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

# Keetoowah Cherokee News

September 2009

Published Monthly

Issue #9

## Chief George Wickliffe Committed to Preserve Traditional Legacy

Keetoowah Cherokee people are rich in history, culture and language. Their abundant tradition is their legacy. When people talk about the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, they are talking about the most traditional Cherokee people and their customs.

"I've done many culture presentations and storytelling to schools, communities and organizations, and I tell them that Keetoowah Cherokee people don't talk about their culture and language, they live it daily in their homes, schools and communities," states Sammy Still, UKB tribal member.

This is true today. Visit the United Keetoowah Band and you'll see the language being taught, not only within the nine districts but also within the internal structure of the tribe. UKB Chief George Wickliffe is not only a valuable leader of the Keetoowah Cherokees, but also a master teacher of their history, tradition and language.

Chief Wickliffe, a veteran school administrator and teacher, with the help of "Wodalona" (a voice activated recording parrot) a teaching aide the chief uses to help teach his language class, has begun offering Keetoowah Cherokee classes for tribal and casino staff members who are interested in the Cherokee language. The history and language class is not a mandatory class for the tribal staff members; it is a class where interested staff members can attend at their convenience. The classes are held every Monday and Wednesday and have been attended by over 90% of the staff.

"A lot of people say that the written Keetoowah Cherokee language is similar to the way Chinese write their language. They write their characters into art, their writings are made to look like art, much like the way the Cherokee syllabary is written," states Chief Wickliffe. "The Cherokee language is actually spoken backwards from the English sen-

**"Keetoowah Cherokees don't just talk about culture and language, they live it daily in their homes, schools, and communities."**

tence. A lot of times we think in English and when we speak the Cherokee language we would say, gi-tli da-su-wi-s-ga, 'The dog is barking,' the traditional Cherokee speaker thinks in Cherokee and would say, 'da-su-wi-sgi gi-tli,' 'barking the dog is,'" added Chief Wickliffe.

Chief Wickliffe has taught the Keetoowah Cherokee language classes in surrounding communities and classrooms within the nine districts. "I love taking Chief Wickliffe's language class, he says the Cherokee words the

way my grandparents use to say them. I asked my mother why she didn't teach us how to speak our Cherokee language the proper way, she said because we didn't listen and it was easier to speak English," said Mary Girty, UKB Human Services Advocate. "The reason I'm taking the Chief's language class is to be able to communicate correctly with our tribal elders who speak Cherokee. I will speak to them in Cherokee, but some of the words I say may be somewhat different and they will correct me. I want to learn to speak Cherokee the right way. My father once told me, 'People say

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UNITED KEETOOWAH Band Chief George Wickliffe takes time out of his busy schedule to teach the Keetoowah Cherokee language. A passion Chief Wickliffe shares with tribal employees is keeping the Cherokee language alive. Chief Wickliffe explains the similarities of characters in the Cherokee syllabary along with the pronunciations. (See page 4 for more Language class photos)

59th Annual Celebration  
Keetoowah Cherokee Traditions

UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND

Still The Sacred Fire Burns

TAHLEQUAH, OK · OCT. 2ND & 3RD, 2009

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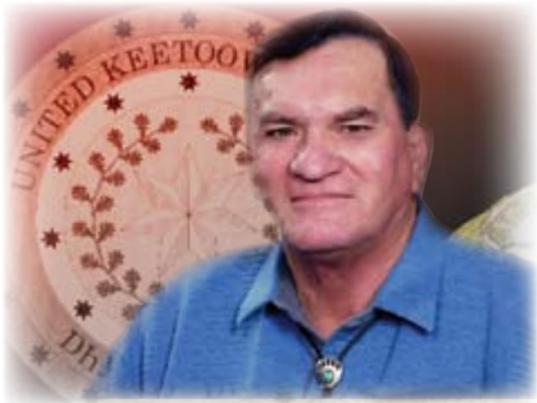
## Public invited to attend the 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration on October 2 & 3

Tahlequah, Okla. -- The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will host the 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration on Friday and Saturday, October 2 and 3. Most events will be held at the Keetoowah Activity Park off West Willis Road at Keetoowah Circle unless otherwise specified.

"Still The Sacred Fire Burns" is the theme for the 59th Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration. Every since the Keetoowah Cherokees received the Sacred Fire from the Creator on the present day Clingsman's Dome in the eastern homelands, the Fire has given strength and unity for the United Keetoowah Band. The Fire is a vehicle for all Keetoowah prayers to travel up to heaven to our Creator. As the Sacred Fire protects the Keetoowah Cherokees, in return the Sacred Fire is protected by the tribal members who have overcome adversity to become a stronger tribe. "Still the Sacred Fire Burns."

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## A Letter to the UKB People From Chief George Wickliffe



Dear Tribal Members

Many times people become confused when they apply for tribal citizenship with their tribe. To become a member of any of the three federal recognized Cherokee tribes; the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, one must be able to prove ancestry by providing a roll number from an original enrollee proving they are a descendant of that enrollee.

How does one go about seeking this information? There are several roll books that can be referenced in order to obtain their ancestry records. One of the biggest challenges is finding which of the eleven roll books contains their family roll numbers.

I am addressing this issue and have provided the names of each roll book and obtained information that I have found that will help you identify each individual roll.

### THE ROLLS

Though it is not commonly known, western migration of the Cherokee Nation commenced well before the removal in 1838. (Known as the "Trail of Tears")

By the time the Eastern Cherokee arrived in northeastern Oklahoma in 1839, approximately 1/3 of the Cherokee Nation was already residing there.

Records of how many people, and when, moved west are limited. It is known for a fact, that as early as the 1790s some Cherokee moved into southeastern Missouri. It is probable that there were already Cherokee settled in the Missouri area. Due to earthquakes and flooding in Missouri, around 1812, most of the Cherokee moved into northwestern Arkansas.

Because of mounting political pressure, the United States entered treaties with the Cherokee in 1817 and 1819, for the purpose of acquiring Cherokee land in the east. Out of these treaties, the Cherokee had a choice of two alternatives. They could either enroll to move to the traded land in northwestern Arkansas or they could file for a reservation of 640 acres in the east which would revert to the state upon their death or abandonment of the property.

By treaty in 1828, the Cherokee ceded their lands in Arkansas for lands in Oklahoma. There was also some incentive for those east of the Mississippi to join the Cherokee in Oklahoma.

This brings us to our first two rolls in "Cherokee Roots" Volume I.

#### Reservation Rolls 1817:

A listing of those desiring a 640 tract in the east and permitted to reside there.

#### Emigration Rolls 1817-35:

Those who filed to emigrate to Arkansas country and after 1828, to Oklahoma.

Then came the rest as follows:

#### Henderson Roll 1835:

A census of over 16,000 Cherokee residing in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina to be removed to Oklahoma under the treaty of New Echota (1835).

#### Mullay Roll 1848:

This was a census of 1,517 Cherokee people remaining in North Carolina after the removal of 1838. John C. Mullay took the census pursuant to an act of Congress in 1848.

#### Siler Roll 1851:

A listing of some 1700 Eastern Cherokee entitled to a per capita payment pursuant an act of Congress in 1850.

#### Chapman Roll 1852:

Prepared by Albert Chapman as a listing of those Cherokee actually receiving payment based on the Siler census.

#### Swetland Roll 1869:

Prepared by S.H. Swetland as a listing of those Cherokee, and their descendants, who were listed as remaining in North Carolina by Mullay in 1848. Made pursuant to an act of Congress (1868) for a removal payment authorization.

#### Hester Roll 1883:

Compiled by Joseph G. Hester as a roll of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in 1883. (This roll is an excellent source of information, including ancestors, Chapman Roll number, age, English name and Indian name.)

#### Churchill Roll 1908:

By Inspector Frank C. Churchill to certify members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Like the Hester Roll, includes a lot of information including degree of Rejecters also are included.

#### Guion Miller Roll 1909:

Compiled by Mr. Miller of all Eastern East Cherokee, not Old Settlers, residing either

*continued on page 3*

## Keetoowah Cherokees to observe Keetoowah Cherokee Day and Native American Indian Day

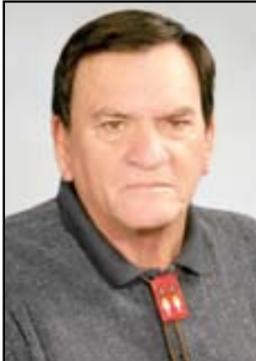
The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal offices will be closed Monday, October 5 in observance of Keetoowah Cherokee Day. The UKB tribal offices are traditionally closed on the first Monday after the Keetoowah Celebration. Tribal offices will re-open at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 6.

For the third year, the tribe will also celebrate a new holiday. Tribal offices will be closed on Monday, October 12 for Native American Indian Day. The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma said "Goodbye Columbus" in a council meeting two years ago as the tribal council voted in Resolution 07-UKB-15 to "To Do Away With Columbus Day and Call It Native American Indian Day". Although the tribe never observed Columbus Day, Native American Indian Day has now become an official tribal holiday. Tribal offices will re-open on Tuesday, October 13 at 8:30 a.m.

## UKB Tribal Offices Closed September 28

United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal offices will be closed on Monday, September 28 in preparation for the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration October 2 and 3. Tribal offices will re-open on Tuesday, September 29.

## UKB Council



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



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



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



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



### DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:



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



**Canadian Dist. Rep.**  
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



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

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

### District Representatives

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

### Keetoowah News

P.O. Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465

(918) 456-6533 Fax (918) 453-9345

E-mail: [ukbnews@unitedkeetoowahband.org](mailto:ukbnews@unitedkeetoowahband.org)

Websites: [www.unitedkeetoowahband.org](http://www.unitedkeetoowahband.org)

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

Sam L. Still, Editor

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## A Letter to the UKB People

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east or west of the Mississippi. Ordered by Court of Claims as a result of suit won by the Eastern Cherokee. See Guion Miller Roll West for more details.

### Baker Roll 1924:

This was supposed to be the final roll of the Eastern Cherokee. The land was to be allotted and all were to become regular citizens. Fortunately the Eastern Cherokee avoided the termination procedures, unlike their brothers of the Nation to the west. The Baker Roll Revised is the current membership roll of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina.

Since the removal in 1838, there have been numerous census taken of those Cherokee now finding themselves west of the Mississippi instead of their homeland in the east.

The most information and cross reference can be obtained by utilizing four major census as follow:

### Old Settler Roll 1851:

A listing of Cherokee still living in 1851 who were already residing in Oklahoma when the main body of the Cherokee arrived in the winter of 1839 - as a result of the Treaty of New Echota (1835). Approximately one third of the Chero-

kee people at that time were Old Settlers and two thirds were new arrivals.

### Drennen Roll 1852:

The first census of the new arrivals of 1839. The new Echota Treaty group - "Trail of Tears".

### The Dawes Roll 1889 - 1914:

The final roll for allotting the land and terminating the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. Senator Henry L. Dawes was the commission's chairman, and consequently, the name Dawes is associated with the final roll. The roll turned out to not be as final as it was expected to be. Upon the reorganization of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma in the 1970's, the Dawes Roll became the only means of certifying membership. To be enrolled by the Cherokee Nation, one must prove ancestry to a person enrolled by Dawes.

### Guion Miller 1909:

A Court of Claims suit resulted in members of the Eastern Cherokee living either east or west of the Mississippi, not including the Old Settlers, to be entitled to participate in monetary award by the court, as result of various treaty violations.

In order to participate, one had to be alive on May 28, 1906 and establish themselves as a member of the Eastern Cherokee, or a descendant of at the time of the violated treaties. 48,847 separate applications were field, representing some 90,000 individuals. Out of this number, 3,436 Cherokee east of the Mississippi and 27,284 Cherokee west

of the Mississippi were certified by Mr. Miller as being eligible to participate in the award.

One lucky enough to find an ancestor on this roll can find out a tremendous amount of information. Not only is the roll detailed, but copies of the actually applications are available, which in most cases, go back to the mid and early 1800's.

source: "Cherokee Roots", Volume 2: Western Cherokee Rolls  
by Bob Blankenship

## UKB Sept. '09 Calendar of Council, District & Special Meetings

- Sept. 11** Illinois District Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Vian UKB Satellite Office
- Sept. 11** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m.  
Sallisaw UKB Satellite Office
- Sept. 12** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m.  
Jim Proctor Elder Center, Tahlequah
- Sept. 18** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m.  
UKB Elder Center

## UKB October '09 Calendar of Council, District & Special Meetings

- October 10** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m.  
Jim Proctor Elder Center, Tahlequah

## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT



UKB Employee

**Della  
Wolfe**

**Loves to Teach**

*Della Wolfe United Keetoowah Band Education Intake Specialist.*

The United Keetoowah Band Education department has been very successful in providing services to their Keetoowah Cherokee tribal members. One reason for this success is the friendly and outstanding services provided by Education Intake Specialist Della Wolfe.

Della Wolfe was recently awarded the "Employee of the Year" for the United Keetoowah Band for her outstanding service to the tribe. Wolfe has been employed with the Keetoowah Cherokee tribe for over five years, where she began her employment in the Tribal Victims Assistance/Indian Child Welfare department later transferred to Child Care in Stilwell and then to her present position in the Education department.

"I'm honored to work for my tribe and to be honored with such a prestigious award. I enjoy meeting people and talking to them on a one-on-one basis," said Wolfe. "Della is a valued employee who has given of herself to help others. She is very deserving of this award," stated David Money, UKB Education Director.

Della assists tribal members from kindergarten to higher education, with their applications for items and services that the schools require. "We try to assist students with their required educational needs such as testing fees, books and tuition fees, just to name a few" stated Wolfe. "We try to stay within our budget to provide assistance to our school children and college students. I love meeting all the parents and students personally, encouraging them for doing a good job attending college and in the great choices they have made. I know that there is a lot of hardships and it's good that our tribe is providing assistance to meet all the student's needs," said Wolfe.

The UKB Education department also has available a computer lab and a public library for tribal members and students for educational research on the internet and also copying services for students.

Della is active in teaching the Keetoowah Cherokee language. As a fluent Keetoowah Cherokee speaker she teaches her native language in the communities and schools. Her goal is to get more people involved in learning their Cherokee language. She has taught Cherokee at the UKB Stilwell satellite office, Fourkiller Baptist Church, Maryetta School, Grove Community Center and at the Northeast Technology Center in Kansas, OK. "I love teaching my language; it's a passion of mine. Whenever I call the different departments within the tribe I always greet them in Cherokee," added Wolfe. "Chief Wickliffe teaches Keetoowah Cherokee twice a week for the employees which I think is wonderful."

Wolfe resides in Stilwell, Ok with her three children, one girl, two boys and one grandson who she teaches the Keetoowah language.

"I enjoy life each day and take it one day at a time. I thank the Lord that he moves me everyday, I'm thankful to him," stated Wolfe.

## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT



UKB Employee

**Raven  
Owl**

**Elder Advocate**

*Raven Owl United Keetoowah Band Elder Advocate*

The United Keetoowah Band Tribal Victim's Assistance and Indian Child Welfare TVA/ICW department has recently implemented a new program made possible by the Grants to Indian Tribal Government. This grant provides the tribe a three-year service for abused, neglected or financially exploitation of Native American elders.

Raven Owl, is the newly appointed Elder Advocate for the tribe and works closely with TVA/ICW Tribal Investigator James Teehee. "There is a vital need for this program, there are a lot of elders being neglected and being abused by family members," stated Owl. Whether it is in their own homes or maybe in their children's homes, the elders do not get the proper care they need. This is where Owl and Teehee step in, to aide the elders when a referral comes to them asking them to investigate such incidents reported of elder abuse in the homes. "We are pretty much on call, we work the regular hours during the day and are on call after hours," added Owl.

How would you define elder neglect? There are various levels of neglect. There can be neglect as far as an elder living at home alone, or a relative living at home with the elder and neglecting the elder's needs. There is a lot of financial exploitation going on among Cherokee elders from false scams preying on elders or from family members. These incidents are not talked about because people don't want to talk about their personal losses or fear of getting family members into trouble.

"Many times when a call comes in with concerns of elder abuse in the home the Department of Human Services DHS, will come to the home and investigate the incident. The DHS has a stricter attitude with the elders, they come to the elder's home seeking answers and to the elders it's like an invasion of their home. We have a different style of approach, when we have knowledge of a referral, we go to the home and we talk to the elders and try to build trust with them, because a lot of times they aren't going to tell you anything. We try to build that trust," said Owl. "We also try to build trust with their families to where we can work with them and letting them know that we are going to do whatever it takes to provide for their needs. We are not there to accuse the family of abuse; we are there to work with the family so that the elder will receive the needed care they deserve. We understand that families work, have children, and there are situations within those working hours that no one can control," added Owl.

This grant provides services for all Native American elders, but priority is given to the Keetoowah Cherokee elders. The goal of the Elder Advocate is to try to keep the elders at home if possible; many of the elders prefer to be in their own homes.

Owl has been involved in presenting her program by speaking to various groups of elders regarding elder abuse. She will also be presenting her presentations at various Keetoowah Cherokee tribal district meetings throughout the nine districts as well as at the UKB Tribal Council meeting.

Raven Owl is a graduate of Northeastern State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. She has worked for Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma for six years as an Indian Child Welfare Specialist. She also worked with tribal and state courts working with DHS after children have been removed from state land with goal of unification.

"I enjoy working for the United Keetoowah Band tribe; it's a good working atmosphere, where everyone is easy to work with. Everyone seems to respect each other's duties and positions; I think that is the key for a good working relationship. I feel good about getting up in the morning and coming to work," said Owl.

Families can contact the Elder Advocate office from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 918-456-9200 and ask for Raven Owl, Elder Advocate; James Teehee, TVA/ICW Investigator; or Sonya Cochran, Supervisor; or come by their office, located at the UKB Round House on Jules Valdez Road just south of Tahlequah.

## Chief Wickliffe Committed to Preserve Traditional Legacy

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they forget their language, but you don't forget the language, because you are always thinking in Indian," added Girty.

People who come by the Administration office are greeted in the Keetoowah Cherokee language and hear staff members speaking their language. Tribal members visit and share stories, laughing and enjoying stories spoken in their native language. "When you see full-bloods gathered you always hear laughter, they love to laugh," says Chief Wickliffe.

"I appreciate the Chief for taking the time to teach the employees who are interested in learning to speak, read, and write the Keetoowah Cherokee language. I try to take advantage of the language classes when I have the opportunity. My Grandmother, Polly Whitekiller, who is 91 years-old, says that I use to speak fluently when I was a young child, but stopped when I started school, so I have the Cherokee language somewhere inside of me and want to bring it out," stated Denise Rooster, MELD Project Assistant.

With approximately 14,000 Keetoowah Cherokee tribal members, over 67% speak their first language, Keetoowah Cherokee. With the aide of Keetoowah Cherokee language instructors and Chief Wickliffe's commitment to keep our language, history and culture alive, the Keetoowah tribe will continue to preserve their traditional legacy for all United Keetoowah Band tribal members and for the tribe for many years to come.

## Now Let Us Speak Cherokee

New to this year's 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration events will be, "Now Let Us Speak Cherokee". This event will feature information on current events, departmental news, upcoming events, and story telling all spoken in the Keetoowah Cherokee language. The event will be located in a tent on the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration grounds and will begin at 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for any elders, young adults, or children who are interested in participating.

"This is an opportunity for Cherokee speaking elders, adults and children to come together and participate," stated Durbin Feeling, Keetoowah Cherokee Language Coordinator. "They can speak about anything they want, it doesn't have to be a story, or about themselves, just sharing information in their Cherokee language."

Durbin Feeling is a graduate of the University of California with a Master of Arts degree in Linguistics and an honorary Doctorate of Linguistics from Ohio State University. Presently, he is the Cherokee Language Coordinator for the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees, and teaches Cherokee at Bacone College in Muskogee.

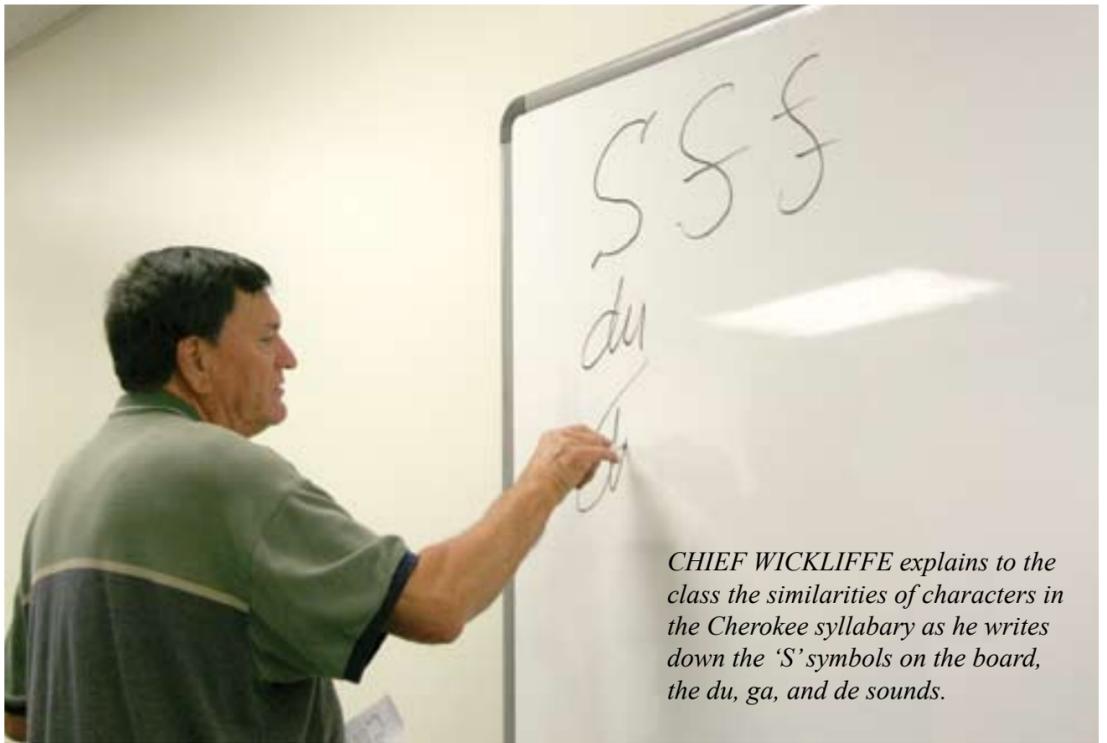
This will be a first for the United Keetoowah Tribe, a Cherokee speaking only event, no English will be allowed to be spoken - only the Keetoowah Cherokee language. The speakers will be video taped sharing their stories and information spoken in their Cherokee language and will be transcribed and made into teaching tools for adults and children to learn the language.

"When transcribing a written document or translating sentences spoken in the Keetoowah Cherokee language into the English format, you find that it is not the true way of writing or hearing the correct Cherokee expression. It revolves around a person who speaks from their heart, this is the real Cherokee language that you hear, this new event will hopefully bring the Keetoowah Cherokee language out into the forefront," added Feeling.

For more information on "Now Let Us Speak Cherokee" you can contact Durbin Feeling at 918-772-4300, ext. 184.

## Free Keetoowah Cherokee Language Class Offered at Kenwood School

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will be offering a series of Keetoowah Cherokee Language Classes in Kenwood. The classes will begin on Thursday, September 10 and will be held every Thursday evening for 10 weeks from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Kenwood School Library. Durbin Feeling will be the instructor. The classes are free of charge. For more information, contact UKB Language Coordinator Durbin Feeling (918) 772-4390.



*CHIEF WICKLIFFE explains to the class the similarities of characters in the Cherokee syllabary as he writes down the 'S' symbols on the board, the du, ga, and de sounds.*



*DON ADE, UKB Health Director, follows along on his worksheet with other tribal employees as Chief Wickliffe pronounces sentences in the Keetoowah Cherokee language. Keetoowah Cherokee tribal employees attend one of two Cherokee classes taught each week at the UKB Community Services Building conference room.*



*WODALONA, a voice activated recording parrot, aides Chief Wickliffe during his Keetoowah Cherokee language class as Sandy Houston, UKB Economic Development Authority Secretary, looks on. "Sometimes Wodalona pronounces a Cherokee word wrong and I have to get on to him," quips Chief Wickliffe.*

## Tribal Enrollment Department Still Taking Address Changes

The UKB Tribal Enrollment Department will continue to take address changes in preparation for an upcoming special election to amend the UKB Tribal Constitution. It is important to have current addresses for all UKB members, and all members are encouraged to contact the enrollment office as soon as possible.

If your mailing address has changed in the last six (6) months, please come to the UKB Enrollment Office and update your mailing address so you will receive a ballot for voting in a special election.

This will be a Federal Election completely conducted by the United States Government using their election guidelines. All eligible UKB Voters including those who are 18 years of age or older or will be 18 on/by the date of this election, will be allowed to vote.

Voting will be by absentee ballot. Your current address is necessary in order for you to receive a ballot from the B.I.A. Along with your ballot you will receive a self-addressed stamped envelop for mailing your vote to the B.I.A. The date of this election is unknown at this time. For more information, contact the UKB Enrollment Office at (918) 453-9375.

## Public invited to attend the 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration on October 2 & 3

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The Keetoowah Celebration is held on the first weekend in October to commemorate the signing of the Keetoowah Constitution. The constitution of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma was ratified by the U.S. Congress in October 1950, which gave the tribe federal recognition and distinction. The UKB is the only Cherokee tribe organized under the Indian Welfare Act.

Friday evening, October 2, from 6 to 10 p.m., the tribe will present a gospel singing hosted by the Melody Aires. There will also be a stomp dance beginning at 9 p.m. on Friday night. The stomp dance will be hosted by members of the Redbird Smith Ceremonial Grounds.

Early birds on Saturday morning will have the option of the Keetoowah Cherokee Run or the Kid's Fishing Derby, which both begin at 7 a.m. on Saturday.

Major festivities on Saturday will kick off with the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Parade at 10 a.m. on Muskogee Avenue. The parade will feature marching bands, many colorful floats including floats for the UKB Youth Choir, Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center, the Election Board, as well as several tribal department floats, cars, and walking groups. Marching bands already signed up for the parade include NSU, Stilwell, Oktaha and parade organizers are hoping for several more. Kids won't want to miss the parade, and a chance to get candy and toys that will be handed out to parade goers.

Chief George Wickliffe's State of the Nation Address will precede all other activities at the grounds, beginning at 11:45 a.m. Following the chief's address, the audience will meet the 2009 Keetoowah Cherokee Tradition Keepers, 2009-2010 Miss and Jr. Miss Keetoowah Cherokee, and will be entertained by a performance from the Keetoowah Cherokee Youth Choir.

New to this year's 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration events will be, "Now Let Us Speak Cherokee". This event will feature information on current events, departmental news, upcoming events, and story telling all spoken in

the Keetoowah Cherokee language. The event will be located in a tent on the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration grounds and will begin at 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for any elders, young adults, or children who are interested in participating. A UKB history, family histories, and UKB departmental displays will be displayed at the Jim Proctor Elder Community Center.

Other events featured on Saturday include traditional Keetoowah Cherokee games such as blowgun, stickball, cornstalk shoot and marbles. The Cornstalk Shoot goes back to a time when Cherokee hunters and warriors competed for accuracy with their bows and arrows. Participants shoot through a large bank of dried cornstalks from a distance of 80 to 100 yards.

The blowguns are made from river cane. Darts for this six to eight-foot long gun are typically made of Bois d'arc wood and thistle down. Traditionally, the blowgun was used for hunting small game. Competitors shoot at a target approximately 20 yards away. Points are determined by the dart's proximity to the bull's-eye. The stickball and marbles will be exhibition games, where anyone can join in on the fun.

Other sporting events include the Keetoowah Cherokee Run, a volleyball tournament, and a 3 on 3 basketball tournament.

There will be a host of children's activities including the kid's fishing derby, turtle races (bring your own turtle), face painting, games, inflatables such as the Alpine Summit, a pirate ship, an obstacle course and a Jupiter Jump. Kids will also have a great time watching cultural demonstrations and making their own crafts.

Another popular event will be Keetoowah Cherokee Bingo, which will begin at 3:30 p.m. The Keetoowah Cherokee Casino is promoting a \$8,000 cash giveaway, with the drawings for \$3,000, \$2000 and three \$1000 drawings to take place Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Celebration Grounds.

One of the biggest events of the Celebration will be the Intertribal Pow Wow.

The Pow Wow begins with a grand entry at 3 p.m. Saturday. The Pow Wow runs to about midnight. For information on the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration, call (918) 431-1818.

## Kids Fishing Derby on Tap

Early birds and their parents should plan to arrive as early as 7 a.m. for the Kid's Fishing Derby to be held out at the Keetoowah Complex grounds located at Keetoowah Circle off West Willis Road. The event will be for kids 12 and under and will feature three fishing times, 7 to 7:40 a.m. for the younger kids ages 1 to 4; 7:40 to 8:20 a.m. for kids 5 to 8, and 8:20 to 9 a.m. for kids ages 9 to 12. Prizes will be awarded to kids in each category who catch the longest fish. The first 100 kids will get to keep their fishing poles. The event will be over by 9 a.m. to allow the kids and their parents to go downtown for the parade. For more information, contact Brandi at (918) 453-2823.

## Keetoowah Cherokees Host 5K and 2K Fun Run

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will host a 5K and 2K Fun Run on Saturday, October 3 as part of the 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration. The run will be held downtown beginning at Doc Wadley Stadium through downtown Tahlequah and back. The 5 K event is a sanctioned event, certification code: OK-08045-DG. Participants may download a copy of the run registration form is available on the UKB website at [www.unitedkeetoowahband.org](http://www.unitedkeetoowahband.org). The deadline to pre-register by mail is September 18 or participants may pre-register in person at UKB offices until Friday, September 25.

On site registration for the run is from 6:15 - 6:45 a.m. and will be held at Doc Wadley Stadium parking lot. The entry fee is \$12. Medallions will be awarded to the 5K category winners. Categories will include: children - up to age 15; youth - 16 to 20 year olds; women - 21 years and above; and men - 21 years and above. For more information, contact Tim Goodvoice at (918) 431-1818.

## Arts & Crafts/Food Vendors Sought

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians is now accepting applications for vendors at the 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration. Arts and Crafts booths are available as follows: 10 x 10 booth spaces are \$25 without electric, and \$35 with electric; 10 x 20 booths are \$45 without electric and \$55 with electric. Food vendor booth spaces are available as follows: 10 x 10 booths without electric are \$75 and \$85 with electric; 10 x 20 food booths are \$100 without electric and \$ 110 with electric. A \$10 discount is available to UKB Tribal Members. Limited electric is available on a first come basis. If you need electric, you must supply your own 10 gauge power cord.

All registration payments must be received by September 30, 2009. Booth location will be determined by raffle after registration has closed. No refunds will be issued after booth location raffle. Vendor applications are accepted on a first come basis.

Set up will be from 4 pm - 7 pm on Friday, October 2nd, 7 am - 9 am on Saturday, October 3rd. Sales can begin at 7 am on Saturday, October 3rd. For more information, contact Felicia Hadley or Bryan Shade at 918-772-4300.

## Get out the Turtle Wax! UKB 8th Annual Turtle Races

The 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration will be holding their 8th Annual Turtle Races at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 3rd, 2009. Registration will begin at 12:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. There will be four age divisions: 2-4; 5-6, 7-8, and 9-10. Prizes will be awarded and there will be a limited number of t-shirts this year. Parents must register their child and sign the permission form. Children should bring their own turtles (tortoise or box shell only) this year as the UKB will have a limited number available. Further information is available by calling Georgia or Debb at 918-456-8698.

## Keetoowah Cherokees to Host Gospel Sing

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma invites the public to attend a Gospel Sing as part of the 59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration.

The Keetoowah Cherokee Gospel Sing will be held Friday, October 2, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the UKB Wellness Center on Keetoowah Circle Road, located off West Willis Road. The singing will be hosted by the Melody Aires. The Melody Aires is made up of UKB Tribal Secretary Liz Littledeave, Hominy Littledeave, Francine Rozell and J.D. Rozell. Several other groups are scheduled to perform.

Come and enjoy some good gospel singing and fellowship. There will be a concession with refreshments at the wellness center. For more information, contact Leroy Adair at (918) 456-6533.

Men	Women	Jr Boys	Jr Girls
Traditional	Buckskin	Traditional	Buckskin
Grass	Cloth	Grass	Cloth
Straight	Jingle	Straight	Jingle
Fancy	Fancy	Fancy	Fancy

**1st-\$600, 2nd-\$400, 3rd-\$300 ADULTS 17 & OVER**  
**1st-\$300, 2nd-\$200, 3rd-\$100 JUNIORS 11-16 yrs**  
**Tiny Tots (10 & under) - Day Money**

59th Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration  
 October 2-3, 2009  
 For General Information, Call:  
 918-431-1818 or 1-877-431-1818  
[www.unitedkeetoowahband.org](http://www.unitedkeetoowahband.org)

If not 3 in each category, committee reserves the right to combine categories. All decisions of the committee are final.  
 No alcohol or drugs allowed.

## H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu) Expected to Reach Pandemic Proportions

The Keetoowah Health Service is working with and will continue to work with the County Health Departments within the UKB jurisdiction, (14 Counties) according to Don Ade, UKB Health Director. Numbers of Keetoowah Cherokees living within each county have been compiled and will be made available in order to assist the Health Departments in each county to compute the number of swine flu inoculations that may be needed for each county.

"The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has stated that an approved vaccine is near at hand and should be available by October. However, in the event the H1N1 Virus has mutated by more than one generation by then, we can expect an entire new set of problems throughout the country. This mutation, if it occurs, can render the vaccine currently being developed ineffective against the new strain of flu and can be spread on a global basis," said Ade.

Although there is no need for panic; the situation could become very serious, especially for the very young and adults that are considered "high risk". Even healthy adults have little natural immunity and the disease can spread easily from person-to-person. The high risk people are those that may already be diagnosed as having severe diabetes, hypertension, cardio-vascular diseases, or compromised immune systems.

Some tips to follow:

- Talk with your local public health officials and health care providers
- Implement prevention and control methods as recommended by your public health officials and providers
- Encourage sick family members to stay home after seeing health care providers
- Eat a balanced diet
- Exercise daily
- Get sufficient rest
- Wash hands frequently with soap and warm water for least 20 seconds at a time
- Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or your sleeve
- Stay away from others as much as possible if you are sick
- Stay informed about pandemic (Global-wide) influenza and be prepared to respond to recommendations

## Birth Announcement



Pepper Ann Marie Irvin

Chris and Jina Irvin are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Pepper Ann Marie Irvin. Pepper was born July 14 at Bass Hospital in Enid, Oklahoma, at 12:51 p.m. weighing 5 lbs 14.6 ounces and she was 18 ½ inches long with a full head of hair.

Pepper was welcomed home by brothers Pyper Christopher, John Michael, and sisters Christian Hope and McKinley Storm. Grandparents are Larry Irvin of Medford and Laura Shade of Tahlequah. She has many uncles, aunts, and cousins in the Tahlequah area. Her father is the owner of Ridge Rider Roofing Company of Medford, Oklahoma.

Family can call (580) 395-2191 or email [ridgeriderroofing@yahoo.com](mailto:ridgeriderroofing@yahoo.com)

## "Wolf Wears Shoes"

Well, one day, Rabbit and Squirrel, they were talking with each other and, you know, just passing the time away by a river, just minding their own business. And up from the river here comes Beaver and he was all excited, waving his arms and everything else, and trying to get Rabbit and Squirrel's attention, and he was saying, "Hey you guys! Hey you guys! I found something down by the river! Come and look! Come and look!"

Old Rabbit and Squirrel, they just kind of looked at each other and waited until Beaver got up to them. And then Rabbit said, "What's going on?" Old Beaver said, "Well, you know, there's something down there by the river, I ain't never seen anything like that before." Old Squirrel said, "You know, I, uh, you know...Rabbit probably knows what it is." So they all agreed that they would go down by the river and check it out.

Well, just as they were heading to the river, here comes Wolf. Now back then, Wolf didn't always want to eat everybody. The main reason is because he acted like he knew everything. Now, I know that most people know somebody like that. Somebody who thinks they know everything. That's the way Wolf was. So he caught up with those animals and he said, "Hey fellas, what's going on?" Old Rabbit said, "Well, Beaver found something down there by the river and we're going to go check it out." Wolf said, "I'll go with you, I'll probably know what it is."

So they all went down to the river and Beaver led them over to a little place where the grass was kind of high and he said, "There it is." Wolf started looking at it and he started going around it and sniffing at it and everything else. After a little bit he stepped back and began scratching his chin. After awhile, he said, "Yeah, I know what this is, this is what humans call 'shooees.'" "Yeah, 'shooees.' See, humans, they have tender feet, so they have to wear these shooees because, you know, when they walk on the ground, if they don't wear these shooees, they hurt their feet. But if they wear shooees their feet don't hurt. So these are 'shooees.'"

Rabbit was sitting back there listening to Wolf's explanation and he thought to himself, "Oh, he doesn't know what this is, But I do." Now Rabbit knew exactly what this was that was hidden in the grass. It was a trap! He knew because he had almost been caught in traps before. So Rabbit started thinking to himself, "I want to teach old Wolf a lesson, somebody's got to. He can't always go around acting like he knows everything."

So Rabbit said, "Well, Wolf, how do humans wear these shoes?" Wolf said, "Well, they wear them like this." He walked up to that trap and he stuck his foot in and the trap went CLANG!!! And it got his foot, and man, did it hurt. Wolf's ears stuck straight out and he said, "This is how they wear them." Rabbit thought to himself, Wolf hasn't learned his lesson." So Rabbit told Wolf, "Well, Wolf, you know you have another foot so let's see if we can find another shoe." Wolf said, "Okay."

So, they started to look for another trap, but as they began to leave, the trap on Wolf's foot was attached to a tree by a chain. So Beaver had to go over and gnaw around the tree until the tree fell and freed the chained trap. They all went on down the river and pretty soon Beaver said, "Here's another one! Here's another one!" And Rabbit told Wolf, "Put it on! Put it on!" Wolf walked up to the trap and said, "Okay." So Wolf stuck his other foot in the trap and the trap went CLANG!!! Boy, that hurt so much. Wolf said, "This is how they wear them." Rabbit thought to himself again, "Man, he still hasn't learned his lesson." And so Rabbit said, "Wolf, you have two more feet, so let's see if we can find two more shoes." Wolf said, "Okay."

And so they began to look for two more traps for Wolf's feet and again Beaver had to gnaw down the tree to free the trap for Wolf. They were walking down the river and each step old Wolf took hurt his feet and he would yell, "ow-OW, ow-OW, ow-OW." After a while they came up on another trap and Squirrel said, "There's another one! There's another one!" Rabbit said, "Put it on! Put it on!" Wolf cried, "Okay." So he put his front foot into the trap and the trap went CLANG!!! It hurt so bad that Wolf's ears stuck straight out, his eyes bulged out and his tail was straight out, he thought his hair would fall off it hurt so bad! Wolf cried, "This is how they wear them." Rabbit again thought to himself, "When is Wolf going to learn his lesson?" "Well, Wolf, you got one more foot there, Lets see if we can find one more shoe." Wolf was really crying now and he said, "Okay."

They began walking down the river and of course Beaver had to set Wolf free again. As they continued walking down the river Wolf would cry out "ow-ow-OW, ow-ow-OW, ow-ow-OW!" They knew with each step the Wolf made he was dying with pain. Well, after a little while Wolf heard the words he was afraid to hear. "Here's another one! Here's another one!" he heard Rabbit yell. This time all the animals said, "Put it on! Put it on!" So Wolf said, "Okay." So he started to put his front foot into the trap...right at the last moment he jumped away and he started crying, "Take them off! Take them off! They hurt! They hurt!" So all the animals came to the Wolf's aid and took off the traps on his feet. Wolf sat back and began rubbing his ankles and his wrists and after awhile said, "You know, I've heard some humans say that shoes can be too small for their feet and it hurts them. Those shoes were probably too small for me, that's why they hurt my feet so bad."

Old Rabbit fell over, knowing that Wolf still hadn't learned his lesson. So that's why even to this day Wolf is all alone. Because everybody is sick and tired of him pretending he knows everything.

(Story told by Sequoyah Guess' Grandmother.)

## Child Development Center host 2nd Annual Health and Safety Fair

The Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center will be hosting its 2nd Annual Health & Safety Fair on Friday, September 11, 2009 from 3-6 pm at the Keetoowah Wellness Center. Our presenters this year

are "The Story Lady", Michelle Parnell, from the Tahlequah Public Library, Smokey the Bear, the Tahlequah Fire Department will be here with the fire truck, Tahlequah City Hospital will be here with the ambulance, and the Tahlequah Police Department will be here with their patrol car and K-9 unit. There will be several booths available with lots of information pertaining to children. We will have free refreshments and door prizes. We hope you'll join us for an afternoon of fun. For more information please call 431-9998.

## Haskell Reunion 2009

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma of Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence Kansas invites all Haskell Alumni and Friends to join us at the Annual Haskell Reunion on October 9 - 11, 2009 at the Radisson Inn, 10918 E. 41st Street, Tulsa, OK. The event will be Honoring our Haskell Alumni Veterans. For more information call (785) 799-8404.

## Gospel Singing in Westville

The 59th Annual Trail of Tears Gospel Singing will be held on Saturday, September 19 at the Old Green Baptist Church in Westville, Oklahoma. Go two miles west of Westville on Highway 62, then one mile south on Ross Swimmer Road.

A free meal will be served at 5 p.m. Singing will start following the meal. Please bring your lawn chairs. Everyone is welcome to come and sing Praises unto the Lord. Please sign in as you arrive, it will be an open singing. Singers, musicians, and listeners are all welcome.

## United Keetoowah Title VI Nutrition Menu September 2009

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	<b>1</b> Brown Beans Spinach Galley Chips Cornbread Salad & Dessert	<b>2</b> Spaghetti w/ Meatballs Green Beans Garlic Toast Salad & Dessert	<b>3</b> Chicken Nug- gets w/Tater Tots Tomato/Zucchini Breadsticks Salad & Dessert	<b>4</b> <b>Closed For Holiday</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Closed For Holiday</b>	<b>8</b> Kielbasa W/Sour Kraut Black Eyed Peas Texas Toast Salad & Dessert	<b>9</b> Chicken Casse- role w/Hominy Tomato/Zucchini Salad & Dessert	<b>10</b> Taco Salad w/Fixins Spanish Rice Salad & Dessert	<b>11</b> Fishing Day @ River Park 11:00-???
<b>14</b> White Beans w/Ham Turnip Greens Cornbread Salad & Dessert	<b>15</b> Lasagna Green Beans Garlic Toast Salad & Dessert	<b>16</b> Catfish Galley Chips Corn Cornbread Coleslaw	<b>17</b> Chicken Fried Steak Biscuit Mashed Pot. w/Gravy Salad & Dessert	<b>18</b> <b>Brunch Served from 10:30 - 12:00</b>
<b>21</b> Burritos Spanish Rice Hominy Salad & Dessert	<b>22</b> Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes W/Gravy Corn Salad & Dessert	<b>23</b> Fishing Day @ River Park 11:00-???	<b>24</b> Cultural Foods Day & September Birthdays	<b>25</b> <b>Closed For Cleaning</b>
<b>28</b> Baked Ham Pork & Beans Grilled Veggies Biscuit Salad & Dessert	<b>29</b> Goulash Green Beans Breadstick Salad & Dessert	<b>30</b> BBQ Smokies Corn on the cob Texas Toast Salad & Dessert		

# UKB Regular July Council Meeting Minutes

**UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting  
At the Jim Proctor Elder Care Center  
July 11, 2009  
10:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.**

## I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

## II. Invocation: Leroy Adair

**III. Roll Call:** 8 + Chief answered Roll Call (Fourkiller, Sacks, Hansen & C. Wofford did not answer call)

## IV. Chief's Address (10:06 – 10:34 AM)

- Opening statements presented in Keetoowah-Cherokee language then immediately following presented in the English language as follows:

- The Keetoowahs voluntarily left the Eastern coastal states some 201 years ago and we agreed to move west of the Mississippi River, (Hansen arrived at 10:07 AM)

- Came into Arkansas where we stayed from 1817 – 1828 then we came into Indian Territory which later became Oklahoma. This was the full blood traditional Indian Movement that left the old Cherokee country. (Fourkiller, Sacks arrived at 10:08 AM)

- After 201 years a decision in favor of the UKB was made. On June 24, 2009, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Larry Echohawk decided UKB was entitled to Land in Trust. Not only did he decide on giving UKB Land in Trust but he named the UKB Successor in Interest to the Historical Cherokee Nation. Mr. Echohawk made provisions that UKB would get Land in Trust. At the moment, no tribe is receiving Trust Land because of the Supreme Court hearing of the Carciere Case but a decision on this case will be made very soon. Mr. Echohawk made provisions for the Carciere case when he decided the UKB's appeal RE: Land in Trust.

- Whenever CNO says we, UKB, did not get Land in Trust, we got better than that. The UKB was named Successor in Interest, which means equal rights (with CNO) to all of the Cherokee Land in the 14 county /9 District area.

- When news releases from CNO says, Echohawk decision didn't do very much, CNO is just "blowing smoke." The decision was made. The document is not a letter, the heading on the document signed by Mr. Echohawk reads, "Decision." Echohawk's decision was made known to Chief Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Locust when they were on a plane on their way to Echohawk's inauguration in Washington. According to Washington, there are two groups which took on all the functions and operations of the Cherokee Nation. Washington said the Keetoowahs are the older of the two groups because the UKB organized in 1950 and CNO's constitution was approved in 1975. Knowing how CNO operates they will be looking for a way to cause some kind of a problem because of Echohawk's decision. Opinion is there is no way Echohawk's decision can be overturned.

UKB lawyers did a tremendous job when representing UKB in the Trust Land appeal. Our Washington lobbyists do an outstanding job and are always aware of happenings which involve the UKB. They are always aware when CNO is present in Washington. When Charles (Locust) and I (Chief Wickliffe) sat in a meeting in Washington while the Carciere case was in progress our lawyers were texting Charles keeping him informed of the Carciere case. Our lawyers are extremely aware of legal situations in Washington and they always keep up current on UKB business.

Washington contacts are extremely important but rules must be followed. Our elders always said, "We need lawyers." The UKB has lawyers now. Lawyers situated in Washington are vital to the business of the Keetoowah.

Credit for Keetoowah progress must go to our lawyers, our elders and Council working together. Lawyers may be expensive but they are well worth the money paid to them. They deserve credit for winning UKB battles.

When Echohawk gave UKB Successor in Interest it was more than we ever expected. This action influences the Arkansas Riverbed project.

Neither Charles (Locust) or Chief had ever met Mr. Echohawk but while in attendance of the Echohawk Inauguration we had the chance to meet and thank him for the decision he signed on June 24, 2009. Mr. Echohawk stated he knew his decision would be controversial but "it was the right thing to do."

Let us not pay any attention to whatever CNO plans or says. Every time UKB wins in court CNO says "they" got the victory. CNO has not said anything about jurisdiction, the Echohawk decision "shot down" the jurisdiction argument always claimed by CNO. UKB is equal in jurisdiction and CNO cannot do anything about it because of Echohawk's decision. The actions of the UKB were not by accident but because our elders told us this action would happen "one of these days."

The action of Echohawk is a historical event. It is the biggest thing that has ever happened to the full blood traditional Cherokee people that benefits everyone regardless of degree of Indian blood. Everything the Keetoowahs do, build roads, etc., will benefit those who live around us. We will help our people and others in every way that we can. Believe we have reached a goal of our elders.

We have one more big step to take. We must vote to by-pass the Secretary of the Interior the and this will get rid of the B.I.A. and Janette then when we decide to put our land in trust or pass anything by resolution through Council we don't have to get approval from the B.I.A./Secretary of the Interior.

There will be a Special Election. This election will be conducted by the United States Government. This will not be a Keetoowah Election. Regulations of U.S. Government will be used in this special election. In this election we will vote yes or no to, "By-pass the Secretary of the Interior?" A YES vote will take the Secretary out of the process of decisions made by Keetoowahs. Like taking land into trust. This would mean getting rid of the Secretary of the Interior, like Echohawk, but there will always be a special place in the heart of Keetoowahs because he did the right thing.

We must get rid of an obstacle we have had for a long time. We must pass by vote, "to bypass the Secretary of the Interior," when voting day comes. All ballots will be by absentee. This election will allow Keetoowahs to rule their own destiny. It is important to explain the importance of passing this question to our voting Keetoowahs. We need to vote YES on special election day. Many other tribes have already voted to bypass the Secretary of the Interior. Our elders knew this change would be coming. The Keetoowahs believe in God. We don't believe the buzzard created the hills as is implied by CNO advertisements.

- Charles Locust: Initially UKB had 3 objectives. First: to ask for the 76 acres to be put in trust. Second: successor in interest that gave us co-jurisdiction over lands along with CNO. Third: Monetary, the balance of money leftover for any tribe having interest in the Arkansas Riverbed project.

We believe if we could get the 76 acres placed in trust, such would lead to successor in interest. Echohawk's decision did not immediately get "land in trust" but successor in interest status is a guarantee we will get land in trust. This is a guarantee from the Federal Government that the Keetoowah is eligible for land in trust. This guarantee of eligibility gives the Keetoowahs a land base.

Many/all the programs we have been going after in the past few years required a "land base," this guaranteed eligibility for trust land now means we are eligible for anything any tribe in the United States is eligible for. We will be making more applications for funding because now we are eligible.

Successor in Interest is very important. It is something the

Keetoowahs have wanted for 58 years. This is our protection plan. No one can bother us now. CNO cannot question anything and get anywhere. CNO does not have a history. CNO bases all their arguments on UKB history. They are trying to use Keetoowah history against the Keetoowahs but they will not accomplish anything.

CNO's attorney and others were in Washington last Monday. It is reported a member of the group was actually crying and pleading to Washington officials to not make decisions which would change CNO. It is said, Washington was not impressed by the display of tears. CNO's attempts to influence Washington are not having the effect CNO would like and certainly not as what CNO had learned to expect.

Encouraged everyone to stress to the people the importance of UKB now having successor in interest status. (We are equal with CNO in authority & jurisdiction, in everything)

The UKB did not get land in trust today. Echohawk's decision says UKB is eligible and there is no reason why UKB cannot have land in trust and that is what he said to the Regional Director, Janette Hannah, and that's why we need to get rid of her then there is no reason things shouldn't move along. The only thing Ms. Hannah can do is delay action and this is what she has done for the last five years, trying to get us to use up our money, trying to close our casino so we would have no money to keep fighting. We have had to appeal every decision made by B.I.A. but we have won all of the last 4 appeals.

The decision to give us Successor in Interest is a guarantee that our children and grandchildren will continue to be here as Keetoowah Tribal members. We want our tribe to be strong. The government finally stood up for the Keetoowahs in the person of Larry Echohawk.

Our prayers have been answered in Echohawk's decision. Locust stated: need to give Chief Wickliffe recognition for all his hard work, his pushing, travel, talking, etc. in working toward all that is accomplished in the historical decisions in favor of the Keetoowahs. Gave recognition to all for work contribution for positive decisions from Washington.

Chief Wickliffe received a standing ovation. Chief gave Charles Locust credit for his long hours of hard work and support for the tribe.

Chief Wickliffe: stated Echohawk decision would be celebrated during the October Keetoowah Celebration.

Chief Wickliffe: announced the death of Keetoowah Assistant Chief of the previous administration, Stephen "Archie" Mouse. Archie's funeral will be held today at Long Prairie Baptist Church at 2:00 PM. For this reason all attempts will be made to complete today's Council meeting no later than 12:00 (noon) in order to allow opportunity for any who wished to attend Archie's funeral.

Woodrow Proctor: referred to past Council members such as Henry Doublehead, Jim Proctor, John Hair, etc. who continued to have faith in the Keetoowahs, who kept positive thinking alive and kept saying good things would happen to the Keetoowah. He stated it was an honor to realize the decisions of Echohawk because he could remember Henry Doublehead and how he "just wanted his day in court," and how Henry always carried the Keetoowah Constitution with him. Henry and Jim Proctor and others did say, it will be the younger Keetoowahs who will turn things around. Woodrow referred to how he continually told John Hair to take care of himself because he (Woodrow) wanted John to hear a historical decision for the Keetoowahs.

Woodrow gave credit and appreciation to Chief Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Locust for all they did to bring about historical changes for the UKB. He expressed thankfulness to Council in that there was never interference in actions taken by the Chief and Assistant Chief. The Council had faith in the leadership of Chief Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Locust in decisions they made and the leadership they presented. Keetoowahs don't give up, we fight for what we believe in. This is how the elders taught, never give up. The decision by Echohawk is a result of a long battle. It seems a heavy weight has been lifted. The Council stayed together. There is unity. Like to see Ki-tuwah be the spelling of our name. Woodrow asked Chief for a special meeting some time next week to get together and outline our priorities. He stated he wished to know plans in order that he could inform his people. For Keetoowah Celebration possibly we could come up with something like "The New Ki-tu-wah." The Echohawk decision took prayers. That's what we believe in. God is first. God showed us. Chief Wickliffe, Assistant Chief Locust and Council will go down in history because of the decision by Echohawk because now the Keetoowahs have something to celebrate. He thanked the administration and Council on behalf of John Hair, Henry Doublehead and Jim Proctor in the hard work which brought about the Echohawk decision.

Chief Wickliffe: RE: Special Meeting requested by Woodrow Proctor. Will probably be set in about 2 weeks. This will allow opportunities to analyze and plan with our lawyer being involved.

Betty Holcomb: when Archie Mouse heard the news on the Echohawk decision his family said he was very happy and that he had been waiting for the moment when something like this would happen. He did pass on before he could speak about this. She believed if Archie could speak for himself he would say "thank you Chief and Charles L. for working so hard and for taking the tribe so far."

## V. Approval of the minutes for the month of June 2009

1. MOTION by Jerry Hansen to approve the Council minutes of June 2009; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions. (Wofford absent)

## VI. Presentations -

1. Barry Dotson: an individual from Flute Springs nutrition center had contacted Barry and had invited him to come to a meeting. He believed they might be interested in receiving assistance for their program.

• Chief Wickliffe: stated would probably help in whatever could be done. He directed Barry to contact the Secretary and inform of date, time, etc. and UKB will make sure to participate.

2. Betty Holcomb: had been in contact with Mickey Spears in reference to the Emergency Disaster Program, wherein; he stated we had a plan written.

• Bryan Shade" spoke in the absence of Mr. Spears and stated said plan would be presented to Council for August Council meeting.

3. Chief Wickliffe: at losing our Housing Grant many elders were facing financial hardships in meeting payments. The Housing Board had voted to forgive financial obligations for elders and/or disabled. Fred & Susie Riddle were recipients of such forgiveness and they wish to express their thankfulness for this consideration by inviting all to a hog fry on July 18th at about 4:00 PM at their residence which is in the Cherry Tree area.

4. Eddie Sacks: RE: School Voucher; There will be one last date for issuing school vouchers to those who missed the district distribution. Bryan Shade informs that date is July 24th. The question is; will those children listed on the new membership list for the month of August be eligible to receive these vouchers? These children's membership will be acted on by Council after the July 24th deadline.

• Ken Bellmard: informed if the application is pending the student should qualify for the voucher program. He stated this was a procedural question.

• Chief Wickliffe: student application for membership to be approved by Council in the month of August should be allowed to receive school vouchers. The Keetoowahs say we are elder and children oriented. Approval by affirmation.

5. Charles Smoke: RE: FEMA Trailers; Two families in his district who received trailer houses are in need of help for water and septic tanks. He asked if these families could be helped

• Chief Wickliffe: spoke on how there was a committee who decided where these trailers were to be set-up. The people had conditions which

gave the opportunity to receive a trailer home. These families need to approach the committee because others who received the trailer homes knew they were responsible for sewer, water and utilities and they got their requirements done. Maybe these 2 families might qualify for emergency assistance, but there were already established procedures for people to receive these trailer homes. There have been recipients who say they have the required hook-ups but then later this is found to be untrue because the hook-up belonged to someone else.

• Woodrow Proctor: said he believed the FEMA committee was responsible for seeing the requirements for a trailer home are in place. He said he was told by the FEMA committee it was required to have water, electric and septic service before you could receive a trailer.

• Charles Locust: referred this situation to the FEMA committee to look into these type needs and possibly find a way to assist.

6. Charles Smoke: RE: water well pumps; he stated there was a need for replacement of water well pumps. He asked if there was anyone available to work on these needs.

• DISCUSSION:

• Chief Wickliffe: cautioned to be careful when hiring anyone for this type work. A person must be licensed and certified before hiring to do the work.

## VII. Reports to Council

1. Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove a limited waiver of sovereignty for the purpose of entering into a loan to buy tribal vehicles.

- Tim Good Voice: not an agenda item.

- Need presented itself suddenly

- With the Echohawk decision it was realized how Lighthouse Police would have more exposure.

- Additional Lighthouse exposure has been a topic in the past and plans for needs have been discussed.

- Vehicle purchases would be for the Lighthouse Police.

- Approximately 4 vehicles would be purchased.

- Money is already set aside for vehicle purchase but instead of lump sum purchase paid in payments.

- Today we are requesting approval to enter into an agreement with the bank for the purchase of these vehicles.

- DISCUSSION:

- This purchase will expand the coverage provided by the Lighthouse.

- Lighthouse is already receiving requests for coverage in various areas. CNO refused to provide coverage in some of these areas even when CNO citizens are involved in the request.

- Currently bids for vehicle purchase are being received.

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to approve a limited waiver of sovereignty for the purpose of entering into a loan to buy tribal vehicles for Lighthouse Police; loan would include purchase of uniforms and communication equipment, such as radios and towers; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Wofford absent).

COMMENTS:

- Lighthouse jurisdiction has expanded since the Echohawk decision

- Lighthouse needs to be more visible

- Reliable vehicles are necessary

- Other law agencies have contacted Lighthouse about working out agreements to work together

- UKB Lighthouse are involved in legalities involving Lighthouse requirements of other law agencies.

2. Enrollment Report: Liz Litledave

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to accept and approve 26 new applicants for UKB tribal enrollment (this number does include 4 applicants associate with the '49 roll); SECONDED by Betty Holcomb; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Wofford absent).

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to acknowledge and honor 5 membership relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Betty Holcomb; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Wofford absent).

FYI:

- Council was informed there were 781 Elder Assistance Checks processed for a total of \$156,200.00 from May through the end of the program on June 12, 2009.

- Council received a copy of the Enrollment Audit completed by CPA auditors Medearis & Associates which reflects an increase over last year's audit of some 2,000 members

3. The address correction letters to tribal members will be mailed next week, in preparation for the special election.

## VIII. Public Forum

1. John Hair: announced his son was getting married today at Ewasha Baptist Church at 6:30 PM. Then there will be a hog fry at John's home. He invited all to participate in sharing of food. John then stated for the last few days he had mixed emotions but he was "real happy." He was saddened over the death of Archie Mouse but he was also the happiest he had been in a long time. The many years of frustration concerning decisions relating to the Keetoowahs has been lifted. He recognized Keetoowah Chief, Assistant Chief and Council for the job that has been done. He stated the workings of the Council made him happy. He concluded with "thank you."

## IX. Unfinished Business

1. MOTION by Ella Mae Worley to approve revisions of the current Election Ordinance; SECONDED by Barbara Girty; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Wofford absent).

Leroy Adair and Norma Jimerson, members of the Election Board thanked the Enrollment Committee and the Council for assistance given to the Election Board.

Leroy then informed of a ball team from Pine Ridge, N. Dakota who had come to our area to participate in a tournament and then had suffered transportation problems. This problem happened on Friday evening and there was no business open to help this group. Leroy had personally furnished transportation to the Bacone College campus where they received housing. It is certain housing cost was involved.

The driver of this bus was the coach of this ball team. Leroy had told this coach he would help as much as he could. The coach stated his team's opponent was "a team south of the UKB." The coach stated his team was treated "real hateful." Leroy told this coach he did not belong to the tribe "down south." RE: "down south implied CNO."

Chief Wickliffe: instructed Leroy to get cost verification on vehicle repair and UKB would assist in this cost.

## X. New Business

1. MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to approve authorization to submit an application to the Indian Health Service in the amount of \$70,000.00 for a Tribal Management Grant; SECONDED by Betty Holcomb; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Wofford absent).

2. MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve the submission of a grant application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant FY '09 (ICDBG) in the amount of \$800,000.00 for an economic development project on five acres off HWY 51; SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Wofford absent).

## XI. Announcements

### XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

### XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Eddie Sacks; SECONDED by Charles Locust; Approved by affirmation. Time - 12:10 PM



# 2009 UKB Graduates

## K. Paige Carnes

K Paige Carnes from Tahlequah, Oklahoma graduated from the 8th grade at Grand View. Paige was a competition National Champion cheerleader, class treasurer and also played basketball. She is the daughter of Todd and Claudia Carnes. Her grandparents are Claudie Wilson and Esther Ridge, Mary and Smokey Hix and Don and Donna Carnes.



## Danellya Rose Chairez

Danellya Rose Chairez from Catoosa, Oklahoma graduated from Catoosa High School. Her parents are Efren Olvera Chairez and Dana Harlene Wickliffe. Her grandparents are Lloyd Wickliffe and the late Merlene K. Tiger. She plans to attend vocational school.



## Rachel Girty

Rachel Girty graduated from Vian High School as a member of the Principal's honor roll, MVP in softball and First Alternate in Slow Pitch. His parents are Gregory and Joan Murphy and her grandparents are Wanda Girty of Tahlequah and the late John Girty of Vian. She plans to attend college and become a registered nurse.



## Kelby Budder

Kelby Budder graduated from Jay High School. She is the daughter of Lisa Budder. Her grandparents are Coweta Sharp and Martin Sharp. She plans to attend college.



## Trenton Cochran

Trenton Cochran graduated from Kansas High School. His father is Anthony Cochran and his grandparents are Sheila and George Cochran and Francis Simmers. He plans to attend college at NEO A&M studying radiology.



## Jack Gourd

Jack Gourd from Tahlequah, Oklahoma graduated from Sequoyah High School. He is the son of Mary and Roger Gourd. He plans to attend Indian Capital Technology Center, work and play music.



## Amber Le Anne Wilson

Amber Le Anne Wilson graduated from Kansas High School. Her mother is Gloria Adair and her step dad is Vincent Bluebird. She plans to finish a program at Vo-tech and then attend RSU to become a registered nurse or to Bacone to become a radiology tech.



## Justin Cochran

Justin Cochran graduated from Kansas High School. His parents are Randy and Renee Cochran. His grandfather is Curtis Snell. He plans to attend Wyo-Tech.



## Monte Fox

Monte Fox graduated from Jay High School. He is the Son of Sharon Severs and Richard Fox. He plans to finish his last year of auto mechanic so he can get certified.



## Brice A. Grigsby

Brice A. Grigsby from Stilwell, Oklahoma graduated from Cave Springs High School. He was named the Most Valuable Player, Most Points, Offensive Player, and Team Player.



His parents are Judy Grigsby and Albert Sawney. His grandparents are Wilburn Duval and the lat Dora Duval. He plans to attend college and hopes to play ball.

## Lori Ketcher

Lori Ketcher from Stilwell, Oklahoma received her GED. Her dad is Larry Ketcher and her grandmother is Sally Ketcher. She plans to attend Vo-Tech and NSU.



## Thank you to the Education Department

We would like to acknowledge the UKB Education Department for all their hard work and say thank you for their assistance. We are now enrolled in an EMT basic class and hope to be serving our community and the UKB people soon.  
Sincerely, Elmer and Nina Panther

## UKB Tribal member completes basic training

Congratulations go to Miccah T. Johnson for graduating basic training at Ft. Benning, Georgia. Miccah, a 2003 graduate of Sequoyah High School is from Tahlequah. For his next assignment, he will report to Ft. Drum, New York, home of the 10th Mountain Infantry Division.

Miccah's father Harvey Johnson, is stationed at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. His mother, Haley Byrd, lives in Broken Arrow. His paternal grandparents are Tom and Ida Johnson of Tahlequah, and his maternal grandmother is Xandra Tuttle Foster of Park Hill.



Staff Sgt. Harvey Johnson helps son PVT Miccah T. Johnson get ready for graduation from basic training at Ft. Benning, Georgia on June 19, 2009. Both father and son are Keetoowah/Cherokee/Creek.

## Tribal Child Support Enforcement

United Keetoowah Band Tribal Members are now eligible for a new service that will provide financial benefits to the future of our children.

Tribal Child Support Enforcement (TCSE) is now accepting applications on behalf of custodial parents/non-custodial parents to assist in collecting child support.

In May 2009, the United Keetoowah Band Council passed legislation establishing a child support enforcement code. Through a cooperative agreement with the Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma, Child Support Services are available to United Keetoowah Band Tribal Members at no cost.

According to Jerry Sweet, TCSE program Director, "The focus of the program is to ensure every Native American child in Oklahoma has an avenue available to them in order to receive child support benefits."

"Our goal is to establish paternity and child support orders for any Indian child residing within the tribes service area," said Sweet. TCSE can assist Native American Children in the following ways:

- Determine Paternity
- Locate an absent parent
- Establish a child support order
- Modify an existing support order
- Enforce child support orders

TCSE will assist parents in the establishment of paternity and enforcement of child support cases previously established. Enforcement will occur in the District Court of the United Keetoowah Band as well as State courts within the Tribes jurisdictional service area.

Either parent may open a case by completing an application and providing documentation of the following:

- Child's birth certificate
- Child's CDIB card
- Child's social security card
- Verification of income
- Divorce Decree or other previous Order of the Court
- Copy of the paternity affidavit, if available

Applications may be picked up in person at the TCSE Office located at 1024 S. Muskogee, Tahlequah, OK or may be requested via telephone at 1-888-540-1501. Applications may also be downloaded from the TCSE website at [www.modoc-cse.org](http://www.modoc-cse.org).