



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

SUMMER 2016 EDITION

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Cooperative Spirit Leads to Signed Tobacco Compact



Tribal Council members Carrie O'Toole, Camilla Chouteau, Thomas Wabnum, Joyce Guerrero and a Nation attorney, Russ Brien stand beside Chairwoman Liana Onnen as she signs the Tobacco Tax Compact on behalf of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.



Kansas Governor Sam Brownback signs the Tobacco Tax Compact into law on April 6, 2016 after it passed through both the Kansas House and Senate unanimously setting a new precedent for government-to-government relations.

POTAWATOMI RESERVATION - In January 2016 the Nation successfully negotiated a Tobacco Tax Compact with the State of Kansas, which was ratified unanimously by the Kansas Legislature in April 2016, thus ensuring the Nation's sovereignty with regard to tobacco sales on tribal lands while supporting the State's obligations to the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement (MSA), protecting 60 million dollars in annual tobacco settlement payments. As members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and citizens of Kansas this agreement helped ensure the interest of all. Through the agreement the Nation will also directly receive a portion of the annual payment.

"The Nation and State's mutual respect for the sovereignty of one another opened the door to develop a framework where the State is positioned to meet its obligations under the MSA. The numerous negotiations between the State and the Nation resulted in a compact that comprehensively addresses tobacco issues important to both parties. The Compact is a shining example of what diplomatic government to government relations can accomplish," said Liana Onnen Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Chairwoman.

In 2015, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, the Governor and the Attorney General's office for the State of Kansas began discussions to cooperatively address the issue of tobacco sales on the PBPN reservation. The Nation put together a comprehensive team including Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen, former Treasurer Hattie Mitchell, former PBPN LLC CEO Burton Warrington and current acting CEO Jacob Wamego, along with Nation lawyers Russ Brien and Vivien Olsen. The group teamed up with staff from the Governor's Office, Kansas Attorney General's Office and the Kansas Department of Revenue. Over the course of a year and through intense negotiations, they were able to produce a document that helped the state meet its requirements while strengthening the Nation's sovereignty.

This compact and subsequent legislation came about due to the terms of the Master Settlement Agreement established in 1998. The MSA is an accord between the five largest tobacco companies in America and 46 states, five U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. One provision of the MSA includes payment to the states to compensate for health care costs incurred from the use of tobacco products. Cigarette companies not listed in the MSA are also responsible for contributing to an "escrow" fund that offsets the costs of tobacco payments for participating manufacturers. In 2003, the major cigarette companies began to argue that states were not accounting for all cigarette sales and therefore were not diligently collecting escrow from the non-participating manufacturers. In 2012, the state of Kansas took measures to more strongly enforce online cigarette sales along with tobacco sales on tribal lands. One provision of the MSA was that the State of Kansas would diligently enforce the provisions of the MSA even on tribal lands within the boundaries of the state of Kansas. However, there were a number of questions on both the Tribal and State side with regard to what jurisdiction could be exercised on Tribal lands. Case law on these issues is thus far unclear, which left the State in a position to do something to show it was diligently enforcing all of the terms of the MSA, but not wanting to overstep its jurisdictional authority or find itself in long-term litigation with the Tribe.

The Nation's concerns with the State's position were the same. According to Chairwoman Onnen, "Of course, we wanted to preserve the Nation's sovereignty through its jurisdictional and taxing authority on tribal lands. At the same time, we also wanted to avoid lengthy and costly litigation. Negotiations for a compact seemed to be a good way to meet the needs of both the Nation and the state, while preserving our sovereignty and protecting our tobacco sales and tax revenues, both of which are vital to our economic development and our government operations."

The compact negotiated and later codified into Kansas law allows the Nation to continue to regulate its sales on compact lands. Under the terms of the compact the Nation will regulate the sales of both participating manufacturers and non-participating manufacturers (commonly known as "Indian cigarettes") and provide reports of those sales to both the Kansas Department of Revenue and the Kansas Attorney General's Office so that they may comply with the diligent enforcement provision of the MSA. The Nation will also retain sole taxing authority on cigarettes sold on compact lands, with the state refraining from taxing tobacco products at any point in the stream of commerce on those products.

The Nation sells cigarettes at two locations on the reservation, the Casino complex located on 150 Road and the Prairie Band One Stop located on 190 Road. The Nation, which already has established tribal tax and sales audits on tobacco products, will begin to share this information with the State effective July 1.



A Message to the PBP Nation - Chairwoman Liana Onnen

particularly the Village of Shabbona. Some of our local supporters along with Shabbona Mayor Claudia Hicks, met with former Treasurer Hattie Mitchell and myself in Illinois in late April. At this meeting we were able to have a brief conversation with Congressman Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) and discuss our application and our plans for a Class II gaming facility. Congressman Kinzinger recognized the need for jobs in the village and demonstrated a good understanding of the EIS process. We left the meeting feeling as if the congressman supported the project and the economic growth it could bring to his district. We asked the congressman to write a letter in support of the project and recently received word he has expressed his support to the BIA.

I was also able to participate in the grand opening of the Prairie Band Bingo Hall. The 400-seat facility was open for business June 1, 2016. The bingo hall is part of the casino expansion project approved last year by the General Council and we are excited to offer another gaming experience to our customers. Also part of the expansion is the new gift shop at the casino. The new space is larger than the previous location and offers more options for our customers. The PBP Economic Corporation (PBPEC) Board and the Casino management and staff all worked diligently to see construction of the facility and a seamless opening to the new facility. Board President, Joshua Arce and I were also on local station Channel 13 WIBW, the CBS affiliate, to promote the bingo expansion, the Keepers of the Fire BBQ Contest and the PBP Powwow to northeast Kansas.

In addition to these events and developments, I continue to participate in NCAI conference calls and activities. I plan to attend the mid-year convention in Spokane, WA in late June, where I will represent the Nation and the Southern Plains Region. I have also been asked to act as a moderator for the NCAI Policy Research Center's session titled "The Future of Food" in which we will discuss issues such as indigenous relationships with local landscapes, plants and animals, traditional knowledge, genomics technology as it can be applied to sustainable agriculture and other topics. I am excited to facilitate this session and not only share knowledge but acquire knowledge as well. I have also been asked to work with a committee to discuss recommendations for NCAI Constitutional amendments.

Finally, I was honored to witness the installation of one of the Potawatomi Treaties of 1836 at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian's treaty exhibition. It was a great experience and I was lucky to be able to share it with PBP Council Members Thomas Wabnum and Carrie O'Toole as well as council representation from other Potawatomi bands. The exhibit itself is very well done and takes a look at Native American History through the treaties the United States entered into with the various tribes throughout our mutual, intertwined histories. It is a unique perspective and a unique experience. After the installation we were also able to tour the facility where artifacts and objects are kept in storage by the Smithsonian Institute. There where hundreds of Potawatomi pieces from Canada to Kansas and from the late 18th century to the early 20th century. The entire experience brought home for me even more just how long our history is and how strong and resilient Potawatomi people were and have always been.

We continue to have tribal council meetings to attend to everyday Nation business. Tribal Council meets regularly as needed to conduct Nation business. We

have met with insurance vendors to discuss health benefits for employees and compliance with ACA, the PBPEC Board of Directors to discuss Casino operations, LLC Board of Directors to discuss LLC operations and move forward with an assessment of the LLC's performance in its first few years, staff and outside counsel to propose revisions to clarify and strengthen our employment code, BIA officials to discuss our routine, on-site monitoring review and various meetings with tribal members, community members and members of local and county governments, participation in Haskell Spring Commencement Ceremony and meetings with various boards and committees. In addition to those activities, I continue to participate in monthly conference calls for the NIH Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee (TCAC), employee meetings, Casino employee awards banquet, administering oaths of office to judges and other officials, speaking engagements with local non-profit organizations I encounter as a result of our charitable contributions award ceremonies.

I would like to commend our powwow committee, employees and community for a beautiful and successful powwow. I spent more time than usual at the pow wow this year, making time to not only meet with local government officials (we had the Attorney General, several state representatives and Jackson County Commissioners attend) but to also dance with my mother, visit with family and friends and of course, eat! The grounds were in top shape, the sound system was on point and the drum groups, singers and dancers were amazing! Unless you have worked on or with a powwow committee, it is hard to fully explain how much work and dedication it takes to create a successful, enjoyable event. Thank you so much, to everyone involved, no matter how small the role. The pow wow is a success as a result of the community in which we live and the commitment of that community to make the event a success. The pow wow is yet another example of what we can achieve when we dedicate ourselves and focus on the goal we wish to attain.

I will close by once again encouraging everyone to participate in the political process at every level. Federal, state, county, local and tribal. Be a part of the decisions that will shape your future and exercise your rights and your voice through your vote. With presumptive presidential candidates in both of the major parties in place and the opportunity for what could essentially be a new Congress, I encourage you to look at candidates closely and analyze which ones truly represents your needs. The next President of the United States will determine the future of the Supreme Court as well. Much is at stake in these elections. Do not take your rights or responsibilities lightly.

I wish all of you many blessings in the coming months. Until then, thank you for the honor of serving you as your Chairwoman. I will continue to work diligently for all of our people.

Liana Onnen
Chairwoman

Bosho to all of you! This message finds us in the middle of a hot spell here in Kansas with heat indexes into the 100's the past several days and over this past pow wow weekend. A quick reminder: stay hydrated and be aware of the summer temperatures. I hope all of you are enjoying these summer days whether you are enjoying a summer vacation, traveling the powwow highway or simply spending some time at home with family and friends.

It was a busy spring for the Nation. After successfully negotiating the tobacco compact with the State of Kansas the next step was to have the compact ratified by the Kansas legislature. The Nation, along with the Attorney General's Office and the Governor's Office testified before both Kansas Senate and Kansas House of Representatives committees to get the compact passed by the legislature. The compact passed both chambers of the legislature unanimously.

Given the current political landscape in Kansas, it was quite an accomplishment to have legislation pass both houses unanimously. I believe this is a testament to the hard work of the negotiating team, the staff and the continued support of Tribal Council. In collaborating with the State on this matter, the tribe was able protect the Nation's sovereignty, tobacco business and tobacco tax revenues.

Tribal Council was invited to be present in early April when the governor signed the tobacco compact into law. We have great hopes that the compact will provide for continued self-governance and jurisdiction as well as increased sales and tax revenues from tobacco product sales.

I appreciate all of the hard work that is now being done by both the Tax Commission and our retail outlet employees to ensure the Nation implements the provision of the compact by July 1, 2016. This has truly been a team effort from start to finish and it shows how much we as a Nation can accomplish when we are focused on a goal, have the opportunity and the dedication to see the necessary steps taken and work together as a team to protect and grow the interests of our tribe. Igwien to everyone involved!

We have also continued our efforts in Illinois. Our application for land-into-trust continues to go through the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, wherein a draft EIS will be completed. We continue to communicate with the BIA and the DOI on a regular basis as we move through the process. We also continue to work with the local residents and governments near the Shabehnay Reservation,



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Week

Contributed by Michelle Simon

One day before the 2016 PBPN Powwow commenced Governor Sam Brownback met with members of Tribal Council and the Powwow Committee as he signed a proclamation declaring the second week of June 2016 as "Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Week" in honor of the tribe's annual powwow celebration.

The Nation's powwow is an opportunity for the tribe to share one aspect of its culture with the larger community. Over the years it has grown to be a hallmark event in the state of Kansas and a tourist attraction in its own right. The annual powwow was the featured event in the Spring 2016 Edition of the Topeka Magazine.

Pictured at left are Powwow Committee members Coleen Thomas and Anna Boswell, along side PBPN Tribal Chairwoman Liana Onnen, Governor Sam Brownback, and PBPN Council members Thomas Wabnum and Carrie O'Toole.

Charitable Contributions 1st Quarter Distribution

Total Donated \$70,000

Alzheimer's Association
American Heart Association
American Indian Health Research & Education Alliance
Arthritis Foundation
CASA of Shawnee County
Donnelly College
Family Service & Guidance Center
First Nations Student Association - KU
Kansas Senior Games
Mayetta Cemetery
Military Officers Association of America
Museum of the Kansas National Guard
NAMI Kansas
Our Lady of Guadalupe - Fiesta Mexicana
Sertoma Club of Topeka - The Great Duck Race
Sunflower State Games
Topeka Blues Society
Willow Domestic Violence Center



"Thank you for taking our children and families into your hearts," said Pam Evans, Director of Marketing and Development for family Service and Guidance Center as she received a charitable contribution on behalf of her organization. Each recipient had an opportunity to speak at the Awards Ceremony held on April 7, 2016 at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

Four Tribes Meeting

Contributed by Camilla Chouteau

POTAWATOMI RESERVATION – On April 25, 2016 the Four Northeast Kansas Tribes/Nations came together to attend the first Four Tribes Meeting of the year. A lot of information was shared with and between the tribes. The meeting had a packed agenda and several decision items were presented for review and comment.

A lengthy presentation was delivered by Mark Dodd, Kansas Governor's Tribal Liaison and his associates about the proposed First Net, a special network for emergency services. First Net is funded through a federal grant and particularly addresses the Grantee being the State of Kansas. A primary requirement stipulates mandatory presentations and consultations with the Four Tribes of Kansas. No action was taken on this matter.

A presentation for Election Year 2016 on the Native Vote project was given by Paula Hopkins and Verna Simon, the designated representatives of this project. The Native Vote project does not support any particular political party or Democratic, Republican, or Independent candidates. The primary focus is to register Native Americans so they may vote in the national and local elections.

The issue of negotiating Tobacco Compacts with the State of Kansas provided the basis for another lengthy discussion.

Carrie O'Toole, PBPN Tribal Council Member announced the PBPN will host a Health Summit at the Prairie Band Casino on August 22-23, 2016.

The quarterly meeting was hosted by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council at the Old Bingo Hall facility on the PBPN Reservation. PBPN Tribal Council Members present were Joyce Guerrero - Vice Chairperson, Camilla Chouteau - Secretary and Carrie O'Toole - Member. On behalf of PBPN, Tribal Attorney Vivien Olsen was also in attendance.

In attendance from the Kickapoo Nation were Lester Randall - Chairman, Fred Thomas - Vice Chairman, Bernadette Thomas - Member, Jason Thomas - Member and Zach Pahmahmie on behalf of the Kickapoo Health Clinic.

Representing the Iowa Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska were Allan Kelly - Vice Chair and Tom Fee along with Kelly Battese who represents both the Iowa Clinic and Haskell Indian Clinic. Elmore Greene was in attendance from the Sac & Fox Nation.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi News

The *Prairie Band Potawatomi News* or *PBP News* is a quarterly publication of the Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the PBP News are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the PBP Media staff, Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation.

The PBP News reserves the right to reject any materials or letters submitted for publication, including those submitted past the deadline. Photos submitted with news articles will be returned after publication with a SASE or can be scanned if brought to the Media office.

Fall 2016 Issue
Deadline for submissions: August 26, 2016
Mail date: September 15, 2016

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Goldman Sachs Appearance



In early May, Larry Estrada of Goldman Sachs presented to a handful of community members at an impromptu Investment Discussion Forum. Estrada provided information on the Nation's investment goals and performance of our portfolios. He explained the investment structure and philosophy of Goldman Sachs. Through out the meeting he fielded questions from the crowd.

Election Timeline

Friday, June 10:
Ballots Mailed to Registered Voters

Saturday, July 23 - 9am:
Tribal Election Day - Votes Counted

**Candidates must win by a majority vote, if needed a run-off election will be held.

Saturday, August 20 - 9am:
Tribal Election Run-Off - Votes Counted

Election Notice

Melvin Lewis II and Michelle Simon have officially withdrawn from the election. Any votes received will be void and shall not be counted in the election.

Election Candidates

The following pages include the official photo and profile statement submitted by each candidate. The majority of submissions fit within a column, in order to accommodate longer submissions the text is continued in proceeding pages.

National Election Timeline

Tuesday, October 18:
Deadline to register to vote

Friday, November 4:
Deadline to apply for an advance ballot to be mailed

Tuesday, November 8:
General Election

Native Vote

Paula Hopkins and Verna Simon will continue to register anyone for the Nation Election until Friday, October 7, 2016. They can be reached by email at paulahopkins@pbpnation.org and vernasimon@pbpnation.org.

-- OR --

You can register to vote online, by mail, by fax, or in person at your Kansas county election office or local KS driver services office.

You must register to vote at least 21 days before the election to be able to participate.



2016 Tribal Council Candidates



Hello. My name is Laura Abeyta, Wahwasemoquah. I am running for Vice Chair.

First of all, let me say that I love my people. I am NOT a politician. I won't make promises or tell you what you want to hear just for the sake of a vote. My agenda? The Seven Generations. What is a Nation? One having independent existence in a nation state.

Our efforts need to be focused on getting more independent. Time is getting short. The world is changing, and not for the better. If you have been paying attention, there is no real news being broadcast anymore. Our Brothers in Alaska are saying that the sky has shifted. The icecaps are melting at an alarming rate, the earth is experiencing more storms, earthquakes, droughts, tornados, rains, fires, and every other once in a hundred year disaster there is. The wanton destruction of the earth is rampant. But the news will only give you fluff.

Right now our main source of income is based on our Gaming Revenues. That will be the first income to dry up in the event of any natural disaster. We have some of the best growing land in the country and the equipment to utilize it. We need to grow our own food. Hydroponics is an eco-friendly option, and it is a fact that food grown and eaten in the area where you live is the best for you, health wise.

We have a huge water table under our land. Past studies have been done, and deemed too expensive to undertake a filtering process. That option needs to be re-explored. Water is life! We invested in studying the process of energy produced by the wind. Perhaps that should be revisited.

Another long time goal has been to separate business from government. We have a lot of competent people, more and more with Degrees, talent and ideas, but somehow all these years 7 people think they know best. If the right checks and balances are in place we should be able to trust our system. But we need to work together. Sit down, talk, listen and find the best way. We have lost experience, continuity, training, and who knows how much money, because we are not using our most important resources. The People themselves!

The last change made to the blood-quantum was done illegally because the people in General Council were told it would not change the Constitution by that vote. It could be changed back to 1/4 "Indian" blood, with PBP descendency. Maybe this is not the best option but the issue has been on the table since before the first per-cap in the late 1960's. Not to mention the amount of money we have paid a "consultant" for 15 years to tell us what to do about it.

There are those who will whisper that somehow someone is getting more of something or another, and they work to create disharmony amongst the People. A lot of times those whispers are started by the very people whose responsibility it is to Lead. I really would rather believe in the honor, love, generosity, bravery, and devotion to the Creator that I have known, and felt in our people, than see us operate like the outside world in their quest for power. A great Leader will surround themselves with the Best People for the Job. That's what I would like to do. Surround our people with the best. We have one little corner of the world. Lets make it Ours!

I am the daughter of Mayme (Hubbard) Mattwaoshshe and Charles Harrison, Granddaughter of Minnie (Nozhackum) Harrison, and Charles Harrison Sr., and Julia (Moore) Hubbard and Chester Hubbard.

Further information about qualifications will be posted on The Rez--Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, or you can email me at abeytaharrison@gmail.com.



My name is Anna (Wahwassuck) Boswell and I am running for the position of Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson and would like to ask for your support as well as your vote in the upcoming Tribal Council election. I am the daughter of Merriell "Meatball" and Belva Wahwassuck, and the granddaughter of Jacob & Beulah (Naha) Coochise and Jon Paul & Josette (Nahgonbe) Wahwassuck. I am also the mother of 5 wonderful children, ranging in age from 11 years to 23 years of age and happily married to Michael Boswell, for over 22 years.

I was born in Holton, Kansas and spent a majority of my childhood in Arizona where I graduated from Buckeye Union High School, in Buckeye Arizona. My employment background is very diverse and each area has given me the tools and experience to be successful in my career. My employment history, while not inclusive, includes working at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station as a document specialist, Freemont Compensation managing workers compensation, a Compliance Officer for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Gaming Commission, multiple positions at Prairie Band Casino and Resort (previously Harrah's Prairie Band Casino) which include HR Training Assistant, Database Analyst, and as Assistant GM for the Nation's government. Each of these positions has required a high degree of confidentiality, professionalism, knowledge of rules and regulations and attention to detail. I am currently employed for the Nation as the Member Services Director where I oversee 6 departments. I feel it is this internal and diverse experience that makes me an ideal candidate for the position of Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson. I have worked hands on with regulatory requirements, casino processes, HR and general operating policies.

Outside of work I am very involved in the community and with my children's activities. Our two eldest children have graduated high school and the younger children attend Royal Valley Schools. I am the coach of our 14 year old's Starlings club volleyball team and active supporter of the children's volleyball, softball, baseball activities and ballet. Our children are also involved with the Royal Valley Singers & Dancers, of which I am very proud to see them participate. Our 17 year old daughter is also the current We-Ta-Se Post 410 Princess and has held that title for the past two years. My other community involvements have been serving on various committees. I have previously served on the Head Start Policy Council for 3 years and am currently serving on the Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors and am in my fourth year of service with them. I have also been an active member of the PBPW Pow Wow Committee for the last 10 Years. While each of these activities requires an immense amount of time and commitment, I am committed to doing my part not only within my family but within our community as well. Our community is something to be proud of and it that should be protected along with those things that make us who we are.

I feel that this is a time for change for all of us to work together regardless of the disagreements and I am prepared to be an active part of that change. I will not make any promises that I cannot keep but, I will work hard every step of the way and expect the same of my counterparts. I also know there are times when everyone will not be happy with choices or decisions that are made. However, I will always look at what is best and what is right for our Members and Nation as a whole.

Thank you for consideration and your vote.



2016 Tribal Council Candidates



My name is Warren Hardy Eteeyan and my Potawatomi name is Pikitchwano.

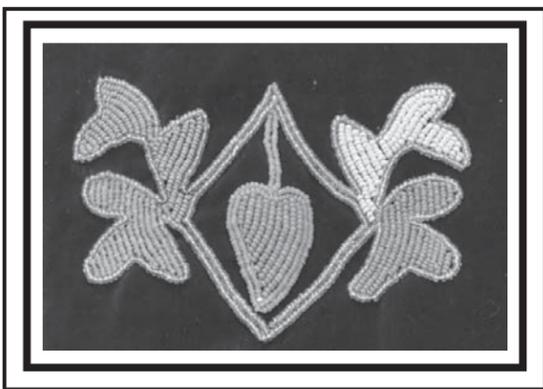
Having lived most of my life on the Reservation, I care deeply what happens to this reservation and the Prairie Band Potawatomi People.

If given the opportunity to serve as Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson, I will be able to help ensure the future of our reservation and help with the needs of our people.

I have worked for the Nation for nearly 25 years and gained experience, knowledge, and leadership skills as Crew Chief and Foreman at the Road & Bridge Department. Many of my responsibilities at Road & Bridge are an asset to serving as a Tribal Council member; forecasting the future needs of Roads and Bridges on the Reservation, estimation costs of projects, budgeting the cost of projects, working with outside agencies and contractors, supervising employees, assisting with the burial arrangement of our Members. Not only do I bring work experience and knowledge, I also bring common sense and hard work.

As a Tribal Council Member, I have a passion to continue to provide services for our elders, children, and veterans; to look for ways to expand and add services for all our people; to preserve our culture and language. I will look for opportunities for economic stability and growth, but not forget that the People are the most important. I am very proud to be part of a Nation, which is not only successful in business and money matters, but also takes care of their people.

Elect me as a strong advocate for the People. I am asking for your support for the position as Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson. Thank you.



(Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero Continued)

I will continue to be mindful of the accountability of budgets, including tribal council's accountability and transparency of administrative and travel budgets.

I will continue to maintain my personal office without the expense of an administrative assistant as I have done during my term. I will continue to be available for any persons needing my assistance. I cannot always grant everyone's request if there is a budgetary concern or if tribal council disapproves, I will however; get the request discussed. I will be upfront in my communications.

I support amending the enrollment ordinance if the nation votes to do so. That change has to come from the entire PBPN by a vote after everyone has had the opportunity to look at options and analyze before making that important decision.

Serving as Vice-Chairperson has been rewarding, sometimes challenging, always extremely prideful. I believe in the Prairie Band Potawatomi people, we are resilient, stubborn, proud, mindful of our past and ways we were taught.

I humbly ask for your vote in the upcoming election. I am Sog-mah-Kwe.

Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero



I have had the honor to serve as the current Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson. Prior to that, I served as a tribal Gaming Commissioner, monitoring the casino for regulatory compliance during the Harrah's Prairie Band Casino era, and the transition when the PBP nation voted to self-manage the casino. I also served on the tribal council back in the pre casino days. My parents Agnes Wabski Wamego and Joe Kitchkommie lived on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. My Dad, after serving in the Army, moved our family to Topeka where I was raised attending schools there. I also attended Washburn University. My employment history has been in local agencies/companies, customer service, payroll, problem solving, scheduling and timekeeping for employees. I retired from the BNSF railroad when I came back to work for the nation. During my tenure as Vice-Chairperson I've seen our self-managed Prairie Band Casino be very successful with increased revenues and tribal distribution. After the state entered gaming, allowing for state casinos, it's been challenging and although the PBC&R continues to do well, the state competition has impacted the revenues of the casino. Tribal distributions and per cap are not increasing. The annual budget for government services depends largely on tribal supplements.

The PBP Tribal Council and the state agreed upon a tobacco tax compact which has the potential for more revenue after implementation July 2016. Next we will be looking at negotiating a sales tax compact with the state of Kansas. It will be vital to have a sales tax compact with the state regarding economic development activity at 150th and Highway 75. Like other tribes, the success of our casino has peaked and is now declining. The general consensus was that for the PBP to be successful and stay ahead in the field of economic development we would need to diversify in areas other than gaming. In meetings and discussions all would agree that diversification was needed.

In January 2010 the General Council approved the PBPN Corporate Implementation (the LLC), including a capital investment. The overall purpose of the LLC was to diversify, manage and expand financial assets and after five years of operation the LLC will distribute dividends back to the tribe. I think it's fair and prudent for the nation to ask of the LLC a transparent and true accounting of the LLC now that we are past the five year mark. I support the LLC board with this endeavor.

We are pursuing the Shab-eh-nay reservation plan in Illinois, if successful, it will provide for more economic development that the nation can provide for improved housing, education, health care, cultural programs and other services to all tribal members. That project is progressing positively.

Regarding Cobell buyback plan, the PBPN has been recognized as having one of the most successful implementations across the country, leaving open the possibility of obtaining more monies for the nation to do more purchasing fractionated lands by those individuals that opt to do so.

I have been the tribal council liaison to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation working to ensure that there is good communication between the council and the board and casino management.

If allowed to continue on the tribal council I will continue to uphold the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Constitution and the Law and Order codes of the nation. Rather than promising that I will always fund one or two programs or a specific department, I will promise to represent each and every Prairie Band Potawatomi tribal member fairly, regardless of where you reside. I will continue to represent the PBPN Tribal Council office of the Vice-Chairperson positively and respectfully.

(Continued - Page 5, Column 1)



Bosho!

My name is Tamara 'Wah-sesh-mo-quah' (Lewis) McClammy; but most know me as Tami. I would like to take this opportunity to declare my candidacy for the Vice Chairman for the 2016 Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's council election. I would greatly appreciate your vote and the opportunity to serve our Nation.

My grandparents are the late Joe Lewis and the late Connie (Magnauk) Lewis. I spent the first 18 years of my life growing up on our reservation. However, I graduated High school from Poplar, Montana where I met my husband of 29 years Will McClammy (Assiniboine, Sioux, and Chippewa). We have three beautiful daughters Ashley, Courtney Stephanie.

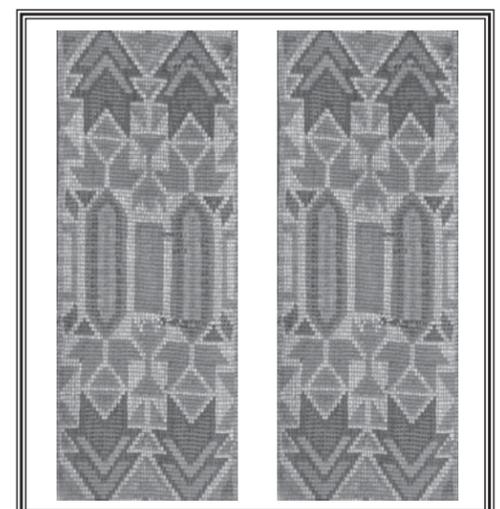
My background consists of a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice 2000, a Master's degree in Business Management 2002, and a Bachelor's degree in Human Resources (HR) 2012. I have worked for our tribe in several different capacities and skill levels. I have worked within the Veterans Administration (VA), which was a great opportunity and has opened my eyes to any assistance or concerns our Potawatomi veteran population may have. I am currently employed with the Prairie Band Casino & Resort as the HR Generalist (Employee Relations).

I have a vested interest in the tribe's success and a deep respect for those that have had the vision and forethought that have brought our tribe to where we are today. I want to build on that success and become an active participant in our transition towards a more diversified and sustainable economic base. I will support the LLC and other economic opportunities they pursue. I will look for ways to expand Health Care to assure that the clinic continues to operate and open up more financial opportunities for care for the entire tribe with the monies collected from those sources.

I will be an advocate for full disclosure on all matters involving our Nation's interest's i.e. current business ventures, future acquisitions and financial holdings. I will also advocate for public notification/transparency with the Tribal Council. This will give general council the opportunity to express ideas and interests in the tribe.

In conclusion, accountability/transparency will be a priority. For example; when going to overnight conferences/training, how much did it initially cost, how much was per diem and what does it bring back to the tribe, questions to be published in our paper. I pride myself on being an objective, fair minded individual. I am not swayed by the populous, but rather by the principle of the matter which has guided me in my decisions, both professionally and personally. I have always taken a logical approach when making a decision. I weigh all options and look at "what" the problem is and not "who" it is; and if elected I will be at the disposal of all tribal members.

Thank you for your consideration and please exercise your right to vote.



2016 Tribal Council Candidates



Hello everyone! My name is Lorrie Wahwassuck-Melchior "Qua-Shee" and I am declaring my candidacy for Vice Chair for our Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe. My parents are John P. and Roberta Wahwassuck and I am the granddaughter of John P. and Josette Wahwassuck. My family supports me in my endeavor to travel down this road of improvement and leadership. I would also like to add that I am a proud female veteran. Growing up on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation I support our traditional religions and practices. Supporting other religions as well, Native American Church, Catholic, Kennekuk, and many more, helps us to understand one another. I believe this is a big part of all of us.

Currently I work for the tribe as a Liaison for our Veterans We-Ta-Se Post 410 program. Having been with tribe for many years, I have become very interested in our tribal economy. While employed, I am attending school and will be receiving my Business Administration Diploma this coming July. Which is coming fast!! I will be furthering my education at Bryan University in the Associates Program and continue thru to a Master of Business Administration.

As a committed employee, I have become involved with a few of our committees, Tribunal Magistrate, Policy Council for our Day Care and Headstart/Early headstart, ICC (daycare/headstart), Enrollment Committee, Community Health Assessment Team (CHAT), and a member of our Veterans We-Ta-Se Post 410. Touching base on our enrollment, I would like to encourage as many members as possible to attend the meetings to embrace our future tribal members by helping to decide what needs to be done for our future generations. I understand the role of the Vice Chair per the Constitution and Vice Chair leadership to make a motion and cast a vote as well. Fill in for Chair when needed to hold tribal council meetings.

I am at a point where I am committed to serving our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, understanding the struggles that families face, such as our elders, caregivers, disabled, parents/single parents and our Veterans. Whether it be far or near, everyone needs some type of support and understanding. By utilizing our communications and having the commitment to follow thru, starting with us as Leaders, we are able to give the support needed. Other interests are hoping to change some of the Economic Development to improve a positive membership, for example Social Services, Elders, Children, Veteran's, adding fairness to hiring our unemployment. Continuing to support the Senior Program, Veterans Program, Child Care Programs and hope to better improve them. I support stopping violence against women, children, or men and stopping domestic violence.

As a working mother, understanding the issues relating to raising children and how PBPN can better assist tribal parents.

Looking forward to see where our Bingo will go from here and I am glad it is a great addition to our Casino.

It is a privilege to be among so many candidates. I believe we all have something to offer as we move along in the elections.

I am willing to discuss any topics or questions you may have. I can be reached at 785-608-2927 and I will be available at the upcoming forum.

Thank you for your support, time and consideration.



My name is Zach Pahmahmie and I am seeking the position of Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson. My parents are Cheryl Simon (Kickapoo) and Richard Pahmahmie, Jr. (Prairie Band Potawatomi). I have lived much of my life on both the Kickapoo and Prairie Band Reservations. I currently work for a tribal health center as an Administrative Officer. I received my undergraduate degree from Stanford University in 1996 and my Juris Doctor with an emphasis in Tribal Law from the University of Kansas School of Law in 2001.

As Native Nations move forward in today's business world, the demand for legal knowledge is becoming increasingly obvious and a necessity. Rarely, will you see a Tribal Council meeting or any other meeting involving Tribes where attorneys are not present. Much of the day-to-day business of the Nation involves the use of legal knowledge and expertise, some of those areas include gaming, tribal codes, employment, jurisdiction, taxation, land-into-trust, and tribal sovereignty, just to name a few. I believe my experience and education in the law will serve the Nation well in the capacity as Vice-Chair in all settings requiring representation on behalf of the Nation. While serving as Tribal Council Chairperson this legal knowledge proved invaluable to representing the Nation in instances of meeting with local, state, and federal officials. One highlight of mention was providing oral and written testimony to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the benefits of Indian gaming.

In addition to serving the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in a tribal government capacity, I have previously worked in the Nation's gaming enterprise for approximately 7 years. Both types of experience were valuable in gaining insight from both the government and enterprise perspectives of the Nation.

Like all previous professional experiences, my current position as an administrator in a tribal health clinic has further broadened my knowledge of the issues facing tribal peoples of all ages. As a professional and from a personal vantage point I have seen that one of most critical areas facing the future of all generations is diet and nutrition as well as physical activity. In my position as Vice-Chairperson I would endeavor to work within our Nation to strengthen the physical health and well-being through health promotion and education. Without these measures our Nation is threatened with the loss of valuable knowledge of elders and shortened lifespans of the younger generations due to such afflictions as diabetes. Without a strong and vibrant membership our Nation may be weakened and struggle to exist without preventative actions.

In the role of Vice-Chairperson, I will also advocate for a recommitment of efforts to further economic development. In order to continue to provide vital services to our membership this will require the necessary funds to carry out the collective goals and objectives of the Nation. As an example, I view the continued need to strengthen the commitment to education of students of all ages. In order for our Nation to thrive and persevere we need to provide exposure to all different experiences from a young age and throughout their academic careers to encourage exploration of all career fields. By continuing the process of learning, no matter at what age, this may inspire and guide our membership to more fulfilling careers and lives. It is my hope that such efforts will develop the next leaders, both present and future.

I thank you in advance for your support in the upcoming election. I would be honored to serve the Nation in the capacity of Vice-Chairperson in which I would serve as a partner and advocate with and for the Nation's membership to continue on a path to prosperity and success in all matters facing our Tribe.

My name is Lisa "Ship she kweh" Wamego. I am the daughter of Algernon "Bozo" and Alberta "Nagmo" Wamego. I have three sons Derek, Eric, and Tug and six beautiful grandchildren. I am running for Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson. I ask for your vote and support in this election. I have a Masters of Business Administration coupled with years of professional experience and I am fully capable of being the next Vice-Chairperson for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

I grew up in this community and have made the reservation my home for most of my life. I have seen where we as a tribe have been and where we are today. I have been a dedicated employee of Prairie Band Casino & Resort for the past 19 years. I started at the temporary casino in October 1996 and in my experience as an employee of our casino from the start to present day, I have developed the fundamental skills that are required to lead people. I played an instrumental role in the transition from Harrah's Prairie Band Casino to present. I lead a team of over 30 employees and work with our regulatory body every day. The PBP Nation has seen many benefits from the Casino and I am proud to have been a part of the growth. I believe in a strong work ethic and I strive to do my best in all of my endeavors. I have enjoyed watching our community grow from all tribal enterprises and look forward to continued success.

As Vice-Chair I will ensure there is accountability to the People. Implementing travel reports and justification for Tribal Council and Tribal programs travel will be one of my initiatives as your next Vice-Chairperson. I will work with tribal employees and the Tribal Council to ensure the tribal website is updated with current information. I will help develop policies that strengthen the administrative record of council meetings and provide an environment where tribal members have a voice and input into the operations of the tribal government. I believe that Tribal Council meetings should web cast (with adequate restrictions) to allow members that live away from the reservation a chance to see our elected leaders at work. I also pledge to advance more efficient use of the Member's Portal on the Nation's website.

Economic Development is an important area to the Nation and our members. We need to utilize our own Tribal member's expertise to develop the economy of the Nation. The tribal government should foster the environment for Tribal Members to help create more entrepreneurs. One initiative to foster this environment that I will advocate for is a "buy-Indian" procurement act for tribally owned businesses, tribal member owned business and Indian owned businesses (in that order). The Nation and its vendors/contractors will be required to follow this law. We also need the 150th and 75 developments to get off the ground. As Vice-Chair I will work with my fellow Tribal Council members and business experts to get this done.

I will also be an advocate for our Tribal Elders & Language/Culture Programs. I pledge to never vote for a decrease in the funding for the Elders, Language and Cultural Activities of the PBPN. I will take a hard look at current programs with the goal of achieving better efficiency and higher level of care. I also believe that we should simplify the cumbersome requirements to receive Tribal services from the various departments and programs. I support our Veterans not only for what they have done for our People, but for our country.

I also pledge to follow the Ethics Commission By-Laws. My goal is to help our tribal members gain confidence that our elected leaders are doing their jobs and following the constitution and laws of the Nation. I will also advocate towards a resolution of the "at-will" employment policy of the Nation. I believe the Nation should empower the directors and general manager's office to make decisions for the efficient operations of the Nation's government with the Tribal Council setting policies and passing laws of good governance. I look forward to getting out and talking with as many tribal members as I can. Please consider me when casting your ballot for this year's election. Megwett.

2016 Tribal Council Candidates



Bosho! My name is Amanda Nioce Barbosa, daughter of Lyle and Barbara Nioce and I am proud to be a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I am writing to all of you to declare candidacy for the Tribal Treasurer position. I feel I have strong knowledge and solid experience in the finance field that makes me an ideal candidate for the position of Treasurer. I am a single mother and live with my beautiful 7-year old son Kinser and we currently reside in Topeka, KS. As a single-mother, working full time maintaining my son's sport activities with seasonal t-ball, swimming, and basketball. In my spare time I enjoy doing beadwork, spending time with my son and cheering him on in all his sport activities.

I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting from Washburn University in 2000 and went on to earned my Master's Degree in Business Administration in 2003. After earning my degrees, I gained valuable, real-world experience working for our casino when it was still Harrah's Prairie Band Casino and after we became the self-managed Prairie Band Casino and Resort in both a financial analyst and accounting capacity for 6 years. I have also worked for the Tribal Gaming Commission as an internal auditor for 2 years. Some of my most valuable experience has been working for the Nation's government Finance Department for eight years as both an accountant and as the Director of Finance.

This experience helped me to understand how all of our enterprises and our government operations depend on each other, so I have a solid understanding of the Nation's finances. That experience has given me a very strong knowledge of how the Nation's financial assets, cash management, and investments all work together for the Nation's best interest. Most recently I have worked for the City of Topeka as the Finance and Compliance Manager. In addition to that experience, I have been a member the Government Finance Officers Association for over six years and have also previously been a member of the Native American Finance Officers Association. Finally, I have served on both the Nation's Tax Commission and government employee Retirement Committee.

I feel that my education combined with my experience, particularly within the Nation's operations, give me the strong background needed to serve in the position of Treasurer. I have a true passion for the accounting and auditing fields and I feel I bring valuable, authentic experience to the position and it would be an honor to represent all of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in this role. In addition to my genuine interest in the position and field, I am also hardworking, responsible, dependable and always willing to lend a hand where needed.

My goals for the PBP Nation are to expand the reservation by building more housing for our members at all income levels. I would also like to promote help with our general memberships health clinic by advancement in all medical treatment areas, especially in the cancer treatment area. I also would like to research more ways to help all tribal members living off the PBP Nation reservation with health coverage options to help benefit them in their health care needs.

In advance, thank you for your time and consideration. I would greatly appreciate your vote for the position of Treasurer for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me I can be found on facebook at Campaign for Amanda N. for Tribal Treasurer and you may email questions to me at ANBarbosacampaign@gmail.com. Mgwich!

Jona (Potts) Rupnicki, MSM - 'Keo-Ko-Mo-Quah'

Granddaughter of Maynard Potts and Coralene (Keesis) Potts, and daughter of Vernon 'Shko-Mack' Potts and Marcia Potts. The uses of tribal discretionary funds, Land/home acquisitions, housing needs are just a few areas that are growing in capacity. Policies and procedures that guide tribal programs are ever evolving and in continual need of reviews and updates. These tasks require carefully coordinated efforts to ensure that all tribal members are considered at every level.

Some areas of concern that I feel need to be addressed are:

1. Accountability of time should apply to all that receive a payroll check from the PBP Nation Government. A full-time Council is a must! Showing up to work and being productive on behalf of our Nation should be required at all levels within the PBP Nation Government. With current and anticipated future growth of the tribe, serving as a Tribal Council member requires more time and dedication to ensure that sound decisions are made for the tribe.
2. Services/benefits should be provided that are equal/fair for all members. Tribal members that live out of the service area and are in need of assistance should get the support that will improve their quality of life. Innovative ways must be explored to bring services/benefits to all members. We need to research the costs of providing health insurance, cafeteria plan or dental plans to meet the needs of our people.
3. Tribal preference, development and retention are imperative. We can empower our sovereignty by upholding tribal preference policies. A clearly defined tribal ordinance needs to be in place that clearly outlines hiring practices that involve our own government, entities, vendors, contractors and purchasing Native to Native. Indian Gaming was put into place for the benefit of our Tribes and our People! Because we have been given this opportunity, we need to uphold our promises to our People. We need to employ our Members, build capacity, train and foster professional retention to ensure the success of our members.
4. Elevate the needs and care of our senior citizens by researching supplemental funds to assist them with hardships. Initiate an assisted living center, so we can keep our elders home here on the reservation. One possible solution would be to create a Non-profit organization that we can sponsor through our Charitable Contributions. This would allow Members to request emergency funds through the Non-profit organization. A second option may be a small Loan program that is subject to Per Capita deductions.

Tribal Employment qualifications are listed as follows:

- MSM-Masters Science in Management.
- Over 20 years of combined gaming and tribal operations experience.
- 11 years of management experience in recruiting and retention, employee relations and organizational development in Human Resource Management.
- 9 years of management experience in talent management, training and development, compensation and incentive plans, policy development and administration, mergers and restructuring, integration and change efforts.
- 7 years owner/operator of a small business located in the NOTO Arts District- Through my business I have promoted and supported multiple fund raisers for the PBP Nation community at my own expense.
- Holding positions throughout areas in Tribal Government/ Business Operations such as: Current Tax Commissioner, General Manager, PBP Entertainment Board President, J Rupnicki LLC Board President and Human Resource Director.

(Continued - Page 9, Column 2)

I am announcing my candidacy for the Treasurer of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. The Treasurer position is an important office of our Tribal Government. Through its leadership can create a more dynamic life for our people by ways and means of utilizing our best assets in the most effective ways possible. Our people and our actions are what define us as a tribal nation. We all want the best for our tribal nation and it is going to take cooperation to secure the comfortable life we want that is guaranteed to every Potawatomi. For it is in the Tribal Office that the most fundamental decisions of our tribal nation must be made in the next four years:

Strengthen Sovereignty

- o limiting the States involvement in tribal issues and jurisdiction by repealing the Kansas Act of 1940 that strips tribal criminal jurisdiction, which stands currently as a Federal Law
- o how to best utilize the IRS's Tribal General Welfare Exclusion for our tribal members by developing procedures and various program use to implement these exclusions
- o how to improve our economy and reclaim our land and take care of it the way it should be by strategically defining and developing our infrastructure to work for us to better our education and wellbeing.

Promote Self-Sufficiency

- o how to conserve freedom and order in while securing hunting and fishing rights by exercising our rights and educating the communities in which our lands encompass
- o how to achieve self-sustainability, reduce unemployment, protect our employees' rights and create economic growth to benefit our community needs by implementing basic tribal laws and use of various programs to create jobs to assist our nation in achieving goals that align with developing and taking care of our lands and waterways
- o and how to give direction to our traditional ethical perseverance, to awaken each and every tribal member to the vulnerabilities of and opportunities that challenge us today and in the future.

These are the issues today that we need to focus on making an impact for the betterment of our people. Any pencil pusher can sit behind a desk and sign their name but it takes a special kind of leader who has the drive to listen to the people, stand up for our peoples rights, do as a leader is supposed to and protect these freedoms and rights as a Potawatomi person. This is who I am and this is what I stand for and I vow to pursue this as my personal mission to push to preserve our inherent rights and afforded freedoms to the maximum capability. It is time for a council who will make leadership decisions to ensure we are securing a fruitful future for our children and future generations to come.

As a former Prairie Band Potawatomi Treasurer, I stood up for these same issues in the remaining term I filled for our people. I spoke up against issues that I felt were not in the best interest of the people. At times I felt at odds with some of the decisions being made so I voiced my opinion and was heard, thus changing the way tribal funds and assets were being allocated. Through cooperation we addressed some of the housing and land purchasing needs yet those decisions to build were cancelled by recent council. The buildings that were meant for the startup casino that were sitting idly racking up rental space fees in Illinois and then Texas were finally transported back here which reduced that costly burden, now these same buildings stand idly by today. We had several investments that mirrored each other and were not truly diversified to reduce risk of loss; which each had their own costs. These investments were consolidated to reduce the cost and minimized the risk. These are some of the issues that crossed my desk that were addressed and I look forward to continuing that promise and oath I made when filling the duties of the Treasurer's office.

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2016 Tribal Council Candidates



To the Prairie Band Potawatomi General Membership:

My name is Ann Simon DeCoteau and I am declaring my 2016 candidacy for Tribal Council seat #2. I am the daughter of Mary Simon and the Granddaughter of William and Lenora Simon. My husband Chris and I have five beautiful children and four wonderful grandchildren.

I am running for a Council Member position because I feel that I can promote transparency and accountability to the Tribal Council. I have many years' experience working for our government and understand this need.

I am currently attending Bryan University and will be graduating with an Associates of Applied Science degree for Business Administration and Management this summer. While attending school this past year and a half, I have been honored by making the Dean's list for several of my classes and I also have a 98% attendance record.

I have worked for our wonderful Nation for almost 15 years. I started working for the Nation as the Technical Assistant in the Land Department. From there I eventually took over the realty side and valued every minute of it. Working directly in our community and seeing our reservation regain and maintain its land base has been undoubtedly a rewarding feeling.

In addition to purchasing land for our Nation, I also was in charge of purchasing homes for our Housing department and acquired any right of way needed to pave and maintain our roadways. I have also held many positions on boards and committees. Including the Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors, Housing Board, USD 337 Title VII Parent Committee, Pow-Wow Committee, Land Management Committee and the Enrollment Committee.

I was and still am very steadfast for seeing our Nation return to what it should be. Restoring accountability will be one of my major priorities when I am elected to Tribal Council, it's what General Council members expect and deserve.

Without accountability Tribal Council cannot provide good Leadership. In turn, the lack of accountability leads to trust issues between members and elected officials. It is in the willingness to assume responsibility, followed by good communication skills that an elected official is truly fulfilling his or her job. Leadership is about the ability to influence, inspire, motivate and stimulate people to achieve their potential.

I am certain that my enthusiasm for success, my knowledge of Tribal government and my respect and dedication to our people will all be an asset to Tribal Council.

"The key to successful leadership today is influence not authority"
- Kenneth Blanchard

Greetings fellow Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members. My name is Adrian "Gubba" Hale, I am the son of the late Joseph W. Hale Sr. and Laverne F. Hale. I reside on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation with my wife Keirsten (Matchie) Hale and our two children. Currently, I am employed at the Fire Keeper's Elder Center and have worked there for almost 16 years. I am a 2015 graduate from Washburn University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology. I am an active member of the community and I am willing to help however I can. I am committed to our great Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and devoted to see us grow and prosper together.

I decided to run for Tribal Council because I feel that our tribe needs leaders that are invested and involved in the community and to the people as a whole. I feel that our Nation deserves a voice that will listen to our people and understand what the people desire as a Nation. I strongly feel that a council position is not a position of power but an action figure for the people of our Nation, a figure that is there to support the people from the elders down to the youth and the members who live both near and far because we are all one people. This position should not sit idle but be informed about the on goings within our Nation. The progress of our Nation is dependent on us working together as one and not working against each other. I believe that a council position should listen and support and implement the ideas of our members and workers of the Nation.

Accountability is a must and should start from the top down as accountability allows each person the opportunity to take responsibility for their own actions. I feel that essential components for accountability of this position is being present at work, initiating and completing tasks, being responsible for duties, being consistent with decisions, knowing my role, communicating with the Nation's workers and members in order to work together as one Nation. Communication is a vital role in any organization, government, or workplace, especially with in our Nation. I feel that in order for Tribal Council to make informed decisions communication with the members and workers of the Nation is a must in order for us to reach one common goal. Tribal Council needs to initiate communication to help avoid issues or problems that may come up, by talking and asking questions it will be understood what is wanted or needed for the people of our Nation and it will allow Tribal Council to be informed when making decisions for the Nation.

I am passionate about running for Tribal Council because I love this place we call our home and I want our children and our future generations to be proud to call this place home. I want to see our Nation be truly helpful to our members and not make things harder for them and I want to help achieve this goal by communicating, listening, and understanding the wants and needs of our members. I would greatly appreciate your support in my endeavor for the Tribal Council Person #2. If there is any questions or concerns feel free to contact me by email (duncandexter@yahoo.com or Facebook).

Thank you and may you all be blessed.

My name is Sylvia Kay Moss (Chaz). My native name is Gno-Dak-Si which means when you hear that Eagle screeching, I belong to the Eagle Clan.

My late mother's name is Mildred Whitefish (Engels). My father is the late Floyd Wamego both were members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

I moved to the PBPB Reservation 13 years ago with my husband from, Wabeno Wisconsin, we have three children and one grandchild.

My goals as a tribal council member is to uphold the policies set forth by our governing body, with respect and honesty to our Nation. Procedures need to be established to create fairness to all members on and off the reservation.

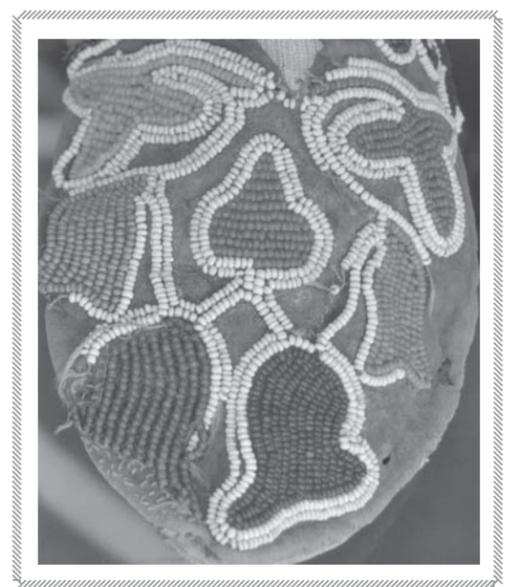
We need to support our veterans in obtaining assistance and preserving their history including the reservation memorial. I have heard feedback from the Elders on some of their needs. None of us would be here if it weren't for them. They need to be heard, cared for and most of all respected.

I possess 25 years of gaming experience. I worked at Northern Lights Casino for 10 years leaving as Bingo Manager. I moved to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in 2003 to manage the PBPB Bingo Hall. From there, I transferred to the PBPB Casino and Resort, where I have worked for 12 years from the Hotel Department to the Food and Beverage Supervisor. I am currently employed as a Bingo Host. Bingo is finally returning!

I believe that furthering our Economic Development is a must for our Nation to financially prosper. We have made minimal progress since the opening of PBPB Casino and Resort. We need entities to produce revenue and create tribal member jobs. We have a vast array of educated and road scholar members. Everyone has something valuable to offer and contribute.

Our Housing List is enormous, many members have the ability to pay for their housing needs, but the lack of available housing makes it appear as if you have a slot on a never ending list. We had the opportunity to purchase many properties with the "Land Buy Back" What will be done to address our housing needs now? I have many family members that reside here and many family members living in Wisconsin.

Please contact me with your thoughts and concerns. It is your Nation have a voice. hbmo53@yahoo.com



2016 Tribal Council Candidates



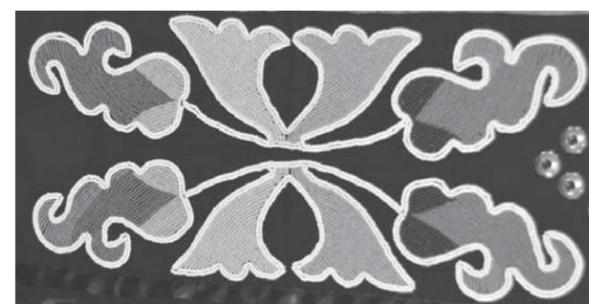
My name is Theresa Jessepe Murray. I have lived in Poplar, Montana for 43 years. I feel that it is time to come home. After losing my brothers LeRoy and Joseph recently, I would like to be closer to family and help contribute back to our Potawatomi people.

I am running for the Prairie Band Potawatomi tribal council seat #2. My Indian name is Wa-we-mo-quah. I am the daughter of Constance Magnauck Lewis and LeRoy J. Jessepe. My step-father was Joseph Lewis. We have three children, Isaac, who is a combat medic in the military; Jessie, who is currently working for the TRIO grant at the community college, and Robert III, who is a college student. I am married to Robert Jr. who is a Postmaster and is ready to retire at any anytime. We have two granddaughters, Gabriella and Madelyn.

My qualifications include:

- BA in Elementary Education, Rocky Mountain College, Billings, MT.
- MA in Educational Leadership, University of Montana, Bozeman, MT. I am certified as a principal and superintendent.
- Currently completed course work toward a PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana, Bozeman, MT. I am currently writing my dissertation.
- Twenty-two years in city politics. Prior to pursuing a degree in education, I was the City Clerk/Treasurer of our town. From that experience I became involved in city politics and ran for public office. I was a member of the city council for five terms, first as councilmember, then as mayor for six years. Through this experience I gained knowledge and experience managing budgets, grants, taxes, and SID's. These roles further prepared me as a supervisor to employees which consisted of office personnel, road and street departments, water, sewer, garbage departments, police, and fire departments. We, as a council, acquired home improvement loans through CDGB grants which funded apartment complexes. As housing demands increased we secured funding for a new water tower, and sewer treatment plant. Working collaboratively with other government agencies we received funding for a new airport.
- I am currently an educator; I have been a teacher eighteen years, and am also an adjunct faculty member and teach an Indian Education for All (IEFA) course for future educators at the community college. I was also an adjunct faculty member and taught business, and entrepreneurial courses for the University of Mary, Bismarck, ND.

Striving to move forward toward making progress for our community has always been my goal. I hope to do the same on our reservation. Our tribe can become successful at other endeavors that will benefit our people as a whole. It is important that we retain our sovereignty, increase our land base, construct more housing, and increase economic development for our tribes. It will be my goal to see that we continue to improve our reservation.



My name is Chris "Pah Nah" Mzhickteno. I am married to my lovely wife, Laura, and I have two wonderful children, a son, Cody, 15, and daughter, Tiffany, 5. My father is Vernon Mzhickteno and my grandfather was La Rue Mzhickteno.

I have been fortunate enough to work for the Nation for 7 years. In that time, I have learned a lot about the needs and hopes of our people. I have worked my way up to the position of IT Manager through demonstrated work ethic. I have earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Friends University, and I will be finishing a Master's of Business Administration with a concentration in Management Information Systems this year. My technical mindset would be a tremendous asset in guiding the future of our tribe, especially with technology being such a fundamental part of our daily lives. With your support, as a council member, I would maintain an open door policy and be available to hear your thoughts, concerns, and hopes for our future.

My Promise to the Nation

I promise to uphold the integrity of my position and I will strive to exceed the expectations of all citizens of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe. I am devoted to listening to all citizens and addressing their needs, concerns, and hopes. I am dedicated to protecting and preserving the tribal life and traditions. Finally, I will work to enhance and strengthen the tribe for the future.

My Vision for the Nation

Specifically, I want to pursue opportunities that will improve technology, housing, healthcare, education, and employment for tribal members. I will use my skills of leadership, technical understanding, and work ethic to have a positive impact on our Nation. I understand that purposeful and productive growth needs to continue to ensure we have a prosperous future. Most importantly, I believe that as your representative, I am your advocate.



(Jona Potts Rupnicki - Continued)

TRANSPARENCY OF GOVERNMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, and INTEGRITY are vital to ensure that our tribal government is servicing all tribal members in a consistent and fair manner.

With your support and guidance, we as a people can accomplish great things for our Nation. I am respectfully asking the PBP members for your vote in this upcoming election. Management experience, leadership, education and knowledge of governmental operations are needed to successfully fill the Tribal Treasurer position, which are skills that I do possess. These skills would be put to use for the benefit of all tribal members.

It would be an honor to serve you as Tribal Treasurer to accomplish tasks that support and encourage tribal economic sustainability and growth! With good leadership our tribe can prosper and continue to achieve success. Your vote will determine our leadership, "make it count". Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns, (785)-364-6765 or email j.rupnicki@yahoo.com.

Respectfully,
Jona (Potts) Rupnicki, MSM



My name is Thomas M. Wabnum. I have filed my candidacy for Tribal Councilperson, Position No. 2 for re-election, and a 2nd term. I have the honor to be named after my Misho John Wabnum's (Nuck Muck) Brother Pete Wabnum and also called Mektewzi. To many of you I am also called Hoppy.

My maternal grandparents were Louis (Wabaunsee) A. Wabaunsee and Catherine U. Shoptese (Koche no quah). My paternal grandparents were John Wabnum (Nuck Muck) and Emma Young (Ash tah kish ko quah).

My parents were Edison T. Wabnum (Wahbnum) and Angeline M. Wabaunsee (Ke Wah Quah).

I was married for 33 years. I have 2 Daughters and 4 grandchildren. I live in Topeka, Kansas and have a home in Albuquerque, NM and share a home with my children on the Jicarilla Apache Nation, Dulce, New Mexico.

Employment History:

- PBP Tribal Council Member Sept 2012 to July 2014.
- Tribal Consultant Contractor, Jicarilla Apache Nation, Branch of Contracts and Grants in 2006 and 2007.
- Retired from the Department of the Interior, Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Albuquerque, New Mexico in 2004.
- Management Analyst, OST/Office of Trust Records from 1999 to 2004.
- Detailed to BIA, Eastern Area Office, Arlington, VA, Budget Officer 2002.
- Budget Analyst, Office of the Special Trustee, Directors Office from 1997 to 1999.
- Budget Analyst and various positions within BIA, Southern Pueblos Agency, Albuquerque, NM from 1990 to 1997.
- Staff Support Assistant, Division of Trust Responsibility, Branch of Land Titles and Records, Washington, DC, 1988 to 1989.
- Housing Tenant Relations Specialist, Jicarilla Apache Nation, Dulce, NM in 1988.
- BIA programs: Forestry, Social Services, Property and Supply, BIA Jicarilla Agency, Dulce, New Mexico from 1985 to 1988.
- Tribal Government Assistant, Riverside Agency, Riverside, California from 1983 to 1985.
- Accounting Assistant, Riverside Agency, Riverside, California from 1980 to 1983.
- Prairie Band Tribal Treasurer, Mayetta, Kansas from 1978 to 1979.
- Director: Indian Action Team Program, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in 1977.
- Financial Management Assistant, BIA, Washington, DC 1976 to 1977.

Throughout my employment history I have been employed with the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs in various positions and various locations throughout the United States.

U.S. Navy: U.S.S. Truxtun, Destroyer, Gunners Mate – 1969 thru 1973. 3 Six-month tours in North Viet Nam.

I am an Individual Indian Money Accountholder or IIM. I had interests in 12 Land allotments and cannot utilize these lands for anything. I and other land owners sold some of our land interests to the PBP Nation thereby increasing its trust land base and generating more money for the Nation.

(Continued - Page 12, Column 2)

2016 Tribal Council Candidates



My name is Laura Ward (Ogden). I have lived on the reservation for over half my life. My father was Roy Ogden and he was very active in the tribe as I am.

There are things that I want to see changed. The first is why our per capita keeps going lower. The other I think we need to take better care of our elders. I would like to see a home built for those who can't take care of themselves or has no one here to. I would also like to see that we don't overspend on things that doesn't help or benefit the tribe. That also means the members that are not on the reservation. The casino was built to help all members not just the ones that live here. Next is the jobs with the tribe I have talked to many tribal members that are very qualified and were let go by non-natives. I have also talked with members that were qualified but non-natives were hired before them. I also want to look at the Insurance and see if we can get better. I feel tribal members shouldn't pay and all others should.

I have ran my own business. I have been a supervisor at many jobs. I work under grants and was responsible for thousands and thousands of dollars. I feel I would help every tribal member not just one. I want to see change and I will stand up for everyone.



(Noah Wahquahboshkuk - Continued)

I am asking for 4 years as Treasurer to show what we can do as a people to define our short term and a long term goals to guide our decisions to ensure every decision is based off of a significant purpose.

Born and raised on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation lands I have always strived to be the best son, brother, father, cousin, uncle, nephew and friend I could be. I care for this land we live on and for our neighbors all over this great place we live our lives. I have a strong investment in our people and our future to raise our children here in a clean and safe environment.

Graduating from the local school district that has an ever presence in our community I went to college and graduated with my Bachelors and my Master's Degree. While attending school I always had the desire in my heart to help our people. While I obtained my degrees I returned and worked for the Prairie Band Casino and Resort in the Table Games, Human Resources, Hotel & Retail and Finance Departments I've learned a lot of the intricacies of how we have continued to be the best casino in the state of Kansas. After graduating I had worked for the Road & Bridge Department, served on the Council for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and worked for the Sac & Fox Casino in Powhattan, KS as the Data Analyst Manager.

When you receive your ballots, please make a decision based on who has made and will continue to make the effort to address the people needs as well as our nation's needs. I ask that you vote Noah Wahquahboshkuk for Treasurer this election.

I gwshe gweyen (Thank you very much)



Bozoh. My name is Jancita Warrington. My family comes from Wisconsin traditionally located in the Skunk Hill Area and that is where they continue to reside today. My mother is Becky Warrington (Young) and my father the late Royal E. Warrington. My grandmother is Dorothy Young and my Misho the late Frank Young.

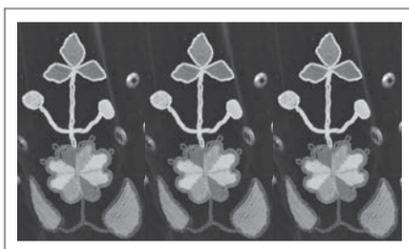
My educational and professional background provide the basis for me to effectively represent the PBPB members. I have a Bachelor's Degree in American Indian Studies and a Dual Master's Degree in Tribal Law and Policy and Cultural Preservation Management. Over my career I have served in an educator role with the Ho-Chunk Nation, served on the Tribal Council, served as a cultural consultant and currently am the Director at the Haskell Cultural Museum.

I believe if a candidate promises change they should demonstrate to the PBPB Members how they would achieve change. Simply pointing out challenges is not enough, I believe solutions must be provided by candidates. I have a website for my candidacy that can be found at www.jancita.com which will further lay out my positions and plans for action if elected.

One of the primary roles of the Tribal Council under the Constitution is "the responsibility for lawmaking". Having served in the Tribal Council before I understand that one person alone cannot achieve change. The affirmative votes of 4 Tribal Council members are required to adopt new tribal laws or make changes. I'm committed to working with other members of the Tribal Council to pass common sense laws or changes. Many of our codes are outdated and do not address the changing political, social and economic environment of the Nation. In addition to existing codes is the need for new tribal laws. Below is one example of the change I would advocate for as one member of Tribal Council.

One specific tribal law I believe needs to be put into place is a Tribal Council Meeting Procedures Code. Within this code I would advocate for transparency to be built into the tribal law because an engaged tribal membership only strengthens the Nation and furthers trust in the elected leadership. Currently there isn't a procedure in place to make Tribal Members aware of what issues will be addressed by the Tribal Council from one meeting to the next. When drafting the tribal law I would push for a minimum 48 hour tribal member notice of tribal council agendas. This simple step would allow tribal members to review and decide if the issues on the agenda are of concern to them. Additional requirements under the code would be for the approved minutes to be posted to the tribal member portal within 48 hours of their approval and a provision for emergency agenda items to be only used in true emergency situations.

Other areas I support and would focus on include: common sense changes to the tribal employment code, securing water rights, preserving and enhancing our cultural resources and eligibility for programs. Please follow me on my Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Jancita4Council2016 for more on my thoughts and positions on tribal issues. I would appreciate your vote and support in July.



To the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, I would like to introduce myself, and provide you a little bit about my background. My name is William "Bill" Evans, and my Nish-Nah-Bah name is Beh-Meh-Skeh, which means Everlasting Light. I belong to the Thunder Clan. I am married; my wife's name is Ashley, and we have three children together. My parents are Mando Evans and Anita (Pahmahmie) Evans, and my great-grandmother was the late Minnie Evans. Minnie Evans was a strong advocate of the Prairie Band Potawatomi people, who fought courageously to prevent the Termination of our Tribe. The passion and dedication she felt for her people are the same feelings I carry. I hope that I can be the same type of leader that she was by bringing unity to our people.

I have a passion and a responsibility to our way of life, one that carries a lifetime commitment to the people. It has always been a goal of mine to contribute to the success of our Tribe. Over the years I have had the honor of listening and watching various leaders of the community. Those leaders have instilled traditional values and respect into our community, a significant foundation that our people can grow from.

I attended boarding school in Tahlequah Oklahoma, graduating from Sequoyah High School. I started my higher education at Haskell Indian Nations University, then I went on to complete my Bachelor of Business Administration program at Friends University. I was offered an internship at Prairie Band Casino and Resort; I worked under various managers spending time in each department of the Casino. The internship was a valuable experience; I have a better understanding of the Tribes primary funding resource and what it takes to run a successful Company.

When the internship ended, I went on to become a Supervisor in the Cashier's Cage, creating a positive experience in refining my work ethic, accountability, and time management skills. I worked my way up, and accepted a promotion to become a Shift Manager in the Security Department. I managed over ten Security Officers and one Supervisor on the busiest shift of the day. As a Shift Manager, I was faced with adversity on a daily basis, and was required to make difficult decisions that impacted our daily business.

I have moved on from a promising career in the gaming industry to work for our Nation. I made the decision to leave so I could have a better family oriented life; I now have the opportunity to spend the evenings and weekends with my family. I am currently the Part C Coordinator at the Ben-no-tteh Wigwam Early Education Childhood Education Center. My role at the center is to coordinate the necessary services and support to infants and toddlers with special needs.

Working with both entities of the Tribe, I understand the importance of our Tribal Businesses and how they affect our people. The hard work and dedication of our Tribal Businesses pave the way for our services and programs of the Tribal Government. As Potawatomi people, we value our culture and family, which has no monetary value; existing programs and benefits provide that same value. The preservation of our culture and language is what makes us strong and unique. We should be working together to make sure our way of life carries on. We need to invest more time and care for our children, who will one day lead us. We need to guide them and teach them to be responsible adults, which is vital to our future. We need to care of our elders, who cared for us and continue to guide us, to make sure they don't have to go without basic needs. We need to support and honor our Veterans, who made a sacrifice to have the life we have today. We should not lose sight of what we truly hold of value as Potawatomi people.

(Continued - Page 12, Column 3)

2016 Tribal Council Candidates



VOTE PAULA HOPKINS FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL #3

Bo sho' Friends and Family

My name is Paula Hopkins (Skoh-da-quah) and I'm very pleased to announce my candidacy for the Tribal Council #3 position with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I am proud to be the daughter of Evelyn Hopkins and the late William Hopkins. My maternal grandparents are Garnett Potts and Lillian Kelty. I have five adult children and currently, I am enjoying my nine grandchildren.

I would greatly appreciate your vote in the 2016 Prairie Band Potawatomi Election

My dedication and professional experience and knowledge of the Nation makes me the best candidate for the position. In addition to the knowledge of the tribal government operations, the history of our people, and the legal aspects of the laws that govern our people, I am familiar with the basic operations of our casino. I am committed to open communication and cooperation within all organizations. It is essential that our enterprise operates in a manner which promotes and functions as efficiently as possible. Important decisions must be made which affect all members of our Nation. I will be mindful of the responsibility that the position of Tribal Council Member encompasses. You have my commitment, experience, and dedication.

My experience, education, and community involvement... I have been employed with the PBP Nation for the past 34 yrs. I am currently employed by the PBP Nation and the Prairie Band Casino & Resort. While working both jobs, I attended Friends University to earn my Bachelors in Organizational Management and Leadership. I have also attended Washburn University and Haskell Indian Nations University.

1997 to Present: I have been employed as the Administrative Assistant for the PBP Tribal Attorney's Office. During these years, our office has worked on many projects, just to name a few:

- Violence Against Women Act Special Criminal Domestic Violence Jurisdiction
- Potawatomi Law and Order Code
- Indian Child Welfare Act
- Shab-eh-nay
- Veteran Direct Home Loans
- Child Support Services
- Child in need of Care
- Guardian/conservator cases
- Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations
- Home conveyances
- Political Contributions for State Election
- Land into Trust Applications
- Tribal Tags
- Developed the Prairie Band Potawatomi Get out the Vote (GOTV) Native Vote 2014
- Raising awareness for the Native Vote 2016

2007 to Present: I have been employed at the PBP Casino & Resort as Bartender/Server for the Three Fires Steakhouse, and have basic knowledge about the Food and Beverage department. I had been elected to sit on the Board of Review for the past six years.

1982 to 1998: I worked for the PBP Bingo and served in every department up to Assistant Manager.

I am an active member of our Prairie Band Potawatomi community and have been for many years. I have a great interest in the future of our Senior Citizens and our Youth and make every effort to enhance and improve the quality of life for our youth.

(Continued - Page 12, Column 3)



VOTE JUANITA JESSEPE FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL

Greetings! Fellow Nishnabek – I'm throwing my moccasins into the ring as a contender for the position of Tribal Council Member #3.

My Potawatomi name is Wah-ke-she' and my clan is Turtle. I was told, the Turtle was given the gift of the "voice of reason" when dealing with the enemies of the People. Because of its hard shell it can withstand weapons hurled at it by the enemy. Beneath its hard shell is a soft heart that continues to beat strong...long after it's killed.

I am not a Masters level candidate, I'm still pursuing my higher education degree. So, I cannot cite a list of academic accomplishments to bring to the council table. In 1993 to 1995 I was appointed to the Kansas Advisory Committee of the United States Civil Rights Commission. I provided testimony to the committee citing the Jackson County Sheriff's Department for harassing our tribal members. Since then, the tribe entered into a Cross-Deputization Agreement giving our jurisdictional authority over to State law enforcement agencies allowing them to troll our reservation anytime. We have our own Tribal Police Department now, so there is no valid reason to be held under State jurisdiction.

From 1994 to 1998 I served as the Tribal Secretary. It was during the administration that the Tribal Council fought hard against the State of Kansas to open a casino on our reservation. The final Gaming Compact is still binding and has no ending date and will remain in full force and effect – forever – so long as it is never re-opened! To do so, would open a "can of worms" giving the State a strong negotiating weapon to tax the tribe from our casino profits. I discourage any efforts to open the Compact. It would prove deadly to the Tribe's biggest economic engine. It was also during this administration that we negotiated for our own license tags. The State of Kansas isn't seen anywhere on our tags. Other tribes have included their respective states on their license tags. We refused to give away any of our Sovereignty. During my term I also intervened in State courts on behalf of our Potawatomi children and was able to save some of our children from removal.

Currently, I serve as the Chairperson of the Social Services Board established by the voters from the General Council floor, and given the task to oversee the social services departments. I am self-employed as a Lay Advocate and was admitted to practice in Potawatomi District Court in 2003. Usually I am the person of last resort for people are seeking help I the legal system. There is much work to be done for better representation in both Tribal and State Courts. It's vitally important for Indian Preference laws to be upheld. Many tribal members are overlooked for jobs simply because a non-Indian may have more credentials than the qualified Indian who's already met the criteria. Which brings up the "At-Will" clause borrowed from big corporations to get rid of CEO's usually during a corporate takeover or a change in management. The Tribe adopted this corporate practice to terminate tribal employees at the whim of the Tribal Council and upper management. I do not support the "At-Will" clause. It promotes cronyism, favoritism and nepotism. The enrollment/blood quantum is an ongoing issue. Some want to drop blood quantum to 1/16, and some want to leave it as is. But what defines a "real" Potawatomi? Is it someone who was given their Indian name and clan at the sacred Fire Place? Or, is it someone with watered down blood quantum thereby creating a "Paper Potawatomi" only wanting per capita payments? These are just a few of the many problems we are faced with. Our ancestors fought hard for us to live, worship and dies as Nishnabek. So, it's important to elect people who will stand up for our language, culture and traditions. I will continue to fight for our sovereignty and for fair tribal practices..whether I win or lose in this election.

And, I pray that the heart and spirit of our ancestors will continue to beat strong for our People.
Igwien



Bosho! My name is Carrie Wabaunsee O'Toole and I am currently serving as Tribal Council #3 member. I am the oldest daughter of Drusa (Masquat) Wabaunsee and the late Will Wabaunsee. My grandparents were Jim and Charlotte (Nocktonick) Wabaunsee and Bob and Carrie (Puckee) Masquat. I have been happily married to Jim O'Toole for over 31 years grew up in Hoyt and raised my family in Mayetta for 27 years. We have five beautiful children: Kateri, Chris, Kavan, Lara and Josh, six grandsons: Andrué, Daryon, Colin, Jonathon, Dominic and Edric also one granddaughter Kylee. In addition, my sons Kavan and Chris are Marines and Army veterans while Josh is currently serving in the Navy. I believe in looking at things positively, seeing the best in others and I have a strong belief in family, the importance of my faith and keeping our language and culture alive while serving our people and community. I actively participate in the Potawatomi Language classes.

I have learned while serving as a Council member we are charged with making decisions based on available facts to make informed votes. This also means a willingness and ability to make difficult and tough decisions. The Kansas Casinos have affected our gaming revenue with loss of approximately 15% of gaming revenue the past couple of years. This means tightening our budgets which doesn't allow for much flexibility or alternatives. The fact is we are working with a smaller budget. These reduced budgets affect some of the services we provide including Housing, Social Services, Education, etc. Many of our programs are applying for tribal, state and federal grants which supplement a large part of some tribal programs. The Casino Team is also working hard to keep our customers happy while trying to maintain and grow the revenue. The Casino has recently expanded its floor to offer bingo, a new gift shop and will be offering even more entertainment and more gaming machines in the near future. The Council supports the PBPEC Board in running the Casino, Nation Station and Golf Course.

I have worked for the tribe in several different capacities through the years: the tribal bingo 1989-1997 in different capacities, Housing department, administrative assistant to Chairwoman and Vice Chair, receptionist, casino 1997-2001, Tribal Gaming Commissioner 2001-2005, Casino 2006-2008 as a regulator compliance, player clubs and slot department and Tribal Council Member 2008- 2016. I believe this varied history and experience within the Nation and its enterprises serves me well in my position as Tribal Council Member and provides me within an insight and understanding and a perspective that is somewhat unique to Tribal Council.

I am currently serving on the Haskell Board of Regents as the 4 Tribes of Kansas Representative. This position was changed at the last board meeting to include serving all of the Haskell students that live in state of Kansas. I was a part of the reaccreditation team for Haskell and we received accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission in 2015. I also have given testimony as a Kansas Tribes Representative and include our rich history of tribal members attending Haskell which for some families includes over 5 generations. While at convocations, board meetings or graduation ceremonies, I meet up with our tribal member students attending Haskell and visit with them about school and what degrees they are studying for.

While on Council I have been a representative the Kansas Representative for the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board (SPTHB) which was previously known as Oklahoma City Area Indian Tribal Health Board (OCAITHB) as an alternate since 2008 and a representative since 2014. The Health board is comprised of the Tribes in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Being on this board has helped our tribal members with several dental grants which were used for our children at Child Care and Head Start. A current grant from this board is allowing implementation of our community health survey we did in 2014.

(Continued - Page 13, Column 1)

2016 Tribal Council Candidates



My name is Helen Josephine Sumner and my Indian name is Kesh-Be. I was born and raised on the Nation's reservation. My parents are Cleve and Josephine Rice Sumner. My maternal grandparents were Sam and Katherine Rice. My paternal grandparents are Walter and Maude Sumner.

I have three children. Charles Cornelius who is a Native American arts wood sculpturer and is employed by Wheat Fields in Lawrence, KS. David Cornelius is a registered nurse and is currently employed by the Nation as a community health nurse. Carrie Cornelius works at Haskell Indian Nations University as a librarian and educator. Both of my sons are veterans and served in the U.S. Army. Also, I have two grandchildren who are David's children, Sage and Tyra Cornelius.

My Purpose in Running for the Tribal Council Election

My purpose in running for Tribal Council is to support the ongoing Tribal Council current and future duties and also to pursue other concepts that I would like to explore even further if I am elected. Additionally, I have had various professional career positions that allowed me to have successful skills in leadership, communication, managerial/supervisory, policy and procedure writing, educationalist and business process experiences. Next, I am very proud and humbled to have PBPN heritage and love the prairie lands and have the desire to want to support the Nation.

Education Completed

I graduated from Delia Grade School and Haskell Institute when it was a high school and continued my education at Bethany Hospital School of Nursing, Kansas City, KS and successfully passed the Kansas State Board's examination to be a registered nurse in 1962. Later, I graduated from Washburn University of Topeka with Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. While at Washburn University, I received funding from the Nation during my junior year. Funding was secured by the Indian Health Service during my senior year and I am grateful to both the Nation and IHS for the financial assistance. Throughout the years, I have attended numerous workshops/conferences, namely the national Center for Disease Prevention and Control and Bemidji Area's health care management training on Quality Improvement.

Employment

In 2004, after two years in to my retirement from my Federal nursing position, I began employment with the Nation as the Economic Development Specialist for four years. Yes, this is a complete switch from my nursing career. I thrive on having new learning experiences and have always had an interest in the "business world" since one of my personal goals in life was to learn more about finances. Most of my administrative nursing positions have been in a leadership role. It was these kind of positions that enabled me to continue working independently in the Economic Development Specialist position. Furthermore, this position allowed me to realize how the Nation's business and economic infrastructure is managed. This position can parallel with the Tribal Council Member position for which I am running.

To continue with my Economic Development Specialist job duties, it permitted me to continue to learn about more business processes such as budget preparation, business plan writing, design of financial Excel spread sheets and assisting with the management of three tribal businesses. Among other Economic Development duties, I co-authored and was successfully awarded two Small Business Development grants for the Nation's members' new startup businesses. Additionally, I helped to set up and administered a business development teaching program for the Nation's members.

More of the Economic Development Specialist duties performed were due diligence/research that were done on several potential and actual purchased businesses such as the two propane companies.

(Continued - Page 13, Column 2)



Hello. My name is Tony Wahweotten. I filed for candidacy for simple reasons. I want to implement changes for new enterprise: I would like to see us, the Prairie Band Potawatomi, exercise our water rights, within and outside our boundaries, a non GMO farm program within our boundaries, and I would like to see our Nation become an accredited service for Elder assisted living. I'm reasonable, fair, and hard-working. I would appreciate your vote on my behalf. Thanks.

(Thomas Wabnum - Continued)

During my many BIA government assignments it gave me an experience and education in a broken Indian trust system. Since inception, the BIA was to protect us and all assets especially the land where the trust is embodied, they did not. The BIA was supposed to provide the best beneficiary services and wealth management, they did not. We were land and naturally resource rich and yet we were cash poor. The BIA cannot give us an accurate accounting of all our funds taken from our lands and yet they continue operations without consequence. These nationwide assignments nationwide gave me a great experience in many administrative, financial and management systems operated by employees of many characters.

My BIA assignments gave me great experiences in providing the monitoring and oversight of numerous tribes across this Country who contracted "638" programs, tribal administrative and management systems, meeting with many Tribal Councils and financial business transactions. There were good systems and bad systems and I learned the difference of working to improve them for the common good of tribal communities.

IN ORDER TO FORM A MORE PERFECT GOVERNMENT We are an IRA Tribe or Indian Reorganization Act Nation in which our tribal Government operates under a Constitution. We are now a Nation of many written laws. There is no perfect government, constitution, tribal council, tribal council person or decision. When a General, Tribal Council or tribal election vote is taken it is approved by a majority vote for the common good of the community. Not all tribal voters or citizens will be happy with a majority vote but it is progress creating a better government for the common good.

Aside from federal contract and grant funds into this Nation, we have generated other revenue to create more tribal benefits by funding more programs, services, per capita. As our population grows or if our blood quantum should change then we must plan to do more to prepare for those increases. We have amended tribal codes, changed policies and procedures. We have purchased fee and fractionated interests and transferred to the tribal land base thereby increasing our tribal income from leasing and sale of leasing and crops.

Over the past 4 years, the Nation has moved forward in many ways.

We approved an Agreement with the Cobell Land Buyback Program using \$5,145,493 (non-tribal money) purchasing 3,290 equivalent acres for the Nation.

We have made progress on the Shabehnay project and are closer now than ever before to establish a gaming facility on our Illinois reservation. If approved, this will add new money to the Nation.

We have had many town hall meetings discussing our enrollment issues that will affect our future, tribal resources and all tribal benefits and services.

We have approved an agreement with the VA for veterans to build homes on trust land.

(Continued - Page 12, Column 3)

(Thomas Wabnum - Continued)

We have approved a Direct Care Services Reimbursement Agreement between Dept of Veterans Affairs Eastern Kansas Health Care System VA Healthcare System and the PBP Nation.

We have approved a Tobacco Compact with the State of Kansas.

Moving Forward

Once again, the Nation is at having another Tribal Council Election. I just hope that if there is a change that we still continue to have improvements and success, without losing business momentum, in moving this Nation forward.

We are having an election with many that have many ideas, different ideas, new visions, and different ways of improvements in the community.

PBPN have come a long way as a Nation and we have created a multi-million dollar business, we have become business partners with County and State. We have participation in national Indian organizations, we have made constant contact with our Congressional representatives, and we have shown our government trustee-delegates that we can operate independently of them.

This Nation is educating many and they are acquiring outside business experience and knowledge of new world technology. We may have a change in tribal leadership but my hope is that we continue to move this Nation forward.

(William "Bill" Evans - Continued)

One of the most important issues we are facing as a Tribe today is blood quantum and how to ensure our future membership. This topic needs to be discussed, and we need to come up with solutions as a whole. We need every Tribal Member's input before making this important decision. I believe we need to take progressive steps in protecting the longevity of our Tribe.

As a devoted Tribal Member, it would be an honor to serve you on Tribal Council. I respectfully ask for your vote to represent the Prairie Band Potawatomi People. Together, as people, we can make positive change! Together, we can do it! Please consider electing me, William "Bill" Evans, for Tribal Council Person #3. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at William_Evans_55@hotmail.com. Thank you for your time and support.

(Paula Hopkins - Continued)

- Served on the JOM Committee for 5 years
- Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors from 2001 to 2009
- o Elected as Secretary for 5 years
- o Coordinated the annual golf tournament for the Boys & Girls Club which has raised more than \$200,000.
- Volunteered for many years and on numerous occasions I coached baseball, volleyball, dodge ball, chaperone events, and help with fundraisers.
- Planning and organizing the annual Potawatomi Gathering trips for the senior citizens and elders of our community and served on the 2009 Potawatomi Gathering Committee hosted by the PBP Nation.

Thank you!! I will do my best for our Nation if elected. Get out and Vote.

My contact information is Paula Hopkins (cell) 785-383-5844 or paulahopkins63@gmail.com

"I" cannot make any changes, but "WE" as Tribal Council can make changes"



2016 Tribal Council Candidates Continued

(Carrie O'Toole - Continued)

The focus of the health survey is Obesity/Diabetes, Elder Care and Mental Health and how these issues affect all of our members. I communicate with the other tribes in Kansas and Haskell by attending upcoming Health conferences, trainings, a meeting with the Surgeon General and updates about health issues.

Another health project I have worked diligently on is the Kansas Healthy Tribes 2020 Health Summit which was started in 2013 with Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). I have been on the planning board for this Summit since 2013. This grant allowed us to do a health survey of the needs of our tribal members that live locally. We will host the Summit again this August and we will provide information and resources to different tribal programs, Clinic director and staff and to the other 3 tribes in Kansas. This project allows us to meet with the other tribes whose needs are similar to ours but addresses them as separate Nations at the same time. I also serve on other committees that serve our community including Royal Valley Impact Aid Committee (26 years), Doorstep, and Holton Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. I also have served on JOM, Title VII, Head Start Parent Council, School Site Council, Boys and Girls Club and Mayetta Fire Department. I have served on TIBC Tribal Interior Budget Council the Southern Plains representative 2012-2015 which determines the BIA budget working directly with the Assistant Secretary of Department of Interior Kevin Washburn and BIA staff. National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) Southern Plains representative 2013-2015 for the executive board. I also gave needed testimony before the Civil Rights Commission because I was denied the right to vote with my tribal identification which is a legally recognized form of identification for voting in Kansas. I have participated in the Kansas Dental Advocacy Day to get Registered Dental Practitioner bill approved. A registered Dental Practitioner is a mid-level dental provider which is needed to provide more services. Access to and dental services is a problem in both rural communities and Native American communities across the country and Dental Practitioners can help fill that shortfall and provide those much needed dental services in those communities.

Some of the following things I actively participated since being on Council are:

COUNCIL EVENTS

- Christmas gifts for the active Military members since 2009
- Census 2010
- Four Tribes meeting
- Shabehnay project
- National Conferences dealing with tribal issues with Federal and State Officials
- Annual Native American Legislative Day @ State Capital
- Tribal consultations w/Federal Agencies partners
- PBPCR meetings
- LLC meetings
- Rock Building 75th celebration
- PBCR employee award banquet
- American Indian Record Repository Visit
- Jackson County Hall of Fame dinner
- Head Start annual meeting with Agency
- CHAT (Community Health Association Team)
- Land buy back meetings
- PBPN Charitable Contributions award ceremonies
- Native Vote

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Tribes strategic planning
- Child Care and Head Start Graduation pow wow
- Our annual tribal pow wow
- Earth Day activities
- Trunk or treat
- Big Bear pow wow
- Splatters that matter
- Take Back the Night
- Egg Extravaganza
- Great Program graduation ceremony at Royal Valley
- PTFD and Tribal Police open house and activities
- Different events at Elder Center
- School events
- Veterans pow wow
- Conference about water issues
- Meeting with tribal members
- Valentine Roundies
- Walk a Mile in their Mocs
- Movies at the park

(Continued - Page 13, Column 2)

(Carrie O'Toole - Continued)

I attend community events and support our tribal programs at all levels local, state, regional and national. These different events and meetings allow us to get our voices and concerns heard and hear opportunities for additional funding. The Nation is very fortunate that our programs are leaders in their area of expertise, Road and Bridge, EPA, Tribal Victim Services, Student Services, Clinic, Fire Department, Police Department, etc. compared to other Nation's tribal programs or surrounding communities. Our programs are important to our community and surrounding communities because they provide jobs and opportunities that we used to have commute to other communities in the past.

I believe that my experience, knowledge gained on the job, participation on boards and communities that provide me and the Nation access to resources as well as the valuable contacts and relationships I have been able to build. This benefits the Nation so we can continue moving forward. I would appreciate your vote and participation in our tribal election. If you have any questions for me please reach me at carrieo1628@gmail or my cell 785 845-011. Migwetch!

(Helen Sumner - Continued)

Assistance was given to explore the feasibility of establishing Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) as a legal structure for the Nation's businesses. I am pleased to know this process has now been implemented and put into place. Additionally, I participated over two years in a Wind Energy feasibility team study for the Nation. Next, for two years, I served on the Nation's Health Board.

Professional Work Experiences as a Registered Nurse

The majority of my professional nursing career has been with Federal agencies namely, the Indian Health Service and Veteran Administration Medical Centers. In 1992, I began serving at the Bemidji Area Office, Bemidji, MN as Public Health Advisor and worked to prevent and control communicable diseases within all tribal and urban health programs in the three states of Minnesota, Michigan and Minnesota. I sat "at the table" to assist in making health care decisions for the Bemidji Area clientele of over 200,000 Objibwe Nation members. Additionally, I have served as a nurse educator, Oncology Nurse Specialist and manager/supervisor and again, Public Health Advisor. In the past, I worked as an Oncology Nurse Specialist at the Topeka VA and Palo Alto, CA Veterans Administration Medical Centers from 1983 to 1992.

Throughout my professional nursing career of thirty-seven years, I have had equal years of clinical and nursing administrative duties. In these duties, I learned about the Federal Government requirements of the annual budget preparation and how a business functions in order to maintain a positive cash flow.

Professional Career Awards

My work related awards are as follows: Washburn University Department of Nursing, "Growth in Nursing Award", 1982, Washburn University Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society in Nursing, 1991, Topeka VA Medical Center Award for successful passing of a national Oncology specialty nursing certification examination, 1990, Bemidji Area Director's Award for Nursing Managerial Excellence in 2000, Bemidji Area Director's Award for Excellence in Nursing Education and Development of a Nursing Orientation Program, 2001, Bemidji Area Director's Award for Nursing Teamwork Performance, 2001.

Carrying out the Tribal Council Member Position

Lastly, if elected, I would want to be a "team player". I have a strong work ethic and was taught early in my childhood to finish the job that I started. This same work practice was carried out throughout my career and I would continue this same practice in the Tribal Council Member position and welcome its challenge. I have always been enthusiastic, passionate and responsible about my job assignments. Always striving "to do my best" and "put forth hard work" further explains my work ethic.

I have interests which may further strengthen our Nation's infrastructure:

- Assessment of utility needs such as creating short/long term strategic plans and goals of feasibility studies concerning wind energy, solar and water supply

(Continued - Page 13, Column 3)

(Helen Sumner - Continued)

- Network with the Casino Board to enhance their future utility planning
- Continue to support the Nation's economy and uphold current assets
- Support the processes for the Nation's long term investments
- Continue to increase amount of reservation land holdings
- Advocate for the Nation's community members of all ages and veterans
- Commit to attending all Tribal Council meetings and others as assigned

I would want to work with the Tribal Council and others to create strong partnerships with other governments and business partners. These partnerships are important to the Nation's well-being and again maintaining tribal sovereignty as we move forward to strengthen our economy.

As you will note from the above, I have had varied work experiences that can enhance the Tribal Council Member position for which I am running. I, respectfully would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election this July. My contact information is as follows: helensumner1982@gmail.com.

2016 Potawatomi Gathering Information

The Potawatomi Gathering is hosted each year by one of the nine bands of Potawatomi, providing an opportunity for members of all bands to come together and celebrate their Potawatomi heritage. It includes a language conference, cultural workshops, language classes, cultural classes and sporting events.

The 2016 Gathering will take place in Shawnee, Oklahoma from July 28-30, 2016 and be hosted by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Most events will take place inside the fully air conditioned FireLake Arena.

The language conference portion of the event will take place from July 27-29, 2016. The conference will provide classes for speakers of all experience and age levels. Speakers will incorporate traditional stories, games and hands on learning into their presentations. Pre-registration is not required, but it is strongly preferred. Space is limited. Registration forms are available online.

For more details visit: <http://gon.potawatomi.org/index.html>

2016 Miss Potawatomi Ambassador Information

The Potawatomi Gathering is currently accepting applications for the position of Miss Potawatomi 2016-17. This individual will represent all bands of Potawatomi for the year.

Interested individuals must submit an application and attend the 2016 Gathering event. The deadline for submission is July 15, 2016.

In all areas of the selection criteria the candidate should demonstrate confidence, the ability to communicate clearly, good public interaction, an dthe knowledge of culture including language, traditional foods, clothing and history. The crowning of Miss Potawatomi will occur during the Saturday Powwow. Visit <http://gon.potawatomi.org/index.html> for criteria and the application form.

2016 Ethics Commission Candidates



My name is Ma'Ko'Quah Abigail Jones, I am Bear Clan and my color is blue. As a married mother of 4 children for 14 years this year, I live in Lawrence but was born and raised in central Oklahoma (Shawnee). I graduated high school at 17 and was a stay-at-home mother at 22 for 5 years before finally pursuing college at 27 years of age.

Currently, I work for the Planning and Environmental Protection department in the We-Ta-Se building. As the tribal Environmental/GIS Technician, my job is to work toward building partnerships with stakeholders in order to implement best management practices to improve water quality issues on the reservation. I became passionate about environmental issues after the loss of my son in 2008. This period in my life taught me the importance of re-engaging in and protecting our traditions and culture as a means of healing and growing from traumatic experiences. I came to the conclusion that without our environment, tribal cultures cannot exist. With that in mind, I decided to return to school and pursue an education in protecting tribal people, cultures and lands.

After receiving my Associate of Arts degree from Haskell Indian Nations University in 2011 where I focused my academic career on Federal Indian Law and Policy, I transferred to Dartmouth College and received dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in Government and in Native American Studies in 2014. While at Dartmouth, I focused my education on U.S. Government, Tribal governance, Federal-Tribal relationships and environmental issues in Indian Country. In 2015, I received a Master of Arts degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School where I studied tribal natural resource management, climate change impacts and federal environmental laws.

Being born and raised in Oklahoma tribal communities has given me a better understanding of the issues that exist within tribal communities both from a first-person viewpoint and from an external academic point of view. Saying this, it has been a goal of mine to be able to work for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in order to be able to understand the issues of my tribal community. However, I recognize the benefits of how my distance from the PBP community has shielded me from nepotism and cronyism biases.

Throughout my education and scientific internships, I have held many positions where my primary focus was bringing the community(s) together on a transparent communication platform. In my work, I often emphasize putting community first, as a whole. This allows me to look at each issue with an objective point of view and then determine how individual choices impact the community.

In my professional work and in my personal relationships, I focus on transparency and consistent communication. My belief is that community decision making is more effective when the community members are well-informed and communicated with on a consistent basis. This cannot be accomplished without functioning checks and balances within the tribal government.

As Ethics Commissioner, I would bring both a strong academic background in government processes along with crucial personal experience that has shown me how best to work with different groups of people with different personal experiences and the importance of communication on various levels. I would be honored to serve as your Ethics Commission Chairperson.



Burton W. Warrington, Esq.

Good governance in any government requires sensible checks and balances. Under the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Constitution Article IX, an ethics commission was established to (i) develop a Code of Ethics, (ii) formulate rules and regulations implementing provisions of Article IX, and the Code of Ethics; and (iii) hear all complaints against nation officials arising under the Code of Ethics.

For the past few years the Ethics Commission has been rendered powerless due to the fact that the Ethics Commission did not have the required number of Commissioners to conduct business. (Article IX, Sec. 3 requires five (5) affirmative votes to conduct business of the Commission – only 2 Commissioner are currently seated.) Thus, complaints made against nation officials arising under the Code of Ethics were not able to receive the attention they should have received. In any government when the checks and balances are rendered ineffective, public trust is impacted.

As chair of the Ethics Commission I would have four simple objectives.

- 1) Work collaboratively with the Ethics Commission and the applicable nation officials on a full review of the Code of Ethics to address any weaknesses in the Code, improve efficiencies and accuracy in reporting, and ensure overall compliance with the Code.
- 2) Work to ensure complaints made under the Code are addressed appropriately by the Commission.
- 3) Work with the elected commissioners on communication with the Tribal Membership to ensure public trust of nation officials.
- 4) Work with the PBP constitutional committee on a constitutional amendment which would address the situation where the Ethics Commission is not duly constituted to conduct business.

My educational qualifications include an Associates of Arts in Entrepreneurial Studies, Bachelors of Science in Business Administration and my Juris Doctor of Law Degree. Professionally, I am a licensed attorney in the State of Kansas, serve as President & CEO of Prairie Band, LLC and serve on several national and local boards including the Board of Governors - Kansas University School of Law and the Board of Directors – Native American Contractors Association.

Prior to returning to the PBP in 2011 I served as a Counselor to the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs at the US Department of Interior – where I had direct experience with Government Accountability Office investigations (GAO), Inspector General (IG) investigations and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) issues. My direct experience in this area provides me with a working knowledge of systems designed to ensure public trust of officials.

I would appreciate your vote in this election. However, I feel that either way the PBP will win in this race as I have recently gotten to know Abigail Jones and believe she would also effectively serve if elected Chair of the Commission. I was excited to see 8 candidates file for the Commission this year and look forward to the Ethics Commission restoring the balance to the checks and balance. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and I believe the Ethics Commission's overall purpose is to create a sensible system which will ensure nation officials operate effectively and efficiently when leading our great PBP.



Gilreath (Gil) Aitkens
gaitkens@yahoo.com

Objective – Seeking Position 1 for the PBP Ethics Commission for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Skills Profile

- Excellent communication skills, research abilities, experience with interpretation, implementation, formulation and enforcement of rules and regulations on federal, local, tribal and agency levels.
- Security clearance for high risk positions obtainable
- Qualifications exceed required knowledge, skills and abilities for the Ethical Commission position as outlined in the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Constitution, per Article IX, Section 2, Ethics Commission

Employment History

PBP Entertainment Corporation – Board Member
January 1, 2011 to December 30, 2014
PBP Nation, Mayetta, KS

- Appointed to the Board by the Tribal Council for a four year term. I served as the secretary for two terms and other officer positions as needed. I consistently attended the meetings and actively participated by voting on routine, mandatory and critical financial/personnel needs/issues to protect the Nation's number one revenue generation business. I trained as needed/required for the position and to stay abreast of the latest issues in the gaming arena.

Anadarko Agency – Deputy Superintendent
May 1, 2005 to January 15, 2014
Anadarko, OK

- I was responsible for the day to day operation of all trust programs at the agency level which included efficient, effective and economical administration and execution of the trust services programs. The trust programs consisted of the real estate services, probates, natural resources and collection of trust funds. I directly supervised professional employees who provided trust services to seven tribes and the landowners/tribal members thereof. Assured all trust programs fully complied with federal trust regulations, laws regional policies and procedures.

- Retired in 2014 after a career of 29 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, with the majority of my career being in the trust services branch. Over the tenure of my career I consistently excelled in the positions I served.

Education

- Bachelor's of Science in Business, Emporia State University

Activities

- Volunteered with the PBP Head start program; served temporarily on the PBP Tribal Higher Education Committee; served on the PBP Tribal Health Board and Tribal Lands Committee.



2016 Ethics Commission Candidates



Verna Potts - Ethics Commissioner #1 Candidate



Blake Garrison -
Ethics Commissioner #2 Candidate



Laura "Cham-e-quah" Rice, LMSW

VOTE



Evelyn "Evie" Hopkins
Ethics Commissioner #2 Candidate

Democratic Delegates head to Philly

Contributed by Michelle Simon

Every election cycle is a historic event with its own set of ups and downs. This year's National Election is no different. It has been quite a ride with a confluence of candidates running for the highest seat of office. The Republican Party has narrowed their selection down to Donald Trump while the Democratic Party has yet to determine who will be their official candidate. The two candidates still in the running for the Democratic nomination are former U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton and Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders. The selection for the Dems will be made at the Democratic National Convention held July 25-28, 2016 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Attending the historical event as delegates will be two Prairie Band Potawatomi tribal members, Ma'Ko'Quah Abigail Jones and Burton Warrington. As selected delegates representing the state of Kansas, Jones and Warrington will be two of the approximately 4,800 delegate votes that will determine who will become the Democratic nominee. Both Jones and Warrington are Sanders supporters.

The Democratic delegate process began in February and ended in June 2016. There are four types of delegates:

- Caucus: Individuals can elect to stand up for an opportunity to be selected as a delegate at a caucus event. At the caucus the participants decide who they would like to be delegates. Through this process Jones was elected as a 2nd Congressional District delegate pledged to Bernie Sanders.
- Party Leader Elected Official: An elected official registered as a Democrat holding a state, legislative, county, municipal or local elected office can become a PLEO. Ponka-We Victors, a House Representative for the 103rd District in Kansas and affiliated with both the Ponca tribe of Oklahoma and the Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona will attend the event in this capacity.
- Superdelegates: Distinguished party leaders and elected officials, including all Democratic members of the House and Senate and sitting Democratic governors are considered superdelegates. They are free to support any candidate for the presidential nomination.
- At Large Delegate: Individuals chosen from a statewide pool and are often, though not always, of significant political stature. Within the state of Kansas this pool consisted of 120 people, narrowed down to 25 with 5 ultimately being selected. Burton Warrington was one of the five.

In order to attend the Democratic National Convention, delegates are required to provide their own funding. Warrington has reached his financial obligation and Jones is currently fundraising. Anyone that would like to support Jones can visit her GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/vpxavx5w>.

Both Jones and Warrington are relatively new to the American political arena and both are taking charge. Warrington decided to get involved because he would rather act as part of the solution, rather than complain on the sidelines. Warrington has been heavily involved in the Sanders campaign through contributions of his time, including acting as the co-chair for Sander's national Native American advisory group. Jones has had an appreciation for politics since high school. While attending Haskell Indian Nations University she focused her education on Federal-Tribal relations, especially where laws and policies were concerned. Jones is passionate about being an informed tribal advocate at the state and federal levels of government. She also works to bridge the information gap between elected officials, who commonly have little to no knowledge about Native American tribes. As a mother of four she feels a responsibility to be engaged and help inspire others to also become engaged. Her sense of responsibility is also directed by the fact that to-date there is not a lot of space for Native American women at the National level of the American political scene.

When queried about what this means in relation to being Native American, Warrington stated that "It is more than that, although four of the delegates coming from Kansas are Native Americans, we are also Law School graduates and hold master-level degrees. We earned these positions independent of our ancestry. Hopefully, people will see us involved in the political process and it will inspire others to also get involved." Warrington has a Juris Doctorate of Law degree from the University of Kansas and Jones has a Master of Arts degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School.

Jones delivered a personal response in regards to what being a delegate means to her, "I came from poverty. I am the first high school graduate in my family, the first to attend college and the first to receive an advanced degree. This opportunity means a whole lot to me." Jones feels that if she can do it, others will relate to her and know they can make a difference too.

Jones and Warrington are not only interested in National politics but are also contributing to their local tribal politics. Both are running for the Ethics Commission Chairperson position in the current election. For more detailed information about them, refer to their profile statements published on page 14 of this edition of the newspaper.

My name is Laura Rice and my Indian name is Cham-e-quah. My parents are Ray "Pequano" Rice and Jean Rice. My paternal grandparents are the late Orville Rice Sr. and Louise (Wamego) Rice. My maternal grandmother is Elizabeth Owen, who is Yurok. I was born and raised on the West Coast and moved to Kansas in 2007. I currently live in Lawrence and work at Haskell Indian Nations University as a Retention Technician for the Student Success Center.

I completed my high school education at Native American Preparatory School in Rowe, New Mexico. I graduated from Stanford University in 2004 with my Bachelor of Arts in Native American Studies. In the time since I have moved to the Midwest, I have worked in various helping positions and graduated with my Master of Social Work from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Upon finishing my coursework there, I worked for PBP Social Services as an intern and then as the ICWA/Foster Care Social Worker. I have been a licensed social worker through the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board since 2010. As such, I have been held to a high ethical standard, guided by the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.

At one time, someone told me that it is more important to do right than to be right. I do my best to abide by this in my everyday life and would approach the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Code of Ethics in the same manner in my duties as an Ethics Commissioner.

Please consider voting for me as Ethics Commissioner #3 to help strengthen and implement the provisions of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Code of Ethics. If selected, I will work to help ensure that concerns are followed up with in a fair manner as well as collaborate with the Ethics Commission Chairperson and fellow Ethics Commissioners to efficiently and effectively follow through with assigned tasks and procedures.



Tracy Potts
Ethics Commissioner #3 Candidate

Prairie Band Bingo is Back!

Contributed by Michelle Simon



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen wielded the scissors while fellow Tribal Council Camilla Chouteau, Thomas Wabnum and Carrie O'Toole stood by her. PBP Gaming Commissioners Rey Kitchkumme, Larry Mzhickteno and Dorothy Kiyukan were also present for the occasion.

POTAWATOMI RESERVATION - A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in honor of the opening of the new Bingo Hall took place Wednesday, June 1, 2016. After cutting the ribbon, Chairwoman Onnen began her speech by thanking the members of the Bingo department for all of the work that went into the preparation of the opening and for their continued contributions to the success of the Nation's gaming establishment.

The new state-of-the-art bingo facility is located on the west end of the casino. It boasts a generous 400 seats and will offer paper and electronic bingo games, along with pull tabs. Other amenities include food, beverages, television screens and access to bingo merchandise.

Also included in the year-long expansion project at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort are a brand new Gift Shop storefront, newly refinished parking lot and a new Main Casino Entrance offering guests a closer walk from the parking lot to the entertainment, restaurants, bingo and casino floor.

The Bingo Hall is open five days a week on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sundays. For detailed information visit: www.prairieband.com/bingo/

Announcing the General Manager of Tribal Operations



The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is pleased to announce the appointment of Kristen Aitkens to the position of General Manager of Tribal Operations effective June 14, 2016. In her new role Aitkens will be responsible for the oversight and management of the Nation's 23 departments.

Ms. Aitkens has spent the last 14 years working for the Nation's Education Department, with the past 10 years as the Education Department Director. Kristen's education includes a Bachelor of General Studies with a major in Criminal Justice from Wichita State

University and a Master's of Liberal Arts in Management and Leadership from Baker University.

"I have enjoyed giving back to the Nation in the Education Department because of the support I received in my personal education endeavors. I have seen personally and professionally how one department has grown and it is exciting to now have an opportunity to assist the continuing growth of the Nation in the capacity of the General Manager. I am looking forward to utilizing the strengths of not just directors, but all employees, to ensure our programs continue to move forward in a positive direction," stated Aitkens when asked her thoughts on her new position.

With her years of experience and educational achievements Kristen Aitkens is a wonderful asset and is sure to lead the tribal operations in exciting new directions while building upon the current strengths.

PBPN Tribal Court Update

The PBPN Tribal Council recently swore in the Honorable John Wabaunsee as Chief Justice for the Court of Appeals and the Honorable Stacy Leeds as the Associate Justice for the Court of Appeals for the Tribal Court. Both Justices will serve a term of four years. For a complete list visit: <http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/judicial-council.aspx>

Potawatomi Health Center Captivated by a Vision

Contributed by Michelle Simon

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center has been making small gains over the past three years through the strategic management of Health Center Administrator, William "Bill" Thorne, Jr., which have added up to huge progress, including the addition of a new separate behavioral health building slated for 2017.

Thorne came onboard in 2013, and supplied a key ingredient to the success of the organization; a vision of high quality health care services. Having devoted his entire career to the health sector, Thorne had plenty of experience and expertise to draw from. He has worked for Indian Health Services, building clinics and running the administration for both Cherokee and Navajo nations as well as managing the Indian Center in Phoenix, AZ. He has also worked in the private sector in Tempe, AZ.

The first issue to be brought online was hiring a qualified dentist. The PBP Health Center had been employing dentists in an interim manner which led to extended patient wait times for dental care. What the dental clinic needed was a full-time committed individual in order to better manage work flow and increase customer satisfaction. In April 2013, Dr. Blaine Knox was hired. Since then the dental clinic has been able to handle the patient load more efficiently, which in turn leads to satisfied patients. In 2015, the Health Center was able to upgrade the record keeping ability to an Electronic Record System, the same system used by the State increasing the ease of communication for patient records. The department also upgraded to digital dental imagery. Within the next two years, Thorne has plans to expand the dental program to include another dentist.

The next priority area to be focused on was the billing system. It was determined the Health Center would be more profitable if billing was done in-house instead of being outsourced. The Health Center realigned the staff and brought on Peggy Hankerson as the Office Manager. The Clinic then began to incrementally take back more and more of the billing work load until all billing was being done by the Health Center. This calculated decision led to an influx of revenue and within three years the revenue stream has doubled with an outlook of continued future growth. Currently revenue is exceeding the \$3 million mark.

Afterward, the vision then turned to improving the administratively burdensome issue of contract agreements with insurance providers in the four primary areas of the Health Center. These areas are medical, dental, pharmacy and behavioral health. Each area is subject to its own unique qualifications. Through a time intensive process the Clinic has improved these conditions.

During the last three years a strong push in regard to customer satisfaction has also been underway. The Clinic has established a routine system for garnering feedback from patients through surveys and uses the information to improve customer service and workflow. With 60% of the population being serviced by the Clinic having health insurance, the Health Center is aware patients have a choice in where they receive their health care and have strived to increase their service levels to ensure PBPHC is the community's number one choice.

While the improvement of staff and services were underway, the Nation itself underwent a re-organization. This resulted in the Behavioral Health department being added under the umbrella of health services provided by the PBP Health Center. The Health Center building then underwent some minor renovations to accommodate the change. The Behavioral Health component was also re-evaluated to include a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and expand the content of care from drug and alcohol abuse only to include other mental health issues. Now the Clinic is poised to establish a new behavioral health facility which will be located adjacent to the Health Center and available for use in 2017.

Other progress at the Health Center includes new equipment in the Radiology lab which now has the capacity to provide ultrasounds. The Pharmacy is using a mail order system, along with drive through and walk-up service to provide prescriptions. The clinic has upgraded its I.T. infrastructure and there is an established OB/GYN provider available for expecting mothers. Overall, the vision of providing quality care has been applied to every aspect of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Center and it shows.

PBPN PD Staffing Update

The PBPN Tribal Police department has recently had changes to their staffing through promotion and additions of personnel. Formerly a Sergeant for the PBPND, Terry Clark has been promoted to Deputy Chief. Joining the department are two new officers, Joshua Peters and Frankie Smallwood, Jr. For a complete list of staff visit: <http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/emergency-services.aspx>

Veterans in the Community



We-Ta-Se Post 410 brought in the flags at the 2016 Annual Powwow over the weekend of June 10 - 12. Heat ranged in the high 90's to lower 100's all three days.

Memorial Day Honoring

POTAWATOMI RESERVATION - The We-Ta-Se post 410 issued an invitation to the community to join in participation as the Post traveled across the reservation providing military honors to fellow veterans and sounding the traditional taps melody on Sunday, May 29. The ensemble began at 8 Am at the Potts homeplace and ended at the Wishkeno Cemetery. A total of 19 locations were visited.

Elders' Activities

Over the last few months the Fire Keepers Elder Center has provided several fun activities to keep the Nation's elders engaged. They have hosted an Ice Cream Social, a Spa Day, Elders Art and a Talent Show. They also passed out t-shirts in honor of Older Americans month. Along with those activities the Social Services Department hosted an Elders Appreciation Breakfast on June 15, providing a healthy spread of breakfast items and door prizes for participants. Below is a photo collage of some of the events.



Above left: Dorothy Kiyukan and Julia Lewis took 1st place for their "Going to the Doctor" skit.

Right: The elders art consisted of paintings, pottery, yarn belts and applique work.



Above: Jan Hubbard is served breakfast by a Social Services Staff member.

Right: Pat Keesis enjoys a neopolitan ice cream cone at the Ice Cream Social.



Purple Heart Profile

Victor Hale a casualty of Operation Meade River

Lance Corporal Victor LeRoy Hale of the U.S. Marine Corps made his "ultimate sacrifice" as part of Operation Meade River, recognized by military historians as the largest and most successful "search and destroy" cordon of the Vietnam War.

Hale, a native of Mayetta and a six-year veteran of the Marines, was one of 16 troops killed in a small arms firefight with the North Vietnamese Army on Dec. 8, 1968, one day before the conclusion of Operation Meade River. He was a member of I Company, 3rd Battalion, 26th Regiment at the time of his death.

Born Oct. 27, 1942, in Mayetta, Hale attended Curtis Junior High School in north Topeka and later went on to Haskell Indian Institute in Lawrence. On Aug. 8, 1961, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps.

Hale had one tour of duty under his belt when he arrived in Vietnam in October 1968 for another tour, it was reported. He had been assigned to the 3rd of the 26th, specializing as a machine gunner, when Operation Meade River commenced on Nov. 20.

The operation was conducted in an area located 10 miles south of Da Nang called "Dodge City," so named for its "shoot 'em up," characteristics, it was reported. The operation's major battles were conducted in the center of this area.

On Dec. 7, several companies in the 3rd of the 26th were part of an attack on a North Vietnamese Army bunker complex that did not go as well as planned, and so the Marines reportedly withdrew into night defensive positions to allow for air and artillery strikes. The attacks continued into the next day, Dec. 8, with many companies in the 3rd of the 26th noting success in battle.

But as night fell, Company I's lead platoon was cut off, and one of Hale's fellow troops, Staff Sgt. Karl Taylor, led a mission to rescue Marines wounded in recent battles in that area. In addition to rescuing several wounded troops, Taylor also was able to silence an NVA machine gun before he himself was mortally wounded; he would receive a Medal of Honor for his actions.

Hale also perished in small arms battle on Dec. 8, near Dong Tien hamlet in Quang Nam Province. The next day, Operation Meade River was concluded, but NVA and Viet Cong forces would eventually re-infiltrate the area.

Hale, who was single, was returned to the United States for burial in the family cemetery on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. He was survived by his parents, William and Blanche Hale; three brothers, Joseph (also a Purple Heart recipient), Cecil and Philip; and a sister, Larene.

This article is published with permission from The Holton Recorder, original publication date 5/23/16. It is the 16th article in a series of stories about past and present Jackson County, Kansas residents who earned the Purple Heart Medal, which is awarded to military personnel wounded or killed in the line of duty. The names of those profiled in these stories will be placed on a special monument for Purple Heart Medal recipients to be built soon in Holton's Linscott Park.

Thank You!

Contributed by Child Care/Head Start Staff



Officer John Hurla works with a child to fit him for his new carseat.

The Child Care/Head Start staff wanted to take a moment to thank Officer John Hurla for helping the children and families in our community gain new car seats! John obtained a federal grant to purchase new car seats for Native American children and families and he attended a special training to learn how to properly install them.

The PBP Tribal Police Department has noted that car seats can only be issued to federally recognized tribal members within this community who are in need of a car seat. Car seats cannot be issued as a conveyance for someone if they already own a car seat in good working condition or if they own more than one vehicle and would like a secondary seat.

Safety inspections and proper installation are available to anyone by appointment, contact Officer Hurla at 785-966-6657.

Record Breaking Community Clean Up

The 2016 PBP Earth Day Community Cleanup set a new record with 115 registered participants. The annual event was held on Friday, April 15, 2016. Fourteen teams composed of PBP employees, community members and PBCR staff picked up 4,109 pounds of trash from the reservation roadsides. As an incentive, two awards were given. The first place team, "Clean Up Your Act Crew," cleared an impressive 1,017 pounds of litter and were awarded with a pizza party. Second place went to the Building Maintenance Team, for bagging 617 pounds of trash. They received a pie and coffee party.

Here is the official listing of teams and totals by pounds:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Clean Up Your Crew Act | 1,017 |
| Building Maintenance | 617 |
| The Casino Team | 422 |
| Road and Bridge | 343 |
| Tribal Fire Department | 288 |
| TVS with BGC | 280 |
| Tribal Court & Food Distribution | 274 |
| Tribal Police Department | 187 |
| Prairie Band, LLC | 165 |
| Finance Department | 159 |
| Language Department | 149 |
| Cluster 2 Picker Uppers | 133 |
| Happy Helpers | 75 |
| Childcare Class D | -- |

Garden Workshop

PBP RESERVATION - On April 12, 2016 over 60 members of the community gathered together at the Old Bingo Hall to take part in a garden workshop hosted by Eddie Jo Mitchell, Diabetes Prevention Program staff member.

Mitchell provided the community access to over 100,000 heirloom seeds to grow in their own personal garden. Mitchell relayed a very practical maxim in relation to gardening, "If you don't plant it, it won't grow."

The workshop included useful information about how to grow certain vegetables like corn, squash, potatoes and tomatoes. Information regarding planting times and the use of compost were discussed.

Alternate and affordable means of gardening like tomato hangers, using flower pots or building grow boxes from wooden pallets were also talked about. Mitchell also reminded people to take seeds from the best specimens that grow in the garden because they are the strongest and healthiest seeds and will continue to deliver a high-quality food product. Mitchell also shared how much the reservation has grown in gardening, in 2011, 1 in 27 families had a garden and in 2014 that number grew to 1 in 6 families and continues to hold strong.



Social Service Department Takes Back the Night

April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month and to raise awareness in the community the Social Services Department sponsored their annual Take Back the Night event and a Teal Challenge. The walk was held on April 8, at the Prairie Peoples Park with event t-shirts being distributed to those in attendance. After the walk occurred everyone gathered together for a candlelit vigil and moment of silence. The Teal Challenge consisted of wearing teal ribbons for a week at the end of which prizes were handed out. April is also National Child Abuse Awareness Month.



The community came together to provide symbolic support by engaging in an walk at dusk.

Ben-no-tteh Wigwam Powwow



The Early Childhood Education Center hosted their annual powwow at the Old Bingo Hall on May 19.

Hundreds of children, parents and community members gathered together to take part in the celebration of the children's educational success.

Each child was given a shawl, ribbon shirt or ribbon bib and a certificate of completion in recognition of their achievements for the school year.

The event concluded with a meal prepared by CC/HS staff and community members.

Education Department Update

Contributed by Kristen Aitkens



The first seven students of a 14 member cohort received their Masters of Business Administration degrees from Friends University. Pictured in the back row are Eric Otero and Miyah Danielson, front left is Stephanie Jim, Rockell Otero, Kelly Hopkins, Lisa Wamego and Jacob Wamego.

The Education department is very pleased to announce seven graduate students received their Masters of Business Administration degrees this past May 2016. All of the students are employees of the Nation, Prairie Band Casino & Resort or Prairie Band LLC. Five are enrolled Prairie Band Members.

The cohort began with fourteen students in March of 2015. The students met every Thursday evening at the Government Center until May 5, 2016. The seven students that have completed their programs were able to accelerate their course work by combining online classes with the onsite courses. The remaining six students continue to take courses online and are on schedule to graduate later this year, all of whom are enrolled PBPN members.

This cohort set a wonderful example of dedication to higher learning. The majority worked full time while also being full time parents and full time employees. Their commitment and dedication is what the cohort was truly designed for.

Not only were the students friends, colleagues and community members, there was also a family. Lisa Wamego and her two sons Jacob Wamego and Eric Otero along with his wife Rockell Otero were all enrolled in the program. It is rare for a mother and her children to share in a higher education program together and it was proud moment for the family when they all walked across the graduation stage together.

When asked about his experience in the program, Jacob Wamego stated, "Initially I was hesitant to enroll in the MBA program. I had just finished up a degree the previous year and didn't like the thought of another round of coursework. However, enrolling in the program was an excellent decision and one I do not regret."

Wamego also had an observation between education and leadership ability to share with young students or those deciding which course of education to pursue. "Certificates, licenses and educational achievements alone do not imbue one with the qualities of a great leader. Those skills must be honed over time with practice and dedication. A key component in the foundation of leadership is communication with the ability to speak and listen."

With the increase of availability in online education this was the last onsite course at the Prairie Band site to be provided by Friends University. Going forward, PBPN members will still be eligible for a tuition discount when enrolling in an online program through Friends University; interested students should visit www.friends.edu.

The Education Department wishes all of our graduates congratulations! We encourage each of you to pursue your passion and dreams, wherever those might take you.



The Prairie Band Potawatomi Child Support Services Department is having a logo design contest. The deadline for submissions is July 15, 2016 at 4:30PM.

All entries can be submitted directly to the department located at the east end of the Health Center or can be emailed to kellyhopkins@pbpnation.org. For the design please keep the mission of the department in mind.

Mission statement: The mission of the PBPN Tribal Child Support Services office is to improve the well being of all Native American children by promoting the emotional and financial responsibilities between parents for their children.

For any further questions - contact 785-966-8329.

Head Start Round-Up

The Head Start program is looking for families to join us in our upcoming 2016-17 School Year!

The program is funded to serve 32 children ages three to five years. To get on the pending list you will need to fill out a parent application and a child application. The forms can be found online at www.pbpindiantribe.com/early-childhood-education-programs.aspx, picked up at the center or by calling 785-966-2707 or 2527 to request them by mail.

The following list of documents will also be required to complete the applicaiton process:

- Proof of Income
- Parent/Child CDIB Card (if applicable)
- Current/Updated Health Assessment

The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2016. Any questions can be directed to Kate Adame at 785-966-2707 or 2527.

To the Mamas & the Papas

In honor of Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day here are a few message from the children at the PBP Child Care/Head Start.

If I could give my Mommy a present it would be...

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Play-doh! - Ahryis | A Power Ranger! - Kaiden | A new shirt! - Nin-We |
| Toys! - Timmy | A unicorn! - Petanno Kwes | A picture of our family! - Chino |
| A ball - Case | A pet turtle! - Dah-Zah | Necklace & Earrings! - Jamie |
| A doll! - Shug | A new coffee cup! - Nahgabby | A necklace! - Alyssa |
| A Book! - Colt | Her favorite car! - Nomshki | Lots of love! - Wyatt |
| Flowers! - Thunder | A teddy bear! - Mnittomimi | A real alligator! - Masko |
| A dollar! - Shish | A princess lunchbox! - Nee-zat | A big butterfly! - Alli |
| A Cinderella! - Ivy | Hugs & kisses! - Naseka | Flowers! Nibnektokwe |
| A heart! - Kata | Bracelet, watch & necklace! -Donovan | |

If I could give my Daddy a present it would be...

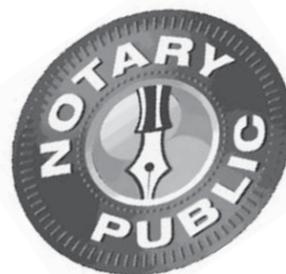
| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| A new drum! - Shish | Play-Doh! - Ahryis | A super cool game! - Mnittomimi |
| A car! - Shug | New boots! - Case | A Ninja Turtle! - Petanno Kwes |
| A lunchbox! - Nee-zat | A squig! - Dah-Zah | A necklace! - Naseka |
| A notebook! - Colt | A new coat! Nin-We | Popcorn! - Nibnektokwe |
| A birthday! - Timmy | A Spiderman! - Ivy | A watch! - Donovan |
| A flashlight! - Alyssa | A carrot! - Alli | Shop broom! - Jamie |
| Tools! - Thunder | New tools! - Wyatt | |

SOM SCHOOL SUPPLY HANDOUT



Monday - August 1 &
Tuesday - August 2

Government Center - Lower Level



There are two Notary Publics available at the Ben-no-tteh Wigwam on K Road. Cheyenne Simon & Jessica Wheeler are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5 PM to assist.

2016 Graduates!



Ava "Wisakwe" Battese, a Senior from Elgin High School was recently selected to the 2016 Oklahoma Girls Basketball Coaches Association Middle West All State team after leading her team to State for a third consecutive appearance.

She was also honored by Vype OK magazine in the All-Vype Southwest Oklahoma Basketball team and News OK The Oklahoman's Super 5 roster Class 4A girls basketball Honorable Mention. Ava has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Cameron University in Lawton, OK.

Ava is the daughter of Angela Battese and Brian Frejo, granddaughter of Russell Battese and Pamela Tahmahkera Battese. Great grandparents are the late William Vincent and Pearlina Battese.



Quinten S. Murphy graduated from Reitz memorial High School in Evansville, Indiana.

He will begin premed studies at Indiana University immediately following high school graduation. He has been selected by Mary C. Murphy, Ph. D. to perform undergraduate research in her Mind and Identity in Context lab at IU Bloomington this summer.

Murphy plans to dual major in Biology and Neuroscience and minor in Native American and Indigeneous Studies. His academic goal includes admission to medical school for the year 2020. His long term goal is to become a general adult psychiatrist and provide excellent patient care to Native Americans.



Kimberly Brown, graduated from Hiawatha High School. Receiving Honor's Graduation recognition in: Citizenship, American Citizenship Award, Naomi P. Sines Scholarship for Health Care Education, Highland Community College Business Scholarship, Butler Community College IT Scholarship and Big 7 Art Merit Recognition.

Kimberly is the daughter of Doris Shopteese and niece of Dora "Sozie" Pelkey, James Shopteese and the late Vernon "Namen" Shopteese, Jr.



Lorraine Ragsdale
Royal Valley High School - Hoyt, Kansas
Daughter of the late Roberta Jackson



Starla Rynn graduated with an Academic Honor chord, National Honor Society Chord and Quill & Scroll chord from Gardner Edgerton High School in Kansas. She is the daughter of Angela "Mahne" Wahweotten, and granddaughter of Larry and Connie Wahweotten.



Joseph Davis graduated from Dowling Catholic High School with an Academic Letter and Varsity Letter in Soccer. He will be attending the University of Iowa to study Biology.

Joe is the son of Debbie Davis, brother to Abby, Luke, and Sophia Davis. He is the grandchild of Addie and Loyd Horn.



Shawneese Marguerite Hernandez graduated from Miami High School. She is the daughter of Pete and Vera Hernandez. She is the maternal granddaughter of the late Claude Tyner and Belinda Byrd Tyner of Tulsa, OK. She is the paternal granddaughter of the late Pete Hernandez and the late Mary Jo Marshno. She plans to become the 4th generation to attend Haskell this fall. Miigwetch for all the support.



Emilio Manuel Hernandez
Minco High School - Minco, Oklahoma

We are proud of you!
Love Always,
Mom, Dad, Frank, Cruz and Maria

2016 Graduates!



Daniel Ray Youngblood
Inola High School - Inola, Oklahoma

Daniel will be attending Rogers State University in Claremore, Oklahoma this fall. His parents are Curtis and Shauna Youngblood.



Kelly Ann Monroe graduated from Camdenton High School in Missouri. She is the daughter of James and Jeanne Monroe.



Congratulations Asia (Qunego) Fairman and Pamela (Wahwasmoquah) Knoxsah on obtaining your high school diplomas. Your family and friends are so proud of your accomplishments.



Lisha Murphy earned her bachelor of science degree in Biochemistry from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. This August she will continue her education at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine, where she plans to gain the knowledge she will need in order to serve the healthcare needs of Native American communities.

Murphy states, "During the past four years of my undergraduate career I have been a Division 1 athlete, earning a spot on the varsity women's soccer team, a member of the Native American Student Organization (NASA), and I also held many leadership roles in my professional chemical science fraternity, Alpha Chi Sigma.

In my community, I was frequently involved in many service projects throughout the Ann Arbor and Detroit areas. I also spent a lot of my time working with local middle schools, dedicating my time to help them to help the students learn and appreciate the sciences.

Academically, I was published in Horowitz et al "Playing with a purpose: determining crystal structures through crowdsourcing and coursework", which was through an X-ray Crystallography assignment in my Protein Structure and Function class, where we built a protein structure mapped out by an electron density map and the corresponding amino acid sequence.

I would like to thank all the members of the tribe who have helped me get to where I am today, whether it be through letters of reference, financial support, or constant encouragement from my family members."

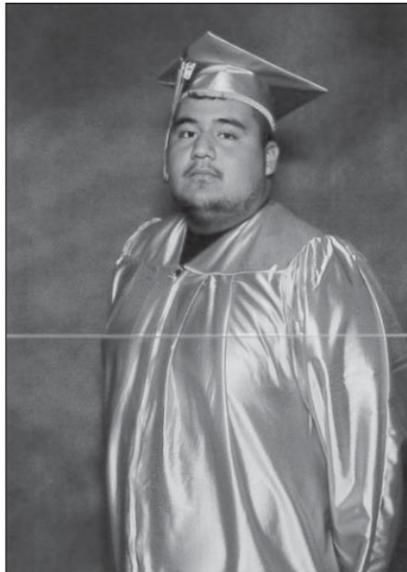
Lisha is the daughter of Wendy (Delg) and Steven S. Murphy.



Colleen Rice graduated from Ashwaubenon High School, Green Bay Wisconsin on June 5, 2016.

She is loved and supported by her parents, Lily Ann Rice, Lea Warrington (grandmother) and many grandparents, aunts and uncles who have all had a hand in raising her to be the strong young Native woman she is!

We are so very proud of your accomplishments and academic success at Ashwaubenon. May your strength of character and faith help you to be continually successful as you make the move to Lawrence KS to attend Haskell Indian Nations University this fall! Love you always and Creator bless you, our Danis!



Ethan Vasquez
Topeka High School - Topeka, Kansas
Son of Cindy Thomas

Congratulations & We Love You!
Family & Friends



Michael F. Simon
Royal Valley High School - Hoyt, Kansas
Son of Janis Simon

We are very proud of you Shough-Nes-See!
Mom, Sister, Bella and the whole Simon Family Clan



The Family of Kayla Renée Gomez
Proudly Announces her graduation from
Sacramento State University
With a degree in Anthropology
Friday, May 20th, 2016
Love,
Leslie LaClair - Mother
Anthony LaClair - Uncle
Arlene Lingo - Grandmother

Dr. Chenault Inducted into KU Women's Hall of Fame



A candid shot of Dr. Venida Chenault celebrating her accomplishment with two of her sons, Joshua Arce (left) and Derek White (right).

LAWRENCE - In April of 2016, Prairie Band Potawtomi Nation tribal member Dr. Venida Chenault was inducted into the University of Kansas' Women's Hall of Fame at the Kansas Union Ballroom located on the KU campus in Lawrence, Kansas. Dr. Chenault along with five other women were inducted into the KU Women's Hall of Fame for their dedication to their respective fields and their contributions to society. Following is the biography of Dr. Chenault presented at the event:

Venida Chenault, Ph. D.
President, Haskell Indian Nations University
(BSW 1986, MSW 1990, Ph. D. 2004)

Dr. Venida Chenault currently serves as President of Haskell Indian Nations University, and is seen as a transformational advocate for underserved students. Dr. Chenault has tirelessly worked to expand educational options for tribal students, who are among the least represented on college campuses. She is one of very few women nationally to serve in this role. Haskell's success in providing high-quality, broad-based education to tribal peoples from every tribe in the United States has expanded and increased under Dr. Chenault's leadership due, in part, to her ability to build partnerships at the local, state and federal levels. Under her tenure, student retention has increased and she has inspired and served as a role model to many young women who have passed through Haskell's doors.

Dr. Chenault, who received her B.S.W., M.S.W., and Ph. D from KU, began her social work career working for the state with low income persons and those impacted by addiction. This work informed her future career path as an educator, scholar and administrator. Her tenure at Haskell began in 1991 as a Social Work faculty and advisor. In 1997, she assumed the role of Interim Director of American Indian Studies. Shortly thereafter, she was asked to take on the role of Acting Associate Dean. Then, in 2014, Dr. Chenault assumed her current role as President and the University has greatly benefited from her long-term approach to fiscal difficulties and unwavering dedication to educating tribal students.

As a scholar, both the fields of addiction and domestic violence have been primary interests. She has a national reputation in the culturally competent practice of social work in these fields, particularly with indigenous populations. Dr. Chenault is a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe and a lifelong Kansan. One of her nominators explains Dr. Chenault's influence in this way: "Perhaps no one in my memory has done more to inspire more women (particularly women of color) to pursue their educations, and to effectively advocate for women of color than Venida... Venida has been the difference between success or setback for so many."

Bell Bowls Her Way into History



Seaman High School student, Allayna Kishno Bell, received 2nd place at the Class 5-1A State Bowling Tournament held in Wichita this spring. The sophomore threw nine straight strikes over the course of her first two games of the tourney. Bell finished her season with a 699 series. Bell was also named to the First Team All-State. Her parents are Angela Wahquahboshkuk-Mosquedo and Troy Bell. Proud grandparents are Jackie Mitchell and Tim Ramirez.

The Mitchell Sisters



Welcome to the world kikyagos!
 Estelle Irma Mitchell,
 born April 26, 2016,
 to Joe & Sas Mitchell

Happy birthday to our little boss lady.
 Cecelia Addie Mitchell
 aka "Miamikwe," May 5th.
 Terrible 2 is 2 much fun
 with you!
 Daughter of Joe & Sas
 Mitchell

Trull Takes 2nd in Pairs Bowling



The 52nd Native American Bowling Tournament was held in Albuquerque, NM, April 29 - May 1, 2016. The event was hosted by Holiday Bowl. As part of the fun participants are paired by the tournament director. Shirley Trull, Prairie Band Potawatomi (Kansas), was partnered with, Debbie Henry, Nez Perce (Idaho). Together the ladies presented a score of 1277, good for 2nd place on the final prize list. All you native bowlers, mark your calendars for next year's event on April 28-30, 2017.



PBPN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY, JULY 15 OR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24 PLEASE MAKE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THOSE DAYS!

The Diabetes Prevention Program hosted a RISE AND SHINE Wellness Walk Saturday morning of the powwow. Nearly 60 people turned out for the event. Here are a few pics of the runners coming in hot!



More pics can be found on the PBPN Powwow FB page!

A Look Into the PBPN Tribal Seal



This is a brief summary of the main aspects of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's official seal as told by the creator of the design, artist Warren "Hardy" Eteeyan.

The Four Feathers represent the four winds and the four seasons. The Fireplace represents a doorway to the spiritual world. The Fire represents a spiritual fire that burns within the heart of the Nishnabek People. The Pipe represents the prayers that go through the fire and the Single Feather represents all the veterans that fought overseas. Our seal is a symbol of the beliefs, we as Nishnabek - The People, take great pride in.

TRIBAL HOLIDAYS

All Tribal departments and programs will be closed for business on the following dates:

Independence Day,
Monday, July 4 & Tuesday, July 5

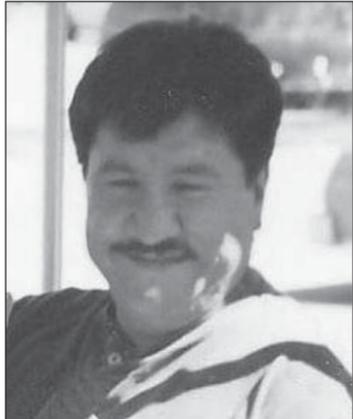
Labor Day,
Monday, September 5

Native American Day,
Friday, September 23

Pass Aways

ROLAND - **Diana Mae Reynolds**, 68, of Roland, Oklahoma passed away on March 6, 2016 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. She was born November 4, 1947 in Topeka, Kansas to the late Howard and Pauline Dewitt. She was of the Baptist Faith. She is survived by her husband Harold Reynolds of the home, one daughter Dina Reynolds of Roland, Oklahoma, one son David Reynolds and his wife Deanna of Fort Smith, one sister, Carol Dewitt of Mayetta, Kansas, two brothers; Buddy and Marshall Persinger both of Mayetta, Kansas, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral Service will be 1:00 p.m. Monday, March 14, 2016 at Lewis-Roberts Funeral Chapel 4817 Kelley Hwy Fort Smith, Arkansas with Interment to follow at Lick Creek Cemetery at Magazine, Arkansas. Visitation will be held 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, March 13, 2016. To place an online tribute, go to www.lewisfuneral-chapel.net.



TOPEKA - **Eldon LaRue "Panaw" Mzhickteno**, 59, of Topeka, KS passed away Tuesday, March 16, 2016 at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka.

He was born August 5, 1956 in Wichita, KS the son of Joseph LaRue and Corrine

(Koshiway) Mzhickteno.

Eldon attended Lawrence High School and later graduated from ITT Technical Institute in Topeka. He worked in construction as a roofer.

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

He is survived by his wife, Catherine Koslover of the home; a son, Charles E. Mzhickteno of Topeka, KS; a sister, Deborah Mzhickteno of Las Vegas, NV; 2 brothers, Donald E. Mzhickteno and Joseph J. Mzhickteno both of Lawrence, KS and his uncle, Richard Mzhickteno of Topeka, KS.

Drum Service will be Friday evening, March 18, 2016 at the Danceground Building west of Mayetta. Burial will be Saturday afternoon in the Shipshee Cemetery.

MILWAUKEE - **John P. Zagorski**, 66, born on November 30, 1949. He passed away on March 19, 2016. He resided in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the time of his passing.

TOPEKA - **Brian Wade Miller**, 20, of Topeka, KS passed away on Friday, April 8, 2016.

He was born May 27, 1995 in Topeka, KS. He was the son of Cynthia Ann Miller.

Brian attended Topeka USD 501 Schools and was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Brian is preceded in death by his mother: Cynthia Miller and uncles: Randy Miller and John "Chucky" Miller.

He leaves to cherish his memory: sister, Taylor Miller; twin brother, Christopher Mark Miller; brothers Blake Miller, Parker Miller; father, Damon Clardy and maternal grandmother, Delores Miller all of Topeka, KS and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins and a nephew Rashad Luckey.

Brian enjoyed being around his nephew and siblings and listening to music. He lived his life to the fullest.

PATTERSON - **Vincent Eugene Zoret**, 50, born on February 2, 1966. He passed away on April 12, 2016. He resided in Patterson, California at the time of his passing. He is survived by daughters, Jessica and Lindsey Zoret of California and sisters Vanessa Lee and Angela Zoret.

HOLTON - **James "Jamie" Lee Bowers**, age 28, of Holton, Kansas passed away Tuesday, April 12, 2016. Jamie was born October 10, 1987 in Topeka the son of Jimmy Bowers and Sherie Nephew.

He worked in Bern for CJ Foods.

He is survived by his parents, Jimmy Bowers and Sherie Nephew; a son, Tyran Lewis; two brothers, Joshua Bowers and Simion Gibson and a sister, Lisa Nephew.

Visitation will be Tuesday, April 19, 2016 from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m. at the Davidson Funeral Home. Graveside services will be 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Dance Grounds Cemetery.

DENVER - **Mickey Lee Vega**, 36, of Denver, passed away April 16, 2016. He was born December 12, 1979 in Topeka, Kansas, the son of Gilbert Vega and Virgie Shopteese.

Mickey is survived by his father, Gilbert Vega; brother, Jeremy Vega; three sisters, Sonya Begshisown, Josie Begshisown, and Kira Vega. He is preceded in death by his mother, Virgie Shopteese and sister, Kewahta Vega.

MILWAUKEE - On April 20th at the age of 75, **Diann H. Mundell** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin said her final goodbye. She left this realm to reunite with her husband Gale and all her loved ones gone on before her. She leaves behind four generations to mourn; Son, Dennis and her daughter Brenda (Robert) Webster; eight grandchildren; Bear (NAT), Chris (Val), Reesie, Jr. (Lita), K.K., Isha (VeHill), De and Nicole; 18 great grandchildren; Kota, Maliya and Christere, Nemo and Cayden, Ariel, India and Imoni, Kevin and yaliza, Michael, Jeffery and Mike Mike, and 2 great great-grandchildren; Kyiah and Lay Lay. Further survived by sisters, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She fought hard to stay but her broken heart finally gave way. We send her off with lots of love to be happy and free to now watch over us from the heavens above in blissful peace. A Memorial gathering will be held Friday, May 6, 2017 at the Funeral Home from 3 pm until time of Memorial Service at 4 pm.



DELIA - **Richard "Ricky" C. Clark, "Sin-nawg-win"**, 36, of Delia, KS, passed away Monday, June 20, 2016 at his home.

Ricky was born July 13, 1979, in Topeka, Kansas, the son of Richard Gene Clark and Patricia Jo Miller. He was raised by his mother and his step-father, James M. "Jim" Potter who preceded him in death June 11, 2014.

Ricky had worked at Taco John's in Topeka before he became disabled in 2007. He moved to Delia in 2014. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Drum Religion.

Survivors include his mother, Patricia Potter of Delia, KS; his father, Richard Clark of Topeka, KS; his brothers, Robert Lara, Christopher Clark and Joshua Clark all of Topeka, KS; his sister, January Bird of Winnebago, NE and his niece, September Thomas.

Drum services will be Thursday evening, June 23, 2016 at the Danceground building west of Mayetta, KS. Burial will be Friday afternoon at the Danceground Cemetery. He will lie in state Wednesday and Thursday until 3:00PM at the Mercer Funeral Home in Holton, KS.

All postings are reprinted from public obituaries or submissions from the family.

2016 Prairie Band Potawatomi Powwow



2016 PBPW Powwow Highlights!

- 11 registered drum groups
- 280 registered dancers & 60+ tiny tot dancers
- 80+ Tribes were represented
- 3000+ in attendance with over 800 PBPW Tribal Members
- Over 40 Native American Arts & Crafts and Food Vendors
- Visitors, vendors, singers, and dancers from across the United States and Canada
- Over \$110,000 in Prizes awarded to the Singers and Dancers

For more information and pictures visit the Prairie Band Potawatomi Powwow page on Facebook. Friend them now to stay up-to-date on the upcoming 2017 PBPW Powwow!

