

Gaduwa Cherokee News

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Third Day of Champions is “outstanding”

By M. Thomas Jordan
GCN Special Writer

Coach Ken Heupel welcomed 29 children to the two-day Day of Champions football camp sponsored by the United Keetoowah Band May 31.

Heupel and his staff— comprised of former professional and college athletes, and high school and college coaches—started out the morning teaching the 8- to 18-year-olds how to sit straight and pay attention. He told the campers that people form impressions within 30 seconds of meeting someone and it is important to make that impression a good one.

He taught them the four aspects to success: discipline, trust and respect, built through hard work.

Heupel challenged the campers to force him and his staff to bring their “A” game, and respectfully question every drill and exercise until the campers understood why they were doing them. If the campers did this in every aspect of their lives—school,



Sammy Still/GCN

Day of Champions Camp Director Ken Heupel goes over the activities to the young participants as they prepare for a full two-day workout and training sessions with DOC coaches.

family, church, etc.—then they would succeed.

The coaches broke the campers into groups of three or four to start the activities.

After stretching muscles, campers started learning at the vari-

ous stations. The coaches gave instruction, ran the campers through the exercise and then reinforced the lesson.

The stations ranged from running rope ladders to learning proper stances to isolating core muscles and

more. On the second day, the coaches added a station on bullying and physics.

Each group also competed in a football-style game complete with college names.

Instead of a football, the teams used a softball. Players passed the ball a minimum of three times before trying to score. When a player received the ball, they could only take three steps before passing to a teammate or scoring. Non-completions resulted in possession passing to the opposing team. Players scored by either throwing the ball through the legs of a small stool or hitting the top of the stool with the ball. Players could block passes, but not tackle opposing players.

Campers took five-minute water breaks throughout the day where they not only replenished vital fluids but also sat down to rest their legs.

Each day, Lighthouse Director Mickey Spears grilled hamburgers and hotdogs to feed everyone.

See Champions, Page 6

Tribe increases vouchers: Distribution starts July 25, 2013

By Marilyn Craig
PR Coordinator

Getting children ready to go back to school in the fall can be an exciting, busy and stressful time for children and parents. There are often visits to the doctor for physicals and immunizations, as well as dental and optometry appointments. In addition, there is shopping for school clothing, shoes and school supplies.

All these preparations are often time consuming and costly. For more than ten years, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma has assisted families in helping to purchase school clothing and supplies. Originally, families had to meet income requirements to qualify for the program and then, the program was modified to help all tribal youth.

Now, there are no income guidelines to qualify for the program. All exclusive UKB youth, from kindergarten through 12 grade who are enrolled in school qualify for this program, and the voucher amounts have increased.

On February 2, 2013, the UKB tribal council passed

resolution #13-UKB-09 that increased the amount of the school clothing vouchers from \$75 to \$100 for UKB students in kindergarten through grade 8; and from \$100 to \$125 for UKB students in grades 9 through 12.

“With the cost of everything else going up, it was justifiable to do that. The purpose of tribal government is to help the people. I’m glad we can help our youth with school clothes and I am proud the entire council unanimously voted for the increase,” said Assistant Chief Charles Locust.

“Students who continue their education through vocational training or college also qualify for scholarships through our education department. We know how important it is for our young adults to get a good education to be successful in today’s world. These are our members who we have to depend on to keep our tribe progressing toward the future,” added Locust.

When applying for the vouchers, parents must bring their personal photo ID and proof of school attendance (or last year’s report

card) must accompany each child in order to pick up the voucher.

Tribal enrollment is pre-verified. If UKB enrollment is not active, parents must turn in all missing documents to enrollment before a voucher will be given.

In addition to the clothing vouchers, free backpacks with school supplies will be given to all youth from four to twelve years of age. The backpacks and supplies funding comes from the childcare and development fund, which stipulates that only children up to age 12 qualify.

“We look at supply lists from area schools and try and supply kids with a number of the items they will need along with a backpack,” said Pamela Birmelin, Licensing Quality Coordinator for the Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center.

Listed below are the distribution sites for each district:

Canadian District

July 26, 2013 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Ataloah Lodge, Bacone College

Coowescoowee

District

July 25, 2012 10:30 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.

First Christian Presbyterian Church, Pryor

Delaware and Going-snake Districts

July 31, 2013 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Kansas Satellite Office

Illinois and Sequoyah Districts

August 1, 2013 10 a.m.– 3 p.m. Sallisaw Satellite Office

Flint District

July 29, 2013 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Stilwell Satellite office

Saline District

July 30, 2013 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Kenwood School Gym

Tahlequah District

August 2, 2013 9:30 a.m.– 4 p.m. UKB Wellness Center

All others who miss district dates or need to finish the application process may come in on August 5, 2013 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. to the UKB Wellness Center to pick up vouchers.

For more information, call Health and Human Services at 918-456-8698.

Attention Tribal Members on Indian Trust Land

Are you located in the UKB’s 14 county jurisdictional area and have owned or do own Indian Trust Land? If so, you may have been a victim of being taxed illegally or may have been convinced the land was no longer yours.

In fact, if it is Indian land, there are no taxes due, but in several instances, county officials recorded the land as having taxes due. There have been cases where individuals found out about this mix-up when they read there were taxes due on their property in the newspaper, and sometimes they would go and pay those so-called back taxes with penalties.

Even more unfortunate, are the individuals whose land went up and taxes were paid by someone else for 5 years, which in some cases had someone else claiming to be the owner of that land.

Indian land cannot be used to finance a mortgage, but one tribal member in Adair County thought his land was about to be foreclosed upon, and he and his family started packing all of their belongings.

See Taxes, Page 6

**United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma
Officers**



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



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



Joyce Hawk
Tribal Secretary
Cell: 918-822-3809



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

UKB District Representatives



Eddie Sacks
Canadian District
Cell: 918-822-1957



Cliff W. Wofford
Coowescoowee Dist. Cell:
918-822-1953



Jerry Hansen
Delware District
Cell: 918-822-3804



Tom Duncan
Flint District
Cell: 918-507-1314



William Christie
Goingsnake District
Cell: 918-822-3803



Peggy Girty
Illinois District
Cell: 918-457-7067



Charles Smoke
Saline District
Cell: 918-457-7071



Betty Holcomb
Tahlequah District
Cell: 918-822-3805



Barry Dotson
Sequoyah District
Cell: 918-207-2990

NOTICE

**INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
CONTRACT HEALTH**

The important aspects to Indian Health Service Contract Health Services is to always abide by the 72-hour rule. If you have a life-threatening emergency go to the nearest health facility for treatment, but you must notify an IHS facility within 72-hours for IHS to reimburse the facility for services provided.

Understanding how to properly use the Indian Health Service (IHS) Contract Health Services Program (CHS) can save Cherokee tribal members time and money.

CHS is utilized if a service or medical need is not available at an IHS or tribal facility, such as W. W. Hastings Hospital, Claremore Indian Hospital or one of the five tribal clinics. When this occurs, the patient is referred to a non-tribal/non-IHS facility to receive the needed medical or health care.

CHS funds are used for patients who are receiving their primary health care at an IHS or tribal facility, rather than from a private physician. You must have a referral in advance from an IHS or tribal physician in order to be considered for payment. Also, a patient can only be referred to a hospital or physician who has signed an agreement with the Oklahoma Area Indian Health Service.

The CHS program is not funded to take care of all the health needs of Indian people. Therefore, a priority list has been developed by IHS and tribes to assist in treating the most urgent, life threatening situations first.

To be eligible for CHS, a person must live in the state of Oklahoma and be eligible for services at an IHS or tribal facility. Oklahoma IHS is divided into service areas. Within the Cherokee Nation jurisdictional area, there are two IHS services areas, Claremore and Hastings. If you use one of the Cherokee Nation clinics, the CHS referral is sent to the IHS hospital nearest you. When an eligible patient is referred to a non-IHS/tribal specialist or facility, the referring physician will initiate a referral from and direct the patient to the contract health office at Hastings or Claremore Hospitals.

The referral will then go before the CHS Medical Review Board, which prioritizes all contract health requests. A referral does not automatically guarantee that a service will be paid for.

When emergency hospitalization or an emergency room visit is required at a non-IHS facility, the patient or someone acting for the patient must notify the contract health office at Hastings or Claremore within 72 hours after the patient has received treatment or been admitted. If the contract health office is not notified within this time IHS will not reimburse the facility for services provided.

As soon as the patient is stabilized as determined by the contract physician and the IHS physician, it is mandatory to transfer the patient to an IHS facility. If the patient refuses to be transferred, IHS will not authorize any payment for hospitalization or medical expenses.

If you live within a 50 mile radius of an Indian Health Service or tribal facility, then you should go to that facility for your immediate care. If you have a life-threatening emergency, you should go to the nearest medical facility and use the 72-hour rule.

Due to the under-funding of CHS, not all individuals who are recommended for contract care will receive it. There are many reasons why the case could be denied for payment. In this circumstance, the patient will be issued a denial letter. Individuals who wish to file an appeal to reverse the decision should see the instructions on the denial letter. Each time a patient receives a denial letter, they should immediately write an appeal to the office listed on the letter. In fact, appeals are encouraged by the tribe and IHS.

If payment is denied for a service which the person has not yet received, such as a consultation visit to specialist, the patient will be sent a deferred service. There is no appeal for denial of a deferred service. Deferred service cases are tracked by the IHS office. If Congress appropriates extra funds for deferred services, patients are contracted to make appointments.

Ambulance services, both emergency runs and transfers, may be considered for payment through CHS based on a priority system. Transfers from the hospital to nursing homes are never paid for.

Since the IHS/tribal facilities even with CHS funds, cannot cover all needed health services or expenses, patients are encouraged to apply for insurance and other types of medical coverage, such as Medicare or Medicaid. When the IHS or tribal facilities bill for insurance or Medicare, they can help patients meet the deductible at no expense to the patient. Having the extra medical coverage can help pay for needed medical services if the patient's CHS referral is either denied or deferred. Cases are not denied or deferred base on third party insurance coverage or ability to pay.

In summary, here are a few reminders to help you utilize IHS contract health services. First, a referral for contract health services does not guarantee payment. Second, use the 72-hour rule when forced to go to a non-IHS/tribal facility for emergency services. Third, go the closest IHS facility unless you have a life-threatening condition. Forth, always get a new referral from you IHS/tribal physician each time you go to a non-IHS/tribal physician or hospital.

Sammy Still
Editor

M. Thomas Jordan
GCN Special Writer

Lindsey Bark
GCN Reporter

Marilyn Craig
Public Relations Coordinator

Gaduwa Cherokee News

P.O. Box 746
Tahlequah, OK 74465
(918) 456-6533 FAX: (918) 431-1873 www.ukb-nsn.gov

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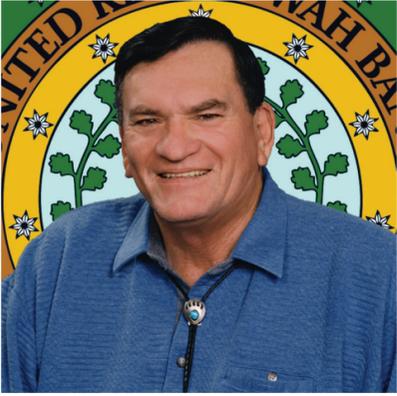
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To the UKB People
From Chief George Wickliffe
"Forgotten Cherokee", chapter
two, "Fifteen Million Acres".

George Wickliffe

CHAPTER TWO FIFTEEN MILLION ACRES

Deerskins, bear oil, and other natural goods had always been the staples of Keetoowah Cherokee life in the late 16th century. They soon found that these items could be traded for European manufactured goods that were both a curiosity and a convenience. Beginning in 1770, the Cherokee in general became very involved in trading with foreigners, with the first European trader being Cornelius Doherty. Doherty lived a total of eighty-one years with the Cherokee, and died in 1779.

Trading resulted in a growing tendency to depend on these goods. Military actions amongst the growing colonies, and later States, also disrupted Keetoowah Cherokee life and even political customs. Between 1725 and 1752, the 'national' politics of the tribe was dominated by English-appointed warriors and leaders - tribesmen with whom the Europeans felt comfortable with and could communicate well. These were not always the same leaders the Keetoowah Cherokee themselves would have chosen.

Presbyterians of Virginia set about furthering the idea of a mission amongst the traditional Keetoowah Cherokee; Rev. Samuel Davies became the first to preach to a group of traditional Keetoowah Cherokee in Tennessee in the 1750s. As there was not much interest, he was soon replaced by Rev. William Richardson in 1758. Several others followed suit, including John Hammer, who stated that the mixed-bloods were "appear much more eligible for the purposes of instruction and reformation than the other."

Official records cannot be located of land cessions other than treaties, although an advertisement appeared in Williamsburg, Virginia in 1775 which stated that some gentlemen from North Carolina had purchased from the "Chiefs of the Cherokee Indians, by and with the consent of the whole Nation, a considerable tract of their lands, now called Transylvania, lying on the rivers Ohio, Cumberland and Louisa." (Advertisement) These 'gentlemen' were advertising for settlers to move onto the property in tracts of 250 acres for fifty-shillings per hundred, "subject to a yearly quit-rent of two shillings." It is likely this was nothing more than a land scam, designed to be profitable for the 'gentlemen' and to gather a force of non-Indian settlers on the Cherokee land. Likely, because if the land was purchased from the Keetoowah Cherokee and not yet part of a land cession to a government, the Keetoowah Cherokee would have had jurisdiction.

You will see shortly that these intruders quickly became a thorn in the Keetoowah Cherokee side.

Although there were efforts towards peace, and many like minded chiefs, British troops soon began an advance towards the Cherokees Lower Towns, led by Col. Archibald Montgomery. After decimating many towns and killing many, he led his troops towards the Middle Towns. Seeking a truce, several British officers, including Capt. John Stuart, married Keetoowah Cherokee women. After 1776, the Cherokees no longer dealt with indi-

vidual colonies, but with the United States. The first treaty with the infant national government was the Treaty of Hopewell in November, 1785. Soon, the Cherokees were dealing with settlers who were intruders to the land, and not getting positive responses from the U.S. government, to which a chief called Tassel responded, "Are Congress who conquered the King of Great Britain, unable to remove these people?"

The Keetoowah Cherokee persevered in maintaining their traditional life as much as possible. They enforced laws through their customs and local traditions, despite the fact that an overwhelming assimilation was transpiring amongst the great mixed-blood Cherokee population. A Keetoowah Cherokee spiritual leader made a quite astute statement in 1725 regarding assimilation, which eloquently states the reason for fears of assimilation when a white trader proposed the scenario to him of changing after learning the so-called wisdom of the white missionaries:

"Yes, we would gladly for then we should be as wise as you and could do and make all things as you do; as making guns and powder and bullets and cloth and all things that you are endowed with, and the great god of the English would cause us to turn white as you are."

A 'united' Keetoowah Cherokee government had its inception with a small group who were granted land by the Spanish, and began to move to what later became Arkansas Territory as early as the end of the Seven Years War in 1763. These Keetoowah Cherokee, who had allied with the French at an earlier date, were some of the first groups to move into this area. The Chickamaugas, a group of traditional Keetoowah Cherokee who were led by their Chief Dragging Canoe, soon followed, around 1794. Other groups, including a group of pro-British Cherokees, soon joined as well.

As the Cherokees traveled, they were consistently asked by other Indians, if they were Shawanoos (Shawnee) or Kittoowahkah (Keetoowah). Charles Hicks, a noted headman prior to John Ross' election as Principal Chief in the 1800's, noted in correspondence to Ross that "this latter name (Kittoowahkah) seems to be the national character the Cherokees had borne."

Although inhabiting fifteen million acres (twenty thousand square miles) where North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee adjoin, several requests were sent from Cherokees to the Spanish government asking permission to emigrate to the country's territory west of the Mississippi in the late 1780's and 1790's. Commandant General of Louisiana Esteban Miro approved the establishment of up to six villages. A traveler leaving New Madrid in 1793 stated they found three Cherokee families living "just outside of town." Eighteen families crossed the Mississippi, arriving April 12, 1794 in Cape Girardeau. Two years later, in 1796, ten families led by Connetoo (John Hill), Will Webber, and Unakatihi (White Man Killer) were given permission by the Spanish to "settle about 40 miles west of Memphis on the St. Francis River." (Spanish) Some were also given permission to settle on the White River. The latter two settlements lay in the Arkansas Territory.

Thomas Jefferson had been exploring the removal of the Indians from the southeast for many years. As early as the year of Independence for the United States, 1776, Jefferson was researching Indian history and making plans.

In a letter to Edmund Pendleton, dated just one month after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson stated, "I hope the Cherokees will now be driven beyond the Mississippi and that this in future will be declared to the Indians the invariable consequence of the beginning

a war. Our contest with Britain is too serious and too great to permit any possibility of avocation from the Indians. This then is the season for driving them off, and our Southern Colonies are happily rid of every other enemy and may exert their whole force in that quarter."

President George Washington joined in the effort to change Keetoowah Cherokee life, documented in 1796. Washington wrote to the Cherokees in August of that year, that he would send people to 'teach' the Indians how to 'promote your success,' and that if they would change their ways and be productive, they would receive the protective care of the United States forever. Ironically, the federal budget during Washington's administration had allocated 80 percent of its total to Indian 'wars.'

About the same time, United States Indian Agent John Treat, stationed at Arkansas Post near the Arkansas River, recorded some population figures. Chief Connetoo, known in English as John Hill, had reported to him that there were 600 Cherokee persons residing on the St. Francis in 1805. Large numbers of traditional Keetoowah Cherokee began arriving in Northeast Arkansas in 1806, 1807 and 1809.

Traditional Keetoowah Cherokee had been migrating west even earlier, but in smaller numbers. The area of the St. Francis River had been attractive, as it was one of the most frequented hunting areas in Spanish Louisiana. A chain of lakes and bayous also connected the river to the Mississippi in high water seasons. John Rogers, later a Chief of the Western Cherokee, had reported that the first to come west did so in 1785, after the Treaty of Hopewell. This treaty was made between the Cherokee and the Continental Congress. Rogers stated that these early emigrants traveled by dugout canoes down the Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to the mouth of the St. Francis, where they established a settlement. He also said they kept in constant contact with one another, and met often for hunting trips, prior to the group resettling closer to the White River.

Shortly after the signing of the Treaty of Hopewell, one of the leading Chiefs of the traditional Keetoowah Cherokee, an elder recorded as "Tourquin," sought permission from Spanish authorities to settle six of their villages in Louisiana. Governor Miro, at New Orleans, granted the request. But, a year later, a New Jersey man named George Morgan also obtained a new town in this area, which he named Nuevo Madrid, translating to New Madrid. This town would be for the settlement of American emigrants who desired free trade of the Mississippi River. Morgan, a former Revolutionary War colonel, had been appointed Federal Indian Agent by the Continental Congress in 1776. It appears that encroachment started as soon as the Keetoowah Cherokee began relocating.

One of the early groups of traditional Keetoowah Cherokee who were forced to cede land in order to move to a safer location was known as Chickamauga, also known as the Lower Towns. The name Chickamauga came from a primary settlement in this area, on Chickamauga Creek. However, that settlement was abandoned and most of the new towns formed by residents were some forty miles to the south. The leaders of these communities included Dragging Canoe, the Glass, Bloody Fellow, Taholnteskee, Dick Justice, The Terrapin, Fool Charles, The Badger, Will Webber, Will Elder, Doublehead, Pumpkin Boy, Black Fox, Unacata and John Watts. These leaders fought strongly for independence, and particularly sovereignty.

One of the most influential of these towns was known as Willstown, now in Alabama, named for Will Web-

ber. However, in 1797, a report stated that he and his large town had already left in order to settle west of the Mississippi. (Willstown) John Taylor was another tribesman who emigrated around this time. Seeking Spanish protection as well, Taylor was granted passports to 150 Cherokee who settled with him on the St. Francis. Yet another was named Mosi, known as Moses Price in English.

Price was a staunch advocate of their sovereignty and was an opponent of American encroachment.

But in 1798, Benjamin Fooy, an interpreter for Spain with the Keetoowah Cherokees, ordered them to remove from Spanish Louisiana and return to their eastern homelands. The Keetoowah Cherokee were shocked, and did not understand the motive behind the order. In December of 1798, Fooy, attempting to mediate, asked the Governor if these Indians could not resettle around Hopefield. Although it is not known what the reply was, apparently the traditional Keetoowah Cherokee were allowed to stay.

Spain ceded the area in 1800 to France through Napoleon, which later became the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Just one year later, President Thomas Jefferson had urged Congress to encourage the relocation of Indian tribes west of the Mississippi. This was the inception of the Indian Removal idea, and was also in answer to the promise made in 1802 to non-Indian Georgians that all Indians would ultimately be removed from that state.

In an apparent attempt to reserve the land for Indian removal, the U.S. Government publicly prohibited citizens from surveying and claiming public land in the Louisiana Purchase in 1804. Yet, a large number of people settled anyway, albeit illegally.

A group of thirty-two Upper Town chiefs, and two Cherokee women, traveled to Washington in 1808 to complain that the Lower Towns were receiving more benefits than they. The delegation also requested that their nation be divided into two parts, so Jefferson encouraged them to meet with the Lower Towns and work out an agreement with Congress. The resulting delegation was escorted by Meigs and delivered a written message to the President. Jefferson promised continued protection to those who wished to take up agriculture, and to those who wished to live their traditional life, he promised aid in removal to west of the Mississippi. A Lower Town chief named Glass offered to migrate, and began working out arrangements along with a chief named Tahlonteskee.

The Secretary of War instructed Colonel Meigs to use every possible enticement to persuade all Cherokees to trade their land for an area beyond the great river in 1808. A delegation of Keetoowah Cherokee made a journey to inspect this land, and found an area in the territory to be similar to their homelands, but absent were the foreign intruders and risk of encroachment upon their lives. This area, in what is now northern Arkansas, seemed to be the answer to preserving their way of life. By later that year, over 2,000 Keetoowah Cherokee were established in northern Arkansas. The year 1808 was important in Keetoowah Cherokee history. It was also the year that a proposal to divide the existing Cherokee country into two sections arose within the Cherokee, and discussed at great length in Washington. One portion was to continue to assimilate, while the other desired to continue their traditional lifestyle.

After meeting with President Jefferson, it was soon realized that this division in the east was impractical and would not prevent the encroachment of the non-Indians. Jefferson indicated that the traditionals would be better off relocating with their brothers already west of the Mississippi.

**To be continued in
the August issue**

2013 UKB Day of Champions Summer Camp



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Day of Champions coaches and some young camp participants pose for a group photo.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Coaches have the youth prepare for the day's activities by having them stretch their muscles.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

The art of listening and paying attention is taught to these young camp participants.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

In any type of training, health is vital to the human body as this coach teaches the value of water compared to other carbohydrates.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

This young lady puts all her effort and strength into making sure she makes strong contact with the tackling shoulder pad.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

The technique of a three-point stance is taught to these young football players.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

UKB councilmen Cliff Wofford and Charles Smoke join in.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Part of the skill is learning how to run with the ball.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Learning how to run with your knees up high teaches speed.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

"You want to be the A-team or B-team?" asks Coach Heupel.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

These players try taking the ball away from their opponent.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

"Water break!" These two young ladies hustle for some water.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

A blow-up obstacle course teaches strength and agility.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

These young quarterback hopefuls are taught how to throw.

2013 UKB Day of Champions Summer Camp



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Coaches teach the skill of staying in a low stance at the line by training them how to squat under a cord.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

The skill of balance is taught to these young participants as they try balancing a football in the palm of their hand.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Teaching hand and eye coordination while sitting on a rubber ball is one of the skills taught by these two teachers.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Another hand and eye coordination skill is taught by this coach as the young boys run toward their individual targets.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

The teaching of dropping a heavy round object into a bowl of flour teaches the young participants the strenght of force.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Day of Champions coaches signs footballs, photos, and other sports items for the young camp participants during an autograph session.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

With all his body force this youth attacks the tackling pad.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Charles Smoke strategizes with his teammates during a game.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

This young lady learns about precision and speed.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

The skill of blocking is vital in the game of football.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Your strength and agility is tested at this blow-up obstacle.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Coaches encourage this parent as he tackles the obstacle course.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Cliff Wofford waits with his team for the next skill test.



Thomas Jordan/GCN

Speed and footwork are the skills taught during this camp.

Indian trust land survey form

If you believe the government has taxed your restricted land or someone has paid taxes on your restricted land in an attempt to claim it as their own, then fill out this form and mail it to the United Keetoowah Band administration office at: P.O. Box 746 Tahlequah, OK 74465

Print name _____

Address _____

Tribal enrollment number _____

Phone number _____

Taxes.....continued from Page 1

When Chief Wickliffe became aware of this situation, he contacted the area BIA office and then UKB used their attorneys to contact Adair County who confirmed there was no legal authorization to mortgage the land.

“I am very concerned about these kinds of injustices, and I keep getting reports from tribal members that they are losing their land, or that they are being charged taxes that are not due on their Indian land,” said Wickliffe.

“The Kenwood area is a reserve area of land allotted by the

Dawes Commission. Most of the Kenwood area is reserve area, and it covers thousands of acres of land. The Kenwood Indian Reserve area is Indian Country. If it is Indian land, it is not taxable. The county has absolutely no authority over Indian land.”

If you think this may have happened to you or your family, please fill out the form located on left side of this article, cut it out, and return it to the UKB Administration offices, PO Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

Lighthorse delivers tornado relief



Travis Foreman/Lighthorse

The United Keetoowah Band sent donated items it gathered for storm relief to central Oklahoma June 4.

Lighthorse Director Mickey Spears and Investigator Travis Foreman loaded a Lighthorse Tahoe full of diapers, paper towels, feminine hygiene products, etc. that Lighthorse had gathered since a May 20 tornado ripped through central Oklahoma leaving hundreds without homes.

After the tornado hit, Lighthorse Secretary Becka Keys quickly set up the tribe's Civil Defense Building as a gathering point for anyone who wished to help. Local citizens, tribal members and employees brought in supplies they thought would help the victims get through their ordeal.

One local citizen filled her small SUV with the efforts of her coupon clipping to make a donation.

Lighthorse delivered the items to the First Assembly of God in Carney that is serving as a warehouse for donations.

UKB Education Program cookout

Wednesday, July 17, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m, the UKB education program is hosting a cookout and marble exhibition game at the Wellness Center to recognize graduating high school seniors. The cookout consists of hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks and dessert. Students and parents are welcome to attend. Door prizes are also available. For more information call Susan Adair at 918-772-4300.

UKB July 2013 Calendar of Council, District and Special Meetings

- July 13 UKB Regular Council Meeting 10 a.m. UKB Community Services Building
- July 18 Illinois District Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Vian Satellite Office
- July 18 Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Sallisaw Satellite Office
- July 18 Flint and Goingsnake Districts Meeting, 6 p.m. Stilwell Satellite Office
- July 25 Cooweescoowee District Meeting 5:30 p.m. First Christian Church, Pryor
- July 26 Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m. Keener Baptist Church, Lost City

Clothing Voucher Program distribution schedule

- 7-25 Cooweescoowee 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. First Christian Presbyterian Church, Pryor
 - 7-26 Canadian 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Ataloah Lodge, Bacone College
 - 7-29 Flint 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Stilwell sub-office
 - 7-30 Saline 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Kenwood School Gym
 - 7-31 Delaware/Goingsnake 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Kansas sub-office
 - 8-1 Illinois/Sequoyah 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sallisaw sub-office
 - 8-2 Tahlequah 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. UKB Wellness Center
 - 8-5 All others 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. UKB Wellness Center
- *For UKB exclusive children in grades K-12. Parents need to bring in child's report card.

UKB Library Special Events

Wednesday, July 24, from 1 to 4:30 p.m., UKB Tradition Keeper Cindy Hair is teaching basket making.

For more information, call Sonja Hartness, tribal librarian, or Susan Adair, Education director, at 918-456-8698

Champions.....continued from Page 1

On the second day, lightning pushed the camp indoors at the Wellness Center for the morning.

After the weather cleared, the coaches returned the campers to the Celebration Pavilion for more stations before hitting the field to compete in another round of ball games and an inflatable obstacle course.

Heupel encouraged parents, other adults and two UKB council members—Cooweescoowee District Representative Cliff Wofford and Saline District Representative Charles Smoke—to join the campers in the games.

At the end of the second day, the coaching staff posed for pictures with the campers and autographed any items the campers brought.

Heupel said he was impressed with this year's camp.

“We had a bunch of great kids,” said Heupel. “...it was great. My coaches, after the first day, couldn't talk about more of what kind of character these kids have. I think the kids did an outstanding job...I think it was just outstanding.”

Title VI Jim Proctor Elder Nutrition Center—Native American 55+ (UKB or CDIB Card) Spouses & or Volunteers/Guest Meals \$3.50

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
<p>Menus are subject to change without notice. For more info call: 918-772-4380 918-772-4379 918-772-4378</p>	1 Pork Fritter Mashed Potato's w/ Gravy, Hot Roll Steamed Broccoli Salad & Dessert	2 BBQ Beef on Bun Potato Salad Baked Beans Salad Pineapple Cake	3 UKB TRIBAL OFFICES CLOSED "HOLIDAY"		5 UKB TRIBAL OFFICES CLOSED "HOLIDAY"	6
7 Milk, Tea, Coffee & Water Served Daily During Lunch 11:30 -1:00	8 Chicken Dressing w/Gravy, Hot Roll Green Beans Candied Yams Salad & Dessert	9 White Beans Greens Fried Okra Cornbread Salad & Fresh Fruit	10 Ham & Cheese on Croissant w/Fixings Scalloped Potato's Pasta Salad Sherbet	11 Stuffed Green Pepper w/ Rice Buttered Carrots Bread Stick Salad & Dessert	12 "Brunch" Served From 10:30—12:00	13
14	15 Bean Burrito w/ Chile & Cheese Salsa, Corn Fried Zucchini Salad & Dessert	16 Homemade Meatloaf, Roll, Gravy & Mashed Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Salad & Fresh Fruit	17 Grilled Chicken on Bun w/Fixings Tator Tots Pork N Beans Salad & Dessert	18 Catfish w/Tartar Sauce Black-eyed Peas Hushpuppies Coleslaw & Dessert	19 "Fishing Day" UKB River Park 10:30—12:00	20
21	22 BBQ Bologna Corn on Cob Baked Beans Texas Toast Salad & Dessert	23 Chicken N Dumplings, Grilled Veggies, Hot Roll Salad Banana Pudding	24 BLT w/ Fixings Vegetable Soup Crackers Fruit Salad	25 Brown Beans w/ Ham, Fried Okra Grilled Potato's Cornbread Salad & Dessert	26 "Brunch" Served From 10:30—12:00	27
28	29 Oven Fried Chicken, Mashed Potato's & Gravy Corn, Hot Roll Salad & Dessert	30 Supreme Pizza Mac & Cheese Cheesy Breadsticks Salad Sherbet	31 Turkey & Cheese Sandwich w/Fixings Potato Wedge Coleslaw Mixed Berry Dessert			

Nutrition Analysis Includes 2% Milk, Each Meal Meets 1/3 of The Recommended RDA Requirements

Saline District meeting presents "Making Vision a Health Priority"

By Lindsey Bark
GCN Reporter

On June 4, Saline District Representative Charles Smoke invited Dr. Charles Gosnell, UKB medical director, and Dr. R. Michelle Welch, associate dean of Oklahoma College of Optometry, to present the importance of vision care among tribal members.

With 25 members in attendance in the Kenwood School gym, Welch is the first to give her presentation, introduced by Gosnell.

Welch stressed that vision can be for a lifetime and it is learned. The most critical stage of vision development occurs in the first year of life.

Welch said many children do not know that they need glasses in school, just as she did not know until the seventh grade that her vision was bad. She thought everybody saw the way she saw until she got her first pair of glasses.

How people see also effects how well they perform in school. Welch said she had a friend who teachers labeled a troublemaker all because he could not see until he received corrective lenses in college.

Most eye injuries often occur when children play sports and that protective eyewear is important.

Welch sees several eye injuries in children when they play football or baseball, leading to blindness.

Not only children, but adults also have eye injuries often from chores like weed eating. Other injuries caused are from using screwdrivers, pocketknives and scissors. Welch recommends using protective eyewear like safety glasses and goggles for those performing tasks and playing sports.

People also suffer vision loss from aging such as age-related macular degeneration, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

In Native Americans, having diabetes is one of the leading causes of vision loss and presents a higher risk for glaucoma. Welch said most people that come in for an eye exam do not realize they are diabetic until their exam reveals new blood vessels in the back of the eye that are leaking and damaging parts of the eye.

It is important to have a comprehensive eye exam and have the eyes dilated at least once a year to check for age-related vision impairments.

A few precautions Welch talked about to protect eyes were to quit smoking, eat a diet rich in green leafy vegetables and fish, be physically active, maintain blood pressure and



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Dr. R. Michelle Welch, associate dean of Oklahoma College of Optometry presented "Making Vision a Health Priority" to tribal members at the Saline district meeting June 4.

control diabetes. In addition, wearing sunglasses and a brimmed hat could help prevent the risk of cataracts and macular degeneration.

After Welch's presentation, Smoke updated tribal members on other news. The UKB health and human services department is putting on a Summer Health Event in differ-

ent locations within the UKB districts June 25, 26 and 27.

One tribal member, Dolly Raper, Kenwood School secretary, brought a petition for members to sign against Johnson O'Malley budget cuts in area schools.

After tribal news, members dismissed to enjoy a potluck dinner.

Paper flowers bring back memories

By M. Thomas Jordan
GCN Special Writer

A group of women elders, under the direction of Kathy White, administrative assistant, met at the Jim Proctor Elder Center after lunch June 13 to make paper flowers for the upcoming Summer Health Event.

White said she learned how to make flowers out of tissue paper from her mother, Maxine Neugin, who was also present. When she was younger, her family did not have access to commercial artificial flowers. Therefore, they made their own. They made the flowers different sizes and colors, and decorated the graves at their family cemetery.

Neugin said the Whitekiller family was famous for its decorations. The women made enough flowers and cooked enough food to completely fill and cover a horse-drawn wagon. The Whitekillers visited three cemeteries—Swimmer, Keener and Neugin—to drop off food and decorate graves.

Chief George Wickliffe said he remembered his mother making paper flowers for decoration when he was younger.

While the talk around the table settled mainly on grave decora-

tion, the purpose of these flowers is for elders who participate in the Summer Health Event.

White said elders were calling her and offering their assistance for the event. She decided they would make boutonnières for the men and corsages for the women.

They started by taking a package of tissue paper and cutting it in the center lengthwise, and then cutting both of those pieces in the center lengthwise. After that, they separated out either three or four pieces of paper and began folding them back and forth approximately 1/2 inch like a paper fan. Once they folded it together, they wrapped green wire around the center to hold it together and cut the ends of the paper at an angle. Finally, they separated the layers of tissue one at a time by pulling the paper to the center of the "fan" and making the flower.

The flowers are pink, green, yellow, orange and blue.

White said she wants to get with the elders once a month after lunch at the elder center to make crafts.

For more information about the Summer Health Event call 918-458-6708.



M. Thomas Jordan/GCN

Wayfaring Stranger and the Buckhorns were one of several gospel singing groups that performed during the Tahlequah district gospel singing and social gathering June 15.

Tahlequah District brings in gospel singers

By M. Thomas Jordan
GCN Special Writer

Tahlequah District Representative Betty Holcomb held a gospel singing and social gathering at the UKB Celebration Pavilion June 15.

A building storm to the west provided overcast skies and a soft breeze dragging temperatures out of the 90s to a more manageable low 80s for the event.

Holcomb supplied hotdogs with chili and cheese, onions, relish, chips, snack cakes and drinks for lunch.

Everyone sat around eating and socializing before the singing began. The aroma of the food soon drew in members of the Gadugi Warriors stickball team, who were practicing nearby, and they joined the group for a quick bite before returning to their game.

Carey Mayfield started the singing with "Do Lord, Do Remember Me." He sang several other numbers a cappella before finishing with Johnny Cash's "Ain't No Grave."

Wayfaring Stranger and the Buckhorns followed Mayfield. Led by Sonya Hartness, Linda Buckhorn, Leon Buckhorn and James Buckhorn sang several songs including "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" and "I'm Satisfied." The Buckhorn brothers complemented the group with their classic rock and country-style guitar playing.

Between groups, Ernestine

Berry, John Hair Cultural Center and Museum director, spoke to the group about the museum and encouraged everyone to stop by to learn about Keetoowah Cherokee history. She also handed out pamphlets, booklets and souvenir miniature stickball sticks made of flat reed and commercial sinew.

Throughout the event, Holcomb drew tickets for door prizes. She gave away a number of her famous raisin, apple and peach-pineapple pies and several other items.

Bridge Chuculate called for other singers to join him on stage in an impromptu group. Dora Grayson, Louise Robbins and several other ladies joined him for several songs in the Keetoowah Cherokee language including "Amazing Grace."

After Chuculate's group, several singers took the stage to sing solos.

One man brought his acoustic guitar on stage and sang in both Keetoowah Cherokee and English.

Berry took the stage again to sing "At the Cross" and invited the crowd to join her in the chorus.

A group of ladies joined together to sing in Keetoowah Cherokee. The crowd called them back for a second song before allowing them to leave the stage.

Holcomb ended the day by singing "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord." The same song she sang to her 12-year-old grandson as he lay on his deathbed.



M. Thomas Jordan/GCN

Maxine Neugin, Dora Grayson and Dorothy Ice joined Kathy White and Maranda McLemore in making paper flowers for an upcoming event.

UKB Library Summer Event

Tradition Keeper Sammy Still is demonstrating the traditional game of marbles July 17 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the UKB Library located in the UKB Community Services building. Everyone is welcome to attend and play.

For more information, call Sonja Hartness, tribal librarian, or Susan Adair, Education director, at 918-456-8698

2013 UKB Graduates



Kindergarten

Landon Allyn Killer

Landon Allyn Killer, 6, from Marble City, Oklahoma, graduated from kindergarten at Tenkiller Schools.



He was given the Student of Today Award by the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma.

He is the son of Tyson and Shana Killer. His grandparents are Bill and Sandra Thirsty and Mose and Lila Killer.

Landon enjoys playing baseball.

Eighth Grade

Jess Robbins

Jess Robbins, 15, graduated eighth grade from Shady Grove Elementary.



His parents are Ryan and Lucy Girty. He has three brothers, Jayson, Jeremiah, and Josiah Robbins; and one sister, Jaeden Robbins. His grandparents are the late Nancy Pickup-Rock and Jerry and Donna Girty.

He loves playing basketball and being outdoors. He helped Shady Grove go to the state basketball tournament, which was the first time for the boy's team to go to state.

High School

Ashlea Suzanne Mounce

Ashlea Suzanne Mounce, from Hulbert, Oklahoma graduated from Sequoyah High School.



She is the daughter of Shelia Bluebird and James Mounce. Her grandparents are Phillip and Peggy Bluebird and Alford and Teresa Mounce. Her siblings are Braven Mounce, Neyson Mounce and Bailey Justice.

Her hobbies include playing softball and hanging out with her family and friends. She plans to attend Connors State College this fall where she will study nursing. She hopes someday to have a family of her own.

Chelsey Tiger

Chelsey Tiger graduated from Round Rock High School in Round Rock, Texas.



She is the daughter of Chebon and Carla Girty Tiger. She

has two brothers, Chace and Christian Tiger. She is the maternal granddaughter of Mary Ann Shade Girty of Tahlequah, Oklahoma and Chuck and Linda Girty of Garland, Texas. The paternal granddaughter of Thelma Jean Stand of Tahlequah, Oklahoma and Marcy and Sandy Tiger of Lorton, Virginia.

During her high school career she was involved in Young Life, Literature Critique, theater, the American Indian Education Program (AIEP) and played tennis all four years. She was chosen as an alternate for Girls State her junior year. Her hobbies include bead work, reading and sleeping.

She will be attending Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma this fall where she was accepted into their Honors English program.

Jessica Denise Bluebird

Jessica Denise Bluebird graduated from Sequoyah High School in May.



She is the daughter of Dennis and Ronnita Bluebird of Tahlequah

Jessica's parents said, "Congratulations, Jessica, on all your hard work and we wish you continued success in college and softball."

Jessica will attend Neosho County Community College in Chanute, Kansas to study Occupational Therapy. While at Neosho, Jessica will be pitching for the Lady Panthers softball team.

Kacy Rozell

Kacy Rozell graduated from Muskogee High School on May 24, 2013. She serves as the AFJROTC staff sergeant. She wore the sash for Students Working against Tobacco (SWAT) at her graduation. Kacy was also in choir.



Her parents are Connie and Rock Dobson. Connie is an employee of the UKB Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development center.

She currently works at Burger King in Muskogee.

Lacy Rozell

Lacy Rozell graduated from Muskogee High School on May 24, 2013. She serves as the AFJROTC staff sergeant and is the SWAT tech person.



Her parents are Connie and Rock Dobson. Connie is an employee of the UKB Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development center.

Lacy is currently shift manager at McDonalds in Muskogee. She also has her Certified Nurse's Aide license.

Meagan Walker

Meagan Walker graduated

from Kansas High School.

Her parents are Donice Daniels and Chester Swake and Robert Walker. Her grandparents are Ross Daniels and the late Irene Daniels. Meagan's siblings are Rashelle Bluebird, Latisha Blackbear, Dominique Hunt, Brandon Bluebird Radford and Amber Larue.

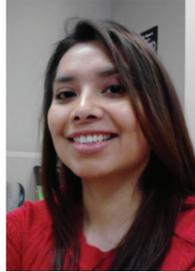
Her hobbies include coaching a 16 and under softball team. She plans to become a surgical technician.



Vocational Degree

Ashley Renae Teehee

Ashley Renae Teehee completed the Medical Office Assistant course in Business Management and Administration at the Indian Capital Technology Center in Stilwell, Oklahoma. She also earned 42 college credits in the Cooperative Alliance with OSU-IT in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.



She is only two courses away from receiving an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Office Information Systems, which she plans to complete this fall.

Ashley is the daughter of Albert and Marlene Teehee and granddaughter of Louella Duncan and the late John and Lydia Teehee.

One of her future goals is to work as District Secretary for the Adair County Conservation/Natural Resource Conservation Service Center in Stilwell.

Ashley said, "I would like to thank the UKB for their encouraging words and support in furthering my education."

Ryan Joe Galcatcher

Ryan Joe Galcatcher completed the Medical Insurance Coding program at Indian Capital Technology Center.



He is the son of Joe and Betty Galcatcher and his grandmother is Louella Duncan. His siblings are Renee Holloway, Roberta Squirrel, Regina Killer and Rudy Galcatcher.

Ryan is the active member of Four Vision Baptist Church. His hobbies include Native American beading, hunting, gathering wild onions and crawdads, reading and fishing.

He plans to further his education although he is undecided about which college he will attend.

Lance White

Lance White graduated from Grove Beauty College with a Cosmetology License.

He is the son of Leroy and Linda White. His grandparents are

Sam White, Lucinda Whitfield, and John Lee Runabout.

His hobbies include fishing, camping, hunting, bowling, volleyball and horseshoes.

He is currently working at Jen's Salon and Barber Shop in Jay, Oklahoma.

Associate Degree

Riley Joe Bunch

Riley Joe Bunch graduated from Carl Albert State College with an Associate of Science degree in Allied Health.

She is the daughter of Pud and Susie Bunch. Her grandparents are Emmott and Hazel Gonzales and Hubert and Lorene Bunch. Her siblings are Kyrion, Nathan and Heath Bunch.

Riley plans to continue her education in the LPN program at Indian Capital Technology Center. After completing that course, she plans to attend the OSU LPN/BSN program to become a registered nurse.

Cleophas Simon II

Cleophas Simon II from Claremore, Oklahoma, graduated from University of Arkansas Community College in Hope, Arkansas with an Associate of Applied Science in Funeral Service Education.



He is the son of Cleophas Simon and Mary Simon. His grandparents are Sally and William Soldier and Mary Wickliffe. His siblings are Jon Simon, Aundrea Cardwell and Mary Morris.

He plans to work at Latimer Funeral home in Nashville, Arkansas.

Cleophas said, "I would like to thank the UKB Education office and tribe for all of its support."

Bachelor's Degree

Andrea Cloud

Andrea Cloud graduated from Northeastern State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Human Performance.



She is the daughter of Joseph and Pam Cloud. Her grandparents are Tony and Christine Mouse.

Andrea's hobbies include spending time with her family and watching her son play sports.

She plans to take a year off, and then return to college to obtain a Master of Occupational Therapy degree.

See Graduates on page 9

Miss Keetoowah Pageant
Thursday, Aug. 22
6 p.m. at the Tahlequah Armory
For more information, call Georgia Dick or Brenda Locust at 918-456-8698 or 1-800-259-0093.



Lindsey Bark/GCN

Clara Proctor teaches the Cherokee language to a small number of participants during the Delaware County Library Summer Reading Program.

Summer Reading Program features UKB presenters

By Lindsey Bark
GCN Reporter

The Delaware County Library in Jay began its Summer Reading Program at the end of May. Clara Proctor, librarian and Cherokee language instructor, is in charge of constructing the calendar for cultural presenters and other activities.

On June 13 at 6 p.m., Proctor instructed a brief Keetoowah Cherokee language class at the library. Though small in number, her class of nine students learned the pronunciation of the colors. For example, the color yellow was in English with the pronunciation in phonetics.

Proctor held up cards with each color and a picture and object to represent that color. Along with the color yellow, she had a picture of the sun, with its Keetoowah Cherokee translation.

After her short lesson, Clint Proctor, Gadugi Warrior, gave a quick stickball lesson on history and game play.

Clint Proctor explained that Cherokees play stickball traditionally, but have picked up the Choctaw-style

of stickball to play competitively. He compared it to the style of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, which only uses one stick.

Eastern Cherokees can use their hands to pick up the ball and even put it in their mouth. Their scoring style is running between two poles to score, whereas Oklahoma Cherokees use both sticks to throw at a pole for one point. Traditionally, players score by hitting a fish at the top of a pole.

Tackling is also different between the two Cherokee tribes. Oklahoma Cherokees tackle only by throwing their sticks down and only hitting the person with the ball. Eastern Cherokees can use their sticks to hit the person with the ball, as well as tackle.

However, there is a bit of controversy when it comes to tackling while women play stickball. Women only tackle women. Men cannot tackle the women, especially if the style played is Choctaw style. If it is the traditional Cherokee way, then women can do what they want.

After the quick cultural sessions, all of the students participated in a stickball game demonstration.

UKB Member Featured on "Smart Girls at the Party"

By Marilyn Craig
Public Relations Coordinator

UKB Tribal member Chelsey Tiger was featured on an internet web show called, "Smart Girls at the Party with Amy Poehler".

The web show features girls making a difference in the world by being themselves. Chelsey had to submit an application packet. This led to her submitting a one-minute YouTube biography, and then participating in a phone interview before she was selected for the feature.

They chose her originally because she does bead work, but then began asking about her heritage. You can access her feature by going to Google and typing - Native American. Smart Girls w/Amy Poehler. Ep.14

The filming took place last summer and the episode aired in November 2012.

Chelsey is half Keetoowah Cherokee and one quarter Creek/Seminole, but she is more involved with her Cherokee heritage. She said she was raised knowing the culture and knowing how her ancestors were forcibly removed from North Carolina to Indian Territory in the 1800s.

She is proud of her history and said inspires her to succeed to represent her culture. She demonstrated her heritage on the show by doing some beadwork and dancing in her Cherokee tear dress. She explained how the tear dress represents



Chelsey Tiger

the seven clans.

After her interview, the show's resident musician, Amy Miles performed a short song she wrote about Chelsey. At the end, Chelsey was included with other smart girls dancing to the show's theme song.

Chelsey Tiger is the daughter of Chebon and Carla Girty Tiger from Round Rock, Texas. She has two brothers: Chace and Christian Tiger. She is the maternal granddaughter of Mary Ann Shade Girty of Tahlequah, Oklahoma and Chuck and Linda Girty of Garland, Texas. She is the paternal granddaughter of Thelma Jean Stand of Tahlequah, Oklahoma and Marcy and Sandy Tiger of Lorton, Virginia.

Congratulations to Chelsey on being recognized as a smart girl!

Staying focused on the road: Driving while distracted

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health News Release April 23, 2013:

So you think you are not one of those "distracted" drivers. You know, one of those persons who texts or talks on their cell phone. But do you eat or drink while driving? Talk to passengers? Adjust your radio, CD player or MP3 player? Attend to children or pets? Use a navigation system or look at a map? Check out your appearance in your visor mirror?

If yes to any of these, then indeed, you are a distracted driver.

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving.

There are three main types of distraction: manual -- taking your hands off the wheel; visual -- taking your eyes off the road; and cognitive -- taking your mind off driving.

While a driver is 23 times more likely to crash when texting, according to a 2009 Virginia Tech Transportation Institute study, texting is just one of the many distractions that can occur when a person is driving.

From 2007-2011, the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office reported that 199 fatal crashes involved some form of driver distraction (documented by law enforcement at the crash scene); 28 percent of these fatal crashes cited an electronic device as the reason for distraction.

Also, within that same five-year period, there were more than 14,000 injury crashes related to driver distraction and approximately 21,000 non-injury crashes. Nearly one-quarter of these crashes occurred when the driver was distracted by a cell phone or other electronic device.

Furthermore, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2011, 3,331 people were killed and an additional, 387,000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver.

The Injury Prevention Service of the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) offers

these tips to help drivers manage common distractions and prevent crashes from occurring:

- Before you start your vehicle, put your cell phone, or smart phone, out of sight and on silent to avoid the urge to check it.
- Prepare in advance for your trip by checking directions, eating, grooming, or handling anything else that may distract you from the road.
- Ask a passenger to be your designated caller or texter if necessary.
- Adjust your radio, CD player, or MP3 player before you drive your vehicle.
- Pull over if you need to make a call, tend to your children, eat or drink, groom, check a map or navigation system, or make any adjustments to anything in your vehicle.
- Secure children in a child safety restraint prior to leaving for your destination.
- Secure your pets in a safety restraint or pet carrier.
- Focus on the task at hand by refraining from doing any activities that take your mind and eyes off the road and hands off the wheel.

For more information on how to prevent motor vehicle crashes, contact the OSDH Injury Prevention Service at (405) 271-3430 or visit <http://ips.health.ok.gov>.

Additional information on managing driving distractions and preventing crashes can be found on these websites:

Oklahoma Highway Safety Office:
http://ok.gov/ohso/Program_Areas/Other/Distracted_Drivers/index.html

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:
<http://www.distraction.gov>

National Safety Council:
http://www.nsc.org/safety_road/Pages/safety_on_the_road.aspx

References: Oklahoma State Department of Health News and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Graduates.....

.....Continued from Page 8

Colene Wagnon

Colene Wagnon, from Tahlequah, Oklahoma, graduated this spring from Haskell Indian Nations University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in management.



She currently lives in Lawrence, Kansas. She has three children; Taylor, DJ and Brianna and her husband is Shannon Wagnon. She is a proud mom as her child Taylor also graduated from high school this spring.

Colene has been working at the Human Resources Department at Haskell University and hopes to continue her employment there. She said, "Thanks to all who encouraged me to keep going to school."

Jordan Hartig

Jordan Hartig graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications/Certificate of Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

She is the daughter of Gary and Gina Hartig.

Her grandparents are Lucinda and Henry Oliveres and Jack and Linda Hartig. Her brother is Garrett Hartig.



Her hobbies include dance, volunteering around the community and watching the Indianapolis Colts, OKC Thunder and Purdue sports.

She plans to continue her search for a job in public relations, event coordination, or corporate communications.

Samantha Pritchett

Samantha Pritchett graduated from Northeastern State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work. She is the daughter of Susten Pritchett and Marilyn Tyer. Her siblings are Jason Pritchett, Jeremiah Pritchett, Jacob Pritchett and Jared Tyer.

Her hobbies include reading, camping, riding bicycles, spending time with friends and family and volunteer work.

Samantha plans to continue her education by pursuing her master's degree at the University of Oklahoma.

Deadline for Miss and Jr. Miss Keetoowah pageant approaches

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is accepting applications for the Miss, and Jr. Miss Keetoowah Cherokee pageant. The application deadline is Friday, August 2, 2013. The pageant is held on Thursday, August 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Tahlequah Armory Municipal Center, 100 North Water Street, Tahlequah, OK.

Cherokee represent the tribe as a good-will ambassadors during their reign. Education Scholarships are awarded to the winner, first, second and third runner ups of \$2,000, \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 for Miss Keetoowah Cherokee and \$300, \$200, and \$100 for Junior Miss Keetoowah Cherokee.

The theme for the 63rd Annual United Keetoowah Band Cel-

ebration is "Weaving the Past into our Future". Contestants must be between the age of 13 and 17 years old by August 22, 2013 to compete for Jr. Miss, and ages 18 to 21 by August 22, 2013 to compete for Miss Keetoowah Cherokee. Contestants must be an exclusive UKB Tribal Member and present a copy of Tribal enrollment, show proof of school enrollment, provide two references, must not have been

married or cohabitated, no children, and never convicted of a felony.

Pageant applications can be downloaded from the UKB Tribal website at www.unitedkeetoowah-band.org beginning July 1, or picked up at the Federal Programs building.

For questions regarding the competition categories or if assistance is call Georgia Dick or Brenda Locust at (918) 456-8698 or 1-800-259-0093.

Prevent tickborne illnesses

The grass is green, the fish are biting and it is time to get out and enjoy mother nature after a long cold spring. The following "tips on ticks" can help families stay healthy and prevent tickborne illnesses so they can enjoy the great outdoors.

and can be expected to resolve in 1-2 days. The following tick removal tips will help you safely remove a tick and reduce your risk of developing a tickborne illness. Note: it is also important to follow these recommendations when removing ticks from your pets.



Courtesy Photo

Tick Bite Prevention Tips

Avoiding tick bites is the best way to reduce your risk of developing a tickborne illness. The following personal tick bite prevention tips are recommended when exposure to a wooded or tick infested area is likely.

- Wear light colored clothing to make ticks easier to see.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants tucked into socks to deprive ticks of attachment sites.
- Wear closed-toe shoes, not sandals.
- When hiking, biking, or walking, stay in the center of trails to avoid grass and brush.
- Check for ticks AT LEAST once per day; particularly along waistbands, in the armpits, and groin area. Don't forget the back and the scalp!
- Use a tick repellent with DEET on skin and clothing according to the directions.
- Use a tick repellent with permethrin ON CLOTHING ONLY as directed by the label.
- Preventing ticks on your family pets though use of tick medicine or tick collar is important to keep the pet from bringing ticks into the home.

Tick Removal Tips

Once bitten by a tick, it is important to remove the tick appropriately. Since the risk of contracting a tickborne illness increases the longer the tick stays attached; ticks should be removed as quickly as possible. Sometimes a small red welt may be present on the skin where the tick was attached. This is generally due to localized irritation from the tick's saliva

- Use tweezers, or fingers wrapped in tissue, to grasp the tick as close to the surface of the skin as possible.
- Use gentle, steady pressure to pull the tick from the skin, try not to twist or jerk the tick as you pull.
- DO NOT squeeze the body of the tick at any time while it is attached - you can release disease-causing bacteria into the bite wound.
- DO NOT squeeze the body of the tick to kill it after it has been removed - you can force disease-causing organisms out of the tick and onto/into your skin.
- Wash your hands with warm soapy water when finished removing the tick.
- DO NOT use matches, gasoline, nail polish remover, or other ointments as methods of tick removal.
- Inspect your body for additional ticks - don't forget the back and the scalp.
- Note the date of tick removal and report any symptoms consistent with tickborne illnesses to your physician immediately.(e.g. fever/chills, headache, rash, swollen lymph nodes, muscle/joint pain)



Courtesy Photo

Tickborne diseases can result in mild symptoms treatable at home to severe infections requiring hospitalization. Although easily treated with antibiotics, these diseases can be difficult for physicians to diagnose. However, early recognition and treatment of the infection decreases the risk of serious complications.

Reference: Oklahoma State Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Lindsey Bark/CGN

Workers install the first part of a compressed natural gas station behind the new UKB Transit building.



Courtesy Photo

Thunderstorm safety

To stay safe during a tornado, prepare a plan and emergency kit, stay aware of weather conditions during thunderstorms, know the best places to shelter both indoors and outdoors and always protect your head.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) there is no guaranteed safety during a tornado. Indeed, we must take seriously even the possibility of a tornado. Although the most violent tornadoes can level and blow away almost any house and those within it, extremely violent EF5 tornadoes are very rare. Most tornadoes are much weaker. You can survive a tornado if you follow safety precautions. Here are three important tips to help keep you safe.

further weather information. Some tornadoes strike rapidly without time for a tornado warning. The following weather signs may mean that a tornado is approaching:

- a dark or green-colored sky;
- a large, dark, low-lying cloud;
- large hail; or
- a loud roar that sounds like a freight train.

If you notice any of these conditions, take cover immediately, and keep tuned to local radio and TV stations or to a NOAA weather radio.

Tip 3: Know where to shelter.

Flying debris causes most deaths and injuries during a tornado. Although there is no completely safe place during a tornado, some locations are much safer than others.

- Go to the basement or an inside room without windows on the lowest floor (bathroom, closet, center hallway).
- Avoid windows.
- For added protection get under something sturdy (a heavy table or workbench). Cover your body with a blanket, sleeping bag or mattress. Protect your head with anything available—even your hands.
- Do not stay in a mobile home. If you are outside or in a mobile home, find a nearby building with a basement. If there is no such building or you are in a car, lie flat in a gully, ditch, or low spot on the ground.

No one can know a tornado's strength before it touches down, so keep up with local weather information, especially when thunderstorms are forecast. Prepare your home and family for the possibility of a tornado. Moving to shelter quickly is easier when everyone knows where to go, whether in your home or outdoors. Following these tips will give you the best chance for staying safe in a tornado.

Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Tip 1: Be prepared.

The best way to stay safe during a tornado is to be prepared with:

- Fresh batteries and a battery-operated TV, radio, or internet-enabled device to listen to the latest emergency weather information;
- Tornado emergency plan for shelter, including for people with special needs;
- Emergency kit (including water, non-perishable food, and medication); and
- List of important information, including telephone numbers.

Make sure your children know what a tornado is, what tornado watches and warnings are, what county or parish they live in (warnings are issued by county or parish), and how to take shelter, whether at home or at school.

Tip 2: Stay aware of weather conditions.

To protect yourself and your family from harm during a tornado, pay close attention to changing weather conditions in your area. If you know thunderstorms are expected, stay tuned to local radio and TV stations or a NOAA weather radio for

Keetoowah Celebration Sept. 13-14

Due to cold weather the past several years, on May 4, 2013, the UKB tribal council passed resolution 13-UKB-34, which states that the council "approves to move the UKB Celebration from its original date of the first Saturday in October to September 14, 2013."

The 63rd Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration begins Friday, September 13. On the schedule for Friday night is the Keetoowah Cherokee Powwow, Gospel Singing and arts and crafts and food vendors.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Weaving the past into our future". The Keetoowah Cherokee is a traditional tribe that has always wove the past into the future by honoring the elders and their knowledge.

UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting At the UKB Community Services Building

May 05, 2013 10:03. a.m. – 1:25 p.m.

I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

II. Invocation: Cliff Wofford

III. Roll Call: 9 + Chief answered Roll Call; Hansen, Smoke & Locust absent at roll call

-Chief Wickliffe's summary to Council: We are still dealing with the lawsuits that were filed. Three were filed. There has been some action on two and one case will be heard on the issue of our children. Of course as I have been in education for many years, it was always needed to have parental consent on anything such as field trips, sports trips, etc. At age 21 we were considered mature. In 1971 the legal adult age became 18 for males and females. Age 18 was also the time a man could be drafted and you had to be registered. The military took this time to draft when the age of 18 was considered adult.

-In order to protect our people we will be going into a more strict security check into the entrance of our buildings during operation hours. People are walking into buildings and start killing people at random. Therefore we have to tighten security to protect and secure our buildings. We received our religion at Clingman's Dome in Bryson City, NC. Some say this is a myth. It is the truth, not a myth.

-(Chief was interrupted by some guests in attendance) Chief Wickliffe stated if you are just going to talk then just get out. Everything stated here is important. I want what we lost. I want to get back what belonged to us all these years.

-There's always someone wanting to tear up the tribe every time we move forward and grow as a tribe. 1859, 1889 amendments of the Constitution is what our elders have written down for us to follow. As I see the case in question in our court will be on the advertising of our choir without the consent of parents, which is law so action must be brought on this issue.

-Transparency is not allowed when it comes to personal information which is protected when it comes to a person's name, birthday and social security number.

-At this time we need to continue our meeting to handle business of the tribe. Always noted when changes are made it is voted on by Council and is business matter. All comes from the constitution. We have rules and procedures to conduct a meeting. Decisions are made to help our people. Efforts are still being supported with our legal to finalize the casino issue and we are 98% within completion of timeline against the appeal. Knocking on the door at Washington D.C. to be granted final close of appeal.

-Tribal governments are to assist people in any way possible. Programs are setup within todo just that, assist our people.

-The USDA lawsuit extension in order to have people apply, this is a settlement which is stated as a discrimination against Native Americans. Finally stated that the business is always to be to move and progress the tribe.

-Hansen: asked to speak. I apologize for my outburst of anger at the last meeting to Chief and to the Council and thank you for letting me speak. (He apologized in English and Cherokee).

-Girty: asked if at one time it was mentioned to have the "Executive Session" item on the agenda be moved towards the end of agenda, is that going to be an option soon?

-Chief Wickliffe: We will come out of Executive Session and we can discuss the way we handle our business meeting procedures.

IV. Executive Session - Business

MOTION by Jerry Hansen to enter into Executive Session with legal present; TIME – 10:34 AM; SECONDED by Willie Christie; VOTE: 8 Yes, 4 No (Dotson, Girty, Holcomb, Worley), 0 Abstentions.

-Dotson: I don't know of any other government, state, county or Indian or whatever, that has Executive Sessions as many times as we do. Doesn't make any sense, but that's all I have to say about it.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to exit from Executive Session and return to regular session; TIME – 12:14 PM; SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

V. Approval of the minutes for the month of April 2013

-One correction on the "motion by Eddie Sacks" should be changed to "motion by Willie Christie"

MOTION by Cliff Wofford to approve the minutes for the month of April 2013; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 10 Yes, 1 No (Holcomb), 1 Abstentions (Locust).

VI. Reports to Council

1. Worley: All Council should have a document which shows a heading of the budget and an outline of the 9 districts of an increase in funds that was granted by the Budget and Finance Committee, per Tom Duncan. The document verifies the amounts that increased for the 9 districts but the total/count of members in each district. My suggestion was just divide it evenly, but I know some have more members than others so some received more funding than others in their districts. It is also to start immediately, which the committee also approved. Also Charlie brought out that Chief suggested a person to fill the position of Bryan Shade's vacancy on the Budget and Finance Committee. Two people have contacted me and want the position. They are both Council members, Peggy Girty and Betty Holcomb; therefore, I make a motion do I have a second?

-Dotson: I second it.

-Chief Wickliffe: It has not been discussed with me and I am the one who makes the final decision on the agenda.

-Worley: Well you were mentioned at the meeting to fill the vacancy on the committee.

-Chief Wickliffe: I did not know they were interested.

-Worley: It was mentioned in the Budget & Finance meeting by Charlie Locust, so you must have told Charlie and I have made a motion for either one.

-Chief Wickliffe: I have no problem at all recommending Peggy Girty, because I know she's fair, she studies and reads information and is reasonable. This is what I will do.

-Christie: Question, there are many committees, will we address the committees again on reviewing them and make changes on individuals and Council seats on these?

-Worley: Every election and it hasn't been done since the election this year.

-Chief Wickliffe: I did announce we are under reorganizing process and with a continuance of lawsuits at this

time, I will have to check and review the current list of committees and people on these committees.

-Holcomb: I am unable to have time to be on the committee so I am withdrawing my name.

-Chief Wickliffe: The reason for committee members to be changed is by every two years since Council is elected every two years and committees are to hold 2 Council members. In some instances Council elect may be a new Council and that's where a change would come in effect.

MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to approve to fill the vacancy left by Bryan Shade on the Budget & Finance Committee with the nomination of Peggy Girty; SECONDED by Barry Dotson; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

2. Enrollment: Joyce Hawk

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to accept and approve 8 new applicants for UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to acknowledge and honor 8 membership relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

-Girty: inquired about relinquishments. The address of the individual is based on the card and set the district.

-Hawk: Yes, members must complete an address update form but these can only be changed when members come in personally, since the form is notarized each time an update is made. I would also like to announce the 2013 Spring Elder Assistance Program will begin on Monday, May 6, 2013. Council you may make copies of applications from the 10 copies we gave you today. Applications can be accepted via mail or fax if your constituents aren't able to bring them personally. Members may call our office and request an application be mailed to them.

VII. Unfinished Business – N/A

VIII. New Business

1. Marvin Summerfield: stated he has I.H.S. experience to utilize services for the UKB. He mentioned that water/sewer lines are basic needs for homes. He is willing to survey in each district in order to get these services to all people. He knows how to apply for a grant worth ten million dollars in order to help provide water and services to the UKB people.

-Girty: the item states utilize? Does this mean you request approval to be hired or work on contract for the UKB?

-Chief Wickliffe: a request like this would have to come through the C.A.B. Board which is the business board.

-Tim GoodVoice: Legal is working on self-governance compact with I.H.S. at this time. Our 638 is also under negotiations with legal. 638 funding is channeled straight to CNO. We have taken it to different avenues of representation and still have it idol with no reply and it ties back to the trust land application.

-Locust: There is a form that is used to obtain the monies for each home/member to use, but the question still remains, how to subsidize services until the grant is received for the I.H.S. services? The best option at this time would be to attend the meeting of the C.A.B. Board.

-Marvin Summerfield: I would like

to meet with the C.A.B. Board for the tribe to maybe obtain my services.

-Hawk: I would like to ask for clarification on your services and the services Mr. Hicks, the I.H.S. program director here in Tahlequah. Are they different? The reason I ask is because I receive phone calls and visits in my office from people who are in need of the services you mentioned. Mr. Hicks has assisted the people I have referred over to his I.H.S. program. Is this the same or where is this a difference of your proposal/presentation?

-Marvin Summerfield: stated Mr. Hicks is not an engineer, only a sanitation supervisor. The need is for the funding to come straight to the UKB. This would help the people very much.

MOTION by Barry Dotson to approve the services of Marvin Summerfield's agenda item be referred to the C.A.B. Board; SECONDED by Betty Holcomb; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent at vote).

2. MOTION by Charles Locust to approve the submission of an application to the Administration of Native Americans Social and Economic Development Strategies Project for the current grant competition period due June 6, 2013; SECONDED by Peggy Girty; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent at vote).

X. Announcements –

-Hawk: Stilwell Strawberry Festival is May 11, 2013. Employee Appreciation is May 14, 2013.

MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to approve the date of the UKB Celebration to be moved to September 14, 2013 from the original date of the first Saturday in October each year; SECONDED by Barry Dotson; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent at vote).

MOTION by Willie Christie to approve to change the July Regular Council meeting date from July 6, 2013 to July 13, 2013 due to the Independence Day holiday; SECONDED by Betty Holcomb; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Sacks absent at vote).

-Tahlequah District meeting will be May 10th at 6:00 PM at the Nutrition Center; June meeting TBA & July 26, 2013 at the Keener Baptist Church at 6:00 PM.

-Flint/Goingsnake District meeting will be June 20th at Stilwell Sub-office at 6:00 PM

-Delaware District meeting/potluck will be May 23rd at 6:30 at the Jay Community Building; June 27th from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the Jay Community Building.

-Cooweescoowee District Meeting May 23rd, May 23rd at 1st Christian Church of Pryor at 5:30 PM.

-Illinois District meeting will be June 13th and July 18th at the Vian Sub-office at 6:30 PM.

-Saline District meeting will be May 7th at the Kenwood Gym at 6:30 PM

-Canadian District Meeting will be May 25th at Bacone College at 1:00 PM

XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

XIII. Adjourn: MOTION by Willie Christie; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; Approve by affirmation: 1:25 PM

63rd Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration

TAHLEQUAH, OKLA.

SEPT. 13-14

Weaving the Past Into Our Future

Come celebrate the colorful history of the true traditional Keetoowah Cherokees as we move into a more prosperous future.

Bingo
Parade
Powwows
Arts & Crafts
Food Vendors
Children's Activities

Hog Fry
Blowguns
Stomp Dance
Fishing Derby
Gospel Singing
Cornstalk Shoot