

Cokv-Tvlvme/Newspaper (joh-guh dub-luh-mee)

Poarch Creek News

April 2015



Keeping the friends & family of Poarch informed

Volume 33 * Issue 4

Tasahce-Rakko (April)

A Moment With The Tribal Chair

April 2015

Stephanie A. Bryan, Tribal Chair sbryan@pci-nsn.gov



Since being elected, I have been on a mission to incorporate changes that will bring you the best service possible from our Tribal entities; this includes services that are provided through my office as well.

I am pleased to announce that, after brainstorming with the Tribal Council and our support staff, we have decided to move office locations and streamline the duties and responsibilities of the staff. Your Tribal Council office and Tribal Chair's office will now be located in Building 600, which previously housed Tribal Administration. We are very excited about this move and the elevated level of service that will be provided to our Tribal Members and visitors.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Tribal Chair support staff. I am sure that most of you have had contact with them.



Megan Young is the Executive Assistant to the Tribal Chair.

Megan assists and supports the Tribal Chair in all aspects of the overall Tribal operations including, but not limited to, Tribal Government, Tribal Gaming, and Tribal businesses. Additionally, she serves as liaison between Tribal Chair Bryan and Tribal Members, staff members, Tribal entities, boards, and the general public. Megan may be contacted at myoung@pci-nsn.gov or (251)368-9136 extension 2205.



Tribal Chair Support Staff left to right are Teresa Franklin, Megan Young, Tierney Lancaster, Debra Strickland, Kelli Ramer, and Mallory Martin.



Kelli Ramer is the Tribal Council Office Director.

Kelli oversees the operations of the Tribal Council office and staff. Further, Kelli communicates directives from Tribal Council to the appropriate individuals and departments. She works closely with the Tribal Council support staff and Executive Assistant to ensure that Tribal Council's goals and objectives are being met. Kelli may be contacted at kramer@pci-nsn.gov or (251)368-9136 extension 2110.



Teresa Franklin is the Tribal Council Administrative Assistant.

She serves as the first point of contact for all incoming correspondence to Tribal Council including phone calls and mail. Teresa also assists Tribal Members and

guests by directing them to the appropriate department or individual. Teresa can be contacted at tfranklin@pci-nsn.gov or (251)368-9136 extension 2202.



Tierney Lancaster serves as the Scheduling Coordinator.

The Tribal Council frequently hosts community meetings, workshops, and working sessions. Furthermore, the Tribal Council routinely represents the Tribe at a myriad of events both locally

and nationally. Tierney assists with scheduling, planning, and facilitating these events and travel engagements. She may be contacted at tlancaster@pci-nsn.gov or (251) 368-9136 extension 2200.



Debra Strickland is the Legislative Coordinator.

Debra composes minutes of meetings, workshops, and working sessions on behalf of the Tribal Council. Additionally, she attends department meetings and communicates the pertinent

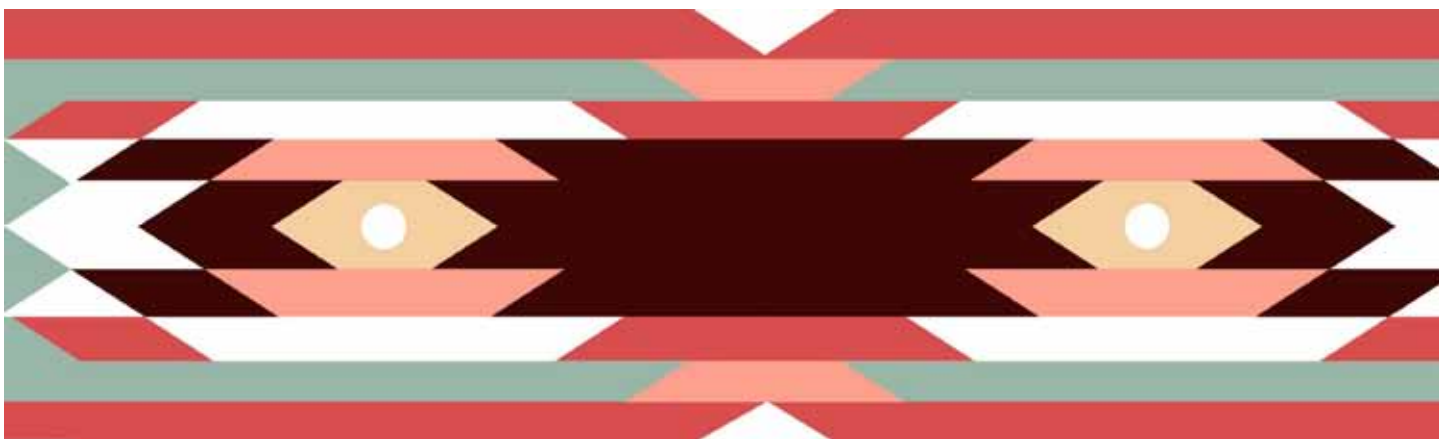
details of said meetings to the Tribal Council so that they may be better informed of upcoming projects, programs, policies, and procedures. She can be contacted at dstrickland@pci-nsn.gov or (251) 368-9136 extension 2935.

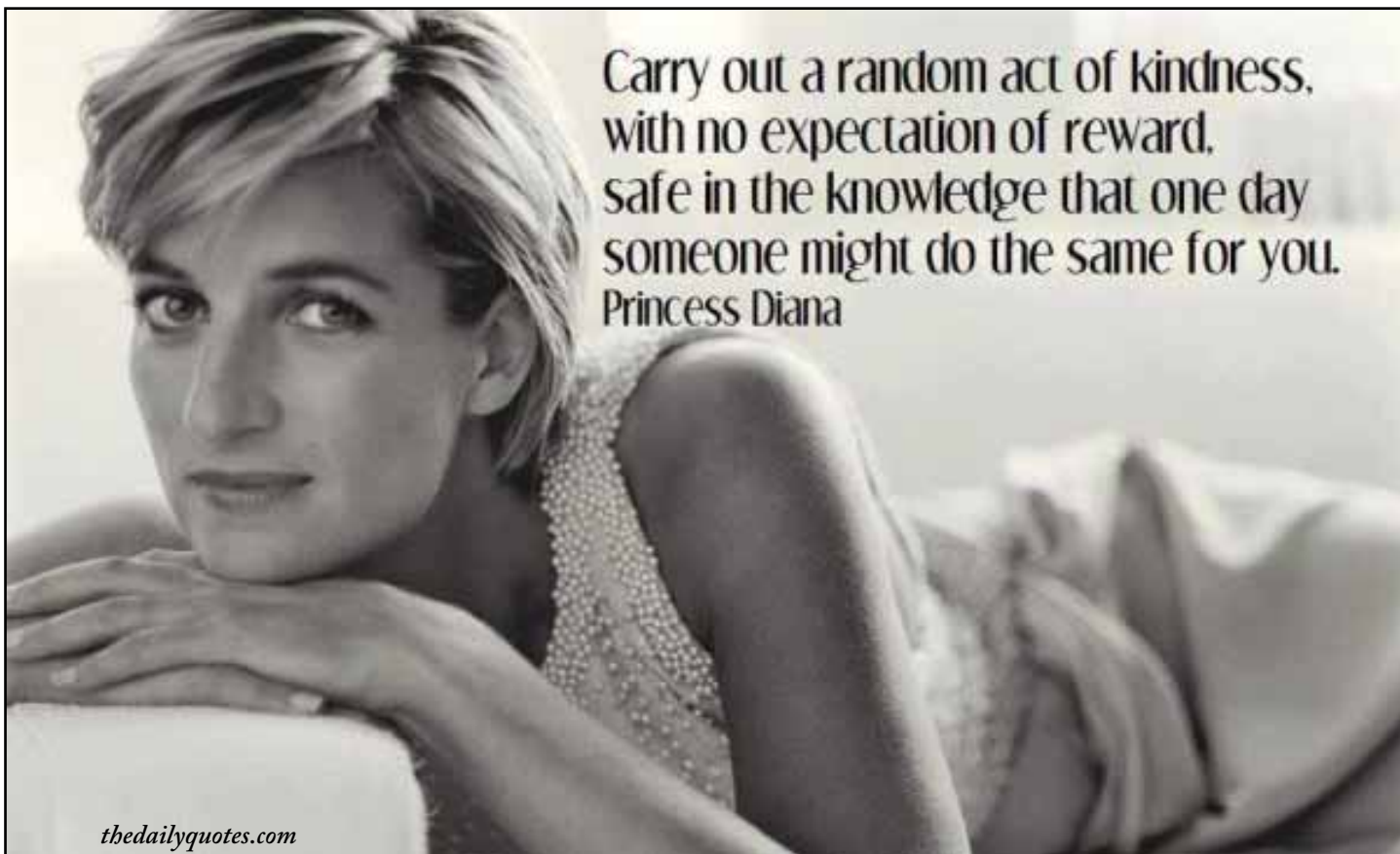


Mallory Martin is the Tribal Member Coordinator.

The Tribal Council diligently seeks to put its members first. However, because of the demand of Tribal Council at frequent meetings and travel obligations, they realize

that they are unable to always accommodate you as they would like. For that reason, Mallory is dedicated to you and will be your first point of contact for any issues or concerns you have. She may be contacted at mmartin@pci-nsn.gov or (251) 368-9136 extension 2930.





Carry out a random act of kindness,
with no expectation of reward,
safe in the knowledge that one day
someone might do the same for you.
Princess Diana

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A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



The *Poarch Creek News* is the official newsletter of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and is published by the Government Relations Department at the direction/discretion of the Tribal Council.

The *Poarch Creek News* is **not** the forum where individuals/groups can submit their views regarding matters of operations of Tribal Government or any decisions or policies enacted by Tribal Council, Authorities and/or Boards. Nor is it the vehicle to submit policies issues/concerns of individuals/groups.

All questions or concerns about the *Poarch Creek News* should be addressed to:

Gayle Johnson, Media Specialist
Poarch Creek News
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502
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www.pci-nsn.gov

(251) 368-9136 x 2210
Direct Dial # 251 446-5210

Regular Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Gayle Johnson
Media Specialist
gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov

The *Poarch Creek News* office is located in Building 400 of the Tribal Complex.

The Poarch Creek News reserves the right to edit or refuse any item submitted for publication.

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

The Tribal Members Only Portal (TMOP) for Tribal Members age 18 and above is located on the left sidebar of the website's home page, www.pci-nsn.gov. Information such as Tribal Council Minutes, Tribal surveys, proposed ordinances, and other confidential information, will be posted in this area that is accessible to Tribal Members only.

The TMOP is not an automated site; it will be up to individual users to resolve issues they have if they are unable to login to the TMOP. We are unable to provide assistance beyond confirming that you have the correct username and password to access this area of our website. Confirmation of correct username and password may take up to 24 hours.

We are aware that not all Tribal Members have email addresses and/or access to the internet; however, for those who do, you can receive updated news and information via the Tribal Member Distribution

Email (TMDE). The TMDE distribution list is limited to Tribal Members age 18 and above and is restricted to outgoing emails only. If you would like to be included on this distribution list, please email your contact information and Tribal roll number to info@pci-nsn.gov.

You may also receive updated news and information on the Tribe's Facebook page at facebook.com/PoarchBandofCreekIndians. You can also follow the Tribe on Twitter at twitter.com/PoarchCreek.

The Tribe's website, Facebook, Twitter, and TMDE accounts are maintained by the Government Relations Department.

Please contact Hannah Flowers at (251) 368-9136 x 2003 if you have any questions or concerns.

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*I've learned that people will forget what you said,
people will forget what you did, but people will
never forget how you made them feel.*

Maya Angelou

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Word Limitations:

- News Article 400 words or less
- Birthday 30 words or less
- Anniversary 50 words or less
- Engagement 50 words or less
- Wedding 100 words or less
- Birth 100 words or less
- Obituaries 200 words or less
- In Memoriam* 100 words or less
- Graduation 100 words or less

Copyright Materials

Copyrighted poems, graphics, etc. will not be published without permission from copyright holder. It is the responsibility of the individual submitting the information to determine if material is copyrighted and to obtain applicable copyright license.

Birthday & Anniversary Wishes:

Published the month before, the month of, or the month after, the birthday/ anniversary.

Obituaries:

Submit information by the last business day of the second month immediately following the death.

In Memoriam:*

Published month before, the month of, or the month after the birthday of the deceased or the anniversary of the death of the deceased. *Limit one In Memoriam submission per deceased individual per issue.*

Birth Announcements:

Submit information by the last business day of the month immediately following the birth.

Engagement/Wedding Announcements:

Submit information by the last business day of the month immediately following the engagement/wedding.

Photo Submissions:

One per article submission.
High resolution .jpg or PDF format.

Corrections:

Corrections will occur only if error/misprint is made by *Poarch Creek News*.

ESTABLISHED DEADLINE: *The Poarch Creek News is generated one month prior to the month of publication. (The January newsletter is generated in December, the February newsletter in January, April in February, etc.) The deadline to submit information to be published in the newsletter is the 5th of the month prior to the month of publication. If the 5th falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is extended to the next business day. Please keep this deadline in mind when submitting information for publication in all sections of the newsletter. Please submit information as early as possible, delay in submitting information may cause you to miss the established deadlines.*



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Y_{OUR} 2014-2015 T_{RIBAL} C_{OUNCIL}



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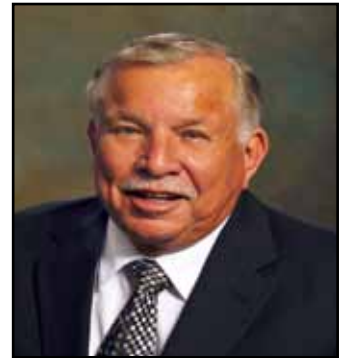
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Tribal Council's Purpose

Our love for our people and our commitment to their future drives us to make tough decisions and stand by them to provide stable governance.

With our blend of mature wisdom and modern knowledge, we grow the Tribe's assets to build self-reliance and enhance quality of life for all.

Tribal Council Values

As proud leaders of our Tribe, our integrity demands that we are true to who we are. Our integrity is the foundation of our love for family and community, which strengthens our faith and commitment to do what is right for the Tribe.

We will further the legacy of self-determination and self-reliance inherited from our elders by investing in the progress and driving a vision for the future that leads to our prosperity.



Tribal Council Update

April 2015

Garvis Sells, Member At-Large

gsells@pci-nsn.gov

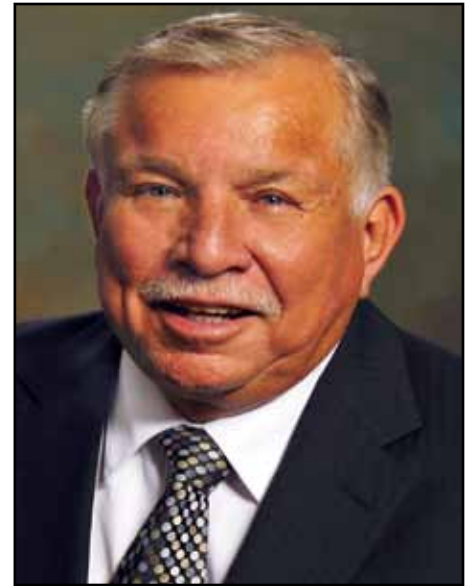
This new year has brought several honors to different entities and departments within our Tribe. Our Boys & Girls Club was awarded the Gateway to Impact Award during the Southeastern Conference for Boys & Girls Clubs in the Southeast. This award is given to the top two clubs, out of the 1,004 clubs, that increased their average daily attendance the greatest from the previous year. Congratulations to the staff, children, parents, and Tribal Council for making it possible for our children to participate in this outstanding, award winning program!

During the month of March our 4-H participants had the opportunity to participate in Poarch Creek 4-H Club's Cattle Battle and the Escambia County 4-H Calf Show & Sale, hosted by Perdido River Farms. There were many beautiful and healthy cows

thanks to the care that the 4-H'ers gave to them preparing for this contest. Awards were given to the participants in several categories. Congratulations to each and every one who participated in this event and made it such a success.

During Atmore's annual Chamber of Commerce banquet Muskogee Technology received the Business of the Year award. This is a great honor and again thank you to Muskogee Technology management and staff for all of the hard work.

Many great changes are happening at Creek Casino Montgomery as well. Expansion is under way to build a 119 room hotel. There will also be three restaurants on-site for our patrons to have more dining options. These restaurants include the BB King Blues Club & Restaurant, Itta Bena Fine



Dining, and Lucille's 24 hour Café. The gaming floor completion is expected by December 1, 2015 and the hotel by February 1, 2016.

It is truly exciting and warms my heart to see such a variety of accomplishments that our people have been involved in. It is my wish for each of our Tribal Members to achieve any goals they set for themselves. I am also happy to know that the Tribe can offer opportunities to our youth as well as our elders.

Please remember that I am always available and just a phone call away.

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2015 TRIBAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED

The 2015 Tribal Elections have been scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2015. Voting will take place at the PCI Community Resource Building (Old SAIL Center). Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. After the polls close and all votes are tallied and verified, results will be announced at the Calvin McGhee Memorial, which will be held on the Pow Wow Grounds the same day. Results will be posted at the PCI Community Resource Building (Old SAIL Center back door), at the Tribal Center on the Community Bulletin Board, on the Tribal web site www.pci-nsn.gov, and will be printed in the July issue of the *Poarch Creek News*.

This year the General Council will elect a Tribal Vice Chair and two (2) At-Large Council Members for the standard three (3) year terms. We will also elect a Tribal Treasurer to complete the vacant position created when Robert "Robbie" McGhee was elected as Vice Chair last December. This position will only be for one (1) year.

The deadline to submit Letter of Candidacy to the Election Board for your name to be printed on the official ballot is 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Candidates wishing to publish a biography and photo in the May newsletter must submit their biography and photo to the Election Board, by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Biographies are limited to 500 words or less and cannot contain political platform or views. Digital copies of biographies and photos are preferred and may be submitted by email to Elections@pci-nsn.gov. Any portion of the biography which seems to contain

political views, as determined by the Election Board, will be stricken from the biography. The last day to submit Letter of Candidacy to the Election Board to be included as a Write-In Candidate is Thursday, May 7, 2015.

A Request for Absentee Ballot form will be published in this issue and the May issue of the *Poarch Creek News* and will be available on the Tribe's official web site www.pci-nsn.gov. If applicable, please remember to submit only one Request for Absentee Ballot per voter. The last day to request for an Absentee Ballot to be mailed out is Tuesday, May 26, 2015. All Absentee Ballots must be received by the Election Board no later than close of business (5:00 p.m. CST) on Friday, June 5, 2015.

Walk-in voting will begin on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 and run through Friday, June 5, 2015. The polls will be open for walk-in voting daily from 9:00 a.m. through 6:00 except for Sunday, May 31, 2015.

We encourage all eligible Tribal Members to participate in the voting process. This is your chance to make your voice heard. Please vote either by Absentee Ballot, Walk-In Voting, or cast your vote on Election Day, Saturday, June 6, 2015.

Please contact Edie Jackson, Election Board Chairman, at (251) 368-9136 ex. 2231 or ejackson@pci-nsn.gov if you have any questions or need more information.

Voting is a right best exercised by people who have taken time to learn about the issues.

Tony Snow

2015 TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION NOTICE

WHEN: Saturday, June 6, 2015

LOCATION: PCI Community Resource
Building (old SAIL
Center)

TIME*: 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

PURPOSE: To elect the following:
Tribal Vice Chair (3 year term),
2 At-Large Council Members (3 year terms),
and Tribal Treasurer (1 year term)

DEADLINE TO DECLARE
CANDIDACY:
5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2015
To have name printed on official ballot.

5:00 p.m. Thursday, May 7, 2015
To be included as a Write-in Candidate

DEADLINE TO PUBLISH BIO &
PHOTO IN POARCH CREEK NEWS:
Candidates wishing to publish a biography and
photo in the May newsletter must submit their
biography and photo to the Election Board, by
5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Biographies are limited to 500 words or less
and cannot contain political platform or views.
Digital copies of biographies and photos are
preferred and may be submitted by email to
Elections@pci-nsn.gov. Any portion of the
biography which seems to contain political
views, as determined by the Election Board, will
be stricken from the biography.

2015 TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION CALENDAR

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015 – Deadline to
submit Letter of Candidacy to Election Board
for name to be included on official ballot.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015 – Deadline to
submit biography and photo for publication in
May 2015 issue of Poarch Creek News.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015 – Names of
candidates and any proposed constitutional
amendments, ordinances and/or resolutions will
be posted.

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015 – Last day to
submit Letter of Candidacy for Tribal Council
to be a Write-in on Ballot. Any additional
names of candidates will be posted within 10
days.

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015 – Walk-in voting
starts. Open daily from 9:00* a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
except for Sunday, May 31, 2015.

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015 – Last day to
request Absentee Ballot be mailed out.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2015 – Walk-in voting ends
at 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2015 – Deadline to receive
Absentee Ballots at 5:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2015 – Tribal Election
Day. Polls open 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at PCI
Community Resource building (old SAIL
Center).

Contact Edie Jackson, Election Board Chairman, at (251) 368-9136 x 2231, (251) 446-5231 or
ejackson@pci-nsn.gov if you have any questions or need more information.

**All times are Central Standard Time (CST)*



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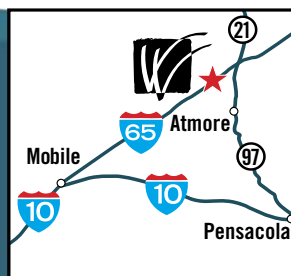
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Call (855) 393-7227 to make your reservation.

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ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

2015 POARCH CREEK INDIAN TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2015



I, _____, am an enrolled member of the Poarch Creek Indians, and will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before June 6, 2015.

When requesting a ballot one will be mailed to you for the following elections: June 6, 2015 and Run-off election if applicable.

Please send an Absentee Ballot to me at the address listed below:

FIRST MIDDLE MAIDEN LAST

STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE

()
TELEPHONE NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH TRIBAL ROLL NO.

Each person requesting an absentee ballot "**MUST**" fill out this form completely and sign his/her own request.

SIGNATURE: _____

(This **must** be the signature of the Tribal Member to whom the ballot will be mailed)

RETURN THIS FORM BY MAIL TO: POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS
TRIBAL ELECTION BOARD
5811 JACK SPRINGS ROAD
ATMORE, AL 36502
BY FAX: (251) 368-4502
OR EMAIL: ELECTION@PCI-NSN.GOV

Requests for Absentee Ballots must be received by the Election Board no later than the close of business (5 p.m. CST) on Tuesday, May 26, 2015. Requests received after the deadline will not be honored.

Should you have any questions pertaining to the 2015 Tribal Council Elections, please feel free to contact Edie Jackson at (251) 368-9136 ext. 2231 or Gwen Manning at ext. 2281.

American Legion Post 90

Seeking Tribal Member artists interested in volunteering to paint a large American flag mural on the south side of the historic American Legion building located at 101 W. Church Street in Atmore, AL. Please contact Post Commander Bob Joyner at (251) 253-1626 for more information.



Sample image only, artists must present their own design.

SANSFREE LAW FIRM, PC

ATTENTION CORN FARMERS:

If you know of someone that is a corn farmer, you may want them to be aware of some national litigation which involves accusations that Switzerland-based Syngenta and its affiliates caused harm to the entire United States corn market, thereby injuring corn farmers and other businesses across the United States, by marketing two genetically modified strains of corn - Argrisure Viptera and Agrisure Duracade - that were outlawed in China. China, a major importer of U.S. corn, began refusing shipments of U.S. corn more than a year ago after a genetic trait found in Viptera - MIR162 - was detected in the shipments. With the loss of the Chinese market, prices for U.S. corn plummeted. In 2014, losses to corn growers and the industry due to the loss of the Chinese market were estimated to be from \$1 billion to \$2.9 billion, and these losses continue to grow.

If you are someone or know someone who has grown corn and may have been damaged by the above conduct, please contact [Chris Sansfree](mailto:Chris.Sansfree@sansfreelaw.com) at [334-262-1001](tel:334-262-1001) or directly via e-mail at chris.sansfree@sansfreelaw.com

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Rule 7.2(e) of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct

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Mondays & Wednesdays Brewton Public Library
Tuesdays Poarch Creek Indian Reservation
Thursdays Atmore City Hall Auditorium
Fridays Flomaton Public Library

- Free tax preparation is provided by a grant from the IRS.
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- Tax returns electronically filed to the IRS and Department of Revenue.

For appointments call RSVP at 251-867-0256 or 251-368-1032 ext. 112.



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TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR TRIBAL UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Applications are now being accepted for the Tribal Utilities Assistance Program (Utility Card). You must submit an application in order to receive this benefit. An application is available on the Tribal Member Portal (TMOP) of the Tribe's web site, www.pci-nsn.gov, and has been included in this issue of the newsletter. You may also pick up an application or walk-in to fill out your application at the Tribal Member Benefits Department on the 2nd floor of the Buford L. Rolin Health Center. If you do not live locally and do not have access to an application online, you may contact Tribal Member Benefits at 251-368-9136, ext. 2209, and request that one can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to you.

There is no deadline for your application. However, it will take approximately 30 days for your application (if completed correctly) to be processed and for you to receive your card.

The monthly benefit on the Utilities Card will be \$200. Cards will be initially credited for \$800; which will be \$200 each for the months of January, February, March, and April. Beginning with the month of May, the cards will be credited with an additional \$200 each month. All applications processed prior to June 1, 2015, will receive the \$800 credit in addition to the \$200 monthly credit thereafter. Applications processed after June 1, 2015, will only receive \$200 each month.

To enroll for the Utilities Assistance Program, a complete application consists of:

- 1) Completed Application Form. The form requires your name, Social Security number, Tribal Roll number, email, telephone number, address for primary service residence along with mailing address if different, and your signature.
 - 2) A copy of one Utility Bill (Basic landline telephone, water, power, sewer, trash, natural gas/propane). The bill must state the Tribal Member's name, service address, and mailing address. If the bill is in another household member's name, proof of relationship is required, such as a copy of marriage certificate for a spouse, birth certificate for a parent/child, or a proof of ownership such as a copy of a deed or lease agreement. For a full-time student at a different address other than the parent, proof of full-time enrollment is required along with a copy of a lease which must either be in the student's name or parent's name.
 - 3) A copy of your Tribal ID or Driver's License.
- Unused funds from one month will be rolled over to the following month and remain as a credit balance on the card. The funds will not be "refunded" as a direct payment to the Tribal Member.

If you have any questions about the Tribal Utilities Assistance Program, please contact Tribal Member Benefits at (251) 368-9136 x 2207 or 2209. Please contact Hannah Flowers in Government Relations at (251) 368-9136 x 2003 or hflowers@pci-nsn.gov if you need assistance with your username and password for the TMOP.



Tribal Utilities Assistance Program Application

Applications will be processed within thirty (30) days of being received by the Tribe.

NO funds will be disbursed prior to April 1, 2015.

You are responsible for making all payments to your utilities companies in a timely manner. You are responsible for any amounts due after the credit balance on your card is exhausted.

Personal Information (Tribal Member Applicant)

Name _____ **Roll Number** _____
First Middle Last Suffix

Social Security Number _____

Email _____ **Phone** _____

Please list the names and roll numbers of any other Tribal Members residing in the Household:

Primary Residence where utility services are provided:

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Please provide a copy of the following:

1. Tribal ID or Driver's License
2. Utility bill for Eligible Expenses. Bill must show address of primary residence and **SERVICE** address.
3. If the Bill is not in the Tribal Member's name, please provide proof of either (1) familial relationship to the person whose name is on the account or (2) proof of ownership (i.e. copy of deed) or status as a tenant at the residence (i.e. a lease). For example, if the bill is in a spouse's name, please provide a marriage certificate. If the bill is in a parent's name, please provide a birth certificate.
4. For a full-time student who is applying for the program at a separate address than his/her parents, the student must provide a copy of the lease which must be in either the student's name or in the name of his/her parent and proof of full-time enrollment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DISCLAIMER

By signing below, I am acknowledging that I understand that only one (1) Tribal Member per household is eligible to apply for the Utilities Assistance Program. Further, I certify that I am the only Tribal Member in my household who is applying for these benefits. I understand that any attempt to obtain benefits by more than one (1) Tribal Member in the same household, or otherwise obtain or use benefits in violation of the Program policy, will be considered fraud. Furthermore, this action may be considered a criminal offense and may be prosecuted. Additionally, I understand that any benefits that are paid as a result of any fraud or misrepresentation will be considered a Tribal Obligation Default, and the Tribe will take any necessary actions to recover the amounts paid in accordance with the governing Revenue Allocation Ordinance. I knowingly and voluntarily sign this Acknowledgement and Disclaimer, and I hereby request for the Tribal Member Benefits Department to process my Application for the Utilities Assistance Program.

Tribal Member Name (printed)

Date

Tribal Member Signature

PLEASE RETURN ALL APPLICATIONS WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO THE TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT.

Date Application Received: _____ Name of Staff that Received: _____

Date Enrolled: _____

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Find health insurance in just a few easy steps.

- 1 Apply**
- 2 Pick a Plan**
- 3 Enroll**

CHANGES TO SOVEREIGNTY CELEBRATION

By vote of the Tribal Council, the Tribe's Sovereignty Celebration will now be held on a five (5) year cycle.

In 2014 we celebrated 30 years of Tribal sovereignty, the next celebration will be held in 2019, the 35th anniversary of our Tribal sovereignty.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the Cultural Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2656.



If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.

Maya Angelou

URGENT CARE AT ACH MEDPLUS

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Sundays
1 to 7 p.m.



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BAPTIST
HEALTH CARE

WANTED TRIBAL MEMBERS

The Temporary Employment Program (TEP) will be working with WIND CREEK Casino and Hotel to provide some temporary jobs. These jobs will be with the Grounds Department and will start April, 2015.

- Applicants must be able to pass background check and/or obtain temporary Gaming License
- Jobs will be outside (April-September)
- Applicants must complete an application:
HR Department, Building 600
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

If you would like more information, contact Clara Jones, WIA Coordinator, at 251-368-9136, extension 2266.



ON THE COVER-*HANDMADE BASKETS*

Have you visited Kerretv Cuko (Building of Learning), the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Museum and Gift Shop? The *Poarch Creek News* would like to take you on a tour of the museum!

“Aceyepvs”, come in. You are invited into the living history of the Tribe. This isn’t a story of a people at rest and gone, this is a community that has been living, struggling, and overcoming for centuries. Here you will experience the commitment to community and the adaptable spirit that has led the Tribe through centuries of challenge and change. Today we continue to preserve our legacy through tradition, tribal involvement, and community betterment. The Museum exhibits invite you to encounter a way of life, a culture woven over centuries¹.

Our exhibit this month features handmade baskets crafted by some of our local basket makers.

Creek baskets were typically woven with a single element twill plaited weave: flat strips, of equal size,

passed over and under each other (one over and under one). Twilling, usually produced by; weaving two strips over and two strips, produced diagonal, herringbone, and zig zag patterns².

Creek baskets were constructed in four basic forms: corn holder, sifter (also known as “riddle”), tray (later called “winnow”), and utility baskets.

Creek baskets were generally constructed of hickory or river cane. These materials are difficult to obtain by Tribal weavers in modern times.

The double false rim was the preferred finish on basket rims on Creek baskets, also described as twilled or twisted double false-braid. Hickory splints were trimmed with neatly beveled edges.

Creek baskets had no lids. The use of handles on Creek baskets was very rare... if utilized; they were applied after the basket was completed.

Creek weavers used few variations of form...mostly squared bottoms and rounded openings.

Dyed splints use was rare...mostly brown from black walnut. Use of red was almost non-existent in historic times. Basket bottoms were not dyed.

Though we don't know for absolute certainty, traditional Creek basket making probably ceased among the Poarch Creek community in the early 1900's. There is some reference in the early 1920's that would suggest that there may have been someone who still knew about making cotton picking baskets from hickory strips or weaving small fish or bird traps. At this point, we can only guess when basket construction ended in the community.

Pine needle basketry saw revival among the Poarch Band of Creeks Indians in the early 1990's as Tribal Member and historian Gale Thrower received grants from the Alabama Folk life Program. Through these grants Gale mastered this craft and apprenticeships and community classes were offered. Gale received the State Folk Artist of the Year in 1994 for her work in reintroducing pine needle basketry back into the Tribal community. She also experimented with a variety of materials and continued weaving many forms of baskets until her retirement.

River cane basketry, a traditional Creek art form, had long died out with the gradual disappearance of the once common river cane in our area. River cane basketry was reintroduced into the Tribal Community in 2010 when Mary Smith came into the community to teach Creek basketry classes. Though the earliest classes were largely taught using binder cane material, artisans graduated to using actual river cane and learned how to prepare it for weaving. The lack of available river cane in our area for weaving made these efforts even more difficult.

Tribal members Amber Alvarez and Margaret Baggett were among the first Poarch Creek artisans to produce a set of Creek utility baskets from river cane material. They were supervised by Mary Smith and these baskets are on display in the Poarch Creek Museum. Margaret has since become the Tribe's Traditional Arts Demonstrator and expanding her use of various basket materials, as well as teaching to the Tribal community.

Today basket making in its many different forms is alive and thriving, throughout the Poarch Creek Community. The resurgence of interest in river cane basketry construction has also brought with it some additional benefits: the Tribe is actively engaged in a number of river cane restoration projects throughout the reservation.

This beautiful display of Tribal handmade baskets is just one exhibit; some of the other items on exhibit at the Museum include Fred Walker's hunting rifle, authentic turtle shell shakers and stickball sticks, the original petition for Federal Recognition, and many more exciting items just waiting for you to come explore.

The Museum is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Please stop by the next time you visit the Reservation.

¹*Kerretv Cuko Brochure/Take a 2,000 year walk with us!*

²*Creek Basketry by Lynn Barnes*

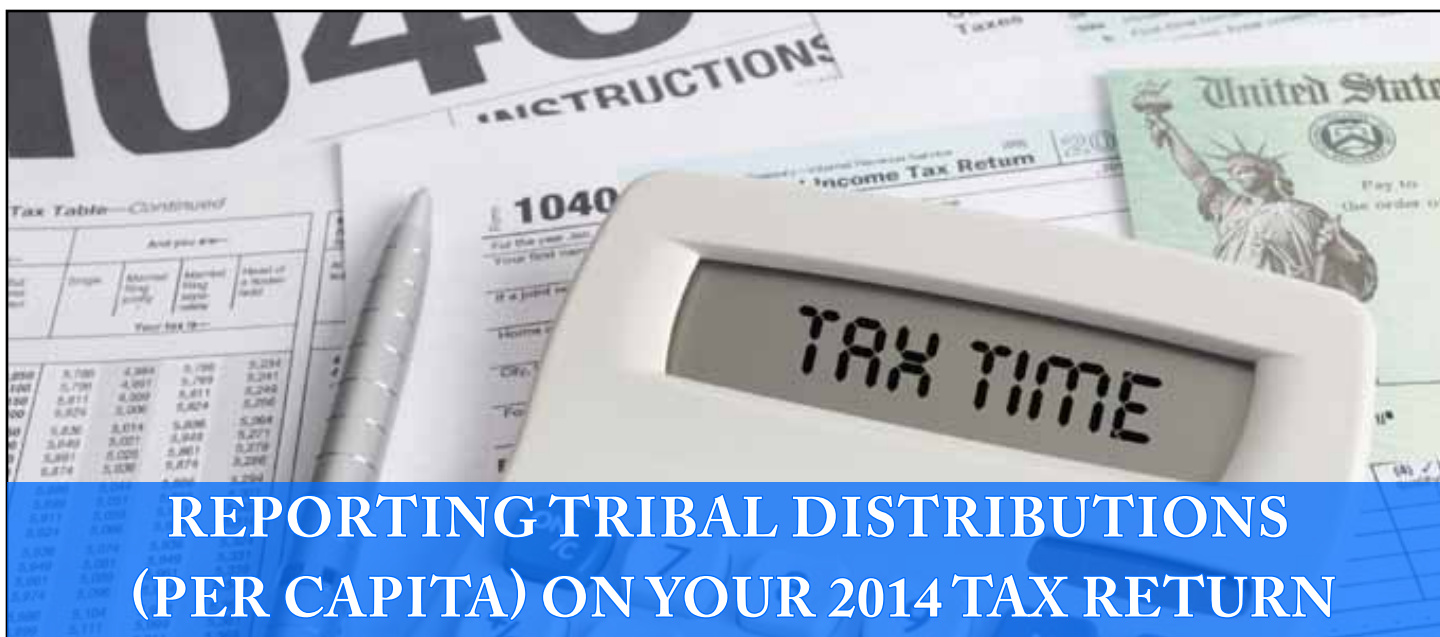
Gayle Johnson, Media Specialist

Information provided by Cultural Department

Photos by True Self Photography, as commissioned by the CMC



Utility baskets produced by Tribal Members Amber Alvarez and Margaret Baggett, under the supervision of Mary Smith, using river



REPORTING TRIBAL DISTRIBUTIONS (PER CAPITA) ON YOUR 2014 TAX RETURN

As a Tribal Member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, a federally recognized Indian tribe, you received taxable distributions from the Tribe in 2014. The Tribe must report these distributions to the IRS and to you on Form 1099-MISC.

If you are expecting a refund, correctly preparing your 2014 federal tax return may help avoid refund delays. Please make sure that you include information from your Form 1099-MISC when you file.

Follow these instructions when filing your 2014 federal income tax return:

- Use Form 1040; not Form 1040A or Form 1040EZ.
- On Form 1040, line 21, enter the amount of tribal distributions from Form 1099-MISC, Box 3.
- On Form 1040, line 21, include a description of the income in the space provided on Line 21. To avoid processing delays, enter one of the following descriptions on Line 21:
 - INDIAN GAMING PROCEEDS
 - INDIAN TRIBAL DISTRIB
 - NATIVE AMERICAN DISTRIB
 - Spell the descriptions exactly as listed above. These descriptions facilitate the processing of your tax return. For example, if you spell

out DISTRIUBTION rather than using DISTRIB, the IRS may reject your return and delay your refund.

If you receive a letter requiring a response from you, respond to the letter in a timely manner. Do not ignore it. While the correct descriptions shown above are important, it is crucial you respond timely to any letter requesting your response. Some letters do not require a response. These are called notices. Notices are sent by the Internal Revenue Service to inform you of the length of time your refund is expected to be delayed.

The IRS's hard work to protect taxpayers from fraud and identity theft may delay refunds for Tribal Members. All tax returns are subject to the refund fraud and identity theft filters. There are NO exceptions.

Although this diligence has affected everyone, Indian Tribal Governments (ITG), an office of the Internal Revenue Service, has gotten involved and the IRS has made strides in streamlining refunds. With automated processes and your following the guidelines in this article, the number and length of delays should be reduced.

ITG/IRS



TRIBAL COUNCIL PROCEEDS WITH LIVE STREAMING OF TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Although you may think differently at times, the Tribal Council does hear the concerns of the General Council and seeks the best way to accommodate those concerns for the betterment of the Tribe as a whole. In their continuing effort to maintain transparency, the Tribal Council has added a Ustream Channel to the Tribal Member Only Portal (TMOP) of the Tribal website. This channel is accessible to Tribal Members only, age 18 and above, utilizing their assigned TMOP username and password.

Over the past several months, the Tribe's IT Department and the Government Relations Department have been working on the implementation of the Ustream

Channel. As with any technology, there were kinks to be ironed out and issues that had to be addressed.

The Tribal Council invites you to log into the TMOP and watch live streaming of Tribal Council meetings beginning with the Tribal Council meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2015.



Public comments and Executive Sessions will not be streamed. The streaming is not interactive, it is audio and visual only. Tribal Members viewing by live stream will not have the capability to participate in the meeting and are asked not to share the streaming with others.

Please keep in mind that with all technology, there may be technical difficulties that are beyond our control. Please be patient with any technical difficulties that may arise.

Please contact Hannah Flowers at (251) 368-9136 x 2003 or hflowers@pci-nsn.gov if you need any assistance with your username and password.

DEWITT CARTER TRIBAL COUNCIL TREASURER

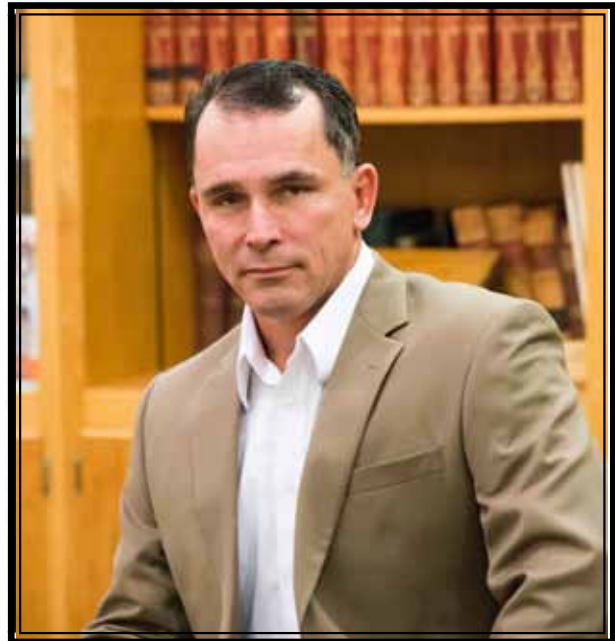
"Let Me Work Hard for You"

Hello to my Poarch Creek friends and family. My name is Dewitt Carter. I am the son of the late Dewitt Sells and the grandson of the late Eugene and Roberta Sells. I have a wonderful wife, Tressa Carter, and three children I am truly blessed to have in my life: My daughter Alyson Hames, my son D.J. Carter and my stepdaughter Candace Smith.

I am announcing my candidacy for Tribal Council Treasurer. I have extensive experience in my personal life and career that enables me to be the right choice for Tribal Council.

I joined the Army National Guard while still in high school, and upon graduation joined the Air Force, active duty, and was stationed at NORAD in Colorado Springs. While working, I attended college during my lunch break and after work at nights.

After the death of my mother, I returned home to Atmore, Alabama where I taught myself welding and pipefitting. In the 1990s, I rode bulls and became an active member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association while also working.



In 1996 I became an active member of the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association. I placed second my first year and I placed first for the next three years. In 1999 I entered the Indian National Finals Rodeo and finished second in the world (I am very proud of that accomplishment.) When I met my soon-to-be wife I decided I wanted to spend more time with her and her daughter and not travel as much. In 2000 I started my own business, Carter Mobile Homes Movers and have been blessed ever since.

DEWITT CARTER TRIBAL COUNCIL TREASURER

In 2006 I contracted with the Poarch Creek Indians to transport mobile homes and was confronted with the realism of the way many of our tribal members lived and was shocked at the lack of attention to their needs. After some discussion with Ms. Peggy Couch, probably my number one supporter, I decided that maybe I could do more to help my fellow tribal members. I believe I can do an amazing job for the tribe.

At the time Hurricane Ivan hit I was awarded a subcontract under FEMA for disaster relief. A year later, Hurricane Katrina came along and I had performed so well on my original contract, FEMA awarded me an eight million dollar contract, which I effectively managed and completed. In 2010, I was again awarded multiple disaster relief contracts for federal authorities after the tornadoes in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Joplin, Missouri.

Growing up in Poarch taught me life lessons and morals that I share with my children and I lean on still to this day. We helped each other. We worked together and we respected each other. At dinner it was normal to have one or two extra kids at the dinner table. It was maintaining a friendship that I still have and cherish to this day. Those good ole days are not so far gone that we can't bring it back.

There's a few things which concern me and other Poarch Creek Indians that we would like to see changed:

First generation: A very big question mark for our tribe. I believe in order to add first generation the council will need to be very diligent in compiling information. We need all of the facts concerning an accurate head count and the exact amount of funds that can be used. This decision will affect the future of our tribe as well as effecting our seniors right now. I want the general council, you, to vote on this

matter. After the vote, as a council member I will support and uphold the decisions of the tribe.

Per Capita: After I received my first few per capita payments, I was led to believe whatever the amount of each check was, we would be guaranteed a check for that amount for the next three to five years. I was pleased that the tribe was looking out for my future as well as yours. Now with the checks extending into the thousands, it seems more important than ever to make sure to provide for our futures. I recently spoke with a respected council member concerning this matter and he told me that it is no longer the situation. For example, if we received \$10,000 this year, next year it is possible to only receive half that amount or less. But, with profits, it could also double. As a council member I would work towards a program that gives you piece of mind that your per capita check will not decrease for at least five years.

Health Insurance: I would like to see tribal spouses added to the group insurance. Not necessarily free to them as it is to us, but at least affordable. A lot of us use our per capita checks to help with healthcare costs. It would help all of us if we were able to add our spouses and dependents.

Elders: I will work towards making the assisted care facility affordable so that our seniors can receive the care they deserve. I see it as a shame to have such a modern facility with so many vacancies due to the high cost.

Our Youth: I would like to see a better program for our youth concerning receipt of their first per capita check. My understanding is they only have to complete an 8-hour class on financial responsibility in order to receive that first check, which is a substantial amount and

DEWITT CARTER TRIBAL COUNCIL TREASURER

increasing every year. It is a rare individual, who at the age of 18 to be able to manage that kind of money. I do have faith in our youth, but I believe a portion of it should be allotted monthly so as our youth will not go into debt and will be better able to manage money.

Our Future: As a council member I want to pursue our options in Florida, the proposed casino in Nokomis, although risky, but necessary, and the possible casino in or around Jacksonville would be extremely beneficial for our families.

As for the growing of marijuana in Florida, I have mixed feelings. I am a father and do not want my children to have exposure to drugs of any kind. However, if Florida does pass the medical use of marijuana as Colorado did and was regulated as Colorado has shown that it can be done successfully, then it might be to our advantage that we discuss this further.

Tribal Member Services: We have a large tribe spread throughout the U.S., with concentrations in Poarch and Pensacola. Because of that concentration in and near Pensacola, I would like to see a small facility dedicated to pharmaceutical pick-up in the area. The savings to tribal members would be significant. Instead of driving 50 miles away to get your prescriptions, you can drive 5 miles to pick them up.

I would like to see an oil change/tune up garage built in Poarch. A tribal member could stop in and get their vehicle tuned up/oil change and only pay for the cost of material.

I would like to see a discount rewards program extended to tribal members. If you eat at the casino or stay the night, you shouldn't have to pay the same amount as a non-tribal member. After all, it is your profits that built it.

I have repeatedly said we need a commissary at or near Poarch. Again, the savings will benefit tribal members and their families.

It saddens me to see the results brought on by these disenrollment discussions. I believe it is a Pandora's Box for our tribe. As a council member concerning this matter, I will lean on our constitution for support and guidance but I'm not foolish either. Sometimes I would have to enlist common sense.

I will work with previous treasurers, Arthur Mothershed and Robbie McGhee to become the best treasurer possible. With our combined knowledge and their experience as council treasurers, I should be able to fulfill this position with little to no trouble.

In conclusion I would like to thank a few tribal members who have helped me tremendously while on my path. Peggy Couch and Catherine McGhee Dees, two of my biggest supporters. Warren Chavis of Michigan, who believes in helping his fellow neighbor. Lindsay Brown, Jennifer and Jimmy Manning, a family who believes in me.

My name is Dewitt Carter and I would like to work for you as our next Tribal Council Treasurer

DEWITT CARTER TRIBAL COUNCIL TREASURER

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Stephanie Bryan
March 3, 2015



Happy birthday Stephanie!

We love you!

From your family, friends, and co-workers.

Victoria Tillman
March 6, 2015



Happy 17th birthday Victoria!

We love you very much.

Mom, Dad, & Brianna.

Alex Ward
March 8, 2015



Happy birthday son!

We are very proud of your academic, wrestling, track, and football accomplishments!

Love, Mom, Dad, and Cristi.

Karen Pierce
March 10, 2015



Happy birthday Karen.

We love you!

From your family.

Brooks Madden
March 22, 2015



Happy 1st birthday Brooks Madden!!

This first year has flown by and you have brought us so much joy!! We love you!!

Daddy, Mama & Sissy.

Emma Grace Cobb
April 7, 2015



Happy 2nd birthday Emma Grace!

We love you!

Mommy, Daddy, and Abby.

Jerry Rolin
April 7, 2015



Happy birthday!

We love you always!

From your family.

Harold Rolin
April 8, 2015



Happy 62nd birthday Harold!

We love you.

From your family and friends.

Ruth Bailey
April 8, 2015



Happy 78th birthday Mom!

We love you!

Love, Sandy, Randy, Sherry, grandchildren, and all the family!

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Lillian Jackson
April 8, 2015



Happy 78th birthday Granny! We are truly blessed to have you in our lives! We love you more than we could ever express!
Love you always, Danny, Tammy, and Madison.

Slayton Valinsky
April 10, 2015



Happy 3rd birthday!!
Love Nana and Paw Paw.

Wanda Sue Jackson
April 13, 2015



Happy birthday Mom/Nana!
We love and appreciate all you are! God bless you on your special day!
Love always, Danny, Tammy, and Madison.

Kalyn Daniel
April 15, 2015



Happy 16th birthday to our beautiful baby girl!
Love, Mom and Dad.

Mandy Peebles
April 15, 2015



Happy birthday Mandy!
We love you.
From your family and friends.

Gavin Ford
April 16, 2015



Happy 11th birthday to our Lil Man.
You have brought us much joy & happiness. Enjoy your day. We love you.
PawPaw, MawMaw, and your family.

Frankie "Boochie" Jones
April 18, 2015



Happy 40th birthday Boochie!
Happy birthday, we love you!
From Bailey, Macey, Addi, Mom, and Dad.

Virginia Bell Godwin
April 19, 2015



Happy 61st birthday! We love you and hope to celebrate many more with you! You're the best!
Love, your husband, children, and grandkids.

Tori Madden
April 24, 2015



Happy birthday Tori!
We love you!
From your family.

BIRTHDAY WISHES



*AJ Creech
April 29, 2015*



Happy 4th birthday to our big boy!
You are a blessing to our family. We love you very much!
Love, Daddy, Mama, Sissy and Sis, Papa, & Uncle Wendell.

*Buford L. Rolin
April 30, 2015*



Happy birthday Buford!
We love you!
From your family and friends.

OBITUARIES/ IN MEMORIAM

In Memory Of Martha McGhee Wilson

April 4, 1935 - July 25, 2010

On Her Birthday

Wishing our Mom (Martha McGhee Wilson) a happy 80th birthday in Heaven.

There is never a day that goes by that we are not reminded of a sweet memory of you. No matter where we go or who we see – it seems you should be right here with us. Every time we go on a cruise or on a vacation to Eufaula—we are reminded of the great times we shared, but are thankful you are at home with Jesus.

You are always in our thoughts each and every day. We love and miss you dearly!

Your children: Pug, Mike, Chris, Cornelia, Margaret, Gwen, and Jr.

Submitted by Gwen Manning



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Justin Matthew Teach January 12, 2015

Bryan and Christin Teach announce the birth of Justin Matthew Teach on January 12, 2015. At birth Justin was 9 lbs, 1 oz and was 21 inches long.

He is the grandson of David and Brenda Teach and the great-grandson of Claudia McGhee Utz. He is welcomed home by big sister, Katelyn.

Submitted by Brenda Utz Teach



Autumn Estelle Hollingsworth January 14, 2015

Autumn Estelle Hollingsworth, daughter of Tribal Member Victor Hollingsworth and wife Lindsey, was born on January 14, 2015, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Autumn joins her older brother Christian William Hollingsworth, now age 6.

Submitted by Victor Hollingsworth



Abigail McKenzie Cobb February 17, 2015

Patrick and Amanda Cobb would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail McKenzie Cobb. Abby was born on February 17, 2015 at 5:58 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs. and 14 oz. and was 20 inches long.

She is the granddaughter of Harold and Lynna McGhee of Brewton and Charles and Rhonda Cobb of Opp. She is the great-granddaughter of Carl "Buster" McGhee Sr. and the late Atre B McGhee of Walnut Hill.

Submitted by Amanda Cobb

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

Eddie Thomas Woods & Amber Keona Woods April 2, 2015

Happy 1st anniversary to my loving husband, Eddie.

I am so happy you came into my life. I love you from the bottom of my heart.

Love always, your wife Amber.

Amber, my beautiful wife, meeting you has changed my life; it is better with you in it.

Love, Eddie.



Jacob and Kimberly Rackard April 12, 2015

Jacob and Kimberly Rackard will be celebrating their one (1) year wedding anniversary on April 12, 2015.

God has truly blessed us and continues to bless us as a couple.

We thank God for His many blessings on us and hope for many more years to come as a couple!



TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Walker Bags 11 Point

Jerry Walker is shown to the right with an 11 point buck killed on February 6, 2015.

Jerry was hunting on the former TR Miller land off Jack Springs Road that is part of the Tribal Hunting Club.

Submitted by Jerry Walker



Zach Gregson, Powerlifting Champion

Congratulations to Tribal Member Zach Gregson, for being named the AISA 2015 Alabama State Powerlifting Champion in the 181 lb. weight class.

Zach, 17, is a senior at Clarke Prep High School in Grove Hill, AL.

Congratulations, we love you and are proud of your accomplishments!

Mama, Rach, and family.

Submitted by Michelle Moore



The most influential of all educational factors is the conversation in a child's home.

William Temple



COLBY FLURNOY OPENS FOR THE BAND PERRY

Larry and Kim Flurnoy congratulate their son, Colby Flurnoy, on his performance with Shane Harrell and the Major Moves Band.

Shane Harrell and the Major Moves Band recently performed in Auburn University's Auburn Arena as the opening act for The Band Perry. Colby Flurnoy, 16 years old and a ninth grader at Northview High School, performed as a backup vocalist and rhythm guitarist. He was also lead vocalist for one song.

TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Colby will once again perform with Shane Harrell and the Major Moves Band on April 11, 2015 at the Alpha Psi Rodeo in Opelika, AL. They will be the opening act for Brad Paisley. In addition to singing backup vocals and rhythm guitar, Colby will be featured as lead vocalist on several songs.

Colby has several tickets to the Alpha Psi Rodeo if anyone is interested please give Larry or Kim a call at (251) 359-0316. These advance tickets are available for \$55.00, which includes admission to the Rodeo and the concert.

Colby and his parents would like to say thanks to local promoter Red Tail Entertainment, a Tribal Member owned business, for their help and support.

Colby is shown on front left of photo on rhythm guitar.

Submitted by Larry Flurnoy

Cancer Support Group Meeting

WE NEED YOU.

WE NEED EACH OTHER.

TOGETHER WE CAN BE LIFTED UP!

You are invited to our quarterly Cancer Support Group Meeting. This is open to anyone who has been touched by cancer in some way. We strive to provide information to educate, treat, and prevent cancer. But, the most important quality of these meetings is the comfort and support that is experienced.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Cancer Support Group Meeting

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

6:00 p.m.

Wind Creek Hospitality Ballroom

Dinner will be served.

Please RSVP if possible.

Helen Hallman 253-5140

Cindy Martin 253-4341

TRIBAL MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

WILL & BESSIE MCGHEE FAMILY REUNION SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015

All descendants of the Will and Bessie McGhee family are invited to join in the fun, fellowship, and activities at the Pow Wow Grounds on Saturday, May 16, 2015.

Gathering and Fellowship at 12:00 noon.
LUNCH IS PLANNED FOR 1:00 P.M.

Memorial tribute and cemetery visit is scheduled after lunch.

Family representatives are meeting to plan a great gathering. Join in to make this year's reunion a great event!

As always, each family is asked to bring lawn chairs, beverages, and a covered dish.

Fried chicken, bread, and paper products will be provided.

For more information, contact Marie Martin at (251) 368-5474.

STEADHAM REUNION SUNDAY, MAY 3 2015

10:00 a.m. until

Steadham Chapel

Bring a covered dish!

Everyone Welcome

For more information contact Kenneth Steadham at
(813) 802-1937.



FAMILY PHOTOS

Do you have a family photo that you would like to share with your fellow Tribal Members? *Poarch Creek News* will be happy to publish your family photos.

When submitting your photos, please identify everyone in the photo and give a brief description of the photo such as 'Photo taken at wedding of....'

Please submit your photos by email to gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov, via U.S. Mail, or hand deliver to:

Poarch Creek News
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

If you send your photo by U.S. Mail, please be sure to include your contact information so your photo can be returned to you.

Mama's Recipes has been removed from the newsletter due to lack of interest. We will reinstate if interest warrants. On The Lighter Side has been removed from the newsletter due to space/format limitations.



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This month the *Poarch Creek News* is honored to feature two Tribal Member Veterans, United States Air Force veteran Millard Peacock, and United State Marine Corps veteran Bernard Ocie "Pete" McGee, Jr.

VETERAN'S SALUTE



*Millard Peacock
Sergeant
United States Air Force*

Millard Peacock, the son of the late Roy Peacock and the late Lillie Sue Parker Peacock, was born on a farm one mile north of the State Prison Farm near Huxford, AL. His grandparents were John Gable Peacock and Rosia Ella Dees Peacock. He remembers that his family didn't have much but that he had great experiences and adventures growing up. "We had wonderful times in Semirah Springs; the games, the killing of hogs, the Smoke House, pitching washers, Broom Ball, and the making of syrup."

Millard joined the U.S. Air Force in 1960, shortly after graduating from high school. He was first sent to Dobbins, AFB, in Marietta, Ga. He was in 4632nd Air Defense Command (ADC), which was shortened to just 32nd ADC. He was a Crypto and Teletype Operator in Communications. In late 1960 and early 1961, Millard and his team were monitoring Russian Bear and Badger planes flying along the Eastern Seaboard from North and South Carolina down to Cuba. When the General came into the Communications Center it was Millard's job to set up the KY-9 voice encryption machine. When it went green, the General called Strike Command at McDill, AFB in FL. Within a couple of hours, 8 F-101 Voodoo's arrived at Dobbins. The pilots, dressed in black flight suits, were then sent to track the Russian Bombers.

Millard's team was soon sent to Oklahoma to a Radar site behind Tinker AFB; there they were responsible for the Air Defense over Cuba. Millard was assigned to General Hubert S. Judy and General Thomas J. Gent, and Naval Commander

Wooley. His job was to carry "Commanders Eyes Only" Not For Foreign Nationals (NORFON) and processed Cryptographic messages. Millard also worked with ZZ (Flash) and YY (emergency) messages and Submarine Intelligence reports (Setraps).

After Cuba, Millard was assigned to Clark AFB in the Philippines. There he was in the 1st Mobile Communications Division. "We wore black hats; we called it the land of Black Hats! We worked out of black vans with no markings. Some of us went to Vietnam, some to Laos. We did communications, Teletype and Crypto. While in the Philippines he went through "Buddy Care" where they had jungle training and learned how to deliver babies and how to deal with different wounds. "The uncertainty, and people not knowing what would happen next, gave a person a kind of fear. If a leaf made a noise in the wind you were just as apt to open fire on it with your weapon, the M16."

After the Philippines, Millard was sent to Dauphin Island, and then to Hurlburt Field/Eglin AFB in Ft. Walton Beach,

FL. From there he was sent to Karamusel Turkey just up from Yalova; he was in Critic Communications, anything critical to the United States. They were the Primary Relay to Ft. George Mead, Maryland, as well to Europe and Asia military stations. Millard was in the Air Force Communication Service (AFCS) during that time. He was on duty and received the message from the USS Pueblo when it was captured off the coast of North Korea in 1968. "They sent out a worldwide message that they were being attacked. The message read "Boarding Ship, under fire, destroying equipment, send help, this is not a drill, repeat this is not a drill." I was Send Bank Supervisor at the time and my job was to see nothing interfered with the message; I read the message as it was coming in, I forwarded it to the Little White House."

Millard states that the site at Karamusel, was like a James Bond movie. "We had antenna's that would pick up any transmission. We knew Russian pilots by name. We monitored all traffic out of the Black Sea as well. There is no need now for any of what we did back then; we have satellites to do that now."

Millard was discharged from the service in 1969. He went to trade school to study electronics. He later moved to Georgia where he worked at Robins AFB in Warner Robins, GA for 34 years as an Electronic Technician. In the beginning he worked at night and went to school studying electronics during the day. At Robins he worked on the F111 Raven, F4 AWW (Advance Wild Weasel) B52 and 26 years on the F15, Black Boxes, ECW (Electronic Counter Measures), (EW) Electronic Warfare.

Millard received a letter from President Carter on the work that he did.

Millard married Linda J. Stacey from Bratt, FL on February 28, 1965, they reside in Byron, GA. They have four sons, Millard Peacock Jr. of Edmond, OK; James Darrell Peacock of Byron, GA; Daniel Wayne Peacock of Byron, GA; and Christopher Michael Peacock of Stone Mountain, GA.

Millard Peacock just one of many Tribal Members who have proudly served for their family, their Tribe, and their country. Because of their sacrifices, we enjoy the freedoms we have today.

Published as authorized with no edits.

RECOGNIZING OUR TRIBAL VETERANS

The *Poarch Creek News* honors our Tribal Member veterans for their sacrifice, dedication, and service. We are asking all Tribal Member families to send in information on any Tribal Member veterans you may know. We wish to honor all veterans: male and female, those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country, those

who have passed, those who have served, and those who currently serve.

We would like the veteran's name, Tribal roll number, rank, branch of service, and any medals or awards received.

You may submit a veteran's information via email to gjohnson@pci-nsn.gov, via hand delivery to the *Poarch Creek News*, or via US Mail to *Poarch Creek News*, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502. Please be sure to include return address and contact information.



*Bernard Ocie "Pete" McGee, Jr.
Lance Corporal
United States Marine Corps*

Bernard Ocie "Pete" McGee, Jr., joined the United States Marine Corps in August of 1966; he served with the Corps until October of 1969.

While in the States, Pete served with the 1st Battalion 8th Marine Regiment (1/8), an infantry battalion based out of Camp Lejeune, NC. In July of 1968, he was deployed to Vietnam where he served with the 1st Battalion 9th Marines Regiment (1/9) until October 1969. During the Vietnam War, 1/9 sustained the highest casualty rate in Marine Corps history. During the Vietnam War, the unit earned the name "The Walking Dead" for its high casualty rate. The battalion endured the longest sustained combat and suffered the highest killed in action (KIA) rate in Marine Corps history, especially

during the Battle of July Two. The battalion was engaged in combat for 47 months and 7 days, from 15 June 1965 to 19 October 1966 and 11 December 1966 to 14 July 1969. Based on a typical battalion strength of 800 Marines and Navy hospital corpsmen, 93.63% (747) were Killed In Action (KIA) and 0.25% (2) were Missing In Action (MIA).

For his service in the Marine Corps, he received five (5) medals; the Vietnam Action Medal; the Marine Corps Overseas Medal; the Combat Action Ribbon (CAR) Medal and three (3) Presidential Unit Citations (PUC's).

After the service, Pete became a truck driver. After a while, he started his own roofing business which he operated for 30 years before retiring in 2010.

Pete has three children, Lindy McGee Pennington, Bernard Ocie McGee, III, and Brenda

VETERAN'S SALUTE

McGee Howard; he has eight grandchildren, (P.J.) Saxon Pointer, Leah Pennington, Robert Howard (Buddy), Trey Howard, and Danielle, Tarah, Cheyenne, and Billy McGee.

Pete's hobbies include hunting and fishing. His favorite sports are baseball and bowling; which he has been doing for about 60 years. "I am still proud to be a Marine," he said "but more proud to be a Christian."

Bernard Ocie "Pete" McGee, Jr., just one of many Tribal Members who have proudly served for their family, their Tribe, and their country. Because of their sacrifices, we enjoy the freedoms we have today.



Kicking back in Vietnam

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY EXPANDS SERVICES

The Lavan Martin Assisted Living Facility (ALF) was built to provide Tribal Member services to those Tribal Members who needed assistance with daily living skills. However the facility has few residents. The Tribal Council has approved the expansion of services provided at the ALF to a greater number of individuals, including spouses and widows of Tribal Members, First Generation Descent, and the general public.

The Tribal Council re-evaluated the payment rates based on the status of the individual receiving services. Tribal Members will continue to pay based on a level of care scale, with the highest level of care rate equal to approximately sixty-five percent (65%) of the local market rate. The level of care is based on the individual's needs as determined by the Care Plan team which includes the individual, his/her physician, and the ALF management team.

The rate for spouses and widows of Tribal Members and First Generation Descent will be eighty-five percent (85%) of the local market rate with the general public paying the full market rate (100%). There will be no level of care rates for these individuals.

TRIBAL MEMBERS ONLY:

LEVEL 1 – BASIC CARE

1-Bedroom Unit	\$1,525 monthly
2-Bedroom Unit	\$1,880 monthly

LEVEL 2 – SUPPORTIVE CARE

1-Bedroom Unit	\$1,825 monthly
2-Bedroom Unit	\$2,180 monthly

LEVEL 3 – COMPREHENSIVE CARE

1-Bedroom Unit	\$2,075 monthly
2-Bedroom Unit	\$2,430 monthly

SPOUSES AND WIDOWS OF TRIBAL MEMBERS AND FIRST GENERATION DESCENT:

1-Bedroom Unit	\$2,700 monthly
2-Bedroom Unit	\$3,040 monthly

GENERAL PUBLIC:

1-Bedroom Unit	\$3,175 monthly
2-Bedroom Unit	\$3,575 monthly

Please contact Michelle Colbert Shaddix, Assisted Living Administrator, at 251-446-4899 for additional information.



As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.

Audrey Hepburn

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS 2013 GATEWAY TO IMPACT AWARD



On Thursday, March 5, 2015, the Boys & Girls Club of Poarch Band of Creek Indians received the 2013 Gateway To Impact Award in recognition of exceptional increase in average daily attendance.

Shown left to right above: Stephanie Agerton, Boys & Girls Club Director, Trevor Daughtry, Boys & Girls Club Lead Youth Counselor, Connie Crews, Boys & Girls Club Activities Coordinator, and Jim Clark, President of the Boys & Girls Club of America.



Congratulations to the staff, children, parents, and Tribal Council for making it possible for our children to participate in this wonderful program.

COLOR RUN SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2015

Join us for our 2nd Annual Color Run on Saturday, May 23, 2015.

This year we will be "Painting for Pilots"

Contact Debra Ramer or Janet Schultz for more information or to register for the event.

You're never too old, too wacky, or too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child. Dr. Seuss



3RD ANNUAL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

BARN DANCE

AT COOK'S BARN

Live Entertainment
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Doors Open at 6:00 pm
Band Kicks Off at 6:30 pm
Fun until 10:30 pm
Fish Plates \$5.00 each
Concessions Available

**Saturday
April 18, 2015**

Cook's Barn is located at:
9641 Hwy. 97
Century (Walnut Hill), FL 32535
For more information contact:
Connie Crews
251-368-9136 x 2283 or 251-359-0264

All Boys & Girls Club Members and Family Invited

Poarch Community Garden

Fresh vegetables picked daily!

(251) 368-9136 x 2012/Office

(251) 253-5892 or 359-2669-Cell

Call daily to see what is available!

Bring a bag and pick your own.

Jack Springs Road Across from Big Oak Trailer Park



An extension of the PBCI Environmental Department

CULTURAL DEPARTMENT

2015 MID-YEAR UNITY CONFERENCE

Four Tribal youth attended the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Mid-Year Conference on February 10-16, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

Approximately 200 youth from tribes across the United States built connections with other Tribal youth while learning information about team building, leadership, financial literacy, fund raising, and community service projects.

At this conference, the youth voted unanimously to pass a Suicide Prevention Resolution. The youth also learned about the White House's new launch of the Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) Native Youth



Attending the UNITY Mid Year Conference were l-r: Breanna Hall, Madison McGhee, Chris Blackburn, Kaylee Davidson, and Bradley Rolin.

Challenge, which our tribal youth council plans to participate in.

CREEK SHELL CARVING CLASS AND COPPER TOOLING

Advanced Shell Carving & Copper Tooling

March 30, 2015 - April 24, 2015

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Beginner Shell Carving

April 27, 2015 - May 8, 2015

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Beginner Copper Tooling

May 11, 2015 - May 22, 2015

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

To help offset the cost of equipment and supplies needed, there will be a non-refundable \$40.00 fee for the beginner course and \$20.00 fee for the advanced course.

Payments are due by March 30, 2015.

Only 10 slots are available for each series. If you have never been in shell carving class before, you must take the beginner course only.

Registration will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

All classes will be held in the Pavilion located on the Powwow Grounds.

To sign up, or for more information, contact Margaret Baggett, Traditional Arts Demonstrator, at (251) 368-9136 Ext. 2648 or by email at mbaggett@pci-nsn.gov.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE APP



The Creek Nation and Mvskoke Language Program presents the Mvskoke Creek Language learning app. The app is available for free in three major app stores: Apple, Android (Google Play), and Amazon.

Download this app and begin learning or practicing our Mvskoke language. You can use it to hear the correct pronunciation of the Creek numbers listed on each page of the newsletter.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.

Nelson Mandela

FRED L. MCGHEE LEARNING CENTER

PRE-K REGISTRATION

Monday, April 13, 2015 - Friday, April 17, 2015

Fred L. McGhee Learning Center

44 Creek Drive

Atmore, AL 36502

CHILD MUST BE 4 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015.

Applications will be available April 1, 2015. Applications will be available on Education's page of the web site, www.pci-nsn.gov. We will only accept applications for PCI Tribal Members and First and Second Generation Descent students.

Must bring:

- Certified birth certificate
- Shot Record (Alabama Blue Card)
- Social Security Card
- Proof of Tribal Enrollment or Indian Descent letter

Parents of First and Second Generation Indian Descent students please note: If your child does not have a First or Second Generation Indian Descent letter, you must contact Tribal Member Benefits at 251 368-9136 x 2281 as soon as possible; to receive this letter, your child will be required to undergo DNA testing, which is scheduled two times per month on a first come first served basis. We cannot accept students who do not have a letter at the time of registration.

If you have questions about registration, contact Fran Southard at (251) 446-4885 or Megan Weaver at (251) 368-9136 x 2021.

FINANCIAL PEACE CLASSES

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University kits are available **free** to Tribal Members, First Generation Indian Descendants and Tribal Employees. These home based kits are easy to follow and entertaining as Dave teaches you how to save, budget, dump debt, invest, and plan for college and retirement. You may complete the course in the comfort of your own home, at your own pace or attend a live class which will be offered on the Reservation (Total enrollment must be 10 or more to offer class sessions).

Contact Bryan Fayard, Financial Education Coordinator, in the Education Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2504 or bfayard@pci-nsn.gov for more information.

Additional information may also be found on the Education page of the Tribe's official web site, www.pci-nsn.gov.

Minor's Trust Financial Education Workshop

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

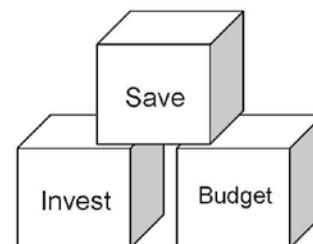
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Housing Conference Room

Building 400

Participants must register prior to workshop. Registration accepted up to date of class.

Please register for the class by contacting Bryan Fayard at (251) 368-9136 x 2504 or bfayard@pci-nsn.gov.



HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARD NIGHT

PCI Tribal Members or 1st Generation Indian Descent Graduates who are graduating High School and would like for their Tuition Assistance funds announced at their award ceremony must fill out the information below and return it by APRIL 3, 2015.

All information must be complete!

Full Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Please check one: Tribal Member _____ First Generation: _____

Name of High School: _____

School Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Date and Time of Awards/ Honor's Day: _____

Person in charge of Event (Name and Contact Info): _____

A letter and certificate will be mailed to your school at the address you listed above. Your guidance counselor or principal will present you with your certificate. In order to utilize the tuition programs you must fill out an application before you start college. Applications for the tuition programs can be obtained from the Tribe's website.

For questions please call Magen Weaver at (251) 368-9136 extension 2021.
Address: Magen Weaver, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502
Fax: (251) 368-0809 or Email: mweaver@pci-nsn.gov



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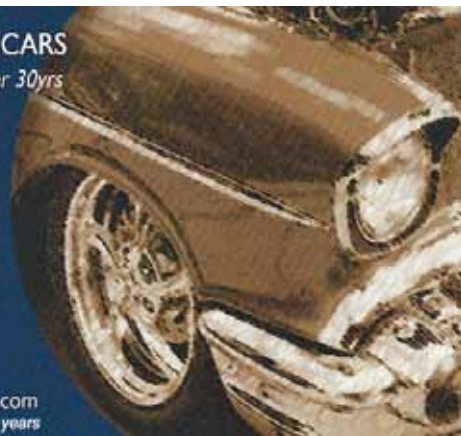
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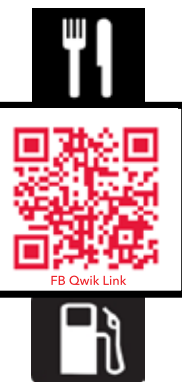


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Honoring ALL Graduates

Graduation Banquet

PCI Tribal Members or 1st Generation Indian Descent Graduates who have obtained their High School Diploma, GED, or College Degree are invited to attend the 2015 Graduation Banquet!

You must be a 2014-2015 graduate to attend.

Date: Friday, June 5, 2015 ♦ Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Place: Wind Creek Casino Coosawada Ballroom

Graduates must RSVP by May 22nd to attend.

Full Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Please check one: Tribal Member _____ First Generation: _____

School Graduated From: _____

Degree Received: _____

You DO NOT have to attend the banquet to get your graduation gift!

Please indicate if you will be attending the banquet? Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate how many guest you will be bringing, not including yourself. This is a celebration for you and your immediate family. **You are allowed to bring a maximum of 4 guests with you to the banquet.** Number of Guest: _____

Hosted by: Tribal Council, PCI Education Dept, Education Advisory Board, and Cultural Authority

For questions please call Magen Weaver at (251) 368-9136 extension 2021.

RSVP form must be returned by May 22, 2015 to Magen Weaver.

Address: Magen Weaver, 5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502

Fax: (251) 368-0809 ~ Email: mweaver@pci-nsn.gov



JOIN US FOR A FREE RETINAL SCREENING

Thursday, April 23rd from 2:00—4:00pm

Free Diabetic Retinal Screening

A once yearly retinal screening appointment is carried out to identify early signs of diabetic retinopathy. If allowed to develop, diabetic retinopathy can lead to blindness.

For this reason it is important to attend your retinal screening once a year. We do free retinal screenings each month and invite everyone to attend.

Do I qualify for diabetic retinopathy screening?

Everyone with diabetes should have a retinal examination once a year. If you are concerned that you may be developing retinopathy, schedule a Comprehensive eye exam today with Dr. Amanda Cobb by calling 251.446.3937.

I'm not diabetic, Do I still need to have a screening?

You do not have to be diabetic to attend the free retinal screenings at Premier Family Eye Care. Retinal screenings not only detect diabetic retinopathy, but glaucoma and macular degeneration as well. We provide this service at no charge.

What happens at a retinal screening?

The technician will sit you down in front of a machine, enter your information and then align the camera up precisely to take the photograph of your retina. Each eye will be photographed then you will be shown what the inside of your eye looks like. There is no pain involved in a retinal screening.

When will I get the retinopathy screening results?

The photographs need to be examined in detail by the Optometrist. You will be notified within 48 hours if there is an issue that requires further testing.



Premier Family Eye Care

5811 Jack Springs Rd.

Atmore, AL 36502

251.446.3937



FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF TRIBAL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

PROGRAM NOTICES:

LIHEAP or CSBG Services: PBCI Tribal Per Capita monies and Senior Benefit monies will be included in the calculation of household income.

The following grants are available for public review:

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Child Care Development (CSBG)

If you wish to review these grants, please come by our office to view these documents.

We welcome your comments and suggestions!

If you suspect fraud, waste, or abuse in any of the Community Services Programs please contact the Family Services Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2600.

If you or a loved one is a victim of domestic violence, please contact Dr. Frank McCloskey, Abuse Prevention Coordinator, for assistance or information.

You can reach Frank at (251) 368-9136, ext. 2212, or via e-mail at fmccloskey@pci-nsn.gov.

You are not alone. We are here to help you.



Family Services Department
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

Office (251) 368-9136 x 2600 Fax (251) 368-0828

APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

April was first declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by presidential proclamation in 1983. This is a time to recognize your part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in our community.

Frank McCloskey, Abuse Prevention Coordinator, and Michealine Deese, Child and Family Welfare Coordinator, are looking forward to the "Prevent Abuse Campaign" by walking door to door distributing prevention materials.



If weather permits, Michealine and Frank will be out campaigning on April 24th from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

If you need assistance or resources please feel free to contact Michealine Deese at (251)-368-9136, x 2603 or mdeese@pci-nsn.gov or Frank McCloskey at (251)-368-9136, x 2212 or fmccloskey@pci-nsn.gov.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Site Visit by Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

We are so honored to have been selected by the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) and Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) for a site visit along with representatives from Indian Health Service (IHS), and United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) as a means for CDC to learn more about Tribal health programming and hear directly from Tribal leaders and health staff as to health conditions, facilities, challenges, successes, etc. This meeting took place on February 19, 2015 and was a huge success. They were very impressed with learning about some of the obesity, diabetes, and the horticulture programs that the Tribe is doing.

Freedom from Smoking!

If you're ready to finally kick the nicotine habit please join the Freedom from Smoking (FFS) 8 week class. Over the course of 8 weeks you will learn how to break through the physical, mental and social aspects of smoking. FFS program is sponsored by the American Lung Association.

The first FFS class will begin April 14, 2015 at 5:30 pm. and will be held at the PCI Health Department.

For more information and to reserve your spot, contact Kay Thomas at 251-368-9136 ext. 2328.



Tribal Chair Stephanie Bryan with Dr. Ursula Bauer, Director of CDC

New Lab Director

We would like to introduce to you, Mrs. Virginia Provencher, the new Laboratory Director. Virgie, as she likes to be called, comes to us with more than 22 years of experience and has worked in several hospitals as a registered medical technologist. We believe that with her experience and expertise she can serve and contribute to our Tribe.

Our lab has state of the art chemistry and hematology analyzers. We offer various testing such as chemistry profiles, diabetic evaluation, lipid studies, prostate cancer detection, thyroid screening, anemia and leukemia evaluation. Please feel free to contact the lab at 251-368-9136, x 2307 for further information or questions.

Ultrasound

We are now offering ultrasound services at the clinic. We have purchased a GE S8 ultrasound system. This system provides state of the art images and is an excellent diagnostic tool. We can perform ultrasound exams ordered by clinic providers, as well as exams ordered by outside physicians.

Please remember that all ultrasound exams must be ordered by a medical provider and you should present your written order to radiology upon arrival for your exam.

We can perform all ultrasound exams such as abdominal, OB, gynecological, breast, thyroid, and vascular. Please feel free to contact Radiology at 251-368-9136 x 2353 with any questions concerning medical imaging.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Applications for the following Housing programs are available on a daily basis and will be processed as vacancies/funds become available:

Emergency/Transitional Housing
Rental - All Poarch Subdivisions
Rental - Manac Townhouses
Rental - Walker Subdivision, Pensacola, FL
Rehabilitation Assistance
Renovation Loan Program
Heating & Cooling Loan Program
Senior Emergency Program
TAHO

Applicants are responsible for accurately completing, correcting, and updating all applications and must certify that all information is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge.

Failure to update an application for a period of twelve months is grounds for removing the application for consideration and the applicant will be ineligible for consideration until an updated application is on file.

For questions or concerns contact the Housing Department at (251) 368-9136 x 4942.

Notice to Tribal Members: Housing Board Decides Not to Offer Mobile Homes For Sale...

The Housing Board decided not to offer for sale the following mobile homes previously posted for sale:

- 1 mobile home (3 bedrooms)
6301 Jack Springs Road, Lot 2, Atmore, AL 36502
- 1 mobile home (3 bedrooms)
4455 Hwy 21, Atmore, AL 36502

Bids were accepted/opened for the mobile home (2 bedrooms) located at West Wind Village, 3316 Poarch Road Lot 25, Atmore, AL 36502.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

As always, to promote dissemination and public access to Tribal laws, Tribal Member public viewing is available during office hours at the Tribal Chair's Office, Tribal Council Office, Tribal Court, Education Department, and the Office of Archives and Records Management.

The Tribal Code is also available online, 24 hours a day, by clicking on the links found on the Tribe's web site, www.pci-nsn.gov. Also full copies of any Titles or amended legislation may be obtained by contacting the Office of Archives and Records Management at (251) 446-2941.

Office Of Archives & Records Management

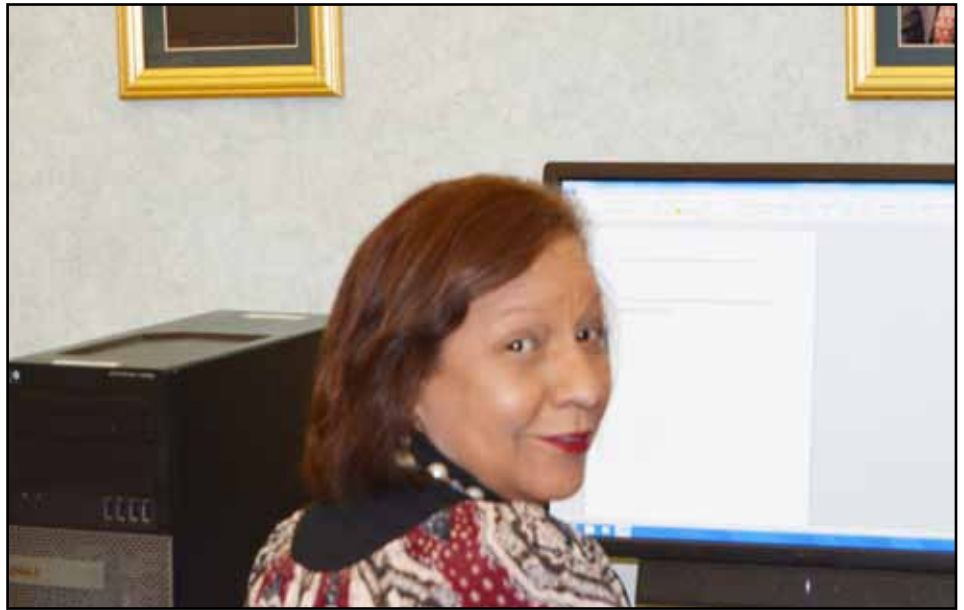
LAUNCH OF NEW RESEARCH STATION IN THE ARCHIVES!

It is finally here! After a long time of strategic planning, the Office of Archives and Records Management is launching our new Research Station at our location in the Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority complex at 100 Brookwood Road in Atmore (new telephone 446-4942, extension 2942). The Research Station was installed in the first week in March, and is now ready for use.

"This is a new research tool that will allow Tribal Members to conduct significant research of historic Tribal records," said Tribal Council Secretary David Gehman, who also serves as the Chair of our Tribal Records Committee. "It is a valuable tool and is the result of diligent work by the staff of the Office of Archives of Records Management Department," he said.

What exactly is the Research Station? Our Research Station is made up of a computer and printer at a two-person desk so that families can sit together to look up documents in the Tribe's vast archival collections. You can print out pages on the printer and take them home with you.

The Tribe's documents are housed on the computer in an advanced software program called Microsoft SharePoint which is in a searchable format. This means that patrons can



Paula Smith was the first patron to use the Research Station.

type in key words such as "federal recognition" and the computer will search through the records for you. The computer will retrieve the findings on our Federal Recognition Petition and will display them on the computer screen for you to read. If you did not grow up using a computer, our professional, well-trained staff will help you operate the computer and printer.

What else can you find at the Research Station? Patrons can find the three censuses that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians uses for Tribal Enrollment, old black and white photographs, Tribal Council Minutes, and other historical documents.

As a part of the launch of our new Research Station, patrons can access rare books on Creek history in our

new library including antique books from the Gail Thrower Collection and vintage cookbooks by Tribal Members on traditional Creek recipes. Patrons can also read books on political science from the Zohair Husain Collection. These books, donated by University of South Alabama Associate Professor Dr. Zohair Husain, help us understand the political world around us and how American Indians fit into the changing political landscape.

Ms. Paula Smith was our first patron to use the Research Station. Who will be next?

Mvto.

*Submitted by
Tribal Archivist Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.C.s*

YOU NEVER KNOW WHO MIGHT SHOW UP IN THE ARCHIVES!

You never know who might show up in the Archives!

Tribal Elder Ms. Delores Kelley was processing the Dr. J. Anthony Paredes Collection in the Office of Archives and Records Management, and guess who showed up in a news article? The first person she noticed was Tribal Councilwoman Ms. Sandy Fretwell, now Hollinger, who is pictured in this photograph along with other participants in the Indian Health Service Health Camp. “This brings back memories,” Ms. Kelley said. “We had a ball!”

Although it was over a quarter of a century ago, Ms. Kelley remembered vividly that John Arthur McGhee drove Creeks in the van to the Health Camp in Cherokee, North Carolina, but “there were also Indians from a lot of other tribes.” The youth enjoyed “going on walks,” Ms. Kelley said, and participating in the 5K run with renowned Olympic gold medalist Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota Sioux), who later came to this area and assisted in organizing running events just before our Thanksgiving Pow Wow.

In addition to health-centered endeavors, they engaged in leadership activities. “The kids



Pictured in this photograph from left to right are Annice Scott, Sandy Fretwell, Delores Mothershed, Wanda Tucker, Terrel D. Thomas, Randy Fretwell, Rowdy Boyte, Ginger Ramer, and John Arthur McGhee

talked about what they wanted to be when they grew up,” Ms. Kelley said, including, one day, becoming our Tribal Chair.

The news article is titled “Youth Take Part In IHS Health Camp” and was published in The Poarch Creek News in September of 1987 (Volume II, Number IV). Pictured in this photograph from left to right are Annice Scott, Sandy Fretwell, Delores Mothershed, Wanda Tucker, Terrel D. Thomas, Randy Fretwell, Rowdy Boyte, Ginger Ramer, and John Arthur McGhee.

What else is in the September 1987 edition of the Poarch Creek News? There is a broad range of news articles

about Tribal Members constructing the “new” Fire Station, instructions on detecting the HIV/AIDS virus, and descriptions of Creek stomp dancing at Green Corn. Come by the Office of Archives and Records Management to read the rest of the story, or call us at 446-4528 if you want a copy.

Again, you never know who might show up in the Archives! Mvto.

Submitted by

Tribal Archivist Deidra Suwanee Dees, Ed.D.



Recognition Ceremony

Come get inspired and motivated!

The PCI Recreation Staff invites you to join them
in recognition of community health success!

Place: Poarch Recreation

Time: 5:30 PM

Date: Monday, April 20, 2015

Invitation open to Tribal Members & Spouses, First
Generation & Spouses, Government Employees,
TGC Employees, CIE Employees and
Full-time Users of Poarch Recreation.

Recognition Ceremony Menu

- Challenge Winners Announced
- Prizes and Awards
- T-Shirts given to participants
- Over \$3,000 in Raffle Drawings
- Food

Questions? Contact Poarch Recreation (251) 368-9136 x 2256
www.mypciwellness.com



YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Small Decisions Make Big Things Happen

Healthy Habits: The Struggle Is Real

I am often asked if I wrestle with eating healthy all the time, the answer is: **absolutely**. Perfection is impossible! I am, however, able to stick with an 80/20 rule. If I make healthy choices 80% of the time, then I have 20% to use for other circumstances. Slip-ups and overindulging can happen but it won't add up to much in the long run if the majority of my choices are healthy. Instead of beating myself up, I stay positive, move on and know that I am doing the best I can. My top three struggles are drinking water throughout the day, eating a healthy dinner after work and satisfying my sweet tooth.

These are the solutions that have worked for me:

- **Drinking 8 glasses of water each day**

Water, to me, is very plain. I switch between water with a slice of lemon or orange and carbonated water. The flavor of the fruit and bubbles taste better to me so I end up drinking more water. After doing this for a week or so, I've found that it changed my craving for sweeter drinks and I no longer view drinking water as a chore.

- **Nutritious dinner each night**

When I get home from work after a long day, I'm too tired to cook. To keep myself from buying fast food, I came up with a solution: I prepare all of my dinners for the week on Sunday. I keep the prepared meals in the fridge or freezer. That way, when I get home during the week, I only have to heat them up. Also, while I'm cutting ingredients for my meals, I put some vegetables in Ziploc bags for snacks. Then, whenever I want to reach for a snack, I have a healthy choice that's even faster than take out.



- **Conquering my sweet tooth.**

I wish I could say that I did not like sweets, but I do. I enjoy having something sweet each day. I have 3 dark chocolate Hershey Kisses after dinner each night. Only 60 calories and they totally satisfy my craving without spiking my calories for the day.

See if these tips work for you! Please share any solutions you discover. Remember that small steps add up to **big** changes.

Reach out to me with any questions. I'm delighted to help.

-Ashley

Ashley Richards is a Health Coach and Nutritionist for Advantage Training. She believes that the key to creating healthy habits is to start by making small, sustainable changes. You can connect directly to Ashley by clicking on My Message Center/Talk to a Health Coach inside the My PCI Wellness online portal.



www.mypciwellness.com
facebook.mypciwellness.com



YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Small Decisions Make Big Things Happen

Training For Life

"The journey is better than the inn."

~Miguel De Cervantes

This quote has meant a lot to me over the years. It helped me focus on enjoying athletic pursuits instead of attaining a certain result. I've learned to enjoy the journey but had many up and downs along the way. I've had sore or pulled muscles, dislocated an elbow, ACL reconstruction, and hip surgery. Because I've learned from all this, I can honestly say it's been worth it! I wouldn't change any of these experiences. I've gained some powerful knowledge. Sharing what I've learned and supporting others has been my biggest passion. I have enjoyed the thrill of winning and achieving my goals, but it has been the journey and connecting with others that I've enjoyed the most. I'd like to share some things that help keep me motivated:

It all starts with the why! When I establish a goal I first connect with the purpose or intention. My purpose in fitness is to challenge my mind, body and spirit. I really enjoy this and value the confidence and achievement I feel. One of the reasons I keep striving now that my athletic career is over is that I continue to feel that my options are limitless. I would feel very disheartened if I let myself slip into a deconditioned state because this would prevent me from connecting to a huge source of joy for me. You also must establish **why** you want to be fit. What is the feeling you'd like to have? What would being fit allow you to do more of? Whatever your answer is, keep that in the front of your mind. You'll need to connect with this feeling to keep you motivated. Establishing "The why" is where your journey starts and it's also what will keep you on track.

Align Your Habits After I have established "The Why", I begin to align my habits accordingly. This has been the key to my success over the years.



This means making small tweaks in my lifestyle. Simplifying my life allows me to focus. For example, if I am trying to reach a body fat goal, I make a schedule of training, plan meals, and focus on getting adequate sleep. I try to eliminate distractions. I am not perfect nor will I ever be. That's not the goal. I've learned to love the process.

I hope this information will allow you to train for life and achieve your goals. I'm rooting for you! Win The Day!

-Spencer

Spencer Tatum is the National Training Director for Advantage Training. He has worked with all levels of fitness and currently oversees all of the program writing at Poarch Recreation. You can connect directly to Spencer by clicking on My Message



www.mypciwellness.com
facebook.mypciwellness.com

RECREATION DEPARTMENT



SWIMMING LESSONS OPEN TO COMMUNITY

SPRING REGISTRATION

March 16, 2015 - April 24, 2015

Fee: \$20.00

Spring Lessons

May 5, 2015 - May 28, 2015

Tuesdays & Thursdays

SUMMER REGISTRATION

FEE: \$20.00

Session I April 20, 2015 - May 22, 2015

Session II April 27, 2015 - June 29, 2015

Summer Lessons

Session I June 2, 2015 - June 25, 2015

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Session II July 6, 2015 - July 30, 2015

Tuesdays & Thursdays

For more information, registration, or applications, contact the Recreation Department at 251-368-9136 ext. 2256 or on the Recreation page of the Tribe's web site www.pci-nsn.gov.

PCI SUMMER SWIM TEAM REGISTRATION

March 16, 2015 – May 8, 2015

No applications accepted after May 8th, no exceptions

Tribal Member or First Generation

Registration Fee: \$30.00

Early Bird practice

May 18th – May 29th

Poarch Recreation Department

Monday-Thursday

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Summer Season

June 1st – August 1st

Practice at Poarch Recreation Department

Monday - Thursday

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

BATTING CAGES OPEN

Weather permitting, the hours of operation for the batting cages are:

Monday - Friday 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Batting cages are closed if temperature drops below 60 degrees and/or for sleet, rain, or misting rain.

Please call the Recreation Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2256 to confirm the batting cages are open.

WEIGHT LIFTING CLASS

Ages 13-17

Recreation Department

Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Participant must be Tribal Member or 1st Generation Descendant.

Instructors: Coach Frankie Bell
Sean McClellan
Megan Flurnoy

For more information contact Tiffany Faircloth at 251-368-9136 ext. 2249 or tfaircloth@pci-nsn.gov.

SWIM TEAM EARNS AWARDS

PCI Warriors and B.L.A.S.T. Tigersharks Swim Teams earn awards in Gulf Shores and Pensacola!

It was another great weekend for the Poarch Creek Indians Swim Team who joined with the Brewton Local Area Swim Team for the 2014-2015 Winter League. They recently attended the PNY Polar Bear Swim Meet in Gulf Shores, AL on Feb 7-8 and SES South District Championships in Pensacola, FL on Feb 21-22.

The Tigersharks/PCI Warriors had a banner weekend winning high point awards in the girl's 8-and-under, girl's 9-10 and boy's 13-14 age groups, as well as swimmers who medaled in many other events.

Kamryn Langham, daughter of Gia and Cade Langham, was awarded high point champion in girl's 8-and-under age group and medaled in every event that she swam.

"Kamryn, a very new swimmer, and has achieved so much in just a short period of time," Coach Sarah Allen and Angel Boyd said. "She has the drive of a champion and I am very excited to see what she will do with her talent."

Kinsely Byrd, daughter of Dylan and Beverly Bryd of Brewton, was awarded high point champion in 9-10 girl's age group.

Colby Morris, son of Brandee Chase, was awarded high point champion in the 13-14 boy's age group.

Other standout Tigersharks/PCI Warrior swimmers include Mary-Ashlynn Williams, Abby Ross, Kylee Langham, Caleb Kent, Cash Griffey, Devin Murphy, Addison Albritton, Tiffany Gookin, Jacob Thelen, Hannah Johnson, and McKenna Pettis. These swimmers medaled or received ribbons in many of the events that they swam in.

"Each swimmer has improved tremendously in a very short period. They have excelled in each event and overcome every obstacle that they have been up against," Coach Sarah Allen said.

(Additional photos from this swim meet have been posted on Recreations page of the web site.)



Top row left to right are Kinsley Byrd, Kamryn Langham, McKenna Pettis, and Abby Ross. Bottom row left to right are Cash Griffey, Mary-Ashlynn Williams, and Kylee Langham.



Kamryn Langham

SENIOR SERVICES DEPARTMENT



*2015 Valentine King and Queen
Murphy McGhee and Rose McGhee*

The Senior Services Department (SAIL Center) hosted their annual Valentine Banquet on Friday, February 13, 2015. The highlight of the Banquet was the crowning of the Valentine King and Queen who will serve as ambassadors for the program through out the year until new royalty is crowned at the 2016 Valentine Banquet.

This year's Queen contestants were Rose McGhee, daughter of Clara Gray and the late Otis McGhee, and Joyce Rolin, the daughter of the late George and Lucille Capers.

The King contestants were Murphy McGhee, son of the late Lenard and Eula McGhee, and Harold Rolin, son of the late Frank and Ora Rolin.

Murphy McGhee and Rose McGhee were crowned the 2015 Valentine King and Queen and will serve as ambassadors for the program throughout the year. Harold and Joyce Rolin will serve as their court.

The fundraisers hosted by the contestants raised a total of \$1,165.96, which will be matched by PCI Gaming. These funds will go into the program to help with various events and activities. Thanks to all the contestants for their fundraising efforts and to those who participated in the fundraising events. Great job everybody!

Photos from the night's activities have been posted on the Community Life page of the Tribe's web site, www.pci-nsn.gov.



Easter In The Courtyard

Friday, April 10, 2015

New SAIL Center

11:00 a.m.

Door prizes, hamburgers, games, Easter Egg Hunt and so much fun!
Bring your lawn chair!

Please call Casey Walker at (251) 368-9136 x 2289 to RSVP or if you have any questions or need more information.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

OLD SAIL CENTER UNAVAILABLE FOR RENT

Until further notice, the Old SAIL Center located on Lynn McGhee Drive will no longer be available for rent by Tribal Members.

This facility is currently occupied by the Boys and Girls Club and is used for daily activities.

OFFICE CLOSURES

Please remember the following closure when planning your visits to the Pharmacy, Health Clinic, or other Tribal Administrative offices.

Friday, April 3, 2015

Tribal Offices and Boys & Girls Club will be closed in observance of Good Friday.

Monday, May 25, 2015

Tribal Offices and Boys & Girls Club will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Beware of little expenses. A small leak will sink a great ship.

Benjamin Franklin

I believe that through knowledge and discipline, financial peace is possible for all of us.

Dave Ramsey

TRIBAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT



Tribal Government Finance has established a Tribal Loan Portal accessible to Tribal Members Only through a link on the front page of the Tribe's web site at www.pci-nsn.gov.

The [Pay Tribal Bill Here](#) link is on the left sidebar of the homepage under the Tribal Member Portal heading. Tribal Finance will provide usernames and passwords

for the Tribal Loan Portal to all Tribal Members with a current loan as well as future Tribal loan program participants.

Tribal Government now accepts Tribal loan payments via VISA and Master Card through the Tribal Loan Portal or on-site payments at Tribal Government.

VISA and Master Card payments are not accepted for other programs at this time.

Please remember to keep your contact information up to date. Numerous loan statements and other correspondences from the Tribal Finance Department have been returned by the Post Office marked 'undeliverable as addressed', 'insufficient address', 'unable to forward', etc.

If you have any questions please call Deborah Hammons at 251-368-9136 ext. 2007.

TRIBAL MEMBER BENEFITS DEPARTMENT

In order for annual Tribal Member distributions to be processed accurately, Tribal Member Benefits must be informed of any changes you may have to your address, phone number, and/or other personal information. Numerous correspondences have been returned by the Post Office marked 'undeliverable as addressed', 'insufficient address', 'unable to forward', etc.

Please contact the Tribal Member Benefits Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 or 2207 to update your contact information or to have a new Direct Deposit Form mailed to you to be completed and returned for processing. The Direct Deposit Form may also be downloaded from the Tribal Member

Benefits page accessible through the Tribal Members Only Portal (TMOP). Banking information will not be taken over the phone.

Please contact TMB at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 for more information relating to Tribal Member benefits, services, ID requests, or resource development.

*Please note that the Health Insurance Marketplace offer for free or low-cost health insurance featured on page 19 is **not** affiliated with the Poarch Creek Indians. Please do not contact Tribal Member Benefits in reference to this program.*




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 I-65 @ Exit 69 Atmore 251-446-3423



Next to Wind Creek Casino

*Tobacco Sales Only

Try Our Drive-Thru Windows

TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

TRIBAL TIP LINE

Call (251) 446-ITIP (446-4847) to leave an anonymous tip about:

- Drug Activity
- Alcohol Activity
- Known Underage Drinking Parties
- Recent Crimes-Thefts, Vandalism, Drug Sales, etc.
- Bullying
- Concealed Weapons
- Other Safety or Community Concerns

As a partner with our Tribal Community, the Poarch Creek Tribal Police Department is pleased to provide this service. We hope this service will be a great benefit to you as a citizen. Together we can make our community safer.

The Tip Line is not monitored; your name or phone number will never be required.

All information provided via the Tip Line will be investigated.

THANK YOU TO OFFICER VALON MCGHEE

Our community is well aware of the outstanding performance of our Tribal Police Officers, in fact we may often take them for granted. Recent visitors to the Wind Creek Casino had the opportunity to experience first hand the genuine concern of our local officers. Their experience generated the following thank you letter:

On February 3, 2015, we were traveling to Gulf Shores for a few weeks and decided to stop at the casino in Atmore. Upon our return to our car, we found that the car would not start as if the battery were dead.

We summoned help from the casino to jump start the battery. Officer (Valon) McGhee arrived with a starting battery and cables. After confirming our identity and ownership of the vehicle, she tried to jump our battery.



Tribal Officer Valon McGhee

The jump starting was in vain, and after advice from two other men in the parking lot that did not work out, we began trying to make arrangements to have the car towed to a local Chevrolet dealer and to determine how we would arrange transportation to Gulf Shores.

At this time Office McGhee suggested she could call a friend for advice in clearing and resetting the car computer

so that the vehicle would be able to start. Officer McGhee made the call and through her, we followed her friend's directions and the car started immediately.

We are very grateful to Officer McGhee for her help and the extra effort she made. It saved us time, trouble and expense. We offered her a gratuity but she promptly and adamantly refused it.

Officer McGhee represented your police force in a very professional manner, but with the appropriate amount of friendly Alabama helpfulness. We can't express how much she was appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mike and Janet Brown

TRIBAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

PCI Utilities Authority has replaced all the residential water meters on the Escambia County Utilities (ECU) system. We are currently waiting on the 3 commercial meters and appropriate backflow prevention devices to arrive for installation on commercial sites. With these innovative meters, the water loss on the ECU system has decreased tremendously.

Our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, which was issued when the Waste Water Treatment Plant was first built, was recently renewed. We have received the new permit and it will be effective until the year 2020.

The Utilities Authority is currently assessing garbage needs of other Tribally owned properties and entities in an effort to determine if PCI Utilities can meet the demands of those facilities in an effort to offer and provide collection services internally.

The Tribal Council recently amended Titles 30, 42 and 45 of the Tribal Code that governs or affects the PCI Utilities Authority. These changes will not affect the services or quality of water, sewer, and garbage benefits that we strive to provide.

We have also added a new face to our team; Larry Bailey Jr., Operations Technician. Larry is already making a tremendous contribution to our department and is an asset to the organization.

The PCI Utilities Authority continues making improvements to the system for augmenting our proficiency.

As always, PCI Utilities strives at providing the most efficient service to our valuable customers and community.

Applications for Service with the Utilities Authority are available at the Utilities Department and have been posted on the Utilities Authority page of the Tribal web site, www.pci-nsn.gov. Application must be downloaded, completed, signed, and returned to the Utilities Authority. Signed applications may be emailed to alowe@pci-nsn.gov, faxed to (251) 446-1624 or hand delivered or mailed to Poarch Creek Indians Utilities Authority at 263 Aplin Road, Atmore, AL 36502.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Saturday, April 25, 2015 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

PCI Fire Station #1/Jack Springs Road

Open to all residents of the surrounding area.

This collection is for households only. Large quantities from businesses, farms, or commercial operations will not be accepted.

This is a free service, please utilize this opportunity to keep these hazards out of our waterways and natural environment.

For more information contact the PCI Environmental Department at (251) 368-9136.





Working as the economic development arm of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) oversees the non-gaming enterprises owned by the Tribe. CIEDA actively supports each business achieving their specific business goals and to grow and maintain economic sustainability as put forth by the CIEDA Board of Directors and Tribal Council. Additionally, CIEDA executes and oversees building, construction and development projects commissioned by the Tribe.

CIEDA SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM

Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority offers valuable business assistance to Tribal Members seeking small business loans. Getting your loan request approved depends on how well you represent yourself, your business, and your financial needs.

The lending limit may extend up to \$100,000.00 in aggregate to any Tribal Member. All loans exceeding \$50,000.00 must be approved by the CIEDA Board of Directors.

Additional credit criteria as well as loan collateralization requirements apply.

If you are a Tribal Member who owns a business or is thinking about starting a business and are interested in obtaining a small business loan, please contact Donna Henry, Economic Development Coordinator, at 251-368-0819, or by e-mail at dhenry@pcicie.com for additional information or to schedule an appointment.

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Stop by for good eats, today!



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 i65exit54.com To Go Orders **368-0085**

Try Our Drive-Thru Windows
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CCS WETUMPKA  Next to Wind Creek Wetumpka
334-514-2700

CIEDA SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM HELPS TRIBAL MEMBERS PROSPER

Every child dreams of what they want to be when they grow up, but the world can be a daunting place when you become an adult and set off on your own path.

Success is measured differently for everyone. For some, that inspiration might come from the business world, or any job that fulfills a personal interest. For others, higher education and knowledge is what drives them. And some dream of one day owning their own business.

However, the road to entrepreneurship isn't always easy. But by utilizing the CIEDA Small Business Loan Program, all Poarch Creek Tribal Members have the opportunity to fulfill their passions.

The loan program was launched in April 2007 and has experienced a 95 percent success rate in its applicants. The CIEDA Board and Tribal Council aspires to see participants prosper and created the program so Tribal Members have a chance to pursue what they love.

"We believe this to be one the most successful programs we have helping our Tribal entrepreneurs," said Tim Martin, CEO of CIEDA.



Donna Henry, Economic Development Coordinator for CIEDA, oversees the CIEDA Small Business Loan Program.

The program is open to Tribal Members only and all applicants must have a credit score of at least 650 to qualify. According to Donna Henry, Economic Development Coordinator for CIEDA, there are 18 existing loans that are paid in full and about 23 active businesses operating with current loans.

"We have a little over \$1.4 million that we have loaned out to date," Henry said. "The average loan is about \$41,000, and the max we allow is \$100,000."

Loan types vary and could be given for such things as construction, refinancing, start-up business costs, or to expand an existing business.

There are three loan tiers for participants. For a loan of \$50,000 or less, the terms are a 2 percent interest rate with amortization (distribution of payment) up to five years. For \$50,000 to \$75,000, there is a 2.5 percent interest with amortization up to seven years. For \$75,000 to \$100,000, it's at 3 percent interest with amortization up to 10 years.

Loans are secured in two ways: by per capita payments or by collateral. Loans secured only by per capita payments are riskier because CIEDA only has the Member's payment to fall back on for repayment in the event of a loan default. However, collateral-secured loans are those in which assets are held as repayment if default occurs.

If you are a loan recipient and would like your business featured in upcoming articles, call Jen Peake, Marketing Content Specialist for CIEDA, at 251-446-4509.

*Submitted by Jen Peake,
CIEDA Marketing Content Specialist*

CTP ORGANIZES BEAR HUGS 4 KIDS

Creek Travel Plaza organized the Bear Hugs 4 Kids program to help alleviate fear and anxiety in children during such events as car accidents, domestic violence, house fires, etc. Local law enforcement officers were presented with the bears on Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

On hand to receive the bears were Officer Freddie Wells, Investigator Dale Lisenby, Lt. Jeffrey Weaver, Dispatcher Susan Rolin, Chief Larry Hammonds, Travel Plaza Employee Tammy Smith, Officer Steve Griffis, Investigator Chris Rutherford, Officer Alan Ward and Cpl. Roger Peebles.

Poarch Creek Tribal Police Chief Larry Hammonds said, "As police officers, we respond to many different situations. Domestic violence is among the most dangerous of all for police officers. I often remember responding to car wrecks and having to tell family members that a love one has passed away. These are a daily occurrence for public safety officials."

"We often forget about how traumatic this can be for children," he said. "Many times, kids witness the outcome of



From left to right standing are Officer Freddie Wells, Investigator Dale Lisenby, Lt. Jeffrey Weaver, Dispatcher Susan Rolin, Chief Larry Hammonds, Travel Plaza Employee Tammy Smith, Officer Steve Griffis and Investigator Chris Rutherford. From left to right kneeling are Officer Alan Ward and Cpl. Roger Peebles.

domestic violence in their homes. They are emotionally changed because of the event. As a police officer for many years, I see this as an opportunity for our public safety officials to connect with kids who are victims of these type situations, and just knowing someone cares may have a positive impact on their lives."

For \$25, you can purchase two Teddy bears — one will go home with you to keep or give to a family member or friend, and the other bear will be donated to local first responders and law enforcement officers.

The Tribal Police Department operates under the Special Law

Enforcement Commission of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Call 251-368-0088 for more information or to purchase the bears and help a great cause.

*Submitted by Jen Peake,
CIEDA Marketing Content Specialist*



TRIBAL MEMBER FAMILY PASS AVAILABLE FOR MBWR

Tribal Members are admitted free to Magnolia Branch Wildlife Reserve (MBWR) with proper identification, i.e. Tribal Member ID Card, Tribal Member Youth ID Card, or Tribal Member Family Pass.

A Family Pass allows a Tribal Member, a Tribal Member's spouse, and all children under the age of 18 who are living in the household, to enter the park free of charge when presented at the front gate entrance; if you do not have proper identification or a Family Pass, you will be expected to pay regular admission charges. All applicable fees apply for all additional park amenities.

Tribal Member families that had a Family Pass made last year will not be required to get a new pass this year unless there has been a change to the family makeup, i.e. divorce,

marriage, birth of a child, a child reaching age 18, etc. or if they have lost their Pass. A maximum of two (2) Family Member passes will be issued per household per year.

If you need a Tribal Member Family Pass to MBWR, please contact the Tribal Member Benefits Department at (251) 368-9136 x 2209 to schedule an appointment. Be sure to bring all required documentation to your appointment. Passes will not be issued without proper documentation.

Please contact Tracy Sells, MBWR Park Coordinator, at (251) 446-3423 or (251) 253-3153 if you have any questions about MBWR, park services, and/or amenities. Tracy can also be contacted via email at tracy@pcimbwr.



Massive freezer creates big opportunities for Muskogee Technology

Business is booming at Muskogee Technology, and the reasons behind it are recent additions to the facilities in Atmore. Partnering with GKN Aerospace gave Muskogee Technology opportunities to work with quality customers and produce quality parts. The company utilized the space it has by expanding its abilities to manufacture at a higher level, building an industrial freezer and adding a cleanroom to produce parts.

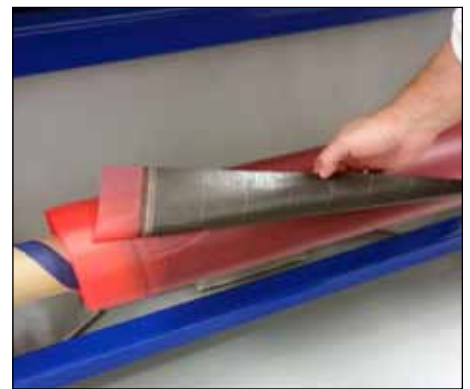
Muskogee Technology began building the freezer in 2013 and started housing composite materials it purchased from GKN in May 2014. Since then, a cleanroom has been installed and four cutting machines were brought in to cut the material for GKN and its customers.

Those parts are made out of what is called prepreg composites, which made

the freezer at Muskogee Technology necessary for complete operation. Prepreg is a temperature-sensitive material and must be stored at 0 degrees Celsius (32 degrees Fahrenheit) or colder to prolong its shelf life. At Muskogee Technology, the freezer is kept between 0 and -5 degrees Fahrenheit, said Mal McGhee, director of marketing for Muskogee Tech. The shelf life of inventory kept in the freezer is about two years.

MT makes parts for various aircraft, engine inlets and other commercial components, such as rotor blades and assembly structures. Having a freezer in-house allows the company to work more efficiently and have better access to the material.

"When it's thawed out, the material is in a roll of fabric, kind of like vinyl,"



Carbon fiber is used in the production of aerospace parts. It is one of the prepreg materials housed in Muskogee Technology's industrial freezer.

McGhee said. "It is then laid down on cutting machines and they cut the material using computerized knife cutting software."

Muskogee Technology has been working with GKN for a couple of years, McGhee said. With the addition of the freezer and cleanroom cutting machines, the company now has the ability to mass produce products for its customers.

Submitted by Jen Peake

New cleanroom expands Muskogee Tech's composite capabilities

Muskogee Technology has received the next certification in its steps to become a leading company in the aerospace industry. The company previously was certified on the industrial freezers it constructed to house composite fibers.

On Feb. 11, Muskogee Tech achieved its quality certification from GKN Aerospace on the new cleanroom MT has installed to produce parts for its GKN contract, including making parts for its customers. This certification allows Muskogee Tech to go into full production cutting composite material for GKN, a global engineering group.

Four new Eastman cutter machines have been installed in the cleanroom, which is

an almost perfect environmental room consisting of the lowest levels of pollutants possible. By controlling the level of contamination, the cleanroom provides the most sterile of conditions for manufacturing excellence.

Muskogee Tech now will be able to perform at its highest level, making this certification a milestone for the company.

"This is the next step in our partnership agreement with GKN," said Lou Roberts, accounting manager at Muskogee Technology. Roberts said the company first purchased inventory in a consignment agreement for production, then completed the industrial freezers to house the inven-

tory internally. Now, with this certification in place, Muskogee Technology becomes a qualified vendor to perform the necessary tasks for even larger manufacturing work in the aerospace industry.

What that means for the GKN contract, Roberts said, is "to take a portion of that inventory, take it out for (GKN's) customer, and cut it into kits to send back to GKN in Tallahassee (Ala.), who will take those kits and put them into the form of a fuselage (the main body of an aircraft)."

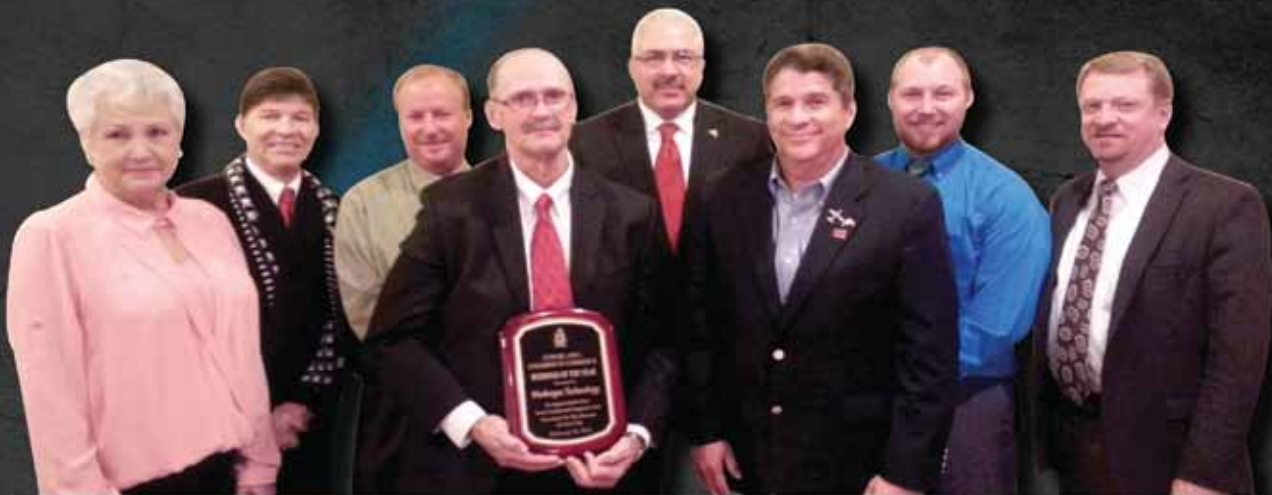
The kits are designed in halves, the right side and the left side, and will be fitted into molds to make a complete fuselage, which will be baked in an autoclave oven,

using the pre-fabricated materials from the freezer, until it becomes hard.

With this new endeavor comes the opportunity for more jobs. Roberts said about 10 new people will be employed to run the machines and about three or four others will further increase their responsibilities at Muskogee Tech.

"It's a whole new operation we've never done (before) ... it's a whole new kind of quality function our quality team has not been exposed to," Roberts said. "Although we are in the aerospace industry, we haven't been into full-blown airplane construction" until now.

Submitted by Jen Peake



From left, Linda Brooks, CIEDA board of directors; James Peters, quality manager Muskogee Technology; John Schierer, sales manager Muskogee Technology; Jeff Nelson, production/plant manager Muskogee Technology; Mal McGhee, director of marketing Muskogee Technology; Tim Martin, CEO of CIEDA; Brad Courdt, consultant Muskogee Technology production quality; and Lou Roberts, accounting manager Muskogee Technology.

MUSKOGEE TECH AWARDED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Muskogee Technology was awarded the Business of the Year award Thursday, Feb. 26, by the Atmore Chamber of Commerce.

"We are proud of Muskogee Technology, and we appreciate the Chamber for recognizing their accomplishments," said Tim Martin, CEO of Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority. "It is through the foresight of our Tribal Council and their investment in Muskogee Technology and the city of Atmore that we are able to continue to grow and be good neighbors."

An aerospace manufacturing

company, Muskogee Technology has been a fixture in the Atmore community for more than 20 years. The company specializes in fabricating and machining services for a variety of government and commercial

clients and is owned and operated by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

"We are extremely proud that Muskogee Technology has

been recognized as the Business of the Year by the Atmore Chamber of Commerce," Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan said. "As a thriving Tribal enterprise, Muskogee Technology strives



for expertise in many specialized areas, and to be recognized by the local community is very significant to us."

— Submitted by Jen Peake



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICES



Mission: Helping people help the land

Vision: Productive soil, healthy land

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the USDA agency which works at the local level to help people conserve all natural resources on private lands.

Visit the NRCS web site www.al.nrcs.usda.gov to see updated news and information about services that may be helpful to you and your family.

Other sites that may be of interest to Tribal Members include:

Farm Service Agencies

www.fsa.usda.gov

www.fsa.usda.gov/al

www.nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill

USDA Rural Development

www.rurdev.usda.gov

www.rurdev.usa.gov/al

Alabama Forestry Commission

www.forestry.state.al.us

For more information contact:

David Elliott, NRCS Tribal Liaison

5535 Poarch Road, Atmore, AL 36502

(251) 368-0826

STUDY SAYS USDA EFFORT BENEFITS BIRDS AFTER 2010 GULF OIL SPILL

A newly released study says the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) effort to create habitat on private lands for migratory birds following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill has provided significant benefits to ducks, geese and other birds. The independent study conducted by Mississippi State University (MSU) on USDA's Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative (MBHI), a Farm Bill conservation effort, shows that wetlands created and enhanced by farmers provided migration and winter habitat for many more birds than unmanaged sites.

"Catastrophes like the Deepwater Horizon oil spill can have lasting impacts on waterfowl and water birds," said Dr. William E. Puckett, state conservationist for USDA's

Natural Resources Conservation Service in Alabama. "NRCS worked with farmers to create alternative habitat for waterfowl and other birds through Farm Bill conservation programs. The ecosystems that NRCS helped create through this initiative are thriving."

While the university is still collecting data, findings show the initiative generated substantial ecological, environmental and economic benefits in the Gulf of Mexico region. NRCS launched MBHI in 2010, investing nearly \$40 million to work in partnership with private landowners to create migratory bird habitat on more than 470,000 acres in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri

and Texas.

"It's important we recognize how important this legislation is to our state and nation," Puckett said. "The Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative is one example of how farmers and ranchers are voluntarily stepping up to improve the environment."

Millions of migratory birds, including ducks, geese, and shorebirds travel the Mississippi Flyway each year to winter in Gulf of Mexico-area ecosystems, or in the case of many shorebirds, Central and South America. The study shows many of these birds benefitted from lands managed through MBHI.

Submitted by David Elliott, NRCS Tribal Liaison

APRIL (Tasahce-Rakko) 2015

Tribal Utilities Assistance Program (TUAP)

Applications for 2015 accepted through June 1, 2015.

March 2, 2015 - May 29, 2015

Swimming Lesson Registration
Open to Community

April 1, 2015

First day for TUAP fund disbursement

April 1-2, 2015

Museum gift shop closed for monthly inventory.

Friday, April 3, 2015

Tribal Offices Closed
In observance of Good Friday

Monday, April 6, 2015

5:00 pm (CST)

Deadline to submit information for publication in May 2015 issue of Poarch Creek News

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

- ***Deadline for candidates to submit Letter of Candidacy for name to be printed on official ballot.***

- ***Deadline for candidates to submit photo and bio to be published in the May 2015 newsletter.***

April 13-17, 2015

Pre-K Registration
Fred L. McGhee Learning Center
Applications available April 1, 2015

Friday, April 17, 2015

Names of candidates and any proposed Constitutional Amendment will be posted.

Saturday, April 18, 2015

B&G Club Barn Dance
Cook's Barn
6:30 - 10:30
B&G Club Members & families only

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Cancer Support Group Meeting
Wind Creek Casino Ballroom
6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Minor's Trust Financial Education Workshop
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Building 400 Conference Room

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Free Retinal Screening
Premiere Family Eyecare
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday, April 24, 2015

Family Services *Prevent Abuse Campaign*
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Tribal sub-divisions

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Day
PBCI Fire Station #1 8:00 am - 12:00 noon
Open to Tribal community and surrounding communities - see website for more info

Tribal Council Meetings

Thursday, April 2nd & 16th 4:00 pm
Tribal Council Chambers

Tribal Court Sessions

Monday, April 6th & 27th 9:00 am
Tribal Courtroom

CIEDA Meetings

Friday, April 3rd & 17th 7:30 am
CIEDA Offices

Cultural Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, April 6th & 20th 4:00 pm
Building 500 Auditorium

Housing Advisory Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 9th & 23rd 4:00 pm
Building 400 Conference Room

Recreation Advisory Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 9th & 23rd 11:00 am
Recreation Department (Gym)

TERO Commission Meetings

Tuesday, April 14th & 28th 8:00 am
Building 600 Training Room

4-H Club

Monday, April 13th & 27th 6:00 pm
Education Department

Story Time

Wednesdays 12:15 pm
PCI Library

GED Classes

Day Classes
Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Evening Classes
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

After School Tutoring and Homework Club

For Tribal Members & 1st Generation
Descendant students in grades 1-12
Education Department

Gym & Weight Room Hours

Monday - Friday
6:00 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Weight Lifting Class Age 13-17

Tuesdays & Thursdays
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Gym/Weight Room

Batting Cages Open

Monday - Friday 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Pool & Splash Pad Open

April 1, 2015 - November 1, 2015

Playground Pavilion/No reservations needed

No set time for usage/First come first serve

Answer to last month's puzzle: Handicap/Approval Halftime/Memorial

Newsletter Contact Information

Poarch Creek News

The Poarch Creek News is the official newsletter of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Government Relations Department

Gayle Johnson, Media Specialist

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