



# Prairie Band Potawatomi News

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

## PBPN Chairwoman Liana Onnen Sworn In as the NCAI Southern Plains Area Vice President



Prairie Band Potawatomi Chairwoman Liana Onnen is sworn in as the Southern Plains Area Vice President alongside another newly elected representative by Election Committee Chair Juanita Ahtone at the 72nd Annual NCAI Convention.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen was sworn in as the Area Vice President for the Southern Plains Region at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual *National Congress of American Indians* Convention in San Diego, California. The convention ran from October 18 through 23 and was attended by federal and tribal leaders from across the Nation including Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council members Carrie O'Toole, Thomas Wabnum and Secretary Camilla Chouteau.

According to the NCAI, it is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of tribal governments and communities, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promotes a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

In Chairwoman Onnen's new role as Vice President of the Southern Plains, she will represent her respective area by attending national meetings, conducting and coordinating caucus meetings and providing outreach. In her new capacity as an NCAI Area Vice President Onnen will take ideas, concerns or policy to NCAI and through presentation, passage of resolutions that can be initiated, which can ultimately be adopted as the policy or position of the NCAI. Policies, resolutions and initiatives NCAI takes on generally impact all of Indian Country.

Chairwoman Onnen elaborated on the organization, "I think all tribes benefit from NCAI and the work they do because the benefits for one tribe can expand to all tribes. Although we are all different tribes, with unique identities, we are also all Native American with common problems and when we work together toward solutions we are stronger and wiser."

## PBPN Language App Launched on the Apple App Store

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Language and Cultural Department along with Thorton Media, LLC of Las Vegas, NV, launched the Nishnabemwèn iOS learning app on October 7, 2015. The purpose of the Nishnabemwèn App is to encourage and support the language acquisition endeavors of all those using the app. In October the app had more than 1,000 downloads. The Language department plans to continue adding content to the app in the future.

The Nishnabemwèn App features 30 categories of language lessons, games and quizzes for every level of learner. A subsection of the App includes a Cultural Notes section featuring: songs in the Potawatomi Language; past and current speakers giving a message to the people; and historical photos.

Download of the app is available to anyone through Apple's App store. The app was developed for an iOS platform because it can be used on all Apple iOS touch devices, such as the iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. To open the app, the user is required to enter an Access Code and PIN. The PBPN Language and Cultural Department staff will provide the Access Code and PIN by contacting them at (785) 966-2138 or (785) 966-0117.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation would like to thank the fluent speakers, past and present, which generously shared their knowledge of the Potawatomi language in order to create this opportunity.



Home screen of the Nishnabemwèn app.

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### Message to the Nation from Liana Onnen, PBPN Chairwoman

It certainly has been a busy autumn and the last three months have passed quickly. I expect these next few weeks to fly by just as quickly, if not more so, as we enter the holiday season. I found myself on the road for

much of the past three months, representing the Nation in different arenas and meeting with various officials regarding Nation business.

September was eventful as I travelled to Washington D.C. twice. On the first trip most of Tribal Council went to meet with the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to discuss the Shabehnay Reservation in Illinois and our ongoing efforts to put our land-into-trust.

The second trip was to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the worlds largest research hospital, as a member of the NIH Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee (TCAC). This inaugural meeting of the TCAC centered mostly on how the committee wishes to move forward to improve communication between NIH and tribal communities across the Nation in a way that will foster positive, meaningful, and most importantly, culturally sensitive medical research in Indian communities. I feel this is important work because health disparities in Indian Country are staggeringly disproportionate when compared to all other non-Native communities. To effectively address these disparities, we have to find ways to have meaningful, true research and data on the health issues facing Native communities.

October was also similarly busy. It was this month the Nation declared the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day. This resolution is a move of solidarity with other tribes and cities across the Nation who have chosen to replace the celebration of Columbus Day with the celebration of Indigenous Peoples around the world recognizing the true historical facts that "discovery" of indigenous peoples is a myth. We also had our October General Council Meeting this month. I continue to encourage all who can to attend. I know that it is difficult for many who live far away. Finding ways to get the most participation and interaction with you is always on my mind. Additionally, I want to take a moment to thank those of you who are able to come and

who make the effort and the sacrifices you need to make to be there.

My travels in October took me to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Annual Convention and Tradeshow. I was joined by my fellow Council Members, Camilla Chouteau, Thomas Wabnum and Carrie O'Toole. This was an election year at NCAI and it was good to be a part of the election of the officers to the NCAI Executive Committee. It was also my honor to be nominated and subsequently elected as the Southern Plains Area Vice President, a position on the Executive Committee. This is an excellent opportunity to be a part of shaping federal Indian policy and working to ensure the Federal government upholds its treaty and trust responsibilities to Native Nations. I plan to represent the Nation and the Region to the best of my ability and I look forward to learning and being active in this new role and I want to thank Tribal Council for their support of my nomination and this position.

On my final October trip, I traveled to DeKalb County, Illinois for the DeKalb County State of the County Address. This event provided another opportunity for the Nation to show its presence and support for economic development in the community. It was an enjoyable event with a lot of interaction with community members, county officials and state officials. We even had a brief meeting with the Governor of Illinois, Bruce Rauner. The relationships and friendships that previous Councils have worked to establish in the community are valuable as is the support the Nation receives from those friends. Attendance at events such as these are important in the same way as meeting with federal officials is important. We must continue to show our dedication to our land-into-trust application and in turn our dedication to being a positive, active part of the community.

My last trip of the quarter found me in Washington D.C. again for the White House Tribal Nations Conference (WHTNC.) This conference is an opportunity to engage directly with members of President Obama's cabinet and to hear an address from the President himself. It is also an opportunity to make contact with federal officials and Kansas Congressional representatives. While there I met again, briefly, with ASIA Kevin Washburn and was able to engage in a town hall discussion with Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Julian Castro about how Native American Housing and Self-Determination (NAHASDA) dollars can be used more effectively and how to continue to improve communication between the

Office of Native American Programs. I also took the opportunity to stress to Secretary Castro the importance of streamlining a cumbersome Environmental Review process, required by the National Environmental Policy Act, that can be prohibitive in how tribes choose to spend their NAHASDA funds depending upon the administrative costs of conducting Environmental Reviews. I stressed to Secretary Castro that one of the best ways to ensure success in Native American communities is to do all we can to ensure that Indian people have safe, secure and adequate housing.

The WHTNC event culminated with a brief address by President Obama and then he engaged in a youth panel discussion. The President's dedication to Native youth and Native communities in this country is unprecedented. His Generations Indigenous (GenI) initiative focuses on the very real issues that face Native youth across the country including drug/alcohol abuse in the home, dropout rates and the frighteningly soaring suicide rates among Native youth. Watching him engage with and truly listen to the youth panel was a moving experience that gives me much hope for the future of Tribal Nations.

This brings us to now and winter is just around the corner (if it hasn't arrived for you already!) and the holidays are here with it. Although we will all find ourselves busy in the upcoming weeks with school programs and concerts, holiday shopping, dinners, and parties it means your lives are full and you have family and friends to share the holidays with. So take a moment and enjoy the hustle and bustle of your life and then take a moment to simply recognize your blessings. I hope you embrace the spirit of the holidays by being kind, giving and forgiving.

Before I close, I have to acknowledge the passing of former Chairwoman, Mamie Rupnicki. Mamie was an outspoken advocate for the Nation during her time as Chairwoman and after. Mamie became a friend of mine and a mentor. She always called me, or anyone for that matter, out when she felt they were wrong or should be doing better. I will miss her greatly.

Remember to love your family and friends, to be kind to one another and appreciate every moment you have on this earth.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Liana Onnen,  
Chairwoman



of Tribal Council.

## Message to the Nation from Hattie Mitchell, PBPN Treasurer

During the past quarter I have been working on the overall policies that affect the Nation's long-term investments and assets. The Long-Term Policy is currently under review by all

the Tribal Council, Boys and Girls Club, Tribal Member Minors and PBPN employees that are directly involved with investments for the Nation. These educational sessions add to the knowledge of the decision makers that will be involved with the assets of the Nation in the future. On December 7, an instructor is coming to present a tutorial on the introduction of investments. It will also look at risk, investment allocations and how they fit with the objectives of the Nation.

Along with the financial literacy workshops, the latest PBPN Will and Estate workshop is underway and scheduled on December 15. To date, three workshops have been completed and the Tribal Elders that participated have established wills and legal drafts of other important documents.

In August of 2012, I was appointed as the Tribal Historical Cultural Preservation (THCP) officer and the PBPN Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) representative which now Junior Wahweotten will take over these duties. Below are the activities that I assisted with since my appointment:

- Provided finger weaving class for the elders and the public to learn to make yarn belts.
- Ordered digital print of a Potawatomi Dictionary from the National Smithsonian Archive.
- Purchased various art pieces to display in the Tribal offices and in a future cultural display for the public.
- Continued work to inventory letters for NAGPRA correspondence. Approximately 50 to 70 mailings a month.
- Continued communication to NAGPRA requests and for THCP requests.
- Worked to preserve artworks, artifacts, and

other historically significant materials such as newspapers and older photos.

- Purchased art and office supplies for cultural activities.
- Purchased cultural materials for PBPN religious groups.
- Assisted in repairs to PBPN religious places and buildings.

Since June of 2014 I have served on the PB LLC Board of directors, however I will no longer be the Vice-President Representative and Thomas Wabnum will be appointed in my place.

The fourth quarter is the time we review and approve budgets for the Nation, the PBPEC, and the PBPN Gaming Commission. The finance employees and representatives work hard on making these reports and supporting documentation available to Tribal Council. Thank you, as your work is appreciated and assists the Tribal Council in making the best decisions for the future of the Tribe.

The finance team has also been working on doing a Request For Proposal for the Nation's website. We hope to improve the functionality and provide easy access to information for the public. As a part of the Tribal Tax Negotiation team, we are still working on a compact with the State of Kansas.

This time of year is filled with holidays and special occasions, it is my hope you are able to spend the time with family and enjoy the company of friends.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Tribal Treasurer,  
Hattie Mitchell

The principle goal of the Long-Term Investment Policy is to provide guidelines for the prudent management of the Prairie Band Potawatomi investments. The policy will guide the Tribal Council in the following:

- (a) Establishing, reviewing periodically and modifying this Policy and its appendices from time to time.
- (b) Setting the asset allocation targets and ranges for the Fund, and modifying them from time to time.
- (c) Implementing this Policy, with input from the Counselor(s).
- (d) Engaging the Counselor(s) to assist the Tribal Council in carrying out its investment responsibilities and implementing the investment strategy and decisions of the Tribal Council.
- (e) Continuing or terminating the Counselor(s) and monitoring their performance.
- (f) Monitoring the fees and other expenses associated with the management and administration of the Fund.

The Treasury's office has also focused on financial literacy by providing workshops to

## The Prairie Band Potawatomi News

### Spring 2016 Issue

Submission deadline: February 19

Mailing date: March 15

### Summer 2016 Issue

Submission deadline: May 20

Mailing date: June 14

### Fall 2016 Issue

Submission deadline—August 19

Mailing date—September 13

### Winter 2016 Issue

Submission Deadline—November 18

Mailing Date—December 13

The Prairie Band Potawatomi News is a quarterly publication of the PBPN. 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 News staff, Tribal Council, Gaming Commission or the Nation.

The PBP News reserves the right to reject any materials or letters submitted for publication and items submitted past the deadline.

Photos submitted with news articles will be returned after publication with a SASE or can be scanned if brought to the News office.

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Tribal Council met with James Mills of DCI America in November to continue working on future enrollment criteria with the ultimate goal of options for a referendum vote in 2016.



In November, Tribal Chairwoman Liana Onnen attended the 2015 White House Tribal Nations Conference, where tribal leaders had an opportunity to meet and address concerns with the top officials of the United States government including President Obama. While there, Chairwoman Onnen, was able to meet and speak with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro (left) and U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn (right).



On December 1, 2015, Tribal Council Vice Chairwoman Joyce Guerrero swore in Benny Potts (seated left) and Tom Tuckwin (seated right) to the Enrollment Review Committee. They join Lorrie Melchior and Micki Martinez (not pictured). The positions are two year terms.

**Charitable Contributions**

**October 2015**

*Total Donated \$81,800*

List of recipients:

- American Cancer Society
- Banner Creek Science Center
- Breaking Camp
- Brown County Chapter of NAC
- Civil Air Patrol
- Coats for Kids
- Delia Community Pride
- Doorstep, Inc.
- Holton Community Hospital
- Housing & Credit Counseling, Inc.
- KSDS, Inc.
- Lawrence Community Shelter, Inc.
- Make-A-Wish of Kansas
- March of Dimes
- NE KS Area Agency on Aging
- North Jackson USD #335
- Royal Valley USD #337
- Sheltered Living, Inc.
- St. Marys Food Pantry
- Three Rivers, Inc.
- Topeka Lulac Center
- Topeka Symphony Orchestra
- We-Ta-Se American Legion Post 410

**Charitable Contribution Committee**

Arlene Wahwasuck is a newly appointed member to the Charitable Contribution Committee. She joins fellow members:

- LaVera Bell—Chair
- Wanda Treinen—Committee Coordinator and Acting Secretary
- John Tuckwin—Member
- Ruth Harjo—Member
- Betty Rice—Member

The committee meets once a month to review applications for consideration and disbursements are made on a quarterly basis.

### New Healing to Wellness Judge Sworn In



On Monday, November 9, 2015, Tribal Chairwoman Liana Onnen swore in Elizabeth Kronk Warner as a new District Court Judge for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Court. Her main duties are to preside over the Healing to Wellness Court.

Judge Kronk Warner is excited to join with PBP Nation due to their progressive culture and she greatly admires and respects the Healing to Wellness Court. She looks forward to its continued growth in a positive, successful way.

Judge Kronk Warner is an Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Kansas School of Law. She is also a Professor of Law and the Director for the Tribal Law and Government Center. Kronk Warner has been practicing law for over 12 years. She received a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan School of Law.

The PBPNT Tribal Court employs a total of three District Court Judges. The Honorable Theresa Barr serves as the Administrative Judge and the Honorable Mary Daniel serves as a District Court Judge.

Tribal Chairwoman Liana Onnen swears in the Honorable Elizabeth Kronk Warner as a new District Court Judge. Kronk Warner is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie tribe of Chippewa Indians and serves as a Chief Judge for their appellate court with eight years of service.

### Healing to Wellness Court Awarded \$200,000 for Community Assistance

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Healing to Wellness Court was recently awarded a total of \$200,000 through the Bureau of Justice Assistance; 2015 Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program on September 30, 2015. The project period runs from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2017. Salaries, supplies, contractual funds, and training for team members will be funded over the life of the grant. The purpose of this project is to address the ever evolving substance abuse issues on the reservation.

The target population for services are non-violent offenders charged with an alcohol or drug-related crime, and who suffer from alcohol or drug dependency who live on or near the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation. The current maximum participant capacity within this year is 12 and over the course of the grant 30 participants are anticipated to be served. The minimum length of time for program participation is 12 months and the maximum is 24 months. Taken from past participation, the average length of the program is 10 months.

### Healing to Wellness Court Swears In New Public Defender

Directly following the judicial swearing in, PBPNT tribal member Joshua Arce was sworn in as the new Public Defender for the Healing to Wellness Court by Tribal Chairwoman Liana Onnen on November 9, 2015.

Arce is ready to take on his new duties and appreciates the innovative approach the Healing to Wellness Court system affords offenders.

“The opportunity here allows more freedom to be creative and flexible in finding solutions to set people up for a successful lifestyle change,” said Arce. The Healing to Wellness Court has a greater focus on rehabilitation than other drug courts.

Arce has over seven years experience working in the judicial system. He has served as a guardian ad litem for the PBP Nation since 2008. In this role he is a court appointed advocate for children in the foster care system and looks out for their best interests while working in conjunction with the social services department, schools, placements and other service providers. He also sits on the Douglas County Citizen Review Board, which reviews foster care cases, again ensuring the best interest of the children.

Arce has a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work and received his Juris Doctorate in Law, with a Tribal Lawyer Certificate, both from the University of Kansas. Arce is also the President of the Board of Directors of PBPEC and works at Haskell Indian Nations University as the Information Technology Director.



Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen swears in Joshua Arce as the new Public Defender for the Healing to Wellness Court.



Prairie Band welcomes Randy LaBrecque to the Road & Bridge Department. LaBrecque is the new foreman and started his post in August.

Prior to joining the PBPB work force, he was employed at the Shawnee Lake Golf Course. LaBrecque's work experience is centered in the construction field with expertise in asphalt. One of LaBrecque's goals moving forward is to enhance the asphalt program.

LaBrecque enjoys working with the staff of Road & Bridge, commenting "They are a great group that works hard."



William Mitchell, PBPB tribal member, is the Assistant General Manager for the Nation.

William has a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Management from Haskell Indian Nations University. He is in the process of obtaining his Masters of Business Administration through the University of Kansas.

Mitchell brings five years of casino management work experience from his time at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort. He looks forward to working for the Tribal government in order to make a direct impact on the community.



Michelle Simon, PBPB tribal member, began her position of Media Relations Specialist in November. Her position includes the duties of tribal newspaper editor, website administrator, public relations and social media services for the Nation.

Simon holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Media from Washburn University and is currently completing a Masters of Business Administration through Friends University.

She has previous work experience in marketing and management, spending the previous five years at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort working in a management role. In 2013 Simon received the Supervisor of the Year Award for her improvement of the Casino Gift Shop.



Wade Schneider is the new Chief of Police for the PBPB. Chief Schneider has 17 years of experience in law enforcement, with the past 15 years spent working for the Nation.

Initially Schneider joined the department as an officer, became a supervisor, promoted to sergeant, transitioned to a detective and most recently served as the assistant police chief prior to his new role.

He has over 2,000 hours of continuing education in law enforcement and is trained in death investigation and bloodstain pattern analysis.

In November Schneider graduated from the University of Kansas as a Certified Public Manager. He is also currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University.



Adele Wahwassuck, PBPB tribal member, is the Director of Human Resources beginning November 2015.

Wahwassuck's prior management experience includes three years as the PBPB Program Coordinator for the Family Violence Prevention Program. In 2011 she was hired by the Prairie Band Casino & Resort, specializing in employee relations and employment. Most recently she was the Human Resources Generalist at Brewster Place in Topeka, Kansas.

Wahwassuck has an Associate of Arts degree from Highland Community College, a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management & Leadership and a Masters of Business Administration, both from Friends University. Since 2014 she was classified as a Tribal Human Resource Certified Professional and in January 2016 will be taking the PHR (Professional in Human Resources) exam.

**PBPB Employment Opportunities**

The following positions are open for applications at the date of printing. PBPB Tribal Members can apply for all positions regardless of in-house status.

To apply and see complete job descriptions visit [www.pbpindiantribe.com](http://www.pbpindiantribe.com). Contact HR at 785-966-3060 or toll free 866-694-3937 for any additional information.

These postings are open until filled:

- **Child & Family Service Manager**
- **Police Officer III**
- **Police Officer III – Uncertified \*\*In House**
- **Police Officer III/Youth Liaison – Uncertified**

## Facelift for the Facade

Beginning this fall the PBP Nation began a modernization project on the 15 year old Government Center building. The first procedure involved repair and re-shingle of the roof. The second phase focused on the entry way. The concrete and foundational pieces were showing signs of deterioration and a cavity had formed underneath the entrance area creating a safety issue. The third stage addressed the landscape architecture of the façade.

Second  
PHASE

The original entrance is prepped for the upcoming construction.



The PBPB Building Maintenance department was tasked with the removal of the sidewalk area from the main doors out to the parking lot.



Working in conjunction with Lamberson Construction, a Native owned company, the PBPB Building Maintenance installs the new entranceway that includes built-in heating technology. Tom Jim, Sr. discusses the project with Kipp Lamberson, Owner.



The finished entrance is much wider than before and has a handicap accessible easement to the pavement of the parking lot.



This area of concrete is textured and stained in a warm taupe color with the border stained to match the pillars.

Third  
PHASE

In the third phase of the project, all of the trees, bushes and grasses were removed from the front of the building.



The PBPB Building Maintenance department will install a new design layout in the near future.

**“Prairie Band Ahead of the Game” with FEMA Claim**

Submitted by Tribal Land Office



Above, roads and fields on the Reservation are overrun with excess rain. Below, cross-tubes and roads gave way to the flooding.

On June 4, 2015 the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) sustained heavy rains, flooding and lightning strikes that caused severe damage to tribally owned roads and several tribal facilities.

A Preliminary Disaster Assessment (PDA) was conducted June 23, 2015 by a team including representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Kansas Department of Emergency Management (KDEM) and the PBPN. Three cross-tube washouts and several flooded areas were viewed.

On July 20, 2015 through Presidential Declaration, the disaster was federally recognized and titled FEMA-4230-DR for severe storms, straight-line winds, and flooding that occurred between May 4, 2015 and June 21, 2015. It was opened to Public Assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. It was not opened for individual assistance.

An Application Briefing was held at the Jackson County Courthouse on July 27, 2015 by FEMA, KDEM and Pat Korte, Jackson County Emergency Management. Several municipalities, county departments, and the PBPN attended. The PBPN formally filed for Public Assistance.

On September 14, 2015 a Kickoff Meeting was held at the PBPN Government Center which was attended by several tribal staff, Patrick Carnahan and Gail Fullerton, both FEMA PA Specialists. It was determined that the PBPN would file for claims under several categories to assist with repairs to the tribal roads, the Boys and Girls Club, the Elder Center, the tribal Government Center and Prairie Peoples Park.

**“The Prairie Band is ahead of the game,”**  
*Patrick Carnahan, FEMA PA Specialist*

The most extensive damage was to the tribal roads system. Three cross-tubes had washed out and required replacement as well as significant aggregate loss to over 75 miles of gravel roads. Over 30,000 tons of rock were needed to replace the lost aggregate.

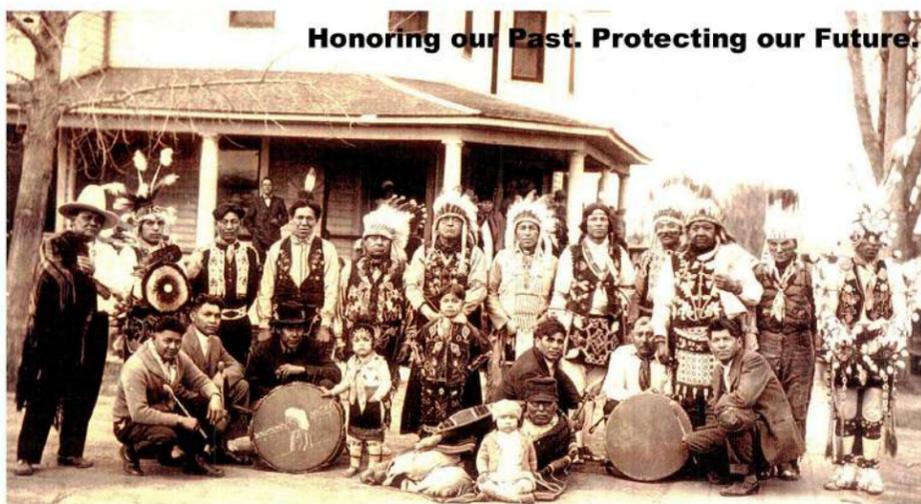
The Boys and Girls Club, Elder Center and Prairie Peoples Park sustained electrical damage to several components such as alarm systems, phone systems and HVAC. The tribal Government Center sustained flood damage to areas in the lower level.

All damage to the facilities has been repaired. The processing of the claims is on-going.



**Land Buy-Back Program Concludes**

Submitted by Tribal Land Office



\$5,145,493 in sales  
for 3,290 equivalent acres



The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations with the Department of the Interior has concluded as of September 30, 2015. Initially over \$10.5 million in offers were mailed out to over 1,500 land owners starting April 13, 2015. June 7, 2015 was set as the deadline to return offers with a purchase ceiling set at \$4,352,816, which was later exceeded.

Informational sessions for PBP land owners were held at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort in Mayetta, Kansas, at the Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the Ho-Chunk Gaming Hotel and Convention Center – Wisconsin Dells in Baraboo, Wisconsin, the Potawatomi Carter Casino and Hotel in Wabeno, Wisconsin, and at the 2015 Prairie Band Potawatomi Pow Wow.

At the conclusion of the program, \$5,145,493 in sales were completed and the Nation acquired 3,290 equivalent acres.

## We-Ta-Se Veterans Powwow

### 18th Annual We-Ta-Se Veterans Powwow



Taryn Boswell, 2015-16 We-Ta-Se Princess, with her parents Anna and Mike Boswell.

On Saturday, September 26, 2015 the community turned out to participate at the 18th Annual We-Ta-Se Veterans Powwow at Prairie Peoples Park. Two grand entries were held and day pay was given to fully dressed dancers.

We-Ta-Se invited the Haskell Color Guard and the Kickapoo Post 415 to join the event. This years Honored Veterans were Sonny Shopteese and Jamie Holliman. The head staff consisted of Galen Hubbard, Head Man Dancer, Monica Suke, Head Lady Dancer, Ruben Tinajero, Head boy and Adriana Suke, Head girl. The host drum was Little Soldier and invited drums were Whistling Wind and Buffalo Eagle. A traditional supper was provided by the We-Ta-Se with assistance from the Boswell family.

Many attendees look forward to the We-Ta-Se raffle. This year's raffle prizes and winners were \$1000 cash—Maxine Catron, \$100 gift certificate to the Prairie Band Gift Shop—Brenda Catron, \$100 gift certificate to the Prairie Band Gift Shop—Paul Trull, Pendleton blanket—Junior Thomas and a star quilt—Tina Levier.

A special performance was given by Laura Grizzly Paws, a female bear dancer from Canada. There were also vendors set up around the arena.

The 2014-15 We-Ta-Se Princess, Taryn Boswell was re-selected as the 2015-16 Princess. The We-Ta-Se is very proud to have her represent their organization. Taryn is very outgoing, works hard in school, plays sports and volunteers.

### Grizzly Bear Dancer Graces Arena

This year the Community Health Assessment Team (CHAT) invited Laura Grizzlypaws to the Veterans Day Powwow. She was commissioned to showcase her style of dancing, share her message of a healthy lifestyle and living a balanced life within the community. Grizzlypaws was raised in British Columbia and is of St'át'imc descent. She belongs to the Xwisten, the Bear Clan. In her peoples creation story, grizzly bears taught women how to give birth, how to raise their young and how to live in harmony with natural ecology. Her dance is an expression of the creative metaphorical relationship of the spirit of the bear and art of walking in two worlds, balancing the physical with the spiritual.

Grizzlypaws personal story is one of triumph over challenges. She experienced severe traumas and has navigated many challenges in her life, including death, abuse, neglect, living on the streets and being incarcerated. Her connection to her heritage and its traditions strengthened her as did obtaining higher education. Grizzlypaws has a Masters of Education degree, a Bachelors Degree in General Studies with a double minor in Linguistics and First Nation Studies. She also holds a Bachelors of Education in Curriculum Development and Instruction.

When Grizzlypaws is not traveling sharing her positive message with communities, she works at the St'át'imc Government Services as the Education and Training Manager.



Grizzlypaws dancing in her bear robe — photo submitted by Joanna Mitchell

### More Tribal Elders Receiving Buffalo Provisions

Submitted by Land Maintenance Department



The Lands Department reports 740 requests for bison meat have been processed specifically for Tribal Elders of the community. The Tribal Elder orders have increased by 67% compared to the orders from 2014. In total, the Bison Program has supplied close to 5,000 pounds of bison meat for ceremonies, celebrations and to PBPN Tribal Elders. For more information regarding this program contact 785-966-2737.

### 7th Annual Military Christmas Gift Drive Underway

The PBPN Tribal Council is sponsoring a Christmas package gift drive for tribal members that are active members of the military.

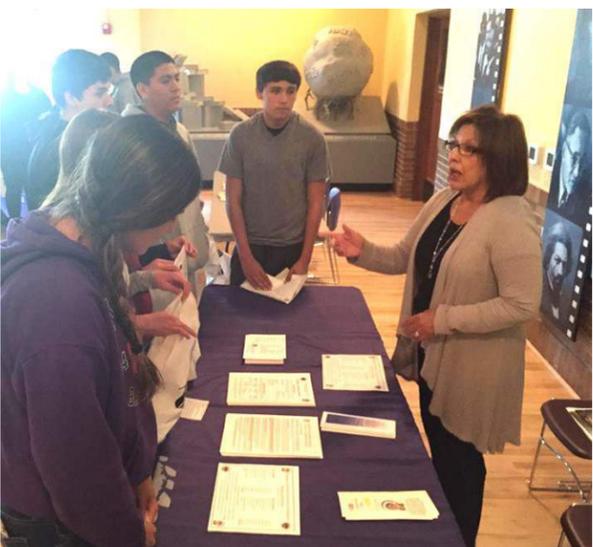
Fifteen military will receive packages which include body wash, lotions, water bottles, Topsy's popcorn and other various donations from the tribal departments and community. The Boys & Girls Club youth have been busy and are donating beaded pens.

### KU Native Leadership Symposium



Keanu Shopteese and Tamo Thomas pose with Baby Jay at the KU Native Leadership Symposium held in September. Over 20 members of the Royal Valley Native American Club attended the event along with other native students from around the state of Kansas.

### Brown V. Board of Education College Day



Members of the Royal Valley Native American Club listen as a coordinator from Haskell Indian Nations University speaks. In October, the Brown V. Board of Education historical site located in Topeka, Kansas held a college day for high school students. There were nine local colleges in attendance. The event also hosted a financial aid workshop for the students.

### Project Graduation Golf Tournament

Submitted by Boys & Girls Club



The Tournament Champions were John Mitchell, Justin Pahmahmie, Nolan Pahmahmie and Sean Florez.



All smiles from this group that includes Lyman Shipshee, Jason Matchie Jr. and Jason Matchie, Sr.



Daniel Dickson, James Masquat, Lance Wahquahboshkuk and Leigh Ann Harjo teamed up to support the Boys & Girls Club.



Jim Potts clowns around with Tribal Council member Junior Wahweotten, John "Don Don" LeClere and Miyah Danielson.

On October 22, 2015, the Boys and Girls Club hosted the Project Graduation Golf Tournament at the Firekeeper Golf Course located on the reservation. The tournament targeted community member involvement. The proceeds of this event are used to fund the senior trip, Potawatomi Gathering trip, college visits, teen conferences and other teen activities which raised \$2,400!

### BGC Staff Attend Native BGC Workshop



Anita Evans, Kacie Boswell, Luis Ortiz, Kwake Hale, Kaylyn Rupnicki and Cheryl Hopkins attend training for Native BGC's.

The Boys and Girls Club staff attended a Regional Workshop October 6-8 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Two years ago, the Native Boys & Girls Clubs formed their own unit under the national BGC umbrella.

Along with a National Native Clubs Symposium that is held every other year, there are now workshops designed specifically for Native Clubs.

### Newly Elected Native American Club Board Members



RVHS Native American Club Board Members (l to r) Kiiikto Thomas, Bella Thompson, Marliisa Jordan, Taryn Boswell, Pakoshuk Mitchell and Tamo Thomas

In September, the Boys and Girls Club hosted the elections for the Royal Valley High School Native American Club. JoAnna Mitchell speaks to the large turn out of local Native youth shown below.

On October 28, 2015 the NAC met to select activities for Native American Heritage Month in November. The kids chose to show support the week of November 16 - 20 by wearing their moccasins, native bling (beadwork), Rez Dog shirts and similar native apparel.



### Great Plains Wrestling Comes to PBPN BGC



The Great Plains Wrestling company held a WWE-style wrestling show at the Boys and Girls Club on Saturday, November 4, 2015. Admission was \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids age 4 and up.

This was the second wrestling show of the year that was held at the club. It featured wrestlers from the Midwest area and primarily Northeastern Kansas. The main event was an epic 6-man tag match between Team Bigg Dogg and Team Monster Chaos. The show also featured the crowning of the first GPW Womans Champion between Lady Pride and Nikki Knight.

The next local show is tentatively scheduled for February 2016. Other sponsors of this event included Trails Café of Holton, KNZA 103.9 of Hiawatha and Ace Bail Bonds.

### PBP Collector Plates Available Now

Submitted by Motor Vehicle

The Motor Vehicle Registrar's Office located in the Tribal Police Station at 16344 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509 has PBP Collector Plates available for sale. Each plate costs \$40 with a \$5 shipping fee. Money orders, cashiers check and personal checks made payable to "Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation," are acceptable forms of payment. For more information contact Micki Martinez at 785.966.6673.



### October Was National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

*“Domestic violence thrives when we are silent; but if we take a stand and work together, we can end domestic violence.” - NNEDV*

#### PBPN Takes the Purple Challenge!!

The Tribal Victim Service (TVS) Department hosted several events in October to promote National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). The department kicked off the month by issuing a “Purple Challenge!!” Members of the community dressed in purple clothing to show their support of the cause on October 1 - 2, 2015.

Purple is the color that represents Domestic Violence Awareness. It is a symbol for peace, courage, survival, honor and dedication to ending violence according to Domestic Violence Awareness groups.

The origins of this event occurred in October of 1981, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence called for a “Day of Unity.” Since then the movement has evolved to the executive level. In September, 2015 President Obama signed a proclamation declaring October, 2015 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

“Domestic Violence” is defined as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure or wound someone as determined by the United States Department of Justice.

This month’s activities for DVAM are garnering awareness while also promoting the healthy sides of families. All the events were free and kid friendly.

#### Splatters That Matter

The 4th annual art marathon event “Splatters That Matter” was held on October 17, 2015 at the PBPN Bingo Hall. Approximately 300 community members of all ages joined the TVS staff for painting and letting their creativity flow. This event gave participants a way to experience the many wonders of art and how TVS staff use art in their work to help tell stories and promote healing.

At the event, several different art stations were available. There was a necklace station that involved a process called shrinky-dink, candle decoration station, puzzle station where participants painted their own design on pre-cut puzzle board, canvas station for acrylic paints, water color station and a station for decalcomania; an art process that produces an image similar to a Rorschach Ink-blot test and then the artists adds details to images within the piece.

#### A Walk In Their Mocs



Over 100 community members participated in the annual “Walk A Mile In Their Mocs” event on Saturday, October 10, 2015 at the Prairie Peoples Park.

The promoters kicked off the event with a balloon release and registered participants received a free t-shirt for their participation. The walk is a way to honor those impacted by domestic violence and show support, strength and encouragement to one another.

#### Movies at the Park



Photo Credit Walt Disney Pictures

On Saturday, October 24th when the sun went down the fun went up at the Prairie Peoples Park. TVS sponsored a movie in the park in collaboration with the DPP. The people’s choice was Hocus Pocus, a fun Halloween film for the family. This free event encouraged a fun experience for the family and community engagement. Free popcorn and hot chocolate were available to the movie-goers.



### TRACKS House Opens Doors to the Community

On October 17, the TVS Department opened the doors of the TRACKS House to the community. The house is located at 12573 158 Road, Mayetta, KS near the corner of 158 & Q Roads. The acronym TRACKS stands for Tradition, Respect, Accountability, Change, Knowledge and Safety.

At the open house two newly developed resource programs for the community were showcased. The two programs are Safe Visit/Safe Exchange and the culturally-tailored Batterers Intervention program. The primary goals of both programs are safety and accountability which leads to the achievement of a safe and healthier future for all ages.

The Safe Visit/Safe Exchange program plays a critical role in fostering the safety of children and adult victims during a time of increased danger when parents separate. Terry McDaniels is a trained victims advocate available to provide support while families comply with visitation and exchange requests. This program is

available during the day, evenings and on weekends.



The TRACKS house is set up like a normal home to promote a warm, safe environment for participants.

The facility includes separate features for each party, including parking areas, entrances, waiting areas, and bathroom facilities. This allows no opportunity for visual contact during a stressful time. An additional safety feature is the close physical

proximity of the PBP Police Department.

The second resource offered at the TRACKS House is the Batterers Intervention program (BIP). It has been created to assist those who use violence within their personal relationships.

Often times abusers stay within a community and then re-enter into a relationship, thus starting the cycle again. The BIP aims to help participants figure out new ways to approach their relationships through the use of support and education. The program runs for 29 weeks and is held in a group context. The facilitator Kent Miller, has received over three years of training in this area.

Statistically men tend to be the abuser in a relationship. These men are husbands, fathers and grandfathers. It is essential for men to understand the importance of their actions. With the use of the Batterers Intervention Program, the TVS hope to create a healthier environment for victims, families and the community.

### Social Services Awarded Three Grants

Submitted by Social Services

Three programs within the Social Services department have been awarded grants. The PBP Nation is one of five tribes awarded the Title IV-E Implementation planning grant. The Nation's Children and Family Services program will receive a portion of the \$1.5 million award of the one-time grant for use with foster care, adoption and guardianship assistance.

Secondly the Vocational Rehabilitation program has received a \$1.5 million five-year grant from the Federal government through the Department of Education Rehabilitation Administration under the American Indian Vocation Rehabilitation Program. The award is allotted yearly in the amount of \$300,000. The grant will be used to serve eligible individuals with disabilities through vocational services: guidance and counseling, training, job search and placement, testing, assistive technology on the job, and information and referral services.

And finally, the Department of Justice has awarded a grant in the amount of \$74,764 to the Tribal Victim Service program for use in collaboration with the Tribal Court. The strategic planning outcome is to provide outreach education to community members and help streamline court processes for individuals with multiple hearings.

For more information on any of these programs contact Social Services at 888-966-2932.

### TVS Manager Rebekah Jones Leaves for the DOJ



Rebekah Jones is leaving the Nation after 17 years of employment to join the Department of Justice.

On November 4, 2015, Jones gave a moving speech attributing the success of TVS to the dedicated staff and Nation's infrastructure with the ability of departments to work cooperatively. A critical component has been the ongoing support of the Tribal Council.

**24 Hour Tribal Domestic Violence Hotline**

**1-866-966-0173**

**24 Hour National Domestic Violence Hotline**

**1-800-799-7233**

**30 Years of Red Ribbons**

The National Family Partnership organized the first Nationwide Red Ribbon Campaign in 1985. NFP provides drug awareness by sponsoring the annual National Red Ribbon Celebration. Over the last 30 years the “Red Ribbon” has touched the lives of millions of people around the world.

The movement escalated in response to the murder of 37-year old DEA Agent Enrique

Camarena, who once said, “I’m only one person, but I want to make a difference,” in response to his decision to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Angered parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of the commitment to raise awareness of his death and the destruction caused by drugs in America.

Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.

This year’s activities were sponsored by Head Start/Child Care, the Community Health Assessment Team, the BGC and the Youth Outreach and Prevention Program.

**Boys and Girls Club Youth Win Best Decorated Door**

Submitted by Youth Outreach and Prevention

Here is the story behind the winning Boys & Girls Club Door. The pictures that are posted on the decorated door were from BGC Red Ribbon activities. The kids were divided into two teams and were sent on a scavenger photo hunt. Teams were given a list and each team had to find an elder, a veteran, reflection other than a mirror, BGC staff, hands with Red Ribbon wristbands, jumping in midair, along with a few other tasks. On the door students had to list one harmful effect alcohol has on a young body and write one thing to tell someone who wants you to drink or use drugs.

Team RMDS (Ronald McDonald Squad) won the hunt and Team Royals finished a few seconds after. The kids were able to meet two elders and two veterans, Jim Potts and Robert Shopteese. The next activity was “Tell it to the Wall.” Each team member wrote on the wall a message why you should not use drugs or how it has impacted your family. The “Tell it to the Wall” posters were also at the Splatters that Matters event and community members could sign the wall.

This was a fun learning activity for the youth and the department is very proud of them all. The youth had a Red Ribbon Celebration with a Red Ribbon snack box prize.

**Red Ribbon Week Activities**

Monday 10/26	Tuesday 10/27	Wednesday 10/28
<b>Drugs Drool - Sports Rule!</b>	<b>Get Your Rest To Be Your BEST!</b>	<b>Let’s Stay Sane - Keep A Healthy Brain!</b>
Favorite sports team jersey Day	Halloween Costume Day	Crazy Hat Day
Thursday 10/29	Friday 10/30	
<b>Take A Stand For A Drug Free Land!</b>	<b>Doing Drugs Will “Haunt” You For Life</b>	
Wear RED Day	Decorated Door Day	

Prize for best decorated door sponsored by PBPN HS/CC, PBPN Youth Outreach and Prevention Program and Community Health Assessment Team

**Participants of 2015 Red Ribbon Week Activities**



Left: The winning door that includes images, ribbons, and hand written messages from the Youth. Right: Boys and Girls Club Youth work together as a team to win the Red Ribbon Week Decorated Door.



Left To Right: Annie Potts, Cecelia Mitchell, Paula Hopkins, Shirley Trull, and Housing Department staff, Erin Pahmahmie, Georgia Smith and Lisa Devader all show support by wearing their favorite sports team jersey.

## Community Programs Sponsor 2015 Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat 2015 was held at the Prairie Peoples Park on Thursday, October 29, 2015. Around 500 community members showed up to take part in the fun that occurred from 6 to 8pm. Several Tribal Programs and community members supported the event by setting up “trunks” to provide the participants with “treats.”

There were many program-sponsored contests taking place including Best Decorated Program Vehicle, Best Decorated Community Vehicle, a Costume Contest for All Ages, Best Decorated Pumpkin (not carved) for 2-5 year olds and Over 50, Best Carved Pumpkin, Scariest Laugh and Scariest Scream Contest.

This event is a community effort hosted yearly to support the children in a free and safe environment. This year’s sponsoring programs included the Boys & Girls Club, Community Health Assessment Team, Diabetes Program, Health Center, LLC, One Stop, Prairie Band Propane, Social Services, Tribal Victim Services and Youth Outreach and Prevention.



Children and parents walk through the trunk or treat lane checking out all the creative



The Boys & Girls Club set up fire pits and seating for a s'mores station.



Community member Marty Mitchell and her mother Voncille Mitchell were stationed at their trunk handing out treats.

Upper Left: A butterfly feeds the elephant to receive a prize. Upper Right: Leigh Ann and Chris Harjo got in on the fun with their niece and nephews. Bottom Left: Melinda Williamson, DPP Manager and Daniel Goombi, event MC/TVS staff member pose in front of contest pumpkins. Bottom Right: Children participate in a 'Day of the Dead' bean bag toss to earn a treat.

More color photos on last page!



## HR Pumpkin Contest

The Human Resources Department sponsored a pumpkin decorating contest for all the tribal government departments to add some festive fun to the season. Pumpkins were provided to each department by HR and there were no limits to creativity. Initially there was only a first place prize of a pizza party however there were so many creative entries, consolation prizes were given to 2nd, 3rd and 4th places.

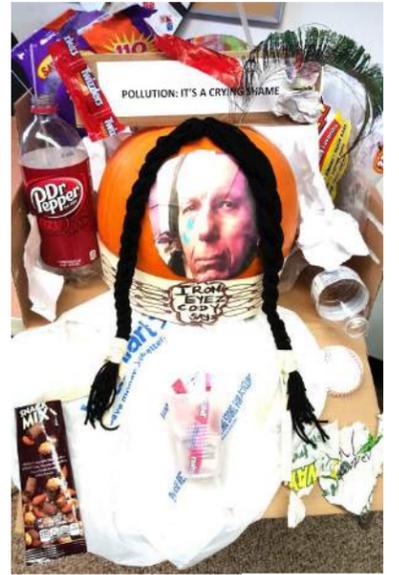


First Place was awarded to the Potawatomi Tribal Fire department.

## Contest Winners!



Child Care/Head Start received Second Place for their Cinderella pumpkin creation.



EPA took Fourth Place with Iron Eyez Cody.



Third Place went to Medical Records Staff at the Health Center.

## Harvest Feast



The tables were filled with soups, meats and a variety of other delicious dishes that community members lined up for.

The community came together on Monday, November 2, 2015 at the Prairie Band Bingo Hall to partake in the annual Harvest Feast. The feast is sponsored by the Diabetes Prevention Program and consists of a meal made from the traditional foods of the Potawatomi people.

Around 200 people attended to partake in dishes prepared with buffalo, deer, raccoon, wild rice, corn soup, hominy, nenwezhek, wild potatoes, squash and Indian beans. The community supplemented the meal with other side dishes and an array of desserts.



## ETTE NAN TAK SO WATKEK YATTEK

“Honor the Elders”

The annual celebration to Honor the Elders was held at the Fire Keepers Elder Center on Wednesday, October 28, 2015. Around 50 members of the community attended. A traditional meal of roast buffalo, pork gravy, corn soup and frybread was prepared by the Elder Center cook staff. Dinner was followed by the honor ceremony which included cake.

Each year in October, Tribal Elders are nominated and selected for the honor by their peer group. At the honor ceremony, nominations for the selected elders are read aloud and then the crowd has an opportunity to give a sincere message to the recipients. The honored elders are given a gift bag and a plaque as a token for their award. This years Outstanding Elders are Richard Adame and Sara LaClair Gartenmeyer.

### Richard Adame



Adame was raised on the reservation and moved away when he was 20 years old. He is married to Norma Cable and has two daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Adame joined the Army as a young man and became a Sergeant 1st Class. He served in Desert Storm and the Gulf War as a Ground to Air Missile Launcher. Adame is now a

member of the We-Ta-Se Post 410.

Adame was nominated by three individuals and they all credit his helpful nature and community oriented lifestyle. One nominator said, “He is always there to help with any activity that comes up. He is willing to aid any senior needing help.” Another nominator called him “Mr. Personality,” and spoke of the care he provides to his peers, like helping elders traveling on the bus and his respectfulness to all. The third nominator credited his service in the military and activity with We-Ta-Se and Our Lady of the Snows Church.

### Sara LaClair



Sara LaClair moved back to the reservation after retiring from Zurich, a major insurance company that works with the automotive industry.

She and her mother, Alvina LaClair love to participate in activities at the Elders Center. LaClair has a love for all animals, and especially dogs.

Sara’s nominator stated, “She is a wonderful lady. She is one of those people who are always willing to help others. She has a kind, thoughtful, and considerate heart towards others. She always has kind things to say and is considerate of other’s feelings. Sara takes wonderful care of her mother. Her mother often says she doesn’t know what she would do without her.”

LaClair gracefully accepted her nomination and considers taking care of her mother a privilege.

## Fire Keepers Elder Center Community Thanksgiving Dinner

The Fire Keepers Elder Center hosted the Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 19, 2015. The Elder Center cooks prepared a feast of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, cranberries, yams, rolls and pumpkin pies. Corn soup, frybread and other sides were available along with an assortment of desserts. Community members filled the Elder Center to partake of the delicious food and festive occasion. The meal was served by the Prairie Band Casino and Resort management team and staff and they assisted with clean up. The Casino also provided door prizes for the drawings.



The dining tables were packed as people enjoyed their Thanksgiving meal.

*A Special Thank You to  
the Elder Center Cooks*

Adrian “Gubba” Hale  
Rudy “Chup” Lake  
Regina “Shiba” Lewis

*And to*

Nona Wahweotten  
LaVerne Hale  
Theresa Brown  
Michelle Torres

### Finger Weaving 101

During the week of November 2, 2015 the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation hosted a four-day beginners finger weaving class open to the community. Finger weaving is a traditional art done by several tribes, historically this included the Potawatomi, Sac and Fox, Iowa, Kickapoo and Shawnee.

The class was taught by Jennifer Onzawah, a member of the Kickapoo tribe of Oklahoma with ties to the PBPN tribe. Her father was Mr. Laverne Onzawah, a Prairie Band Potawatomi member. Onzawah has been practicing the art of finger weaving now for 15 + years. She originally learned the art from an Iowa tribal member, Mr. Bill Tohee, of Perkins, OK during her role as a Cultural

Preservation Director for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

Tina Levier, PBPN tribal member attended the course who commented, “Jennifer was open and easy to learn from.” A previous class was held in September for the Tribal Elders at the Fire Keepers Elder Center.

Onzawah enjoys making belts, one of her specialties and it allows her to contribute to the traditional ways and in helping the people preserve their cultural. The belts are worn for ceremonial dances, funerals and adoptions. She takes pride in her pieces and makes them so they may last for years to come. Onzawah finds it gratifying to see her work being utilized today and knowing it will be

there in the future.

She began to notice that this art form was being lost and decided she would start teaching others ten years ago. Using Facebook to get her information out to the public, she has since taught classes with the Citizen Band of Potawatomi and the Absentee Shawnee tribes, both in Oklahoma and now the Prairie Band Potawatomi. It is Onzawah’s hope that those she teaches will continue to carry it forward and share it with others so the art is never lost.

Further inquiries on Jennifer Onzawah can be directed to her personal Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/jennifer.onzawah>.



Belts are laid out showcasing the various patterns that can be woven for the design.



Onzawah shows PBPN Tribal members Sara LaClair and Carol DeWitt how to get started.



JoAnna ‘Dumps’ Mitchell, PBPN Tribal member, creates a belt using blue and green yarn.

**New Burn Permits Required**

Submitted by Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department

Burn permit changes go into effect on January 1, 2016. Existing burn permits for the PBPB Reservation or anywhere in Jackson County will expire on December 31, 2015.

The new burn permits are good for two years and will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of every odd numbered year. Permits are good anywhere within Jackson County and can be obtained at the Tribal Fire Department or at any other fire station in the county.

The Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department and Jackson County both currently use two parameters in conjunction to determine if it will be a burn day on the PBPB Reservation or anywhere else in the county. One parameter is the National Weather Service Rangeland Fire Danger Index which consists of five categories: Low, Moderate, High, Very High and Extreme. This index is then combined with Maximum Sustained Wind Speeds. No burning is allowed on any day when the maximum sustained wind speed is forecast by the NWS to be above 15 MPH.

Usually a BURN or NO BURN determination is for an entire day but there are times when there is an AM and PM determination such as a forecast or observed conditions change. Any time a BURN or NO BURN determination is made or changed it affects the entirety of both the PBPB and Jackson County.

A common misconception regarding open burning is that permission to burn is granted by "Holton." The truth is Holton Fire & Police Dispatch graciously agrees to be the central clearing house for all open burning in Jackson County. This benefits all of the fire departments and landowners in the area because when area departments are out on emergency there is not time to answer the

phone and track burn permits on the hundreds of burns that happen some days. Actual permission to burn is granted by the PBPB through the open burning parameters administered through the Tribal Fire Department and by Jackson County via their open burning resolution.

The PTFD will start issuing the new permits on January 1, 2016. Both the Tribal Fire Station and Holton Dispatch are staffed 24 hours a day. Hoyt Fire Station is usually staffed with a duty officer during the weekday. If you need a new permit please stop by the location most convenient to you and get your new permit before burning in 2016.

*Understanding the Parameters*

<u>Fire Danger Index</u>	<u>MS Wind Speed</u>
Low	- 15 mph
Moderate	- 15 mph
High	- 15 mph
Very High	- 10 mph
Extreme/Red Flag	- No Burning

When the Fire Danger Index is set at low, moderate or high AND the maximum sustained wind speed is 15 mph or lower, burning is okay.

When the Fire Danger Index is set at very high AND wind speed is 10 mph or lower, burning is okay.

When the Fire Danger Index is set at Extreme, regardless of wind speed, burning is not okay.

**Where Are They?**

Recently a few departments have been reorganized and relocated. The Community Health Representative (CHR) program is now part of the Health Center. The program has moved from the Social Services wing of the building and now resides on the west side of the Health Center near the Exercise Room.

The Child Support Enforcement program has moved to the Health Center Building. They are now located on the east end of the building and have joined the Social Services department.

The Information Technology department has been established in the Government Center on the lower level, at the former CSE location.

Due to the move the CSE program and IT have updated their phone numbers and CHR's remains the same. Here are their phone listings, and all numbers are area code 785:

**Child Support Enforcement**

- Kelly Hopkins 966-8329
- Kelly Lewis 966-8324
- Mike Boswell 966-8340
- Jenn Hale 966-8341

**Information Technology**

- Chris Mzhickteno 966-4084
- Nick Leach 966-4033

**Community Health Reps**

- Brenda Nozhackum 966-8365
- Mary Jessepe 966-8362

**Tribal Offices Closure Dates**

**Reminder: Tribal Offices will be closed on the following dates**

Christmas Eve—Thursday - 12/24/15

Christmas Day—Friday - 12/25/15

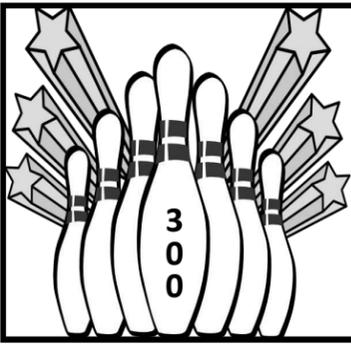
New Year's Eve—Thursday - 12/31/15

New Year's Day—Friday - 1/1/16

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—  
Monday - 1/18/16

President's Day—Monday - 2/15/16

Easter (Good Friday)—Friday - 3/25/16



On Thursday, October 1, 2015 **Travis Wanna** bowled a 300-209-201 for a 710 series in the JPI & Associates League at Gage Center Bowl. Travis has been bowling since the age of 5 and has bowled many perfect games. This latest feat puts his number of perfect games at 35! He continues to bowl one league per week at Gage Center.

**Sylvana Levier**  
made the  
**President's Honor Roll** at  
**Haskell Indian Nations University**  
in recognition of her scholastic achievement  
and valuable contributions to the University!



**Migwett Team Cece Rocks!**

Submitted by the Family of Cecelia "Miamikwe" Mitchell



Friends and family of Cecelia Mitchell don red shirts for participation at the Step Up Walk on October 17, 2015 at the Berkley River Front Park in Kansas City, MO.

We would like to take the time to thank all of our friends, family and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation who supported our daughter's team in the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Step Up Walk by the Kansas City Down Syndrome Guild (KCDSG). The amount of support we have received from this community is beyond amazing and we are forever grateful. Team Cece Rocks raised \$2,873 and had 93

registered walkers. We plan on organizing a team every year and making this an annual event to participate in.

The Step Up Walk is one of the largest fundraisers held by the Kansas City Down Syndrome Guild and this years event had record breaking numbers. The KCDSG made history by being the first Down Syndrome walk in the world

to raise \$500,000 with approximately 10,000 people in attendance!

If you would like to learn more about Team Cece Rocks and the Kansas City Down Syndrome Guild visit:

[www.stepupfordownsyndromekc.org/fr/FDFDS/2015StepUp/CeceRocks](http://www.stepupfordownsyndromekc.org/fr/FDFDS/2015StepUp/CeceRocks)

**Ttiwenmo eginigyèn - Happy day you were born**



Happy Birthday to my sister Mary Brown, 78 years YOUNG 11/3! Love you sister, Cheryl & Family



93 Birthdays & counting, Happy Birthday Alvina LaClair!! Love, Your Family



Happy 8th Birthday **Ki-Bo-We-Kwe** 12/27 Great job cheering at the Chiefs game this year! Love, Mom & Family



Happy 10th Birthday Angelina! 1/3 Love you lots! Mom, Dad, sisters, brother & family



If you would like to recognize a birth, birthday, anniversary or other cause for celebration please submit it to the *Potawatomi News*, see page 3 for more information.

## Kambottek - Those Who Died

MAYETTA – **Geneva J. “Ja-Blue” Upton**, Peg-No-Kwe, 75, of Mayetta, died Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at the North Kansas City Hospital, while traveling home from a tribal gathering in Wisconsin.

She was born April 14, 1940 at home on the Reservation, the daughter of Tom Rhodd and Mary Moore Levier.

Geneva was a member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation and the Drum Religion. She had worked at Brewster Place in Topeka, retiring in 2004. She married Joseph Mattwaoshshe. He died May 26, 2011.

Geneva was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Albert Moore and a sister, Martha Valdivia.

Survivors include two sons, Richard Rector and wife Mitchie, Mayetta, and Frank Rector, Topeka; two daughters, Paula Moore and husband Kabot, Mayetta, and Kathryn Boldt and husband Douglas, Topeka; a brother, Glenn Levier, Mayetta; two sisters, Bernadette Lewis, Valley Falls and Sharon Levier, Topeka; nine grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Drum services will be Saturday evening at the Dance Ground west of Mayetta. Burial will be Sunday afternoon in the Shipshee Cemetery. Geneva will lie in state after 1:00 p.m. Friday at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home at Hoyt where family and friends will meet from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.



GLENN & JA-BLUE

MAYETTA - **Glenn E. Levier**, Ne Ne-Nish-Kuk, 69, of Mayetta, was found Monday, September 28, 2015 at his home on the Potawatomi Reservation.

He was born January 19, 1946 on the Reservation, the son of Oliver "Pete" and Mary Moore Levier. He graduated from the Marty Indian School in South Dakota and served three tours of duty with the U.S. Army in Viet Nam.

Glenn was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church, and We-Ta-Se American Legion Post No. 410.

Glenn had worked at Josten's Printing in Topeka and as a clerical worker for the State of Kansas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Albert Moore, and two sisters, Geneva Upton and Martha Valdivia.

Survivors include two sisters, Bernadette Lewis, Topeka, and Sharon Levier and husband John, Topeka, and many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 3rd at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church. Burial with military honors will follow in the Shipshee Cemetery. Glenn will lie in state at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt. The casket will remain closed. Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friday at Sister Theresa Klepac Memorial Hall at the church with a Rosary prayed at 7:00

TOPEKA – **Sharon Levier**, 72, of Topeka, died Sunday, November 29, 2015 at the Stormont-Vail Hospital in Topeka.

She was born February 3, 1943 on the Potawatomi Reservation at Mayetta, the daughter of Oliver Peter and Mary Moore Levier.

Sharon was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church. She worked as a housekeeper for Highland Homes in Topeka, retiring in 2002.

She married Milford Gibson. He survives, of the home. Other survivors include sons, Theodore Gibson and wife Teresa, and Robert Gibson, all of Topeka, and Simion James Oliver Gibson and daughter, Lena Gibson, of the home, one sister, Bernadette Lewis, Topeka, and many nieces and nephews.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Albert Moore, Martha Valdivia, Geneva Upton and Glenn Levier.

Cremation is planned. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church. Burial will follow in the Shipshee Cemetery. A visitation will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday at St. Theresa Klepac Hall at the church with a Rosary prayed at 7:00 p.m. A register book will be available to sign at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt. Online condolences may be made at [chapeloaksfuneralhome.com](http://chapeloaksfuneralhome.com).



DALLAS – **Frank Henderson Cravatt**, 55 years, passed away July 17, 2015 in Dallas, Texas. He was born February 21, 1960 in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Frank graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School and attended U.T.A. College. All his life he was a well-respected man. His care was a gift, always thoughtful of everyone. Frank loved sports, played many years of softball and he ran in a lot of runs in Dallas. He was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. In his heart he loved his Grandpa Frank and Grandma Esther and his son Nicolus.

Survivors include his mother Barbara Clark Cravatt, son Nicolus Cravatt, two brothers Lyndel and Geno Cravatt, sister Annette Cravatt Gray, all of Dallas. Well beloved nephews and nieces Leroy, Jack, Timber, other close nephews and nieces, Jessica and Stephanie Barragan, Barbie, Amanda, Jennifer and Gina.

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

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



**MAYETTA – Charles A. Seymour**, Nibaose, 69, of Mayetta, died Monday, August 24, 2015 at his home.

He was born January 18, 1946 in Topeka, the son of Ernest and Angeline Whitefish Seymour.

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

He was a surveyor for the tribal Road & Bridge Department and retired about ten years ago.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers, John Seymour, Peter Seymour, Ernest Seymour and Robert Clemons, and two sisters, Joy Yoshida and Elmira McClure.

Survivors include a son, Chris Seymour and wife Gina, in Texas, two daughters, Lisa Fitzgerald, Chicago, and Angeline Fairchild, in Texas, one brother, Dennis Harrison, Omaha, NE, five sisters, Wynona Wahweotten, Laura Abeyta, Julia Masquat, and Cindy LeClere, all of Mayetta, and Karen Thomas, Horton and many grandchildren.

Drum services will be Thursday evening at the Dance Ground west of Mayetta. Burial will be Friday afternoon in the Potts Cemetery.

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

**WAYNSEVILLE - Raphael “Chief” Norbert Wahwassuck**, age 85, of Waynesville, MO passed away Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015, in his daughter’s home in Stover, MO.

Graveside Funeral Services with full military honors will be held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, Oct. 5, 2015, in Missouri Veterans Cemetery, Fort Leonard under the care and direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday evening, Oct. 2, 2015 in the funeral home.

Chief is survived by his four children; Josetta Wahwassuck (James Young, Jr.) of Stover, MO, Raphael Wahwassuck, Jr. of Harrisonville, MO, Brigitte Kwinn (Michael) of Monroe, NY and Ingrid Wuenchel (Pete) of Ogden, UT; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; three brothers, Pete, James, and Merrill; two sisters, Nancy and Mamie; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Harry L. Herron DAV Chapter 49, P.O. Box 37, Waynesville, MO 65583 or The Friends4Michael Foundation, 8 Ironworks Rd, Monroe, NY 10950, or memorial contributions may be left at the funeral home. Online condolences can be sent at [www.memorialchapelsandcrematory.com](http://www.memorialchapelsandcrematory.com) (Courtesy of Memorial Chapels and Crematory, Waynesville, Mo.)



**CHICAGO - Daniel M. Gonzales**, Sept. 7, 1947—Sept. 28, 2015, age 68, of Chicago. Veteran, U.S. Army, Vietnam War. Recipient of both the Purple Heart with Cluster and the Bronze Star.

Husband of Peggy; loving father of Gina (Oscar) Roxas, Jessica (Geraldo) Galindo, and Daniel Jr. (Jin); son of Vivian and the late Walter; dear grandfather of Jennifer (Oscar) Vazquez, Julia, John, Jane, Lorena, Geraldo Jr., Gloria, Olivia, and Alysa; cherished great-grandfather of Laila and Aron; fond brother of Mary Ellen (Ruben) Campos, Frank (Debra), Rey Kitchkume, Nancy Alvarez Gonzales, Camilla, and the late Rudy.

(Courtesy of Haben Funeral Home and Crematory, Skokie, Ill.)

**GRAND RAPIDS—Henry E. Wahwassuck**, Wah-wa-suk, Thunder Clan, died in Grand Rapids, MN on September 18, 2015.

He was born on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation, Mayetta, Kansas, on August 20, 1941.

“It’s your world; I’m just passing through. Remember me the way you remember me. And don’t be crying around – it’s all good.”

Final wishes carried out by family with the assistance of Rowe Funeral Home, Grand Rapids. Celebration of Life to be held on Friday, November 6, 2015 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Northern Lights Community School in Warba, Minnesota. (Courtesy of Rowe Funeral Home, Grand Rapids, Minn.)

**Prairie Band One Stop Holiday Kick Off**



Prairie Band One Stop held a Holiday Kick Off on November 18, 2015. Local radio station KNZA set up a remote at the store from 4 to 6pm announcing deals and allowing customers to spin a prize wheel. Top prizes were Butterball turkeys and FREE gas!

One Stop recently upgraded their fuel system and now also offer diesel fuel. They have eight pumps that are available for use 24 hours a day. Every Friday One Stop selects a winner for the "Free Gas for a Month" promotion. To enter customers may sign up once per day at the store.

**PBPN Tribal Member, Aaron Beem spins the wheel for a**

The store is located at 19075 US Hwy 75 and is open from 7am to 9pm Monday through Saturday and 8am to 6pm on Sundays. Each day they have two morning food specials: an order of biscuits and gravy with a side cup of coffee for \$2 or coffee and a donut for \$1.50. The morning specials are in effect until 9am and the donuts are made fresh daily!



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**THE TEXAS TENORS**  
DECEMBER 6, 2015 AT 7 PM  
TICKETS START AT \$25!

**FRANK SINATRA, JR.**  
JANUARY 2, 2016 AT 8 PM  
TICKETS ARE \$50!

**THE SPINNERS**  
JANUARY 17, 2016 AT 8 PM  
TICKETS START AT \$20!

**WINTER DANCE PARTY**  
FEBRUARY 26, 2016 AT 8 PM  
TICKETS START AT \$10!

**CHARLIE DANIELS BAND**  
MARCH 18, 2016 AT 8 PM  
TICKETS START AT \$25!

**KOOL & THE GANG**  
MARCH 25, 2016 AT 8 PM  
TICKETS START AT \$45!

**FOREIGNER**  
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016 AT 8 PM  
FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016 AT 8 PM  
TICKETS START AT \$65!

All performances will be held in the Great Lakes Ballroom. Will Call opens at 3 PM on the day of the show. Artist, date and time subject to change. Must be 21 or older to attend. Present Players card and ticket for admission.

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