She was born May 16, 1946 in Holton, KS the daughter of Peter Paul and Blanche (Masquat) Matchie.

Myra lived in Holton and Mayetta all of her life. She worked at the Senior Mealsite and for Social Services on the reservation for several years. Myra was a member of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Drum Religion.

Survivors include 2 daughters, Ruta Mendez and Marji Heim both of Mayetta; 2 sons, Benny Nioce of Topeka and Raymond Nioce of Holton; 3 sisters, Tutti Kern of Mayetta, Hedy Noland (Jr.) of Holton and Betty Jean Rice of Mayetta; 2 brothers, Roland Matchie (Janis) of Holton and Lester Sumner of Hoyt; 18 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Myra was preceded in death by her parents, 2 sons, Paul A. Lawrence on September 21, 2014 and Sam Barrow on December 11, 2014; a sister, Edwina Dickinson and a brother, John Matchie.

Drum Services will be Sunday evening, February 1, 2015 at the Danceground Building. Burial will be Monday afternoon, February 2, 2015 in Thunder Eagle Cemetery, south of Holton. Myra will lie in state through 2:00 p.m. Sunday. To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

(Courtesy of Mercer Funeral Home, Holton, Kan.)

Tribal-member-only documents available on tribal website

Tribal members can access member-specific documents like Tribal Council and General Council meeting minutes by logging on to the tribal members only section of the tribal website at www.pbpindiantribe.com.

The Tribal Member Login is located at the bottom of the navigation panel that is located on the home page's left side. By clicking there tribal members can begin the registration process.

To register tribal members must have their tribal roll number and then create a password for security. Once this information is submitted to the Tribal Secretary's office, who handles the extranet site, the tribal member is then verified to protect their identity and will be allowed into the site.

Before the Tribal Member Login site was implemented in 2010 everything that was posted to the Nation's website was available for public viewing. But with the extranet link, only tribal members are able to see certain postings that are member specific. Documents like Tribal Council Resolutions, notices on enrollment meetings, and other documents that come directly from the Tribal Secretary's office are posted on the extranet site.

Before the Tribal Member Login became available, the only way to attain member-specific documents was to request them through the Secretary's office via email or through the mail.

Pam Bowman, Administrative Assistant for the Tribal Secretary's office, administers the tribal member login site and can be reached at 785.966.3922 or by email at pbowman@pbpnation.org.

Tribal Council in their finest!



(Front row, left to right) Camilla Chouteau (Secretary), Joyce Guerrero (Vice Chairperson), and Carrie O'Toole (Member). (Back row, left to right) Hattie Mitchell (Treasurer), Tom Wabnum (Member), Junior Wahweotten (Member) and Liana Onnen (Chairperson).

**Visit
the PBP Tribal Council webpage
at
www.pbpindiantribe.com/tribal-council.aspx**

**Save the date!
(note: first weekend
in June)**

**Annual Prairie Band
Pow-wow**

**June 5-7
Prairie Peoples Park
(see details inside on page 19)**

**2015 Gathering
to be held at
Forest County Potawatomi
Crandon, Wisconsin
August 13-17**

Tribal Council Directory

Office of Tribal Chairperson Liana Onnen
email: liana@pbpnation.org
ph:(785) 966-4007 fx:(785) 966-4009
Admin. Asst. Linda Yazzie
eml: linday@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-4008

Office of Tribal Vice-Chairperson Joyce Guerrero
email: joyceg@pbpnation.org
ph:(785) 966-4019 fx:(785) 966-4021

Office of Tribal Secretary Camilla Chouteau
eml: camillac@pbpnation.org
ph:(785) 966-4022 fx:(785) 966-4024
Admin. Asst. Pam Bowman
eml: pbowman@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-3922

Office of Tribal Treasurer Hattie Mitchell
eml:hattiem@pbpnation.org
ph:(785) 966-4004 fx: (785) 966-4006
Admin. Asst. Josette Berryhill
eml: josette.berryhill@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-4005

Office of Tribal Council Members

Admin. Asst. Tina Mitchell
eml: tinam@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-3991

Carrie O'Toole
eml: carrieo@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-4048 fx:(785) 966-4012

Warren A. Wahweotten, Jr
eml: jrw@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-4013 fx: (785) 966-4015

Thomas Wabnum
eml: twabnum@pbpnation.org
ph: (785) 966-4016 fx: (785) 966-4018

Tribal Council offices
Government Center
16281 Q Rd
Mayetta, KS 66509