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Gaduwa Cherokee News

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UKB Swear In Newly Elected Tribal Representatives

United Keetoowah Band Tribal Representatives were sworn in during the Inauguration ceremony held Saturday, January 8, 2011 in the Jim Proctor Elder Community Center.

Master of Ceremonies was a former chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, Jim Henson. "I express my appreciation for Chief Wickliffe who has given us leadership, providing us with a vision for our future. Also Assistant Chief Charles Locust, who is always ready to do what is necessary to make sure he gives his support to the Chief," stated Henson as he welcomed everyone to the Inauguration event.

"I'm honored to be here with you today to honor these council members that are elected to represent your district and each of the administrators, its so wonderful to see everyone working together for a brighter future," added Henson.

Rosie Ross, Irene Fixin, and Angela Young provided entertainment for the ceremony, singing in their Cherokee language two songs, "Guide Me Jehovah" and "I'm Building a Bridge".

Oath of Office was administered to the elected District Representatives by the Honorable Judge Lynn Burris, Appellate Court Judge of the Keetoowah Cherokee Su-



The 2011-2012 United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma Tribal Representatives, seated left to right, Cliff Wofford, Cooweescoowee District; Eddie Sacks, Canadian District; Tom Duncan, Flint District; William Christie, Goingsnake District; Peggy Girty, Illinois District; Charles Smoke, Saline District; Barry Dotson, Sequoyah District; and Betty Holcomb, Tahlequah District. Standing, back row, left to right, Charles Locust, UKB Assistant Chief; Joyce Hawk, Tribal Secretary; Ella Mae Worley, Tribal Treasurer; and UKB Chief George Wickliffe.

preme Court. Each District Representative was introduced individually and presented with a gift from the Administration.

The Inaugural Address was given by Chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, George Wickliffe. "We have been on the road for two hundred and eight years. Our elders have always said, 'One of these days, this

Government that was taken away from us under the Treaty of New Echota, will be returned to us,' and they will realize that the Anigaduwas are the original Cherokee people," stated Chief Wickliffe. He told the audience that the United Keetoowah Band has always been guided by our Creator. Chief Wickliffe asked the council to work together and when they vote to vote for the entire mem-

bership of the Keetoowah people. If they all work together they will be a stronger entity. "Lets work together and never forget our God," added Wickliffe.

The ceremony ended with a Benediction from Delaware District Representative Jerry Hansen and a reception that followed.

Membership Exclusivity

A rumor has been circulating regarding United Keetoowah Band (UKB) tribal members being able to vote in the 2011 Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma (CNO) upcoming election. It is the mindset that misinformation about UKB member exclusivity has come into play.

If exclusive UKB members vote in CNO's 2011 election there is the possibility of the member losing their exclusive membership.

According to UKB policies, effective September 16, 1990, UKB members cannot be dual members, they must be exclusive members of the UKB to receive services as well as to run for office or council. UKB members who are enrolled, receive services, those who vote in other tribes', bands' or nations' elections are considered to no longer be exclusive members of the UKB.

In the United Keetoowah Band's Membership Ordinance of 1990, approved by the council, September 16, 1990, it states: Section 16, Dual Enrollment No enrolled member of the UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND OF CHEROKEE INDI-

ANS IN OKLAHOMA from and after September 15, 1990 shall be allowed to be a member of any Tribe, Band or Nation. Any person enrolling in any other Indian Tribe, Band or Nation shall forfeit all rights as an Enrolled Member of the Band, and their name shall be stricken from the rolls of the Band. [History: Enacted September 16, 1990, Resolution 90-UKB-9-4, Effective September 16, 1990]

"If you are considered an exclusive member and are receiving services from another tribe, the burden of proof will fall on you to let the UKB know that you are not a member of another tribe," stated Chief George Wickliffe.

United Keetoowah Band's Membership Ordinance of 1990, Section 8, Burden of Proof It is the responsibility of the applicant or his representative to prove his eligibility for enrollment. [History: Enacted September 16, 1990, Resolution 90 UKB 9-4, Effective September 16, 1990]

Bryan Shade, Executive Director of Tribal Operations, said the UKB policies are based on the federal guidelines put in place to regulate how

federal monies are spent. Both UKB and federal policies make sure individuals do not "double dip" into federal funds by allowing individuals to receive duplicate services from different tribes, bands or nations.

Despite the assurances by outside entities that UKB members can vote in other tribe's elections, those who wish to remain exclusive members cannot do so and remain an exclusive UKB member.

So, please take into consideration when deciding to vote in other tribe's elections, you can continue citizenship within other tribes, but there is the possibility of losing your exclusivity with the UKB if you are dual enrolled with another tribe.

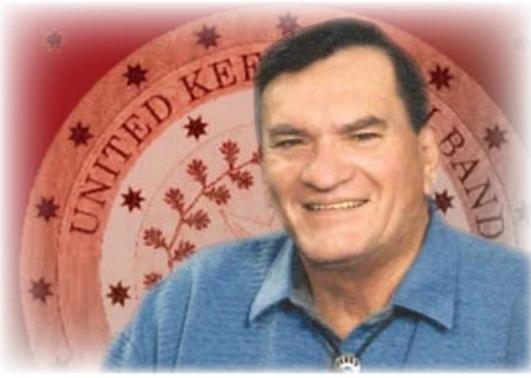
In This Issue . . .

Recent UKB Grads pg 5

Title VI February Menu pg 6

Check out our website at:
www.ukb-nsn.gov or
www.unitedkeetoowahband.org

A Letter to the UKB People From Chief George Wickliffe



Dear Tribal Members,

History being a vital part of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, it is best to review the past. There have been many important issues on the table for many tribes including the UKB, none more than the Cobell vs Salazar suit which has a nationwide affect on many tribes. As stated in the article, "The suit involves rich grazing lands, timber, and oil properties placed in trust for various tribes and individual Indians by the federal government."

In April 2010 at the 38th Annual Symposium of the American Indian hosted by Northeastern State University, A. J. Garcia, UKB tribal attorney and I spoke in regards to the Cobell vs Salazar and what effect it had with UKB. With permission from Betty Ridge, Press Special Writer, I would like to share this article and refresh the history for our Gaduwa Cherokee News readers and tribal members.

Wado,

April 15, 2010

Trust suit settlement proceeding — slowly

By BETTY RIDGE Press Special Writer

TAHLEQUAH — A federal class action lawsuit regarding administration of Indian trusts has been decided, but it may take some time before individual tribal members see the results.

That was the message Chief George Wickliffe of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians

and A.J. Garcia brought to their audience at the 38th Annual Symposium on the American Indian Wednesday at Northeastern State University.

The lawsuit, Cobell vs. Salazar, was originally brought by Elouise Cobell of Montana and others in 1996. It has proceeded through federal court until a settlement last December. Garcia, representing the UKB, attended a conference in February to discuss provisions of the settlement.

The suit involves rich grazing lands, timber, and oil properties placed in trust for various tribes and individual Indians by the federal government. It alleges these properties have been mismanaged or not used to their full benefits for the property owners.

"Legally, what you end up with is a responsibility to people you are holding land in trust for," Garcia said, adding that bad fiduciary duty had resulted from the trusts.

Two things need to happen before the settlement can be completed, he said. The first is for Congress to initiate legislation to settle the action; the second is for the government to follow through with funding.

"A new cause of action will allow mismanagement claims to be settled," Garcia said.

The proposal is for Congress to appropriate \$3.142 billion for the lawsuit, with \$1.412 billion to be allocated to individuals. It is impossible to determine how much money was misappropriated or lost over the years, Garcia said.

"They believe they will never, ever find out how much money should go to tribal members across the country, that is not there and has been lost," he said.

Everyone with an account between the time the case was filed in 1994 and Sept. 30, 2009, is to receive \$1,000, he said. Additional funds will be available in individual cases.

"We have a lot of potential claimants out there," he said.

The second part of the settlement will involve Congress' appropriating \$2 billion to purchase fractional interests in land which has been in trust and has been fractionalized.

Over the years, as people have died, some descendants could not be located, or land has dozens — even hundreds — of descendants with a claim. This money will allow tribes to purchase these fractional interests at market value.

Also, up to \$60 million will be set aside for Indian education scholarships.

Garcia said much of the amount also will go to attorney fees. Class action lawsuits are expensive, with attorneys typically getting a large cut of the proceeds, he said, adding that a small law firm such as his does not initiate such lawsuits.

"This is American law. This is not Indian law.

So the cultural issues are not necessarily being addressed here," he said.

Wickliffe noted that while the settlement was announced last year, an extension was granted recently. But he hopes the end of the litigation is in sight.

"The federal judge that granted it said this would be the final extension. The agreement has been reached, it's just that Congress has to appropriate the money," he said.

He added the lawsuit resulted from many years of mismanagement, and many of the people who should have benefited from it are now deceased.

Before turning over the floor to Garcia, Wickliffe presented a history of the Keetoowah people and the allotment process, beginning with the creation.

He said the Keetoowahs received fire atop a mountain in North Carolina about the same time as Moses saw the burning bush, and believed in the same creator.

Wickliffe, a former educator who taught history among other subjects, said he has 45 years of tribal experience.

"I have not yet found a treaty that states 'a treaty between the United States and the Cherokee Nation.' All the treaties say, 'A treaty between the United States and Cherokee Indians,'" he said. "There is no original Cherokee Nation. There has not been since 1906. There are two successors."

He said the federal government recognized the UKB in 1950, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma in 1976. (The Eastern Band of Cherokees also is federally recognized, but many other groups claiming to be Cherokee have no federal recognition.)

Wickliffe learned history at his grandmother's side, and her parents came over on the Trail of Tears. But other Cherokees already went west — first to Arkansas, then Indian Territory.

"We volunteered to come," he said, adding that the ancestors knew there was no way to prevail against the power of the European immigrants in their southeastern homeland.

"These are the things the fullbloods told me, because their ancestors told them," he said. "There is no one who can tell me, when it comes to looking at the Cherokee people, that the fullbloods are not the wisest. They have a design for life, and that is to keep our traditions, keep our culture."

The Old Settlers moved to Arkansas in 1817, later to Indian Territory, where they agreed with the Creeks on a mutual boundary. Members of the treaty party emigrated after the Treaty of New Echota was signed in 1836.

"We were here 10 years by the time John Ross was force-removed. We can say it. We were here," Wickliffe said.

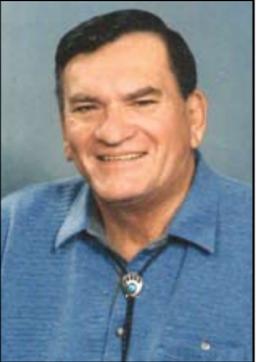
For many years, the tribe held land in common, its members using property as needed.

The Curtis Act resulted in allotment. Wickliffe said if the Cherokees had been allowed to handle allotment, rather than the Dawes Commission, they would have ensured that land remained in Indian hands and not sold piecemeal, as so often resulted.

"We owned land in common. They called it communal ownership and it worked well," he said.

But of those who were involved in administering the trusts, he said, "Those people had all kinds of experience in invasion, in occupying land."

UKB Council



Chief
George G. Wickliffe
Office: 918-431-1818
Cell: 918-207-2991



Tribal Treasurer
Ella Mae Cooksey Worley
Office: 918-453-9162
Cell: 918-822-3814



Delaware Dist. Rep.
Jerry Hansen
Cell: 918-822-3804



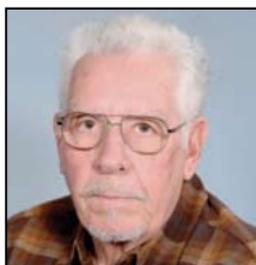
Saline Dist. Rep.
Charles Smoke
Cell: 918-457-7071



DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:



Flint Dist. Rep.
Tom Duncan
Cell: 918-507-1314



Sequoyah Dist. Rep.
Barry Dotson
Home: 918-775-2746
Cell: 918-207-2990



Assistant Chief
Charles Locust
Office: 918-431-1818
Cell: 918-207-9798



Canadian Dist. Rep.
Eddie Sacks
Cell: 918-822-1957



Goingsnake Dist. Rep.
William Christie
Cell: 918-822-3803



Tahlequah Dist. Rep.
Betty Holcomb
Cell: 918-822-3805



Tribal Secretary
Joyce Hawk
Cell: 918-822-3809



Cooweescoowee Dist. Rep.
Cliff Wofford
Cell: 918-822-1953



Illinois Dist. Rep.
Peggy Girty
Cell: 918-457-7067



UKB Tribal Offices Closed for President's Day

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal offices will be closed Monday, February 21 in observance of President's Day. Offices will re-open on Tuesday, February 22 at 8:30 a.m.

George G. Wickliffe Chief
Charles D. Locust Assistant Chief

Joyce Hawk Secretary
Ella Mae Cooksey Worley Treasurer

District Representatives

Barbara Girty Jerry Hansen Betty Holcomb
Barry Dotson Woodrow Proctor Charles Smoke
Eddie Sacks Cliff Wofford

Keetoowah News

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or www.ukb-nsn.gov
Sam L. Still, Editor

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the Keetoowah News. Editorials must be signed and include address and telephone number. send all inquires to: Keetoowah News, P.O. Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

January Council Meeting

In the first United Keetoowah Band (UKB) council meeting of 2011, UKB Chief George Wickliffe welcomed the newly elected and incumbent District Representatives that were sworn in during their morning inauguration ceremony. Chief Wickliffe addressed the council announcing the renewal of a tobacco compact with the State of Oklahoma. The tribe has been in negotiations with Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry and Oklahoma State Treasurer Scott Meacham for over a year. "We achieved new border rates with the state," said Chief Wickliffe. The UKB jurisdiction borders Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri. "This is going to be very beneficial to our tribal members. I think if you use the profits raised from this and you actually use it for your people, you can provide better programs and educations so they can obtain good jobs," added Wickliffe.

In a reports to the council, Leroy Adair, Election Board Chairman, gave a brief report on the 2010 UKB election. "The election concluded without any filing of protests from the candidates. Overall the election was well conducted with only a few problems, nothing major. The election has been certified and we have faxed election documents to the BIA in Muskogee," stated Adair. He encouraged all district representatives to get their constituents to vote in state, local and tribal elections. "We need help get the word out to our tribal members in your district meetings to register to vote, change their addresses if they are incorrect and to remove names of voters who are deceased," said Adair. The UKB Election office will remain open for the next two months; the election committee is in the process of changing two or three words in the Election Ordinance, which they will bring to the council for approval.

Flint District Representative Tom Duncan reported to the council that he had been in contact with Muskogee Marble and Granite, LLC, working on an arrangement with the company regarding purchases of headstones for UKB members. Duncan told the council that Muskogee Marble and Granite, LLC would be willing to work with UKB by providing them with a standard size headstone, 24x12, for \$159 dollars, discounted from the original price of \$300. It would be a five year contract with the tribe with no set quantity of purchase.

Chief Wickliffe stated that it seemed like



In the January 1, 2011 United Keetoowah Band tribal council meeting, former UKB Chief John Hair addressed the council. "I want the council to know how good I feel, my body and soul are in sync. You are responsible for my feelings because you work so well. You have brought us to this point, it's a beautiful point. We've had some hard times in the past, but thanks to your leadership Chief, Assistant Chief and the whole council, I want to say thank you..." stated Hair.

a good agreement, but that it would have to go through the Budget and Finance committee for their approval. He warned the council that they would have to be prepared for high demand for headstones from families of previously deceased members.

Illinois District Representative Peggy Girty questioned the availability of the headstone, "Are you saying that if a person is already deceased and a UKB member and they don't have a headstone, if the family wants to go ahead and purchase one on their own they can get it at this price or does it have to be negotiated with UKB?" Duncan responded by stating that the company would contract with UKB on this price quote, purchases would have to be done through the tribe.

A motion was made for approval to have the Tribe's Budget and Finance committee discuss contract negotiations with Muskogee Marble and Granite, LLC, contingent to availability of funds, motion passed.

In New Business, the council discussed to

vote or approve to rescind resolution #10-UKB-63 and to re-word a new resolution to approve UKB Tribal Secretary Joyce Hawk, as the primary signature for Indian Preference Letters with UKB Treasurer, Ella Mae Worley, as alternate signature. The motion was made and seconded and approved by a unanimous vote by the council.

In the December 4, 2010 council meeting, Assistant Chief Charles Locust requested an Ad Hoc committee be formed, giving an opportunity for relinquished members to be considered for re-instatement into the UKB. Assistant Chief Locust made a motion to approve Leroy Adair and Ella Mae Worley to be placed on the Ad Hoc committee giving Tribal Secretary Joyce Hawk two new members to complete a quorum, allowing the committee to seat two additional committee members. The motion was seconded and was approved by the vote of the council.

The next UKB tribal council will be February 5, at 10 a.m. in the conference room of the UKB Community Services Building.

Have a Question about Health Services?

UKB Tribal Members who have been denied services or feel they have been discriminated against at IHS Clinics are encouraged to report the incident to the Keetoowah Cherokees. All tribal members with health issues or concerns should contact UKB Health Director Don Ade at (918) 457-7264.

Hot Line Numbers

Child or Adult Abuse

1-888-522-3511

Poison Control

1-800-522-4611

Runaway Hot Line

1-800-522-7233

NOTICE

UKB Tribal members should make it a point to change registration for tribal membership at all Indian hospitals and clinics to the full title of United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma.

If you have questions, please call 918-457-7264.



United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma Directory

Accounting	918-453-9162
Administration	918-431-1818
Keetoowah Cherokee Casino	918-456-6131
Economic Development Authority	918-453-9162
Education	918-456-8698
Election Board	918-458-8421
Enrollment	918-453-9375
Family Services	918-456-9200
Federal Programs/Grants	918-456-8698
Indian Child Welfare	918-456-9200
Gaming Commission	918-458-4714
Health Services	918-457-7264
Human Services	918-456-8698
Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center	918-431-9998
Housing	918-431-1808
Human Resources	918-456-8698
Information Technology	918-456-8698
UKB Gaming Administration	918-456-9350
Gaduwa Cherokee News	918-456-6533
Language, History and Culture	918-772-4389
Law & Justice	918-458-4714
Lighthouse Security	918-453-9961
Media/Public Relations	918-456-6533
Natural Resources	918-453-2823
Roads and Construction	918-456-8698
Tag Office	918-456-3235
Title VI Nutrition Program	918-772-4380
Tribal Community Coordinators	918-431-1818
Tribal Victim's Assistance	918-456-9200

Satellite Offices

Kansas Office	918-868-2656
Sallisaw Office	918-775-0920
Stilwell Office	918-696-7672

Dianne Barker Harrold honored at National Indian Nations Conference

There are people who go through life thinking only of themselves and have little regard for others, but there are others who work tirelessly to help those who cannot help themselves. It is people from the second group who are noticed and in rare instances acknowledged for their efforts.

Dianne Barker Harrold, special advisor to the chief for the United Keetoowah Band (UKB), was so acknowledged for her work with victims of crime by receiving the Bonnie Heavy Runner Victim Advocacy Award for 2010 at the 12th National Indian Nations Conference in Palm Springs, Calif.

The award is given in remembrance of Heavy Runner's many contributions to the advocacy of victim's of crime in Indian country.

Harrold has served the Indian community for 23 years in various legal positions from being a tribal judge to being elected as the first Native American district attorney in Oklahoma to serving as an attorney in the first jury trial ever in the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Part of the work for which she is acknowledged for has to do with being one of the founding mothers of the domestic violence shelter, Help-in-Crisis, in Tahlequah, which is now in its 30th year of operation.

Harrold said she continues to volunteer with the program, training their volunteers for the hotline, sexual assault response and sexual assault nurse examiners.

She said a personal domestic violence victimization experience set her on the path of her current journey. While she refuses to let that experience define her it did bring her to Help-in-Crisis and from there to being a leading advocate of victim's rights.

As a district attorney Harrold continued to focus on victim's of violent crime and the safety of her constituents. She was acknowledged for her efforts by Bikers Against Child Abuse, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol and the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency.

With many more acknowledgements and awards to her name Harrold said she does not feel complete in her life's work.



Dianne Barker Harrold, Special Advisor to the Chief, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, received the Bonnie Heavy Runner award for her work with crime victims in Indian Country, during the 12th National Indian Nations Conference.

"What I took away from this experience is that I have to keep working harder," said Harrold. "The Bible tells us that to whom much is given much is required and so I know I just have to work even harder for crime victims to actually deserve such recognition."

In working harder Harrold serves as an independent consultant and frequent speaker around the country, training tribal prosecutors and law enforcement, victims' advocates, child welfare workers, and service providers in the areas of child abuse, victim advocacy, domestic violence, sexual assault, report writing, and other related topics. She is employed as the TVA Project Director for Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Inc., of Tempe, Ariz., which provides training and technical assistance to the

US Department of Justice Grantees under the Office of Victims of Crime Tribal Victims Programs across the nation and in many more positions.

The sheer magnitude of work accomplished to make it to this point would seem to eliminate time for anything else, but not in Harrold's case.

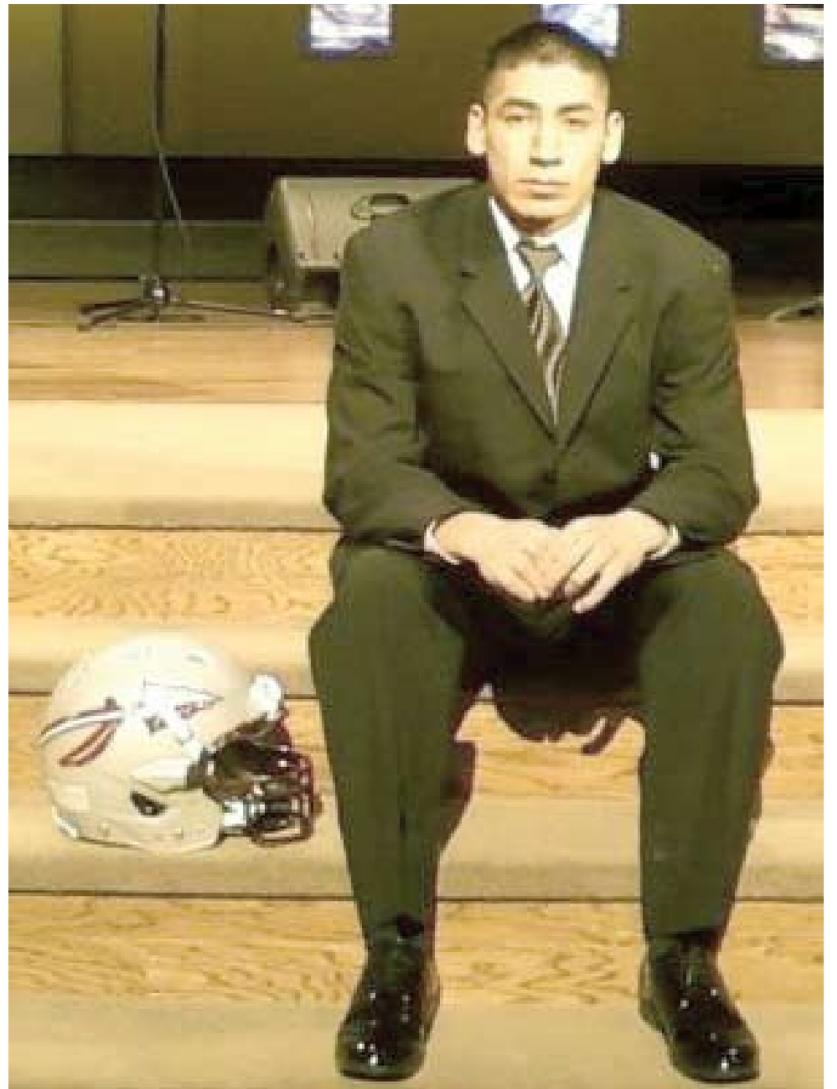
When she is not working Harrold is with her three grown daughters, 11 grandchildren, one great granddaughter and husband, Dale, who is a semi-retired police officer. She loves gardening, cooking, and crafts and is an avid cross-stitcher.

In her time working with the UKB Harrold said her job has also provided a number of opportunities to give back as well.

"It is a role that I cherish and serve with honor to the Keetoowah Cherokee citizens," said Harrold.



Keetoowah Cherokee Casino employees, left to right, Chris Stopp, Crew I; Henry Sam, Building Maintenance Manager; and Preston Wilema, Crew II; stand in front of the casino. Whether a clear afternoon, ice or snow, or working late to finish a project, they are always on the job.



Congratulations go to Sonny O'Field, 5-10, 164 pound Sequoyah High School junior. He was honored as Special Teams Player of the Year on the "All Phoenix Special Teams of the Year" in football. O'Field had 167 yards in punt returns and three touchdowns and 378 yards in kickoff returns and two touchdowns. Sonny is the son of Wendall O'Field of Jay, Oklahoma.

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ATTENTION:

Renew your tag or register your vehicle by mail. If you would like further information you may contact the UKB Tag Agency at (918) 456-3235 & fax number (918) 456-3394.

Office Hours
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • 2nd Saturday of the month 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

2010 UKB Graduates



Dustyn Abbott-Ketcher

Dustyn Abbott-Ketcher graduated from Northeastern State University. She is the daughter of Dan and Gayle Abbott and the granddaughter of Opal Abbott. She loves spending time with her three daughters Hailey, Henlie & Haven. She plans to continue working at Maryetta School as a First grade teacher.



Stephanie Turner

Stephanie Turner graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse from Northeastern Technology Center in Kansas, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Leroy Turner. She loves spending time with her kids.



She plans to continue her education as an Registered Nurse.

Mary Jo (Pratt) Longhorn

Mary Jo (Pratt) Longhorn graduated from Tulsa Community College (Northeast Campus). She is the daughter of Billy Drywater and Stacey Kipp Pratt. Her grandparents are Iona (Walker) Drywater, Sam Drywater Jr. and Freda L. Kipp.



Her siblings are Gabriel Pratt, Diamond Pratt, and Say-Gi Drywater.

Her hobbies are sewing, going to powwows and stomp dances with her children and volunteering in the community. She is currently attending Rogers State University where she is majoring in forensic accounting. She plans to obtain her CPA and create a non profit organization to give back to the community and specifically the youth.

Tyson Killer

Tyson Killer graduated from Carl Albert State College with an Associate of Science degree in Allied Health. He is the son of Mose and Lila Killer. His grandparents are John Killer and Clara Fishinghawk and the late Vernon and Eldee Hays. His brother is Jared Killer.



Tyson Killer

He plans to continue his education at Northeastern State University. He hopes to attain a degree in medical laboratory science; and then to continue his education to become a surgeon.

Latoyah Asbill

Latoyah Asbill graduated from Northeastern State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. She is the mother of Baylor Gourd. Latoyah is the daughter of Terry Asbill and Carla Fallen. Her grandparents are Barbara and Carl Fallen and Nan and Jerry Asbill. Her siblings are Kanaiah Asbill, Meghan Asbill, Ryker Salazar, Jeremiah Patterson and Zekharyah Patterson.



Latoyah Asbill

Her hobbies include being outside, fishing, making dream catchers and playing with her son Baylor.

She plans to attend law school to study Native American Law.

Audrey Louise Howard

Audrey Louise Howard graduated from Connors State College with an Associate of Science Degree in Nursing. She is the mother of Kaelynn Little Thunder. Audrey is the daughter of Eva and Charley Barr and Glen Howard. Her siblings are Christopher Barr, Tyler Barr, and Jordan Barr.



Audrey Louise Howard

Audrey's future plans are to get her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and later a Master of Science in Nursing. She'd like to teach or become a nurse practitioner. She plans to attend NSU to begin coursework for her bachelor's degree.

Tonia Trejo

Tonia Trejo graduated from Connors State College with an Associate of Applied Science degree. Her parents are Selven and Jolinn Fields. Her grandparents are the late Josie Fields, the late William Raper; the late Louis McCarter and the late Jesse Mae McCarter.



Her siblings are Melissa Sanders, Joey Fields, Elmer Panther, Rick Panther, Jimi White, Vanessa Fields, Laura Fields and Tony Fields.

Her hobbies include spending time with her family and cooking and watching her kids play sports.

She hopes to attend NSU or Bacone next fall to obtain her Bachelor of Nursing degree. She hopes to eventually work with Indian Health Service as a diabetes educator.

Obituary

Go Back Sanders

Go Back Sanders was born on March 2, 1938 in Peggs, Oklahoma, to Walter and Anna Bell (Christie) Sanders. He departed this life on Saturday, January 22, 2011, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the age of 72 years, 10 months and 20 days.



Growing up, Go Back attended the Oak Hill Elementary School, south of Locust Grove. He also attended school in Locust Grove, as well as several training schools in California, Ohio, and Oklahoma.

Go Back served his country in the United States Army. He was a member of the Covey Masonic Lodge #460 and the V.F.W. Post 3573, both in Locust Grove, as well as the American Legion Post #182 in Pryor. Go Back served his country proudly and was always involved in patriotic functions.

Go Back was a lifetime resident of Peggs, Oklahoma. He and his father built fire places in the Cedar Crest area, some of which are still standing today. He had formerly owned and operated the 7 Clan Smoke Shop in Peggs. He had also worked using a seismograph on different pipelines. Go Back had also spent some time working for G.R.D.A. He spent some time working as a mason and in maintenance and landscaping for United Keetoowah Band properties. He volunteered at the Rainbow House as well as always lending a helping hand where ever it was needed. Go Back will be remembered for mowing lawns that needed it.

He is survived by: 3 brothers: Jack Sanders and wife Arnetta of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, Sam Sanders of Locust Grove, Oklahoma, and Isaac Sanders and wife Celina of Locust Grove, Oklahoma; 3 sisters: Annie McClain, Katherine Sanders, and Carol Goforth, all of Locust Grove, Oklahoma; close friends: Chris and Shannon Studebaker and their children Zachary, Shelby and Lane, all of Locust Grove, Oklahoma; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and a host of friends. Go Back was preceded in death by: his parents and 1 sister: Peggy Sanders.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Locust Grove. Cole McClain and Reverend Dennis Fine officiated. Interment followed at the Ballou Cemetery outside of Locust Grove.

Alben Mouse pays Tribute to Liz Littledave

Whenever someone dies those nearest that person suffer the loss immediately. The community notes said loss and wonders how it will continue without its missing member. The loss normally is confined to the local with a few friends and family scattered about the country. However, sometimes the person lost is far greater than a single community can hold and that person's ambience was felt much farther than commonly known.

Such a person was Liz Littledave. While her presence is sorely missed among the local community, she is also missed from afar.

Alben Mouse only knew Liz for five years. He lives in Austin, Texas, but his children live in Oklahoma. Mouse heard about a person who was helping his children through the United Keetoowah Band's various programs as they needed help.

Mouse heard how this person genuinely wanted to help others and was nice to everyone she met, especially his children.

On a visit to Tahlequah, Mouse came to meet Liz and instantly formed a friendship with her. Whenever he would come to Tahlequah in following years he made it a point to stop and drop in on Liz. Liz always made time to visit with Mouse.

Mouse said she always helped out and he was genuinely fond of her. It was a tragic day when Mouse's son notified him of Liz's death.

Mouse said he misses her and the opportunity to just drop in and say hello.

Liz is missed near and far. The Buddhists believe that no person is truly dead as long as someone remembers them. If this is the case then Liz Littledave will live forever.



Gospel Singing and Birthday Celebration
To honor Norman Carey and Larry Harrison

March 12, 2011
4:00 pm

United Keetoowah Band Wellness Center.
located on Keetoowah Circle off West Willis Road

Everyone is invited to come and celebrate
For more information contact Janie Carey
at 918-506-4081
Music and instruments will be provided

December Housing Report

- **Tahlequah** - Installation of windows and siding completed, installation of new central heat and air is completed, rewiring of electric throughout house completed
- **Saline**- FEMA trailer is set on concrete foundation, metal skirting has been installed, porches on front and back completed (handicap ramp on front porch), electric moved to property, electric water and sewer hooked up
- **Flint**-I tried to contact budget roofing and have not received a phone call back so we are currently awaiting new bids on Mr. McLemore's roof
- **Sequoyah**- Handicap shower has been installed along with a new vanity and ADA toilet, temporary grab bars installed, Shower walls have been installed, awaiting bids on interior bathroom work, client informed me that they will be having Christmas at their house and if any way possible would like to wait till after Christmas to finish bathroom
- **Flint**- FEMA trailer has been set on concrete foundation, metal skirting is installed, front and back porch completed, old house demolished and hauled off, electric hooked up, waiting on payment to be made for Cherry Tree to set water meter then water will be hooked up
- **Saline**- seeking bids on installing water line from existing well, installing septic, estimating pricing on FEMA trailer versus rehab
- **Cooweescoowee**- seeking bids on demolishing house and hauling off debris, seeking bids on getting drawings done by architects and engineers, preparing to go in front of board to request a mobile trailer to be installed
- **Saline**- replaced well pump and electrical wiring system
- **HIP Program**- inspector has done cost estimates on applicants and they are to be sent to BIA for approval
- **Goingsnake**- Had mold test done by Burnside & Associates, let the Scott's use a travel trailer until the end of Jan. so they can have reasonable time to take care of situation
- **Flint**- seeking bids on removal of existing house and trees, skirting, porches, electrical hookup, new septic, water disconnection and reconnection, and foundation

January Housing Report

- **Flint**- FEMA trailer has been set and all utilities are hooked up. Employees had to change the heating elements in the hot water heater. Also there are no storm doors on the trailer so we will need to do a change order and have Cedar Creek install two storm doors.
- **Flint**- The department received bids for this client's roof.
- **Tahlequah**-This Tribal member is our HIP project.
- **Flint**-Employees delivered a new propane cook stove and Clear Creek Plumbing hooked up a new gas line and changed the orifices out on the stove.
- **Tahlequah**- Tribal member had frozen water lines and employees went and thawed them out. They also installed heat tape and a new cord to the heat tape.
- **Tahlequah** - Tribal Member had a water leak at the meter. Employees went and identified the problem and shut off the water. Clear Creek Plumbing went and fixed the water pipe and pressure reducer valve.
- **Delaware**- Had a water leak under house. Employees fixed the leak and changed the water line to pex and installed a new shut off valve.
- **Cooweescoowee**-The department is looking at building a new house because after looking at the restrictions on a trailer house at this location the department found that it will have to move the trailer after one year.
- **Saline**- Employees received a call from Child Welfare about tribal member. She is an elderly woman who had no water. Workers were in the area so they went by to look at the problem. Her pipes had frozen and broke. There was an electric cord lying in the water so we addressed the issue. We shut the power off to the well and went back to fix the broken pipes.
- **Delaware**- Cedar Creek will be installing a water line and shut off valve. Employees are waiting on one more bid on demo house and then the project is started. Cedar Creek will also be installing a new septic tank.
- **Goingsnake**- Kansas Building Supply was awarded the bid for materials and some are special order. The expected time of arrival is 10-14 days
- Inspector has done inspections on both properties in Salina and Stillwell.
- **Sequoyah**- Installed a handicap shower, toilet, and vanity. We are seeking bids on drywall, flooring, and paint.

Tips for Seniors in Preparing their Taxes

Current research indicates that individuals are likely to make errors when preparing their tax returns. The following tax tips were developed to help you avoid some of the common errors dealing with the standard deduction for seniors, the taxable amount of Social Security benefits, and the Credit for the Elderly and Disabled. In addition, you'll find links below to helpful publications as well as information on how to obtain free tax assistance.

Standard Deduction for Seniors - If you do not itemize your deductions, you can get a higher standard deduction amount if you and/or your spouse are 65 years old or older. You can get an even higher standard deduction amount if either you or your spouse is blind. (See Form 1040 and Form 1040A instructions.)

Taxable Amount of Social Security Benefits -When preparing your return, be especially careful when you calculate the taxable amount of your Social Security. Use the Social Security benefits worksheet found in the instructions for IRS Form 1040 and Form 1040A, and then double-check it before you fill out your tax return. See Publication 915, Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits.

Credit for the Elderly or Disabled - You must file using Form 1040 or Form 1040A to receive the Credit for the Elderly or Disabled. You cannot get the Credit for the Elderly or Disabled if you file using Form 1040EZ. Be sure to apply for the Credit if you qualify; please read below for details.

Who Can Take the Credit: The Credit is based on your age, filing status and income. You may be able to take the Credit if:

Age: You and/or your spouse are either 65 years or older; or under age 65 years old and are

permanently and totally disabled.

AND

Filing Status: Your income on Form 1040 line 38 is less than \$17,500, \$20,000 (married filing jointly and only one spouse qualifies), \$25,000 (married filing jointly and both qualify), or \$12,500 (married filing separately and lived apart from your spouse for the entire year).

And, the non-taxable part of your Social Security or other nontaxable pensions, annuities or disability income is less than \$5,000 (single, head of household, or qualifying widow/er with dependent child); \$5,000 (married filing jointly and only one spouse qualifies); \$7,500 (married filing jointly and both qualify); or \$3,750 (married filing separately and lived apart from your spouse the entire year).

Calculating the Credit: Use Schedule R (Form 1040 or 1040A), Credit for the Elderly or Disabled, to figure the amount of the credit. See the instructions for Schedule R (Forms 1040 or 1040A) if you want the IRS to figure this credit for you.

Also see Publications 524 (Credit for the Elderly or Disabled); 554 (Tax Guide for Seniors); and 967 (The IRS Will Figure Your Tax.)

Free IRS Tax Return Preparation - IRS-sponsored volunteer tax assistance programs offer free tax help to seniors and to low- to moderate-income people who cannot prepare their own tax returns.

Other Helpful Publications

- Publication 907, Tax Highlights for Persons with Disabilities

- Publication 17, Your Federal Income Tax
- Publication 3966, Living and Working with Disabilities

There are several locations individuals can go to get their taxes prepared free of charge.

In Tahlequah

Northeastern State University
phone (918) 456-5511
Business and Technology Building
VITA Program
Beginning Jan 31
Mondays and Tuesdays 3-6 p.m.

Tahlequah Public Library
phone (918) 456-2581
Carnegie Room
AARP Free Tax Program
Wednesdays
9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Cookson Hills Community Center
phone (918) 457-4304
Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

In Westville

John Henderson Public Library
phone (918) 723-5002
February 8 - March 8
Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Need a ride?



KEETOOWAH CHEROKEE Tribal Transit is now in full operation providing transportation for tribal members and the public. For a ride contact 918-772-4350 or 1-800-259-0093.

United Keetoowah Title VI Nutrition Menu Feb. 2011

February 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Menus are subject to change without notice. For more info call: 918-772-4380		1 Brown Beans Hominy Diced Potatoes Cornbread Salad & Dessert	2 Beef Stew Texas Toast Cheese Sticks Crackers Salad & Dessert	3 Spaghetti w/ meatball Grilled Vegetables Garlic Toast Broccoli Salad Dessert	4 Brunch Served from 10:30-12:00	
6	7 Hamburger Steak w/ Brown Gravy Rice Carrots Salad & Dessert	8 Loaded Baked Potato Soup Broccoli Crackers Salad & Dessert	9 Chicken Strips Mac & Cheese Green Beans Biscuit Salad & Dessert	10 Sour kraut & weenies Black eye Peas Texas Toast Salad & Dessert	11 Brunch Served from 10:30-12:00	12
13	14 BBQ Brisket W Bun Baked Beans Potato Salad Cake Salad	15 White Beans Spinach Corn Muffins Tater tots Salad & Dessert	16 Chicken Corn Chowder Sweet Potato Cheese Biscuit Salad & Dessert	17 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes/ Gravy / Rolls Corn on cob Salad & Dessert	18 Brunch Served from 10:30-12:00	19
20	21 Closed for Presidents Day	22 Catfish Cheesy Potatoes Black eyed peas Hushpuppies Dessert	23 Chili Yellow Squash Jalapeño Corn- bread Salad & Dessert	24 Culture Day & February B-Days	25 Closed For Cleaning	26
27	28 Goulash Broccoli Hominy Toast Salad & Dessert				"UKB Closing" Inclement weather policy: When Tahlequah Public Schools Are Closed.	

UKB Regular December Council Meeting Minutes

UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting At the UKB Community Services Building December 4, 2010 10:00 a.m. – 1:33 p.m.

I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

II. Invocation: Cliff Wofford

III. Roll Call: 12 + Chief answered Roll Call

IV. Chief's Address

It is a great time for the UKB people. We (UKB) have a lot of things going on at this time.

We have struggled through many years of obstacles since 1817. Leadership changing in years past but we are traditional people which we have today among our UKB people. Traditional people were actually talked to by God which was history in the making and always had connections with God and we honor God. We honor our elders and children as well as our God. We have a lot to offer. God put us right where he wants us and that is here where we learn, teach and reach our goals.

We have followed the procedures required by EchoHawk to be able to receive the approval of putting land into trust. EchoHawk stated the corporate charter sets the precedence of us being approved for trust land by application. EchoHawk's aim is to keep fairness among all Native American people. He goes on philosophy (belief) that fairness is most important in making decisions. We will never abandon our beliefs. UKB will have to do things different based on the growth of the membership. Technology is growing rapidly in these times and we are in the planning stages of the self-governance and the effect plays in the growth of our membership, programs and etc. within the tribe.

Upon completion of the Education Complex which the purpose of this project is to educate and provide training to our people. This training and education will help our people obtain better jobs.

There is no language more sophisticated and difficult than the Cherokee language. God has always been close to us. We always strive to do our best to assist our people.

V. Approval of the minutes for the month of November 2010

1. MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve the Regular Council minutes of November 06, 2010 with corrections; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 11 Yes, 1 No (Holcomb), 0 Abstentions.

VI. Presentations -

1. Barry Dotson:

Central High School asked if the tribe could assist with funds on building a gymnasium
Please contact G. Chuculate at 775-5525

2. Charles Locust:

Stated more discussion needed on the topic of dual membership.

This issue was mentioned last month but he feels more discussion is needed due to this being more frequently brought to attention by members facing this issue.

Factors that play a role pertaining to dual membership are tribal services and "double dipping" as well as possibly giving individuals opportunity to plead his or her case and come back to the UKB because he or she may have been coerced.

Barbara Girty: asked why have an AD-HOC Committee? Enrollment would be the department to clarify the standing and status of membership.

Ken Bellmard: said the federal government didn't think UKB could establish exclusive membership required by the Dept. of the Interior. UKB did establish exclusivity.

Charles Locust: stated that Council had voted to set their exclusive membership which is by ¼ degree of Cherokee blood. Artman made the com-

ment that anybody that was a member that had not relinquished before that 1990 rule couldn't be affected by this exclusive membership requirement. Ken Bellmard: Federal funding was the main reason for eligibility for UKB to establish exclusive membership

LENGTHY DISCUSSION:

Discussion of how this dual enrollment affects health care, housing and human services.

Charles Locust: said Carl Artman will be the key spokesperson to interact with the Enrollment and AD-HOC Committee regarding dual enrollment. MOTION by Charles Locust to form an AD-HOC Committee with the Tribal Secretary as chair of said committee and other nominations for the committee to be brought forth for Council approval; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 10 Yes, 2 No (Girty, Dotson), 0 Abstentions.

3. Peggy Girty:

Asked to speak at this time.

Chief gave her three (3) minutes.

Peggy said she has seen Council come together with concerns that affect the people.

Council speaks their mind and votes their mind.

You are doing what the people are voicing.

4. Barry Dotson: commented on the unique standings we hold as a tribe.

5. Woodrow Proctor: asked where the plaque is that once was hanging at the CNO complex? How could we go about getting that back to put in our museum.

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to authorize administration to send a letter to CNO requesting to obtain the plaque that once had been hanging in the room of the Restaurant of the Cherokees; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VII. Reports to Council

1. Buffalo Project: Robert Whitekiller
- Passed around pictures of the buffalo

2. Enrollment Report: Joyce Hawk
MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to accept and approve 28 new applicants for UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to acknowledge and honor 7 membership relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

3. Christmas Gift Cards: Joyce Hawk

- Asked that each Councilperson meet with her after the meeting to count and verify gift cards of each district and sign document of receipt of cards.

- Each card is valued at \$40.00 for the children.

VIII. Public Forum

1. Robert Whitekiller: thanked Council on receiving his Elder Assistance check through the Elder Assistance Program for the winter.

2. Charles Locust: stated to Council that the Housing Department report was very well documented and would like to recognize Jan Laws in attendance at the meeting.

Woodrow Proctor: questioned the procedure on the criteria of housing on the completion of application for assistance.

Jan Laws: (Housing Director) addressed the question that the applications are to be updated every year. The applicants are notified by staff to update the applications. The staff could make visits at a satellite offices or homes (due to disabled or medical condition) to accommodate those who require more documentation.

Betty Holcomb: stated she assumed their was already a person who made home visits pertaining to any applications needed for services.

Willie Christie: asked if Housing staff could be available at district meetings to answer any housing questions or concerns about the program.

Charles Smoke: asked to be excluded from the meeting at this time due to him having to work.

Woodrow Proctor: asked for clarification on FEMA trailers.

Bryan Shade: HUD policy sets guidelines for spending of funds. Rental and mortgage require certain documentation. Emergency and Rehab also require certain documentation.

All assistance through Housing has to have a complete application

Any other means of support would go through the general fund

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to allow the Budget and Finance Committee to seek funding for a source through general fund for emergency housing applicants that are not approved by HUD regulations; SECONDED by Woodrow Proctor; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Smoke absent).

IX. Unfinished Business – NONE

X. New Business

1. Indian Preference Letter Signature – Joyce Hawk

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve the UKB Tribal Secretary to be the primary signature for the Indian Preference Letters with Ella Mae Worley, UKB Treasurer, as alternate signature; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Smoke absent).

2. January Council Meeting and New Year's Day – Joyce Hawk

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve to have the January 2011 regular Council meeting on January 8th, 2011 due to the New Year's Day holiday on the first Saturday of the month; SECONDED by Willie Christie; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Smoke absent).

Joyce Hawk: would like to recognize Barbara Girty as an excellent Councilwoman. Joyce enjoyed serving with her on Council and hates to see her go, but wishes her well.

Bryan Shade: Just FYI there will be a review of the Burial Assistance for members to maybe implement an increase in amount to help with cost of funeral.

3. Enter Executive Session

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to enter into Executive Session; SECONDED by Willie Christie; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Smoke absent).

4. Exit Executive Session

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to enter into Executive Session; SECONDED by Willie Christie; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Smoke absent).

5. Tobacco Compact

MOTION by Eddie Sacks authorizing the approval and execution to enter into a Tobacco Tax Compact by and between the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma and the State of Oklahoma; SECONDED by Ella Mae Worley; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Smoke absent).

XI. Announcements - NONE

XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Eddie Sacks; SECONDED by Willie Christie; Approve by affirmation: 1:33 PM



Christmas Parade 2010



United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe, Assistant Chief Charles Locust and Tribal Secretary Joyce Hawk wave at the parade crowd as they travel through downtown Tahlequah during the Tahlequah's annual Christmas parade. Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



The United Keetoowah Band Honor Guard kicked off the Christmas holiday by participating in the 2010 Tahlequah's Annual Christmas Parade. Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



2010-2011 Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Vera Rooster, waves to the crowd during the 2010 annual Tahlequah Christmas parade. Miss Rooster's vehicle was provided by Kevin Grover Chevrolet of Wagoner. Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



The Stars and Stripes Christmas theme was well represented by the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino float as casino employees and their children rode their float in the Tahlequah's annual Christmas parade. Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan

Beat the Winter Blues Every Thursday in February- Noon to 10pm

Lucky Luau

Pick a Coconut to Reveal Your Prize.
Win Up To \$500!

Hot Seat Drawings



(918) 456-6131
Smoke-Free Floor Available
Tahlequah, OK
www.KeetoowahCherokeeCasino.com



All winners must be actively playing machine with credits showing. Prizes are non-transferable. Must be present to win. Must present valid, State issued photo ID and Social Security Card to claim all prizes. Management reserves the right to modify or cancel this promotion without notice. Not responsible for lost prize vouchers, tickets, gift card / certificates, etc.



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