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

# Gaduwa Cherokee News

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June 2010

Published Monthly

Issue #6

## UKB Breaks Ground on John Hair Multi Purpose Cultural Center Museum

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma (UKB) broke ground May 18 on a museum at the UKB Tribal Complex Area. George Wickliffe, chief of the UKB, and Charles Locust, assistant chief of the UKB, along with several members of the tribal council, the contractors and UKB employees dug the first ceremonial shovelfuls of earth to mark the occasion. The official name of the building is the John Hair Multi Purpose Cultural Center Museum.

Chief Wickliffe said the UKB starting naming buildings after UKB elders who worked unselfishly to advance the UKB people and government. Previous buildings named for outstanding elders are the Henry Lee Doublehead Childcare Development Center and the Jim Proctor Elder Building.

"It was named for some of our elders who have worked and devoted most of their lives for the Gaduwa Cherokee cause," said Wickliffe. "They unselfishly worked without pay and continued their traditions and preserved all the documentation that we have here."

The naming of the museum for John Hair also recognizes the extraordinary efforts, both fiscal and personal, John Hair made on behalf of the UKB. "When I think of all our Keetoowah history, archives and documents that will be preserved and housed in one location, I think of John Hair," said Locust. "Mr. Hair is the one person that led us here today using his own personal finances to keep the United Keetoowah Band tribe active. Who else is more deserving by honoring John's name on the new Multi Purpose Cultural Center Museum that will house our historical documents. John is one of the leading individuals that have kept the tribe active; this is why I felt he would be the perfect individual to be honored."

According to "The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma", written by Gergia Leeds, Hair grew up in poverty in the Kenwood Hills. The family tried to break out of poverty by selling part of their property to buy a team of horses to farm their land. The state welfare office learned of the sale and confiscated the money to be paid to the family in lieu of welfare payments at the same rate leaving the family with less land in the same situation as before.



Tribal Administration and District Representatives of the UKB broke ground for the new John Hair Museum to be located on the grounds of United Keetoowah Band Complex just south of Tahlequah. Pictured are, left to right, Felicia Hadley, ; Frankie Hair, History, Culture and Language employee; Liz Littledave, Tribal Secretary; Cindy Hair, History, Culture and Language employee; Charles Smoke, Saline District Representative; Woodrow Proctor, Flint District Representative; David Kerns, MASKA Builders; UKB Chief George Wickliffe, Thomas Boxley, EWC1 Incorporated; John Hair, former UKB Chief; UKB Assistant Chief Charles Locust, Lisa Stopp, History, Culture and Language Director; Kevin Gardenhire, MASKA Builders; and Bryan Shade, Tribal Federal Programs Director.

Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan

At 10 years old Hair was forcibly removed from his family by a state welfare worker and placed in the Sequoyah Indian Boarding School in Tahlequah. Administrators told him he was in a white world now and to act like it. Hair was whipped if he spoke the Cherokee language.

Even though the school tried to repress Hair's culture he still tried to find a positive outlook of being at the school. Hair excelled at sports and learned not all whites were bad when local businessmen often took the young athlete for steak dinners. A broken collarbone ended Hair's chance of a college scholarship.

At 15, Hair joined the Oklahoma National Guard and went to Korea when the unit was called to action. Hair retired from service in 1968 and went to work for American Airlines. This is when Hair became active in the United Keetoowah Band. Hair served as a council member, assistant chief and then chief from 1983 to 1991.

During his tenure as chief of the UKB Hair fought for self-governance and lands to be placed in trust. Also during Hair's term, the bingo and smoke shop enterprises generated money for the UKB and the tribe had money in the bank. Although not all of the UKB's problems were solved during Hair's administration, progress was made and one of the purposes of the mu-

seum is to demonstrate the extraordinary journey of the Keetoowah Cherokee.

One of the first exhibits planned is a seven part exhibit demonstrating the progress of the Keetoowah Cherokee since the creator handed down the sacred fire to present day.

Lisa LaRue-Stopp, director of language and historical culture, said the museum will also house artifacts such as quartz arrowheads linked to the Keetoowah Cherokee, important documents detailing the journey of the Keetoowah Cherokee throughout the years and traditional craft items such as baskets and gigs. While some of the exhibits are permanent, others are temporary and new exhibits are planned to take their places in the future.

LaRue-Stopp said she plans to borrow artifacts from the Smithsonian to display in the museum after the initial exhibits are moved out. The museum will also house the UKB archives. The archives are available for community, scholarly and tribal use. The archives are constantly updated as documents become available. Contributions and donations of Keetoowah Cherokee artifacts are appreciated and are of great value to the museum and the community.

The purpose of the museum is more than attracting tourists to the area or housing artifacts. It is also to teach future

generations about the culture and history of the Keetoowah Cherokee and back the lesson up with physical evidence preserved by past generations.

"I am looking at this like a gigantic classroom for our own tribal youth to come to and learn their history and have resources available and have hands-on activities and involvement," said LaRue-Stopp. "I'd like to see the youth involved in it. I'm working on some ideas with the Smithsonian on programs to get youth involved in building exhibits. To me, that's what it's all about, it is to teach our own youth about their tribe." The actual construction of the museum starts in June and is scheduled to run between six and nine months.

EWC1 Incorporated of Tulsa designed the approximately 4,500 sq. ft. building. Maska Builders of Jenks won the construction contract. Kevin Gardenhire is the project manager overseeing the building for Maska Builders. The museum opening is scheduled for spring 2011 and is considered a great achievement for the UKB.

"There is nothing more important if you are going to learn our history," said Wickliffe.

By Melvin Thomas Jordan  
UKB Writer

## UKB Assistant Chief Charles Locust Named to Third Term on the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's Assistant Chief Charles Locust has been selected to serve a third term on the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission. The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission is charged with the mission of serving as the liaison between Oklahoma's tribal population and governments and the Oklahoma State government. The Commission carries out its duty with the guidance of four statutorily determined goals: the creation of state and federal legislation; the creation of an advisory committee; the development and implementation of research projects and reports and the development of cooperative programs between tribes and state, federal, local, private entities, health organizations, educational agencies, tourism and economic development entities.

Locust was sworn in before the Oklahoma State Senate on May 3, 2010. Oklahoma Senator Jim Wilson, District 3 sponsored the legislation.

Since being elected to the position of Assistant Chief of the UKB, Locust has been responsible, along with Chief George Wickliffe and eleven other tribal council members, for many accomplishments, which include the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians receiving Self-Governance, named Successor-in-Interest to the Old Cherokee Nation, restored funding by HUD and winning litigation on the Arkansas Riverbed decision.

Other successful endeavors of the current administration including building and opening a state-of-the-art child development center, expanding the tribe's gaming operation, building a civil defense station and a community nutrition center for the elders. The tribe has recently broke ground on a multi purpose cultural center

museum and expansion of the tribe's community services building which will double the square footage.

This administration is also responsible for beginning an Elder Stipend program that provides a \$200 stipend to all UKB elders 55 and older twice per year; increasing the education funding for tribal members attending college to \$1,500 per semester for full time students and \$750 per semester for students taking at least six hours.

Locust has a broad range of experiences and qualifications that he brings with him to perform the duties of as a member of the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission. In addition to serving as Assistant Chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma for the past five years, Locust has served on the board of the National Congress of the American Indian.

He has also served in other tribal positions for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. In those instances, he served as Executive Director for Tribal Operations, Executive Director for Housing Authority, Director of Gaming, Program Accountant, Gaming Commission Chairman and in the private sector as President of the Gaming Division for Rocket Gaming. He has a Bachelor's degree in Social Science, with an emphasis in Business Administration and has twelve hours toward a Masters in Business Administration.

Locust resides in Stilwell with his wife, Brenda, and their daughter, Rozlyn. Locust is very active in Keetoowah Cherokee traditional ceremonies and is a member of the Redbird Smith Stomp Grounds. He has learned from the elders and this has been a driving force in his decision making process. "When we consider the budget cutbacks for Native American programs, I will represent the grass roots



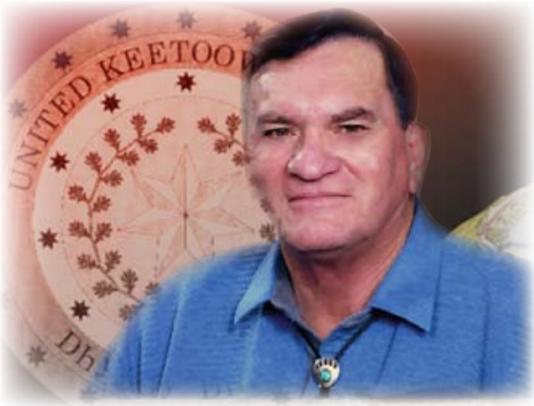
United Keetoowah Band Assistant Chief Charles Locust stands along side of Oklahoma State Representative Jim Wilson at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City.

people and their needs. These basic needs center around education, health care and jobs. These are the same needs for the small tribes as well as the large tribes," said Locust. "Organizations such as the OIAC and the NCAI help give the small tribes a voice that gets heard."

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# A Letter to the UKB People From Chief George Wickliffe



### History of Land Acquisition

In the United States, private title to land was originally acquired in one of two ways - by grant from the federal government or by grant from a foreign government. The majority of Oklahoma was acquired by the United States from France in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The panhandle was acquired from Texas, but had previously been part of Spain. Following is a map showing how the United States acquired its land.

Oklahoma was settled either by use of Indian treaties or through land runs and other types of openings. The following is a brief history of the land runs, other land openings and the allotment and distribution of the Indian lands.

### The First Land Run - The Unassigned Lands

In the early 1800s most of current Oklahoma had been set aside for the settlement of many Indian tribes. Several tribes had been moved here from the northeast and southeast United States and were settled on reservations alongside tribes that already lived in this region.

After the conclusion of the Civil War, land seekers began sneaking into Indian Territory and squatting upon land to establish homesteads. At that time, legislation was being introduced that would provide for opening of the "excess" Indian lands. Government attorneys pointed out that the Creek and Seminoles had what was called a "residual interest" in the lands of western Oklahoma. The "Unassigned Lands", which had been taken from them for this treaty-designated

purpose. Until this interest was quieted, federal legal counsel claimed the land did not rightfully belong in the public domain. Negotiations were begun during 1889 to remove the obstacle. A Creek tribal leader agreed to relinquish all Creek claims on western lands in return for payment to the Creek nation. A Seminole delegation signed a similar agreement quieting the nation's claim to any western lands in return for payment.

available such a small settlement area, government planners realized there would be many more home seekers than claims available. To give equal opportunity to all interested persons, it was decided to throw open the lands at exactly 12 o'clock noon. By happenstance, thousand lined the outer boundaries awaiting the designated time, and when the appointed time arrived, this led to a novel procedure for opening



Map from "History of Public Land Law Development", Public Land Law Review Commission, Washington, D.C. 1968

Just before Congress adjourned on March 3, 1889, a rider, called the Springer Amendment, was attached to the Indian Appropriations Bill providing for the opening of the Oklahoma District or "Unassigned Lands", which are shown in the middle of the map on Page 6. President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation that declared these lands would be opened to settlement on April 22, 1889.

Note: The name Oklahoma was applied to Indian Territory at the suggestion of Allen Wright, a member of the Choctaw delegation involved in treaty negotiations in 1866.

Because the opening of this part of Indian Territory had been popularized by the Boomers, and because the Unassigned Lands made

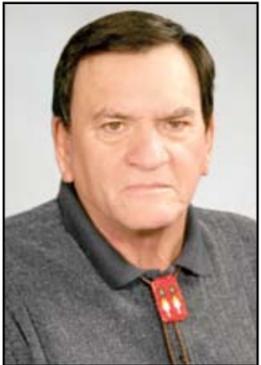
lands to public settlement - the "run".

Note: This method of settlement also created a situation where it was not always practical to patrol the boundaries to prevent persons from entering the land earlier, or sooner than the designated hour. Those who sneaked in before noon were called "sooners". This created many claim disputes which had to be resolved by the Department of the Interior, and often, the courts. It also led to Oklahoma's nickname, the "Sooner State".

Several years prior to the opening the government had already surveyed the land into sections and townships. At the start of the land run, individuals and families raced to claim land. Once these individuals reached a suitable site, they staked a claim to the land by implanting a flag or a stake to declare their homestead. Next, the homesteader went to the government land office to file a claim to the land in order to receive a patent, an instrument by which the United States government grants public lands to an individual, after the expiration of five years from the date of locating the homestead. In order to qualify for the land, the individual was required to be a United States citizen at the time the patent was issued and to pay \$1.25 per acre

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## UKB Council



**Chief**  
**George G. Wickliffe**  
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Cell: 918-207-2991



**Tribal Treasurer**  
Ella Mae Cooksey Worley  
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Jerry Hansen  
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**Saline Dist. Rep.**  
Charles Smoke  
Cell: 918-457-7071



### DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:



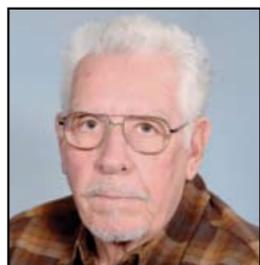
**Assistant Chief**  
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Eddie Sacks  
Cell: 918-822-1957



**Flint Dist. Rep.**  
Woodrow Proctor  
Cell: 918-822-3811



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



**Goingsnake Dist. Rep.**  
Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk  
Cell: 918-822-3809



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



**Tribal Secretary**  
Liz Littledave  
Office: 918-456-5126  
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 Independence Day Holiday

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal offices will be closed Friday, July 2 and Monday, July 5 in observance of the Independence Day Holiday. Offices will re-open on Tuesday, July 6th. 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

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Sam L. Still, Editor

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## Positive Accomplishments Highlighted at May Council Meeting

The United Keetoowah Band tribal council meeting for May brought a positive outlook for the tribe as Chief George Wickliffe announced during the meeting that the tribe had received a letter from the Director's office of Self-Governance, Washington, D. C., congratulating the tribe for receiving Self-Governance status. "I'm glad the tribe has received this letter, this letter confirms that the United Keetoowah Band has done a good job. We have brought four past audits up to good standings and have kept all our audits up to date since coming into office, so we have been recommended the position to run our own government," stated Chief Wickliffe. Wickliffe went on to say, that with the signing of the tribe's 1950 Constitution, EchoHawk's Decision and now Self-Governance, when combined, what the tribe has today is absolute sovereignty. "This Self-Governance status we have today allows us to make our own decisions. This is what this administration set out to do, right the wrong," added Chief Wickliffe.

"I am very proud that we have received Self-Governance, as a Flint District Representative, I have followed my dad's footsteps for many years, trying to get to the position we are in today. I feel that I have fulfilled his shoes, but I wish my dad was here to see this day happen. As my dad always said, 'One of these days the Keetoowahs are going to see it.' That day has come," said Woodrow Proctor.

A debate ensued early in the meeting in regards to Self-Governance; a question arose of miscommunication between District Representatives and their constituents. Assistant Chief Charles Locust responded to this concern.

"When this administration came into office, many of these tribal issues were discussed and plans laid out to bring them to reality. Look into what this administration has accomplished in five years, we've received EchoHawk's decision and now Self-Governance, two very strong statements for the tribe. Under this Administration within five years, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians has received Self-Governance, Successor-in-Interest, funding restored by HUD and litigated against the Arkansas Riverbed decision and won. The tribe is in a forward motion, something the Administration sought to accomplish. But many tough decisions were made to ac-



Craig Legener, Stanfield & O'Dell, presented to the UKB tribal council the FY '09 Financial Audit. "Congratulations are in order on the Self-Governance, it's a very important step that's going to increase your funding," stated Legener. The tribal council and administration received an excellent report on their FY '09 Audit.

complish these goals and many more are needed to keep the United Keetoowah Band moving forward. "We have to make decisions that may not be beneficial to a few, we can't make a decision for just one or two people. We have to make decisions for all UKB tribal members. That is the only way this tribe is going to succeed," stated Assistant Chief Locust.

"I want this tribe to be an even stronger tribe in twenty years. We have many Indian people to take care of, they put their trust in this Administration, and they put their faith in us that we will do the right things, that's what I believe in. We have a lot of people depending on us, not five, ten or even twenty people, we have over 14,000 tribal members we are responsible for," added Locust.

Speaking in the Keetoowah Cherokee native language, former United Keetoowah Band Chief John Hair addressed the tribal council; "I really feel good today, everything seems to be going good, almost making me cry. You are doing a good job, but I have sadness in my heart, my old friends; my old timers are not here to see this. I'm 78 years-old and they are not here with me. But I know they are looking down on us, thank you so much."

In new business, Craig Legener, Stanfield & O'Dell, presented the council with his FY '09 Financial Audit report. "The tribe has done a wonderful job in bringing the accounting records up to speed; you have a really good accounting system. Again, I have a good audit report to give, there are in good shape," stated Legener. Legener also congratulated the UKB on their recognition of Self-Governance and stated that he looked forward to working with the tribe on that aspect. In other new business the council approved and passed the acceptance of a water management planning and pre-development project from B.I.A.

The council also approved and passed both the submission of a one year grant application through the Department of Justice Tribal Victim's Assistance Program and to the United States Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation. The last resolution approved and passed by the UKB tribal council were the changes in wording of current Election Ordinance presented by Leroy Adair.

The next UKB tribal council meeting will be June 5, 2010, 10 a.m. in the UKB Community Services Building.

### Editor's note...

*In the Cherokee One Feather May 2010 edition, an article was published in regards to David Sherrill Jr., guest commentator, on his thoughts about State Recognition. It seems to me that Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma is criticizing a tribe when they themselves honor Andrew Jackson, the very person who attacked and forcibly moved Cherokees from their homes to the west to Indian Territory. Below is a portion of the article questioning the validity of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma by the United Keetoowah Band written by Sherrill Jr.*

The Validity of the Cherokee Nation itself has been questioned. United Keetoowah Band Principal Chief George Wickliffe, for whom I have the utmost respect, told his tribal members in a newsletter in August 2007, "The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma (CNO) was organized new in 1976AD. It has NO HISTORY prior to 1976AD."

The last paragraph of the newsletter reads. "The UKB will NEVER HONOR ANDREW JACKSON by placing a wreath on his grave like Chad Smith did a few months ago. Would a Sioux Indian do that for General Custer: NEVER."

It is noteworthy that the UKB did not approve or sign the Joint Resolution.

## Keetoowah Cherokee Tribe to Form Veteran Color Guard

The United Keetoowah Band Veterans Office is forming a color guard. The unit is currently in the planning stage. Norman "Hominy" Littledave, UKB tribal community coordinator, said he wanted to form a veterans' color guard since he started working for the UKB and is now working on fulfilling his dream.

Littledave asked George Wickliffe, chief of the UKB, for permission to move forward with the idea and Wickliffe approved. Littledave will present the idea to the tribal council for final approval. The formation of color guards goes back to the use of flags by armies in early history for unit identification, signaling and a common reference point for soldiers to follow. Armies considered the loss of a flag a disgrace, therefore, a guard contingent formed to protect the flag. Today, carrying the national and unit flags and rifles is considered an honor reaching back to those early times.

The UKB is looking for five veterans to

serve in the color guard. The five positions include two rifle carriers, one POW flag carrier, one UKB flag carrier and one U.S. flag carrier.

Littledave said he receives numerous requests for a veterans' color guard to perform services from time to time, but is currently unable to satisfy all the requests. Currently, Lighthorse Security performs color guard duties when needed, but sometimes they are unavailable for requests from the public.

Littledave said a tribal veterans' color guard could satisfy the current need. The guard would march in parades and post the colors at powwows and ceremonial events.

Littledave said the guard might perform rifle salutes if the proper rifles are found.

By Melvin Thomas Jordan  
UKB Writer

## UKB June 2010 Calendar of Council, District and Special Meetings

- June 5** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m. UKB Community Services Building, Tahlequah
- June 10** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Sallisaw Satellite Office
- June 10** Illinois District Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Vian Community Center
- June 11** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m. Jim Proctor Elder Center
- June 19** Flint and Goingsnake Meeting, 1 p.m. Stilwell Community Building

\*no other meeting dates available at press time

\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*

UKB July Council Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 10 due to the Independence Day Holiday

## UKB Flint and Goingsnake Districts to Host Meeting and Hog Fry

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's Flint and Goingsnake Districts will host a meeting and hog fry on Saturday, June 19 at the Stilwell Community Building. The event will begin at 1 p.m.

Guest speakers will include Chief George Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Charles Locust, along with district representatives Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk and Woodrow Proctor.

The meeting will explain UKB getting self-governance. Attendees are encouraged to bring a covered dish.

For more information, contact UKB Flint District Representative Woodrow Proctor at (918) 822-3811 or Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk at (918) 822-3809.

## Tribe Closes Ft. Smith Office, Open Sallisaw Satellite Office

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma have announced that they are closing the Ft. Smith, Arkansas satellite office and opening a satellite office in Sallisaw.

UKB Federal Programs Director Bryan Shade said, "After evaluating the satellite office operations, we determined that the Sallisaw property, which we already own, would allow us to provide ease of access and increased availability to our tribal membership. Because of this move, we are able to reassign staff schedules allowing us to expand the Stilwell location from two days a week to four days a week. Our leadership has sent a clear message that the needs of our members are to be the nucleus of our operations. I am confident that this adjustment is consistent with that. When the schedules were considered, we tried to set them around the days when the transit busses were scheduled in those areas."

### Satellite Office Schedules

**Sallisaw Satellite Office**  
Monday and Tuesday 9 am to 4 pm  
Phone: (918) 773-6354  
Point of Contact: Mary Girty

**Stilwell Satellite Office**  
Monday through Thursday 9 am to 4 pm  
Friday 9 am to noon  
Phone: (918) 696-7672  
Point of Contact: Cheryl Sequichie or Lucy Wolfe

**Kansas Satellite Office**  
Wednesday and Thursday 9 am to 4 pm  
Phone: (918) 868-2656  
Point of Contact: Lucy Wolfe

## Deadline to Apply for Keetoowah Cherokee Elder Assistance is June 11 at noon

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will continue taking applications for the Summer 2010 Elder Assistance program through Monday through Thursday from 8:30 to 5 p.m. and on Fridays until noon. The deadline to apply is June 11 at noon. Assistance checks for June applicants will be mailed on June 8th and 15th.

This program provides UKB elders over 55 years of age semi-annual financial assistance in the amount of \$200 for each period. This is to assist Keetoowah Cherokee elders with funding they can utilize at their discretion.

Applications may be picked up at any tribal or satellite office. Completed applications must be turned in by fax, mail, or direct delivery to the Tribal Enrollment Office located at 2450 S. Muskogee Avenue in Tahlequah. The fax number is (918) 453-9345.



The UKB Lighthorse color guard stand at attention as former United Keetoowah Band Chief John Hair prepares to lay a wreath in honor of fallen Keetoowah Cherokees and all service men and women serving in the United States Military.

## Attention Graduates

### Keetoowah News To Feature Graduates in July Issue

The Keetoowah Cherokee News will prepare a special section to honor our graduates in the July issue. Kindergarten, Eighth Graders, High School Seniors, those attaining Associate's, Bachelor's, Masters', and Doctorate degrees will be featured.

Please submit a photo, along with information on the student such as hometown, school attended, age, field of study, parents' names, sibling's names, spouse or children if applicable, and grandparents' names. Other information might include future goals, hobbies, special awards and honors. Photos will not be returned.

Please mail Graduate information to The Keetoowah Cherokee News, PO Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465, e-mail, mcraig@unitedkeetoowahband.org or drop by the office which is located in the UKB Administration Building next door to the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino located at 2450 S. Muskogee. For more information, call (918) 456-6533.

## Modoc Tribe Aids UKB in Collecting Child Support

The Modoc Tribal Child Support Enforcement (MTCSE) office serves multiple tribes. The Tahlequah office opened in 2007 and currently serves 13 tribes, the United Keetoowah Band being one of them.

Jerry Sweet, director of the Tribal Support Enforcement Office said the office helps tribal parents establish, modify and enforce child support orders, establish paternity and locate absent parents.

The ability of tribes to enforce child support orders is authorized by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA). According to PRWORA, tribes meeting certain requirements can operate tribal child support offices according to the tribe's own laws and the federal government will provide 90 percent of the funding. The other 10 percent can come from the tribe being served or from outside funding.

Sweet said he never asked a tribe for funding in his 15 years in the program. He finds alternative methods for funding the 10 percent the federal government does not provide.

One tribe allows the MTCSE to use a lease on part of a building to make up the funding shortfall.

Sweet said the MTCSE does not take a commission from the child support collected. Once a payment is made to the MTCSE either a check is written or a payment is made into a direct deposit account to the recipient for the entire amount.

PRWORA also allows for a child support office to build a consortium to serve multiple tribes such as the Modoc office.

The consortium serves the Modoc, Wyandotte, Quapaw, Peoria, East Shawnee, Shawnee, Miami, Seneca, Ottawa, Seminole, Pawnee, United Keetoowah Band and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Sweet said even though multiple tribes are served by his offices each tribe is handled by their own codes and laws. The tribes are not lumped together in one package. Each tribe defines their own authority and jurisdiction.

Tribal members needing help can stop by the office and fill out an application.

Jamie Dick, child support specialist, said she takes applications and makes sure the applicants have all the needed paperwork and forms such as birth certificates, social security cards, CDIB cards, check stubs, identification cards and court orders, if an order is issued already.

Once a case is in the child support system it is tracked for compliance. Each payment is entered into a database and recorded to ensure credit goes to the non-custodial parent.

The MTCSE handles about \$300,000 a month in child support payments.

If a case is flagged for nonpayment the MTCSE attempts to contact the non-custodial parent by sending them up to three letters. If no response is made then the case is turned over to the legal department for action in the court system.

Sweet said the philosophy of the MTCSE is not to force compliance on parents, but to help families. If a parent is not working a probation officer is assigned to help them with employment issues. If a parent is not a high school graduate a GED program is in place to help them earn a degree. The purpose of the MTCSE is to help the families.

Some applicants cannot prove paternity for their children when they first come to the office. Sweet said his employees can help with this dilemma. The employees are certified to perform DNA swabs of possible parents in the office or in court and send the swabs to a lab to establish paternity.

Another function of the MTCSE is parental location. Parents either failing to respond to contact attempts or attempting to elude collection attempts are tracked by MTCSE.

Sonny Chanate, locator, said he takes a persons name and social security number or whatever information he can find and enters it into a database. If the first attempt does not work he keeps trying. He sometimes must wait until a bill is sent to the person before finding them.

Once he locates a person he sends the information to the case worker attached to the case.

Chanate has a 90 percent success rate in locating people. He continues to attempt to locate the other 10 percent.

Sweet said the benefit for tribal members utilizing his office is the personal touch. Anyone calling the MTCSE usually talks to an actual person not a machine, which may happen when dealing with a state agency. Also, each person in the office is dedicated to their jobs in helping the families involved with each case.

The Tahlequah MTCSE office is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1024 S. Muskogee Ave.

By Melvin Thomas Jordan  
UKB Writer

## United Keetoowah Title VI Nutrition Menu June 2010

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	<b>1 Enchiladas</b> Spanish Rice Refried Beans Salad & Dessert	<b>2 Brown Beans</b> Spinach Galley Chips Cornbread	<b>3 Shepherds Pie</b> Broccoli Breadsticks Salad & Dessert	<b>4 Fishing Day @ River Park</b> 11:30-???
<b>7 Frito Chili Pie</b> W/Fixins Salad Dessert	<b>8 Lasagna</b> Green Beans Garlic Toast Salad & Dessert	<b>9 Catfish</b> Galley Chips Corn Hushpuppies	<b>10 Chicken Cassarole w/Hominy</b> Tomato/Zucchini Breadsticks	<b>11 Brunch</b> Served from 10:30-12:00
<b>14 Pizza</b> Green Beans Caesar Salad Dessert	<b>15 Marinated Chicken</b> Wild rice Tomato/Zucchini Breadsticks	<b>16 White Beans w/Ham</b> Turnip Greens Cornbread	<b>17 Mac-n-Cheese w/Lil Smokies</b> Broccoli Breadsticks	<b>18 Fishing Day @ River Park</b> 11:30-???
<b>21 Baked ham</b> Pork & Beans Grilled Veggies Biscuit	<b>22 Burritos</b> Spanish Rice Hominy Salad & Dessert	<b>23 BBQ Brisket on A Bun</b> Potato Salad Baked Beans	<b>24 Cultural Day &amp; June Birthdays</b>	<b>25 Closed For Cleaning</b>
<b>28 Steak Fingers</b> Mashed Potato Gravy Carrots Rolls	<b>29 Polish Sausage w/Cabbage</b> Black Eyed Peas Cornbread	<b>30 Hot Ham/ Cheese Sandwich</b> Tater Tots Corn	Menus are subject to Change without notice.	

# From The Chief

*continued from page 2*

for land embraced in the homestead. The individual could claim no more than 160 acres, or could settle on lots no more than one acre in size in the town sites.

## Creation of Oklahoma Territory No Man's Land Added

On May 2, 1890, Congress passed the Organic Act. Part of this act attached land that was not part of any state or territory, called "No Man's Land", to Oklahoma Territory. This became Oklahoma's panhandle - also called Public Land Strip, Cimarron Territory and Robber's Roost in the 1880s. Prior to the act, settlers in the area led a movement to organize it into a formal territory of the United States, but the idea did not gain favor in Congress.

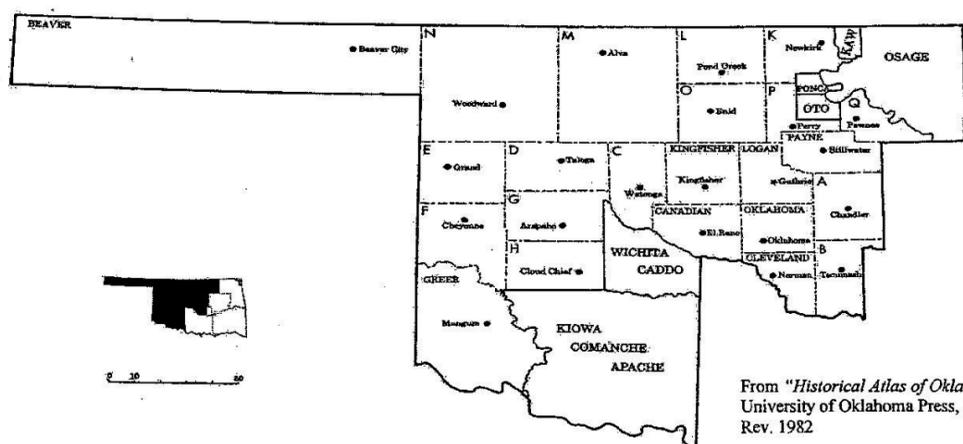
The Organic Act provided for the future Sooner State's first seven counties to be organized. Logan, Oklahoma, Cleveland, Canadian, Kingfisher and Payne counties were formed in the Unassigned Lands; and the seventh, Beaver County comprised all of the Panhandle. It was eventually divided into Cimarron, Beaver and Texas Counties. As one can see on a map from that period, Beaver County was separated by 100 miles of Indian reservation land from the counties in the former Unassigned Lands - quite an oddity for the formation of a United States territory at the time. But, that oddity in time would disappear as the Indian lands eventually were opened for settlement over the next few years, and Oklahoma Territory would grow to encompass all of what is now western Oklahoma.

### The Second Run

#### Sac and Fox, Potawatomi, Shawnee and Iowa Lands

Two years after the first land opening, the Sac and Fox, Citizen Band Potawatomi, Absentee Shawnee and Iowa tribal surplus lands, were opened to settlement. On September 22, 1891, more than 20,000 persons, three times the number of claims available, made the run for homesteads in this area just east of the former Unassigned Lands. Payne, Cleveland, Oklahoma, and Logan Counties were expanded from portions of this addition to Oklahoma Territory, and two new counties, were formed that were of this addition to Oklahoma Territory, and two new counties, were formed that were designated Counties "A" and "B". They were named Lincoln and Pottawatomie by voters and following year.

## Map of Okla. Territory Showing Expansion 1889-1896 Original Counties A-Q and Greer



From "Historical Atlas of Oklahoma"  
University of Oklahoma Press, 1965,  
Rev. 1982

Note: This system of designating newly-formed counties by alphabet letters was continued as more land was opened for settlement. (See the map below)

### Cheyenne - Arapaho Lands

On April 19, 1892, the 3.5 million surplus acres of Cheyenne-Arapaho land was made available to homesteaders. Only 25,000 individuals participated in this land run, and nearly two million acres in the western portion were passed over by the settlers, principally because the land was regarded as unfit for farming.

Farmers and ranchers took up these avoided claims on a more leisurely basis. From this accretion, Oklahoma Territory gained six new counties: C County (Blaine), D. County (Dewey), E County (Day), F County (Roger Mills), G County (Custer) and H County (Washita). Additions were made to the already established counties of Kingfisher and Canadian. Later, the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention abolished

Day County, and parts of it were attached to Ellis and Roger Mills Counties.

### The Cherokee Outlet

One of the attractive portions of Indian Territory was the Cherokee Outlet. The Jerome Commission (sometimes called Cherokee Commission) spent many difficult sessions at Tahlequah with officials of the Cherokee Nation before an agreement was reached to transfer the title of the Outlet's six million acres to the United States.

Two tribes that settled in the Outlet, the Tonkawa and Pawnee, negotiated allotment agreements with the Jerome Commission so that their surplus lands were included in the area opened to home seekers on September 16, 1893. More than 100,000 settlers raced for the 40,000 claims in the Outlet. In the earlier land runs, it had been customary to reserve sections 16 and 36 of each township as school land. In addition to school reserves, section 13 was set aside for territorial educational institutions and section 33 was set aside to benefit public buildings.

Seven new counties were formed in this area that were designated by letters "K" through "Q". Voters later named them Kay, Grant, Woods, Woodward, Garfield, Noble and Pawnee Counties. Additional counties were created by the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention later.

### Kickapoo Land

The format for modern day northern and western Oklahoma was nearly completed with the opening of the Outlet. The Kickapoo tribe

finally agreed to terms, and its small reservation, situated just east of the old Unassigned Lands, was opened by run May 23, 1895. The small reservation had so little surplus land that, to appease the land-hungry settlers, the Kickapoo received allotments of only 80 acres each. Most of the land was reserved as School Indemnity Land, several thousand acres of which were sold to the public in 1910.

### Sooners

With each land run there had been an increase in Sooner activity. A Sooner was a home seeker who illegally entered the settlement zone before the scheduled run. Often, they would select a choice homestead, hide in the brush, and at a favorable moment appear to stake a claim. Unlawful entry was so widespread by the time of the Kickapoo Run that many officials charged that possibly half of all claims were filed by Sooners. To stop these cheaters, the United States government searched for a foolproof method for

opening additional Indian reservations.

### Greer County

Before another opening occurred, Oklahoma Territory received an increase in land area due to court action. Based on surveys and exploration of southwest Oklahoma dating as far back as 1852, the North Fork of the Red River had been regarded, incorrectly, as the major branch of the stream separating Indian Territory from Texas. In 1880 cattlemen entered the area south of the North Fork and a Texas county named Greer was organized with Mangum as the county seat. The federal government discovered the error in original surveys and mapping, and claimed that because the North Fork was only a tributary of the Red River, Greer County was Indian Territory. The United States Supreme Court rendered its decision against Texas on March 16, 1896 and directed that the 1.4 million acres that comprised Greer County be attached to Oklahoma Territory.

Congress then passed a law in 1896 that permitted long-term settlers to file on 160 acres already occupied. The law also gave these settlers the privilege of purchasing an additional quarter section at \$1.00 an acre. In Greer County there remained about four thousand homesteads available for entry under the homestead laws of the United States. This new addition to Oklahoma Territory remained as Greer County until the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention in 1906 divided it into Jackson, Greer and Harmon Counties, and added a portion to Beckham County.

### Kiowa, Comanche, Wichita, Caddo and Apache Lands

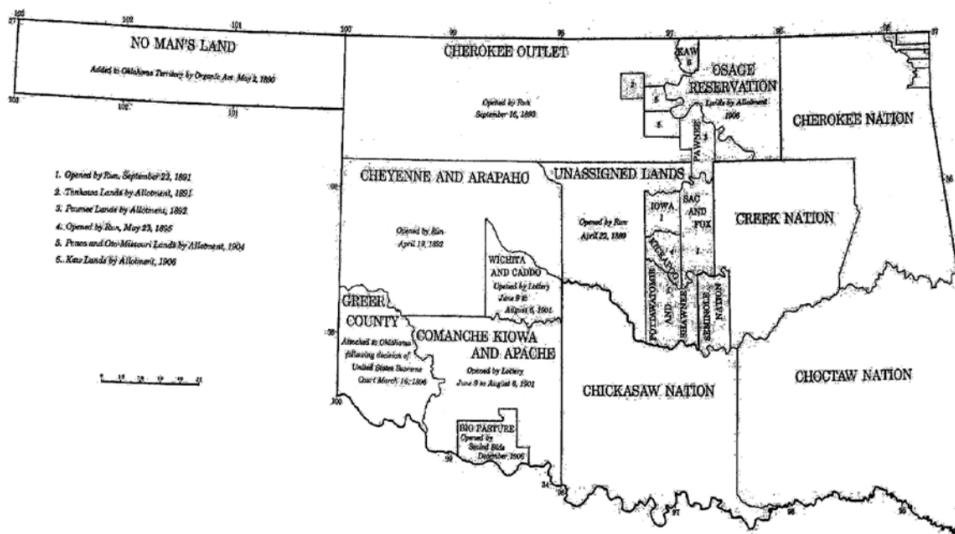
In August 1901, the last remaining Indian land in western Oklahoma was opened to settlement. By that year the Kiowa, Comanche, Wichita, Caddo and Apache lands had been allotted and the surplus, amounting to more than 2 million acres, was opened. Instead of the customary land run to divide the open land, a lottery was used. Hopeful settlers numbering 100,000 registered at Fort Sill and Fort Reno for a drawing to distribute the 15,000 claims. There was no "soonerism" because the number of claim tickets drawn equaled the number of homesteads available. Several areas were reserved before the opening, including sections 16, 36, 13, and 33; the Fort Sill Military Reservation of 56,000 acres; the Wichita Mountain Forest Reservation of 58,000; and the Big Pasture Reserve of 480,000 acres. In addition, half a section in each of the three counties (Kiowa, Comanche, and Caddo) was set aside to provide income for public purposes.

The Big Pasture Reserve, which included land in both Comanche and Tillman counties, was sold at public auction in 1906. The grazing land had been reserved for surplus livestock of the Kiowa, Comanche, Wichita and Caddo Indians. After allotments had been provided for children born after the land opening in 1901, the remaining land was sold to the highest bidder among qualified homesteaders. Interested parties could bid on several 160-acre tracts but could buy only one tract each. Big Pasture land sold at this auction for about \$10. per acre.

### Ponca, Oto-Missouria and Kaw Lands

Small enclaves of Indian land west of the Five Civilized Tribes remained under tribal control after 1900. The Ponca, Oto-Missouria, and Kaw reservations, by act of Congress in 1904 were opened and attached to Oklahoma Territory. After allotment, the Kaw Reservation was

*continued on page 8*



## Indian Reserves & Land Openings in Oklahoma

See Appendix A, Page A-6 for List of Recognized Tribes of Oklahoma

From "Historical Atlas of Oklahoma"  
University of Oklahoma Press, 1965, Rev. 1982

# UKB Employee A



Charles Dreadfulwater was selected as the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino Manager of the Year for his hard work and dedication to the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians.



Jayme Johnson, Accounting Department, was selected as the Tribal Employee of the Year for her hard work and dedication to the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians.

"Now, t  
proclaim  
liffe as  
laughter  
the anni  
ciation



Cody McCarter and Rod Fourkiller take a fall as they compete in the Three-Legged-Race during the UKB Employee Appreciation Day, May 7.



Keetoowah Cherokee employees enjoy a delicious lunch provided by the Heart O' Camp and Conference Center. Pictured are, left to right, Travis Foreman, Lighth, Dan Ballou, I.T.; and Darrell Smith, Maintenance.



Marla Stone and Amber Convirs, Keetoowah Cherokee Casino employees, placed 2nd in the Three-Legged-Race during the Annual UKB Employee Appreciation Day held at Heart O'Hills Camp and Conference Center, Welling, OK.



Jesse Cornsilk and Trent Ketcher, Keetoowah Cherokee Casino employees, placed 1st in the Three-Legged-Race during the Annual UKB Employee Appreciation Day, May 7.

Tug  
and



Tribal employees give it their all as they pull their way to victory during the UKB Employee Appreciation Day Tug of War competition, May 7 at Heart O'Hills Camp and Conference Center.



Second Place winners of the Tug of War competition were, left to right, Preston Stopp, Henry Sam, Tish Guevara and Brenda Hicks.

# Check out our website

# Appreciation Day



That's how you tell a joke!" UKB Chief George Wick tells his own joke to the employees attending the Annual UKB Employee Appreciation Day at Heart O'Hills.



Melinda Cookson was selected as the Keetoowah Cherokee Casino Employee of the Year for her hard work and dedication to the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians.



Gwen Goingsnake, Human Services Department, was selected as Tribal Manager of the Year for her hard work and dedication to the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians.



Heart O'Hills



Joe Bunch, UKB Gaming Commissioner, takes aim as he tosses his horseshoe toward his stake for a ringer. Joe Proctor, Maintenance, studies Bunch's form as he prepares to toss his horseshoe.



Competition was tough during the Three-Legged-Race competition at this year UKB Employee Appreciation Day. Rounding the corner are, Ron Frazier and Garrett Drapeau, left; Tyson and Shana Killer, center and Micky Spears, course coordinator.



War Champions were, left to right, Cody McCarter, Cody Quetone, Charlie Dreadfulwater, Amanda Stopp and Amanda Mink.



Featured entertainment and Emcee for the day at the UKB Employee Appreciation Day, Indian Comedian Mitch Factor, received tears of laughter as he performed Frybread Mama in front of tribal and casino employees.



Walema, Chris



Rod Fourkiller and Cody McCarter placed 3rd during the Three-Legged-Race at this years UKB Employee Appreciation Day.



Winners of the Horseshoe Pitch competition at the Annual UKB Employee Appreciation Day were, 2nd Place, Joe Byrd and Jim Woodard, left; and 1st Place, Billy Fields and Vince Drywater, right.

continued from page 3

divided entirely among the tribal members; and on the Oto-Missouria Reservation there were 51,000 surplus acres for sale to settlers.

**The Osage Nation**

The Osage Nation was attached to Oklahoma Territory for court purposes by an act of Congress in 1893. However, this tribe had been exempt from allotment under the Dawes Act of 1887. Therefore, in 1906, Congress passed an act providing for liquidating this last reservation west of the Five Civilized Tribes. There was no surplus land for settlers in the Osage reservation because all of this land went to the Indians, with each tribal citizen receiving more than 500 acres.

**The Dawes Commission**

When the Five Civilized Tribes formed their nations, the land was held in common, or "owned" by the tribe. Congress however, insisted that the communal land ownership must be altered to conform with the land-holding practice in the United States, allowing the ownership of the land to be passed to heirs.

The Dawes Commission, named for U. S. Sen. Henry L. Dawes from Massachusetts, carried out the change of title from tribal to individual ownership of land. The Jerome or Cherokee Commission had been given authority to deal only with Indian land west of the Five Civilized Tribes. A rider to the 1893 Indian Appropriations Bill authorized the president to appoint a commission to negotiate with the Five Civilized Tribes for the allotment of tribal lands, which was approved on March 3, 1893.

The Dawes Commission met with leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes for the first time at a council at Checotah in February 1894. The federal commissioners received a cool reception, with the Indian representatives refusing to discuss allotment. The Dawes Commission then visited each Indian capital - the Cherokee at Tahlequah, the Creeks at Okmulgee, the Seminoles at We-woka, the Choctaws at Tuskahoma, and Chicka-

saws at Tishomingo - and received a similar rebuff. Repeated attempts by the commission to gain allotment agreements ended in utter failure; thereupon, in 1896, Congress gave the commission authority to survey tribal lands and enroll allottees without waiting for tribal approval.

**The Land of the Five Civilized Tribes**

Apparently the leaders of the five tribes saw in the new authority the futility of further resistance, for on April 23, 1897, the federal commissioners negotiated the Atoka Agreement with Choctaw and Chickasaw leaders. This became the basic allotment formula for these two tribes. The Choctaw-Chickasaw agreement paved the way for agreements with the Seminoles in 1898, and the Cherokees and the Creeks came to terms in 1901.

Through the Dawes Commission negotiations with the Five Civilized Tribes, it was agreed that all tribal governments were to cease operation during 1906. Since the Curtis Act preempted their judicial functions, the Indian governments operated until statehood on a caretaker basis, with most of their activities devoted to liquidating public property.

Dawes Commission surveys of the domain of the Five Civilized Tribes showed that the Cherokee Nation held 4,420,068 acres; the Creek Nation held 3,079,095 acres; the Seminole Nation, 365,852 acres; the Choctaw Nation 6,953,048; and the Chickasaw Nation, 4,707,903 acres.

In addition to supervising the surveys, the Dawes commission enrolled the allottees and determined eligibility. Determining eligibility was a vexing problem because more than 300,000 persons claimed citizenship rights in the Five Civilized Tribes. Their qualifications were entered on the rolls for allotment. Preparation for the enrollment began on June 28, 1898, and extended to March 4, 1907 when the rolls were closed. The Dawes Commission enrolled 26,794 full bloods, 3,534 Indians of at least three-fourths Indian blood, 6,859 of one-half to three-fourths Indian blood. The last category included adopted and intermarried whites. In addition, the commission enrolled 23,405 former

slaves and their descendants.

Of the 19,526,966 acres comprising the land of the Five Civilized Tribes, 15,794,400 acres were allotted to persons whose names appeared on the tribal rolls. The remaining land was accounted for in town sites, schools and other public purposes, and segregated coal and timber lands. Most of the latter was sold at public auction, and the proceeds were placed to the credit of the tribes holding such lands. Thus there was no surplus land for homesteading in Indian Territory as there had been in Oklahoma Territory.

Allotments varied in size. Each Choctaw and Chickasaw received about 320 acres; each Cherokee about 100 acres; Creek allottees 160 acres each; and Seminoles, 120 acres each. Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole former slaves and descendants shared equally with the Indians in size of allotment, while Choctaw and Chickasaw freedmen and descendants each received an allotment of 40 acres. Most allotments were held in trust by the federal governments.

**The Tribes of the Quapaw Agency**

The tribes of the Quapaw Agency jurisdiction (the extreme northeast part of Oklahoma), except the Quapaws, were allotted by special assignment between 1889 and 1892. These tribes included the Peoria, Modoc, Ottawa, Shawnee, Wyandot and Seneca. The Quapaw delayed in protest over the federal government's proposal that they be satisfied with 80-acre individual allotments. Knowing there was substantially more land than this available on their reservation, the members of this tribe resisted until 1893 when each Quapaw received an allotment of 200 acres.

**Citizenship Issues**

The Dawes Allotment Act of 1887 granted citizenship to each Indian upon assignment of an allotment. A congressional act passed in 1901 made all Indians of Indian Territory citizens of the United States.

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**Sequoyah Alumni Association Announces New Officers**

The Sequoyah Alumni Association held their 65th Annual Reunion on April 30 - May 2 on the campus of Sequoyah High School, south of Tahlequah. Activities included a silent auction, banquet, gospel singing and a Saturday Night Social.

During the Alumni Association meeting new officers were elected. Newly elected officers are Don Ade, (1965 graduate) President; Roberta Gibson, Vice-President; Florine Batt, Secretary; Leah Harjo Jack, Treasurer; and Maxine Pumpkin Cypress, Sergeant-at-Arms.

President-Elect Don Ade encourages all former alumni to get involved in activities and meetings during the next year.

For more information regarding Sequoyah Alumni Association please visit our website, [www.sequoyahalumni.net](http://www.sequoyahalumni.net)

**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



Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center staff volunteered their time to help paint their fellow employee's new home built by volunteers for the Habitat for Humanities. Pictured are, left to right, Jalissa McCoy, friend; Tiffany Still-Jordan, CDC Teacher; Patricia Fields, CDC Assistant Teacher; and Melissa McCoy, friend. Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



Sherri Mouse, United Keetoowah Band tribal member and Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center employee, paints the finishing touches on an outside window pane to her new home built by volunteers of the Habitat for Humanities Program. Photo by Marilyn Craig



Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Victoria Proctor volunteers her Saturday to help paint a home built by Habitat for Humanities volunteers. Proctor participated in the "Woman Build 2010" day by volunteering her time helping others. Photo by Marilyn Craig

## Benefit Indian Taco Supper and Gospel Singing on Tap

The Modern Woodmen of America will match funds raised at a Benefit Indian Taco Supper Gospel Singing and Auction to help pay the final expenses for the burial of Darci Lynn Scrapper.

The event will be held on Thursday, July 1 at the Cherokee County Community Building in Tahlequah. Supper begins at 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. The auction will begin at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Gospel Music lovers are in for a great evening of music. Acts that are already on the schedule include Dean Williams, Kingfisher Family, Visionary, Young Believers and others.

For more information, contact Kristene Scrapper at (918) 718-9311 or Jr. Scrapper at (918) 519-7560. Donations and auction items appreciated.

## UKB Tribal Member Completes EMT Training

UKB Tribal Member Elmer "Fudd" Panther, of Kansas, Oklahoma, completed a Basic EMT training course in January. The course was offered by Cherokee Nation EMS. Panther is now a registered emergency medical technician.

Panther's wife is Nina and they have twin children, Kristin and Kyle, 17. He is the son of Elmer and the late Verna Panther of Kansas. His future plans are to become employed as an EMT and continue training as an intermediate medical technician.



## Gospel Music Fest Set for June 12

A Gospel Music Fest will be held at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Grounds Pavilion on Saturday, June 12 from 11 a.m. to sundown. All musicians and gospel groups are invited to come and join in the music and fellowship.

An afternoon meal will be provided. Bring your instruments and lawn chairs.

The gospel singing is sponsored by Norman Carey and Doug Bryant. For more information, call Carey at (918) 506-4081 or e-mail Doug Bryant at visionary4christ@yahoo.com

Directions: Two miles South of Tahlequah on Hwy 62, turn west on W. Willis Road (at Finish Line Store) follow, road will T, turn right and at first road to left follow to Pavilion.

# 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.

## Obituaries

### Andy Oosahwee

UKB Tribal Member Andy Oosahwee was preceded in death by his parents; two sons: James Oosahwee and Dennis Deerinwater; three brothers: Wilson Oosahwee, Steve Oosahwee, and William McKee; one grandson James Oosahwee Jr. and one great granddaughter: Shya Mary McDaniel.

He is survived by a loving family which includes five sons: Harry Oosahwee and wife Mary, Andy Oosahwee Jr. and wife Ann, Willard Oosahwee and wife Debbie, Larry Oosahwee and wife Lucille all of Tahlequah and Terry Oosahwee and wife Kathy of Vian; two daughters: Dessie Robinson and husband Dennis of Shady Grove, and Carolyn McDaniel and husband Steve of Tahlequah; one daughter-in-law: Patricia Oosahwee of Tahlequah; three sisters: Beatrice Oosahwee and Katherine Oosahwee both of Tahlequah and Lorene Whitehead of Hulbert; 18 grandchildren and 7



Andy Oosahwee

great grandchildren. Many nieces, nephews, friends and other relatives also survive him.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at the Reed-Culver Funeral Chapel with Rev. Jimmy Carey officiating. Interment followed in the New Hope Cemetery in Hulbert, Oklahoma.

### Homer "Mush" Gene King, Jr.

Homer "Mush" Gene King, Jr. of Kenwood, was born on July 27, 1971, and passed away March 9, 2010. He was 38. Mush attended Kenwood School and participated in choir, T-Ball and Special Olympics, and was part of the Class of 1989 at Jay High School. He studied masonry at Northeast Technology Center. Mush worked for Simmons, CNO Head Start and AMO Clinic in Salina before becoming disabled.

Survivors include his parents, Homer and Lois Blackbear King of Kenwood; three brothers, Michael King of Kenwood, Alan King of Pryor, and Joel King of Kenwood,



Homer "Mush" Gene King, Jr.

and one half-sister, Elisha Strickland of Tahlequah. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Jim and Mary Blackbear and Jack and Francis King.

## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT



**UKB Employee  
Rebecca  
"Becka"  
Keys  
Fourth year  
with the UKB**

Rebecca Keys, administrative assistant for Lighthouse Patrol

By Melvin Thomas Jordan  
UKB Writer

The United Keetoowah Band (UKB) employees several hundred people and some of them stand out amongst the others. One of the outstanding is Rebecca "Becka" Keys, administrative assistant for Lighthouse Patrol. October marks Keys's fourth year with the UKB.

Her official duties include payroll, council reports, scheduling, all secretarial duties and dispatching Lighthouse Patrol officers. Keys said she checks the overnight logs when she arrives at 8 a.m. to see if she needs contact the surveillance department to review the videos for problems. Some of the things she sees add some spice to her day.

"We've had a lady try to set the bathroom on fire in the casino," said Keys. "We had a three-car wreck in the parking lot the other day. You know it's always something."

Keys said she also performs several unofficial duties such as unlocking cars, jump starting cars and helping the nearby offices when officers are on patrol. Even in the snow or pouring rain Keys is willing to help those in need.

Keys also helped build the sex offenders database on the UKB website. She fingerprinted, took pictures, compiled a physical description and compiled a current living arrangement description of each person. In one case she rode along with Travis Foreman, officer, to verify a physical address. "It wasn't as near as exciting as I thought it was going to be," said Keys.

In addition to juggling her numerous duties, Keys is also a part-time student at Northeastern State University. She finished her first year this spring. Keys said she does not know what her major is yet, but it will probably be in criminal justice.

If holding down a full-time job and being a part-time student is not enough to keep Keys busy, she is also the proud parent of two boys. Her older son plays baseball, basketball, football and track and Keys is present for every game. "He knows mama is not going to miss a game," said Keys.

Keys was born in Tahlequah in 1981. She graduated from Hulbert High School in 1999 and married Josh Keys at the end of the year. She has two sons, ages 7 and 10, who keep her busy. Keys said two children are enough though. They are old enough to take hunting, fishing and to ballgames without worrying about the weather.

The family fishes for all types of fish such as bass and crappie. They also squirrel and deer hunt. This year will be a first for Keys in one area of deer hunting though, her husband is taking her bow hunting.

Keys said she does not know if she is patient enough to let a deer get close enough to kill it with a bow, but her husband told her once she kills the first one she will be hooked for life.

The time she spends with her husband is precious to her. Josh Keys builds cell phone towers for a living and is only home about five days a month. Keys met her husband when she was 15 years old and he was 17 years old. They were introduced by mutual friends. From wrangling her family to juggling a full-time job to furthering her education, Rebecca Keys stands out among the UKB family.

## Keetoowah Cherokee Tribal Veterans Office Assists Vets

The Keetoowah Cherokee Tribal Veterans Office (KCTVO) helps and recognizes veterans of all eras. Tribal affiliation does not matter; being a veteran is the only requirement. Norman Littledave, tribal community coordinator, said the KCTVO wants to help as many veterans as it can.

The majority of veterans need help getting a copy of their DD 214. The DD 214 is a form given to veterans at their separation from the military detailing their time in service and accredited benefit points. The Veterans Administration (VA) will not start a veteran's benefits without this form.

The KCTVO also disburses information and pamphlets dealing with transitioning from service to civilian life, post-traumatic stress disorder, suicide prevention, reconnecting with family after a deployment and veteran benefits. One area the KCTVO does not handle is counseling. Counseling services are provided by the VA.

One veteran receiving counseling services is George McCoy, Vietnam veteran.

McCoy served in the Army for six years and served in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969.

Littledave said he talked to McCoy and sent him to the Muskogee VA for help.

McCoy said he went to the VA and was told to see a psychiatrist. At first he did not want to talk about what he experienced, but learned he was not the only person to see horrible things in war.

McCoy also went to group therapy with other veterans to talk about their experiences.

McCoy said those things will always be in his head, but now he knows how to cope with them. McCoy is now fighting for full disability rights.

The KCTVO works in conjunction with other veterans' offices and representatives. One of these representatives is Jacob Littledave, tribal veteran representative and former Canadian district representative.

Jacob Littledave said he learned some of the rules for filing claims while he filed his own claim for veterans' benefits. After he finished his claim he started helping other veterans file their claims. He received training from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and now has updated books and internet access to help file claims efficiently.

Jacob Littledave does not advertise his services, but veterans find out about his service through word of mouth. Jacob Littledave said he has helped hundreds of veterans since he started. Another office working in conjunction with the KCTVO is the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma (CNO) Human Services Office.

"The Cherokee Nation [sic] (of Oklahoma) Veterans Affairs Office assists all veterans with information and referrals, completing paperwork, transportation and access to counsel-

ing services," said Norma Merriman, group leader of Cherokee Nation Human Services. "The Cherokee Nation [sic] (of Oklahoma) recognizes, and is grateful, for the sacrifices of all veterans."

Veteran appreciation and recognition are functions of the KCTVO also. Every year the lives of military personnel lost in war are honored by the Laying of the Wreath Ceremony. This year's ceremony was May 31 at 1 p.m. at the United Keetoowah Band Tribal Complex grounds south of Tahlequah. Another event to recognize and show appreciation is the Veterans' Luncheon in November.

Littledave said his office tries to serve lunch to as many veterans as possible. Last year 10 elder veterans were recognized as special veterans at the luncheon and given an appreciative gift.

The KCTVO also receives help from outside sources in honoring veterans.

Brownie Troop 10,001 from Briggs sent cards the Brownies made to the KCTVO to send to veterans.

"It was Veterans Day and I was teaching my girls about Veterans Day and what veterans were, so we decided to make some cards just to say thank you," said Jahna Hill, troop leader.

The troop made cards for Veterans Day, Valentine's Day and Christmas.

Littledave said the veterans receiving the cards were appreciative of the girls' efforts.

Troop 10,001 also marched in the Veterans Day Parade in Tahlequah carrying a banner saying "Thank You Great Warriors" in Cherokee.

Littledave is also working on a project to put together a Keetoowah veterans' color guard.

The project is in the planning stages, but Littledave is working to make it a reality.

Anyone with questions concerning veterans' rights can call Norman Littledave at (918) 431-1818, Jacob Littledave at (918) 348-4637 or the Muskogee VA at 1-800-827-1000.

By Melvin Thomas Jordan  
UKB Writer



Norman "Hominy" Littledave, UKB tribal community coordinator, emceeds the Keetoowah Cherokee annual Veteran's luncheon held at the Jim Proctor Elder Community Center

## EBCI member thanks UKB

i4BP J80Y  
GWY5 001  
Myrtle Driver

To: Keetoowah Cherokee News

Thank you for sending me your newspaper monthly. I look forward to receiving it, and read it from front to back. I feel like I'm reading about my family and am always amazed at the progress that UKB has made in the past years since I became personally acquainted with many UKB enrolled members. Your programs to service the people have grown tremendously. I'm always reading about activities provided for all ages and I'm positive many of these activities are healthy alternatives to substance abuse. UKB is to be applauded for their progress.

First and foremost, "thank you" for the support that UKB gives the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians for our efforts to preserve our culture and traditions and our efforts to make a better life for the EBCI. I will always remember the day I requested a letter of support on the land exchange between EBCI and the National Park for a new school for our youth; former Chief Dallas Proctor and Assistant Chief Archie Mouse did not hesitate to sign a letter of support for us. Just recently Chief George Wickliffe came to Cherokee at a moments notice to give us support on the Duke Energy issue. Chief Wickliffe was present at our celebration of the opening of The New Keetoowah Language Academy for our Immersion students. It seems that any time we request support from UKB, someone is here willing to give a helping hand. And that's the way it should be with Cherokee people.

On April 16, 2010, during Joint Council between EBCI and CNO, EBCI Councilman Tunnie Crowe stated that he would like to have Joint Council between EBCI, CNO and UKB. I immediately sat up straight and listened to the responses, and they were good. My dear friend Rosie McCoy, manager of EBCI Tribal Operations and I have discussed this possibility several times and have expressed our wish for this to happen. Wouldn't this be a most joyous occasion...I would have a hard time maintaining composure, after all, we are One People, and should only be divided by space. All of our Tribal flags include the wreath that represents hands together in unity. I hope this can happen during my lifetime.

Recently, I told my daughter Renissa that anytime I go to Oklahoma, I'm going to be honest and say that I'm going to Oklahoma to eat. We are always fed the most delicious food. Hearts and doors are opened for us and we are treated as family. Thank you and wado to everyone.

Next month, the Language Consortium will be meeting in Cherokee, N.C., and I will be trying to top Ted French's Fish Fry. This will be quite a task for me, because his Fish Fry is hard to beat, and I made the mistake of telling him that I was a better cook than him.

Again, I applaud UKB for your progress and many thanks for the support and friendship you give EBCI.

I always look forward to being with Cherokee people, especially those who speak our beautiful language.

Thanks again, for sending me the Keetoowah Cherokee News each month.

Respectfully and Sincerely,

i4BP J80Y

## Thanks UKB

A great big Thank You for the Great Job you are doing as Administrators for our people and the services you provide. Thank You Chief George and Administrative Staff.

Tribal Member,  
Jim Henson

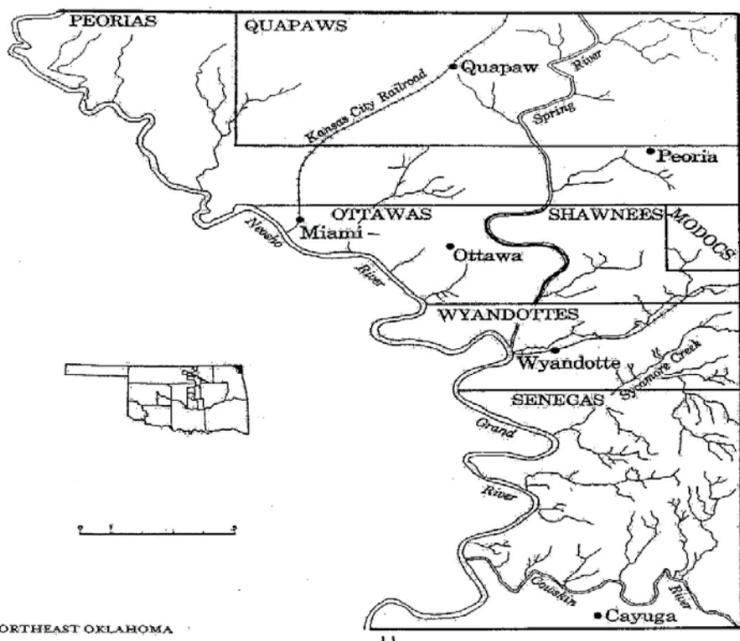


Former Chief Jim Henson

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## Indian Reservations in Northeast Oklahoma

From "Historical Atlas of Oklahoma"  
University of Oklahoma Press, 1965, Rev. 1982



### Indian Reservations in Northeast Oklahoma

While the provisions for the Homestead Act applied chiefly to Oklahoma Territory, much of the land was not free, as was the case for most

of the public land in the West. To open Indian Territory to homesteaders, the federal government first had to extinguish Indian title by purchasing each tribe's surplus land. This cost was passed on to settlers, generally running about \$1.25 per acre. The Free Homes Bill proposed repealing these charges. Congress finally passed the Free Homes Bill in 1900, which saved Oklahoma settlers an estimated \$15 million. Oklahoma's representative in Congress, Dennis T. Flynn, worked tirelessly for this measure.

One of the conditions of the Homestead Act required a settler to reside on their claim for five years before the title was issued for the property, or the \$1.25 per acre could be paid in advance of the five-year period to obtain a patent. This latter method was referred to as, "commuting to a cash claim."

### Indian Allotment Restrictions in Oklahoma

Indian allotments were restricted in title because each allotment was held in trust by the federal government for 21 years. Throughout the restricted period Indian homesteads were exempt from taxation. Those remaining as "held in trust" are still exempt from property taxes today.

## Thank You

The UKB Education Department would like to thank Willo Stravlo for her generous donations to Education.

# UKB Regular April Council Meeting Minutes

**UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting  
At the UKB Community Services Building  
April 10, 2010  
10:00 a.m. – 12:47 p.m.**

## I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

## II. Invocation: Sammy Still

## III. Roll Call: 11 + Chief answered Roll Call (Sacks absent)

## IV. Chief's Address

- Informed UKB had sent condolences for the loss of Wilma Mankiller and it was stated how she was a strong leader for CNO. The flag was flown at half mast.

- Reminder that UKB is successor-in-interest along with CNO.

- Reminded that CNO citizenship was determined by an original enrolled citizen on the Dawes Commission; wherein, further citizenship would require proof of kinship, on the Dawes Rolls, to said original citizen. It is reported the last such citizen would now be 103 years of age, thus; CNO citizenship is in danger of fading out.

- Announced a memorial service was planned for Mrs. Mankiller, today at 11 am at the CNO powwow grounds. All former CNO Council members were invited to attend this service. (Referred to the situation of Martin Seneca's letter, RE: UKB and 638 grants vs. Gerard Decision)

- Mentioned how UKB has struggled with CNO.

- Stated to Council anyone who wished to attend the memorial service for Mrs. Mankiller was free to attend.

- In the past, anyone could be seated on the CNO Council but only UKB members could be on the UKB Council. At that time CNO Council Candidates campaigned for Keetoowah votes.

- Regardless of tribal affiliation, all children were invited to the Spring Break Culture Camp. The camp hosted 100 + children this year.

- The UKB have absolute sovereignty through the EchoHawk decision and we will keep moving forward. We will only be required to answer to the United States Government and no one else.

- Spoke on history of Trail of Tears and the hardships suffered by the people.

- There is much work to be done by the UKB because of the EchoHawk decision but we will be prepared to do what is necessary while we stay within our authority.

Spoke of UKB Lighthorse authority. He spoke of how hunting by UKB members was worked out with B.I.A. Marshall service personnel and the past hunting season was very peaceful.

CNO is not the Original Cherokee Nation

A smoke shop compact with the state will be discussed later on the agenda.

Continues to be optimistic on future of UKB.

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

1. MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to approve the Council minutes of February 2010; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent).

## VI. Presentations -

### 1. Barry Dotson

Thanked Don Ade for assistance he gave to some people in Sequoyah District, specifically on behalf of Anita Bird who is hospitalized in Ft. Smith. Leroy Eagle and Opal Sevenstar were also assisted in needed medical attention. In addition to expressing appreciation to Mr. Ade, Mr. Dotson thanked administration and Council for all the help that has been given to people in Sequoyah District.

### 2. Barry Dotson:

Marble City school won State Championship and will probably be requesting some type of help although nothing has been asked of the UKB related to this achievement.

### 3. Betty Holcomb:

Expressed that Norma Rock was very appreciative of the work done by UKB on her house in making her residence handicapped accessible.

### 4. Assistant Chief Locust:

Attorney Michael McMahon is present and was representing A.G. Bellmard in reference to a Tobacco Compact with the state. The UKB Tobacco Compact expired in December and we have been negotiating with the state to get a tobacco compact. He encouraged Council to pass a resolution to approve the Tobacco Compact which will be presented today.

HUD has also declared our service area, all things are coming into place. UKB will prepare for

growth.

Chief Wickliffe: inquired of bordering states and their tobacco prices.

Assistant Chief Locust: the Seneca Indian in New York lost their court case which will not allow them to transport tobacco products across state lines to sell to other tribes. Scott Meacham, State Treasurer, is trying to put it into a compact where tribes can sell to other tribes.

## DISCUSSION:

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to authorize the approval and execution of a Tobacco Tax Compact between the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma and the State of Oklahoma; SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent).

### 5. Charles Smoke:

RE: Betty Agnes; He thanked Don Ade for his assistance in securing medical care for Mrs. Agnes.

## VII. Reports to Council

### 1. Enrollment Report: Liz Littledave

MOTION by Cliff Wofford to accept and approve 12 new applicants for UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent).

MOTION by Cliff Wofford to acknowledge and honor 6 membership relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent).

## VIII. Public Forum

1. Barry Dotson: Informed there was a vacancy on the Human Services committee. He requested someone be presented to fill vacancy.

Response: the current committee members can present a name wherein; Council need only to confirm. This name can be brought to the Council at May's meeting.

2. Woodrow Proctor: requested a housing meeting report be included in Council packets.

Assistant Chief Locust: informed housing projects of more than one in the same general location will be bid-out as a cluster. Any person who has certificate, license, etc. who wishes to bid on these projects are welcomed to do so. Direct interested persons to Jan Laws.

3. Woodrow Proctor: inquired of F.E.M.A. Housing.

Response from Bryan Shade:

Email from G.S.A. informed of 60 mobile homes available, 1000 travel trailers and 6 park units.

Two UKB representatives went to view and the start the process for screening in order to acquire the G.S.A. property but G.S.A. changed the date for this process.

Forms were needed to be signed to authorize UKB receiving such property and these forms are to be signed by the Regional Office.

Required to amend our scope of work of some of our contracts with the Bureau to fit into how we would be using the trailer homes, etc. This was submitted yesterday (04/09/2010), Tim Good Voice went to the Bureau to sign documents. Now we wait to see when we go to the trailers location and we wait to see how many trailers we will be allowed.

F.E.M.A. has been turned over to G.S.A.

This number of trailers can be applied for by 500 + tribes.

Ownership will remain with the tribe because the program is now G.S.A.

4. Barry Dotson: inquired of status of maintenance on Sallisaw Office. Major concern was water leakage = water line problem, water under house.

Response: Maintenance has checked problem and reported they found no leaks.

Mr. Dotson stated possibly the line had frozen but he had turned off the water and left the heat on.

5. Jerry Hansen: inquired of assistance for Special Olympics. He presented written solicitation for assistance to Special Olympics and purchase of uniforms for Jay Indians Coach Pitch team. Request was referred to Gaming Board for consideration.

6. Chief Wickliffe: presented inquiry of assistance from the Kenwood Fire Department toward the purchase of a vehicle. Presently cost for such a vehicle is being gathered.

7. Jerry Hansen: informed Kansas High School Basketball team won State Championship and asked about purchase of State Championship rings.

Chief Wickliffe: believed there was 874 money in the Kansas school system which can be used for whatever the school decides. If funds are needed, the school can have fund raisers. If the school comes and proves they had tried everything possible then we will give consideration to this request.

Assistant Chief Locust: informed UKB presented financial assistance in going to this state tournament. Hansen was unaware of the assistance given for the trip. UKB has assisted both Hulbert and Kansas schools in traveling to the state tournament.

Chief Wickliffe: stated assistance had sponsored some of Sequoyah's basketball games; however, when we were asked about making a statement about Sam Bradford, we declined stating; Bradford was owned by Chad Smith

8. Charles Smoke: reported a lady had applied for assistance in paying her utility bill but it didn't get paid. She had then sent her husband, who is CNO citizen, to CNO for assistance. What happens to her now?

## DISCUSSION

Who is head of household?

What determines head of household?

CNO says head of household is responsible by their own rules CNO should pay this lady's utility bill.

People are playing the system.

At some point Council must decide what documents are acceptable in determining eligibility for services.

Must determine who is exclusive member.

CNO does not require any relinquishment from UKB.

UKB does have a policy in place that would disallow dual enrolled members from receiving services. The practice of this Council is; a letter from CNO which states a person has returned to CNO citizenship, is not acceptable, therefore; that individual continues to receive UKB services even though they are not an exclusive UKB member.

## LENGTHY DISCUSSION

9. Charles Smoke: a lady needed assistance in gasoline expense for emergency medical trip to a hospital outside of Tahlequah. She said some people go to Tahlequah and charge gasoline purchase.

Response: no automatic gasoline charge. Gas vouchers are issued for such purchase.

10. Robert Whitekiller: thanked the Council and the UKB for purchases of the buses. He said buses were very nice. The transit provided transportation to an event in Miami. This was in reference to transporting 26 Cherokee Language students, of the late Hastings Shade, to a function in his honor.

11. John Hair: stated he had just celebrated his 78th birthday one week ago. He thanked God for allowing him that many years. He stated he kept track of the UKB. He said he was real happy on how things are going with the UKB and that this is happening because of the work being done by Council.

## IX. Unfinished Business – NONE

## X. New Business

### 1. Georgia Dick; RE: Self-Governance:

This is an amendment of resolution # 09-UKB-71

Amendment is a directive from Washington Detailed explanation from Georgia.

## DISCUSSION

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to approve the submission of the request for participation in self-governance application under Title IV of P.L. 93-638, as amended, as the authority under which the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is applying to begin participation in Tribal Self-Governance; SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; VOTE: 10 Yes, 1 No (Dotson), 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent).

\*\*Note: Dotson explained his "no" vote was because it seemed the request for self-governance was "too broad."

### 2. UKB Media to change name of tribal newspaper.

Sammy Still explained the name change would be more reflective of tradition. Change would include Cherokee syllabary.

Change was then presented on the chalk board for review of Council.

## LENGTHY DISCUSSION

MOTION by Jerry Hansen to change Keetoowah News from Keetoowah-Cherokee News to Guduwah-Cherokee News with change also reflected in the Keetoowah Language; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent).

## XI. Announcements

1. Liz Littledave: The Elder Assistance Program will begin May 3, 2010. Elder Assistance check applications will be presented to each District Representative at the May Council meeting. Generally the program is the same as last December. The only BIG change is all checks will be mailed, no option to pick up the checks. This will help getting current with any address changes.

2. Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk: thanked everyone for the condolences received on behalf of her father, Grover Fourkiller.

## XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

## XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Charles Locust; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; Approve by affirmation: 12:47 PM

# 2010 Stilwell Strawberry Festival



Junior Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Alyssia Jones waves to the crowd attending the 63rd Annual Strawberry Festival Parade.

Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



United Keetoowah Band Sequoyah District Representative Barry Dotson along with other tribal Council and Administration hand out candy to children during the 63th Annual Strawberry Festival in Stilwell, OK.

Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



This year's Keetoowah Cherokee Casino Float featured Strawberry Soda at the Stilwell Annual Strawberry Festival Parade.

Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan



The United Keetoowah Band Lighthouse was well represented this year as they showcased their new fully equipped Police vehicles through the parade route during the annual Strawberry Festival Parade in downtown Stilwell.

Photo by Melvin Thomas Jordan

## UKB Presents Culture Day at White Oak School

White Oak, Okla. -- The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma provided a day of Keetoowah Cherokee Culture to White Oak School students on May 13, 2010.

The full day of cultural events began with a performance of the Keetoowah Cherokee Youth Choir, who perform all their songs in the Keetoowah Cherokee Language. After the performance, classes were divided and were given a variety of presentations including storytelling, a snake presentation, basket weaving, corn husk doll making, a Keetoowah Cherokee language class, blowgun, stickball and a flute making presentation.

Students, faculty, presenters, and guests were provided a Cherokee meal which included hog fry, beans, potatoes, fry bread and grape dumplings. The hog meat was cooked outdoors in kettles, and the rest of the food was cooked indoors.

Displays set up included UKB Natural Resources Department, a Wildlife and Game Display, the Gaduwa Cherokee News Display and an Education Department Display. The last event of the day was a Powwow and Cultural Dance Display provided by Larry Daylight and Family. Event coordinator Sammy Still said, "We would like to thank White Oak School Administration, teachers and students for their wonderful hospitality, it was an enjoyable day for all. For more information about the UKB Cultural Program, contact Lisa Stopp at (918) 456-8698.



David McCarter, UKB Fish and Wildlife Officer, teaches wildlife management to students during the United Keetoowah Band Cultural Heritage Day at White Oak School, May 13. Photo by Norman "Hominy" Littledave



The stickball game was one of many events offered to the White Oak students during Cultural Heritage Day. Other activities included basket weaving, traditional blow gun, flute making and storytelling the students could enjoy.

Photo by Norman "Hominy" Littledave



UKB Assistant Chief Charles Locust attended White Oak School's United Keetoowah Band Cultural Heritage Day, May 13. Locust is pictured visiting with UKB Tribal Secretary, Liz Littledave, left; and Interim Superintendent, David Money, center; during the event.

Photo by Norman "Hominy" Littledave

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