



Prairie Band Potawatomi News

A Report to the People of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Summer 2012

PBPN pays it forward: first graduates of Friends University on-site education



(Left to Right) Stephanie Jim (PBPN), Education Department, Paula Hopkins, (PBPN) Tribal Attorney's office, Juliet Carlisle, Early Childhood Education Center, Tracy Potts (PBPN), Commodities, and Cheryl Hopkins (PBPN), Boys & Girls Club. Not pictured is Kent Miller, Tribal Victims Program.

(Photo by Kristen Aitkens)

It was always a dream of the PBPN Education Department to have on-site college courses available to tribal members and PBPN employees so that they could conveniently obtain college degrees.

In 2010 that goal was reached through a partnership with Friends University to provide an on-site program on the reservation. The program allows adult learners the ability to work, live and learn on the reservation and it has been successful.

This past spring six people obtained degrees through the program and walked in a graduation ceremony that was held April 29 in Topeka on the Friends University campus.

After several months of marketing and recruiting efforts, the first students began classes on February 17, 2011.

Classes were open to everyone and included PBPN members, employ-

ees of the Nation and community members at large. Classes were held one night each week and students began working toward obtaining a Bachelor's of Science in Organizational Management and Leadership degree.

Friends University is based out of Wichita, Kansas and offers several nontraditional undergraduate and graduate programs that deliver programs in a unique way to adults who have other responsibilities to balance with school. Friends University was one of the first educational institutions to offer these types of programs in Kansas and the very first to offer a program on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation.

Kristen Aitkens, director of the Education Department, was the driving force in overseeing the program that received national news coverage for its innovativeness in *Indian Country Today* last year.

Sixteen in the running for Tribal Council

Sixteen candidates have filed for four seats on the Tribal Council and there were no candidates that filed for any of the six seats on the Ethics Commission.

Calvin Evans, Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero, Tony Wahweotten, Carol Wahwasuck Shopteese, and Joe Young are squaring off for Vice-chairperson; Hattie E. Mitchell, CPA, Paul Vega, and Noah Wahquahboshkuk are vying for the treasurer position; Council Person #2 candidates are Camila Chouteau, Chris "Pah na" Mzhickteno, Benny Potts, Tom Wabnum (Mektewzi or Hoppy) and Jancita Warrington; and running for Council Person #3 is Felix Cruz, Anita Pahmahmie Evans, and Carrie O'Toole.

Candidates filed for the positions in April. Profiles and photos of the candidates are listed inside this issue of the News on pages 11-17 and posted on line under elections at www.pbpindiantribe.com/elections.aspx.

Ballots were mailed to registered voters on June 13 and must be received in the pre-addressed return

envelope that came in the mailing packet with the ballot. Ballots must be returned by 9 a.m. on July 28 which is the day of the election.

If no candidate wins by a majority vote plus one, a run-off election will follow four weeks after the initial election. The two candidates who receive the highest number of votes in the first election will face each other in a run-off in order to determine a winner.

Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for the tribal membership and the Election Board will issue the unofficial election results immediately following the conclusion of the tabulation that is done electronically and verified by election clerks. Any protests must be filed within three business days following the election.

The official certified election results will be posted at appropriate tribal offices and distributed to appropriate media at the conclusion of the election process.

Elections Board members are Voncile Mitchell, Arlene Lingo, and Sherri Landis.

Voters Guide inside

See inside pages for profiles submitted by the candidates and other election highlights.

Photos and profiles also online
at

www.pbpindiantribe.com/elections.aspx

Potawatomi Fire Chief Richard "Mike" Mills dies

Potawatomi Fire Chief Mike Mills died June 11 and funeral services were held June 16 in Eskridge, Kan. Full Fire Department honors were given.

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Tribal Council Chairperson Steve Ortiz update



Below are a list of meetings for the quarter that were or are being scheduled by the Tribal Chair's office

April

- April 9: Meeting Nike Shoes, Manager Dave Chaffins/Kansas City
- April 21: General Council Meeting at Bingo Hall/Mayetta
- April 27: Remarks and presentation of Employee of the Quarter award to Fire Chief Mike Mills at All-Employee Meeting at Bingo Hall/Mayetta
- April 28: "Opening Remarks" at Rotary Club Conference/Prairie Band Casino & Resort (PBC& R)/Mayetta

May

- May 2-3: Department Health and Human Services (HHS) Region 7 Tribal Consultation/ Norman, OK
- May 14: Four Tribes Meeting hosted by Sac and Fox /Reserve, KS,
- May 21: KanCare Meeting/Topeka
- May 22: Governor Brownback Economic Advisors Meeting/Topeka
- May 23: Speaker at Vocational Rehabilitation Meeting, at PBC&R/Mayetta
- May 24: Tribal Outreach & Office of Attorney General Meeting, PBC& R

June

- June 8 - 10: Vice Chairperson Joyce Guerrero gives welcome at PBPN Pow Wow on chair's behalf/Mayetta
- June 14: We-ta-se Flag Retirement at Prairie Peoples Park/Mayetta
- June 15: "Opening Remarks" to 63rd Annual Native American Church of North American Conference, at PBC&R and Prairie Peoples Park/Mayetta
- June 16: "Remarks" at PBPN Fire Chief Richard "Mike" Mills funeral service/ Eskridge, KS

Upcoming

- June 23: Prairie Band Potawatomi Wisconsin Membership meeting/Nekoosa, WI
- June 25: "Opening Remarks" to Kansas State CPA Conference-PBC&R/Mayetta
- June 27: National Health Service Corp meeting at PBPN Clinic/Mayetta

Snaps from Golfweek National Pro Tour at Firekeeper



Golfweek National Pro Tour event planners were so pleased with the Firekeeper Tradition tournament held at Firekeeper Golf Course May 22-25 that they plan to come back next year in June 2013. The tournament was won by Matt Miller, Bloomington, Illinois, who took home a \$20,000 purse.



Notah Begay played in the tour at Firekeeper.



Dodge Kemmer, a Wichita native, warms up on the putting green.

2012 Potawatomi Gathering
hosted by
Nottawaseppi Huron Band
Pine Creek, Mich.
August 8-12

Language Conference
Aug. 6-9

Look for upcoming details
at www.pbpindiantribe.com

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Tribal identification cards recognized by Kansas for new voter registration bill



In the photo, left to right, Joyce Guerrero (PBPB), Noah Wahquahboshkuk (PBPB), Rep. Ponka-We Victors, Juan Victors, Gov. Sam Brownback, Ron Hein, Julie Hein and Tony Fee (Iowa). The Heins have a law firm in Topeka.

(Photo from the Governor's Media office)

A new law in Kansas that will require new voters to prove their U.S. citizenship now includes the use of tribal identification cards (CDIB).

In a ceremonial signing on June 1 at the State Capitol, Gov. Sam Brownback signed SB 129 that allows tribal members to use tribal cards.

When legislation was first introduced the State left out tribal identifications as a legitimate form of voter identification.

It was through the Kansas Democratic Party and the American Civil Liberties Union that Kansas tribes first learned about the issue last year at a Four tribes meeting. Since that time tribal leaders and their attorneys have been working to change the rule.



An outreach training on racial profiling was presented by Kathryn Carter (far right) from the State of Kansas Attorney General's office on May 24 at the Bingo Hall. With Carter are Chief of Police Mike Boswell and Chris Howell who is the tribal liaison for Governor Brownback's office. Law enforcement officers and members of the PBPB and Kickapoo Tribal Councils attended the training.



Summer 2012 update from the desk of Burton Warrington

President/CEO

I hope this update finds you and your families in good health and spirit. I understand many of our tribal members are not able to attend the Nation's General Council meetings; therefore I would like to take this opportunity to provide a short history and overview of Prairie Band, LLC.

Like many tribal governments around the county the phenomenon known as Indian gaming has provided a platform for our great Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPB) to grow and flourish. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the leadership and foresight of the past and present Tribal Council and General Council members who lead our great nation to the prosperity we enjoy today.

Along those same lines in 2010 our Tribal Council and General Council took another affirmative step in the long term economic stability of our Nation by creating Prairie Band, LLC, a wholly owned holding company to diversify, manage and expand economic interests of the Nation beyond the realm of Indian Gaming. Prairie Band, LLC is a limited liability company, wholly owned by the PBPB, and is chartered under PBPB Law (Title 25 - Limited Liability Company Code). The company is overseen by a five member corporate board of directors, appointed by the Nation's Tribal Council.

Tribal nations have tremendous advantages in business related primarily to the Nation's civil regulatory powers (power to make laws), sovereign immunity, certain tax immunities and status as a minority entity. Prairie Band, LLC is structured to maximize those competitive advantages through a corporate body with an appropriate level of separation from the Tribal government.

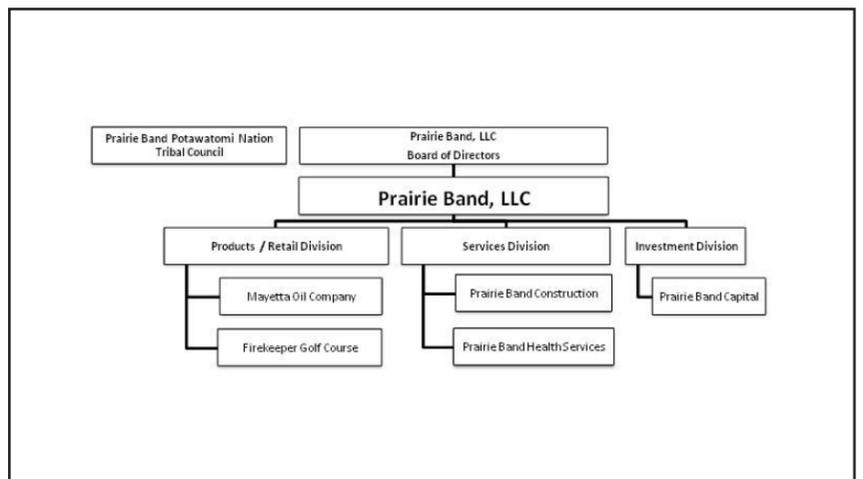
Without a doubt the second most successful tribal business enterprise model behind Indian gaming has been associated to federal contracting. The federal government is by far the world's largest customer of products and services. In 2011 the federal government was estimated to have spent over \$535 billion, with \$18 billion of that through the SBA 8 (a) programs (\$7 billion specifically to tribally owned 8 (a) businesses. Last year, for the first time in the history of the Nation, one of the Nation's business entities was awarded a federal contract. More recently this year we have received our second contract award and will continue to diligently work to increase and position ourselves to take full advantage of the federal contracting realm; much like the Nation has taken full advantage of the Indian gaming phenomenon.

With summer just around the corner, Prairie Band LLC will celebrate its first full year of operation. During the last 10 months we have dedicated significant effort to build the internal operating infrastructure of the company with the intent to position the company for positive sustainable growth for years to come.

Last year we acquired four pre-existing tribal businesses and have continued to work to increase the operational efficiencies of those businesses and position those businesses for responsible growth. Additionally, we created Prairie Band Capital which serves as the primary investment vehicle of the holding company to hold non-controlling passive interests in other companies.

Since arriving at Prairie Band, LLC last July as the inaugural President/CEO we have quickly grown from one employee to over 37 employees across the holding company structure. The current portfolio of subsidiary companies under the holding company includes the Firekeeper Golf Course, Mayetta Oil Company, Prairie Band Construction, Prairie Band Health Service and Prairie Band Capital. As we continue on into 2012 we are consistently reminded of our saying at Prairie Band, LLC "Success doesn't happen overnight, but indicators of success should be apparent". We feel positive of the indicators we have and are confident and excited that Prairie Band, LLC is headed for success.

Over the next few months please stay tuned for the launch of the Prairie Band, LLC website (www.prairiebandllc.com) as well as Prairie Band, LLC's 2011 Annual Report, which will give you more information on the developments we are undertaking and the progress we continue to make. I say iwgiwen to each of you for the privilege to serve in this position and wish you all the sincerest prosperity over the summer months.



National Indian Gaming Commission holds meeting at casino



Members of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Regulation Review Committee met at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort on March 21. Steve Ortiz, tribal chairman, on the far right, gave a welcome address to the group that day and was photographed above visiting with some of the members before the meeting convened.

The NIGC is an independent federal regulatory agency that was established pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988. The Commission maintains its headquarters in Washington, D.C. and has many regional offices throughout the United States.



The PBPN were honored at the National Indian Gaming Association convention the first week of April for their outstanding Firekeeper Golf Course business enterprise. Above, Junior Wahweotten is photographed with the award that was given at the event.

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Trust Settlement Update

Last spring the White House issued a press release regarding the settlement of lawsuits filed by 41 federally-recognized tribes against the United States, in which the tribes alleged that the Department of the Interior and the Department of the Treasury had mismanaged monetary assets and natural resources held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the tribes.

As far as the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) is concerned, the PBPN is still presently involved in settlement negotiations and a judgment is expected in the next few months, according to members of the PBPN Tribal Council and legal team.

In 2005, the PBPN filed parallel cases involving claims of tribal trust accounting mismanagement and trust funds and trust assets and resources mismanagement in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and in the Court of Federal Claims (CFR). In 2011, the CFR case was dismissed on jurisdictional grounds without prejudice. The United States District Court case, PBPN v Salazar, is still pending and the Nation is presently involved in settlement negotiations.



Prairie Band Potawatomi veterans were given a certificate of appreciation for their military sacrifices on March 23 by a regional U.S. Army Corps of Engineers called Heartland Engineers based out of Kansas City, Mo. Col. Tony Hofmann (in army fatigues) presented the plaque to We-Ta-Se veteran Jim Potts, who is holding the plaque. The award was given in front of Tribal Council members who are, left to right, Carrie O'Toole, Jancita Warrington, Steve Ortiz, Noah Wahquahboshkuk (next to Hofmann) and Jim Potter.



Sherri Landis sworn in as Election Board member



Sherri Landis was sworn in to office as a member of the Election Board on March 22 in Tribal Council chambers. Tribal Council Secretary Jim Potter conducted the oath of office in front of other members of the Tribal Council and Voncile Mitchell, Election Board director. Arlene Lingo also sits on the board.

GOLFWEK NATIONAL PRO TOUR



Firekeeper Golf Course hosted the Golfweek National Pro Tour May 22-25 where 156 golfers competed for a \$150,000 purse. PGA pro Notah Begay was on the tour, left, and was photographed with Junior Wahweotten, Tribal Council member, and Pete King, CFO for Prairie Band LLC.

Charitable Contributions quarterly distributions

TDC Learning Center	3,000
YWCA of Topeka	1,000
Washington University of St Louis	2,500
Sertoma Clubs of Topeka	3,500
35th Infantry Division Assoc	1,000
Jefferson Co Fire Dept # 3	1,000
Alzheimers Assoc.	1,000
Midland Care	5,000
Friends of the Mulvane Art Museum	2,500
Nat'l Indian Child Welfare Assoc.	2,500
The Arthritis Foundation	10,000
United Way of Greater Topeka	5,000
Prairie Land Foods Inc.	5,000
Make-A-Wish Foundation	9,000
Sunflower State Games	2,500
Topeka Civic Theatre	1,000
Kickapoo Head Start	1,000
Topeka LuLac Senior Center	2,000
Haskell Spring Commencement PowWow	2,000
Family Service & Guidance Center	2,000
Mayetta Pioneer Day Assoc.	1,500
American Cancer Society	1,000
Shawnee Co Allied Tribes Inc.	4,000
Breakthrough House Inc.	2,000
Mayetta Area Business Assoc.	5,700
American Legion Auxiliary	5,000
Topeka Blues Society	<u>5,000</u>
Total	\$86,700.00

Coming up!

- July 4** PBP Government & Health Centers closed-Independence Day
- July 21** General Council Meeting
- July 28** Tribal Council/Ethics Commission Election
- Aug. 8-12** Potawatomi Gathering-Huron Band
- Sept. 3** PBP Government & Health Centers closed -Labor Day
- Sept. 21** PBP Government & Health Center closed American Indian Day



PBPN members Tracy Martin, Wanda Treinen, and Mary Carr attended the YWCA 24th Annual Leadership Luncheon on May 9 in Topeka on behalf of the Charitable Contributions committee.

Holly Johnson returns home from Afghanistan and visits Tribal Council



(L to R) Jancita Warrington, Jim Potter, Carrie O'Toole, Noah Wahquahboshkuk, Holly Johnson, Steve Ortiz, Junior Wahweotten, Joyce Guerrero, Howard Oliver, Debbie Johnson, and Audrey Oliver.

Senior Airman Holly Johnson and members of her family gave an American flag to Tribal Council March 30 to thank the PBPN for supporting Johnson while she was on a tour in Afghanistan.

For two years now the Tribal Council has sponsored an address request and gift-drive for active soldiers during Christmas time. Johnson was one of those to receive a care package last Christmas and she told the *News* how much receiving the gifts meant to her.

In return, the flag she gave to Tribal Council that day had special significance. Johnson said that she request-

ed that it be flown in honor of the tribe on a C 130 airplane that she was on March 14 during a bundles mission over Afghanistan before she left.

Johnson, from Topeka, has been in the Kansas Air National Guard for three years and is based with the Forbes Field Air National Guard 190th ARW. She was in Afghanistan for six months and returned home March 28. Accompanying her on her visit to Tribal Council, was her Mother Debbie Johnson, Aunt Audrey Oliver, and Grandfather Howard Oliver. Her grandmother is Melvene Oliver, who was not present but is a tribal member.

Charitable Contributions event held at casino April 12



Tonya Greeve with the Mayetta Business Association shakes hands with members of the Charitable Contributions Committee during a ceremony where 27 organizations (listed above) received their awards totaling approximately \$87,000. Chairman Steve Ortiz was the emcee for the event.

Jim Potter speaks at Banner Creek Science Center opening



Photo by Kelcie Matousek

Jim Potter gave remarks at the Banner Creek Science Center official opening of its temporary building on May 29 near Holton.

Potter spoke on behalf of the PBPB who have been involved in the new center that is being designed to offer science education for children and adults. It will also house the Elk Creek Observatory that is the only school-owned observatory in the world and is presently located in Holton. The observatory includes a Ritchey-Chretien telescope and advanced astronomical technol-

ogy.

The new building is located at 22275 N Road west of Holton and plans are to include a special wing of the center to the history of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Potter told the *News* that he is hopeful that in the future some classes will be taught by tribal members and will be about the natural habitat found on the reservation and on the prairie landscape.

Banner Creek Science Center has also received PBPB charitable contribution donations in the past.

Plans are in the works for Banner Creek Science Center to include space for a curriculum of courses that will study the history of the PBPB and hopefully bring a broader understanding of mutual respect and appreciation for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's beliefs, customs and activities.

Potawatomi police praised for work on child rape case

The Potawatomi Tribal Police Department received high praise from Barry Grissom, the U.S. Attorney in Kansas, and the PBPB Tribal Council for thoroughly investigating and cooperating with other law enforcement agencies that contributed to a plea of no contest from a man in a child rape case.

A press release issued from Grissom's office said that Trent Robinson, 51, pleaded no contest in Jackson County District Court to a charge of raping a child under 14 years of age that occurred on the reservation. A judge found Robinson guilty and has set sentencing for June 27.

"The PBPB Tribal Council is pleased with the swift and professional job with which the PBPB Police Department conducted the investigation in this case..."

**Steve Ortiz,
Tribal Chairman**

Robinson was NOT a PBPB tribal member or a member of any tribe, as was erroneously reported in the *Topeka Capital-Journal* on May 25. A retraction was issued by the newspaper the following day after officials from the Tribal administration notified them about the misinformation.

In return for Robinson's plea to the charge in state court, the U.S. Attorney's Office agreed not to file federal charges against him. "Mr. Robinson was unwilling to enter a plea until he was assured in writing there would be no federal charges," said U.S. Attorney Grissom.

The parties have agreed to recommend a "hard 25" sentence.

"After consulting with the Jackson County Attorney's Office and tribal law enforcement, I agreed with them that justice would be served in this case by a sentence of 25 years without parole," Grissom said.

Steve Ortiz, tribal chairman said: "The PBPB Tribal Council is pleased with the swift and professional job with which the PBPB Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. The Tribal Council also appreciates the cooperative efforts of the Jackson County Attorney's Office, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Police Department. They worked collaboratively and speedily to bring the defendant to justice while continuing to make and keep the PBPB a safe community in which to work and live."

Shawna Miller, Jackson County Attorney, said: The Prairie Band Potawatomi Police Department conducted a professional and thorough investigation into this matter. The cooperation between my office and the U.S. Attorney's Office ensured that a child rapist has been taken off the streets for twenty-five years, without any further trauma to the child in this case."

In his plea, Robinson admitted that he had sexual intercourse with a minor child on the reservation.

Grissom commended the Tribal Police Department, Jackson County Attorney Shawna Miller and Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan Metzger for their work on the case.

Tribal Council issues statement to media about Topeka Mayor Bill Bunten's negative remarks on Indians

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council issued a statement on April 24 to the *Topeka Capital-Journal* in response to negative comments made about Indians during a speech that Topeka Mayor Bill Bunten gave at the State of the Community Event in front of approximately 350 people sponsored by the Topeka Chamber of Commerce.

During introductory remarks and seeking to make fun of Shawnee County Commission Chairman Ted Ensley, after following him to the microphone for his speech, Bunten made several disrespectful jokes including one that said that in Ensley's younger days, Ensley dated an Indian girl, "but when they went out dancing, it rained."

Shortly after learning about the contents of the speech, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council responded by stating that Bunten's remarks were disappointing and disparaging and that the tribe had given millions of dollars to the Topeka community and northeast Kansas to help with their nonprofit organizations and schools. Further, they were disheartened that Bunten would discredit them and other groups which did nothing but perpetuate a negative stereotyping of people.

Bunten's remarks received national television attention when he was featured on Jay Leno's Tonight show in an "inappropriate comment" spot on the show. Other local television stations also followed up on Bunten's gaffe. However, when pressed by the local media a few days later for an apology Bunten reported that he was not going to apologize for his remarks as he felt he did nothing wrong.

Tribal Police Department hold open house



Tribal Police headquarters has been expanded in the back of its building by the construction of new vehicle bays and office space. Interior rooms have also been refurbished with fresh coats of paint and new furniture. There are also separate rooms for information technology equipment, an evidence room, and separate interviewing rooms.



Tribal Police officers are (left to right): Phong "Aaron" Huynh, Steven Smith, Matt Simpson, Nhan Le, Matt Johnson, Cassie Hofich, Kacey Wiltz, and Mike Boswell. Not photographed are Chad Kleppin, Matt Stout and Wade Schneider.

The Potawatomi Tribal Police Department held an open house May 14 during National Police Week and gave tours of their newly remodeled building.

The station is located at 16344 Q Road and has been expanded to include an extensive evidence-storage area, better police processing rooms, new vehicle bays and more office space for police officers and the staff. The headquarters was also spruced up with freshly painted walls and new office furniture installed.

The first police building was located in the old Tribal Court building that is on K-Road and then moved to its present location on Q Road in 1998.

There are 20 members of the Tribal Police Department that is headed by Chief Mike Boswell. Some of the services the police department performs include law enforcement/safety functions, emergency services dispatch, school resource officer (Royal Valley School District) hunting, fishing, license and deer tag issuance and training, animal control, sex offender registration, motor vehicle registration/vehicle safety inspections, and crime victim advocacy.

Meet Tribal Police Corporal Steven Smith

The News periodically plans to conduct a series of question and answer interviews with tribal police officers who work on the reservation.

This series introduces Steven Smith:

Q: What is your official title?

A: I am the Police Service Dog Handler (K9) and a Corporal for second shift (3 p.m. to 11 p.m.)

Q: How long have you been working for the Tribal Police Department?

A: Almost three years. I began June 29, 2009.

Q: Are you a tribal member?

A: No.

Q: Do you have other education besides high school?

A: I attended Hutchinson Community College and studied Criminal Justice. I have served as a Military Police Officer in the U.S. Army. I also graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in 1999. After coming to Kansas, I completed a brief training session to obtain my Kansas Law Enforcement certification.

Q: Can you briefly outline your work experience?

A: I attended basic training in Ft. McClellan (Alabama) and completed the Military Police Officer Academy in 1996. In May 1998 I became employed with the Richardson County Sheriff's office in Falls City, Neb. where I was Deputy Sheriff and a Police

Service Dog Handler until 2006. I then moved to Kimball County, Neb. where I served as Chief Duputy (Undersheriff) and Interim Sheriff. Following, in 2009 I began working for the Potawatomi Tribal Police Department.

Q: Have you graduated from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) and what does that mean to you?

A: Yes, and it always feels great to complete training as it is allowing me to continue working in law enforcement. I have wanted to be a police officer ever since elementary school and it is not every day that you get to do the work you love, be happy doing it, and, as a bonus, get paid for doing it.

Q: What does it mean to you to work for the Tribal Police Department?

A: It is affording me the opportunity to learn about a different culture of people and how to serve the community when needed.

Q: What goals would you like to achieve in your work with the Tribal Police Department?

A: Many of the goals I set forth for myself have already been accomplished through creating a five-year plan. They are: becoming a K9 Handler; being an instructor in defensive tactics, ground fighting and police-pursuit driving, and attending field training officer school. Further, my day-to-day goals are to continue serving the community fairly, honestly and professionally. I also strive to be a productive supervisor and officer for the tribal police. I also plan to

finish my degree and have a long-term goal of teaching other law enforcement officers in a training academy setting.

Q: What would you like to tell the tribal membership about your work or life?

A: When I'm at work I have a business-like personality and I am a driven individual. I am married to Shanna Smith who works in the PBPB Human Resources Department. I also have a daughter, Sierra, 14, who attends Royal Valley. I have two miniature Pinscher dogs and I enjoy being outside with my family, bird hunting, fishing, water skiing, exercising or riding my motorcycle.



Steven Smith

Come learn the basics of what dispatchers need from citizens when reporting a crime to be presented by John Hurla (PBPB tribal dispatcher)

**When: July 5, 2012, 5 p.m.
Where: Bingo Hall,**

Call 785966.3024 for details

Boys & Girls Club



The Boys & Girls Club held lots of activities during spring break including a dodge ball game on March 21 between tribal police and the kids. Other activities included trips to the Salt Mines in Hutchinson, Kan. and bowling and visiting the zoo in Topeka.



Left: The Boys & Girls Club pool is being repaired and if all goes well should be open in July. PBPB staff are being trained to provide maintenance on the pool instead of the work being contracted out as has previously been done.

Language Department news



Staff from the Language Department worked with youth during their spring break last March and taught them how to make stick balls and how to play the game. (Left to right) Leo Nadeau, Eddie Joe Mitchell, Colton Wahquahboshkuk, Doug Thomas, Wahp LeClere, Darius "Nenahi" Frisby, and Billy Matchie.

(Photo submitted by Jessica Youngbird)

Easter Egg-stravaganza held at Boys & Girls Club -community event a big hit



Mi-kes Potts and family enjoyed the day at the club.

- Thanks to the sponsors of the
Easter Egg-stravaganza**
- Gina Roxas & daughter Jennifer
 - Brenda Nozhackum in honor of baby Xavier
 - Noah and Samantha Wahquahboshkuk in honor of baby Leo
 - Kansas Reservation Ministries
 - Tribal Council
 - Holton Walmart
 - PBPB Tribal Police
 - Denison State Bank
 - WIBW TV 13
 - PBPB Elder Center
 - Karen Kats-PBPB Adult Social Services
 - Boys & Girls Club
 - Tribal Victims Assistance
 - PBPB Family Violence Prevention



Brunch was served at the club.



(Left) Some Boys & Girls Club youth who attended the Easter Egg-stravaganza gathered for a pose outside the club's signage.

(Right) Kids hunting for eggs in the library of the club. Poor weather conditions forced the Easter Egg-stravaganza inside where eggs were hidden in various rooms and in the hallways. Door prizes were also given to attendees.



Potawatomi Fire Chief Mike Mills named Employee of the Quarter



Mike Mills, Fire Chief/Director of Emergency Services for the Potawatomi Tribal Fire Department, was honored April 27 as Employee of the Quarter at the All Employee meeting held at the Bingo Hall.

It was a special day for the PBPB, as Mills, who has been diagnosed with cancer and is on a medical leave, was able to attend the ceremony and meeting with the help of his wife, Rita. He was recognized in front of the audience by Lance Wishkeno, of the Fire Department, who read aloud Mills' nomination for the award and where several firefighters and the Tribal Council stood in support. Following a short acceptance speech by Mills, PBPB employees came forth and shook hands with the group in a line which

is Prairie Band tradition.

Parked outside the Bingo Hall were two new fire department vehicles that Mills also got to see finally in the possession of the PBPB. For months before his illness, Mills had been working on securing the correct specifications for a state-of-the-art new Ford ambulance and a rescue-fire truck.

A fundraising benefit was also held the following Saturday night for Mills at the Dover Community Center in Dover, Kan.

Chief Mills began his duties for the PBPB on June 29, 2009 and is in charge of a staff of approximately 18 firefighters/emergency medical technicians (EMT) and paramedics who work in the department. He was recently noted for his work as the acting public information officer for the incident management team composed of northeast Kansas EMS personnel that formed quickly when an EF-2 tornado touched down in Harveyville, Kan. on February 28. According to Wishkeno, who was at the scene, Mills worked at the scene all night and into the morning the next day. Harveyville is near Topeka and in Wabaunsee County and was declared an emergency disaster.

Mills is from Topeka and prior to his present position, worked for the Topeka/Tecumseh Fire Department for 23 years. Before that, he was the assistant fire chief for the Mission Township Fire District

region for five years and is originally from the Dover/Wabaunsee area. In addition, his experience also includes being a field instructor in the University of Kansas Fire Search Training Program for several years and receiving training through the National Fire Academy.



ABOVE: Mike Mills (center with buffalo award) with members of the Fire Department and Tribal Council. (Left to right) Randy Smith, Cecil Mercer, Jim Potter (kneeling), Lance Wishkeno, Rick Swogger, Paul Juedes, Greg Bills, Bruce Coates, Austin Stum, Steve Ortiz (kneeling), Ursula Fish, Mary LeClere and Frank Zeller.

BELOW: (Left to right) Lance Wishkeno, Steve Ortiz, Carrie O'Toole, Jim Potter (in back of Mills), Chief Mills and Rita Mills. Wishkeno nominated Mills for the award.



The Potawatomi Fire Department has acquired a new state-of-the-art Ford ambulance that has upgraded safety features and new equipment to provide better service to the community.



A new rescue fire truck was also acquired recently that will help fight fires and provide more protection to the community.

Editor's Note
At press time, Chief Richard "Mike" Mills died on June 11 and funeral services were held June 16, 11 a.m. at Mission Valley School in Eskridge, Kansas. He was given full Fire Department Honors and paid deep respect by the Potawatomi Fire Department.



Storm Spotters training teaches community how to be safe

The Potawatomi Fire Department hosted a Storm Spotters Training at the Bingo Hall April 18. Chad Omitt (right), a meteorologist from the National Weather Service, taught the training that was open to the public and drew a crowd of more than 30 people. With Omitt is Randy Smith (left) and Paul Juedes (center.)



Human Resources update



On the far right, is Financial Advisor Chuck Fremont, who spent a week in April helping employees with their retirement plans for Sentinel Group Benefits. In the photograph with Fremont, left to right, is Cherie Jim, Allison Garcia (standing) and Donna Valdivia-Wofford.



Don Baker, Loss Control Consultant for Tribal First Insurance Service, gave a training on defensive driving to all PBPB employees on May 1-2 at the Bingo Hall. Employees were given tips on how to drive safely and to avoid having accidents on the road.



All workers for the PBPB participated in a seminar called Boundaries in the Work Place that was taught by Carol Bonebrake, an attorney with Holbrook & Osborn in Overland Park. The seminar was held March 14 at the Rock/Community building.

**PBPB job opportunity listings
at
www.pbpindiantribe.com/employment.aspx**



Health Fair promotes good health and fun



Jeanie Howley (left) and Brenda Pahmahmie try the Thera-band exercise tool that was demonstrated by Cody Wilson, Lifetime Fitness Coach of the Diabetes Prevention Program.

A "Commit to be Fit" health fair was held after the All-Employee meeting April 27 where employees learned about becoming fit and getting involved in exercise.

The event was sponsored by the Human Resources Department, Diabetes Prevention Program, Health Center, Fire Department and the Healing to Wellness Court.

Medical staff from the Health Clinic provided medical screenings and there were demonstrations of zumba, thera-

band, and high intensity workouts for employees to try.

In addition, outside businesses had information tables like Maximus Fitness Club, Weight Watchers, Topeka's Garage Gym, Holton Chiropractic Center, and Elite Nutrition, to name a few.

There were also prizes for completing a personal health screening and door prizes were also handed out throughout the morning activities.



Jamie Greemore measures her body fat percentage at the Health Fair while Paula Hopkins looks on at the Maximus Fitness table.

PBPB employee health insurance meetings held

Employees met with health insurance representatives from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, Delta Dental, and Aflac May 15-17 to learn about insurance coverage and cost changes. The meetings that were held at various locations on the reservation was sponsored by the Human Resources Department.

For information about the Human Resources Department call 785.966.3060.

New Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Child Support Services program

A new PBPB child support program that will provide child support services to tribal members and other members of federally-recognized tribes is now staffed and located in offices on the lower level of the Government Center.

The purpose of the program is to assist grandparents /guardians and others who qualify in obtaining child support through the enforcement of child support orders, locating custodial and non-custodial parents, and working with various tribal programs to ensure members receive benefits.

Kelly Greemore and Erin "Kumos" Hubbard have been hired to staff the program and are presently setting up the office that is being developed through 1 Family Services, a consulting agency with child support program expertise.



(Left to right) is Marsha Harlan, Vivien Olsen, Jerry Sweet and Kay Kile who spoke to an audience at the Fire Keepers Elder Center about the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Child Support Enforcement program that has come to the Nation and is housed on the lower level of the Governemnt Center where Economic Development offices previously were located.

Voters Guide 2012 Tribal Council/Ethics Commission Election

This voter guide includes the photographs and profiles of candidates who are running in the Tribal Council/ Ethics Commission Election to be held on July 28, 2012. Four (4) members of the Tribal Council: Vice Chairperson (1), Treasurer (1), and Council Person #2 (1) and Council Person #3 (1) will be elected. The term of office for each position is for four (4) years). Six (6) members of the Ethics Commission: Chairperson (term 4 years), Vice Chairperson (term 3 years), Secretary (term 4 years) and one (1) Commissioners: #1 (3 years), Commissioner #2 (2 years) and Ethics Commissioner #3 (2 years), Candidates listed provided their own profile for the News.

Election Calendar

- April 16-30 -Declaration of Candidacy Filing Date (4 p.m.)
- May 9 -Deadline to withdraw candidacy (4 p.m.)
- May 23, -Last day(4 p.m.) members 18 years of age or older can register to receive a ballot for this election
- June 13 -Ballots mailed to registered voters only
- July 28 -Last day for ballots to be received at Mayetta Post Office (9 a.m.). Ballots will be tabulated in an open meeting for tribal members that will be held in the Rock/Community bldg
- August 1 -Protest to election must be filed by 4 p.m.

If needed, Run-Off Elections will take place for those not winning by majority vote four (4) weeks following the election.

Just so you know

- The Tribal Council/Ethics Commission Election day falls on a Saturday
- Candidates must win by a 50 percent plus 1 majority vote or a run-off election will be held
- Oath of Office of newly elected officials is scheduled by Tribal Council not later than 14 business days after announcement of election results
- Election shall be conducted in accordance with the Constitution and Election Ordinance of the PBPN

**Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Election Board
P.O. Box 128
Mayetta, Kansas 66509**

**Voncile Mitchell-785.966.3911
(email: vmitchell@pbpnation.org)**

**Arlene Lingo-785.966.3934
(email: Arlenel@pbpnation.org)**

**Sherri Landis-785.554.7060
(email: sherri39@hotmail.com)**

Pikitchwano

Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson (vote for one (1))



Calvin Evans

My name is Calvin Evans. I am seeking the position of Vice Chairperson of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

I just finished serving 18 years on the Gaming Commission. My position was eliminated by the powers that be. Being an elected official can be difficult, if you let it. If elected, I will do the best that I can. I will listen and be fair about everything and everyone.

An elected position is not just an 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. job. As a former Gaming Commissioner we sometimes had to be at the casino at all times dealing with projects, problems, etc. and on call and I believe Tribal Council officials should be the same. Travel is not that important to me. I will go if need be, but my job is here, working for the people.

I have been on the reservation for over forty years. I enjoy being around my nephews, nieces, and basically, my family.

If elected, I will do the best that I can and be responsible for my conduct while in office. I can't speak about other officials but at the quarterly General Council meetings and in the Vice Chairperson report I plan to list my expense report for the quarter for food, gas, travel, etc.

In closing, I'd appreciate your vote and say to you that if I am elected I will do the best that I can. I can be reached at 785.966.0112.



**Joyce
Kitchkommie
Guerrero**

Four years ago I was honored to be elected to this position of vice-chairperson for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I am pleased to ask for your support to continue to serve as your representative once again.

I am Joyce Kitchkommie Guerrero. Sogmah-quah is my Indian name. I am the daughter of Agnes Wabski and Joseph Kitchkommie, my grandparents are Francis Kitchkommie and Dora Gokey and Mary Ship-She-quah and Joe Wabski.

I have proudly served as Tribal Council vice chairperson representing the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation for the last four years. Before that I was elected for two terms as a Gaming Commissioner with regulatory duties ensuring compliance with the state compact and the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC).

As Tribal Council vice-chairperson, I am called upon to assist the chairman as required by the Constitution sometimes doing the duties of the chairman in his absence, meeting and greeting local, state and federal officials, presiding over meetings, making sure tribal member's requests that need Tribal Council attention gets on the agenda of Tribal Council meetings. Any duties assigned. I have always willingly and successfully complied with fulfilling those duties. As part of the Tribal Council I am a team player offering support in research, strategizing, formulating plans for endeavors for the Nation and working to prepare the Nation's operating budget every year. When requested by the council, I serve on committees outside of the council. I currently serve as the ex-officio member on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Committee (PBPEC) Board of Directors and meet with the PBPEC board and management of the Prairie Band casino regularly.

I have a broad range of working experience having worked all my adult life. I worked at Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for many years in accounting and customer service and resigned when I was elected to work for the Nation. I was raised in Topeka, around and with other Indian families who, like mine, moved off the reservation for the first time to find work. I know where we came from; I know the background and history of our people. We are all the

same, whether we moved off the reservation or stayed on the reservation. We all carry the same pride in being Prairie Band Potawatomi and have an interest in our future, for our children and grandchildren. As a grandma and family-oriented person, I would like to see our younger generation enrolled and not left out. We need to take care of our elderly and families to make sure they live in a safe environment.

I attended Topeka schools and also for a short time boarding school in South Dakota. I attended Washburn University while as a single mother working part time. I also served on the Tribal Council in the early 1980s. During that time, I volunteered for the Topeka Indian Center and was on the board of directors for awhile offering support and services to all Indians.

One of the goals I will work on with Tribal Council is to keep employment steady. Although last year was a record for tribal distributions from the casino we must be aware that state gaming is still a factor. The General Council approved funding for economic development and we need to start focusing on economic development in other areas. Other goals are the continued support for housing assistance in the areas of down payment, rental assistance and renovation for all members and education assistance for all. Health care is another concern that needs improvement.

I voted with Tribal Council recently to approve a land into trust application process for the land in Illinois. The Shab-eh-nay project has been going on so long with time and money spent on it. Once we know the answer from the Department of Interior I would like to see Tribal Council move on feasible plans for that area. Until a time in the future where we can find out what the land status is I would not approve of spending of anymore money on housing or plans in that area. There has been much good work done in that area from past Tribal Councils, and also some not very good decisions and we have to deal with what the situation is now and move forward.

I will continue to strive to be a positive and influential representative for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation making fair and thoughtful decisions. I will uphold the Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitution and law and order codes. I will approve amending or adding codes when it benefits the entire PBP Nation. I will be available at all times for meetings and communication from all.

Exert your right to vote in the election!

Tribal Council Vice-Chairperson (vote for one (1)) (cont'd)



**Carol A.
Wahwasuck
Shopteese**

I am Carol Wahwasuck Shopteese (Ishnokwe'). I am seeking to serve as Vice-Chairperson on the Tribal Council. I am the daughter of Thurman "Dutch" Shopteese and Arlene B. Shipshee Wahwasuck. I am married to Kenneth "Shon" Jessepe and have 3 children-Charissa (Sebekwe'), Shannon (M'kokwe'), and Cordell (Bebishine).

I possess two Master's Degrees-Social Work (2004) and Business Administration (2006). I believe I'm a strong candidate for this position. I have served as an administrator for over eight years in two tribal social services programs. I served on local, state and national initiatives for foster care to address tribal concerns and adversity in State/Federal systems. I am an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) expert and have taught ICWA basics to attorneys, judges and social workers for Kansas SRS in a collaborative effort with (University of Kansas) KU. I taught Cultural Diversity at KU in 2009/2010. I am a recent appointee by the General Council to the PBP Social Services Board. I have 7 years experience of business management, personnel management and business administration through my service as a founding board member of two non-profit organizations. I continue to serve as a board chairperson for one of those non-profit organizations. I suc-

cessfully operated my own business for 6 years. I have 6 years experience as a Gaming Inspector and 1.5 year's experience as a regulatory/management employee for the Kickapoo Tribe Gaming Commission. I have served on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation Board since December 2010. I am knowledgeable of Federal laws that affect the Tribe and our gaming enterprise. I will uphold the PBP Constitution and ensure it is used to support our People, not oppress them.

I strongly feel that Tribal Members deserve compassion, respect/responsiveness, fairness, honesty and integrity. Our children need to be protected and our families need to be preserved. I believe when Tribal Members ask for information, they deserve an answer and attention when they have concerns and a true "open door" policy. They deserve Tribal Council Members who are willing to work 40 plus hours a week to meet the needs of their People. We need to move forward with our economic development. Above all, Tribal Members should receive first consideration for a job with the Nation if they qualify for the position. Tribal Members should be given every opportunity to advance in their positions. Those Members who are treated unfairly should be given reconsideration by the Nation and we need to reinstitute our Employee's Tribunal system. Our employees deserve fair, consistent policies. Lastly, we need to draw wisdom from our Elders and, if elected, I hope to create an Elders Council to provide direction to the Tribal Council.

I am willing to work very hard for the Nation and to represent our People in a fair, honest, consistent manner. I hope you will place your confidence in my capable hands, your concerns onto my competent shoulders and honor me with your vote as Vice-Chairperson for the Nation. If you have any questions, please call me at 785-991-0299.



**Tony
Wahweotten**

You have been introduced to me a few times before. My name is Tti ta pe kwaki. My English name is Ronald A. Wahweotten Jr. Friends, family and acquaintances call me Tony. My parents are Ron and Laveda Wahweotten. My grandparents are Ray and Elsie Wahwasuck-Wahweotten and Charlie and Lillian Shopteese -Thomas. I have three children, Chaumin, Brennah (Our 2009 - 2011 Prairie Band Potawatomi Princess), and Zach, and am married to Angela Greemore -Wahweotten. We have lived in Mayetta, Kansas for 21 years.

I started working when I was young, mowing yards, shoveling snow, and painting. Starting to work at an early age helped me create a strong work ethic. I graduated from Royal Valley in 1984. At that time, I went to work for the U.S.D.A. as a Field Office Engineering Technician for six years where I learned land management practices that would be very beneficial to our reservation.

My father and I created 1st Nation Painting which was founded in 1996. The business is still in operation today. In addition, I have been taught great respect for all of our resources through hunting, fishing and gathering from our lands. I have over 15 years of experience sitting on committees and working for our Tribe. My business knowledge and life experiences make me a very capable Vice-Chairperson candidate for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

In addition to my daily activities, I have served on our Tribal Zoning committee for eighteen years. I was nominated and voted to serve as chairman for two terms on the Tribal Zoning committee. I was asked to participate and soon after was elected as a board member to the Land Management committee where I served for ten years.

I have lived both on the reservation and off the reservation in the surrounding areas of Mayetta, Hoyt and Topeka all of my life. Raised by a strong family, I acquired the knowledge needed to function well in both our traditional and contemporary worlds. I am invested and active in both. I am a healthy, non-smoking, full-blooded Prairie Band Potawatomi.

My business management skills, time management abilities, and self-sufficiency have been developed through many years of hard work. Once elected into the office of Vice-Chairperson on our Tribal Council, my wife, Angela, and staff will continue to run our business. I will surrender my duties. Currently, as far as the Nation's affairs, I would like to see our programs evaluated for effectiveness and continued accountability.

My interest in running for Tribal Council has come from being involved with the Nation in various business endeavors, meetings, committee work and my own personal experience. I have earned a reputation for being fair, honest, and reliable concerning responsibilities and obligations, having strong ethical standards and being able to make sound business decisions quickly.

We need a strong communicator, a leader, and a person with proven business skills that thinks in honorable, ethical and moral ways. I fit those qualifications.

I humbly ask for your vote. With your support, I will do my best in representing our Nation.



Joe Young

Hello to all of you, and thanks for the opportunity to run for Tribal Council. I am Joe Young from Vesper, Wisconsin. I'm 57, and with my wife, Lysa we have 6 children and numerous grandchildren. I have 24 years of experience working for Indian Tribes. I've worked in all areas of tribal government, know their inner workings, and believe that I can help our Tribe.

The one thing I strongly believe is that the welfare of the whole Potawatomi Nation should come first. By that I mean not only the local tribal membership who live on the reservation, but those who live near and far from the reservation, should also have a fair share of the tribal prosperity and benefits that are available. I know the Tribe can't meet all the needs of the people. That means that tough but fair decisions have to be made by your leaders, and that's where my experience and education will help.

I have a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. My Juris Doctorate law degree is from the University of Wisconsin.

I started as an attorney in the Indian law section of Wisconsin Judicare. I worked on Indian Child Welfare cases, a discrimination case in federal court, and helped Indian organizations with tax exempt issues. I then worked as tribal attorney for the Lac

du Flambeau Chippewa. While there, I represented that tribe in a part of their successful 17 year federal court battle with the state of Wisconsin over treaty rights, and we won the federal court lawsuit against Wisconsin, which opened the casinos in the state. I also had to negotiate with the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and with Governor Tommy Thompson. I worked on personnel issues, tribal government program compliance problems, and had to deal with every issue facing the tribe.

I worked next as tribal attorney for the Forest County Potawatomi. While there, we sued the State of Wisconsin for bad faith negotiations on a gaming compact and won. My main issue while there was the fight against Exxon mining. I helped set up a complete Tribal Environmental Department, with tribal jurisdiction, codes and enforcement authority. We worked for years on a Class 1 air designation under the Federal Clean Air Act, which would protect the reservation if the mine ever came in. I dealt and negotiated with members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, EPA and BIA. I sat for a number of years on the Environmental Financial Advisory Board, which advised EPA and the President of the United States on national issues.

I then worked for the Sokaogon Chippewa Tribe. My main issue there was successfully dealing with a major HUD housing problem. Finally, I sat on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Court of Appeals as one of the three original justices. I've been a member of our Wisconsin Potawatomi's Big Drum religion since I was 12 years old. In closing, thanks again for this opportunity to run for PBP Vice-Chairperson.

Tribal Council Treasurer (vote for one (1))



Hattie E. Mitchell, CPA

My name is Hattie Mitchell "Wabenoqwe." I am a lifelong follower our traditional ways, the Potawatomi Drum religion and the Potawatomi language. I am committed to serve the people of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in a fair, honest, and transparent manner. It is important for the treasurer to be dedicated to the fields of accounting and finance. As a licensed CPA, and member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), I have in-depth experience working in the accounting and finance professions.

It has always been my goal to run for treasurer of our Nation. Having this as an end goal has directed me on what I have needed to do to prepare myself to be the best treasurer for our people. My expertise in accounting and knowledge of finance and investments is allowing me to better read and understand financial statements and to better analyze

business and tribal operations. Currently, I work in the PBPB Finance department, where I am responsible for tracking tribal operations and working with the accounting systems.

Education

CPA-Certified Public Accountant with a permit to practice in Kansas and AICPA member

- Highest license in the field of accounting
- Trained in governmental accounting and financial statement analysis
- Maintain a high level of financial competence through continuing education
- Dedicated to provide the highest standards of ethics and professional conduct
- Pursued rigorous course work in accounting, finance, and economics after college

BBA-Bachelor's of Business Administration with emphasis in Accounting and Finance, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

- Earned a total of 150 hours of college credit including post graduate

work required to take the CPA examinations

Professional Experience

Over 6 years as an accountant and financial performance analyst at Security Benefit, Topeka, KS

- Financial statement and budget analysis for multiple entities in asset management, investments, and insurance
- Presented financial results and did financial forecasting for a multi-billion dollar insurance company

Other Experience

- 5 years experience in gaming operations at Harrah's Prairie Band Casino (earned chairman's award for best team results)
- Summer Venture in Management Program at Harvard Business School
- Studied International Politics at Cambridge University in England
- Community involvement
- Kansas Children's Discovery Center (KCDC) Board of Directors and Finance Committee -provide oversight and input on the organization's operations, financial well-being, and strategic direction
- Member of Women of Interest Investment Club-study the economic environment and research equity investments
- Volunteer and fundraiser for many local organizations

Knowing my lifelong goal of being treasurer of the PBPB has directed my education, professional experience, and community involvement. I am highly enthusiastic to take on the opportunity of treasurer and plan to deliver a better future for our general membership.

I plan to focus on the issues of:

- Economic development and job creation
- Protecting tribal sovereignty and gaming compacts
- Increasing transparency of tribal operations
- Increasing educational opportunities
- Improving health care services

I would appreciate your vote, and I look forward to serving the tribe. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at hattie.mitchell@gmail.com.



Paul Vega

My name is Paul Vega, son of the late Ralph and Phyllis Nozhackum Vega and I am running for the position of Tribal Treasurer.

I believe that the position of Tribal Treasurer is an important position within our government structure because it is through the responsible fiscal management of the Nation's finances that we are able to provide the programs and services that allow us to continue to improve the quality of life for all tribal members. I understand and respect the fiduciary responsibilities that come with the position of Tribal Treasurer and will uphold these responsibilities with integrity and pride.

I have a varied background that I believe provides me with the skills, education and experience to successfully hold the position of Tribal Treasurer.

I served three years in the United States Army Airborne Infantry and received an honorable discharge at the end of my service to our country. Through the assistance of the Nation's Education Program, I have obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Washburn University and I have a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Baker University. In addition to my service to our country and my education, I have had the honor of working for both our Casino and our Tribal Government. While at the Casino, I worked as a Table Games Supervisor and was promoted to Table Games Manager. I currently work for the Tribal Government in Member Services, but I have also worked for the Road and Bridge Program and as an Accountant in the Finance Department.

This background and work history provides me with first-hand knowledge of casino operations as well as government operations, both of which I believe are beneficial to the success of the Tribal Treasurer because our casino revenues directly fund the major portion of our tribal programs. Understanding how these two are connected and interdependent is important in understanding the roles, responsibilities and functions of the position of Tribal Treasurer. My background as a Finance Accountant allows me to come into the position of Tribal Treasurer already knowing the financial structure of the Nation. I have direct, hands-on experience working with the actual budgets of the Nation.

I believe that we have done a good job of managing the Nation's finance and at the same time, I also believe that there is always room for improvement. I have heard concerns of the membership with regard to the Minor's Trust Fund, the Nation's investments, and Economic Development progress. I believe that there are ways to improve these areas and am willing to listen to the membership and the current staff to find solutions to the concerns that continue to resurface with regard to these issues. I know that there are solutions and I believe that through a coordinated effort we can find those solutions.

If I am elected to the position of Tribal Treasurer, I promise to always work for what I believe is in the best interests of the Nation and all of its members and to listen to those members when they have concerns or suggestions. We are all Prairie Band Potawatomi and I believe that by working together, there is nothing we cannot achieve.

Please feel free to contact me via email at pvega2896@yahoo.com if you have any questions and thank you for your time.

Tribal Council Treasurer (vote for one (1) cont'd



Noah Wahquahboshkuk

First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for your attention and time. I am Noah Wahquahboshkuk and I am Thunder Clan. I know what it is like to come from poverty and have to make do with what we had available, by means of the use of our traditional ways of self sustenance, as well as, using what little "commods" we had. Coming from a family of 9, it was hard to have enough to go around but we made it work. Being Potawatomi we are survivors, we all have it in us to find the strength to overcome. I am running for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council Treasurer position and I believe I have what it takes to continue to address the important economic and intricate issues of the Nation.

From the time I was appointed as Treasurer, in November 2011 to the present, I have made the best decisions possible to help alleviate some of the shortfalls pertaining to the Nation's finances. Some decisions are tough but in the end, you have to ask yourself, "What is in the best interest of our people?" The main thing I find

difficult, when faced with these decisions are that, sometimes it makes "business sense" but other times, does it make "cultural sense?" As we continue to develop as a growing Nation,

we find ourselves having to re-evaluate our current goals to see if they are still in alignment with the goals that have been established in the past.

My K-12 education has been with USD 337-Royal Valley. After high school, I attended Haskell Indian Nations University where I received my Associate Degree, as well as, my Bachelor Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Tribal Management. Finally, I completed my Masters Degree in Business Administration from Baker University. This pursuit of education allowed me to venture from home (the Rez) and to see what is available. This expanded my knowledge of the working world and the part tribal nations play in it.

Our people, our land, our values, and our treaties define us as who we are. If you take one of these away it weakens us, as Potawatomi people we shall continue to preserve these things we hold sacred. Sometimes we find ourselves fighting with one another, but we should be helping one another, because in the end that is all we have; the way I see it, WE ARE ALL FAMILY, we are Potawatomi. Sometimes it feels as if a lot of these things we have afforded to us now make us greedy and cold, but there are larger threats that we should be focused on such as the health of our people, the revitalization of our natural resources, creating jobs for our people, etc...

Again, thank you for your time and consideration, I appreciate the time I have had as Treasurer and I look forward to the opportunity to be one of your tribal leaders of the next 4 years.

Tribal Council Person # 2 (vote for one (1))



Camilla (Wishkeno) Chouteau

I hereby declare my candidacy for the position as Council Person #2 on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Tribal Council. The qualifications I bring to the elected position are my work experience in our Tribal government, management, Federal/State programs, and my formal education. In addition, I have previously worked for the highly nationally profiled Salvation Army and presently work as a Special Education Paraprofessional II for the Topeka School District U.S.D. #501.

I pledge the following visionary goals on behalf of our Nation:

- Preservation of our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation language and culture beliefs.
- Create new jobs through a comprehensive economic development plan.
- More efficient financial responsibility to the General Council/Tribal Membership.
- Propose a new business plan to establish our Nation's first ownership of a digital/copy services enterprise.
- Propose a long term plan to insure our Nation's energy and water resource needs are met.

Nation Experience:

- Elected to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Constitutional Drafting Committee.
- Elected to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council.
- Appointed to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Community Services Committee.
- Appointed to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Health Committee.
- Appointed to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Pow Wow Committee.
- Elected to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Education Committee.

Education Experience:

- Bachelor of Social Work Degree 1985, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.
- Master of Social Work Degree 2007 (Major: Administration), University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.
- Credit Hours, Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kansas.

I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election.



Chris "Pah Nah" Mzhickteno

My name is Chris "Pah Nah" Mzhickteno. I am married to my lovely wife, Laura, and I have two wonderful children, a son, Cody, 11, and daughter, Tiffany, 1. My father is Vernon Mzhickteno and my grandfather was La Rue Mzhickteno. I have strong family values, and I intend to raise my children practicing our traditional way of life.

I have been fortunate enough to work for the Nation for 3 years. I currently work in the health center as the RPMS Site Manager/Computer Technician. In that time I have learned a lot about the needs and hopes of our people. I invite tribal members to visit me and share their thoughts with me at any time. With your support, as a council member I would continue my open-door policy and remain available to hear your thoughts. I have started a blog, and over the coming months I will post more about me and my ideas for our tribe. I encourage you to comment and share as well. <http://chrisforpbncouncil.blogspot.com/>

My Promise to the Nation

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

My Vision for the Nation

Specifically I want to pursue more grant programs in order to provide more housing, better healthcare, and more education and employment opportunities. Ignoring these opportunities only impedes our progress. By utilizing these benefits, advancement and improvement for the tribe can happen.

Some of the issues that I seek to address while serving the people of the Potawatomi Nation are the following:

- Develop More Housing
- Enhance Healthcare Services
- Creating New Employment
- Increasing Education Opportunities

Conclusion

I will use my skills of leadership, intelligence, and diligence to have a positive impact on our Nation. My attention and commitments are to the Potawatomi people and their needs. I understand that purposeful and productive change needs to continue to occur so that our Tribe will grow stronger and continue to prosper. Most importantly I understand that as your representative, I am your advocate.

Tribal Council Person # 2 (vote for one (1)) (cont'd)



Benny J. Potts

I am running for Tribal Council Person # 2 this July to represent you on our Tribal Council. I previously served from 1995-1999 in the capacity of Tribal Council member. While on Council I actively served as your Native American Grave and Repatriations Act (NAGRA) representative. During this time I was able to retrieve seven bodies formerly kept as museum property and bury them in Prairie Peoples Park. I also work jointly with fellow Council members on land purchases around the reservation as a commitment to bring our reservation to a full body of land belonging to Prairie Band Potawatomi people. The adoption of our tribal logo and tags was also successful during my time in office.

I have been a life-long resident of the reservation only leaving to serve my country proudly in the Marines from 1970 to 1972. I am a Vietnam veteran. I am a life-long member of the We-Ta-Se Legion Post #410. Currently, I am an active member and serve on the Color and Honor Guards.

I graduated from Mayetta High School in 1969 and attended Haskell Indian Junior College.

Currently I work for the Potawatomi Nation at the Road & Bridge Department.

I would appreciate your vote during our upcoming election.



Thomas M. Wabnum (Mektewzi or Hoppy)

My name is Thomas M. Wabnum. I have filed my candidacy for Tribal Council Person # 2. I have the honor of being named after my Misho John Wabnum (Nuck Muck), brother Pete Wabnum and also called Mektewzi. To many of you I am also called Hoppy. My maternal grandparents were Louis (Wabaunsee) A. Wabaunsee and Catherine (Koche no quah) U. Shoptese. My paternal grandparents were John Wabnum (Nuck Muck) and Emma Young (Ash tah kish ko quah). My parents were Edison T. Wabnum (Wahbnum) and Angeline M. Wabaunsee (Ke Wah Quah).

I have been retired for eight years now and widowed for four years. I live in Albuquerque, N.M. and share a home with my family on the Jicarilla Apache Nation, Dulce, N.M.

I was employed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in various positions in Washington, D.C., Riverside, Calif., Dulce, N.M. and Albuquerque, N.M. Some positions were administrative and management positions with the BIA such as: Budget, Finance, Contracts, Social Services, Forestry, Property and Supply, and Trust

Responsibilities. There were other positions in tribal government, Indian Self Determination or "638" and having oversight and monitoring of tribal governments. I performed on-site inspections of contract requirements pertaining to their financial records, vendor payments, sub-contract requirements, 638 drawdown request, contract reporting, computer systems, tribal budgeting and tribal reporting requirements.

I was also employed with the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

(OST) as required by the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994. I was a Budget Analyst for OST and a Management Analyst for the Office of Trust Records (OTR). The OST and OTR programs were to fix the historical broken trust system of BIA and create an electronic records management system for BIA. After retirement, I also worked as a tribal contractor consultant with one Native Nation who was considered a "high risk" of failing their 638 contract requirements and federal payments were suspended.

During my career, I have learned so much about the government's failing attempts to administer program services. I was mainly concerned with the federal trust responsibilities pertaining to our tribal trust lands but more importantly the Individual Indian Allotments created by the Dawes Act of 1887. This Act was primarily the reason our lands were intentionally and forcefully taken from our possession in attempts to terminate us by congressional legislation. We did not have any participation or vote in this Act but a majority of our lands were lost by Treaty and then later by allotment and fractionizing. Basically, BIA was responsible for will-making with tribal citizens keeping our allotments in whole but failing their duties, allotments are now owned by hundreds of heirs. These lands are not used, under-utilized but still under the same trust as tribal lands and still federally neglected.

The government's undermining attempts were to destroy tribal unity, abandon trust land status and forcing us to sell our lands that they didn't care about or our destiny after that. With my federal and tribal government experience, I want to continue to improve our tribal operations, create better business practices, review all tribal policies, create tribal and Indian preference policy, and, in general, build a reformed government. If elected, it's what WE want to do for our Nation now, our future so our decisions are based on the "common good" of the Nation.

For more information go to www.voteforwabnum.com.



Jancita Warrington

I hope this newsletter finds you in good spirits and good health. My name is Jancita Warrington, or as some of you may have known me while growing up as Soc, which is a shortened version of my Indian name. I am Potawatomi and Ho Chunk on my mom's side and Menominee on my dad's side. I come from the Young family who has always resided in Wisconsin around what the Potawatomi know as the Skunk Hill area.

I have a Bachelors degree from Haskell and a Masters degree from the University of Kansas. I have had the privilege of serving our great Nation for almost two years as a Tribal Council woman. During this time I have strongly advocated for progressive change in our government structure with more accountability and transparency in our Nation by way of updated and restructured policy and procedures. During my time in office the Tribal Council has also tasked me with creating the Tribal Council policy and procedure document which

is awaiting approval of its final revision.

In addition, I have also been tasked with running the Nation's Tribal Historic Cultural Preservation Department. I am currently working on a cultural preservation project that will temporarily be housed at the casino lobby but will be moved to its permanent home once a Potawatomi Cultural Center is approved. The preservation project will serve

as an educational tool to learn about our people to those in the surrounding communities and, more importantly, to our own people. In the future, our people will be able to use these items and information for further study to learn about the old ways and to regain a cultural knowledge base that has been lost or forgotten over time. I believe this project is a vital link to the past, present, and future identity of ourselves as Prairie Band Potawatomi people.

I am writing to ask for your support in the upcoming July election. I have always maintained a strong work ethic and I believe that each generation must work a little harder than the one before to set the stage for future leaders who will come after us. We, as a Nation, must continue to move forward and PBPB tribal leaders must always have a positive vision for our future and more importantly for the future of our children. I am a strong believer in the importance of an identity that draws from our past, teaches us a strong place in the current world and gives us a level of responsibility to carry and accept with pride to assure that our future generations of Potawatomi people will understand who they are. I have never believed in blood quantum and will continue to try to educate our community about the importance of not letting this dictate who we are.

I believe in hard work, dedication to our people, and have a strong vision for the future of our Nation. I have always had an open door policy, and love to engage in discussion, as I believe this is what leads to empowerment of our people. I believe in treating each of our tribal members fairly, with respect and dignity because we as a whole together as Potawatomi people is what makes our Nation so great. Again I respectfully ask for your support in the upcoming election.

Tribal Council Person # 3 (vote for one (1))



Felix R. Cruz

My name is Felix Cruz and I am a candidate for Tribal Council Person#3.

I am the son of Richard Cruz and Christine Wahquahboshkuk. I have been married to Karissa Michelle Cruz for 12 years; I have one son, Sean Gerald Cruz. Although, due to my father's career in the U.S. Air Force, I was never afforded the opportunity of residing on the reservation. I do have a great many relatives still living and they have kept me up to date on current events throughout the years. Like most children of my generation, I attended Winnebago Indian School, Marty Indian School, and Ft. Sill Indian School in Lawton, Oklahoma. The rest of my education was in the public school system. My work career has consisted of 30 years in the telecommunications industry. I have been employed and worked with some of largest firms in the country including General Dynamics, Northrup Grumman, AT&T, and Verizon. I started out as a tester (laborer) for a project in Puerto Rico for the Puerto Rico Telephone Company. Through hard work and studies I have progressed in this industry from the position of laborer to various degrees of engi-

neering, project management, sales and marketing director, and construction manager. I presently work for Huntel Engineering in southern Kansas contracting to Kanokla Telephone Company. We are responsible for the engineering and project management overseeing the construction for a \$58 million dollar internet upgrade from copper wire to fiber-optic cable placement to rural farming communities.

After attending recent General Council meetings, it is my opinion that our Tribal Council has lost its way. Combative positions instead of answers are not what we elect our representatives to government for. This is why I am asking for your vote and confidence for the upcoming election. My background in business has positioned me for any agenda that you, the General Council, will choose for me to represent. I welcome your suggestions and opinions. My email is cruz-felix@live.com and feel free to contact me anytime. I will share, that my concerns for the Prairie Band L.L.C., will be my top priority. We need jobs on the reservation and this firm can start creating ideas for our people. Once again, thank you for your time and I would appreciate your vote for Tribal Council Person #3.



Anita G. Pahmahmie Evans

My name is Anita G. Pahmahmie Evans (Kee-Wah-Chee) and I am a candidate for Tribal Council Person #3.

My parents were the late Josie Wamego Pahmahmie and Richard "Dick" Pahmahmie. My maternal grandparents were Florence and Henry Wamego, and my paternal grandparents were Dolly and Thomas Pahmahmie Sr. I am a lifelong resident of the Prairie Band Potawatomi community and reservation. I am married to Mando Evans (31 years) and we have two sons-William and Evan. I have 3 grandchildren.

Education:

- 1980-Bachelor of Science in Education Degree. Emporia State University, Emporia, KS.
- 30+hours of credit-Washburn University/Friends University toward a Master's Degree

Professional Experience

- 32 years teaching in Kansas (Physical Education, Health, French)
- 27 years coaching high school sports in Kansas
- 17 years Title VII Indian Education Director for U.S.D. # 337-wrote and implemented all aspects of the grant each year
- 3 years-Native American Culture/Craft Specialist-PBPN Boys & Girls Club
- Designed and implemented Summer Youth Work Program-PBPN-1998
- Implemented the Potawatomi Language through the PBPN Language Department into the schools and at the PBPN Boys & Girls Club-17 years
- Taught French I and French II at Haskell Indian Nations University through the Upward Bound Program-2009
- Served as Director, Ass't Director, and Recreation

Specialist for the local school district-13 years

- Sponsor of Royal Valley Native American Singers/Dancers-17 years

Awards

- 1997-Native American Educator of the Year (Kansas Association for Native American Education)
- 2002-National Indian Teacher of the Year (National Indian Education Association (NIEA))
- 2010-Port Jervis High School Hall of Fame Inductee (Port Jervis, New York)

Community Service

- Chairperson-PBPN Head Start Policy Council-3 years
- Member-PBPN Language Preservation Grant Committee-4 years
- Member-U.S.D. #337 School to Work Committee-1 year
- Member-Impact Aid Committee-U.S.D. #337-17 years
- Member-PBPN Johnson O'Malley Parent Committee-3 years
- Head Coach-Pee Wee Baseball League-3 years
- Head Coach-YMCA Basketball-4 years

I have worked with our youth all my life and I bring strong leadership qualities with me if elected to this prestigious position. I have seen our reservation grow in terms of economic development due to gaming revenue and good leadership over the past years. I witnessed all the positive opportunities that opened up for all of our members. I want to ensure that we, as a Nation, continue to thrive economically for our future generations.

I won't make any promises, but if elected I will work diligently for our people in every aspect. I believe I possess the work ethic to pursue the position of Council Member. I would appreciate your support in the upcoming election.



Carrie Wabaunsee O'Toole

My name is Carrie Wabaunsee O'Toole, the oldest daughter of Drusa Masquat Wabaunsee and the late Will Wabaunsee. My grandparents were Jim and Charlotte Nocktonick Wabaunsee and Bob and Carrie Puckee Masquat. I have been happily married to Jim O'Toole for over 27 years and live in Mayetta, Kansas. We have four beautiful children: Kateri, Chris, Kavan and Lara; as well four grandsons Andru, Daryon, Colin and Dominic also an adopted son Josh who has a daughter Kylie. In addition, my sons have served in the military including the Marines, Army and Navy.

I was raised with my brother and sisters to have a strong belief in family, hard work and seeing things in a positive way. I have used this as philosophy to guide my life and, in particular during my time while serving the Nation as a member of the Tribal Council and former employee. I have worked as Gaming Commissioner also in Slots, Regulator Compliance and for the Nation's former bingo operation as well in both the Nation's Administration Program and Housing Program. This experience has allowed me to serve the people of our Nation and to gain knowledge and experience that are valuable in the position of a Tribal Council Member.

I have also served the people by serving on the Nation's Tribal

Health Board and also as the alternate representative for the Oklahoma City Area Indian Tribal Health Board (OCAITHB), participating in the Four Tribes of Kansas meetings, working closely with the Census Bureau for the 2010 Census on the reservation. I routinely attend conferences and workshops to find additional resources for the Nation and ways to protect our sovereign rights. I participate in consultation with Federal Agencies to express the concerns of our Nation and to learn about how we can and do fulfill grant requirements. I believe in protecting our elders, veterans, children, and land, water rights and gaming rights. In my time in office, I feel we have made others very aware that we are serious about protecting our rights and sovereignty because of direct communication with Tribal Council members such as me, rather than having attorneys relay our message for us. We have worked on Tribal legislation to strengthen our laws, State to be more inclusive like legislation to get Tribal Identification Cards accepted as a document to register to vote, and passing various Tribal resolutions and actions to protect and serve the Nation. Of utmost importance is to ensure the sovereignty of our Nation while at the same time being fiscally responsible and debt free.

(Continued on page 18)

Carrie O Toole profile continued from page 17

I graduated from Royal Valley High School and have attended college at Emporia State University, Washburn University, Highland Community College and Haskell Indian Nations University. The knowledge I have gained while in college in the fields of education, psychology, and business and casino management has given me a diverse background that is helpful in the position of a Tribal Council Member. Over the years I have also volunteered and been involved in many community organizations where I have been and officer for the Tribal Education Parent Committee for Johnson O'Malley (JOM), as well as Title VII and Impact Aid. My family belongs to Our Lady of the Snows Church where we are active members.

I want to thank you for letting me serve the Nation and its members. If re-elected, I will work with the members on supporting education programs for tribal members,

keep the great programs we have that benefit our membership and community and keep the continual vigilance of protecting and serving our elders, veterans, youth and addressing ongoing and upcoming health issues. I also believe strongly in preserving our history and culture while continuing to pursue economic development ventures with realistic goals to ensure our Nation's future. Our goals can only be met by listening and working with other and using common sense to make smart decisions for the Nation.

I ask for your support and your vote to continue serving the Nation in the office of Tribal Council Member #3. I thank you in advance for participating in the upcoming Tribal Council Election and feel free to contact me at carrieo56@yahoo.com or my cell number 785.845.0111.

Tribal Council approves funds for over-income rental assistance for National Housing program

By Jackie Cummings, Housing Director

[Review of programs](#)

The Housing Department has announced that there are new funds available in an over-income category for rental assistance. Tribal Council approved the funds in May and an update of rental guidelines was made that are available on the housing webpage at www.pbpindiantribe.com.

The Renovation Assistance program and Down Payment program have also been resumed.

Overall, the department began accepting applications on April 16 and applications and guidelines are available for pick-up in the office and on the website at pbpindiantribe.com

For more information call the Housing Department at 785.966.2756

Renovation Program: Many applicants are on a waiting list and they will be processed first in the order in which they were received. New applications are also being accepted.

Rental Assistance Program:
NOTE: *Funds are now available in an over-income category*

For members who previously applied and were approved and received assistance you can re-apply; however, those applicants who are applying for the first time will be given priority.

Down Payment Assistance: Funding is available to assist tribal members with a down payment for a new home.

Notice
Visitors to the Government Center must check in at the front desk (upper level) or Human Resources window (lower level). If members go to the lower level where Human Resources, Member Services or the Education Department is located, parking is available on the west side in back where there are no stairs.

Law and Order Codes

The Attorney's office announces that Title 27 Juvenile Offender Code has been added to the PBP Law and Order Codes that are available at

www.pbpindiantribe.com/pbpn-law-and-order-code.aspx

Fire Department/Emergency services to no longer respond to non-emergency lock outs

It's a sign of the times but the Potawatomi Fire Department/Emergency Services, with the approval of tribal administration, would like to inform residents who live in homes under the jurisdiction of the Housing department that it will no longer respond to house or car lockouts unless it is a confirmed lifeline medical emergency situation.

Rick Swogger, Potawatomi Fire Department shift captain, said that it was regrettable but the change is mainly a matter of safety and liability.

"There are people out there who want to get inside homes who we don't know or self-identify themselves as close relatives or even repair people," he said.

"In the case of car lockouts we can also be held liable for possible damage to the car itself or theft of items inside the car once the car is unlocked."

Below is a list of area locksmiths or call the PBP Housing Department at 785.966.2756 for further information about losing house keys.

Area locksmiths

JA CO Locksmith (Holton)...785.305.1439
ASAP Locksmith (St. Marys)...785.43.2727

A note from Member Services about the burial fund

The Burial Fund was established to help ease the financial burden of funeral expenditures at a time of a family member's death.

The burial benefit will pay up to \$ 6,000 in burial costs per eligible individual. Tribal members with funeral expense for stillborn or premature death of infant (who are less than 3 days old) can also be reimbursed for up to \$500 to be paid to a funeral home for burial. All burial

allowance applications and statements must be filed with the Tribal Council within one year from a member's date of death. The Burial Plan may be amended or terminated only by a vote of the General Council, with a quorum present, and approval by the Secretary of the Interior.

For additional information call the Member Services Department at (785) 966-3910 or toll free 1-(866) 277-3722.

Programs team up to provide sexual assault awareness



Almost 175 people turned out to walk in the Take Back the Night event held April 24 on the reservation. It was a beautiful night where walkers began at the arch in Prairie Peoples Park and walked a trail that led north on M Road and west to Buffalo Drive near L Road.

Walkers included Tribal Council members and their families, Judicial Center administrators and judges, four members from the Institute for Native Justice in Oklahoma, and several other PBPB directors of programs and their staffs.

The event was sponsored by the Family Violence Prevention Program and the Tribal Victims Assistance Program and the Diabetes Prevention Program staff also assisted with the event.

In addition that week, it was also National Crime Victims Week sponsored by the FVPP and the Tribal Victims Assistance program and an informational email campaign to the PBPB community where they highlighted information on sexual assault, stalking, elder abuse, and child abuse.

The Family Violence Prevention Program is located in the Health Center and serves enrolled members of federally recognized tribes who are victims of family violence or sexual assault. The Tribal Victims Assistance Program is housed in the Tribal Police Department. For more information call 785.966.8343 or 785.966.3024.

New program called Tribal Victim Services

The Family Violence Prevention Program (FVPP) and the Tribal Victims Assistance Program have merged into one program newly named Tribal Victim Services, according to Daniel Goombi, FVPP Outreach Specialist and Victims Advocate. The

Tribal Victims Assistance Program was formerly housed in the Tribal Police Department but has moved to offices near the FVPP which is located in the Social Services (east) wing in the Health Center.

Need help? Don't go through it alone
Tribal Victim Services
Toll free crisis hotline number. 1.866.966.0173



(Left to right) Charlie Barden (K-State), Bill Welton (Haskell), Pabodha Galgamuwa (K-State), Eddie Mitchell (PBPB) and David Hallauer (Meadowlark-KSRE) all took part in a gardening workshop for the PBPB community on March 29. Over 30 people attended the workshop that was held at the Rock/Community building.

Diabetes Prevention Program sponsors gardening workshop

A gardening workshop was held on March 29 in collaboration with the Diabetes Prevention Program, Division of Planning and Environmental Protection, Haskell Indian Nations University and K-State Research & Extension.

Topics included how to control weeds, improving soil with compost, insect control and tips for growing a variety of vegetables.

Participants who signed up received a transplant 6 pack of new varieties of tomatoes, sweet and hot peppers and a protection cover for growing tender plants.

Special thanks to the Lands Department for tilling garden plots for the community gardens and PBPB residential homes.

DPP exercise programs

**Workout the Rez
Community Challenge
(individualized program)**

**Zumba
T,W,Th 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Boys & Girls Club**

**Wednesday Walks
(15 minutes)
10:30 a.m.-Boys & Girls Club
11 a.m.-Elders Center
Noon-Health Center
2 p.m.-Government Center**

**Details: Cody Wilson,
785.966.8272**

Young Native musician with FASD tells inspirational story

Morgan Fawcett (Tlingit), 20, is an Alaska Native who is traveling around the country to raise awareness about a condition called Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

FASD by definition is "a continuum of permanent birth defects found in babies that is caused by consuming alcohol during pregnancy."

Fawcett has FASD and his personal story about how he is overcoming the condition combined with his musical ability as a flutist was told to various audiences on the reservation April 12-13, Fawcett gave public performances at the Fire Keepers Elder Center and the Bingo Hall that was sponsored by the Vocational Rehabilitation Program and Alcohol & Drug Program. He also spoke to some youth groups during his stay.

Fawcett has been playing the flute for only four years and has already cut three CDs. He only plays

wooden flutes and said he owns 21 of them that he displays during his performances that he selects at random to play. He said that music is very much a part of his life and that he found, after discovering the flute, that he can calm himself and speak in a clear and understandable manner. He said that the flute allows him to cope and deal with his condition and that that, combined with a holistic approach to daily life of eating right and wearing natural clothing, has allowed him to overcome his obstacles.

He is traveling around the Nation with his Grandma Sue Hempel to tell individuals and particularly Native Americans that they can overcome FASD by learning about it and staying away from alcohol and becoming healthy and he does it in an entertaining way.

Learn more at:

www.morganfawcett.vpweb.com





Earthship building gets make over from Maintenance Department



Gunzy Wahquahboshkuk (PBPB) is seen above putting the finishing touches on the outside of the building. Wahquahboshkuk is a skilled carpenter and craftsman whose work can also be seen at the arena stage at the pow-wow grounds and in other buildings on the reservation.

PBPB Construction/Maintenance Department has crews that work for the PBPB government
 *facilities renovation
 *custodial services
 *landscaping
 *concrete

Robbie Lange (PBPB) is facilities coordinator for the Maintenance Department and oversaw the remodel and renovation of the Earthship building.

The Earthship building, that is located on 142 Road and under the direction of the Division of Planning and EPA, has been completely renovated from top to bottom with the majority of the work being done by the PBPB maintenance facilities crew.

Under the direction of Robbie Lange, facilities coordinator, who has worked for the tribe since 2006, he told the *News* that he is proud of the fact that the PBPB can now construct, renovate, and maintain a facility without having to hire outside contractors to do the work.

Their most recent job was the Earthship building that was originally built by community volunteers around 2000 out of recycled materials. Although functional, it was never used to its full potential, and so the PBPB decided to renovate it into usable office space for the EPA. Lange and his crew plumbed the building, installed a HVAC system and renovated the entire interior from floor to ceiling. Concrete work was also done by the maintenance concrete crew and a septic tank and road improvements were put in place by Road & Bridge.

Gunzy Wahquahboshkuk, a skilled carpenter, who also works for the Maintenance Department, completed the inside and outside trimwork for the building and also did the ceiling work.

Other maintenance personnel who helped renovate the building and are involved in facilities renovation are: Jim MaGee, David Daubon, Jim Harvey, Jake Rodewald, Tom Jim, and Chuck Jacobson. Carl Matousek is the director of Construction/Maintenance for the PBPB.



In other work on the reservation, the maintenance concrete crew made upgrades to the driveway at the Potawatomi Fire Department on K-Road by installing underground storm system drains and replacing deteriorating concrete that was on the driveway in front of the fire truck bays. This photo was taken on May 8 and, from left to right is David Daubon, Ernie Coleman (in hat), Tom Jim and Jake Rodewald.



It was another interdepartmental effort when the Maintenance Department and Road & Bridge Department were called in to help the Division of Planning and EPA with a sewage problem that occurred south of the housing complexes off of Buffalo Road and 158 Road last April. In the photo, left to right, is Craig Wahwasuck (EPA), Tom Jim (Maintenance) and Carl Matousek (Maintenance). Hardy Eteeyan (Road & Bridge) and John Rupnicki (Maintenance), not pictured, were also at the scene helping to solve the problem.



Road & Bridge Department happenings

Road and Bridge has purchased its own equipment for re-striping the asphalt roads on the reservation. The project began in April and is another way the Nation is becoming self-sufficient and saving money.

A grant was also received for a road

safety enhancement project that will allow for a hill cut on 150 Road near Nation Station convenience store that is located near the casino. The work is scheduled to begin this fall and will involve construction around four of the entrances to the casino.



A new parking area for recreational vehicles was being constructed when this photo was taken last spring at Prairie Peoples Park.

We-Ta-Se news



Jim Potts (left) was elected the northeast Kansas regional Commander of the American Legion in March and was accompanied to his election by Roy Hale (center) and Emery Hale. Potts is also a liaison for We-Ta-Se American Legion Post #410 along with Frank Shopteese.

We-Ta-Se visited 17 cemeteries over Memorial Day Weekend and held a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day June 14 in Prairie Peoples Park

National American Legion officials visit



We-Ta-Se American Legion Post #410 hosted a luncheon for National Vice Commander David Voyles and other officers March 19 who represent the Midwest region, and were on a tour of the Sunflower state.

In the photo, front, left to right: Vice Commander Paul Sanford, National Vice Commander David Voyles, and Department Commander Dale Allen. Back row, left to right: Chuck Jacobson, Steve Ortiz, Roy Hale, Emery Hale, Jim Potts, Frank Shopteese, Francis Jensen, Charles Wakole, Robert Jackson and Carrie O'Toole. Ortiz and O'Toole sit on Tribal Council.

Voyles is from Amazonia, Mo. and a member of Post 359 in St. Joseph. He is a Vietnam veteran and earned a Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal with valor device while serving in the U.S. Army. There are five vice commanders nationwide that act as representatives of the national commander.

Richard Adame speaks out for Native American veterans

Richard Adame gave this presentation to James Anaya, United Nations Special Rapporteur, on May 3 at the University of Tulsa College of Law. Anaya was in Tulsa on consultation regarding the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other issues during his official visit to the United States from April 23 to May 4.

American Indian Veteran Pay Restitution

STATE TAXATION OF INCOME OF CERTAIN NATIVE AMERICAN ARMED FORCES MEMBERS

Hello my name is Richard Allen Adame, and I am enrolled Prairie Band Potawatomi and a 20-year Army veteran who fought in Desert Storm. Myself and thousands of other Native American Veterans possibly including Medal of Honor recipients and the many code talkers from various tribes were illegally taxed while in the military. Many are unaware of this but most were taxed illegally. Treaties between the Indian Tribes and the United States, and federal Indian law generally, prohibit the several states of the United States from taxing the income or property of Indians located within the recognized territories of the Tribes. This has been recognized as a property right. For all Americans other than Indians the place of their domicile for tax purposes when they join the military service is respected, and they are taxed on their military income based upon their residence when they joined the military service. Prior to 2001, however, Indians who were domiciled in the territories of Indian tribes were subjected to state taxation even though the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act of 1940 prohibited states from taxing the military compensation of Native American armed forces members who are residents or domiciliaries of tribal reservations from which they are absent by reason of military service. Those Indian veterans who were illegally subjected to state taxation prior to 2001 have yet to be made whole and have their wrongfully withheld income returned to them.

In 2005 Rep. Tom Udall, a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, stated that Native Americans have the highest rate of military service of any ethnic group in the nation; how have we repaid them for their dedication? By illegally withholding state taxes from their paychecks. He also introduced a bill that would restore justice to thousands of our nations Native American veterans, the American Indian Veteran Pay Restoration Act. This bill did not become law. While the policy of withholding state taxes on these soldiers pay was changed in 2001 the government has failed to pass legislation to compensate and reimburse tens of thousands of American Indigenous Veterans from all services. It was illegal for this government to allow the states to tax the military pay of tens of thousands of American Indigenous veterans. We are here today to complain of a violation of our human rights and discrimination by the United States against the American Indian veterans who served this country. We ask that the United States honor their commitment when they signed the UN declaration and restore the pay to these Honored veterans. We also ask that the United States government negotiate a compromise with these veterans rather than allow each state to act alone. It is the responsibility of the United States to implement the Declaration, to protect the property of its Indian veterans, and to comply with its treaty responsibilities to Indian people and the international community. We ask only that justice be done for those Indigenous veterans who have risked everything in the service of the United States.

For additional information on this subject, please see the web page of the Association of the United States Army: Restoring Pay located at: <https://www3.ausa.org/WEBINT/DeptAUSANews.nsf/byid/CCRN-6CGMT3>

The Department of Transportation
PBPN General Public Transportation
Hours: Monday- Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(excluding holidays)
785.966.2995 or 866.727.8181
www.pbpindiantribe.com/transit.aspx



RIGHT: Members of the Transit team: Charles Nez, Paula Keehn, Mario Kitchkemie, Nevika Mahkuc, Robbie Griffith, Celeste Weber, Martin Hale and Lester (Corky) Sumner. Offices are located in the Lands Department building located on K Road. Celeste Weber is director of the department.

Ben no tteh Wigwam



The Early Childhood Education Center staff got together for the *News* before the Spring Health Fair & Head Start Round Up April 13.

Early Childhood Education Center

Management Staff

- Hope Adame
- Edie Wamego
- Natalie McClane
- Nis Wilbur
- Sandi Shopteese

Administrative Assistants

- Juliet Carlisle
- Michelle Torres

Speech Therapist

- Janet Golightly

Kitchen Staff

- Thedi Uhl
- Randy Mitchell

Transportation

- David Noland
- Patrick Mills

Teachers

- Amy Pruyzer
- Becky Schuetz
- Carol Griffin
- Merry Burke
- Jayne Eigenman
- Judy Jackson
- Therese Falls
- Bailey Ashcraft
- Reina Rodriguez-Higine
- Kate Adame
- Pam-saht Winsea
- Kelly Mills
- Maggie Catron
- Sandi Jim
- Vicki Wahquahboshkuk
- Janie Murphy
- Sweetie Wishkeno
- Heather Wahwahsuck
- Gina Wahweotten

Policy Council

- Kristina Throssell
- Michelle Torres
- Josie Pahmahmie
- Jackie Cummings



ABOVE LEFT: Nis Wilbur, who is on the management staff, is holding baby Petannokwe Lamb at the Easter egg hunt April 5 that was held indoors this year due to inclement weather. RIGHT: Little toddler all decked out in her Easter dress and looking for eggs that were filled with stickers and other goodies instead of candy this year.



ABOVE: Brande Adame with Victoria Brossett who graduated from Class A at the pow-wow.



ABOVE: Criss Eteeyan and his girl, Pah-Shay.



Proud graduates in their ribbon shirts.

The Early Childhood Education Center was busy with several activities this spring and also managed to prepare for a site visit by the National Association for the Education of Young Children accreditation team.

On April 5 they held their annual Easter egg hunt for children and on April 13 they held their annual Spring Health Fair & Head Start Round-Up that provides medical screenings for 3-5 year olds.

On May 17 the center held the end-of-the-year pow-wow where children in Head Start classes graduated and were cheered on by families and friends who came to help celebrate the year's end.



ABOVE: Hayden Cummings, 5, gets weighed by Kate Adame during the Spring Health Fair & Head Start Round Up held April 13 at the center.



It was a beautiful day for the pow-wow and several family members were on hand to congratulate the children. Lunch was served at the pavilion.

Other pow-wow highlights

We-Ta-Se led the grand entry and Little Soldier Singers provided the singing and drums. Chago Hale was emcee and Tribal Council member Junior Wahweotten gave the welcome.

Prairie Band Potawatomi

Early Childhood Education Center is accepting 2011-2012

Head Start applications
Deadline: July 1, 2012
For details call
785.966.2707



Three-mile bike race.

Earth Day fun

The 14th Annual Community Earth Day Celebration (Mnokwabem Komisnan) was held April 22 at Prairie Peoples Park

This year's activities were concentrated in the arena area of the park instead of at the west end near the archway entrance as in years past. Events included a Fun Run, 3-Mile Predictor's Walk, 3-Mile Bike Ride (ages 7+) and other games that were organized by the EPA, Diabetes Prevention program, the Boys & Girls Club and the Language program.

The event was sponsored by the Division of Planning and EPA and was free and open to the public.

For more about Earth Day see the Rez Recycler at www.pbpindiantribe.com/epa.aspx



Some young winners of the predictor walk were (L to R) Marcella Wishteyah, Stella Rector, Daniele Rector and Elizabeth Wishteyah.



Wheel barrow race



(L to R) Pami Hubbard, Sierra Pahmahmie and Hannah Wahwassuck. Hannah was one of the overall winners at Earth Day.



Earth Day walkers begin the 3-mile predictor walk with the Dominguez family dog at the helm.

Straw Bale House Workshop
July 7-8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
11190 158 Rd
Call Dorethy Hancock 785.246.0860
email: dorethy@centeroftherainbow.com

Special thanks to the Division of Planning & EPA for keeping the park clean during the PBPN pow-wow

Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Submitted by Morris Taylor, director

The PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation Program has been busy this spring with a number of students going through the Distance Learning Program. Funding for the program is provided by the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation and includes Customer Service Training and Microsoft Word. Of the 18 students who have completed the program, 14 are employed with six of those employed with the PBPN government and four with the Casino.

The Youth Transition Program sponsored a Health Inventory Training Program with 10 youths May 24-25 in the PBPN Education Department. The program was taught by Richard Johnson and Wendy Parent Johnson, of the Univ. of Kansas grants program.

The youth learned how to better manage health care needs and the training was an extension of the Youth Transition program and Independent Living

Skills Development program that are included as part of the Vocational Rehabilitation program.

In other news, Dawn Masqua completed her Graduate Leadership Training program in Vocational Rehabilitation Management through San Diego State University and she was recognized at the 2012 Annual CANAR Conference held June 16-20 in Niagra Falls, New York.

The Department wants to encourage all Native American tribal members who have a disability that affects being employable to come by the Vocational Rehabilitation offices that are located in Social Services/Health Center to learn about the various programs, and whether you might be eligible for assistance. You must live in Jackson County or one of the counties that touch Jackson County (Atchison, Brown, Jefferson, Nemaha, Pottawatomie) to be eligible for services.

For details contact Morris Taylor at 785.966.8332.

The Youth Transitions Program in Vocational Rehabilitation attended a Youth Council Retreat with the Pokagen Band and Huron Band April 24-25
View highlights at www.YouTube/PokagenBandYouthCouncilRetreat



Congratulations to Archie Alcantar who recently graduated from White Line CDL Training in Topeka. Archie now has his commercial driver's license and hopes to work in the transportation industry soon. He also received his high school diploma last year and said he owes his success to his family and the PBPN Vocational Rehabilitation program.



Lisha N. Murphy

**Reitz Memorial High School
(Evansville, Ind.)**

**Parents: Steven Murphy
& Wendy Delg Murphy**

Nadas Thomas

**Royal Valley High School
(Hoyt, Kan.)**

Parent: Coleen Thomas



Tandra Rae Elkins

**Colgate High School
(Colgate, Okla.)**

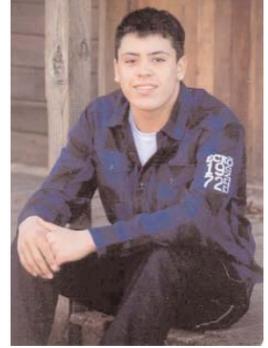
**Parents:
Michael & Debbie
Elkins**



Adelarose Gasca

**Granite Hills High School
(El Cajon, Calif.)**

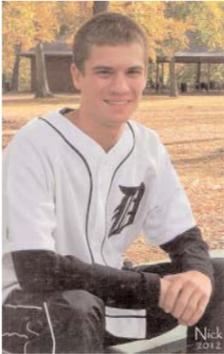
**Parents:
Angie & Art
Gasca**



Logan Boswell

**Hayden High School
(Topeka, Kan.)**

**Parents:
Mike & Anna
Boswell**



Nicholas L. Rickert

**Lee High School
(Wyoming, Mich.)**

**Parents: Dennis
Rickert
& Sandra
Rickert**



**Tyler Bell
Royal Valley High School
(Hoyt, Kan.)**

**Parents: Troy Bell &
Angela
Wahquahboshkuk-
Mosqueda**

Special thanks to the parents and families of high school graduates who submitted photos and information to the News.



Larry "Cheegwah" Shopteese

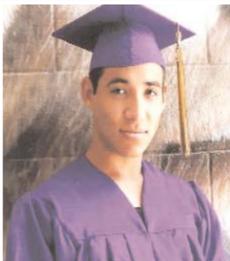
**Onate High School
Las Cruces, N.M.**

**Parents:
Edwin Shopteese Thomas
&
Katherine McKinney Washburn**



**Kayla Gomez
Branham High School
(San Jose, Calif.)**

**Parent: Leslie
LaClair**



**Christopher Paul
Rupnicki**

**Queen Creek High School
(Queen Creek, Arizona)**

**Parents:
John A. Rupnicki Sr.
&
JoAnn A. Rupnicki**



Chaz Shopteese

**Royal Valley High School
(Hoyt, Kan.)**

Parent: Sandi Shopteese



Aaron "Pah-ba" Francis Gomez

**Topeka High School
(Topeka, Kan.)**

**Parents: Juan "Sonny" Gomez
&
Deb Greemore-Gomez**



Anthony Estes

**Royal Valley High School
(Hoyt, Kan.)**

**Parents:
Chris & Ann
Decoteau**



Amber Mahkuk

**Kickapoo Nations School
(Powhattan, Kan.)**

Parent: Lorrie Wahwassuck



High school graduation messages

Logan Boswell: Congratulations. From Mom and Dad

Anthony Estes: We are very proud of you. Love Mom & Chris

Christopher Paul Rupnicki: Congratulations. Your family is very proud of you.

Kayla Gomez: Kayla plans to attend Sacramento State-Univ. of Calif. With lots of love, Leslie, Uncle Anthony, and Grandma Arlene Lingo

Larry "Cheegwah" Shopteese: Congratulations, we are very proud of you. Love, from your family

Chaz Shopteese: Congratulations. We are so proud of your year-early graduation and plans for college. From, your family

Aaron "Pah-ba" Francis Gomez: Plans to attend Washburn University to pursue Criminal Justice degree. From, your family- Juan "Sonny", Deb, Sophia, Crystal, Ed, Derek, Ginny Peters, Marty Greemore, Mary Wishteyah & Juan Gomez.

Congratulations to Lillyan Mzhickteno from Benton, Louisiana who received the U.S. President's Education Award for outstanding academic excellence.

This award is given annually to only one student per school and is of the highest level of achievement.

Lillyan is the daughter of Captain Corey Mzhickteno (PBPB)



Congratulations to Sarah Catron (PBPB) B.S. Human Services & Family Studies with emphasis in Psychology Kansas State University

Parents: Rod Catron & Hope Adame
Grandmothers: Babe Bell & Maxine Catron

Love, Dad, Mom, Glen, Jerek, Emily & Marcus

Message for Juliet Carlisle on her college graduation (see front page story for details)

Congratulations to Juliet, Head Start Administrative Assistant, from all your co-workers at Ben no tteh Wigwam



Congratulations to Naseka Hale (PBPB) M.A. Indigenous Studies University of Kansas

Message from family: We love you and are so very proud of you

Congratulations Julie Carr Dimeo

Master's Degree in Business Administration University of Washington-Seattle June 10, 2012

Julie is a purchasing agent with the Boeing Company in Seattle.

From: Mary Carr

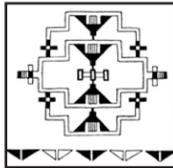


Congratulations to Rebekah Jones on graduating with a Masters in Social Work from Washburn University



Congratulations Lillian Mae Jessepe Good luck in high school

Love, Ma, Brothers, Aunt, & Big Sister



Congratulations to Charissa Wahwasuck-Jessepe B.A. Anthropology (Magna Cum Laude) Wichita State University

From your proud family

Arlene Wahwasuck & Charissa



Levi Nozhackum & Hunter Rice
2012 Royal Valley High School graduates

From the creek and timber and now to the ocean and forest. Good luck to you both. We love you.

Mom & Aunt/Aunt & Mom (Gaynell Jessepe & Nina Hinds)

Congratulations to Cordell Jessepe on his 8th grade graduation.

Love, your family

Send your good news to the Potawatomi News

Fall issue:
News deadline: Sept. 4
Printed: Sept. 18
Mailed out: Sept. 19

Winter issue:
News deadline: Dec. 3
Printed: Dec. 18
Mailed out: Dec. 19



Ivan Levier, left, and Arrow Levier are cousins who graduated from the 8th grade at Royal Valley this spring.



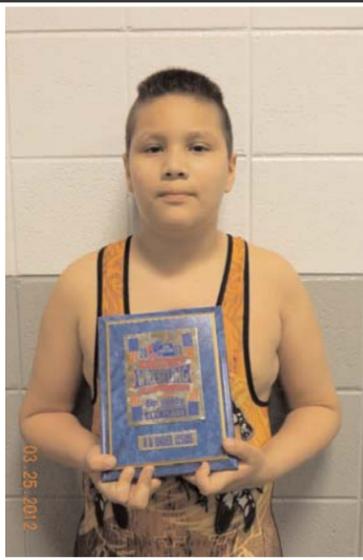
**Congratulations to
Clint "Patch" Potts**

**4th Place
Kansas Kids State Folkstyle
Championship**

**Topeka, Kan.
March 24-25**

**"We are so proud of your
accomplishment!**

**From,
your parents
Willie & Tracy Potts**



**Proud
to be
a
Potawatomi**



The Royal Valley High School golf team got in some practices at Firekeeper Golf Course last spring. Members of the team are: front row (left to right) Sierra Pahmahmie (PBPN) and Jacob Schuetz. Back row, (left to right) Talon Shipshee (PBPN) Wes McClane, coach Willy McClane (PBPN), Kaleb McClane, and Matt Hastings. Not pictured-Abe Stewart.

(Photo courtesy of Holton Recorder)



Mario Kitchkommie, back row, left, was the coach of the Hawks football team that played in an area league and included PBPN youth.



Some Royal Valley Singers & Dancers performed during Student Recognition Night held April 18 at Prairie Peoples Park.



Meeks Mahkuk shows off her first place medal she won in the 3-mile predictor walk in the 0-10 age category at Earth Day.

(Photo by Nevika Mahkuc)



**Actor Chaske Spencer
(star of Twilight Movies)
and the
National Congress of
American Indians**

**organization
urges you to
Be the Native Vote
in this year's
2012 National Election**

Native American voters are one of the country's most under represented and disenfranchised group of voters. Estimates show that over one million eligible Native voters are unregistered.

**Learn more and see Chaske's message at
TinyURL.com/ChaskeNativeVote**

**Exert your right to vote
in this year's election!**

**Joseph Eckerberg
(Keeweenaw Bay Indian Community)
staff director
of the
Defense Intelligence Agency
(Middle East & North Africa)
announces
career/education opportunities
for Native Americans.**

**For details go to
www.DIA.MIL
or call
him
at
phone:
(202)231-4558
email:**

joseph.eckerberg@dia.smil.mil

Member news and notes

Anita Evans retires from Royal Valley: honored at Student Recognition Night



Student Recognition Night was held April 18 at Prairie Peoples Park and Anita Evans, a long-time advisor of the Title VII program and high school teacher at Royal Valley High School, was honored for her achievements. Evans plans to retire at the end of the school year after 17 years of teaching at Royal Valley and 27 years overall.

Evans has been highly influential in Native American education. In 2002 she was named the National Indian Teacher of the Year from the National Indian Education Association and Native American Educator

of the Year by the Kansas Association for Native American Education in 1997. She was also a primary sponsor of the championship Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers, along with Connie Peters, and she founded RVSD's women's softball twelve years ago. She is a tribal member and has also been involved in the PBPN educational summer youth programs and at the Boys & Girls Club.

A potluck dinner kicked off the evening that was followed by a special exhibition by the Royal Valley Native American Singers & Dancers. Next, Evans was recog-

nized with a special award given by administrative leaders and teachers from Royal Valley who were also on hand to wish her well. Following that, members from the Boys & Girls Club staff gave a Pendleton blanket and other gifts to Evans and then a special retirement honor song was held in her honor. Little Soldier Singers provided the drum for the evening.

The evening concluded with student, parent, and other special recognitions for individuals that are involved in Title VII-USD #337, Johnson O'Malley (JOM) program and the Boys & Girls Club.

Dominic Ortiz selected for national AICPA Council

Dominic Ortiz, CPA, CGMA, a member of the Kansas Society of CPA (KSCPA) and graduate of the "20 up to 40" leadership program and American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) Leadership Academy, has been nominated by the AICPA to serve as a three-year At-Large Elected Member of the AICPA Council.

"We are honored by Dominic's nomination to the AICPA Council," said Mary Rapp MacBain, President/CEO of the KSCPA. "There are 377,000 members of the AICPA and 263 make up the AICPA Council. There are 22 at-large members of the govern-



L to R: Paul Stahlin, CPA, CGMA, immediate past AICPA chair, Dominic Ortiz, at large elected AICPA council member, and Barry Melancon, CPA, CGMA, AICPA president/CEO.

ing council. There are 54 members representing business and industry. With this nomination, we are confident that Dominic has a bright future as a leader of the CPA profession. We are eager to support his endeavors and look forward to his participation in the leadership of the KSCPA and AICPA. With his nomination Dominic will be an ad hoc member of the KSCPA Board of Directors. I know that Dominic's participation on the AICPA Council will be a highlight of his career."

Ortiz also leads the Finance Department at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort.

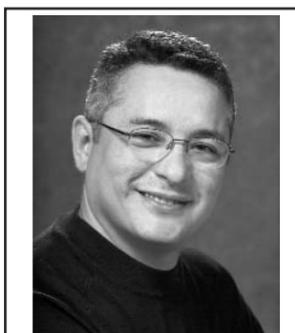


On the far right, is musician Terry Crossbear who directs Blue Earth Initiatives, a recovery center in Topeka, who was photographed playing with another musician during a fundraiser the group had last April at the Bingo Hall.

Your business enterprises working for you!
www.pbgaming.com
www.firekeepergolf.com



Marilyn "Num" Wakole-Hale and Pam Pahmahmie show off some huge mushrooms they found on the reservation last March. Mushrooms were abundant this year and many tribal members enjoy eating and hunting for them every spring.



News file photo

Rey Kitchkumme was recently given a certificate of appreciation for becoming part of the 2011 Jackson County Friends of Hospice Volunteer group in Holton, Kan.



Hattie E. Mitchell received her CPA last spring at Washburn University. Hattie works in the Finance Department. She is a member of the Kansas Society of CPAs and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

Mjissepe Family Gathering

(Minnie & Dewey Mjissepe)



**July 7
1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Mjissepe/NAC Chapter House
Horton, Kansas**

Pot luck, door prizes, games for kids. Please bring a covered dish and new and old family photos

For details call
Corrina Hale
at
785.741.5954
or
Gea Aitkens-785.430.1699
email:
gea.aitkens@yahoo.com

Don't forget to vote!

Another rez tale by Cornelia Donahue

Many years ago my grandma lost her husband in death, so, as was, and is the custom, she arranged and filled his memory with an adoption ceremony.

A young boy-child was adopted and thereafter TA DAA-Archie answered my mother whenever she called him. He was then only 5 years old.

TA DAA Archie attended one of the many day schools on the reservation and by the time he was 11 years old, other boys visited him on weekends, and because all the Indian families were used to walking or using wagons for errands or to do chores, etc. his friends and he agreed to walk to a town south of Mayetta to fill their paper sacks with apples that grew abundantly in someone's orchard.

Walking back and forth took all day and they ate almost all of their fruit up on the way back. Since it was a long ways away they were happy to be getting to the end of their venture and were on a road that passed alongside a creek. Night began to fall and they could barely see... when all of a sudden they heard a low grunting sound followed by some movement in the tall weeds nearby. They couldn't decide whether to run in different directions and they just about ran into each other, and then... they saw a four-legged something that was coming straight at them from the grass toward the road.

"Blasted!" a man's voice was heard to say. "Can't even get drunk and they will throw you in the creek."

**Firekeeper Junior Golf Camps
Beginners 9 years & up
\$30 for PBPN members
\$40-non-members**

**July 16-17- 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
August 6-7- 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

Two day camps that places emphasis on learning the game. Fundamentals, rules, etiquette Golf Clubs available if needed Go to www.firekeepergolf.com

**Our Lady of the Snows Church
5871 166 Rd
Mayetta, KS**

**welcomes you to come to
the Mass by Archbishop Joseph Naumann
October 21, 3 p.m.
to celebrate the sainthood of
Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680)
the first Native American saint**

Meal and festivities following Mass.

Jason Turner (PBPN)

AVALON

www.darktrainfilms.com

Heather Heim selected as one of top ten YWCA future leaders



Heather Heim with former First Daughter Jenna Bush Hager at the YWCA 24th Annual Leadership Luncheon in Topeka.

(Photo by Ruta Mendez)

Heather "Shum-Na-Bo" Heim, was named one of ten high school women selected as a 2012 Future Leader at the YWCA 24th Annual Leadership Luncheon held May 9 in Topeka.

Heim, who is the daughter of Marg Pahmahmie (PBPN), graduated at the top of her class from Hope Street Academy (Topeka, Kan.) with a 3.98/4.00 GPA. A profile of Heim in the banquet's program said that she is extremely proud of her Native American heritage and that she is a member of the Indian Education Advisory Council with the Topeka Public School system.

Members of Heim's family including Myra Matchie and Ruta Mendez and the PBPN Charitable Contributions Committee also attended the luncheon that featured Bush Hager who met individually with the 2012 Future Leaders before the luncheon began. Bush Hager is also a NBC news correspondent.



Steve McDonald, a PBPN and PGA golf professional (R), and Notah Begay, PGA golf professional, played together during Golfweek's National Pro Tour held at Firekeeper Golf Course in May. McDonald reported to the News that he is also part owner of a golf course near Tampa Bay, Florida.

For details go to www.plantationpalms.net

Send your good news to the Potawatomi News

Old teammates reunite

Ron Jessepe (PBPN) and Lon Kruger, University of Oklahoma's basketball coach, are pictured together last fall at the Lloyd Noble All-Star-Alumni Legends game in Norman, Oklahoma.



Ron Jessepe, left, and Lon Kruger, Univ. of Oklahoma basketball coach, are old friends.

The two men first met in 1968 when they were teammates for Silver Lake (Kan.) American Legion baseball team and in high school they competed against each other as

the years and get together when they can.

St. Mary's High School and Kruger went to Silver Lake.

Kruger has had a successful career as a former NBA coach of the Atlanta Hawks and as an American coach for several college teams.

Jessepe and Kruger have remained good friends throughout the years and get together when they can.

**Enibowat
(Weddings)**



*Congratulations
to
Kent Eldert and Amanda Lutz
on
their
marriage
June 9, 2012
at
the Prairie Band Casino & Resort*

*Love,
Sherri Landis
&
Lance Eldert*

**Kanibwettek
(the ones' that stood up together)**



**Congratulations
to
Jim (Wabaunsee) and Patty (Tissa) Potter
on their
20th wedding anniversary**

**Share your birthdays,
weddings and anniversaries
with the
Potawatomi News**



**Ganiit'ek
(those who are born)**

Engagement



*Dutch & Ashton Keo
are excited to announce
the wedding of their parents
James Keo Jr. and April C. Wahwasuck
of Horton, Kansas
on
April 26, 2012*

*James is the son of Jim & Donnis Keo
&
April is the daughter of Raymond Wahwasuck Sr. &
Debbie Whitebird-Tarsah*

**Welcome
Ariana Ann Melchior**



**Born: February 10, 2012
Height: 20.25 inches
Weight: 8 lbs, 8 oz**

**Parents: Lorrie C. Wahwasuck
& Jonathan F. Melchior**



**Hello to
Ryan Kull Rupnicki**

Born: May 9, 2012

**Parents;
John Jr. & Stephanie
Rupnicki**



Ttiwenmo eginigyèn
(happy day you were born)

Happy 6th Birthday
Ashtyn Raylynn Keo
on June 1



We love you!
Mom, Dad
& Dutch Keo



Happy 25th Birthday
to
Richard Parker Jr.

Love,
Mother, Father, & Sisters

Happy 31st Birthday
Robert "Bob" Wahwasuck
June 13
We love you!

Dutch, Ashtyn, Moke and Apes



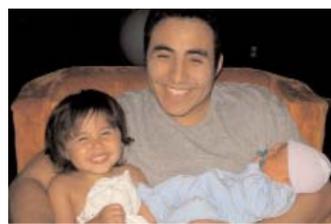
Happy Birthday
John Jim

April 19!
From Mom & Dad
and the rest of the
gang!



Happy 24th Birthday
Thunder Jessepe
Love and miss you!

From, Aunt Gil, Sissy G,
and the rest of the
Kansas family



Happy Birthdays
to
John A. Rupnicki Jr-June 23
John A. Rupnicki III-July 10
From your family

Happy 21st Birthday
Matneyah
(Ryan Kingfisher)
on
July 11

Love, Mom, Sister & Rane



Happy 9th Birthday

Nathan

Love,
Mom & Dad

Happy Birthday
Robert (Kwa-to) Guerrero
June 14

*We've had the best 17
years of our life because
you are in our lives.
Love Auntie Robin
Guerrero
Grandma Robert
Guerrero
Dad Angelo Guerrero
and Brothers & Sisters*



Happy
80th
Birthday
to
Cornelia
Harrison-Donahue.

We wish you 80 more.

Your
Family

Happy Birthday
Ryan James



Triton Hill
A Big Birthday Hug
on
July 27

From,
Mom



Happy Birthday to Dumplings
a.k.a./Mom/Koyah
on
May 6
From: Waskeh, Nikki, Shug
and Bub



Happy
Birthday
Desiree
on
July 10

Love,
Your Family



Happy 2nd Birthday Thomas
on
July 17

We love you very much!

Mom, Dad, Hayley, and Alex

Happy Birthday
Aiden (Nen-Nah-Heen) Josiano Guerrero
5 years old
on
June 17
To the love of my life
Love Momma
Grandma Robert Guerrero
Uncle Angelo Guerrero



Happy Birthday
to
Jodi Jessepe
on
May 23

From your family

Happy Birthday
Alexis (Wa Sh Na) Guerrero
11 years old
on
May 11
*Alexis is a 6th grade graduate
and her family is very proud of her.*
Love,
Angelo Dad, Auntie Robin, Grandma Robert &
Brothers & Sisters

Kambottek (those who died)

Gerald Lee "Wah-Knee-Kaw-Bout" McKinney

Gerald Lee "Wah-Knee-Kaw-Bout" McKinney Sr. 62, of Topeka, Kansas, passed away at his home on April 11, 2012.

He was born on April 29, 1949 in Horton, Kansas the son of Leonard and Melvina Mjessepe Banks McKinney. He attended several Native American Boarding Schools in Nebraska, South Dakota and Oklahoma.

Gerald was a draftsman and an Native American artist which he enjoyed very much.

Gerald was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi tribe and the Native American Church. He married Marlis Bearstail and they were later divorced. He then married Jody McIntosh, she survives of Topeka, Kansas.

Additional survivors include two daughters, April McKinney and Sharol McKinney both of Horton, Kansas; one sister, Carol McKinney Yazzie of Topeka, Kansas; three brothers, Michael McKinney of Topeka, Kansas, Murray Banks of Horton, Kansas and Jason Banks of Hiawatha, Kansas; six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Gerald McKinney Jr., five brothers, Larry, Norris and Joseph McKinney, Narcissus "Doc" and Maurice Banks.

The family will greet friends Friday evening from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. at the Dishon-Maple-Chaney Mortuary in Horton, Kansas. Native American Church Services will be at 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at Wayne Jessepe's home on the Kickapoo Reservation. Burial will be at the Mason Cemetery on Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M. A special message may be sent to the family at www.dishon-maple-chaney.com

(Courtesy of Dishon-Maple-Chaney Funeral Home-Horton, Kan.)

Thamor Morris

MAYETTA - Thamar Morris, 83, of Mayetta, died Saturday, May 5, 2012 at her daughter's home west of Mayetta.

She was born January 27, 1929 at Mayetta, the daughter of George Leander and Helen Cynthia Nahgonbe Williams. She attended school at the Marty Indian School in South Dakota.

Thamar was one of the first Oblate Sisters at Mt. Marty. At the age of nine she had the privilege of meeting Sister Katherine Drexel, who was later canonized as St. Katherine Drexel.

She was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church at Mayetta, enrolled with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation as a Tribal Member, and also was Kickapoo and Sac and Fox. She was also a member of the We-Ta-Se American Legion Post No. 410, and was a committee member with the PBPB EPA program.

She married Calvin Charles Morris, a decorated officer of the Merchant Marines in World War II, in San Diego, CA. She met him while being stationed at Long Beach Naval Base, where she served as a nurse in the U.S. Navy. He died January 19, 1998. After her discharge from the Navy, Thamar continued her nursing career with Los Angeles County for 25 years.

Thamar was also preceded in death by a grandson, Skylar Clement, a brother, Hank Williams, sisters, Sharon Rose Pilcher, Cynthia Switch, and Georgia Elizabeth "Cub" Williams, a half brother, Edgar "Booger Red" Williams, and a half sister, Donna Jean Oliver.

Survivors include one son, Charles Morris, Mayetta; three daughters, Marie Therese Clement and husband Robert, Lucie Renee Morris and husband Richard Vest, Jr., and Lysette Diane Morris, all of Mayetta; a step-son, Herbert Morris, Tujunga, CA; one sister, Helen Wilson, Delia; one half sister, Donniss Keo, Horton; six grandchildren, Lisa Morris, Jason Wilder, Nick Wilder, Elliott Morris, Desiree Morris, and Chance Clement, and six great grandchildren, Sirena Wahquahboshkuk, Arthur Rios, William McKinney, Arianna Wilder, Joseph Wilder, and Donald Wilder.

Funeral Services will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday, May 10th at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Holton. Burial with military honors by We-Ta-Se American Legion Post No. 410 will follow in the Weso Cemetery west of Mayetta. Thamar will lie in state at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Holton, where a rosary will be prayed at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Memorials are suggested to the Oblate Sisters, and may be sent in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 1034, Holton, 66436. On-line condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

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



Obituary policy

The *Potawatomi News* will publish only obituaries of Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation tribal members that have been verified by the Member Services Department and obtained by the mortuary, funeral home or crematorium handling the funeral arrangements. The *Potawatomi News* reserves the right to edit or omit any obituary.

Rememberance

Grandma Geraldine,

Although it's been a year since you've been gone, you have not been forgotten. I carry your memory everyday with me and I've seen you in my dreams. I will forever hold you in my heart. I love and miss you.

Debbie

Thank you from

Frederick R. "Anwahbe" Thomas Jr. family

We would like to thank family; the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas for all the thoughts, prayers, cards, food and monetary gifts and for just being there during our time of loss which made it so much easier. There are too many names to list but a special thank you to Marg Pahmahmie for being with him at the Marshalltown Hospital. Words cannot express our thanks and appreciation to all.

MiGwetch

April May Wahquahboshkuk Corbidge

April May Corbidge, 32, of Topeka, KS passed away Thursday, May 3, 2012 at her home. She was born April 13, 1980 the daughter of Roy and Ethel Foster Wahquahboshkuk. She was a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and received a business degree from Baker University.

She is survived by her father, Roy Wahquahboshkuk and his wife, Chris; her mother, Ethel; her husband, Robert Corbidge; her children, Angel, Maylee, Sunny and Cloe; her brothers, Roy Jr., Kristen, and Preston; her sisters, Lois, Lucy and Seairra and her nieces and nephews.

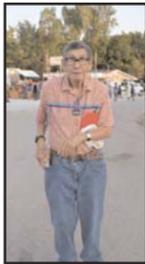
Funeral services will be Tuesday evening, May 8, 2012 at the Roy Wahquahboshkuk home (10062 174th Rd., Mayetta). Burial will be Wednesday morning at the Danceground Cemetery. Memorial contributions for April's children may be sent to Mercer Funeral Home, Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. Condolences may be given at www.mercerfuneralhomes.com

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





In focus 2012 Prairie Band Potawatomi pow-wow



**Pow-wow Highlights
June 8-10**

- 18 drum groups
- 428 registered dancers
- Mechipyeha Johnson PBPB Princess
- Winners list of dance & drum contests at:
www.pbpindiantribe.com



The 63rd Annual Native American Church of North American Conference held at PBPB

Through a generous donation by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, the Brown County Chapter of the Native American Church in Kansas, Inc. sponsored the 63rd Annual Native American Church of North America Conference June 15-17.

The conference was held at the Prairie Band Casino & Resort and four teepees were set up at Prairie Peoples Park where traditional meals and prayer meetings were held throughout the three-day weekend.

Editor's Note: The following information was submitted to the News by Jeanette "Green" Little Sun that offers a history of how some of the Prairie Band people became involved with the Native American Church.

An Exchange of Drums Story

By: Jeanette "Green" Little Sun

There are several accounts of how and when the Prairie Band Potawatomi began to use peyote. In the late 1800's and early 1900's the Otoe and Iowa tribes have been mentioned in some of these reports. I remember and am writing the story that I was told by my father, Orlando Green "Mazshe" and have consulted with Aaron "Louie" Aitkens, the grand-son of William Wahzowkouck Jr: "Jack Forty", the son of William Wahzowkouck Sr, "Bill Waza".

In 1908 Bill Waza was about 16 years old when he accompanied the elders of the tribe on a walk to Oklahoma to visit the Sac & Fox people. It was Bill's job to carry the "Big Drum" which was to be given to them. The Sac & Fox were grateful to receive the drum and included with the bundles of gifts were train tickets for the Potawatomi delegation to return to Kansas. When it was time to leave Bill Waza was nowhere to be found and so was left behind. He stayed with the Butlers, a well known Sac & Fox family for many or several years. During his stay he was introduced to the medicine, learned their songs and ways of this ceremony. He was also good help to the Butler family.

Bill became lonesome for his relatives and told the family of his plan to go back home. He was asked to stay until they had a peyote meeting for him. After this meeting, he was given the medicine, peyote, sage, a staff, an eagle feather, cedar, a gourd and a drum. He was told they were not giving him their fire-place because the Potawatomi had their own. After sharing his experience with his family it was decided to ask the tribal leaders for their permission to use the ceremonial flint fire in the tipi. They were given permission.

My memories of a peyote meeting now called Native American Church among the PBP starts at sunrise on the designated day of the meeting. It begins with starting of the for-the-spirit supper. When the supper is over, coals are carried into the tipi and the all night peyote ceremony begins.

This is how I have witnessed the use of peyote and the worship of our Creator in Native American Church among the Prairie Band Potawatomi. I heard the expression, "God has His ways" because, as it turned out, it was an exchange of drums, the Big Drum for the Little Drum between the Sac & Fox and the Prairie Band Potawatomi.



Left to right, Laverne Haag, Earl Arkinson, President of the Native American Church of North America, PBPB Chairman Steve Ortiz, Gea Aitkens, and Jeanette Little Sun at the conference. Haag and Little Sun coordinated the conference and Aitkens is a Brown County NAC delegate.