



# Prairie Band Potawatomi News

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

WINTER 2016 EDITION

www.pbpindiantribe.com + Facebook: Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

## New Behavioral Health Center set for 2017



Left to right, Prairie Band Health Center administrator Bill Thorne, PBPN Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen, Vice Chairman Zach Pahmahmie, Secretary Camilla Chouteau, Treasurer Amanda Barbosa, Member Thomas Wabnum, Behavioral Health Manager Christine Sterrett and Assistant Construction Manager Robbie Lange broke ground at the project site for the new Behavioral Health Center located west of the Prairie Band Health Center facility.

A new Behavioral Health Center building is scheduled for construction. The new structure will be adjacent to the current Prairie Band Health Center facility located at 11400 158 Road, on the reservation. The new building will house the behavioral health programs currently provided by the Potawatomi Health Center and will house approximately 6 full-time staff.

The build is scheduled to begin in early 2017 with anticipated completion by mid-summer. The construction cost of the project totals approximately \$2 million. The bulk of the funding is

through a loan with the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), along with funding from IHS (Indian Health Service) and a small portion being contributed by the Potawatomi Health Center surplus.

Sabatini and Associates, Inc. are the architects of the new one-story building, which will be approximately 5,800 square feet. Two special features of the property will include a room designed expressly for group therapy and a crisis room. Sabatini and Associates, Inc. also designed the Potawatomi Tribal Court located to the east of the Health Center complex.

The idea for a new space for the behavioral health program began approximately three years

ago. Two considerations heavily motivated the project. The first was a critical lack of space for the behavioral health program which is currently located in the east wing of the Health Center. The other significant consideration was providing people utilizing behavioral health services with a sense of confidentiality. Since then the ground work has been laid to make it a reality.

Along with plans to establish a new building, the Behavioral Health program has spent the last couple years focusing on increasing their commitment to care through acquiring certifications, increasing staff, receiving accreditation and updating the records system.

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An architectural rendering of the new Behavioral Health Center designed by Sabatini Architects, Inc.



## A Message to the PBP Nation - Chairwoman Liana Onnen

operations and willing to work to continue to develop good communication to ensure compliance with the Compact. I am grateful to our Tax Director for good record keeping, our Finance staff for their knowledge and both the Casino and the LLC for ensuring compliance. During September, Tribal Council and staff began to work on the requested Purchasing Card Audit requested by General Council at the July meeting. The newly elected Tribal Treasurer and I began to work on not only the audit, but also getting Purchasing Card Policies and Travel Policies in place as was also requested by the General Council. We appreciated the support and input from the rest of the Council as we worked to ensure we met the expectations of the General Council and created more accountability for your elected body. Tribal Council also had an opportunity to meet with the Gaming Commission and their new attorney. It was another exercise in fostering positive communication and we look forward to continued positive, cooperative relationships with the Gaming Commission.

September also saw us gearing up for the 2017 budget process. We began by meeting with government program directors to get an overview of their budget requests and program functions. This is always a good time for us to have direct conversations with program managers and to find out what their priorities and needs are first-hand. Next we met with the Entertainment Board of Directors and the casino budget team to go over the casino's 2017 budget proposal. We also held a discussion/training about our Title 22 revisions and included Council, Gaming Commission, LLC Board, Entertainment Board, Government staff, Casino staff and LLC staff to explain the Title 22 revisions and to also get feedback from these stakeholders on the revisions. In August, the revisions to the Title 22 Employment Code were made available to the membership. There was a 60-day public comment period and written comments were due on October 11. Tribal Council will review any comments received as well as feedback from our meeting with key stakeholders to make final revisions before adopting the amendments to our Tribal Code.

At the end of September I traveled to Washington D.C. for the White House Tribal Nations Conference (WHTNC) and to meet with our Kansas delegation on Capitol Hill. Vice Chairman Pahmahmie was the representative for the Nation at the conference. I was able to attend pre-meetings the day before and post-meetings the day after as well as a reception immediately following the conference. This is the final WHTNC of the current administration and the pre-meetings and post-meetings offered an opportunity to have discussions with key individuals including Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, Larry Roberts, as well as the Executive Director of the White House Council on Indian Affairs, Morgan Rodman. Working and having discussions with these individuals is key in ensuring a good transition to the next administration. Also key to this transition are our representatives on Capitol Hill, Senator Jerry Moran and Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins. As always, we discuss the state of the PPBN as well as how we can use their assistance to further our interests and the interests of all people. With a personal audience with both the Senator and Congresswoman, we made sure to update them on our Shabehnay application as well as the need for meaningful consultation to avoid situations such as the one in North Dakota.

October was upon us very quickly. We finalized the government budget in meeting with the tribal government's budget committee. Because of the hard

work of the committee and programs, as well as the meetings directly with programs, we were able to finish budget meetings the first week of October. Our intention was to finalize all budgets (Casino, Gaming Commission and Tribal Government) late in the month of October. Again, I must extend gratitude to the Treasurer, Finance staff and General Manager's office for all of the work to have a seamless budget process. After completion of the budget process, I traveled to Phoenix, AZ to attend the NCAI Annual Conference. As the Southern Plains Region Vice-President on the NCAI Executive Committee, I attended pre-meetings that started prior to the actual commencement of the conference, including an NCAI Executive Committee/Board meeting. Other events and activities included: attendance at the National Institutes of Health Annual Tribal Consultation, General Assemblies, Chairing Southern Plains Regional Caucus meetings, participant in the selection panel for the NCAI Youth Commission leadership, meeting with ASIA Larry Roberts regarding publication of the Draft EIS for our Shabehnay application, attended Listening Session on Tribal Consolation and Input into Infrastructure Decisions (response to issues raised by DAPL,) and was interviewed by NCAI for a YouTube web series on NCAI and Native Leadership.

November passed very quickly. Tribal Council met with the Army Corps of Engineers in our region to discuss how to improve our lines of communication and understanding and building tribal consultation during the permitting process. It was a good discussion and we hope to continue to foster this relationship. Vice Chairman Pahmahmie and Treasurer Amanda Nioce Barbosa and I traveled to Washington D.C. in mid-November to meet with the Director of the Office of Indian Gaming regarding our Shabehnay application. These visits are important to keep the process moving and to foster positive and proactive relationships with the Department of the Interior. The meeting went well and we feel hopeful the process will continue to move forward. The Tribal Council also hosted a final Enrollment Town Hall meeting to discuss the proposed enrollment changes that should come out in 2017 as a referendum vote. The final step before ballots will be mailed out will be to hold a General Council Meeting for the purposes of approving a Constitutional Referendum to be mailed out. Council is currently working to finalize options after the last meeting and will be notifying the Election Board as soon as that is completed.

Some of the projects I anticipate focusing on in the coming year include: continued efforts for our Shabehnay Reservation, fostering relationships with the Kansas Legislature, tribal code revisions (specifically our hunting codes), ongoing meetings with Prairie Band LLC, Prairie Band Entertainment Corporation, scheduling a Wisconsin membership meeting, and a review of the Boards and Committees which currently serve the Nation, and finally, continued monitoring and fostering of relationships as much as is feasibly possible with the new presidential administration.

I hope each and every one of you has a blessed holiday season and I sincerely wish all of you the best 2017 possible. I am looking forward to a new and exciting year!

Igwien,  
Liana Onnen, Chairwoman

Bosho! I hope all of you have been well this past quarter. As is always the case, your Tribal Council remains busy and engaged in a number of endeavors and projects for the Nation. At the forefront of the National landscape is, of course, the change in administration from the Obama Administration to president-elect Trump's Administration. Many tribal members have contacted me with concerns about how the new administration will impact our tribe and Indian Country in general. Those concerns are quite valid as we move forward as it is not anticipated that the Trump Administration will be particularly "Indian friendly." In spite of this perception, the Nation plans to continue to move forward with projects, specifically Shabehnay, and follow the necessary processes needed. It is difficult to fully predict or ascertain what changes we as a tribe should expect, but I am confident that whatever comes, we as a Nation will remain strong and focused on our goals. We will persevere as we always have. This is who we are.

Also on the national front, the Standing Rock Sioux's fight against the Dakota Access Pipeline continues. In September, Vice-Chairman Pahmahmie, former Council Member Carrie O'Toole and I made a trip to Standing Rock to visit with Chairman Archambault and other members of the SRST council and community. We were able to visit the administrative offices, dine with community elders and visit the Oceti Sakowin camp. Many of you have also been able to visit as well. The spirit of unity and determination of the people at the camp was inspiring to me and many of you as well. The PPBN sent supplies and made a monetary donation in August, another supply run and visit in September and the Nation has been collecting donations in the local community to send on another trip this month as winter has set in. We also made another cash donation to the SRST legal fund. This is truly a fight which is not only for the SRST, but one for all of Indian Country and all of the United States. The outcome will go down in history regardless of the lack of action on the part of the Obama Administration thus far and in spite of the coming Trump Administration. It is my personal belief that regardless of what happens the indigenous community in America has affected a change in thinking about our reliance on fossil-fuel and our treatment of our Mother Earth. Once again, regardless of what comes, the indigenous peoples of this country will persevere. We have done so since time immemorial. Continue to Stand with Standing Rock and hold the Protectors in your prayers.

In September, your newly elected Tribal Council got down to business quickly. The month started with the first on-site inspection as agreed upon in our Tobacco Tax Compact with the State. The on-site visit went very well with all parties satisfied with the

# Behavioral Health...

## *Continued from page 1*

In 2015, the Behavioral Health program became state certified as an alcohol and drug recovery program. This distinction means the court system has to honor the request of Native Americans to receive treatment at the Prairie Band Health Center through the Behavioral Health program. Prior to this, the state could deny these requests and force patients to seek treatment elsewhere creating an unnecessary financial burden. The behavioral health program now works extensively with the local court systems (Prairie Band and Jackson County) to provide services required by legal obligations.

In addition to receiving certification, the program added a specialized staff position. Since 2015, the program has included access to a psychiatric nurse practitioner. This position is a benefit to those clients requiring psychiatric medications. Previously, if clients required medication they had to be referred off-site to receive a prescription.

Another initiative undertaken in 2015, by the Behavioral Health program was signing a 5-year agreement with Washburn University to serve

as an internship placement site for Master's level addiction professionals. Mendy Thompson, a current staff member of the Behavioral Health program, is completing her Master's Degree through Washburn and will be the first intern to participate under this agreement in 2017.

Recently, the National American Indian & Alaska Native Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network funded by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) reached out to partner with the Behavioral Health program and offer support to Native Americans working in an Indian Health Clinic to obtain their addiction counseling license. Dawn Masqua, a Licensed Master Social Worker was the first PBPB employee to meet the criteria and make use of this offer. Masqua has now obtained a Master Addiction Counseling temporary license and will take the exam to receive her permanent license in the near future.

Masqua has since been offered a full-time position with the Behavioral Health Program and will serve as a Behavioral Health therapist. She will provide addiction counseling, outpatient group therapy, individual behavioral health counseling and mental health, alcohol and drug evaluations and assessments.

With the addition of Masqua, the Behavioral Health program now consists of three dually licensed providers who can treat both mental health and provide alcohol and drug addiction counseling, an addictions counselor and the psychiatric nurse practitioner. Three of the providers have also obtained Anger Management certification adding another service available to clients. All services provided are available to any Native Americans with behavioral health needs.

Further positive contributions to the Behavioral Health program have included upgrading the records system to the Indian Health Service Electronic Behavioral Health Record System, passing the auditing process of the state of Kansas and receiving accreditation under the Potawatomi Health Center by the Joint Commission. The Joint Commission accreditation process ensures that the program is delivering the highest standards of care.

Between the internal organizational upgrades and the new physical structure the Behavioral Health Program is on track to provide a broad range of quality services to the local community. For more information regarding this program, visit [www.pbpindiantribe.com/health-center-medical-services.aspx](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/health-center-medical-services.aspx).

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## Tribal Council Person #3 Special Election Notice

PBPB Tribal Council Member, Carrie Wabaunsee O'Toole, resigned her position effective November 7, 2016. O'Toole served on the Tribal Council for eight years and was re-elected for a third term in August 2016.

During her tenure she served on many boards and committees including the Haskell Board of Regents and the Tribal Interior Budget Committee. She was an active supporter of Indian Health Services and Native American health issues in general. She worked with the Census Bureau, Native Vote efforts and also on Veterans issues.

The vacancy of the Tribal Member #3 position has prompted the need to hold a Special Election.

Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation have been notified by the Election Board that a Special Election will be held on February 4, 2017 for the purpose of electing one (1) member of the Tribal Council: Tribal Council Person #3. The term of the office for this position will fill the duration of the term (July 2020).

The election shall be conducted in accordance with the Constitution and Election Ordinance of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Automated Election Services of Rio Rancho, New Mexico will assist the Election Board with this election.

### QUALIFIED VOTERS

To cast a ballot in this election you must:

A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

B) Be 18 years of age or older by December 20, 2016.

C) Have a voter registration form on file with the Election Board no later than December 20, 2016, a 4 p.m.

A voter registration form is enclosed to indicate you are **not** a registered voter. Registered voters will not receive a voter registration form.

### BALLOT DISTRIBUTION

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters no later than December 29, 2016. All ballot distribution packages will contain a pre-addressed return envelope for mailing ballots back to the Election Board. All ballots must be received in the Election Board Post Office Box in Mayetta, Kansas no later than 9 a.m. on the date of the election, February 4, 2017.

### ELECTION RESULTS

Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for Tribal Members conducted by the Election Board beginning at 9 a.m. on Election Day (2/4/17) at the Old Bingo Hall building. Tabulation of ballots will continue until all ballots have been tabulated and the results of that tabulation have been recorded.

The Election Board shall issue the Preliminary Election Results immediately after the conclusion of the tabulation. Protests of the election results may be filed up until February 8, 2017, until 4 p.m.

Certified Election Results will be posted at the appropriate Tribal offices and released to

all appropriate media at the conclusion of the election.

### QUALIFIED CANDIDATE

A qualified candidate must:

A) Be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

B) Be 21 years of age or older as of the date of the election for a Council Person position.

C) Agree to criminal background investigation conducted by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation or an investigative agency deemed appropriate by the Election Board on each prospective candidate.

D) **NOT** have been convicted of a felony within the five years prior to the date of the election.

E) If elected, agree to the Drug-Free Workplace Policy and consent to drug testing.

F) Submit a Declaration of Candidacy Form to the Election Board Office (located at the Member Services department, Government Center, Lower Level) no later than Friday, December 16, 2016, at 4 p.m.

G) Submit the \$150.00 non-refundable filing fee with photo for ballot to the Election Board Office no later than December 16, 2016, by 4 p.m. The filing fee must accompany the Declaration of Candidacy Form and must be paid by Cashier's Check or Money Order made payable to:

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

No cash or personal checks accepted.

## Special Election Calendar for Tribal Council Person #3

### Candidate Filing Dates

Declaration of Candidacy Forms and payment will be accepted from December 5 - December 16, 2016 through the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Candidate Withdrawal Date

The last date for candidates to withdraw their names from the election. December 20, 2016, by 4 p.m.

### Voter Registration Deadline

The last day for members 18 years of age or older to register to receive a ballot for this election is December 20, 2016, by 4 p.m.

### Ballot Mailing Date

Ballots will be mailed to Registered Voters Only on December 29, 2016.

### Election Day

All ballots must be received at the Mayetta Post Office by 9 a.m. to be tabulated in this election. Tabulation will commence at 9 a.m. on February 4, 2017, at the Old Bingo Hall.

\*\*If needed, a Run-off election day will occur four (4) weeks after the General Election results are certified.

## Candidate Profiles

Candidate profiles will be available for review on the Nation's website. Visit [www.pbpindian-tribe.com](http://www.pbpindian-tribe.com), select "Elections" from the left hand panel, then select "Candidates."

## PBPN Making an Impact at St. Francis Health



Left to Right, Charitable Contribution members Ruth Vega Harjo and LaVera Bell, Tribal Treasurer Amanda Barbosa, St. Francis Foundation Executive Director Abel Frederic, Tribal Vice Chairman Zach Pahmahmie, Tribal Chairwoman Liana Onnen, Tribal Councilman Thomas Wabnum and Charitable Contribution member Wanda Treinen stand in the Trauma Room at St. Francis Health made possible by the tribe's donation.

On Monday, November 7, 2016, members of Tribal Council and the Charitable Contribution Committee met with executive staff members of the St. Francis Health Foundation in recognition of the \$20,000 donation made by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

This charitable gift is the third installment of a total pledge of \$80,000. St. Francis Health has received a \$20,000 contribution each year, beginning in 2014. The final installment will be gifted in 2017.

"We are grateful for our continued partnership

between Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and St. Francis Health. We are appreciative of what this four year pledge has done for our community," stated Shaina Moravec, Development Manager of the St. Francis Children's Miracle Network.

The Nation's donation contributed to a new trauma room and family waiting room at St. Francis Health's newly remodeled Emergency Department. The Trauma Room has plenty of space and state of the art equipment to handle any number of emergency situations. St. Francis Health is a hospital located in Topeka, Kansas.

## Charitable Contribution 3rd Quarter Recipient List

*Total Donated \$83,000*

35th Infantry Division Association  
American Cancer Society, Inc.  
Antioch Family Life Center, Inc.  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Doorstep, Inc.  
East Topeka Senior Center  
Easter Seals Caper Foundation

Housing & Credit Counseling  
Junior League of Topeka  
KSDS, Inc.  
Prairie Land Foods, Inc.  
Sheltered Living  
St. Francis Health Foundation  
TARC

Topeka Civic Theatre  
Topeka North Outreach  
USD 336 North Jackson  
USD 337 Royal Valley Schools  
WE-TA-SE American Legion Post 410  
YWCA of Northeast Kansas



Representatives from each organization receiving a contribution to continue the services they provide in the Northeast Kansas area gather together to conclude the event.

## Enrollment Townhall Meeting Recap

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation held the fifth Enrollment Town hall Meeting on Saturday, November 19, 2016. The meeting was held at the Prairie Band Casino and Resort and attended by 157 enrolled tribal members. James Mills, of CSN, Inc. acted as the meeting facilitator and presented projected Prairie Band Membership numbers based on the Nation's current enrollment figures and the amendment options under discussion.

During the meeting five options were presented for consideration. The options were generated from the feedback provided by the general membership at previous Enrollment Town hall meetings held over the course of the past three years. The five proposed options are as follows:

Option 1: Amendment for ¼ Indian blood and a Parental Requirement

Option 2: Amendment for ¼ Potawatomi blood and a Parental Requirement

Option 3: The current constitutional criterion remains unchanged with an addition of language

Option 4: Conditional Membership

Option 5: Split Families

Through the course of the meeting Mills

presented each option and then opened it to the floor for discussion. Many tribal members asked questions and voiced their various concerns and viewpoints. Some members suggested re-wording portions of the options for more clarity. One request was made to include lineal descendency as an option but it did not garner enough support at the meeting to be added to the list.

The current enrollment criterion was changed in 2000, through a nation-wide referendum vote that amended the Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitution. Prior to the amendment, the constitutional requirement for eligibility for enrollment was "at least ¼ Indian blood" and descendency by blood of Prairie Band Potawatomi allottees, using the 1940 Census Roll to compute degree of blood. After the passing of the constitutional amendment, the blood degree requirement was more specific and changed to "at least ¼ Prairie Band Potawatomi blood". It was passed by a close vote of 169 for and 129 against.

This latest discussion on enrollment began at the April 20, 2013, General Council meeting. A motion was made from the floor to review enrollment requirements. At the next General Council meeting held on July 20, 2013, former Tribal Chairman Steve Ortiz, requested input from the membership in attendance. During that meeting it was determined that a town hall style meeting would be held. The Enrollment

Committee subsequently requested that James Mills be involved as an outside consultant at the future meetings.

The first meeting was held in September of 2013, with 183 participants. The next meeting occurred in June 2014, with a turnout of 77 tribal members. The third meeting was held in December 2014, with 97 members present and the fourth meeting had the lowest turnout of 69 members at the March 2015, meeting. The most recent meeting was the final town hall meeting.

The next step of the process is for the PBPN Election Board to call an Amendment Meeting. At the meeting, the general membership will have the opportunity to make a motion to include any of the options that have been presented on the official ballot. The general membership in attendance would then vote whether or not to include those options on the ballot. All options that pass at the meeting will then be included on the official ballot that would go out to all eligible voters within 30 days of the meeting for the final referendum vote. At this time, no dates have been set for the Amendment Meeting.

Anyone with questions or comments regarding enrollment can contact the Member Services department, toll free at 877-715-6789 or by writing to Member Services, 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509 or via email at PaulVega@pbpnation.org.

## Enrollment Options in Detail

The first three options would change the current criterion required in the Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitution for enrollment eligibility. You would be allowed to vote for only one or none of these options if they are added to the official ballot.

### **Option 1: Amendment for ¼ Indian blood and a Parental Requirement**

The biological children of a current PBPN tribal member, or the biological children of someone who was a PBPN tribal member up until the time of her or his death, who possesses at least ¼ Indian blood and who are descendants by blood of the Prairie Band Potawatomi 1940 Census Roll.

*Definition: Indian Blood is the combined blood of ANY federally recognized tribe in the United States.*

### **Option 2: Amendment for ¼ Potawatomi blood and a Parental Requirement**

The biological children of a current PBPN tribal member, or the biological children of someone who was a PBPN tribal member up until the time of her or his death, who possesses at least ¼ Potawatomi blood and who are descendants by blood of the Prairie Band Potawatomi 1940 Census Roll.

*Definition: Potawatomi blood is the combined blood of ANY federally recognized Potawatomi Tribe in the United States.*

### **Option 3: The current constitutional criterion remains unchanged with an addition of language**

For the purpose of calculating Prairie Band Potawatomi blood, all persons listed as Potawatomi on the 1940 Census Roll shall be considered 4/4 Prairie Band Potawatomi blood.

The last two options would not change the current criterion required for enrollment eligibility but would be in addition to it. You could vote for both, one or neither of these options if they are added to the official ballot.

### **Option 4: Conditional Membership**

Applicants who do not meet the standard requirements for membership specified in the Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitution, Article III, Section 1, may be adopted into the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation as Conditional Members, providing they have a biological Prairie Band tribal member parent, or a parent who is deceased and was a Prairie Band tribal member up until the time of her or his death, and further provided that they have a minimum of 1/8th Potawatomi blood.

Conditional Members may not vote in tribal elections, cannot run for office and shall not receive per capita payments. Conditional members are restricted to the following benefits:

- Health
- Education
- Emergency Assistance

### **Option 5: Split Families**

Applicants who were denied membership as a result of the 1976 amendment or the 2000 amendment, and who have the identical parent(s) of their siblings who were granted membership under the previous constitutional requirement of ¼ Indian, shall be granted membership.

## We-Ta-Se Update



Madison Boswell will represent the We-Ta-Se Post 410 as the 2016 - 17 Princess. Retired Sergeant Robert Jackson, Sr. congratulates her on behalf of the Legion.



Above, all American Legion members from varying posts gather together with the Women's Auxilliary members and the outgoing 2015 - 16 Princess after grand entry of the Annual Veterans Powwow held on Sept. 24, 2016. Nearly 50 Veterans registered at check in and 59 dancers were registered to participate.

This year's door prize winners were: \$75 One Stop Fuel Gift Certificate: Melvin "Nanoki" Lewis, \$150 One Stop Fuel Gift Certificate: Cheryl Hopkins, Pendleton Blanket: Alvin Bell (which he donated to Standing Rock) and the \$1000 Cash Prize went to Drusa Wabaunsee.

## PBPN Stewards of Shabbona



Tribal Council Secretary Camilla Chouteau and TC Member Thomas Wabnum discuss the history of the Prairie Band Potawatomi with Flewellin Memorial Library Director Janet Clark after presenting a \$5,000 donation.

Tribal Council Secretary Camilla Chouteau and Council Member Thomas Wabnum traveled to Shabbona, Ill. in early November to present a \$5,000 donation on behalf of the PBPN to the Flewellin Memorial Library. The donation will support the non-fiction collection as well as youth programs at the library.

The president and top officers of the Flewellin Memorial Library board met with Chouteau and Wabnum to personally thank the nation for the generous donation explaining how important it is to their library and discuss their support for the PBPN's economic development efforts in Shabbona.

"You have been great neighbors," the president of the library, David Highland, told Chouteau and Wabnum, "It means a lot to the library."

Chouteau and Wabnum had a warm conversation with the board members and library director Janet Clark about the history of the Potawatomi people in Shabbona, the PBP Nation's commitment to educating young people and the vital role education plays in connecting our cultures and encouraging understanding of each other. The tribal council representatives toured the library and discussed the Nation's ongoing support for the library and all of our neighbors in Shabbona.

After the library visit, Chouteau and Wabnum attended the DeKalb County Economic Development Corp. annual dinner. The PBPN was a sponsor of the event and invited Shabbona Mayor Claudia Hicks and local restaurant owners and longtime supporters Denny and Kathy Sands as personal guests.



In late 2015, the Veterans Memorial Wall located at Prairie Peoples Park along with other park fixtures were vandalized. Due to the nature of the damage to the granite fixture the entire wall had to be replaced. Above is the newly installed replacement.

### A Few Ways to Thank a Veteran

1. Greet them and offer a handshake or render a hand-salute
2. Strike up a conversation or take time to listen
3. See one sitting next to you at a restaurant or in line with you at the store; purchase an item for them
4. Donate to a local drive that sends care packages to troops stationed overseas
5. Donate to a local charity that assists with Veterans and/or their families that are in need
6. Attend or participate in a Veterans' Day Parade or Ceremony
7. Fly the American Flag
8. Call them
9. Send a card, letter or other memento
10. Volunteer your time at a VA Medical Center
11. Most importantly, never forget their service and sacrifice to this Grateful Nation

## Native Vote Rewind



Members of the community turned out for the Native Vote Potluck dinner and watch party hosted on Election Night at the Old Bingo Hall. Those who wore "Native Vote" T-shirts received an extra entry into the door prizes.

The Native Vote campaign began on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation in 2014. Two dedicated employees were tasked with initiating the campaign and in the first year they did an excellent job of registering voters within the community. They were able to register 135 new voters through setting up voter drives at various community events and canvassing door-to-door at reservation housing sites. The committee also arranged for volunteers to drive people to the polls. After the state elections and reviewing the voter list it was revealed only 30% of the tribal community had voted.

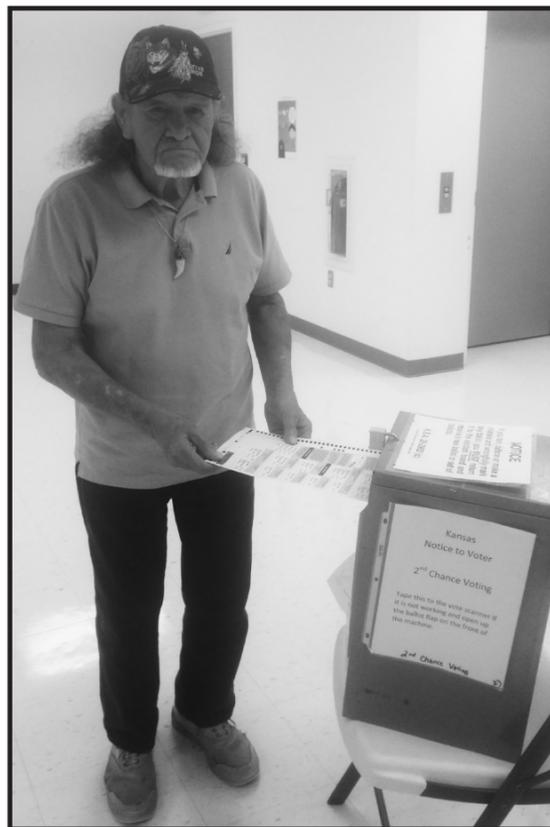
Going into 2016, the Native Vote committee was more prepared. Two more employees in key positions joined the committee; the Nation's Assistant General Manager and the Media Relations Specialist. The committee also used time to their advantage and began their activities in February 2016. The group decided to continue previous registration efforts, increase local media and focus on voter turn-out.

The committee determined it would benefit the community if they could bring a voting site back to the reservation. The benefits would include ease of accessibility and having a location that was not intimidating. The last time a voting station was held on the reservation was in 2002, at the Pottawatomi Methodist Church. Due to the purchase of a new scanning system by the county, voting locations were scaled back. Beginning in 2004, St. Xavier's Church in Mayetta, Kan. has been the primary voting site for Lincoln Township (the township covering the majority of the reservation).

The Native Vote committee reached out to the Jackson County Clerk's office to discuss the matter. The Jackson County Clerk's office said they did not have enough resources to open a polling station on the reservation on the national Election Day and instead offered the solution of supplying an advance polling station. The Native Vote Committee jumped on board at the opportunity.

Arrangements were made to use the Fire Keepers Elder Center as the host site. The center

is centrally located on the reservation and a large amount of elders travel there daily. The building is a familiar space in the community and had the capacity to accommodate the polling station. On October 26, 2016, approximately 87 members of the community came out to vote.



PBPN Tribal Member Robert Shopteese was the first community member to use the Advance Voting Station to cast his vote in the 2016 Election.

Some of the other activities the Native Vote committee initiated included hosting two education sessions for the Nation's summer youth workers. The committee engaged them about the process of registering to vote and why their vote mattered. The youth were reminded that while they may not be eligible to vote, they could encourage their parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents to use their vote.

The committee also used the Nation's media resources to help change the mentality of "my vote doesn't matter." The Native Vote campaign posters were edited to show images of members of the PBPN community; the children, elders, veterans and resources like the buffalo herd and

land. Updating the posters helped reframe the context and increase the sense of connection that a local vote does matter. The posters were distributed to area departments, placed on media screens in buildings throughout the reservation and shared on Facebook.

The committee also sent out several email blasts during the year to ensure employees knew how they could get registered to vote, who they could contact, what resources were available to learn more about the election process and important dates.

Throughout 2016, the committee also met with several different audiences to help spread the word on voting. A presentation was made to the Four Tribes of Kansas. The committee also traveled to Lawrence, Kansas to work with students at Haskell Indian Nations University to register voters and provide them with information on Native Vote. The committee also met with the local high school to pursue registering voters. These activities were also in conjunction with setting up at a community event approximately once a month. From all of these coordinated activities the committee registered 32 new voters.

The Native Vote committee concluded the year's activities by hosting a Community Potluck and Watch Party at the Old Bingo Hall on Election Night. All individuals that used the Advance Vote location as well as those that voted on Election Day were entered into the door prize drawings. Several prizes and accommodations were made available through the generosity of the PBPN Tribal Council, PBPN DPP program, Prairie Band Casino & Resort and NCAI (National Congress of American Indians). Around 100 tribal members came out to enjoy the potluck dinner and receive prizes ranging from Wal-mart gift certificates, Casino buffet passes, Native themed art prints, and Pendleton and logod merchandise from the PBCR gift shop.

Looking ahead to 2018 and beyond the Native Vote Committee strongly encourages anyone interested to join. As a committee, a long term goal for the tribal community is to have tribal members run for public offices, such as the School Board, Watershed Districts, County offices and even state offices.

# Diabetes Prevention Program

## 2nd Annual Battle of the DPPs



A map depicting the distance covered by the PBP community during the 2nd Annual Battle of the DPPs.

This fall 75 members of the PBP community took part in the “2nd Annual Battle of the DPP’s Walking Challenge.” The PBP DPP performed against Haskell Indian Nations University DPP of Lawrence, Kansas. Participants were encouraged to join as a team or as an individual. The goal was to walk 212 miles (the distance across the state of Kansas) during the 8 week challenge.

The PBP DPP won the battle. PBP DPP walked a total of 34,189,999 steps and Haskell’s DPP walked a total of 6,684,831 steps! The step count for Prairie Band converted to miles equals 1,610.65 miles. So not only did participants walk across Kansas, combined they walked the total distance from Mayetta, KS to Portland, Maine.

The top three individuals in this challenge were: 1) Phil Quinn, 2) Richard Adame and 3) Frances Wabaunsee. The top three teams in the challenge were: 1) FIMB, 2) Team Shawna Williams and 3) Team Throssell. To keep participants motivated the DPP held weekly door prizes which included items such as a George Foreman grill, blender, crockpot, DVD, Fitbits, gift cards and t-shirts.

## Fall Garden Workshop

In Mid-October the PBP DPP collaborated with the Kansas State Research and Extension office to provide a Fall Garden and Yard Care Workshop. Topics covered included: Improving soil with amendments, reducing insect pests, tilling and raising beds now for spring planting, fertilizing young trees, and composting.

Dr. Charles Barden presented information on gardening and his wife Diane demonstrated how to make your own applesauce. Dr. Barden suggested burning up whatever is left of your old garden in the fall as the ash will help enrich the soil. He also stated that October is a good time to fertilize the lawn. The main thing a gardener should be aware of is “knowing when to plant,” according to Barden.

Then David Hallauer, a Meadowlark Extension District Agent presented information relating to crops, soils and horticulture. Mr. Hallauer spoke in-depth about the soil in the northeast KS area and reminded participants that what works for your neighbor might not work for you. Each area of land has its own blend of soil, clay and mineral composition and in our area the land generally needs soil amendments. Hallauer closed by sharing information on a local resource: the Holton Extension Office. The office is located on the town square with office hours of Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office can be reached at 785-364-4125 to assist with questions.

## The Harvest Feast



Traditional foods and frybread at the Harvest Feast.



L to R: Janis Simon, Linda Tecumseh and Nina Hinds prepared the traditional foods for the Harvest Feast.

A spread of traditional Potawatomi food was served to the community at the annual Harvest Feast. This year’s event took place on October 27, 2016 and was held at Nozhackum Hall on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation.

Nearly 100 members of the community came out, some with their dish bags, to enjoy the traditional foods prepared by Linda Tecumseh, Nina Hinds and Janis Simon. The foods included deer, duck, turkey, buffalo, ninwezchecks, potatoes, squash, corn, wild rice and Indian tea. Along with the traditional foods were also some community favorites like goulash, frybread and desserts.



Community members Bill Evans and wife Ashley with their son Bill enjoy the food at the feast.

## Apple Butter Canning Workshop



While the apple butter was cooling the participants cut out fabric and findings to decorate the lids of the jars. Left to Right are Sarah Gartenmeyer, Mary LeClere and Carol DeWitt as they work together with the ribbons, fabric and twine.

On October 11 and 12, 2016 the DPP program held an Apple Butter Canning Working Shop. The program collaborated with the Language department and held the class at the Fire Keepers Elder Center. There were 15 people in attendance at the workshop over the course of the two days. The group met for three hours each day. During that time they peeled, sliced and diced approximately 70 pounds of apples. The apples and other ingredients were then placed in several crockpots and allowed to cook. Day two of the course included instruction on the actual canning process. As the cans of apple butter cooled the group worked together constructing cloth lids for a personal touch. Each participant was sent home with a jar of apple butter and the remainder was donated to the Elders Center to use at their discretion.



Approximately 70 pounds of apples were used to create several jars of apple butter during the two day workshop.

# Diabetes Prevention Program

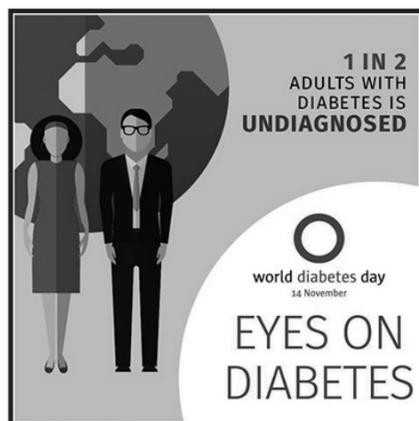
## Eliminate Diabetes Holiday Challenge

Currently underway is the 5th Annual DPP Eliminate Diabetes Holiday Challenge. The PBP DPP has challenged participants to lost weight/inches or maintain their current weight during this holiday season. The challenge began Monday, November 7, 2016 and will conclude on February 3, 2017.

The DPP will hold bi-weekly weigh-ins to help track participant progress. During this time they can also assist participants with information and insight to help tackle any struggles that may be encountered. The DPP suggests signing up with friends and family because it is a great means of support and accountability.

The DPP will again provide prizes along the way to keep motivation high and progress on track. Participants that make 6 of the 7 weigh-ins will receive a Nike zip up jacket!

## World Diabetes Day 2016



World Diabetes Day 2016 was recognized on Monday, November 14th. WDD is the world's largest diabetes awareness campaign reaching a global audience of over 1 billion people in more than 160 countries. The campaign draws attention to issues of paramount importance to the diabetes world and keeps diabetes firmly in the public and political spotlight!

The theme of World Diabetes Day 2016 is Eyes on Diabetes. The year the International Diabetes Federation will focus activities and materials on promoting the importance of screening to ensure early diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes and treatment to reduce the risk of serious complications.

World Diabetes Day was created in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes. World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006 with the passage of United Nation Resolution 61/225.

Locally, the PBP DPP recognized the day by holding a drawing promoting the color blue and being active. To qualify for the drawing prizes community members were asked to send in pictures of them wearing the color blue or engaged in a physical activity. Winners from the day included Chris Brewer, Nicki Dugan, Thomasena Arteaga, Verna Simon, Peggy Hankerson, Ellen Scales and David Nolan.

## Tips for Beating Holiday Weight Gain

Submitted by Matt Waits - DPP Lifestyle Coach

The holiday season is full of cheer, but it can also be stressful keeping up with family get-togethers and paying for all those gifts. Stress can trigger increased eating and cravings, especially for sugary carbohydrates. If family time (or being away from family during the holidays) has you feeling overwhelmed, try out one of these ways to reduce stress before downing hot chocolate and cookies.

### Stay positive

Many of us demonize certain foods and even punish ourselves for indulgences. Instead, positive messages like "I can control my eating" or "I'm proud that I ate responsibly today" can reframe our relationship with food. Research shows positive expectations are associated with weight loss. Even if it feels a little silly, try telling yourself at least one positive affirmation per day.

### Sleep Smarter

Though there's likely no stopping the urge to wake up early on Christmas morning, getting enough sleep can help shave off some pounds, since sleep loss is linked to changes in appetite. Getting enough sleep has also been associated with less weight gain. Practice good sleep hygiene, like turning off electronics in the bedroom and avoiding high-fat foods at night.

### Mindful Eating

Mindless eating is consuming food just because it's there. Its eating while distracted – watching TV, working at a computer or texting on our smartphones. It's eating for emotional comfort instead of for hunger. Simply put, it's not paying attention to what we eat which can lead to being overweight and even obesity. The key is

to flip the switch and be mindful of what and how much you are consuming. By paying more attention, you're more likely to make beneficial changes.

### Awareness

Here are some small changes in awareness that can make a big difference:

- Control portions. You don't have to deprive yourself, just eat smaller portions and less often.

- Eat when you're hungry. Despite what the clock says, if you're not hungry, wait until you are – just don't wait until you're famished because you might overeat.

- Plan. Prepare healthy snacks throughout the day. If you tend to get hungry between meals, bring along a 200-calorie, whole grain, high-fiber snack. Fiber keeps you feeling full longer.

- Slow down. Enjoy each bite and put your fork down while chewing, then take a drink between each bite. This gives your body enough time to trigger your brain that you are satisfied (not necessarily full).

### Drink Mbish

Drinking water helps you feel full and as a result you will consume fewer calories. Rather than guzzling calories through sugar loaded sodas and juices (which are associated with increased body fat and blood pressure) treat your self to a nice refreshing glass of H2O. If you find your water a little bland flavor it with fruit infusions, ginger or mint.

## We'll Miss You Melinda!



Melinda Williamson tracking scores during a 5K event.

Melinda Williamson has taken on a new position for the tribe. After serving as the Diabetes Prevention Program Manager for nearly five years she has transitioned to a role in the PBP Language department.

"I want to thank each and every one of you for the love and support you have shown me, my program, and my staff over the years, it has meant so much," said Williamson upon her departure of the program.

## 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.

### Spring 2017 Issue

Deadline for submissions: February 3, 2017

Mail date: March 15, 2017

Send Submissions to:

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Email: michellesimon@pbpnation.org

Mail: PBP News, PO Box 116, Mayetta, KS 66509

Location: 16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509

Phone: 785-966-3920

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Facebook: Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

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# Fire Keeper Elders Center Happenings

## Ette Nan Tak So Watkek Yattek “Honor the Elders”



Lyman Shipshee and Leatrice Noriega were recognized as the 2016 Honored Elders at the Fire Keepers Elder Center. The two were nominated for their unique contributions to the community.

The annual “Honor the Elders” event was held at the Fire Keepers Elder Center on Wednesday, October 26, 2016. Every year, the community elders place nominations for a female and male peer to receive this recognition. This year’s Honored Elders are Leatrice Noriega and Lyman Shipshee. The Fire Keepers Elder Center staff cooked a meal for everyone and provided the recipients with a gift and plaque. Following are the nominations for each:

“Leatrice is a friendly person. She was raised by another good person, Blanch Cook. Leatrice has helped with our cultural and traditional ways.

Once, while visiting with her, she said one of the country schools were going to close. So she went around the reservation and rounded up some students. She told the teacher and the school was re-opened.”

“Lyman is an outstanding elder! He teaches the language to the young and the other elders. I’m glad they are keeping our language alive. They make the classes fun to learn and it’s so good, our children are doing so good! Cheers to all the language teachers. Thank you. Thank the Lord we have these people who have the time to teach!”

## Halloween Fun



Winners of the costume contest, left to right:  
3rd Place - Norma Cable & Richard Adame as “The Blues Brothers”  
2nd Place - Linda Tecumseh as “A Beach Babe”  
1st Place - TJ Kitchkommie as “A Three Headed Monster”



Winners of the Pumpkin Decorating/ Carving Contest:

At left: 1st Place - Sandra Mitchell



Above: 2nd Place - Richard Adame



At left: 3rd Place - Mary LeClere

## Thanksgiving Meal



The Frybread Makers: Jolene Thomas & Lan Danielson.



A time for family: Tom Tuckwin & wife enjoying the meal.



A time for friends: Tribal Council Liana Onnen & Zach Pahmahmie having a laugh with Shirley Trull.



And good conversation: Pat Keesis and friend enjoying a visit.



One lucky lady won a Prairie Band T-shirt.



PBCR HR Director Ruth Harjo and GM Ryan Bandt draw tickets for the various door prizes.



Drusa Wabaunsee won a Bingo Pack.



Alvina LeClair was in good spirits.



Casino staff volunteer to dish up the meals.

Each year the Fire Keeper Elder Center host a community Thanksgiving dinner bringing everyone together to enjoy a fine meal and visit with one another. The staff prepare a traditional meal of turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, yams and pumpkin pie. The meal is supplemented with soups, frybread and other desserts and items brought by the guests. Each year the Prairie Band Casino & Resort staff come out and volunteer to serve meals and act as the waiters. The Casino also generously donates door prizes, this year’s included an over-sized Pendleton towel, several t-shirts, mugs and Bingo vouchers.

# Department News

## Human Resources Spirit Week

This fall the Human Resources department started something new! They held an Employee Appreciation Spirit Week from October 31, through November 4, 2016.

Activities included Best Halloween Costume, Football Trivia, Name That Logo, a Football Skills Combine and a #1 Superfan Challenge. The week ended with all PBPN employees receiving two

tickets to attend the Chiefs vs. Jaguars NFL football game in Kansas City, Missouri.

HR also sponsored a "Scary Movie" themed pumpkin contest for all the tribal departments. They had 15 entries in the contest and Pharmacy won the grand prize with their Annabelle entry. The pumpkin/doll was equipped with a mechanical device that allowed the head to rotate.



Above, the winning pumpkin created by the Pharmacy staff.

At right, from top left are some of the #1 Superfans: Josie Pahmahmie, Shirley Trull, Lauren Purtee, Stephanie Jim, Burton Jones, Nikki Jackson, Hope Adame and Kelly Mills.

The Nation currently has several job listings available, visit: [www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com) and select "Employment"

## Dental Department Candy Buy Back

The Dental department in a move to help save some teeth and maybe some tummy aches sponsored a candy buy back program from November 1 through the 8th. They paid \$2.00 per pound of donated candy and each child had their name entered in a drawing for a grand prize.

The program generated 36 pounds of candy from 11 children! All of the candy will be donated, with half going to troops and first responders overseas and the other half being sent to Standing Rock.

This program provided an opportunity to teach the children the importance of helping others (by showing our support) and to give those working away from



family and friends a little taste of home.

Those that donated were encouraged to write a letter, draw a picture, or send a thank you card to send with the care package.

## Peacemakers Circle



The Peacemakers Circle swore in Krista Catron and Harold Simon in September 2016. Above are the new members with some of their fellow Peacemakers, center front Marie Clements, back row Krista Catron, Chuck Jacobson, Jeannie Hawley, Harold Simon and Chris Brewer.

## Tribal Victim Services Activities



Jason "Naseka" Hale, Trilby Wahwasuck, Greg Suke and Adrian "Gubba" Hale sing at the Round Dance in October sponsored by the TVS department.

Each October the Tribal Victim Services department hosts a cadre of events to bring awareness to National Domestic Violence Month.

This year's activities were kicked off on October 1st with the Walk A Mile in Their Mocs event, 105 community members walked to show support to end domestic violence.

Up next was a local favorite, Splatters That Matter, an art

marathon that hosted 120 participants at the Boys & Girls Club on the 8th.

Movies at the Park was held mid-month with 110 members of the community viewing the new Ghostbusters.

The department then invited everyone to take part in a Round Dance on the 22nd and the final event of the month was Trunk or Treat held at Prairie Peoples Park. Check the back page for pictures!

**If you are in an abusive relationship, remember:**

- 1.) You are not alone.
- 2.) It is NOT your fault.
- 3.) Help is available.



**24-Hour TVS Hotline**

1-866-966-0173

**24-Hour National Domestic Violence Hotline**

1-800-799-7233

## Kambottek



### Aschely Levier

TOHATCHI - Funeral services for Aschely Levier, 20, will be at 10 a.m. Friday, September 9, 2016, at the Tohatchi United Pentecostal Church. Martin Eastridge will officiate. Burial will be on a Halona family plot in Tohatchi, New Mexico.

Levier was born July 30, 1996, in Gallup, into the Keepers of the Fire People Clan born for the Salt People Clan. She passed September 3, 2016.

Levier graduated from Tohatchi High School. She was in love with nature, animals and life. Levier enjoyed music and was a natural artist. She was always active and took care of her family, grandparents, brothers and sisters.

Survivors include her mother Delaine Levier, brothers Marcellus Levier and Zavier Levier, sisters Aiyana Levier and Jaelyn Levier, and grandparents Kee and Winifred Muskett. She was preceded in death by her grandparents Arthur M. Levier Jr. and Ruth E. Levier and father Jay Levier.

Pallbearers will be Seth Simasingh, Kyrin Harrison, Christopher Martin, Jeremy Bitsilly, Nathan Conway and Benjamin Asteen.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the Tohatchi Chapter House.

Cope Memorial Chapel of Gallup, NM is entrusted with arrangements.

### Harvey Wahquahboshkuk

MAYETTA - Harvey Lasley Wahquahboshkuk, 3 months, passed away Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at his home.

He was born June 14, 2016 in Topeka, KS the son of Noah O. Wahquahboshkuk and Rose E. LeClere.

Harvey was a member of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include his parents; his twin brother, Oakley L. Wahquahboshkuk; 3 brothers, Aaron O. Lawrence, Taylen J. LeClere and Leo A. Wahquahboshkuk; paternal grandfather, George L. Wahquahboshkuk; paternal grandmother, Janet Smithers and maternal grandmother, Donita J. Mattwaoshshe.

Private family burial will be in Potts Cemetery on the Potawatomi Reservation. Mercer Funeral Home in Holton is in charge of arrangements.

To leave a special message for the family, please visit [www.mercerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.mercerfuneralhomes.com).



### Jay Levier

TOHATCHI - Funeral Services for Jay Levier, 41, will be at 10 a.m. Friday, September 9, 2016, at the Tohatchi United Pentecostal Church. Martine Eastridge will officiate. Burial will be on a Halona family plot in Tohatchi, NM.

Levier was born May 7, 1975, in Lawton, Oklahoma, into the Keepers of the Fire People Clan. He passed September 3, 2016.

Levier was a family man and loved his wife and children. He attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. Levier was a talented artist and loved the outdoors, loved fishing and was always helping others.

Survivors include his wife Delaine Levier; sons Marcellus Levier and Zavier Levier; daughters Aiyana Levier and Jaelyn Levier; and sisters Carmen Levier and Cherise Levier. He was preceded in death by his parents Arthur M. Levier Jr. and Ruth E. Levier, brother Clinton Levier and daughter Ashley Levier.

Pallbearers will be Michael King, David Guedea, Anthony Lopez, Steven Plummer, Nicholas Conway and Mark Conway.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the Tohatchi Chapter House.

Cope Memorial Chapel of Gallup, NM is entrusted with arrangements.



### Joseph Seymour, Jr.

WICHITA - Joseph Michael Seymour, Jr. "Ship-Shee", 25, passed away unexpectedly on September 20, 2016. Joe was born March 2, 1991 in Topeka, KS to Mary Soyez and Joseph Seymour.

Joe is survived by his mother, Mary Thorpe-Soyez; father Steve Soyez; father, Joseph Seymour, Sr.; fiancée, Denesa Llamas; daughter, Scarlet Smith; and many more loving family members.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 am, Monday, September 26, 2016 at Colonial Heights Assembly of God. All are welcome to attend and celebrate the life of Joe.

Share condolences at [www.CozoneMemorial.com](http://www.CozoneMemorial.com). Services by Broadway Mortuary.



### Tina Anderson Meek

MADISON/BAYFIELD - Tina Marie Meek (Anderson), age 49, passed away on Friday, November 11, 2016.

Tina was born on September 12, 1967 to Raymond and Marie Anderson.

She graduated from East High School. Tina worked at Coco Artisan in Bayfield, WI. She was a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Tina enjoyed to travel and was a proud grandma and aunt.

Tina is survived by her sons Cory and Cody; grandchildren, Hunter and Lilli Anderson; father Raymond Anderson Sr; brothers, Michael and Raymond Anderson; nieces, Mariah and Marissa Anderson. Further survived by many family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her mother.

A celebration of life will take place from 9:00 AM until 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 18, 2016 at Ryan Funeral Home, 2418 North Sherman Avenue, Madison. Burial at Roselawn Memorial Park.

To view and sign this guestbook, please visit: [www.ryanfuneralservice.com](http://www.ryanfuneralservice.com)

### Karen Hernandez Strange

MENOMONEE FALLS, WI - Karen Sue (Hernandez) Strange, born September 2, 1952, went home to be with the Lord on October 17, 2016, at the age of 64.

Beloved wife of David for 48 years. Cherished mother of Carol Jean Fairbanks, David (Leanne) and Robert (Danielle). Adored grandma of 13. Proud great-grandma of one, with a great-grandbaby on the way. Sister of Juan Hernandez, Gloria Reves, Joan Hernandez and Winnetta Sheppard.

Preceded in death by her parents; Mark and Carole Jean Hernandez, her brother Mark Hernandez and her special Aunt Arlene Hernandez.

Visitation will be Sunday October 23, 2016 at Gospel Fellowship of Sussex, N74 W25332 Howard Lane in Sussex, Wisconsin from 2pm until time of service at 3pm. Private burial at Lisbon Merton Union Cemetery. Memorials to the family would be greatly appreciated.

### Bonita Miller

HARRAH, OK - Bonita Jean Miller, 54, was born on January 22, 1962. She passed away October 11, 2016. She was a proud member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

## Kambottek



### Jeanette Nioce Cummings

YAKIMA - "Seebequah" Jeanette Nioce Cummings, 76, of Yakima, WA passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on September 11, 2016 ending her fight with Alzheimer's.

Born July 15, 1940 to Joe and Alice Nioce, in Holton KS. As a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation she was raised on the reservation the youngest of 6 siblings.

She is preceded in death by her parents and her sisters; Isabel Thomas, Vivian Nioce, Vestina Nonkin, Inez Aikin, and brother Edgar Nioce and granddaughter Sarah Marshall Partlow.

She is survived by her sister Loretta Rosenthal of Cherokee, Iowa, immediate family and several nieces and nephews.

After graduating from Holton High she married Theodore (Ted) Cummings at Our Lady of Snows Catholic Church on June 6, 1959. Together they raised two daughters; Jo Ann Marshall (Kevin) of Yakima, WA and Vivian Alexander (Gregg) of Hutchinson, KS. The family grew to include 7 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Over the next 57 years together they ran a business, nurtured a family, traveled, and played music across the US in their band 'The Good Timers'. Jeanette's life was full of family, friends, art, music, dancing, and prayer. And in her travels she enjoyed researching Potawatomi tribal genealogy. Where ever she traveled she took time to work in the Catholic Church. She always had her prayer lists from those requesting prayer. We all knew we could count on her to pray.

Jeanette was honored in a Christian Burial Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lynden, WA on September 16, 2016 with family attending and serving. Deacon and nephew Scott Aikin blessed the grave site at Ten Mile Cemetery. He sang a Potawatomi song using a Potawatomi drum and the drum stick of her father, Sock-ka-nakabah. The family was blessed by the sight of two eagles that circled above the trees as the song filled the valley. Then the family gathered to sing the Blessing song and lay down roses in honor of See-be-quah Jeanette Cummings.

"Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted." (Matthew 5:4).

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



### Billy Barger

TOPEKA - Billy "Bill" Barger, 73, of Topeka, KS passed away on Friday, October 7, 2016 at a Topeka hospital. He was born November 2, 1942 in Humphrey, Arkansas, the son of Roy and Mary (Vanderblomen) Barger.

Bill graduated from Hoyt High School in 1961.

Bill was employed by Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company for 40 years before retiring in 2001. He was a member of the United Steel Workers Local No. 307.

Bill married Celeste Fuller in 1963. They later divorced. Bill later married Linda (Kruger) Russell in 1988. She survives. Other survivors include his children, Paul (Penny) Barger of Hoyt, Tom (Theo) Barger of Topeka, his step-son, Lonnie Russell of Topeka, six grandchildren, Courtney, Josh, Cody, Caleb, Derrick and Trent, one great-grandson, Jayden. Other survivors include his brother, Jim Barger of Topeka and sister, Betty Nioce of Horton.

Bill was preceded in death by one step-son, Lance Russell, his brother, Robert Barger, his brother-in-law, Irl George and sister-in-law, Bernie Kruger.

Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at Penwell-Gabel Southeast Chapel. Inurnment will follow in Pleasant Hill Cemetery southeast of Topeka.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be given to the NE Kansas Parkinson Association, P.O. Box 67342, Topeka, KS 66667 or to National Parks Conservation Association, Attn: Membership Department, 777 6th St., NW, Ste. 700, Washington, DC 20001.

### Gene Cravatt

CEDAR HILL, TEXAS - Gene "Geno" Leroy Cravatt passed away on September 24, 2016. He was born on June 7, 1978. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Gene was preceded in death by his father, Gene H. Cravatt, sister, Imogene Cravatt Barragan and brother Frank Cravatt.

Survivors include his mother Barbara Clark Cravatt, a brother Lyndel Cravatt, and a sister Annette Cravatt Gray, all of Dallas.

Arrangements are under the direction of Calvary Hill Funeral Home, Dallas, TX.



### Michael Lockman

WISCONSIN RAPIDS - Michael Allan Lockman "GAH-SO-BE-TIC", age 29, of Wisconsin Rapids, WI continued on his journey on Saturday, October 22, 2016.

Services will be at 1:00 P.M. on Friday, October 28, 2016 at Herman-Taylor Funeral Home in Wisconsin Rapids. Rev. Kenneth Hanson will officiate. Burial, with full military honors conducted by VFW Post 2534, will take place at Forest Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 27, 2016 and Friday, October 28, 2016 from 11:00 A.M. until the time of services at the funeral home. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.taylorfuneralhome.net](http://www.taylorfuneralhome.net).

Mike was born April 5, 1987 to Randolph and Margaret (Arndt) Lockman, Sr. in Wisconsin Rapids. He attended Lincoln High School and graduated from River Cities High School in 2005. After graduation, Mike joined the United States Army to make this a better world. He proudly served during Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 27th Infantry Regiment (Wolfhounds) 25th I.D. They were his brothers and will be forever a part of him. Mike was a proud enrolled tribal member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

With an adventurous soul he always lived life to the fullest enjoying extreme sports especially motocross. During his military service he was able to experience the natural beauty of many places and people. He took comfort in nature and had a great passion for the outdoors, youthfulness and life. Mike had a deeply sensitive and caring heart, especially for those less fortunate. He loved children and was a devoted uncle to his niece and nephews. Mike will be deeply missed and forever in the hearts of all who knew him.

Mike is survived by his mother, Margaret Lockman of Wisconsin Rapids; his father, Randolph (Christine) Lockman, Sr. of Nekoosa; sister, Sarah Lockman (Anson White Eagle); brother, Randy (Miranda) Lockman, Jr.; niece, Christiana; and nephews: Avery, Allius, Aric, Aiden, Caden, and Trevor. He is further survived by his grandmother, Isabelle A. Lockman of Wisconsin Rapids, along with many aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and his service dog, Kooper.

He was preceded in death by his great-grandmother, Evelyn Schwartz; grandparents, Roy (Nellie Young) Arndt, Sr.; godmother, Lynnette Troyanowski; godfather, Al Ghiloni; aunt, Linda Arndt-Bertotto; and cousin, Shelly Adams-Keith.



## Donnis Keo

HORTON - Donnis Josette Keo, 72, of Horton, Kansas, passed away on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at her home in Horton, Kansas.

She was born on April 19, 1944 in Mayetta, Kansas the daughter of Louis & Helen Nahgonbe Oliver.

Donnis worked as a LPN Nurse for years until she retired. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe.

On July 22, 1966 she married Jim Keo Sr. in Hiawatha, Kansas. He survives of the home. Other survivors include, five daughters, Eleanor Banks, Tina (Ray) Wahwasuck, Shirley Keo, Juell (Chris) Tucker and Wanda Keo all of Horton, Kansas; son, James "Mokie" (April) Keo Jr. also of Horton, Kansas; a sister, Helen Williams Wilson of Rossville, Kansas; nineteen grandchildren and forty-three great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, five sisters, Thamar Morris, Sharon Pilcher, Cynthia Switch, Georgia Williams and Donna Oliver and a brother, Hank Williams.

Memorial services will be at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, November 14, 2016 at the Kickapoo Community Building on the Kickapoo Reservation. Inurnment will be at the Keo Cemetery at a later date. A special message may be sent to the family at [www.dishon-maple-chaney.com](http://www.dishon-maple-chaney.com)



## Sharon Belair

DELIA - Sharon L. Belair, Kno-Key-Shuck-Kwe, 49, of Delia, died Friday, October 28, 2016 at the Midland Hospice House in Topeka.

She was born July 12, 1967, in Topeka, the daughter of Albert Francis Masqua and Evelyn Jackson.

Sharon was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the Drum Religion. She was a homemaker.

Sharon was preceded in death by her daughter, Elizabeth F. Belair and her aunt, Roberta Jackson.

Survivors include her spouse, Virgil Shopteese, Jr., of the home; her mother and step-father, Evelyn and Rusty Seymour, Topeka; a son, Albert Francis Belair, Manhattan; two daughters, Sarah Jane Hurt, Topeka and Theresa Ann Belair, of the home; three sisters, Stephanie Belair, Topeka, Deanna Roberts, Oklahoma, and Marlena Jordan, Mayetta; a step-sister, Tricia

## Nancy Wahwassuck Conboy

MAYETTA - Nancy June Wahwassuck Conboy, "Wabnoquah," 84, of Mayetta, died Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at her home on the Potawatomi Reservation.

She was born June 30, 1932 on the reservation, the daughter of John and Josette Nagonbe Wahwassuck.

Nancy was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the Drum Religion. She had worked for the Honeywell Corporation in Philadelphia for many years, retiring in the 1990s.

Nancy married Peter J. Conboy, Jr. on June 16, 1961 in Miami, OK. He died in September of 2002.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Alice Marie Conboy Gartland, sisters, Florence "Gumpy" Ross, Twila "Charlie" Lee, and Mamie Rupnicki, and brothers, John "Doc" Wahwassuck, Jr., Jewett "Swede" Wahwassuck, Raphael "Bugger" Wahwassuck, Sr., Henry Wahwassuck, and "brother dear", who died in childhood.

Survivors include two daughters, Rencie Eteeyan and Josette Wahwassuck Whitlock, both of Mayetta; three brothers, Peter Wahwassuck, Washington state, James Wahwassuck, Delia, and Merriell "Meatball" Wahwassuck, Sr., Mayetta, four grandchildren, Jessica Medicinebird, Samantha L. Wahwassuck, Barush Eteeyan Escamilla and Arnen Eteeyan Escamilla, and three great grandchildren, Andre Joe Kitchkommie, Kiyah R. Kitchkommie and Leo A. Wahquahbushkuk, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Drum services will be Thursday evening, October 6th at the Dance Ground, west of Mayetta. Burial will be Friday afternoon in the Wahwassuck Cemetery. Nancy will lie in state Wednesday at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt where visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. On-line condolences may be made at [chapeloaksfuneralhome.com](http://chapeloaksfuneralhome.com)

Seymour, Topeka; one brother, Joseph Seymour, Denver, CO; a step-brother, Allan Seymour, Topeka; four granddaughters, Louisa Reyna, Octavia Hurt, Liza Frances Belair and Dena Rochelle Jones, and numerous nieces and nephews, including Michelle Belair.

Sharon will lie in state until 3:00 p.m. Wednesday at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt where family and friends will meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday. A supper will be held Wednesday evening at the Dance Ground west of Mayetta. Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday in the Jessepe Cemetery on the Kickapoo Reservation at Horton. Memorials are suggested to Midland Hospice and may be sent in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 280, Hoyt, 66440. On-line condolences may be made at [chapeloaksfuneralhome.com](http://chapeloaksfuneralhome.com)

## Important Toll Free Phone Numbers

Government Center – 877-715-6789

Enrollment – 877-715-6789

Per Capita – 866-277-3722

Human Resources – 866-694-3937

Health Center – 866-694-6728

Pharmacy – 866-727-6330

Social Services – 888-966-2932

Tribal Court – 877-715-6789

Prairie Band Casino & Resort – 877-727-4346

## GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

**Saturday - January 21, 2017**

At the Old Bingo Hall

Registration begins at 8 a.m.

Light Breakfast 9-9:30 a.m.

**Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.**

PBPN Tribal Members 18+ Only. No one under the age of 18 is allowed in the meeting.

## VSP Update

As of November 2016 the PBPN Member Services Department manages the nation-wide vision insurance account through the provider VSP.

The vision insurance is provided at no cost to all enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation members.

The participation rules, plan design and procedures can be found online at [www.pbpindiantribe.com/special-member-service.aspx](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/special-member-service.aspx). Tribal members can also reach the Member Services Department toll-free at 877-715-6789 to enroll or ask questions.

## Tribal Holidays

All Tribal Offices and departments will be closed on the following dates:

*Christmas:* Friday, December 23, 2016 & Monday, December 26, 2016

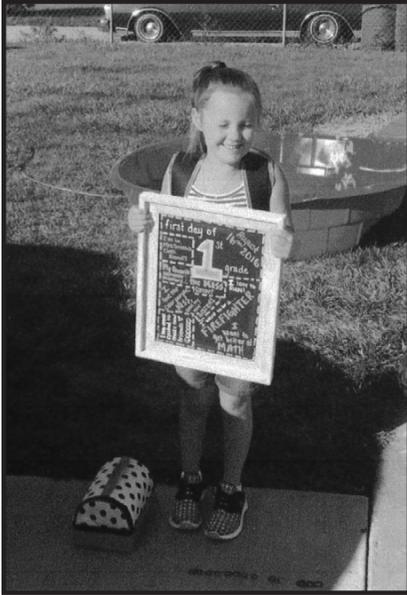
*New Year's Eve:* Friday, December 30, 2016

*New Year's Day:* Monday, January 2, 2017

*MLK, Jr. Day:* Monday, January 16, 2017

*President's Day:* Monday, February 20, 2017

## Community Birthdays & Recognition



Happy 7th Birthday to  
Miss Riley Hayden James!  
September 20th

Love, Your Family



Happy Birthday to these two wild and crazy guys!

Happy 87th to Roy on 10/19 and  
Happy 86th to Emery on 11/30



Happy 9th Birthday Meeks!  
We love you BUNCHES!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Sisters,  
Grandma & Nephew



Happy 18th Birthday  
Roman Harjo, III  
We Love You,  
Granny, Mom, Dad, Dundo,  
Auntie Leigh Ann, Matthias &  
Tsiarina



Happy Birthday Bella and Andree! Both 17 in January '17

Love, Grammy J



Welcome to the World!  
Saylor Haylyn James  
Born 6/26/16 to  
Kenda & Chuck James, big sister  
Riley & granddaughter to  
Kevin & Linda Dizmang

# save the date.

## Walpole Island First Nation hosts Potawatomi Gathering

# AUGUST 2-5

More Information Coming Soon

Find us on Facebook, "2017 Potawatomi Gathering", for updates.



Contact: Portia Shipman, Potawatomi Gathering Coordinator  
A. 117 Tahgahoning Road, R.R. #3 Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4K9  
P. 519-628-5700 | F. 519-628-4185 | E. portia.shipman@wifn.org



**Great Job Ladies!**

Tribal Members Hedy Noland and Mary LeClere still got what it takes!  
(Pictured in the back row, center.) Noland and LeClere participated in softball  
at the Kansas Senior Games this past September in Topeka, Kansas.

### Internship Opportunity

The Udall Foundation is accepting applications until January 31, 2017 for the Native American Congressional Internship: a 10-week summer internship in Washington, DC, for Native American and Alaska Native students who wish to learn more about the federal government and issues affecting Indian Country. The Udall Foundation provides round-trip airfare, housing, per diem for food and incidentals and a stipend at the close of the program. For more information and to view the application visit [udall.gov](http://udall.gov)



# Trunk or Treat 2016



For more photos visit our Facebook page and check out the Trunk or Treat 2016 Album!