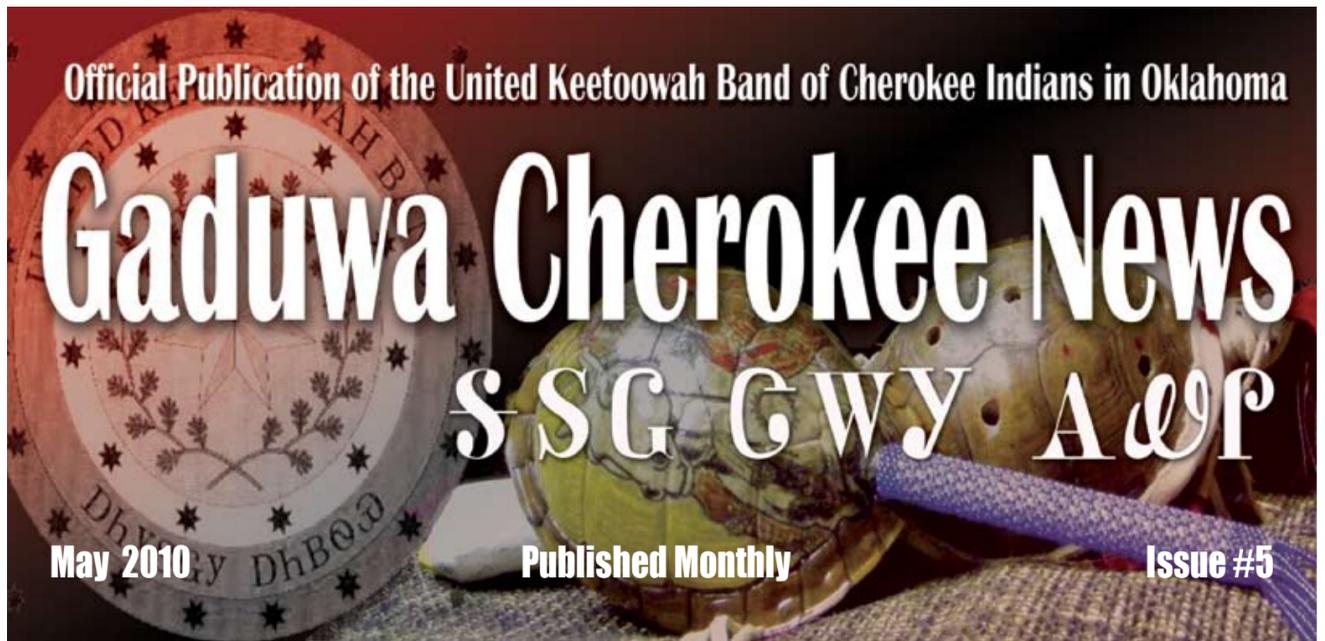


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# UKB Gets Self Governance

*"No right is more sacred to a nation, to a people, than the right to freely determine its social, economic, political and cultural future without external interference. The fullest expression of this right occurs when a nation a nation freely governs itself." - The Late Joseph Burton DeLaCruz 1937- 2000*

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma received official announcement from Director, Office of Self-Governance Sharee M. Freeman, Washington, D.C. on April 27, 2010 congratulating the United Keetoowah Band on their approval to Self-Governance.

In the letter, Ms. Freeman said: Section 402 of P.L. 93-638, as amended, authorizes the Secretary (of the United States Department of the Interior) acting through the Director of the Office of Self-Governance (OSG), to participate in the tribal self governance program. The qualified applicant pool is required to consist of each tribe that meets the following criteria:

- 1) Successfully completes the planning phase, which includes legal and budgetary research, as well as internal tribal government planning and organizational preparation;
- 2) Has requested participation in the tribal self-governance program by resolution or other official action by the tribal governing body; and

3) Has demonstrated, for the previous three fiscal years, financial stability and financial management capability as evidenced by the tribe having no material audit exceptions in the required

Tribal Operations Tim Good Voice said, "Programs that were included in the UKB application for self governance included the Indian Child Welfare Program, Aid to Tribal Government, In-

Cherokees hope to compact include Services to Indian Children, Elderly and Families, Indian Adult Education, Indian Economic Development, Indian Law Enforcement, Community Fire Protection, Indian Employment Assistance, Indian Housing Assistance and Education and Higher Education Grant Programs."

"This was one of my platforms during my campaign in 2004, that we would strive and complete a Self-Governance status for the United Keetoowah Band. This is just fulfilling our commitment to our tribal members accomplished by our administration. The tribe has always had the ability to run its own business, and after five years of hard work, we have proven that we can run our own tribal government as well as other Federally Recognized tribes," said United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe.

"This is a historic moment for the UKB. We can finally apply for any new program and funding other Federally Recognized tribes have. This will bring jobs and funding to help our people receive job training and scholarships for our children and adult members. We are very excited about our new tribal status, because as a leader, I can see the great potential and future opportunities for our members. It's a great day to be a UKB member," said Assistant Chief Charles Locust.



annual audit of the self-determination contracts of the tribe.

dian Self-Determination Contract Support, BIA Social Service, BIA Roads and Tribal Self-Governance 15.022 funds. Other programs the Keetoowah

UKB Executive Director of

## UKB well received in Washington

United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe, along with Assistant Chief Charles Locust, recently returned from Washington, D.C. The UKB Delegation which included Joe Byrd, Chief's Liaison and Director of the UKB Economic Development Authority, traveled to the Nation's Capitol to visit with the Oklahoma delegation and HUD officials to discuss the possibility of receiving some funding to be re-programmed to the UKB during the shortfall for 2006 to 2009, the years the tribe were ineligible for HUD funding. HUD officials listened intently and fully supported the tribal delegation's request. HUD also provided information regarding supplementary funds available from the 2009 budget where other tribes returned unused housing funds allowing other tribal entities to apply for the returned funds, as well as other funding assistance which is available.

The tribal delegation also met with Assistant Secretary of the Interior Larry EchoHawk along with other top Governmental officials while in Washington. UKB Chief Wickliffe shared the history of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees, discussed some issues the tribe is facing today, and the direction the administration is moving for the future of the tribe. "The difference

between the United Keetoowah Band and other tribes, we are the only tribe in the eastern part of Oklahoma that require blood quantum. A majority of Keetoowah Cherokees live within fifty miles from the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians headquarters in Tahlequah. The Keetoowah Cherokees were developed by clergy and common people, they weren't developed by wealthy oil people, they have wealth, we don't, we have people behind us. This is the reason people join our membership; they are not joining us because we have housing, IHS funds, or because we have wealth and casinos. They are joining our tribe because we are the Indians, this is why. When you have been raised up Indian you have different values. You care for your family, your elders and for your youth. You care about their future and the past," stated UKB Assistant Chief Locust.

Assistant Chief Locust stated their mission to Washington was to re-affirm UKB's mission, relaying their message to the Governmental entities that the United Keetoowah Band was still here, moving forward and to report the tribe's progress. The Oklahoma delegations along with other Governmental entities were very supportive of the UKB's aspirations. "We feel this trip was successful and very informative," added Locust.

## In This Issue . . .

- Struggles and Successes of the UKB Govt . . . pg 3
- Chief Speaks at Symposium . . . . . pg 4
- Day of Champions . . . . . pg 5

## UKB Newspaper becomes Gaduwa Cherokee News

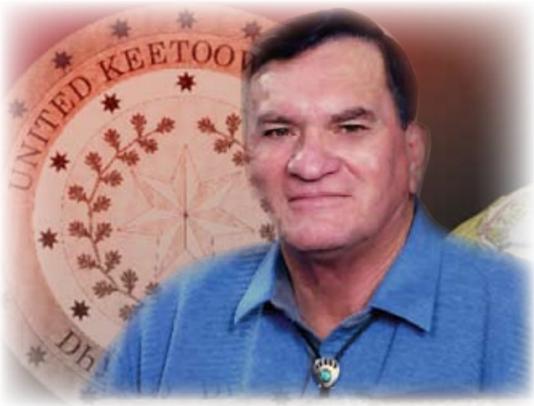
Keeping with our Keetoowah Cherokee tradition, the UKB tribal council passed a resolution in April's meeting to change the name of our tribal newspaper. The newspaper's banner will be replaced from "Keetoowah Cherokee News" to "Gaduwa Cherokee News". This is the first of many changes we hope to make during the coming year. We hope to continue providing you with enjoyable reading from your tribal newspaper and please, feel free to send us your suggestions on how can make your paper more appealing. To contact our office call: 918-456-6533 and ask for Marilyn Craig or Sammy Still.

Wado,  
Sammy Still  
UKB Media/Public Relations Director

Check out our website at:  
[www.ukb-nsn.gov](http://www.ukb-nsn.gov) or  
[www.unitedkeetoowahband.org](http://www.unitedkeetoowahband.org)

Elder Assistance  
Applications Due  
See page 4

# A Letter to the UKB People From Chief George Wickliffe



Dear Tribal Members,

On April 27, 2010, the Keetoowah Cherokees got word that we were approved to self-governance. My column this month will explain self-governance. The information comes from the office of Self Governance Communication and Education.

**Definition of Self-Governance: SELF-GOVERNMENT 2: government under the control and direction of the inhabitants of a political unit rather than by an outside authority; broadly: control of one's own affairs.**

We, as Tribal societies, lived and prospered in our natural environment for thousands of years. Since our first contact with Europeans, bureaucracies in one form or another have dramatically influenced, changed and manipulated the lives of all Native Americans.

In a few short centuries, we have been transformed from self-sufficient, prosperous, tribal communities and governments into communities struggling to survive in the, now dominant, Non-Indian society. Through exposure to European diseases, our populations were diminished to near-extinction. Most of our lands and natural resources were lost through treaties, and acts of Congress. The lands and resources remaining in Indian ownership were mismanaged by bureaucratic incompetence. Our traditional economies were destroyed by colonial invasion, disrupting the natural balance of tribal trade and sustenance. Our self-sustaining governments were rendered near useless as the federal

government exerted control over Indian Affairs. Our land bases were devastated by termination policies. Many extended family units became dysfunctional as our children were taken from their homes and placed in far away boarding schools. Tribal societies rapidly deteriorated as our people were forbidden to practice their religions, speak their native languages and maintain their cultures.

Yet, despite all this we have proven we can survive. Now, the Tribal Self-Governance initiative has given us resolve not only to survive, but the opportunity to once again become self-sufficient, self-determining and self-governing societies.

The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project initiated this opportunity in 1988. The Permanent Self-Governance Legislation, P.L. 103-413 passed on October 25, 1994, now makes this opportunity a permanent reality for many Tribes. We have opened the doors that lead to a new Indian affairs agenda---one in which tribes can re-establish and re-affirm the formal government-to-government relationship between tribal governments and the U.S. Government. This relationship is critical and inherent in the treaties between our governments.

Self-governance is a fundamental right that Indian Nations practiced for thousands of years before the formation of the United States. We are regaining authority and control over our own affairs, to carry out our tribal governmental responsibilities for our people---economically, socially, politically and culturally. Only then will true Self-Determination and self-sufficiency of the Indian Nations and the trust responsibility of the United States become realities, not simply empty bureaucratic promises.

Self-Governance is fundamentally designed to provide Tribal governments with control and decision-making authority over the Federal financial resources provided for the benefit of Indian people. More importantly, Self-Governance fosters the shaping of a "new partnership" between Indian Tribes and the United States in their government-to-government relationships. Self-Governance provides, administratively, the opportunity for Tribal governments to exercise their sovereignty with minimal Federal intrusion and involvement.

All our Tribal societies enjoyed self-sufficient existence for thousands of years prior to western European exploration and colonization of this continent. Our cultures provided the basic democratic philosophies embodied in the United States Constitution. Our valuable resources changed European civilization. Through the course of dealing

with the United States, often through formal treaties, we relinquished ownership to millions of acres of land, containing invaluable natural resources. In exchange, the United States was to protect our reserved lands, rights, and resources as well as provide services to Indian people.

Self-sufficiency was replaced as the United States through its Congress, Courts, and particularly the Federal bureaucracy transformed, sometimes, brutally, independent Tribal status into Tribal dependency. Over generations of Federal dominance and control, even some Indian people began to believe in this imposed dependency. Yet, through all the injustice and hardships, we survived and the voices of Tribal leaders and spiritual elders in each generation reminded us of our rightful roles and authorities as Self-Governing Indian Nations.

Self-Governance returns decision-making authority and management responsibilities to Tribes. Self-Governance is about change through the transfer of Federal funding available for programs, services, functions, and activities to Tribal control. Tribes are accountable to their own people for resource management, service delivery, and development.

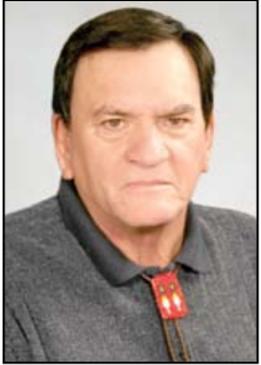
Self-Governance is not the "termination" of the Federal-Indian relationship: Safeguards protecting the trust responsibility of the United States to Indian Tribes and people, including our sacred treaties, are contained in the enabling legislation, as well as in each negotiated Compact of Self-Governance. Self-Governance does not solve all problems, particularly the problem of unmet needs or inadequate funding, but it does allow Tribal Governments to develop their own solutions.

Self-Governance is an evolving approach directed by participating Tribes in cooperation with the U.S. Congress and the Executive Branch. Each Tribal government by virtue of its own culture, tradition, and political philosophy will determine its relationship with the United States, a relationship that may include either direct Federal service delivery, Self-Determination contracts, Self-Governance Compacts, or some combination of these options. When these individual Tribal decisions are made regarding the desired relationship with the United States, taken as a whole, they will cause organizational and functional changes in the Federal Indian service bureaucracy. Hopefully, over time this re-definition of roles and responsibilities will strengthen the efforts of the "new partnership" in the government-to-government relationship and will serve to meet the Trust and other obligations of the United States to Indian Tribes and people.

When Self-Governance is the option that a Tribe chooses in establishing its individual relationship with the United States, it provides the Tribe, through its elected Council, the opportunity to determine the control and authority that the Tribe wishes to assume in the protection and advancement of the Tribe's cultural, economic and political realities. This exercise of sovereign powers requires

*continued on page 3*

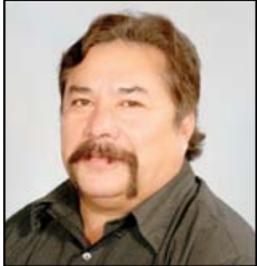
## UKB Council



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Cell: 918-207-2991



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Cell: 918-822-3814



**Delaware Dist. Rep.**  
Jerry Hansen  
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**Saline Dist. Rep.**  
Charles Smoke  
Cell: 918-457-7071



**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:**



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Woodrow Proctor  
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**Sequoyah Dist. Rep.**  
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Cell: 918-822-3803



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



**Illinois Dist. Rep.**  
Barbara Girty  
Cell: 918-457-7067



## Offices Closed for Memorial Day

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal offices will be closed Friday, May 28 and Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day. Offices will re-open on Tuesday, June 1. We wish everyone a safe holiday.

**George G. Wickliffe** Chief  
**Charles D. Locust** Assistant Chief

**Liz Littledave** Secretary  
**Ella Mae Cooksey Worley** Treasurer

**District Representatives**

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

**Keetoowah News**

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or [www.ukb-nsn.gov](http://www.ukb-nsn.gov)

Sam L. Still, Editor

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All editorials and letters will include 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.

# Struggles and Success of the UKB Government

By Assistant Chief  
Charles Locust



As Assistant Chief of the United Keetoowah Band, I want to discuss important legal issues that will have an effect on our tribal members and youth for the future. These issues have been initiated and brought to the attention of the Government entities by persons and/or groups, with the plan to bring harm to the UKB Government and its members. Because of the great harm planned for the UKB, this Administration and Tribal Council have made difficult decisions to challenge these damaging efforts in the court of law. Why? Because we had the truth behind us and we could not afford to stand aside and allow our Tribe to be destroyed by greed and untruths. For this Administration to challenge these untruths, we had to use our limited resources, involving a very difficult decision, heavily questioned during tribal council discussions. The Council voted to challenge these harmful issues in court.

These challenges involved some form of litigation and lawsuits involving the following entities, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), Department of Justice (DOJ), Indian Health Services (IHS), Department of the Interior (DOI), and the State of Oklahoma. The following is a summary of the current status of those denials and appeals, and other decisions.

HUD: 2005

- The HUD stopped funding the UKB Housing Authority for several years, until we appealed and

reversed that decision in the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 2010, we received our annual funding back.

NIGC: 2006

- The NIGC sought to close the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino, prohibiting the tribe from receiving its largest source of revenue. UKB received a Declaratory Judgment on their "Indian Country" land description, which would require the NIGC to give a legal opinion on how they classify Indian Country within their Regulatory Authority under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. In 2010 the Casino is currently open and providing funding for the Tribe's Social Services, Emergency Assistance, and Elderly Assistance Programs.

DOJ: 2006

- The UKB received a Federal Court decision stating they could not be part of the Arkansas Riverbed Settlement, but the UKB appealed with the assistance of the DOJ and in 2008, reversed that decision in the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. This reversal of the decision has allowed us to negotiate for a settlement which could involve 80 Acres of Trust Land in Tahlequah, Successor in Interest status and jurisdiction, and a Monetary Settlement.

IHS: 2007

- The UKB was denied a 638 Contract with IHS. We appealed to the IHS Federal Officials in Maryland and reversed that denial. With the reversal on the denial the UKB was allowed to negotiate a 2010 contract for the Treatment Center to be capable of billing Federal Agencies.

DOI: 2009

- The UKB receives a decision on their request from the DOI, naming the UKB as a Successor in Interest for the former Cherokee Reservation. This Letter was from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior Larry EchoHawk. This decision allows the UKB to be recognized as having co-jurisdiction along with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, and to operate as the Sovereign Nation within that jurisdiction. Just as Congress and the DOI recognized the UKB as a tribe.

These actions did not take place in a single year but over the last six years.

We as the UKB people, have to remember these struggles. We need to know how the UKB got into the positive position we are in today. The Council and Administration have had to make difficult decisions, during their terms of office, knowing their actions will affect the entire tribe.

Personally when I have a difficult decision to make, I pray I make the right decision, and then I remember Assistant Secretary EchoHawk, when he stated to Chief Wickliffe and me, "I am aware of the UKB situation and it is a very difficult issue, because it involves two tribe," he stated. "I knew it would be controversial, but the decision made was the 'Right Thing to Do'!"

This is why the UKB Government and its leadership must, and always will fight any discrimination against our people and our tribe, especially an entity that denies us the basic opportunities, rights and resources other tribal governments receive. The Government is strong and moving in the direction that will insure it is here for our children and grandchildren.

## Tribe to Host Laying of the Wreath Ceremony



The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is inviting all Veterans and their families to attend the "Laying of the Wreath" ceremony on Monday, May 31. The event will begin at 1:00 p.m. in front of the flag poles near the UKB Community Service Building at Keetoowah Circle off West Willis Road, just south of Tahlequah. The Veterans' American Legion Riders, Post 15, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, will honor all veterans with the laying of the wreath ceremony. The group will be escorted from the Ft. Gibson National Cemetery by the Keetoowah Lighthorse.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, war-time veterans' organization, and devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is a not-for-profit community-service organization which now numbers nearly 3 million members, both men and women, in nearly 15,000 American Legion Posts worldwide.

For more information, contact Hominy Littledave at (918) 431-1818.



2010 Census "Portrait of America" Road Tour arrived at the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal headquarters, Tuesday, April 13. Susan Arkeketa, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau, and member of the "Portrait of America" tour, explained to UKB employees and community members the vital importance of participating in the 2010 Census. Pictured with members of the touring group are, Mayor of Tahlequah, Ken Purdy, Don Ade, UKB Health Services Director, UKB Assistant Chief Charles Locust, UKB Chief George Wickliffe and UKB Treasurer Ella Mae Worley.

## Reminders for College Students from the UKB Education Department

1. College students need to be applying for FAFSA Application for 2010 & 2011 right now if they have not already done so. It takes a long time to receive a Financial Award Notification Letter from the institution. This is one of the required documents to submit to the education department when applying for a scholarship.

2.) College students must submit their official transcript and meet eligibility requirements at the end of their Spring 2010 semester to receive the 2nd half of their spring scholarship. The deadline to submit the Spring official transcript is June 15th, 2010.

3.) The Education Department will be taking Fall 2010 Semester Applications starting July 1st, 2010 through September 1st, 2010. The Deadline for Fall Semester 2010 Application is September 1, 2010. For more information, contact the UKB Education Department at (918) 456-8698 or call toll free at (800) 794-5514.

## 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.

Check out our website at:  
[www.unitedkeetoowahband.org](http://www.unitedkeetoowahband.org)

## From The Chief

*continued from page 2*

decisions and actions. Tribal Government in Self-Governance, by definition, is required to be pro-active. As such, the principals and practices of Self-Governance are inseparable from Tribal sovereignty.

In recent years, national Indian Affairs, managed and dominated by Federal bureaucracies, have been shaken by revelations of gross mismanagement uncovered by the news media or Congressional investigations. Legislative and administrative solutions ranging from "New Federalism" to bureaucratic reorganization are under review. Active Tribal government involvement in this review and the allied decision-making process is essential. Tribes must have the strongest possible role in the decisions that affect our relationship with the United States and with the realities of our local communities. Decisions

cannot again be imposed on us. Self-Governance offers a Tribally-determined approach during this period of confusion, uncertainty, and change.

Self-Governance allows us to be pro-Tribal and not merely passive observers of the problems experienced by the Federal Indian Affairs bureaucracy.

We urge those of you involved in the development and implementation of American Indian policy to give serious consideration to the Self-Governance concept. Communication between the Tribes is essential. Assisting others to understand this historic Self-Governance initiative and its potential is of critical importance to us.

Our Best Regards,  
Self-Governance Communication and Education Project

*George Wickliffe*

# Chief speaks at NSU Symposium on the American Indian

## Trust suit settlement proceeding — slowly

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.”

*Reprinted by permission of The Tahlequah Daily Press  
Written by Betty Ridge*



THE KEETOOWAH Cherokee Youth Choir and Music Director, Jan Ballew, participated in the opening ceremonies of the 38th Annual Symposium on the American Indian at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. This year’s theme was titled “Oklahoma Fancy Dance”.



UNITED KEETOOWAH Band Chief George Wickliffe was a guest speaker at this year’s 38th Annual Symposium on the American Indian. Chief Wickliffe spoke about the history of the Keetoowah Cherokees, and of how our Creator provided us with the sacred fire.

**United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians**  
**Elder Assistance Program**  
 Summer 2010 May 3, 2010 – June 11, 2010

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians is pleased to announce the Elder Assistance Program. Applications may be picked up at any tribal or satellite office or your Dist Rep. Beginning on May 03, 2010. Completed applications are to be turned in by fax, mail, or direct delivery to the Tribal Enrollment Office located at 2386 S. Muskogee Ave. in Tahlequah, Ok. Fax 918-453-9345

**Eligibility Requirements**

Must be an **exclusive** member of the United Keetoowah Band between the ages of 55-64 and been a member for 1 year.  
 You must have an updated enrollment form and a completed Elderly Assistance Program form on file with the Enrollment Office.  
 Exclusive members 65 and older immediately qualify for the assistance after Council approval of new enrollees.  
 All eligible members in a household will receive the Elderly Assistance.

**Additional Information**

Applications for May 2010 will be accepted from May 3<sup>rd</sup> until noon on May 27<sup>th</sup>.  
 Applications for June will be accepted until noon on June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 11<sup>th</sup>. The last day for accepting applications is noon on June 11<sup>th</sup>. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**

No applications will be accepted on the weekend or when Tribal offices are closed.  
 Help filling out the application will be provided, when requested.

**Procedure for applications and check disbursement**

- Assistance checks for May applicants will be mailed on June 1<sup>st</sup>. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**
- Assistance checks for June applicants will be mailed on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**
- June 15, 2010 will be the last day for Summer 2010 check disbursement. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**

If you have any questions about receiving your check, call:  
 Tribal Accounting Department  
 918-453-9162

# Gospel Music Fest

**WHEN: June 12, 2010**  
**WHERE: Under the United Keetoowah Band Pavilion**  
**TIME: 11 am until sundown!!**

## All Musicians Welcome & Gospel Groups

- ✓ Bring your instruments and lawn chairs.
- ✓ Afternoon meal will be provided.
- ✓ Sponsored by Norman Carey (918) 506-4081 and Doug Bryant
- ✓ E-mail: [visionary4christ@yahoo.com](mailto:visionary4christ@yahoo.com)

**Directions:** 2 miles S of Tahlequah on Hwy 62, turn left on W. Willis Road (at Finish line store) follow to T turn at first road to left follow to Pavilion.

# UKB hosts Day of Champions

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will host a special camp on June 16, 2010. A Day of Champions Football Camp is led by Coach Ken Heupel and a special team of veteran coaches and players from various state colleges, university and professional NFL organizations.

Although the camp is labeled a football camp, it is open to athletes of all sports – both boys and girls – ages 8 to 14. The camp provides the kids coaching in athletics, mentoring on health, reading, fitness life choices and focuses on the four principles of leadership; discipline, respect, trust and hard work.

The cost of the camp is free, and the UKB will accept the first 150 boys and girls ages 8 -14. Keetoowah children and employees' children will be given preference and at a later date, if there is still available slots, the camp will be opened up to children with a C.D.I.B. card. Please sign your kids up as soon as possible. You may fax the form to Marilyn Craig at (918) 431-1873, or the form may be mailed to Marilyn Craig, Day of Champions Football Camp, United Keetoowah Band, PO Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

The staff at the Day of Champions include:

- Ken Heupel** -President of Day of Champions Inc.
- Earle Mosley** -Head Football Coach Northern State University  
-Former Running Back Coach Chicago Bears  
-Former Running Back Coach for Lou Holtz at Notre Dame  
-Former Running Back Coach University of Kansas
- Josh Norman** -NFL player San Diego Chargers
- Chuck Hepola** -Former Football coach at Louisiana Monroe University  
-Former Offensive Coordinator University of East Central Oklahoma
- Justin Iske** -Offensive Coordinator Northwest Oklahoma State University  
-Former Offensive Coordinator Western Arizona  
-Former Offensive Coordinator Southwest State University
- Waleed Gaines** -Defensive Back Coach Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
-Former Defensive Back at Northern State University
- James Pryor** -Defensive Coordinator Eastern Arizona  
-Former Head Coach University of Arizona Western
- Tony Mitchell**-Defensive Line Coach Arizona Western

- Former Defensive Line Coach Germany Football League
- Josh Brewer** -Defensive Back Coach Arizona Western
- Former Defensive Back Coach Arena Football League Colorado Ice
- Lee Blankenship** -Former Quarterback East Central Oklahoma
- Former University of Oklahoma Quarterback
- Jarrail Jackson** -Wide Receiver coach at Dartmouth
- Former Wide Receiver University of Oklahoma
- Matt Brand** -Running Backs Coach Northwestern OK State University
- Strength Coach Northwestern OK State University
- Bob Fello** -Former Defensive Line Coach Kansas State
- Dustin Perry**-Assistant Strength Coach Washington Redskins



DAY OF CHAMPIONS  
TRUST. RESPECT. HARD WORK. DISCIPLINE.

FOOTBALL  
CAMP

**JUNE 16**  
**8:00AM - 3:30PM**  
**KEETOOWAH TRIBAL YOUTH**  
**AGES 8 - 14**

**KEETOOWAH CHEROKEE CELEBRATION GROUNDS**  
WEST ON WILLIS ROAD,  
THEN NORTH ON KEETOOWAH CIRCLE

2010

CAMP SPONSOR



UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS IN OKLAHOMA

## CAMP INFORMATION

**AGES:** 8 - 14  
**DATE/TIME:** June 16, 2010 - 8:00am - 3:30pm  
**COST:** Free - no cost to participants\*  
\*Maximum capacity is 150 campers. Campers will be admitted first come first serve.  
**CAMP FEATURES:**  
 ▶ Camp instruction      ▶ Camp t-shirt  
 ▶ Guest speakers        ▶ Drinks  
**CHECK IN:** Wednesday, June 16, 2010 - 7:30am  
\*Athletes should come wearing t-shirt, athletic shorts, socks, tennis shoes or cleats & be ready to workout!  
**CHECK OUT:** Wednesday, June 16, 2010 - 3:30pm\*  
\*Immediately following player/coach autograph session

**EACH CAMPER WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO GET AUTOGRAPHS & ITEMS SIGNED AT THE END OF CAMP. WE ASK THAT AUTOGRAPHS ARE NOT REQUESTED DURING CAMP FROM PLAYERS & COACHES!**

## CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

The DAY OF CHAMPIONS FOOTBALL CAMP experience is beyond just athletic skill enhancement, it provides one-on-one mentoring and coaching in athletics, health, fitness, life choices and the four principles of leadership: discipline, respect, trust and hard work. Character, responsibility, goal setting, dedication, hard work & integrity are themes throughout the camp and serve to motivate each camp member to reach their full potential on and off the football field.

Each position is taught and supervised by DAY OF CHAMPIONS football staff, made up of some of the top Division I-II-III & NAIA collegiate coaches in the country along with past OU football players and past & current NFL players.

Players from experienced athletes to youth just learning the game will be able to enhance their skill level & learn basic football fundamentals geared to them. The day includes specific position skill instruction, strength & conditioning drills, nutritional information and individual & team competition.

## APPLICATION

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Parent / Guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp Participant \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Work Home (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp Participant Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 School To Attend Fall of 2010 \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Fall of 2010 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Offensive Position(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Defensive Position(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adult Shirt Size     SM     M     L     XL

In consideration for participation in this program, camp and/or workout program, I, for myself, my minor child(ren) and our respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents and assignees, do hereby forever release and discharge any and all claims, actions, demands, suits and any other rights to recovery, known or unknown for any and all damages, loss or injury that may occur, whether to person or property, as a result of any act or omission, including default or negligence, of DAY OF CHAMPIONS CAMP and any and all participating sponsors, their members, officers, agents, representatives or employees. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risk involved with this camp and workout program. Furthermore, I hereby release any and all rights to any photographic material DAY OF CHAMPIONS may wish to release for its event, without obligation whatsoever to me.

Signature of Parent / Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax of mail completed application to:**  
**DAY OF CHAMPIONS FOOTBALL CAMP**  
 c/o Marilyn Craig  
 United Keetoowah Band  
 P.O. Box 746  
 Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465  
 Fax: 918.431.1873

REFER ANY QUESTIONS TO MARILYN CRAIG - mcraig@unitedkeetoowahband.org OR 918.456.6533



HABITAT FOR Humanity volunteers enjoy a meal provided by the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians on April 9. The meal was delivered by Brenda Locust, and Norman "Hominy" Littledave, both UKB Tribal Community Coordinators. The volunteers are in Tahlequah building a house for a Tahlequah area family.



UKB ASSISTANT Chief Charles Locust and Chief George Wickliffe visited the building site of the Tahlequah Area Habitat for Humanity. The house is being built by volunteers from various states who provide their time and services through the Habitat for Humanity organization. Pictured left to right are, UKB Assistant Chief Locust, Linda Cheatam, Habitat for Humanity Director; Victoria Proctor, 2009-2010 Miss Keetoowah Cherokee; and Chief Wickliffe.

# My Journey from High School Drop Out to Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

"No!" she screamed, while watching Grandma's knees buckle, her head bounce off the floor and her body convulse uncontrollably. "What do I do?" the frightened, six-year old wondered. Home alone with Grandma, she ran to the store, called 911 and listened intently to the operator's instructions. She then returned to Grandmas' and stroked her hair compassionately until help arrived. Days later, recovering from a diabetic coma, Grandma held her grandbaby tightly. "Oh, Grandma, I thought you died. I wanted to make you live but didn't know how. I want to be a doctor someday so I can help other little girls keep their Grandma! Grandma whispered in her ear, "Never let anyone tell you what you can or cannot do. Remember Baby, it's not where you start that matters, it's where you finish." I knew from this moment that someday I would be a primary care physician and that diabetes would be a cornerstone of my practice.

As time passed, my dreams of becoming a doctor fell by the wayside. I dropped out of high school the beginning of my freshman year. I got married at the age of eighteen to Mose Carey, a proud member of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians. At twenty years of age I gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. By this time in my life I was raising two boys, my step son Matt and my son Jarred. My husband and I were working minimum wage jobs, struggling to make ends meet and seemed trapped in the poverty-driven cycle enslaving our family. However, I still harbored this deep desire to fulfill my dream of becoming a physician. Even though, at that time in my life this seemed to be an impossible feat to ascertain.

In my mid-twenties, a dear friend was diagnosed with cancer, which had already metastasized to bone. I watched her struggle to receive the necessary medication and the medical treatment she needed while still trying to raise a family. Secondary to lack of monetary means, my friend was unable to utilize all available resources to fight her cancer. Eventually, she passed away. Through the loss of my beloved friend I realized the necessity of screening for treatable and sometimes curable diseases and also the importance of practicing preventative medicine. Such measures typically fall in the hands of the family doctor; the doctor I knew I was born to be.

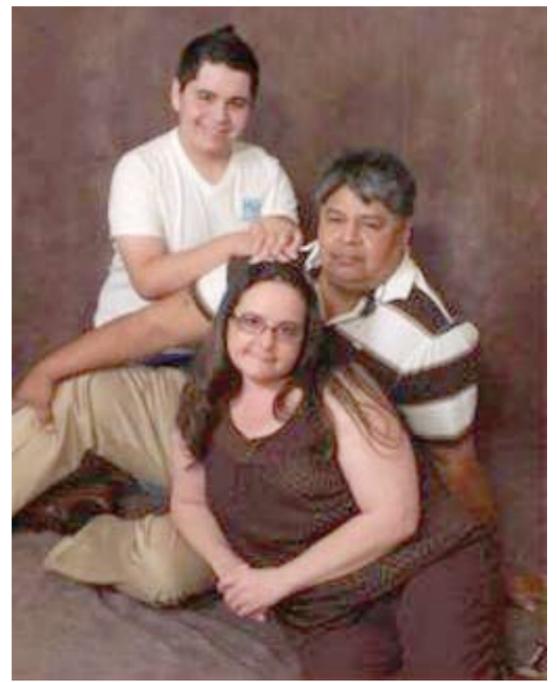
During this same time period, I accepted a position at a retirement center. Whether I was dispensing medication, taking vitals or participating in more simplistic functions crucial for life, such as long walks or late night conversa-

tions with the residents, my desire to and passion for practicing medicine was strengthened. The need for compassion in healthcare became apparent and motivated me to begin my journey in being able to provide such healthcare.

Desperate to succeed and still hearing Grandma's words echoing through my head, I began studying for a General Education Diploma. Some individuals insisted I was wasting my time and they couldn't fathom me spending my time and especially my money on what they considered non-essentials. However, this was a necessity to me and I refused to be detoured. After long heart-felt discussions with my husband and after researching methods to pay for school, I decided it was time to finally embark on the journey GOD had planned for me and in 2001. I studied for, took and passed my GED test. I was finally a high school graduate! Although this was the biggest academic accomplishment in my life thus far, it was only the beginning of greater things to come as I had finally begun taking the first steps to fulfilling my aspirations.

I began attending Connors State College in June of 2001. During my academic career at CSC I was recognized in Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa's Mu Chi Chapter, was honored as an Advantage Transfer Scholar and named to the National Dean's List numerous times. I graduated from CSC May 2003 as a Magna Cum Laude Honor Graduate. I attended Northeastern State University from August 2003-May 2006. My academic achievements at NSU included induction into Alpha Chi National Honor scholarship Society, an honor granted to the top ten percent of the junior/senior classes. I was also named to the president's honor roll multiple times. I graduated NSU with the highest honor bestowed on graduates, Summa Cum Laude. I was rewarded for my hard work and efforts when I was admitted into medical school at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences as a member of the class of 2010.

This is my story and has made me the person I am today. I have persevered despite the adversities life laid before me. On May 14, 2010, I will achieve my ultimate goal of becoming a physician. I will graduate with my Doctorate from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. I have been accepted into the Family Medicine Residency program at the University of Oklahoma Tulsa where I will spend the next three years acquiring the necessary skills to be the best possible physician I can be. This



journey has allowed me to improve the quality of my life, my family's lives and soon I will have the joy of also improving the quality of my patient's lives. Moreover, as I realize previously suppressed potential and no longer tame my desire to help others, I understand that the previous paths I have taken and the life experiences I have encountered allow me to possess unique qualities which will further enhance my abilities to be a compassionate, caring family physician and ultimately enabling my lifelong dream of providing healthcare to those less fortunate to become reality.

So for all the individuals out there who think your circumstances are repressing your dreams and that feel like no matter what you do that this is the hand that you've been dealt and so you must just accept it, let me be the one to say, "don't let anyone or any excuse hold you back, It may not be easy and you may have to fight for it but if its your dream and it's the journey that GOD has in place for you then it is possible! Because remember "its not where you start that matters -- it's where you finish".

By: Edie Carey

## Shannon Robbins receives an Academic Achievement Award

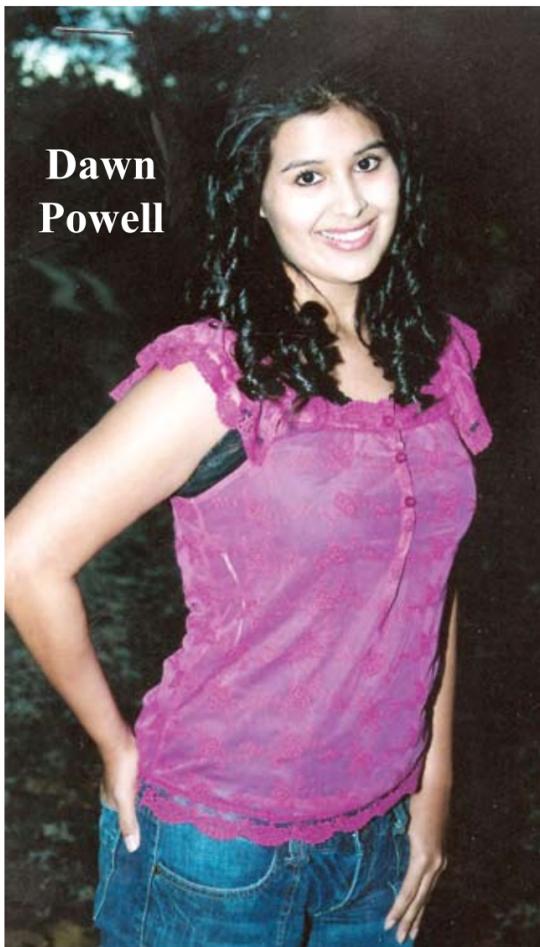
Shannon Robbins, from Hulbert, Oklahoma, who is a student at Northeastern State University received an Academic Achievement Award for BA Political Science.

Academic Achievement Awards are presented to the outstanding student in each academic discipline. This award places Shannon among Northeastern State University's top students.

## Dawn Powell Completes Nursing Program

UKB tribal member Dawn Powell recently completed Tahlequah Indian Capital Technology Center's Licensed Practical Nursing Program. She is the daughter of Phillip and B. Lynn Powell and the granddaughter of Julie Fourkiller and Liz Cochran. Her siblings are Cameron Powell and Daryn Powell.

Dawn enjoys spending time with family and friends, enjoying the outdoors, traveling and the river. She plans to continue her education in the future to attain a higher degree in nursing, or a degree in teaching elementary education.



## Richard Vann

Funeral services for Richard Vann 60, of Tahlequah were held at 2 pm Friday, April 2, 2010 at Green Country Funeral Home Chapel. Officiating were Reverend Lewis Ross and Reverend Gil Hooper.

Those serving as pallbearers are Thomas Vann, Kevin Vann, Cecil Robbins, Ronnie Bluebird, Darren Henson and Jan-Michael Going-Snake. Honorary pallbearers are Richard Vann, Bryan Vann, Calvin Lee Vann, Kialo Vann, Raymond Vann, Dennis Arnecher, Derick Wolfe and Les Kelly. Internment will follow in the Thompson Cemetery, Proctor, Oklahoma under the care of Green Country Funeral Home.

Rick Vann was born on July 20, 1949 to Lucinda and Michael Vann at Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. He went home to be with his Lord on March 29, 2010 with his sister Kalina Vann Thornton at his side.

Rick attended school in Cherokee County. He continued his education to earn a certificate in Drug/Alcohol counseling. He worked in this field for many years and was well known in the community for his hard work and dedication to his clients.

He was preceded in death by his father

Michael Vann and grandmother Laura Thompson. Rick is survived by his wife, Cora Vann and their son Bryan Vann of the home; daughter, Rhonda (Luis) Monroy; sons, Richard (Carrie) Vann, Kevin (Jolene) Vann, and Calvin Vann; step-son, Ronnie



(Stephanie) Bluebird of Fort Gibson; his mother Lucinda Vann Robbins of Tahlequah; sisters, Kalina (Bud) Thornton, Christina (Jon) Valliere, Luann (Ken) Taylor all of California, and Gwen Goingsnake of Tahlequah; brothers, Bill (Evelyn) Vann of Arizona, Thomas Vann of Tahlequah, and Cecil (Rita) Robbins of Little Kansas Oklahoma. He is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and sixteen grandchildren and six great grandchildren, all of whom he loved and received great joy from. They all loved their "dude".

Rick lived his life to the fullest and touched many lives. He will be greatly missed by all.

## United Keetoowah Title VI Nutrition Menu May 2010

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 BBQ Chicken Baked Beans Potato Salad Breadsticks	4 BLT Sandwich Potato Chips Salad Dessert	5 Brown Beans Spinach Jalapeno Cornbread	6 Spaghetti w/ Meatballs Green Beans Garlic Toast	7 Closed
10 Kielbasa Sour Kraut Lima Beans Breadsticks	11 BBQ Bologna Baked Beans Cole Slaw Texas Toast	12 Tortilla Soup Guacamole w/ Chips Spanish Rice	13 Catfish Rice Pilaf Corn & Cole slaw Hushpuppies	14 Fishing Day @ River Park 11:30-???
17 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Green Beans	18 White Beans w/Ham Turnip Greens Corn Muffins	19 Super Baked Potatoes w/Fixins Cheese Biscuits Salad & Dessert	20 Goulash Hominy Breadsticks Salad & Dessert	21 Brunch Served from 10:30-12:00
24 Beef Stew Crackers/ Cornbread Cheese Sticks	25 Hamburger w/Fixins Potato Salad Baked Beans	26 Cultural Day & May Birthdays	27 Closed For Cleaning 	28 Closed For Holiday
31 Memorial Day Closed 				Menus are subject to change without notice.

# UKB Regular March Council Meeting Minutes

**UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting  
At the UKB Community Services Building  
March 06, 2010  
10:00 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

## I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

**II. Invocation:** Jerry Hansen

**III. Roll Call:** 11 + Chief answered Roll Call (Fourkiller absent)

## IV. Chief's Address

- Eastern Band experiencing problems with Duke Energy Company, wherein; power towers being built on Clingman Mountain, the site where God gave us our religion. The Keetoowah support the Eastern Band in this situation.

- Chief Wickliffe was requested by Eastern Band to attend a meeting with Duke Energy. Chief did travel to N. Carolina in support of the Eastern Band.

(Fourkiller-Hawk arrived at 10:14 AM)

- Chief explained to Duke Energy Personnel how their power towers were being constructed on the area of the original home of the Keetoowah and this area is viewed as sacred. The Keetoowah view this mountain as scared in the same way as the Garden of Eden is viewed by the Christian people. These towers will disgrace and destroy our sacred place.

- Duke Energy was informed the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma would join the Eastern band in this situation which would include providing attorneys if this situation went into litigation.

- Chad Smith was also asked to come to North Carolina in support of the Eastern Band's situation with Duke Energy but he declined and instead decided to go to California to campaign against Senator Diane Watson, who is involved with the Freedman Case. (Note: Ms. Watson had announced she will not be a candidate for re-election).

- It appears the results of the meeting with Duke Energy will be an exchange of land sites for construction/installation of power towers.

- We must be ready to defend who we are and our history.

- Transit buses are active. Routes have been scheduled.

- The Osage Tribe took a case to the Supreme Court. The court decision was against this tribe. The court decided the Osage is not a reservation tribe. We need to keep abreast of this situation so we will know how this decision will affect other tribes.

When UKB program directors refer a case to our lawyers, the case is not to be discussed because attorney(s) are in charge. No one should intervene or get involved.

We have our own court system. We have written codes relating to UKB business. Our Gaming and Wildlife Codes were prepared many years ago. UKB has successor-in-interest and because of this, we inform B.I.A. of our plans/actions relating to such as; hunting, fishing, wood cutting, etc. We are trying to be cooperative because two tribes have authority/successor-in-interest over identical lands.

UKB Lighthorse has authority covering the 14 counties of the Old Cherokee Nation boundaries. The B.I.A. was informed UKB Lighthorse will not interfere with CNO marshals and those marshals should not interfere with UKB Lighthorse. The B.I.A. did not voice any disagreement with this.

The Council must always remember; in reality we do not just represent a particular district population but we represent the entire UKB membership.

Spoke of the recent deaths of two traditional Cherokees, Hastings Shade and Totum Hair and how these two men were instrumental in the keeping of our culture and heritage. The funeral of Totum is today at 2:00 PM, service at Wickliffe with burial at Kenwood.

Last Thursday, many UKB elders were forgiven house payments and were presented the deed to their homes.

UKB members who are not elders and are making payments on their homes and are making an additional amount to make up for delinquent payments will continue with regular house payments only. Delinquent payment will begin after initial date of contract pay-off. This is a second chance for people to be accountable and keep their homes.

Chief Wickliffe deferred to Assistant Chief Locust.

Assistant Chief Locust: yesterday (03/05/2010) the UKB hosted a legislative breakfast. Initially this was to be hosted by CNO but such did not happen. Tahlequah Chamber of Commerce contacted the UKB about this and UKB gladly accepted. This is a great way for developing a relationship with the city of Tahlequah. Representative John Auffet, Representative Mike Brown and Senator Jim Wilson were special speakers at this breakfast. 70-75 people were in attendance. Tahlequah people and dignitaries were complimentary on what the UKB has and achievements accomplished. They were very appreciative of our hosting this event. Some members of UKB staff were in attendance. Title VI prepared the breakfast. UKB should be proud of being able to host such a gathering.

Jerry Hansen: stated he had heard Pat Ragsdale was once again with CNO. Response: action serves to clean out such personalities in Washington. It seems a previous B.I.A. Director is also out of a government position. Ragsdale is reported to be assigned to CNO self-governance and directly under Chad with signature authority.

Charles Locust: we have been contacted and informed our paperwork for self-governance is in place. Everything looks good for the UKB.

## V. Approval of the minutes for the month of February 2010

Woodrow Proctor presented concern on minutes

relating to HUD and Earb Kimble in that information had been reported in the newspaper before Council minutes had been approved.

A.G. Bellmard: Council meetings are public and any information heard is public information and can be reported in a newspaper. For any information not wished to be made public, council should go into executive session for discussion. There is a difference from public record and approving council meeting minutes. The technical aspect of approving minutes for official documentation is different than talking in an open meeting. Council minutes are the tribe's official record of a council meeting. A newspaper story is not an official record.

1. MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to approve the Council minutes of February 2010; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 11 Yes, 1 No (Proctor), 0 Abstentions.

## VI. Presentations -

1. A.G. Bellmard, RE: Osage Tribe Case

Case is not good for tribes

Case will have some kind of effect on the UKB

Tribe was strongly encouraged to "not" file this case

Case is in reference to "taxation"

Tribe claimed exemption from taxes and Oklahoma Law had no authority to tax so long as an Osage Indian lived in Osage County regardless if residence was on fee sample, trust land, etc.

Osage Tribe lost this case

The 10th Circuit Court decided; the Osage Reservation was dis-established, the Osage Reservation was a mineral reservation, that the Osage did maintain the mineral estate but no land surface.

This case could cause unintended consequences for other tribes.

Any consequences for the UKB would differ for non O.I.W.A. tribes. The UKB is an O.I.W.A. tribe. It is not foreseen any consequences from the Osage case will have a dramatic effect on the UKB because of O.I.W.A. status.

Case could have serious effects on tribes having businesses on fee-sample lands.

Response to questions RE: Carcieri Case

Supreme Court has made decision. UKB will continue as has been in reference to UKB businesses and will follow through required process.

Carcieri Case questions were:

1. Does the Secretary of the Interior have authority to take land into trust, does this case apply to O.I.W.A. tribes and does this apply to tribes that were not in existence in 1936?

When George Skibine returns to the B.I.A. from his temporary placement with N.I.G.C., the questions relating to the Carcieri case decision will be one of the first decisions he will face.

EchoHawk would be the person who would sign/approve Trust Land Status.

2. Barry Dotson:

Presented a request from Keetoowah member, Bob Duvall. A church was being started in the Brushy area of Sequoyah District and Mr. Duvall was requesting gravel for this church project.

Mr. Dotson announced he would transport patients to the transit pick-up location. He stated he understood two transit buses could not cover the whole area.

3. Woodrow Proctor:

Inquired of transit service arrangements for patients receiving dialysis.

Bryan Shade: stated he would look into a schedule for providing this special arrangement.

4. Chief Wickliffe: Introduced A.J. Garcia and invited Mr. Garcia to speak to Council. Mr. Garcia introduced himself and informed he was a contract attorney and did work for the UKB under a federal grant with Family Services in Domestic Violence. He stated the UKB had a strong elder care and tribal community interest. He said it was good to see people working together in the best interest of tribal members. Mr. Garcia said he was not a member of any tribe but he had decided he would adopt the Keetoowah as his tribe.

Woodrow Proctor: expressed appreciation to Mr. Garcia for work he was doing for the UKB. He also gave appreciation to direct staff who worked directly with Mr. Garcia.

5. Jerry Hansen:

Commended administration and department directors on individual personal educational background/achievements. He praised administration, directors and council for a job well done. He encouraged all to continue working in a positive direction.

6. Attorney Garcia:

Praised the employees of the Elder Care and Domestic Abuse departments stating he could not do his part without case preparation and work first done by those employees.

7. Representative Cliff Wofford: commended employees for their quick attention given to needs of tribal members.

8. Assistant Chief Locust: commented on the new transit program in that this program would be reviewed and evaluated on a weekly basis and changes would be made to better provide the service to the greater number of people.

Barry Dotson: the biggest problem in the transit program for people in Sequoyah District was people didn't have telephones therefore; no method of contact to inform of needs. He then stated his appreciation for the tribe's help given to Sequoyah District people.

9. Bryan Shade: Presented information regarding the im-

mediate need for Council's attention and approval of two grant applications. These project announcements were received yesterday with a deadline of April 9, 2010. One grant application would be for Social and Economic Development through the Administration of Native Americans. The second grant application is for a Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance Project. Each grant would max-out at \$200,000. with in kind matching. In order to move forward in making applications for this grant; administration would determine which or if both projects should be sought. The deadline for applications is April 9, 2010; therefore, resolutions for approval to make these applications must be passed by council today.

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to approve submission of an application to the Administration of Native Americans Social Economic Development strategies governance project of \$149,000. SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to approve submission of an application to the current grant competition period due April 9, 2010 to the Administration of Native Americans for a Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance Project in the amount of \$150,000. SECONDED by Betty Holcomb; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Charles Locust to approve to reschedule April Council meeting to April 10, 2010 due to the regular meeting date being a part of the Easter weekend; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

## VII. Reports to Council

1. Enrollment Report: Liz Littledave

MOTION by Cliff Wofford to accept and approve 10 new applicants for UKB tribal enrollment (This includes 4 C.D.I.B. cards issued to individuals 0-18 years of age); SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Cliff Wofford to acknowledge and honor 2 membership relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

2. Christmas Gift Cards for 2009 issued to children and youth ages 0-18 years = \$49,920. Cards were reconciled. Balance of all cards were presented to and signed as received by comptroller, Sam Younger.

Littledave complimented District Representatives on their accountability in the issuance of Christmas Gift Cards to children and youth within their particular districts.

## VIII. Public Forum

1. Sammy Still: asked Council if it would be permissible to change the name of Keetoowah News to Keetoowah Cherokee News and if such were allowed he would present a resolution reflecting such change at April's Council meeting.

If the name is actually changed, current letterhead, forms, etc. would be gradually phased out and "Keetoowah Cherokee" would begin to be used.

2. Robert Whitekiller: inquired as to the status of work planned for W. Willis Road.

Bryan Shade: presented detailed explanation. In conclusion, negotiations on right-of-way, property owners and the County Commissioner is on-going at this time.

## IX. Unfinished Business – NONE

## X. New Business

1. A.G. Bellmard: work on expansion of Forestry Codes is completed. A draft is ready. Some of our attorneys have reviewed and approved the document with the exception of Attorney Rosetti, presently waiting on his response.

This is separate from Fish and Wildlife Codes.

CNO is trying to negotiate a Forestry Management Plan for the 14 counties, with the B.I.A. but UKB is not being included in this negotiation. We will object to CNO's plan. UKB must be included in plans by CNO as per successor-in-interest status.

Tim Good Voice: UKB has water, solid waste, Fish and Wildlife and Forestry Codes.

A.G. Bellmard: Codes prove we are ready and we will defend our rights in accordance with successor-in-interest. UKB must be prepared to intervene and protect the tribe.

## XI. Announcements

## XII. Benediction: Sammy Still

## XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Eddie Sacks; SECONDED by Barry Dotson; Approve by affirmation: 12:35 PM

## Gourd-Ketcher Reunion Saturday, May 29, 2010 10 a.m. - ???

Everyone Welcome! Bring a covered dish. Get together will be held at Linda Shade's home place on Killabrew Road, 9 miles north of Tahlequah. Watch for signs.  
Hope to see you there.

# Shade honored during storytelling event

An empty chair sat on the stage of the Coleman Theater with members of the Turtle Island Liars Club for missing club member Hastings Shade.

The club hosted a storytelling event April 9 in the theater to honor Shade, the club's elder and mentor, who died in February. In the audience were members of Shade's family and many of his friends.

Shade was a respected elder among the people of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees and the Cherokee Nation. He was named a National Treasure by the Cherokee Nation in 1991 for teaching and protecting Cherokee culture and was a respected and versatile artisan who made bows, gigs and marbles, among other things.

Shade also served as deputy principal chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1999 to 2003. During that time he sponsored initiatives to teach Cherokee culture throughout the Cherokee Nation, especially to children.

It was his storytelling and mentorship that his friends came to honor him for in Miami. Shade was one of the Turtle Island Liars Club's four members when it formed in 1993 to share traditional Cherokee stories. Other members included Sequoyah Guess, Sammy Still and Woody Hansen. The group now has more members including Still's daughter Tonya Russell and Choogie Kingfisher.

Guess said Shade, along with being the group's elder, was an important source of information about Cherokee culture, language, traditions and stories.

"Hastings was our go-to-guy. We've got to try, not to replace him, but keep on keeping on with what he started and what he did," Guess said. "In ways I'm going to miss him; in ways I still have him."

Guess said after he lost his parents at an early age, Hastings and his wife Loretta took over as his "mom and dad." He added he not only looked at them as his elders but as spiritual guides. Shade shared much wisdom with him during his life, Guess said.

With Shade gone, it is now up to the TILC members to share the Cherokee culture, including the stories he told them.

"We are here tonight to honor him tonight through our storytelling. He was a part of us, he would sit around a fire with us and tell stories and we would tell him stories. These are the stories we want to share with you tonight," Still said.

Still and the other storytellers told traditional stories as well as humorous and scary stories that the audience enjoyed and applauded. Russell and Kingfisher also played Native flute music.

Guess said TILC plans to host more storytelling events in the coming months that will be announced later.

Still and the other storytellers also shared remembrances of traveling with Shade when the club traveled to other states to share Cherokee culture. All of them acknowledged Shade also had a great sense of humor and liked to laugh.

"It's the things he talked about (on the road), and the things he shared with me and the things I shared with him that I'll never forget and I hold really close to my heart," Still said. "Hastings was truly a valuable man. When we lost him, we lost valuable traditions and culture."

Shade also shared with TILC members his knowledge of gig making, bow making, making traditional Cherokee marbles and other items Shade was known for among Cherokee people.

Kingfisher said he had known Shade since he was a young child. He added he grew up around Hastings listening to his stories and learning Cherokee culture.

"My life is better because of Hastings," he said. "He helped me understand a lot of things. I grew up in the culture and I appreciate it."

Hansen called Shade a friend and mentor. "We all miss him but we are going to carry on with his initiatives and carry on the stories with the cast of storytellers of Turtle Island," Hansen said.

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Written by Will Chavez*

## UKB Tribal Member Deploys to Afghanistan

PFC Miccah T. Johnson deployed to Afghanistan on March 16, 2010 and will be in theatre for approximately a one year deployment. Johnson's Military Occupational Specialty is 11B, Infantryman. His unit is 1-87, 10th Mountain Infantry Division, stationed out of Fort Drum, NY. Miccah is wished the best of luck by his family and friends.



Miccah's father Harvey D. Johnson is stationed at Fort Campbell, KY. His mother, Haley Byrd, lives in Gore, OK. His paternal grandparents are Thomas and Ida Johnson of Tahlequah, and his paternal grandmother is Xandra Tuttle Foster of Park Hill, OK.

## MeLinda Cookson inducted into the Kiwanis

UKB TRIBAL member and Keetoowah Casino Marketing Coordinator MeLinda Cookson was inducted into the Kiwanis. Kiwanis International is an international, coeducational service club founded in 1915. It is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana. It comprises approximately 8,000 clubs in 96 countries with over 260,000 adult members.

The name "Kiwanis" means "we trade" or "we share our talents" and was coined from an American Indian expression, Nunc Kee-wanis.[4] This was originally the motto of Kiwanis, translated as "We build." The current motto is "serving the children of the world".

MeLinda is also currently serving as a Chamber Ambassador for the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce.

In the photo are Larry Warnock, Melinda and Betty Barker (MeLinda's grandmother who is a Kiwanian from Stilwell).



## Sequoyah Schools' Junior Wins Essay Contest about Life as a Native American Teen

Sequoyah Schools' Junior Rozlyn Locust recently won first place in the Puterbaugh Student Essay Contest about Sherman Alexie's book, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*. Her essay, based on real life experiences, earned her \$100 cash and a chance to meet the book's author at the Puterbaugh Festival of World Literature and Culture at the University of Oklahoma.

"I thought the book was ridiculously funny, and it had a great message," Locust said. "I really would encourage other Native Americans to read it, because I know they could totally relate."

Alexie's book is based on his real life experiences growing up Indian, in a predominately white world. Locust used a similar experience in her life as a basis for her essay on the topic of feeling out of place when surrounded by people who are different.

"When I was reviewing the subject to write over, I was just thinking back on any experience I had that I could compare with the book," Locust said.

Her essay focused on a time in her life when she moved to a new area, attended a new school and found comfort in an unfamiliar place, in the form of an unfamiliar face that would soon become a lifelong friend.

Her winning essay also earned the Sequoyah Schools' library \$100 to spend on purchasing additional books for the library.

Locust, is the daughter of Brenda and Assistant Chief Charles Locust of Stilwell and is a citizen of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma.

## Are you a Keetoowah Cherokee with traditional skills??

The Keetoowah Cherokee Language, History and Culture Department is looking for traditional Keetoowah people who would like to share their skills with youth. Whether it is basket-making, stickball, marbles, bow-making, traditional cooking or any other skill, we need you!

Please contact Cindy Hair, Cultural Coordinator at: 918-431-9998



JUNIOR MISS Keetoowah Cherokee Alyssia Jones, and Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Victoria Proctor pose with two young tribal royalty at this year's Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, NM.



ROYALTY FROM all tribes attended this year's Gathering of Nations in New Mexico. Pictured with several tribal royalties are Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Victoria Proctor, third from right; and Junior Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Alyssia Jones, far right.