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Official Publication of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma

Gaduwa Cherokee News

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Issue #3

Keetoowah Cherokees add Fire Truck to Fleet

In a bid to serve, the United Keetoowah Band (UKB) is once again expanding its services to benefit not only Keetoowah Cherokee members, but also the residents of the surrounding communities.

The UKB recently purchased and took possession of a fire truck to be stationed at its Civil Defense Building on the UKB Celebration Grounds. The truck is a 2002 E-One International 4x4 Interface Pumper purchased from Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus, LLC located in Alabama.

The fire truck has a 400 gallon water tank and two foam tanks, one for Class A foam and one for Class B foam. Class A foam is used for extinguishing fires fueled by materials such as wood and paper. Class B foam is used for extinguishing fires fueled by materials such as gasoline and diesel.

Rick Glory, UKB transportation director, said the truck is not operational yet. He still has to purchase hoses, radios, shovels, etc. for the truck. Also, the personnel to man the truck have to be trained.

The current plan is for the Lighthorse officers to be cross-trained as firefighters. But, Chris Thompson, Lighthorse director, said he would also like additional UKB employees to be cross-trained so there would always be plenty of trained personnel to respond to an emergency.

Glory said the truck is not a main firefighting vehicle, but an auxiliary unit to be used for supporting other fire units such as the Tahlequah Fire Department or local volunteer fire departments when they need assistance.

“With the new Civil Defense building



United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe, Tribal Treasurer Ella Mae Worley, and Tribal Secretary Joyce Hawk stand in front of the newly purchased Fire truck, which will be housed at the new UKB Civil Defense Center.

completed it is good to have something that we can use to work with the city of Tahlequah to help fight fires when they need more help,” said Chief George Wickliffe. “This gives us another opportunity to help with the city and we’ll be available anytime.”

The money used to purchase the truck came

from a HUD grant. It was a HUD grant that was used to build the Civil Defense Building that Lighthorse now occupies and where the truck is stored.

Glory said the addition of the fire truck to the Civil Defense Building is part of the UKB’s strategic plan that was started years ago.

Tribe Focuses Attention to Elders and Youth During Snow Storm

Coming to the aide of your fellow man has never been so evident as it was just recently during the record breaking cold temperatures and snow fall that blanketed all of northeast Oklahoma. Out-of-state travelers complained of the road conditions in our state, but one must understand, these are uncommon conditions for the state of Oklahoma and the state is not prepared for such blizzard like weather, therefore, snow and ice removal machinery are not readily available as other states that are prepared for annual amounts of snowfall.

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma has always made it a priority of taking care of their elders and children, which became more apparent during the devastating ice storms in 2007 and 2009 which left UKB tribal members without electricity and heat for several weeks, and with the recent snowfall Oklahoma received, bringing many schools and businesses to a stand still. Tribal officials and maintenance department workers stepped in to clear roadways and fallen debris and provide families with generators and food items.

During the February 2011 UKB tribal council meeting, several employees and officials were singled out for going beyond the call of duty in aiding UKB tribal members during the recent snow storm that covered all of Green Country. From Administration to Lighthorse employees who risked their safety to take care of the needs of the elders and children of the tribe. Employees who traveled on icy roads and highways to purchase food items for families in need, to Lighthorse traveling through high snow drifts and unsafe rural roads to pick up elders, providing transportation so elders could make their dialysis appointments. These are employees who are dedicated in serving not only their tribe but for their elders and youth.

One such individual was given praise by Tahlequah District Representative Betty Holcomb for his valiant efforts to provide needed services to his people. This individual was Bryan Shade, Executive Director of Tribal Operations for the



With the heavy snowfall Green Country received recently, it made driving hazardous closing many schools and government offices as well as stranding many families at home.

United Keetoowah Band.

Holcomb commented on the rapid response of Shade to aide his fellow members during such a devastating situation. He responded to the needs of elders by quickly providing all paper work for purchases of propane for families so no families would be without heat during the cold weather conditions. He drove the icy roads to meet with Holcomb to purchase groceries for families who were in need of food items. He was readily available at any given moment to help the needs of tribal members. Without concern for his safety he made sure the safety of others were taken care of, even with tribal offices closed he came into his office ready to take on the adversities. He placed his people first as he said, “We can’t let the elders go without heat,” thinking of others before himself. Because of these actions, Bryan Shade was commended for his services by the UKB tribal council representatives and administration during their February council meeting.

Another individual that kept on going despite the weather was UKB Health Services Director Don Ade, who transported tribal members to dialysis.

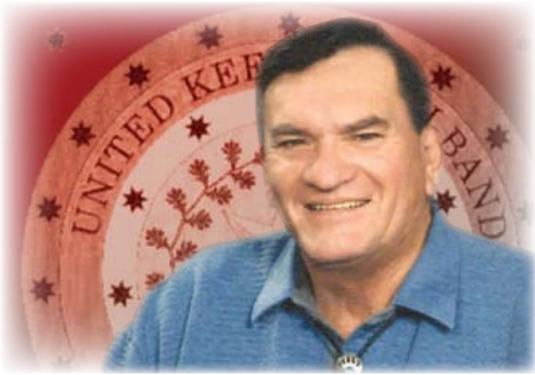
This shows the dedication and hard work many employees of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma as well as employees of the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino provide for their Keetoowah Cherokee people. The tribe’s administration are very proud of the hard work their employees display in their daily duties and in times of devastating conditions.

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A Letter to the UKB People From Chief George Wickliffe



Dear Tribal Members,

In "Kituwah – A Historical Factbook," a culture historical context compiled by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the United Keetoowah Band is noted as the original Cherokee tribe. As the Keetoowah Cherokee tribe, we originated from the original Kituwah Mound, one of the seven Mother Towns. The following is an excerpt.

George Wickliffe

In 1996, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians purchased Ferguson Farm, a 309 acre tract located on the north side of the Tuckasegee River approximately three miles east of Bryson City, North Carolina. This acquisition was significant for several reasons. This was the largest of several recent real estate purchases by the Band, and signals concentrated efforts to expand the tribes land base, reversing a two century long trend of territorial loss. More importantly, the Ferguson Farm parcel includes the core of the old Cherokee town site of Kituwah, the traditional birthplace of the Cherokee people, and a touchstone for Cherokee identity. A number of eighteenth century accounts refer to Kituwah as one of the seven Mother Towns, the paramount civic and religious centers for each of the major settlement clusters. One early nineteenth century observer noted that Kituwah was "formerly the Council Fire place of all the Nation," the foremost center for civic and political deliberations and religious observances. The centrality of Kituwah probably arose from

the belief that the divinely ordained clan laws and ethical codes which governed Cherokee society were first introduced at Kituwah, and hence were known as the "Kituwah Way."

Although Cherokee people lost control over the old town site during the 1820s, the memory of Kituwah has remained strong in the Cherokee consciousness. In 1900, James Mooney noted that the eastern Cherokees "frequently speak of themselves as "Ani-Kitu'hwagi or people of the Kituhwa" and "the name is even now used in councils as indicative of genuine Cherokee feeling in its highest form." Indeed, the name "Kituwah" or "Keetoowah" became synonymous with the communal ethos and traditional customs of the Cherokee people in a changing world. In 1859, conservative western Cherokees formally organized the Keetoowah Society to preserve and promote spiritual aspects of the old ways, and to protect the rights of conservative Cherokees. Budd Gritts, one of the organizers of this group, wrote in the Keetoowah Society's constitution:

Our secret society shall be named Keetoowah. All of the members of the Keetoowah Society shall be like one family. It should be our intention that we must abide with each other in love... We must not surrender under any circumstance until we shall "fall to the ground united." We must lead one another by the hand with all our strength" [10]

The society chose the name Keetoowah to connote its legitimacy in the cause of Cherokee tradition and to express its heritage as heirs to what Mooney termed:

A strong band of comradeship, if not a regular secret society organization, [that] appears to have existed among the warriors and leading men of the various settlements of the Kituwah district from a remote period.

Two groups descendant from the original Keetoowah Society, the Nighthawk Keetoowah Society (a religious organization) and the United Keetoowah Band (a tribal political entity), continue to use the term Keetoowah to express their heritage in Cherokee tradition and their goals to preserve Cherokee identity grounded in this tradition. Today, "Keetoowah" transcends place and time to symbolize a world view and a moral, religious, and ethical code which governs the lives of the Ani-Kitu'hwagi. With the Eastern Band's purchase of Ferguson Farm, Kituwah has once again become a concrete reality for the Cherokee

people, a place that is home in both a real and a metaphysical sense. During an October 1997 dedication of the site, Jim Henson, Vice-Chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Oklahoma, related that the Eastern Band's purchase of Kituwah fulfills an ancient Cherokee prophecy, in which the Cherokee people lose Kituwah and lose their way, but regain Kituwah, and with that, reawaken to the "Keetoowah Way." He cautioned, however, that the prophecy also states that should the Cherokee people lose or give up Kituwah again, that they will cease to be the Ani-Kitu'hwagi and the world will end. The continued pre-eminence of Kituwah in Cherokee tradition and belief is obvious.

The following report is an account of documentary and archaeological research concerning the settlement history of Ferguson Farm and the Cherokee town of Kituwah. This research reveals a rich and complex history of human occupation spanning several millennia, and illustrates the importance of the site as an archaeological and heritage resource which encapsulates much of the cultural history of the Cherokee people. This research was conducted to provide the Eastern Band with a baseline of information about the types and locations of archaeological resources on the property to help guide planning decisions about the future management of Ferguson Farm. However, no amount of documentary or archaeological research can adequately address the broader significance of the Kituwah as a manifest symbol of Cherokee identity and the ethos known as the Keetoowah Way. Understanding of the deeper meanings of Kituwah must come from the Cherokee people themselves.

THANK YOU

Whaler Family Thankful for Help During Snowstorm

The Whaler family would like to extend thanks to Betty Holcomb, Bryan Shade and the Lighthorse for their mother during the snow storm. Betty and Bryan went to Reasor's during the storm and purchased groceries for the family. Lighthorse then delivered groceries to her.

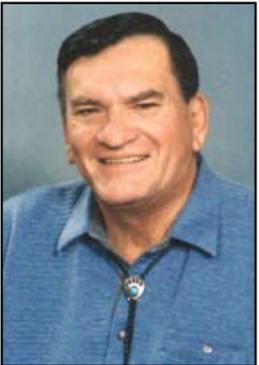
Elk-Mouse Family Thanks Tribal Member

The Elk-Mouse family would like to extend thanks to Berly Drywater, Rick Panther and their children. Berly and Rick opened up their lives to the help the family with transportation to work and school and giving them a place to stay. The Elk-Mouse family says it was a selfless service of the entire family.

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.

UKB Council



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Keetoowah News

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UKB Self-Governance Negotiator Visits Keetoowah Cherokee Tribe

United Keetoowah Band Self-Governance Negotiator and former Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, Carl Artman visited the UKB tribe February 17 and 18. Artman met with tribal Administrators, tribal officers and attorneys to discuss land issues, Self-Governance on Indian Health Services and Bureau of Indian Affairs. He also met with the UKB Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee and Grant Planning.



Carl Artman, UKB Self-Governance Negotiator, takes notes during his meeting with UKB Administrators. Assisting Artman is Elizabeth Bird, Self-Governance Coordinator for the Keetoowah Cherokee tribe.



The UKB Enrollment Ad Hoc committee met with Self-Governance Negotiator Artman along with tribal Administrators during his visit and meetings with the tribe.



UKB Chief George Wickliffe takes time for a photo opportunity during the Self-Governance meetings. Pictured with Chief Wickliffe is Joe Byrd, left, Director of Economic Development; and Steve Pruitt, right, Senior Partner at the Watts Partners.



Self-Governance Negotiator, Carl Artman, meets with UKB Grant Planning staff, Friday, February 18. Pictured are, left to right, Artman; Steve Pruitt, Senior Partner at the Watts Partners; Joyce Hawk, UKB Tribal Secretary; Ella Mae Worley, Tribal Treasurer; and Bryan Shade, Executive Director of Tribal Operations.

Stompdance Friday Evening

Friday, March 18 will be "A Gathering of our Culture" with stickball games beginning at 5 p.m. followed by a Chili Supper and a Stompdance beginning at 8:30 p.m. UKB Culture Coordinator Choogie Kingfisher will be organizing these events.

Participants are asked to bring their own chairs.

For more information, call contact the UKB Language, History and Culture Department at (918) 772-4326.

Stompdance Celebration
 March 18, 2011
 UKB Celebration Grounds
 "A Gathering of Our Culture"
 5:00 Stickball Games
 7:00 Chili Supper
 8:30 Dance Begins

For more information contact: UKB Language, History, and Culture Dept.
 @ 918-772-4326

Bring your own chairs....Not Responsible for Accidents

UKB Spring Break Culture Camp on Tap

Do your kids get bored during Spring Break? Once again, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is offering a chance to get the kids out of doors, and learn something about Keetoowah Cherokee history and culture at the same time.

The UKB's Spring Break Culture Camp will be held on Monday through Friday, March 14-18 at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Grounds, located behind the Keetoowah Cherokee Community Services Building off West Willis Road, south of Tahlequah.

The camp will be held daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The

camp is free, and students kindergarten through 9th grade are welcome.

Kids will learn how to make baskets, has lessons on the Cherokee Language, and how to make cornstalk dolls. There will be a marbles demonstration, a cornstalk shoot demonstration and a blowgun demonstration. Lunch will be provided.

Keetoowah Cherokee Culture Coordinator, Cindy Hair said, "This will be a fun, entertaining and educational opportunity for our youth to make this spring break a memorable one."

Participant's are encouraged to sign up in advance by calling (918) 772-4326.



The Language, Culture and History department will once again host this year's UKB Spring Break culture camp, March 14 - 18. Camp participants listen as Albert Shade, traditional craftsman, teaches the art of Indian bow making.

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

Dr. Charles Gosnell Honored for Service

The Tahlequah Hospital Foundation (THF) held its 6th Annual Hearts of Gold Gala and while the event is primarily a fundraiser it also serves to honor outstanding members of the medical field.

Out of three awards given, the Thompson Award was bestowed upon Dr. Charles R. Gosnell, the United Keetoowah Band's (UKB) clinical director of the health committee and chief medical officer.

According to the THF, the Thompson Award recognizes support for the advancement of healthcare and honors a doctor with a strong Tahlequah legacy.

Gosnell met the healthcare advancement criterion by being involved with and overseeing implementation of modern imaging technologies such as CT, Ultrasound and modern Nuclear Medicine at Tahlequah City Hospital (TCH) during the 80s. Mammographic screening also took a priority at TCH during this time and the hospital passed all inspections with flying colors.

He served as a staff radiologist from 1987 until 1992 when he became the medical director of radiology until 2004. He also served as chairman of the Radiation Safety Committee for 17 years.

"When I reflect on my career at Tahlequah City Hospital, I realize how fortunate I was to work with superb x-ray technologists, highly-skilled physicians, a caring compassionate hospital staff, and a supportive and progressive administration and hospital board," said Gosnell. "All of these people should share in this award, as they all made it possible. I am indeed grateful and indebted to all of the above."

Today, Gosnell says he is semi-retired. He serves as clinical director of the UKB Health Committee and as the UKB Chief Medical Officer, but does not hold office hours.

Gosnell said he is looking at future goals for the UKB in health initiatives for mammography screening for Native American women. The death rate for Native American women because of breast cancer is abnormally high when compared to the amount of Native American women who actually have breast cancer. The variance is due to the small amount of mammography screenings by Native American women.



Dr. Charles R. Gosnell, left, recently received the Thompson Award from the Tahlequah Hospital Foundation. Dr. Gosnell is the Clinical Director of Health committee and Chief Medical Officer for the United Keetoowah Band, he is pictured with Don Ade, UKB Director of Health Services.

Gosnell said he would like to set up a program to visit each community to educate women on the importance of yearly screening and provide transportation to screening facilities to eliminate barriers to screening options. He would be happy if the screening rate for Native American women in the community hit 80 percent by having each woman screened at least once every two years.

The criterion of having a Tahlequah legacy is fulfilled two-fold. The first part of his legacy of practicing medicine in Tahlequah is only overshadowed by his ties to the Tahlequah community.

Gosnell is a fourth generation resident of Tahlequah with members of the fifth and sixth generations also living in Tahlequah in the embodiment of his two daughters and two grandsons.

As a child, Gosnell actually played around the site the hospital currently occupies when his father was fire chief at the old fire department site.

A place he would eventually spend many hours and years of his life dedicated to helping others.

Gosnell graduated from the University of Oklahoma Medical School and interned at St. John's Hospital in Tulsa. He then spent nearly two years in the Marine Corps serving in California and in Vietnam. He received numerous medals and a personal letter from former President Harry S. Truman regarding his service.

After returning to civilian life, Gosnell turned to the field of emergency medicine and was awarded the first contract for emergency physician services at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa. He served as director of Emergency Services and as an emergency staff physician in the early and mid 70s. He then found an interest in diagnostic imaging and completed his radiology residency in 1981 at the University of Arkansas. This then led to Gosnell's return to Tahlequah in 1987 where he has served this community ever since.

Maintenance Crew Help to Keep Casino Operating

For most organizations to exist there must be a hierarchy of employees to see to the daily chores of running the business such as a president, a chief executive officer or chief to take the helm and steer the organization forward, various administrators to work out the details of whatever program the chief lays out and laypersons to actually put the program into effect. But, what about the people behind the scenes who make sure all of the other people can do their business?

For the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino some of the people who make the work happen belong in the maintenance department. Without a functioning building no one can work and Henry Sam, building maintenance manager, Preston Walema, crew member two, and Chris Stopp, crew member one, help keep the casino operating.

These three men are the ones fixing water leaks, keeping the electricity flowing properly and remodeling sections as needed. They work five days a week, Monday through Friday, and one of them, the duty rotates, is on call 24 hours a day. So at 4 a.m. when water is pouring across the parking lot one of the three gets a call to come to work and fix it.

Also, when it snows or ices, as Mother Nature has a tendency to dump on Oklahoma, these guys do not get the day off. They get to shovel snow and salt or sand the sidewalks, which according to Preston is not their favorite job. So when the roads thaw out a little and customers decide to get out and about, these three make sure the customers can actually get to the front doors.

Like any other job the employee has the ability to decide how well they are going to do the job. They can do just enough to get by or they can shift gears and really do the job well. Each of these three men decided to not only do the job well, but also go the extra mile and do whatever else helps the tribe such as building parade floats.

"I've worked with Henry & Preston for the past 6 years and Chris started a year or two ago," said Melinda Cookson, Keetoowah Cherokee Casino marketing director. "During that time, they have built many, many parade floats for the UKB Celebration, Christmas and Strawberry Festival parades. Our float designs start with me drawing stick figures and they create them into something fantastic. They are amazingly talented and I'm convinced that there isn't much that they can't do."

As the building manager, Henry understands the level of dedication to the job his crew gives him.

"I appreciate the guys they do great work," said Henry. "There's times when stuff has to get done and they know it. They work with whoever and help who needs it. Normally they do anything for anybody if possible."

Sometimes the realm of possible helps not only the casino but a member of the community as well.

Henry said his crew helped tear down the barn of a former employee to get the wood. The wood was then used to construct the cashier's booth on Level B to make it look like an old time store.



Keetoowah Cherokee Casino employees, left to right, Chris Stopp, Crew I; Henry Sam, Building Maintenance Manager; and Preston Walema, 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.

This is just one example of the dedication and flexibility of the maintenance crew, but there are many others.

"They work on so many extra projects for the Marketing Department besides parade floats," said Cookson. "They have built promotion games and assist with set up of community activities that we sponsor throughout the year. There have been many times they have worked late into the night and in extreme weather to make sure things get done in time and I know I can always count on them. They are true perfectionists when it comes to their work."

As much as these guys like their jobs at their current location they are looking forward to a new building to maintain with the construction of a new casino building planned for the near future.

"I think we're ready for a change and we want to be here when that's (the new casino building) here," said Henry. "I'd like to see that, a new change, a new face."

While looking to the future of a new casino building the three also are looking into their futures as employees and see no change. Henry said he could see making this job his career and both Preston and Chris said they would stay as long as they are wanted.

While no story can completely define a person, this story cannot completely attribute everything these three do for the casino and the tribe. For everything a person sees them doing it is the 10 unseen jobs these men do that keeps everyone else working.

Court-Ordered notification in \$3.4 Billion Indian Trust Settlement to begin

Hundreds of Thousands of Native Americans must act soon to participate in the Settlement

Washington, D.C. – The Court-ordered process of notifying individual Indians of their right to participate in the historic \$3.4 billion class action Settlement, Cobell v. Salazar, is underway. The Settlement resolves claims related to Individual Indian Money (or IIM) accounts and land held in trust by the federal government for the benefit of individual Indians.

Class Members all over the country are receiving detailed information about their legal rights and options via U.S. Mail. Information will also be provided through an extensive media campaign, which includes Native America print media, television and radio ads, and online advertising.

On December 21, 2010, U.S. Senior District Judge Thomas F. Hogan granted preliminary approval of the Settlement, setting in motion a process through which hundreds of thousands of individual Indians who have or had government-managed IIM accounts or trust lands may receive some of the \$3.4 billion Settlement Fund.

The judge's approval came after Congress passed and the President signed legislation approving the Settlement. Current estimates project that most Class Members will receive about \$1,800, with some Class Members receiving much more depending on the level of activity in their IIM accounts.

The \$3.4 billion Settlement was reached between the Departments of the Interior and Treasury and the individual Indian plaintiffs in December 2009. The Settlement resolves the govern-

ment's failure to provide an historical accounting for IIM accounts and also resolves claims that the government mismanaged funds and other trust assets, including royalties owed to individual Indians for oil, gas, grazing, and other leases of individual Indian lands, mostly in the West.

The Settlement provides a \$1.5 billion fund to compensate an estimated 500,000 affected individual Indian trust beneficiaries who have or had IIM accounts or own trust land. The Settlement creates two groups of Class Members eligible to receive money from the fund—the Historical Accounting Class and the Trust Administration Class.

- The Historical Accounting Class comprises individual Indians who were alive on September 30, 2009, who had an open IIM account anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, and whose account had at least one cash transaction.

- The Trust Administration Class comprises individual Indians alive on September 30, 2009, who had an IIM Account at any time from 1985 through September 30, 2009, recorded in currently available electronic data in federal government systems, as well as individual Indians who, as of September 30, 2009, had a recorded or demonstrable interest in land held in trust or restricted status.

- The estates of deceased Class Members will also receive a Settlement distribution if the deceased beneficiary's account was open as of September 30, 2009, or their land interest was open in probate as of that date. Other eligibility conditions and requirements for each Class are detailed in the Settlement Agreement.

Under the Settlement Agreement, \$1.9 bil-

lion will fund a Department of the Interior program to buy fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation. Depending on the level of participation in the land consolidation program, up to \$60 million will be set aside to provide scholarships for higher education for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Information about the Settlement and legal rights is available to all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The website www.IndianTrust.com and toll-free number 1-800-961-6109 are available to provide more information about the Settlement and the legal rights of Class Members. Individuals who are unsure whether they are included in the Settlement should visit the website or call the toll-free number for more information.

Class Members who receive a formal notice in the mail about the Settlement and who are currently receiving IIM account statements do not have to do anything to receive payment. Individuals who believe they should be part of the Settlement but do not receive a notice in the mail or are not receiving IIM account statements need to fill out a Claim Form as soon as possible, available at the Indian Trust website or by calling the toll-free number.

Individuals wishing to keep their right to sue the federal government over mismanagement claims covered by the Settlement must exclude themselves from the Settlement by April 20, 2011. Class Members can also submit written comments or objections about any Settlement terms that concern them by April 20, 2011.

United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians Job Listings



Position Title:
Chief Executive Officer
Opening Date:
02-23-2011
Closing Date:
Open until filled
Department:
Keetoowah Gaming
Enterprise Authority

Job Duties: Under the direction of the Keetoowah Gaming Enterprises Authority within the Executive Department the Chief Executive Officer will perform extensive administrative, evaluative and technical work pertaining to gaming enterprise activities. This position will have overall responsibility of establishing and insuring compliance with appropriate policies, procedures and laws of the United Keetoowah Band, the KGEA, the National Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and the National Indian Gaming Commission. Duties of this position include Leadership, Management, Human Resources Development, Guest Development, Profitability and Productivity along with all other duties as assigned.

Education Required: Bachelors Degree in Business, or similar field. The candidate must have five plus years as a Chief Executive Officer for Gaming and/or Resort and Hospitality operations with a combined five to seven years of executive experience in Gaming, Resort/Hospitality, Regulatory, Real Estate/Construction/Development, or Retail operations. The candidate must also have

held at least a Chief Executive Officer or equivalent position within the last two years.

Knowledge or skills required: The candidate must be: a highly successful leader, highly motivated, results oriented, visionary, strategic thinker, accomplished planner, highly organized with superior verbal and written communication skills, and have superior marketing skills. The candidate must also be able to accomplish goals, develop staff, and have strong financial and analytical skills and understand a strict regulatory environment.

Indian Preference will be considered

General Information: Mail your application or resume to: United Keetoowah Band, Human Resources, PO Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465 or fax to (918) 772-4367. Position is open until filled.



Position Title:
Assistant Cook, Part-time
Opening Date:
02/23/2011
Closing Date:
open until filled
Department: Title VI
Job Duties: Cook

meals in a commercial setting. Candidate must clean and maintain a safe and sanitary kitchen and dining room and other duties as assigned.

Education Required: High school diploma or GED preferred. Food Handler's permit required.

Knowledge or skills required: Must have the ability to use commercial kitchen equipment, the ability to cook, and the ability to follow oral and written instructions. Knowledge of sanitary safety required. The candidate must have a valid driver's license and have reliable work history and reliable transportation. Microsoft Office ability would be preferred.

Keetoowah Cherokee Tag Agency, P. O. Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74464

918-456-3235

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

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.



- **Concession Cook/Cashier:** (2) Part-Time Positions Available: Earnings with pooled tips are \$8+/hour. Responsible for food prep, cooking, food storage, order taking, and cashier duties. Must have a min of 6 months cash handling, cook, or waiter experience, and able to obtain food handlers certificate.

- **Vault Attendant:** (1) Part-Time Position Available: Position requires working in an enclosed confined area. Must be able to lift 25 lbs. Must have a min of 6 months cash handling experience, able to use currency counter, have strong basic math skills, and work quickly and accurately. Must be available for all shifts.

- **Cashier:** (3) Part-Time Positions Available: Average earnings with tips are \$15+/hour. Responsible for cashing tickets and delivering outstanding guest services. Must have a min of 6 months cash handling experience, able to count currency quickly and accurately, able to lift and carry 25 lbs, and is computer literate.

- **Housekeeping:** (1) Part-Time Position Available: \$8.00/hour; Must be able to work the 2nd & 3rd Shift hours. Responsible for a variety of housekeeping duties.

- **Surveillance:** (2) Part-Time Positions Available: Must be available for all shifts. Must have sharp observation skills, verbal skills and writing ability to document reports. Technical Skills a must to manage & monitor multiple technical equipment/cameras. The Position is responsible for monitoring activities of the Surveillance System and Casino Facility to ensure the safety and integrity of the entire Casino operation through observation and reporting. Position requires working in an enclosed confined area. Knowledge of gaming operations or casino experience are preferred.

All applicants must meet the following minimum requirements to apply: Must be 18 years old or older, must have a High School diploma or GED, no felony record, must be able to pass background check and drug test.

Apply at the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino Administration Office, 2450 S. Muskogee Ave., Tahlequah. Applications also available on the web at www.unitedkeetoowahband.org and at the Casino during open hours.

Native American Indian Preference Applied/Drug Free Workplace

Average earnings listed above are not guaranteed, all employees working in the Casino not in a 2nd hand smoke environment with noise and bright lights.

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Understanding College Financial Aid

Earning a college education is one of the best investments in your future. Today, college students and their families face a “perfect storm” – college tuition is climbing, the economy is weakening, and credit is tightening. Figuring out how to pay for a college education is more challenging than ever before. But one thing hasn’t changed, filling out the government’s aid form is still complicated and time consuming.

As recently as Dec. 2, 2008, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings told those at the Federal Student Aid Conference that the FAFSA is “still a real pain in the assets.”

“Sadly, many students, up to 8 million in fact, don’t even apply for aid, in part because of all the red tape. We believe most would have been eligible for assistance,” Spellings said.

Fortunately, more than \$170 billion in financial aid is available to help pay for college. Filing your federal financial aid application, known as the FAFSA, is the first step in applying for more than 90% of this money.

We can help. We make your filing process accurate and fast so you have peace of mind that your eligibility for financial aid is the best it can be.

What Is a FAFSA?

All college students are expected to contribute towards their education costs. How much you and your family will be expected to contribute depends on your financial situation — and is what’s called your Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the form the U.S. Department of Education (ED) requires to determine your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The government conducts a “need analysis” based on financial information, such as income, assets, and other family information, which you (and your parents if you are a dependent student) will be asked to provide.

Your application is examined by a federal processor and the results are sent by computer to the financial aid offices of the colleges you’ve chosen.

The FAFSA is the application most colleges use to determine eligibility for federal, state, and

college-sponsored financial aid, including grants, educational loans, and work-study programs.

Eligibility

Nearly every student is eligible for some form of financial aid, including low-interest Federal Stafford and/or parent PLUS loans, regardless of income or circumstances, provided that you:

- are a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or an eligible non-citizen;
- have a valid Social Security Number;
- have a high school diploma or GED;
- are registered with the U.S. Selective Service (if you are a male ages 18 to 25);
- complete a FAFSA promising to use any federal aid for educational purposes;
- do not owe refunds on any federal student grants;
- are not in default on any student loans; and
- have not been found guilty of the sale or possession of illegal drugs during a period when you received federal student aid.

Applying for Aid - FAFSA Is Step #1

To be considered for federal financial aid, you must submit a completed FAFSA on time.

Additionally, most states, colleges and universities use the FAFSA to award other types of aid, including state-and-college-sponsored financial aid such as grants, loans, and work-study programs.

Besides the FAFSA, some states and colleges require that you file other applications for aid. Check with your college’s financial aid administrator for any state or college-specific requirements.

Deadlines

You can file your FAFSA starting January 1. (You can do it earlier with us and we’ll file the form January 1.)

Federal aid is limited and much of it is offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so the earlier you file the better your chances of accessing the most financial aid possible.

Many states, colleges, and universities have filing deadlines as early as the first weeks in January.

Pay close attention to how colleges word their deadline instructions. Some refer to the date by which your FAFSA must be submitted – the Transaction Receipt Date – while others refer to the date your completed aid application must be sent by the federal processor to a college’s financial aid office.

Missing deadlines can ruin your opportunity for financial aid. You should check with your colleges’ financial aid administrators to learn each college’s exact FAFSA deadline. Filing as close to January 1 as possible is highly recommended.

To help our clients, Student Financial Aid Services offers an up-to-date database of individual state and college filing deadlines and special assistance to late filers, including those facing immediate deadlines.

FAFSA Deadlines

FAFSA deadlines are set by federal and state agencies, as well as individual school financial aid offices, and vary widely. Some schools have deadlines as early as the second week in January!

Additionally, applicants have to pay particular attention to deadline specifics, as some refer to the date by which individual FAFSAs must be submitted (Transaction Receipt Date), while others refer to the date by which individual FAFSAs must be fully processed (completed by the federal processor, signed and made available to the school financial aid office).

It pays to file early!

No matter what your individual state or school filing deadline, when it comes to your FAFSA, the sooner you file after January 1st each year (the date that the federal processor begins accepting applications), the better!

Many types of financial aid (particularly need-based aid, including grants, loans and work-study programs) are limited and are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, the sooner your FAFSA is fully processed and released to your school’s financial aid administrators, the better your chances of receiving consideration for the maximum amount of financial aid for which you may be eligible.

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UKB March 2011 Calendar of Council, District and Special Meetings

- March 5** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m.
UKB Community Services Building
- March 10** Illinois District Meeting
Vian Satellite Office, 6:30 p.m.
- March 10** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Sallisaw Satellite Office
- March 11** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m..
Keener Baptist Church

UKB April 2011 Calendar of Council, District and Special Meetings

- April 2** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m.
UKB Community Services Building
- April 8** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m.
Jim Proctor Elder Community Center
- April 14** Illinois District Meeting
Vian Satellite Office, 6:30 p.m.
- April 14** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Sallisaw Satellite Office

* No other meeting dates available at press time.

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 Mar. 2011

MARCH 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Menus are subject to change without notice. For more info call: 918-772-4380		1 Loaded baked potato soup broccoli crackers salad & dessert	2 Chicken strips mac & cheese green beans biscuit salad & dessert	3 Sour kraut w/ weenies black eyed peas texas toast salad & dessert	4	5
6	7 Hamburger steak w/ brown gravy rice — carrots texas toast salad & dessert	8 Brown beans hominy diced potato cornbread salad & dessert	9 Spaghetti w/ meat sauce green beans garlic toast salad & dessert	10 Stuffed peppers mixed veggies breadsticks salad & dessert	11	
13	14 Smothered pork chops grilled veggies hot rolls salad & dessert	15 BBQ Chicken pork & beans potato salad jello salad	16 Beef tips w/ brown gravy carrots breadsticks salad & dessert	17 Beer pater Cod hushpuppies corn coleslaw dessert	18	
20	21 Tortilla soup Spanish rice hominy breadsticks salad & dessert	22 Beef stroganoff white rice broccoli & cheese hot rolls salad & dessert	23 White beans w/ ham yellow hominy corn muffins salad & dessert	24 Chicken & dumplings mixed veggies pudding & cookies salad	25	
27	28 Chicken cordon blue herb garlic potatoes green beans salad & dessert	29 Baked potatoes w/ fixin grilled veggies texas toast salad & dessert	30 Enchiladas Spanish rice refried beans salad & dessert	31 CULTURAL-FOODS DAY and MARCH BIRTH-DAYS	31	

UKB Regular January Council Meeting Minutes

**UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting
at the UKB Community Services Building
January 8, 2011
12:00 p.m. – 1:33 p.m.
(Inauguration was at 10:00 AM)**

I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

II. Invocation: Sammy Still

III. Roll Call: 12 + Chief answered Roll Call

IV. Chief's Address

- Welcomed the newly elected and re-elected Council who were sworn in this morning. Chief stated that we have a lot of work to do!!

- We received notification on September 10, 2010 of trust land being reviewed at this time. We expect an answer very soon. Appraisal of the 76 acres has been completed and submitted as the last document for the trust application.

- It has taken approximately one year for the UKB to receive a Tobacco Compact.

- Years ago the UKB had established smoke shops then it became a legal matter that pertained to issues of lands. The compact had border rates, our boundaries touch outside states.

- Chief gave recognition to the hard work our Attorney General Ken Bellmard does and the success he has achieved with the Tobacco Compact.

- Tobacco was used as medicine. Our ancestors used it for numerous reasons such as ear aches, tooth aches, etc. Tobacco has been medicine to us for many years.

- When dealing with people from other tribes there are two things to look for in the compact; outside entities will be treated like a foreign country when dealing with us. It is a government to government relationship between us and the United States. If there is any dispute we would give them an opportunity to sit down and talk to us but in our court. We will follow the requested provisions in the compact.

- Chief read a brief paragraph from the Tobacco Compact regarding the "Foreign Country" clause.

- We have a few locations that we can set up the smoke shops.

- September 10, 2010, Echohawk stated if we fulfill the requested changes for trust land status we will give him the power to put land in trust with the support of the Corporate Charter.

- The Bingo Hall was first started for the UKB. As years passed and legal battles fought to keep the Bingo Hall open later became a casino and still operating today. One incident involved the Delawares when they lost their recognition. This was alarming to us because of some of the wording we were hearing so we asked the lobbyist to into the contract.

- God was watching over us. He made a way for us to maintain our Bingo Hall/Casino so that we would have a means to finance our tribe and help our people.

- The Tobacco Compact will help provide revenue for the tribe but in turn it will provide jobs, increase program funding and help open new programs for our people.

- I believe the Council and Administration have heard up in the hills that the time is here. This is where our ancestors once envisioned the UKB. We will receive all that rightfully belongs to the UKB.

- We allocate funds to help give services to the people, many times we have to close the programs early in the month, but we will still look into other resources to try and help.

- We need to train and educate our younger generations. We are the proudest tribe for where we have been and where we are now but we are still moving forward.

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

1. MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve the Regular Council minutes of December 04, 2010; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VI. Presentations -

1. Leroy Adair:

Congratulated the Council and the newly elected Council. He stated he stands behind Council and Administrations. He sees a strong Council.

Gave a brief summary of the final results of the election. The election ran smoothly.

The Tribal Secretary, Joyce Hawk, and I have discussed having a meeting with Enrollment and the Election Board on preparing to improve the

books of membership.

Chief Wickliffe congratulated the Election Board on a job well done on the election.

2. Barry Dotson:

Announced that Miss Rosin had colon cancer. She has returned home. She cannot afford her medication. Barry asked if it would be possible to help her in this important purchase.

3. Betty Holcomb:

Asked if there was any way for the Budget and Finance Committee to increase the school clothing voucher.

Ella Mae Worley stated the Budget and Finance Committee couldn't promise anything but it will be on the agenda for the next Budget and Finance Committee meeting.

4. Jerry Hansen:

Asked what became of the effort to produce a septic company? He stated there is a great need among our people.

Charles Locust stated that our self-governance is an avenue that the septic company will come into play since it will be an IHS item.

5. Barry Dotson: asked what became of that business plan to start our own propane company?

Charles Locust stated a business plan is being researched. We have a couple options. We could purchase the business that is already established or start on our own. We want LIHEAP to be self-sufficient.

6. Tom Duncan:

First of all I'd like to thank you all on a job-well-done. I'm glad to be a part of this Council.

Asked if the burial assistance amount be increased. If no, what about purchasing headstone for the UKB people?

He stated the tribe could get a discount and a contract agreement for five years.

The cost of the headstone would be approximately anywhere from \$159.00 to \$300.00. This amount is contingent upon the agreement made with the tribe.

7. Charles Locust:

The process to establish the AD-HOC committee is ongoing. This will take time. Joyce Hawk will be the chairperson of this committee.

Joyce Hawk stated there is still no formed committee. Three names have been brought to my attention; Leroy Adair and Ella Mae Worley.

Chief Wickliffe stated there are a lot of people who would like to come back to UKB due to misunderstanding or being coerced into relinquishing. I think it is only right for people to state and show burden of proof on why they should be accepted to rejoin the tribe.

Charles Locust said the committee will develop criteria, it will be dealt with case-by-case due to many issues that could lead a member to relinquish from the tribe.

Betty Holcomb stated this was going to be good for the people. They didn't have a choice.

B.I.A. is looking at records to verify who we give services to.

8. Willie Christie:

Members outside our jurisdiction are not eligible for services. When will they be able to receive services from UKB.

Eddie Sacks stated that General Funds are not restricted. Emergency assistance is not restricted by boundaries. Other B.I.A. funds are restricted by guidelines on how the funds are spent.

9. Betty Holcomb:

Asked if the Disaster Relief Team are prepared for the winter and capable of having things on standby.

10. Eddie Sacks:

Asked if there was a "cloak of secrecy" regarding filing for office or Council seats. We are the tribe that had this in the ordinance. Once you put your name in the hat it should be public notice. Is there a way this could be amended?

Leroy Adair stated this item is going to be in discussion in the next meeting with the attorney present.

Barry Dotson said somewhere in the Election Ordinance it stated that filings are to be secret until the closing of the filing period.

11. Charles Locust:

Announced to everyone that the Mayoral Election is in February.

Stated that Jason Nichols, IT Director,

is on city Council and is running for Mayor of Tahlequah.

We keep a good relationship with the City of Tahlequah. If possible please show your support for Jason.

12. Chief Wickliffe:

Referred back to the headstone proposal. Headstones, at this time, does sound like a good idea but it will have to be mentioned to the director of tribal operations to see if it will be able to fit within the funding among the Human Services Department.

MOTION by Barry Dotson to authorize administration to approve the headstone proposal contingent upon the Budget and Finance Committee findings; SECONDED by Willie Christie; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VII. Reports to Council

1. Enrollment Report: Joyce Hawk

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to accept and approve 24 new applicants for UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Ella Mae Worley; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to acknowledge and honor 3 membership relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Ella Mae Worley; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VIII. Public Forum

1. John Hair: announced that Jack Wright, a UKB member, is having a birthday dinner and invited all Council and family to join in the celebration. He stated that all the progress the tribe has made makes him feel good.

2. Georgia Hogner: thanked the tribe for the flowers sent on behalf of the loss of her grandson. She also congratulated the new and re-elected Council. She said to keep up the good work.

Leroy Adair: stated in many locations he has been delivering the newspaper. He has delivered to clinics, stores, satellite offices, Muskogee, Treatment Center, museums, etc.

Ella Mae Worley: asked Leroy Adair to introduce the Election Board Attorney to the Council.

Jennifer McBee: stated she enjoys working for the tribe and is of Cherokee descent. She is a native of Sallisaw.

Betty Holcomb: thanked Council and Administration for the progress that took place in 2010 and encouraged everyone to keep up the momentum for 2011.

IX. Unfinished Business – NONE

X. New Business

1. Indian Preference Letter Signature – Joyce Hawk

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve to rescind resolution 10-UKB-63 and to reword new resolution as follows: to approve the UKB Tribal Secretary, Joyce Hawk, to be the primary signature for the Indian Preference Letters with Ella Mae Worley, UKB Treasurer, as alternate signature; SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

2. AD-HOC Committee – Charles Locust
MOTION by Charles Locust to approve to accept Leroy Adair and Ella Mae Worley as AD-HOC Committee members; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

XI. Announcements -

Canadian District Meeting; January 22, 2011 at Bacone College.

Saline District Meeting; January 18, 2011 at the Kenwood Community Building at 6:00 PM

Illinois District Meeting; February 10, 2011 at Vian Office at 6:00 PM

Flint and Goingsnake District Meetings February 12, 2011 at the Stilwell Office at 12:00 PM

Tahlequah District Meeting; February 18, 2011 at the Jim Proctor Elder Center at 6:00 PM

XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Eddie Sacks; SECONDED by Willie Christie; Approve by affirmation: 2:30 PM

Keetoowah Cherokee Gospel Singing Enjoyed by All

The spoken language of the Keetoowah Cherokee people is often considered attractive to the ear, but when this dialect is voiced in song it is appreciated by more than just native speakers.

The United Keetoowah Band's (UKB) Language, History and Culture Department recently commemorated the vocal art with a gospel singing Feb. 12 at the UKB Wellness Center.

Choogie Kingfisher, cultural coordinator, said the function served as a venue to share Keetoowah Cherokee hymns as well as a place to share the Keetoowah Cherokee language.

"Language is what sets us apart from other tribes and we have a very beautiful language as well as some very beautiful and heartfelt songs," said Kingfisher.

Kingfisher said the idea came from his upbringing as a Christian singer. He was raised singing the hymns and enjoying them as a Keetoowah Cherokee. He proposed the idea of a gospel singing to his supervisor, Lisa Larue, and she and the other staff agreed it was a wonderful idea for an event.

The singing was open to all song leaders and groups, but the snowy weather kept most of the groups who planned to come absent. However, Ed Jumper and Jack Kingfisher arrived and led the assembly in a variety of songs such as "Orphan Child", "At the Cross", "One Drop of Blood", "Amazing Grace", "Just a Little Talk With Jesus", "Beautiful Life", "What a Day That Will Be", "Pretty Home", "I'm Building a Bridge" and many more.



Jack Kingfisher strums his guitar as he sings a gospel hymn during a gospel singing held at the UKB Wellness Center, Saturday, February 12. The event was sponsored by the UKB Language, Culture and History department.

Those present joined in when they knew the words and listened when they did not.

For refreshment, Cindy Hair, cultural coordinator, prepared chili with crackers and drinks. Like the singing, the food was free of charge and plenty for everyone.

Kingfisher said the department plans to sponsor another gospel singing this year with, hopefully, a larger venue.

Elders Celebrate Valentine's Day at Title VI

Elders eating lunch at the Jim Proctor Elder Center on Valentine's Day were in for a good time courtesy of the Title VI staff. The staff went all out to help more than 90 people celebrate the day the world sets aside to commemorate love.

As the elders signed in each one received a ticket for door prize drawings. A large bowl of Valentine's candy was set nearby for those with a sweet tooth to have a little snack before the meal was served.

For the elders' listening pleasure the band Country & Gospel played during the entire event, stopping only for the announcement of prizes. Levi Jones, lead singer, and the group are regular entertainers at the elder center every second Monday of the month.

Also on hand was Denyce Dunham-Finch of Traditions Home Care Inc. to provide blood pressure and blood sugar checks. She also showed off her singing skills as a guest performer with Country & Gospel.

Lauryn Thomas, Americorps VISTA Program worker, made valentines, signed by the Title VI staff, for each of the elders present.

After the brisket dinner was complete, Rebecca Dreadfulwater, Title VI caregiver coordinator, drew four names for boxes of candy. She then identified longest married couple and the newest married couple.

Atha and Thelma Meigs won the longest married category with 63 years of marriage. Rock and Connie Dobson won the newest married couple category with one and a half years of marriage. Both couples received heart shaped candles for their prizes.

Betty Lowery, Wauneta Duvall and Carole Presley shared poems with the assembled group. Two of the ladies received a pillow and a throw blanket and the third lady received a valentine picture frame for their efforts. All three of the ladies poems started with "roses are red, violets are blue" and varied afterward. The crowd favorite seemed to be Duvall's poem placing the blame on a ruined life at the feet of a former lover.

Dreadfulwater said the staff throws parties each year for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween and Christmas. They also honor veterans for Memorial Day, the Fourth of July and Veterans Day.



Title VI staff of the Jim Proctor Elder Center held a special Valentine's Day meal and presented several gifts to attending Elders. Pictured are Thelma and Atha Meigs who were honored as the oldest married couple attending the event. The Meigs have been married for 63 years.

Heat Up The Hoop

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