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

Keetoowah Cherokee News

December 2008

Published Monthly

Issue #12

UKB Inauguration Set for Saturday, January 3

The Inauguration of the Chief and Assistant Chief and the Tribal Council of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will be held on Saturday, January 3 at 10 a.m. at the Herb Rozell Ballroom at Northeastern State University. Tribal members, as well as the general public, are invited to the event.

The UKB Council will include officers: Chief George Wickliffe, Assistant Chief Charles

Locust, Tribal Secretary Liz Littledave, and Tribal Treasurer Ella Mae Cooksey Worley. The four officers will serve four year terms.

Rounding out the council, the nine Tribal District Representatives who will serve two year terms are Eddie Sacks, Canadian District; Cliff Wofford, Cooweescoowee District; Jerry Hansen, Delaware District; Woodrow Proctor, Flint District; Joyce Fourkiller Hawk, Goingsnake District;

Barbara Girty, Illinois District; Charles Smoke, Saline District; Barry Dotson, Sequoyah District; and Betty Holcomb, Tahlequah District.

Following the ceremony, the tribe will host a reception. After these festivities conclude, the Keetoowah Cherokee tribal council will hold their regular January council meeting at the UKB Wellness Center beginning at 1 p.m.. For more information, call (918) 431-1818.

UKB Runoff Election Results

In the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma Runoff Election, held on December 1st, incumbent Tribal Secretary Liz Littledave defeated Kristine Scrapper. Littledave received 57.27 percent or 319 votes, compared to Scrapper's 42.73 percent or 238 votes. Littledave was endorsed by the Wickliffe-Locust Administration.

In the runoff for Tahlequah District Representative, Betty Holcomb won the race by 12 votes, barely defeating Kathy Neugin White, with Holcomb garnering 52.42% or 130 votes, and White getting 47.58% or 118 votes.

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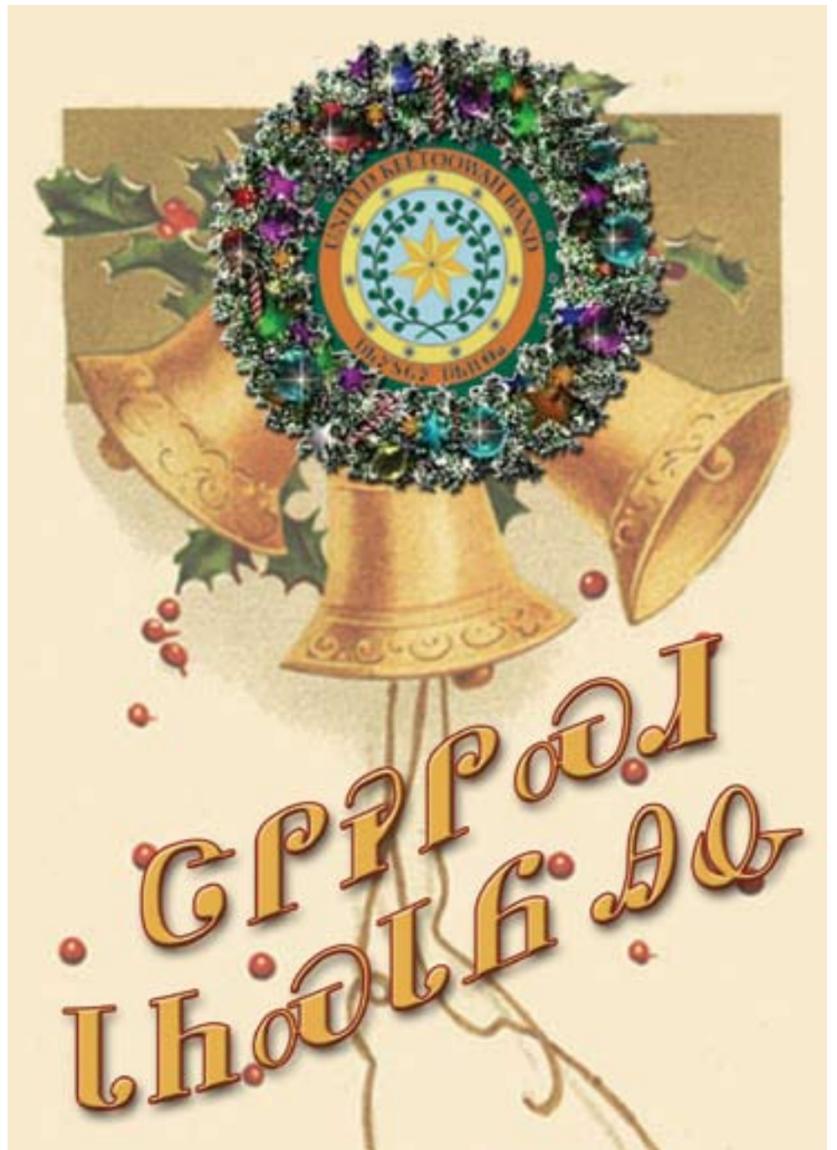
UKB Children's Christmas Gift Cards Increased to \$40 per Child

In the spirit of the holiday season, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will once again be distributing Christmas Gift Cards from Wal-Mart to all UKB tribal youth from babies to 18 years of age.

This year, the council voted to forgo buying candy and to increase the value of the gift cards to \$40. per child. To be eligible, children must be enrolled UKB tribal members. UKB Council District Representatives will distribute the cards at their district meetings this month unless otherwise specified (dates listed below). For tribal members unable to attend the meeting, they may pick up the gift card from their district representative through December 29th. For more information, contact your UKB district representative.

UKB December '08 Calendar of District Meetings and Gift Card Distribution

- December 9** Saline District Meeting, 7 p.m.
Kenwood Community Center
- December 11** Illinois District Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Vian Nutrition Center
- December 11** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Old Gaming Office in Sallisaw
- December 13** Tahlequah District, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
UKB Community Services Building, Tahlequah
- December 15** Goingsnake District, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Stillwell Satellite Office
- December 15** Flint District, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Stillwell Satellite Office
- December 16** Delaware District, noon – 10 p.m.
Jay Community Center
- December 18** Goingsnake District, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Kansas Satellite Office
- December 16** Cooweescoowee District Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
First Christian Church Pryor, Ok.
- December 19 & 20** Delaware District, Noon to 6 p.m.
Kansas Satellite Office
- No meeting date set** Canadian District
Contact Eddie Sacks @ (918) 822-1957



UKB Youth & Elder Social Sat., Feb. 14, 1 p.m.

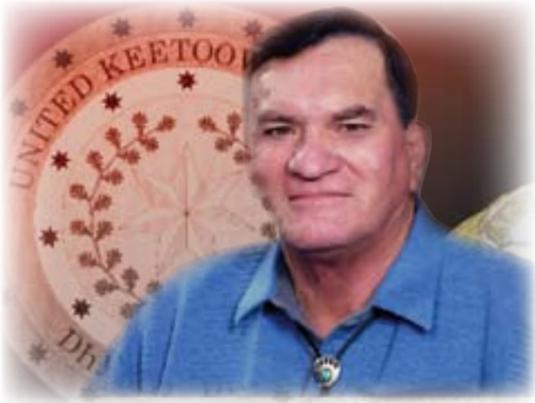
UKB Wellness
Center

For Students in Grades 9-12

Lunch provided,
Door Prize Drawings

Youth Motivational Speakers

Elder Inspirational Speakers



UKB TIMELINE

Time immemorial - Legend tells us that Unetlanvhi (The Creator) gave the name Keetoowah at the same time he gave the Sacred Fire. "From this day forward, you shall be known as 'Kituwah.'"

1793 - Keetoowahs who aligned with the British during the Revolution were among the first wave of emigrant Keetoowahs to the west, as well as the Chickamaugas.

1808 - Traditional and full-blood Keetoowahs wrote U. S. President Jefferson desiring to move further west, and establish a new territory separate from the mixed-blood and assimilated Keetoowahs, now calling themselves "Cherokee."

1817 - By Treaty of 1817 with the United States, the Keetoowahs moved west to a determined reservation in the Arkansas Territory. By 1819, they numbered about 6,000.

1828 - By Treaty of 1828 with the United States, the Keetoowahs moved further west to a territory in what is now Northeastern Oklahoma.

1828 - Keetoowahs, now called "Western Cherokees" to differentiate them from the Eastern Cherokees (who remained in the homeland), established a capital at Tahlonteskee, near the mouth of the Illinois River into the Arkansas River. This included a courthouse and council house.

1838/39 - Emigrants from the Eastern Cherokee arrived via the forced removal, now known as the "Trail of Tears." Many Keetoowahs and Cherokees intermarried, with descendants today that include members of both the United Keetoowah Band and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

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

1839 - Under a coerced 'convention' which did not include all Keetoowah Western Cherokees, an agreement was signed with the Eastern Cherokee populous majority, supposedly reuniting both nations under one body politic, "The Cherokee Nation." This was never ratified by Congress.

1857 - The United States War Department offered the military reservation of Fort Gibson to the Cherokees. The Cherokee Council voted to name this town "Keetoowah." Upon involvement in the Civil War, Ft. Gibson was once again a military reservation of the U. S. War Department. The Council of Keetoowah Town met from 1857 until May, 1863.

1859 - Keetoowahs unproven of Cherokee Nation policies, authority and other activities, met with white missionary Rev. Evan Jones to legally organize the Keetoowahs under a constitution and by-laws, which sets forth the intentions of 'our Keetoowah forefathers.' The constitution and by-laws set-up the Society to play the role that the mother-town of Kituwah had played until it was burned.

1866 (Civil War era) - Loyal Keetoowahs opposed the Southern Confederacy. The "Pin Indians" were a particularly aggressive faction who fiercely resisted assimilation and invasion by all non-Indians. Not all Keetoowahs were part of the "Pin Indian" faction.

1889 - U. S. Act limited the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation and established Federal Courts in Indian Territory. The Act also terminated certain of Cherokee Nation's governmental powers over its citizens. This same year, the Keetoowahs held a convention at which their 1859 constitution was amended to include both religious and sectarian functions and allow open meetings.

1893 - A U. S. Act created the Five Tribes Commission to negotiate with the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole nations for extinguishment of tribal title in order to create the new state of Oklahoma.

1895 - a U. S. Act extended Arkansas criminal laws over tribal members.

1897 - United States confers criminal and civil jurisdiction on the United States for persons in Indian Territory, regardless of race. The laws of Arkansas and of the United States were extended upon all of Indian Territory.

1898 - The Curtis Act forced allotment of tribal lands upon Individual Indians. This Act allowed towns, which had previously been incorporated under the laws of Cherokee Nation, to become municipalities under the laws of Arkansas, rendered civil laws of the tribes unenforceable in Federal courts, and completely abolished tribal courts. An agreement was drafted between the Cherokee Nation and the United States government which was slated to go before Cherokee voters the following year.

1899 - The mixed-bloods of Cherokee Nation won the election to approve the Cherokee Agreement. This agreement effectively placed the Cherokee Nation under the direct management of the United States. In November, the Keetoowah Society convened to pass resolutions criticizing the Cherokee Council and the Dawes Commission. At this meeting, they resolved to enroll for allotment only under protest.

1900 - Another version of the Cherokee Agreement was developed.

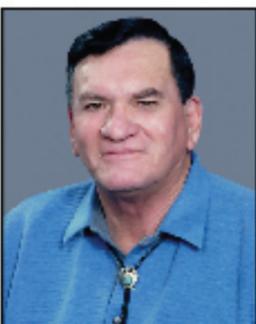
1901 - The Nighthawk Keetoowahs splintered as a purely religious organization.

1905 - The Keetoowah Society, Inc. was formed under Federal Charter on September 20 in preparation for the impending dissolution of the Cherokee Nation. The Keetoowah Society knew that the Cherokee Nation would have no other general representative government, and functioned under a Chief and a Council for the express purpose of carrying on the political and social functions of a band. Frank Boudinot is elected as Chief of the Tribe.

1906 - Five Tribes Act provided for the final disposition of the property and legal affairs of the five Tribes, and drastically limited the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation. All remaining powers of the Cherokee Nation were abandoned by tribal members, who became citizens of the United States. The only group consisting of a Chief, council and working for their Cherokee people was the Keetoowah Society, Inc.

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UKB Council



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



Tribal Treasurer
Shelbi Wofford
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



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



Canadiana 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



Tribal Secretary
Liz Littledave
Office: 918-456-5126
Cell: 822-3803



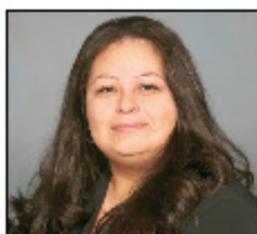
Cowwocoseowee Dist. Rep.
Cliff Wofford
Home: 918-825-1682
Cell: 918-822-1953



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



Tahlequah Dist. Rep.
Albert Shade
Home: 918-458-5339
Cell: 918-822-3805



Illinois Dist. Rep.
Barbara Girly
Cell: 918-457-7067



UKB Holiday Office Closings

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma tribal offices will be closed December 24 through 26 for the Christmas Holidays. Offices will re-open on Monday, December 29 at 8:30 a.m.

Tribal Offices will also be closed December 31 through January 2 for the New Year's Holiday. Offices will re-open on Monday, January 5 at 8:30 a.m.

George G. Wickliffe Chief	Charles D. Lucust Assistant Chief
Liz Littledave Secretary	Shelbi Wofford Treasurer
District Representatives	
Barbara Girly Barry Dotson Joyce Fourkiller	Jerry Hansen Woodrow Proctor Eddie Sacks
Albert Shade Cliff Wofford	
Keetoowah News P.O. Box 746 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 456-6533 Fax (918) 453-9345 E-mail: ukbnews@unitedkeetoowahband.org United Keetoowah Band Headquarters Sam L. Still, Editor	
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A Letter to the UKB People

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1916 - The last Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Rogers, formed a "Cherokee Executive Committee" to help any further presidentially-named Chief to manage remaining assets of Dawes Enrollees.

1930's - Several different Keetoowah factions start discussing forming a united band under the proposed Indian Reorganization Act. The Executive Committee of Cherokees by Blood, representing all Cherokee descendants rather than Keetoowahs alone, failed in 1932 to obtain standing as a party to the Cherokee claims litigation.

1934 - The Department of the Interior's Land Division concluded in 1934 that, unlike the other Five Tribes, Cherokee Nation was neither interested in reorganizing, nor capable of doing so. Keetoowah leaders offered plans for reorganization, while Five Civilized Tribes Superintendent Landman believed that a full-blood organization was best suited to represent the full-bloods.

1937 - While the IRA was determined to be restricted to Reservation Indians, Senator Thomas co-authored the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act (OIWA) to allow Indians living on allotted lands in the state to have the benefits of the IRA. Keetoowah factions were urged to unite as one band to file under the OIWA. A Land Division decision in October 1937 stated that the Cherokee nation government, as set out in the 1839 Constitution, was ineligible to reorganize to undertake the functions of the 1906 government.

1939 - The BIA Regional Coordinator of Organization for the Five Civilized Tribes agency found that, by the Keetoowahs obtaining a Federal corporate charter on September 20, 1905 the Keetoowah Indians had established recognition as a polity of Indians. The BIA then assigned staff to assist the Band to organize a coalition government of the Keetoowah factions. The Constitution and By-laws were formed and popular elections were held.

1942 - Some agency employees hoped to use the Band as a vehicle for representing all Cherokee Dawes enrollees and their descendants, but the UKB decided to remain a "Keetoowah" Cherokee polity including only descendants who met the UKB membership guidelines. The Bureau determined that his Band would not conflict with the residual government of the Cherokee Nation. Cherokee Nation would retain its 1906 status under an appointed Principal Chief.

1944 - A Bureau determination (by D'Arcy McNickle) was made on April 24, stating the UKB was a historical tribe.

1946 - Acting Interior Secretary Abe Fortas asked Congress to pass the August 10 Act acknowledging the UKB's historical status and eligibility to reorganize under Section 476 of the OIWA, and IRA. The act of August 10, 1949 was passed by Congress (60 Stat. 976) recognizing the UKB as a Federally-recognized tribal government. The UKB constituency consisted primarily of restricted Indians, non-Dawes enrollees, and other Keetoowahs who remained loyal to the Keetoowah political ideals.

1949 - A 1939 Roll was reaffirmed, and became the foundation of the 1949 Base Roll, of which tribal membership in the UKB is based upon.

1964-1976 - The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma serviced all Cherokees by acting as the Cherokees' sponsoring federally-acknowledged tribal organization for the purpose of bringing in funds and programs to Oklahoma. Chief Jim Pickup was designated as Trustee for the trust assets of Cherokee Nation (May 4, 1949 - May 17, 1967). Some UKB council members protested that the UKB was giving away Keetoowah rights in doing so. Relations between the UKB and the presidentially-appointed Cherokee Chief began to seriously deteriorate. Bill Glory and John Hair, comprising the UKB staff housed at the tribal complex in Tahlequah, were evicted by W. W. Keeler.

1970 - The Bellmon Bill (Principal Chief's Act) authorized each of the Five Civilized Tribes to select their principal officer, but did not restore any other provisions of the earlier agreements, including the Curtis Act and the Cherokee Agreement.

1972 - The BIA declared that the UKB is a fully-recognized, Class 1 OIWA/IRA tribal entity, while Cherokee Nation remained an unorganized Class 3 service population.

1976 - Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma adopted a non-OIWA/IRA government under a July 5, 1976 Constitution that received its claimed authority through co-approval by Commissioner Morris Thompson and Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma Chief Ross O. Swimmer.

1979 - A BIA report, titled "Organization Status of Federally Recognized Indian Entities" listed the UKB under "Officially Approved Organizations Pursuant to Statutory Authority" (IRA, OIWA and ANA). Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma was listed under the heading, "Other: Officially Approved Organizations Outside of Specific Statutory Authority."

1980 - BIA Assistant Secretary Forrest Gerard opined that separate funding was barred for the United Keetoowah Band; declaring the Band was ineligible for separate funding and land acquisition in Oklahoma under the false pretense that the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and the United

Keetoowah Band share the same base roll. In actuality, it has always been the policy of the UKB that all lineal descendants of the 1949 Base Roll and current rolls are automatically eligible for membership in the Band, upon meeting Blood Quantum requirements.

1997 - UKB approved to administer a Housing Program.

1999 - Received BIA Aid to Tribal Government Funding, a grant from HUD to build a Community Center in the Tahlequah District, and approval for a Natural Resources Grant.

2000 - Vehicle tags and titles began being issued to tribal members. Negotiations were successful for a Tobacco Compact with the State of Oklahoma as well as a Motor Fuels Compact. (The timeline will be continued in a future issue of The Keetoowah Cherokee News).

Dear Tribal Members,

In a letter, dated November 5, 2008, that ran in the Muskogee Phoenix, a Robert Girty wrote seeking to become educated regarding the rich history of the Keetoowah Cherokee. As the Chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, I take offense to his disrespectful tone and can only assume that is was politically motivated and not sincere.

The ultimate answer to the campaign questions, that Mr. Girty refers to, is that United Keetoowah officials who were elected to office a month ago were elected with overwhelming margins. Indeed, the Assistant Chief and I were elected with margins of 59 % and 59.6 % respectively. In short, we have answered the campaign questions that our members posed to us during our campaign and are not accustomed to responding to questions from strangers.

In order to help Mr. Girty educate himself regarding Cherokee Indian history, I recommend that he read "Burning Phoenix" by Allogan Slagle, a copy of which is available online at <http://www.yvwiius-dinvnohii.net/articles/BurningPhoenix.htm>. In order to understand the history of the Freedman issue, I recommend that Mr. Girty acquaint himself with basic American history, including the abolition of slavery, the passage of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution, and the Treaty of 1866 guaranteeing the Freedmen the rights of citizenship that they enjoy today.

Wa-do. Thank you.



UKB Chief Wickliffe Announces the Purchase of 40 Acres to Council

United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe announced to the council representatives at the Nov. 1 council meeting that the tribe had just completed the closing of a deal on the purchase of 40 acres of land adjacent to the United Keetoowah Band Complex just south of Tahlequah. The 40 acres of land was once a nursery, the tribe has plans to utilize most of the trees on the property to be uprooted and planted throughout the 76 acres of tribal land for landscaping purposes. Also located on the 40 acres of land are water and sewer lines which will aid in construction of a new education building as well as a vocational training facility. "Our plan now is to get with the council to decide what will be done with these 40 acres. We want to build an education structure, a vocational training building, and we may have enough land to construct our own softball field," stated Chief Wickliffe. With the construction of new education and vocational training facilities it will give UKB tribal members an opportunity to continue their education and learn vocational skills providing them opportunities for jobs. "This is something that has been needed for a long time, the United Keetoowah Band now owns 40 acres for its members and for the tribe," added Chief Wickliffe.

Chief Wickliffe also reported to the council that there will be an application applied for the 40 acres to be placed in trust as soon as the tribe concludes the 76 acres land in trust that is pending in Washington, D.C. "Negotiations are continuing, and of course a lot of the decisions depend on the upcoming Presidential election on Nov. 4," said Chief Wickliffe. With the recent contract with Indian Health Service, and are near settlement of the Arkansas Riverbed case, pending approval for the

76 acres of land in trust issue, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma seem to have a profitable future. "There's a lot in the future for the UKB people. I have trust that everything will materialize. The tribe has accomplished a lot, we are having two more buildings built on our complex the Civil Defense building and the new John Hair Museum and Cultural Center, and we will be planning on constructing more facilities. With the support of the UKB members and

actions of the tribal council, they make it possible for these accomplishments to move in the right direction. The tribe's future is bright," added Chief Wickliffe.

In the report to the council, Flint District Representative Woodrow Proctor addressed the council, "We had some bad times come to us, we lost some tribal members," said Proctor. Three family members of the Gourd family died in an auto fatality on State Highway

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UKB SECRETARY Liz Littledave addresses the tribal council during their November meeting to inform the council of the dates and procedures for the December Elderly Assistance disbursements.

Keetoowah Cherokees Honor Veterans

The United Keetoowah Band honored UKB veterans with a luncheon at the Jim Proctor Elder Care Center on Friday, November 7. Over 175 veterans and honored guests attended the luncheon.

UKB Chief George Wickliffe addressed the veterans and audience. "I am honored to recognize Keetoowah Cherokee veterans who have served and to everybody who is here that served in the military regardless of what branch," said Chief Wickliffe. He continued by addressing the issues of the Civil War through the present day Iraq War. "When I first went to Sequoyah Indian School, there were students in school at that time in Sequoyah that were coming back from the war," added Chief Wickliffe. He discussed how Keetoowah Cherokees have been involved in all the wars. How at times they didn't know who their enemies were. "Sometimes we would meet a family with children, we would walk by them, the next thing you know a child would turn around and throw a grenade at us," said Chief Wickliffe. He also talked of how the front lines have changed, how today United States has to deal with terrorists. "I appreciate veterans every where in the United States. Let's continue to be the people we are, Keetoowah Cherokees are very geared in getting along with everybody," said Chief Wickliffe.

Chief Wickliffe also honored Oklahoma National Guard Specialist 4th Class Raymond Wickson. Wickson is a United States Marine Corps veteran who has served in the military for 14 years, from 1994 to present. He has just recently returned from a tour in Iraq. Wickson's tour includes Okinawa, Japan and Iraq and has received numerous awards, the Marine and Army Good Conduct, National Defense, Overseas, Global War on Terrorism, Meritorious Unit Commendation, State Active Duty and Reserve Commendation awards. "It's an honor to have Specialist 4th Class Raymond Wickson with us today," added Chief Wickliffe.

For the first time this year the United Keetoowah Band presented a special award, the "Valor Veteran Award" for a Keetoowah Cherokee veteran. The "Valor Veteran Award" was presented to Jacob Littledave. Littledave served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam conflict as an accomplished sergeant and troop leader. He was wounded in action and at one time listed as Missing in Action (MIA). While serving in Pipestone Canyon, Death Valley, and the Delta, Littledave received three Purple Hearts, a Navy Commendation with Valor for valor in combat, and the "Presidential Unit Citation."

"Believe me, this is a surprise! I've served two tours in Vietnam, I was shot three times. I walked into an ambush, hit with mortars, was blown out of a helicopter and then shot again. You, who were combat veterans, know we had to be pretty tough, I share this with you, because it's been an honor to serve my country, but most of all to serve my people, wado," stated Littledave.

The "Oldest War Veteran Award" attending was presented to Andy Oosahwee. Accepting the award was Andy's son, Harry Oosahwee who himself served in the United States Army as a Specialist 4th Class Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA. Andy Oosahwee is a World War II veteran who served in the 15th Air Corps Unit out of Italy. He fought in the Baltic Air Wars, Southern France Campaign, Northern Campaign, and in the Rhineland Campaign.

Another award presented was the "Veteran Memento Award" given to a special veteran with the thought in mind that this award was issued



KEETOOWAH CHEROKEE Chief George Wickliffe speaks about the history of Keetoowahs serving in the wars from Civil War to present day Iraq, to veterans attending the UKB Veteran luncheon. "I'm honored for our UKB veterans...", stated Chief Wickliffe.

the first day of November 10, 2005. This memento was donated by a special friend to United States Marine Corps veteran Daniel Houston, Jr. "I'm not much on words, I like to thank all veterans who served to defend our country in all wars, thank you," said Houston.

"We are very honored and proud of our veterans. I think everybody feels the same way about our relatives and friends that served in the military. We just want to say thank you, I don't think we can ever say enough for what they have done, and there is no way that we could. Everybody is proud of the Keetoowah Cherokees, which is one thing that is strong that we are a proud people. We're proud to help each other, I want to say thank you to all you veterans," said Assistant Chief Charles Locust.

The luncheon ended with each attending veterans receiving a gift of appreciation from the United Keetoowah Band and a three volley gun salute and the playing of TAPS by the Muskogee VFW Post 15.



UKB ASSISTANT Chief Charles Locust, welcomes all veterans and honored guests attending the UKB Veteran luncheon. "Everyone is proud, proud of the Keetoowah Cherokee veterans," said Assistant Chief Locust.



THE OLDEST Veteran Award attending was presented to Andy Oosahwee, a 15th Air Corps Unit veteran in World War II. Pictured are, Andy Oosahwee, seated, back row left to right, United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe, Assistant Chief Charles Locust, Sedelta Oosahwee, Harry Oosahwee, Sarah Voss and Mary Oosahwee.



MUSKOGEE VFW Post 15 presented a three volley gun salute and the playing of TAPS ending the UKB Veteran's luncheon and ceremonies.

Raymond Wickson completed his 2nd year tour of duty in Iraq

Keetoowah Cherokee Tribal Member Raymond Wickson just completed his 2nd year tour of duty in Iraq. After a couple of weeks rest and relaxation, Wickson is back at his job as a Keetoowah Lighthorse Policeman.

Army National Guard Specialist E-4 Wickson joined the National Guard after completing a four year tour of duty in the Marines. While in the marines, Wickson went to Boot Camp in San Diego and Military Occupational School at Camp Le Jeune in North Carolina and also served in Okinawa, Japan and Twenty Nine Palms, California. Wickson served his first tour as member of the 120th Engineers, Combat Battalion. This group built roads and did perimeter construction work.

Wickson received word of his second tour of duty deployment last year in early October and started preparing to leave the country. He departed on November 9, 2007 to Ft. Bliss, Texas with the 45th Infantry for 3 weeks training before leaving for Iraq. "This time I stayed in base camp watching detainees 12 hours a day six days a week. The prisons are made up of large tents with ten prisoners to a tent in a large compound area with guard towers.

"We appreciate any person who joins the

Armed Forces; they're always subject to be called into active duty. We asked for people to continue to pray for our UKB soldiers and remember all our U.S. soldiers when you pray." stated Keetoowah Chief George Wickliffe. "We are very proud of our Keetoowah people who have served and are serving in Iraq."

Wickson, is a native of Haskell, Okla. and a Tahlequah resident. His parents are Raymond Wickson, Sr. and Patsy (Enkey) Wickson of Haskell. He has one brother, Thomas Wickson and one sister Rosa Wickson. He is the son-in-law of Tommie Estes and Janice Johnson. Wickson and his wife, Crystal are the parents of two baby girls, Lakoda age one and a half, and Cheyenne age four months.

Wickson said he communicated with his wife several times a week. "She had to take care of everything here, including our daughter Lakoda and the new baby," said Wickson. I read the Keetoowah News on the UKB website. On my day's off, I'd watch a movie, go down to the food court and get a pizza, and I am addicted to Starbucks's coffee drinks and Monster Energy drinks. I spent a lot of time in the gym, at Pizza Hut, Subway and I went to two concerts on the base. I



RAYMOND WICKSON, Specialist E-4 with the Oklahoma National Guard, United States Marine Corps veteran and UKB Lighthorse law enforcement, recently returned from a tour in Iraq

was ready return to the states and get back to my old job with the Keetoowah Cherokee Lighthorse. In addition to the security duties, Wickson also serves on the Keetoowah Cherokee Lighthorse Colorguard.

Raymond said he was looking forward to the holidays this year. I've been lucky to have been home for Christmas every year, although I did spend Thanksgiving last year at Ft. Bliss in El Paso, Texas. I'm looking forward to Thanksgiving, but I don't eat like I used to. I only eat two meals a day – breakfast and supper. I worked six twelve's with an hour off for supper. I am only used to getting 5 hours of sleep a night. Almost everyone was on that schedule.

I have 15 years in the service and plan to do 20 years. By the time I get done with my six year enlistment, I will have two years left, so I will re-enlist for another three to four years. After that, I'll be able to retire and will have that retirement waiting for me when I turn 65. But for now, Raymond is just happy to be home with his family, friends, and tribe. Welcome home, Raymond! We are glad you are home.



JACOB LITTLEDAVE, received the 2008 Keetoowah Valor Veteran Award for his distinguished services in the United States Marine Corps. Pictured are 2008 Junior Miss Keetoowah Kristy Feather, left, and 2008 Miss Keetoowah, Samantha Keen, right, honoring Littledave with an Honor Blanket.

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



DANIEL HOUSTON, Jr., United States Marine Corps veteran, accepts a Veteran Memento gift presented to Houston from a fellow veteran and close friend.



UNITED STATES Army, Specialist 4th Class, veteran, Harry Oosahwee, son of Andy Oosahwee accepts the Oldest War Veteran Award in behalf of his father.



ERIC AND Sarah Voss, graduate students attending Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA, recently traveled to a rural area cane break to gather river cane for their studies. Eric is researching the gathering and use of river cane by Native Americans and his wife Sarah has just recently finished her internship with the United Keetoowah Band Language, History and Culture department. Her research is in the field of Native American Museum studies. Both Eric and Sarah will be returning to Central Washington University to continue their studies.

Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center Seeks Accreditation Through National Association

The United Keetoowah Band's Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center (HLDCDC) is seeking accreditation by participating in the Self Study program through the National Association for the Education of Young Children, (NAEYC). The vision of NAEYC is to establish an accreditation system as a leading force for enhancing children's well being and early learning by improving the quality of early childhood programs serving children, birth through kindergarten.

The Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center is a two star facility. When they receive accreditation from the NAEYC through the Self Study program, the UKB Center will be able to pursue three star status.

Christie Luethje from Tahlequah is the newest Master Teacher at the Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center. Luethje has completed 120 hours of Child Development training and has also completed the observations required to obtain a Child Development Associate's Degree (CDA). "I began working for the Keetoowah Child Development Center back in 2005 at the old Head Start Center in Stilwell. I came to work here when the Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center opened in July 2006," stated Luethje. "I enjoy the new facility, we have a wonderful staff and we all work great together."

The HLDCDC Center is in the final stages of evaluations from the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development.



CHRISTIE LUETHJE

National Museum of the American Indian Rep Visits Keetoowah Cherokees

Marty Kreipe de Montano, Adjunct Professor with the University of Arizona recently visited the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma. Montano visited with tribal offices where she gave a short, informal presentation on resources and programs that the National Museum of the American Indian has to offer to Tribal communities.

"I was particularly interested in informing the Keetoowah Cherokee about a wonderful program that I set up at the museum when I worked there. The program is called, Virtual Museum Workshops, and it offers an opportunity for tribal members (usually students accompanied by a teacher and an elder or two) to come to the museum and digitally image objects in the museum's collections that came from their home community," stated Montano. The participants research the objects and write labels. The results are virtual museum tours or exhibits that can be accessed via computers. The objects that the students choose can be manipulated by scrolling them with a mouse, as if the student was holding the object in their hand and turning the object. Sound can be attached to the object, and viewers of the objects can see selected close ups of the artifacts.

Montano has a Master of Special Studies, from the University of Kansas. She conceived, developed, and managed three Resource Centers for the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, where she worked for 16 years. Montano is retired from the Smithsonian, but teaches a class on

perspectives in museum exhibitions with American Indian collections at the University of Arizona Graduate School of Information Resources and Library Science.

Montano is a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. She lives in Kansas and Maryland and has authored two books and one play. For more information check out the NMAI's Web site at www.americanindian.si.edu



MARTY DE Montano, presents an informal presentation on Virtual Museum Workshops to the UKB Language, History and Culture department

UKB Work Training Program begins in January

The United Keetoowah Band is pleased to announce a new project known as, Mentoring Emerging Leaders Destiny, "MELD", which is scheduled to begin in January 2009.

The project goal will be to train tribal members in business learning opportunities through on-the-job training, leadership workshops, and business/computer classes. The objective of the project will be to foster the potential leadership of our members into becoming more productive citizens through the business learning opportunities.

The project is designed to take members who are underemployed college graduates, or unemployed with leadership potential, and enroll them in the modules designed by the tribe. Tribal leaders, elected officials and directors may act as mentors and will take part in the leadership trainings. The nine month project for each of the two groups will go through a series of 6 training modules designed to fit their potential that will include

tribal departments and community partners. Each module will last 6 weeks. Participants could be placed in the community with a business designed to fit their needs as one of their modules.

The client will come out of the program with experiences he/she can take with them to the next level whether it be gainful employment or perhaps come and work for the tribe.

Applications will be available in mid November at the Federal Programs Building. Interviews will take place between November and December. The first training will select ten candidates and begin in January 2009. Interested candidates may call 918-456-8698 and ask for Gwen Goingsnake, Georgia Dick or Bryan Shade for information on the application process. This project is funded by a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, and Administration for Children and Families, Administration for Native Americans.

UKB Higher Education Scholarship Applications Due January 8th

United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma college or vocational students need to turn in their Higher Education Scholarship Applications by Thursday, January 8th at 5 p.m. Students enrolled during the fall semester must bring in an official transcript and their spring schedule. Students just beginning Higher Education Classes:

1. Must complete a UKB Education Application each academic year.
2. Shall make application for admittance to an accredited university or college.
3. Must apply for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA application) through the university or college's financial aid office. Student must provide documentation.
4. Apply for BIA funds through Cherokee Nation (CNO currently receives funds for our members). Student must provide documentation beginning with school year 2007-08.
5. Shall submit a copy of their CDIB; UKB tribal membership card; and their Social Security Card.
6. Shall submit an official transcript AND, a copy of their new class schedule.

Students attending college full-time will be awarded \$1,500 for each semester, those attending part time will be awarded \$750. For more information, call the UKB Education Department at (918) 456-8698.

United Keetoowah Title VI Nutrition Menu December 2008

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Closed for Run Off Election	2 Chicken Nuggets French Fries Green Beans Texas Toast Salad Dessert	3 Brown Beans with Ham Jalapeño Cornbread Mixed Greens Salad Dessert	4 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Grilled Vegetables Garlic Toast Salad Dessert	5 Breakfast Served at 10:30
8 Tuna Casserole Broccoli/Cheddar Garlic Toast Salad Dessert	9 Cal-zone Tomato/zucchini Caesar Salad Dessert	10 Marinated Chicken Wild Rice Yellow Squash French Breadsticks	11 Beer Batter Cod Galley Chips Pickled Beets Cole Slaw Dessert	12 Breakfast Served at 10:30
15 Ham Chowder Spinach Buttermilk Biscuit Salad Dessert	16 Burrito Spanish Rice Refried beans Salad Dessert	17 Stuffed Peppers Wild Rice Cauliflower Hot Rolls Salad Dessert	18 BBQ Chicken Baked Beans Texas Toast Salad Dessert	19 Breakfast Served at 10:30
22 Beef Stew Cheese Sticks Cornbread Salad Dessert	23 Cultural Foods Day December Birthdays	24 Closed	25 Closed for Christmas	26 Closed

UKB Regular October Council Meeting Minutes

UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting
At UKB Community Services Building
October 11, 2008
10:00 a.m. – 1:08 p.m.

I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

II. Invocation: Leroy Adair

III. Roll Call: 10 + Chief answered Roll Call. Quorum declared.
 - Girty and Hansen absent at Roll Call (Girty arrived at 10:03 AM)

IV. Chief's Address (10:03 AM-10:30 AM)

- Last month negotiations for a contract with IHS for Tulsa Treatment Center were achieved and award letter has been received.

- At the last meeting of Council we discussed filing an injunction about CNO's take-over of Hastings Hospital. After lawyers studied this situation and we (UKB) had not passed a resolution where the UKB had agreed to such take-over, our lawyers decided the legal action should be to file a law suit against IHS because of a major violation of procedures which govern said take-over. It is not known when this law suit will be heard.

- Our lawyers continue to keep up with actions taking place in Washington.

- We are keeping on the alert of people having a potential plan for take-over of the Claremore Indian Hospital. This take-over will not be easy because this facility is utilized by the Osage Indian and the nine (9) tribes in the Miami, OK area. This potential plan is CNO flexing their muscles. They don't care about Indian people. All they care about it what "they" get out of such action. Such plans are not of the CNO citizens it is only the actions of a few, the "headman" of CNO administration and his few followers. Many CNO citizens support the UKB in attempts to protect Cherokee people.

- Later in this meeting there will be a change in previous minutes where the word "injunction" will be changed for allowance of filing a law suit, which was the action. This change is because of this situation being carefully analyzed and researched by our attorneys.

- Our Land in Trust suit will be decided in Washington. B.I.A. Area Office Director, Jeanette Hanna, was instructed to place UKB's 76 acres in Trust by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Carl Artman, yet she ignored the instruction, however; she did state her decision could be appealed. We filed an appeal on the very day we received her decision to deny placing the 76 acres into Trust. The current acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior has taken jurisdiction on this "Land in Trust Issue." He can make a decision on the issue at any time.

- The election for the President of the United States will cause a change in the status of Indian Gaming land issues, etc.

- The Ft. Smith project continues to look positive for the Keetoowahs. We are waiting for the official decision from Washington.

- We need to tell our people that each time they go for medical care at the Tahlequah IHS Hospital they need to make sure they are registered as a Keetoowah-Cherokee because by 2010 it is possible we will have a big contract for a large amount of money and maybe the UKB can use part of that money to get medical insurance for tribal members. If this happens our people would still be eligible for IHS benefits even if we have private medical insurance.

(Hansen arrived at 10:22 AM)

- The UKB Celebration was a great success. The attendance was larger than last year. Everything went smoothly. The parade was about an hour long. Our employees worked very hard to make this year's celebration a success. Estimation of attendance was 12,000 to 14,000. The Stomp Dance was attended by many tribes many participants in the stomp-dance were from out of state.

- We have been interested for about 4 years in the purchase of the 40 acres adjacent to the south side of our 80 acre property. Land prices have sky rocketed since we first became interested in this land purchase. We have now had the opportunity to go back and negotiate with the property owner who has not gone up on the original selling price of the 40 acres. We have opted to buy this land for building our education building and other things we might want to do in the land. This property already has water and sewer lines. These lines go across the property all the way to the Sequoyah Indian School. We need this land because the UKB will continue to grow.

- Earmarked grants received through the efforts of Dan Boren are being received. We are eligible for receiving more grants. There is

money that was designated for a road from the 76 acres to behind/West of Wal-Mart and that money is ready to be utilized for that purpose which will cut-down on the through traffic in front of our casino.

- Land put in Trust will open many doors for growth and improvements for the UKB.

V. Approval of the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting on September 06, 2008 and the Special Council Meeting on September 29, 2008

1. MOTION by Charles Locust to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting on September 06, 2008; SECONDED by Woodrow Proctor; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

2. MOTION by Charles Locust to approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting on September 29, 2008; SECONDED by Woodrow Proctor

- Special entry in minutes of Sept., 29, 2008:
 o Resolution #08-UKB-79 contained authorization for UKB attorneys to file an "injunction" but such was not actually filed and a different action was filed, attorney Michael McMahan directed today's minutes should refer to the resolution received from AG Ken Bellmard and to deem Ken's resolution as the prevailing document #08-UKB-79a. This action is a substitute for 08-UKB-79.
 - VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VI. Presentations -

1. Bryan Shade: Emergency Assistance Policy titled "Alternative Tribal Assistance Program"
 - Presented written policy draft to each Council member.

- Reference disbursement of funds previously referred to as; Discretionary A.K.A. Emergency Assistance Program through the Human Services Department.

- \$175,000.00 had been re-assigned to Human Services for Emergency Assistance Distribution to clients.

- Each section of policy was verbally explained by Bryan Shade

- DISCUSSION:

- Chief Wickliffe: has executive power if cost is over proposed limit.

- Tim GoodVoice: reference to housing needs. This policy draft allows for going beyond \$800. cap by utilizing other available funds such as funds that has been transferred/placed in Housing needs or other available housing money.

- Hansen: Everyone goes through Human Services.

- Locust: This routing through Human Services has actually always been the procedure.

- Chief Wickliffe: Follow through with approvals must be done. Will only pay for utilities amounts "passed due" and the client is responsible for the balance of the bill. Human Services software will immediately inform of individual client use of program funds, this will show dollar qualifications. No one person in a given district will utilize all funds in that district. Chief's office is to be notified of 48 hour notice of cut-off of utilities and such will be taken care of.

- Littledave: discussion seems to be combining Human Services program and Emergency Assistance program but the programs are separate.

- C. Wofford: wished to be notified by phone and email as to people from his district who did receive assistance in the effort to help eliminate confusion.

- Chief: each district has their monthly allowance of 1/12 of their annual allocation

- Proctor: when he helps people, he agrees to pay 1/2 of the bill and the people pay the balance.

- Bryan Shade: people refuse to take up financial counseling when such is required according to Human Services policy. These people do not return to Human Services but go to other departments and receive assistance.

- Chief Wickliffe: some people have hardships in coming to financial counseling.

- Bryan Shade: staff can go to homes to give financial counseling to clients.

- Chief Wickliffe: need people assigned to home counseling regarding financial counseling and such would probably be done after regular office hours.

- Littledave: call the vendor with promise to pay while the client is making the application. A fax can be sent to the vendor on the next business day. A fax should contain expected date when the check will be mailed to the vendor.

MOTION by Jerry Hansen to accept the draft of Alternate Assistance Program policy with review in 60 days; SECONDED by Eddie

Sacks with the stipulation, cut-off notices be automatically routed to the Chief's office; VOTE: 10 Yes, 2 No (Dotson, Shade), 0 Abstentions

2. There will be an Elder Assistance program again. Applications will be accepted beginning November 4, 2008.

VII. Reports to Council

1. Enrollment Report: Liz Littledave

- 29 New members into Tribal enrollment

- 3 C.D.I.B. cards issued to children 0-3 years of age

- For a total of 32 new members

- 5 requests for UKB tribal relinquishment

MOTION by Jerry Hansen to approve/accept 29 new members into tribal enrollment and to acknowledge 3 children 0-3 years of age coming into tribal membership for a total of 32 new members; SECONDED by Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Jerry Hansen to acknowledge and honor the relinquishment of 5 UKB members; SECONDED by Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VIII. Public Forum

1. Cindy Collins: (Flint District resident)

- (See Supplement "Cindy Collins")

- Requested assistance for 4 tires. She had made application for tire needs about two (2) weeks ago but assistance received was insufficient for the purchase of four (4) tires. The need was for travel to work. Ms. Collins then informed of the need of four (4) tires for her daughter, Jacqueline Underwood, the need was to travel to work.

- Chief Wickliffe: stated it would seem Ms. Collins and her daughter, Jacqueline, would be eligible for purchase of tires based on a cap of \$800.00 for such need.

- Ms. Collins: then informed of needed assistance for a second daughter, Stephanie Collins, in reference to her heat and air unit at a cost of \$3,200.00. This unit has not been operational since last August.

- Chief Wickliffe: directed the Director of Federal Programs to provide for all three of Ms. Collins' stated requests and utilize combined sources of funds if necessary in regards to the heat and air unit cost.

2. Dora Dunn: (NSU student from Tahlequah District)

- (See supplement "Dora Dunn")

- She stated she had a blow-out on her car which had caused the fire shield on her car to be missing and needed replacement because of the possibility of a fire. She said she applied for assistance through Human Services for tires and cost of damages to her car. The needs would cost over the \$800.00 cap.

- Chief Wickliffe: directed the Federal Programs Director to "look into this need."

3. Ed Foreman:

- Commended the Council on work that had been accomplished over the last four years and encouraged continued good works.

4. Charles Locust:

- Inquired if Bryan Shade could attend District Meetings in the next 30-60 days and explain how the Emergency Assistance program works.

- Bryan Shade: agreed that arrangements for such would be done.

5. Charles Smoke:

- Asked if the Emergency Assistance policy/program would effect the senior citizens schedule of coming for assistance during the first three (3) days of each month?

- Bryan Shade: stated the first three (3) days were designated for senior citizens, elderly & disabled, application would not be affected by the Emergency Assistance program.

6. Dora Grayson:

- The elder's dreams are continued by today's Council. She stated she was thankful for serving on past Council. She said she was happy with what she sees in today's Council. She said Keetoowah dreams are coming true and she is proud of her Council Representative Eddie Sacks.

IX. Unfinished Business - NONE

X. New Business

1. MOTION by Jerry Hansen to approve the establishment of an Employment Position of Registrar in FY 2009 with a job description to be prepared and implemented after said

establishment; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; DISCUSSION: position to be supervised by Tribal Secretary VOTE: 11 Yes, 1 No (Dotson), 0 Abstentions.

2. MOTION by Jerry Hansen to approve the purchase of the 40 acres adjacent for the purpose of establishing a site for education and vocational training; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

3. Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove Ordinance Section 802 to include specific allowance for bed-ridden voters the opportunity to vote.

- DISCUSSION:

- Shade: stated the current Ordinance cannot be changed once the Election Ordinance has started. He was concerned such would start "absentee voting."

- Leroy Adair: said the Election Board does not support any changes. He believed such changes can be done after the up-coming election is over. Current wording refers to those who drove to the site but was physically unable to enter the building the vote.

- Attorney Michael McMahan: said the current ordinance Section 802 allows accommodations for those who are unable to come into the building to actually vote but who come to the voting precinct but are unable to physically enter the building to vote. The ordinance #702 states no absentee voting.

- Leroy Adair: reported the Election Board voted unanimously there be no change in the current ordinance before the November 3, 2008 election.

- Attorney Michael McMahan: said the matter is clarification of intent. Whatever the Council decides absentee is defined as any vote that is not cast at the voting/polling place.

MOTION by Barry Dotson to table action on Election Ordinance Section 802 to include specific allowance for bed-ridden voters the opportunity to vote until the current election process is over; SECONDED by Albert Shade; VOTE: 7 Yes, 4 No (Locust, Littledave, Proctor, Smoke), 0 Abstentions.

Explanation of "No" vote:

- Locust: Concerned there could be a legal question involved.

- Littledave: Concerned there could be a legal question involved.

- Proctor: Concerned there could be a legal question involved.

4. MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve membership of Chief Wickliffe, Assistant Chief Locust, Elizabeth Bird and Woodrow Proctor in the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI); SECONDED by Charles Smoke; VOTE: 10 Yes, 1 No (Shade), 0 Abstentions.

- Shade: explained his "No" vote was because he disagreed that a Council member should be included in NCAI membership. He then requested his explanation be entered into the minutes.

- Proctor: stated he requested to be included in NCAI membership because issues of Trust Land would be discussed at the NCAI meeting and the Keetoowahs are trying to establish Trust Land. Other tribes are trying for Trust Land status and we need to try to help each other. He stated he wished his explanation be entered into the minutes.

XI. Announcements

1. Liz Littledave: October Stipend for Council did not include the % increase. Council's stipend increase check is available today. Pick these checks up at your leaving today's meeting.

2. Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk: (Education Committee Chairman) stated that on October 16, 2008 her committee is meeting with the Elders to arrange for a luncheon/get together with the elders and the youth to allow elders to visit with and give encouragement to positive behaviors and achievements, etc. The elders wish to be more involved in supporting our youth and encourage continued education. Details of the luncheon date and time will be forth coming.

3. 2008 Christmas Gift Cards will again be available this year. Card value is increased this year.

- Shade: inquired as to the balance of unused Christmas Gift Cards from last year. He asked if Council could utilize these cards for such needs as groceries. He asked a decision on the use of these cards be placed on the November 1, 2008 Council meeting agenda.

XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Barry Dotson; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; Approved by affirmation.

Time - 1:08 PM



Keetoowah Cherokee tribal member hosts Thanksgiving gathering in Gravette, Arkansas



FORMER UNITED Keetoowah Band Chief John Hair visits with Gravette, AR residents during the annual Gravette Thanksgiving dinner Saturday, Nov. 22.

A Note for the Delaware District From Tribal Councilor Jerry Hansen

I want to say "Thank You" to the UKB Nation voters for electing me once again to be the Delaware District Representative.

This is a hard, stressful, thankless job but I truly believe that the Great Spirit has put this administration back in place pretty much intact for a higher purpose. Being that most of the administration is back, I look forward to seeing more positive progress in all areas of governmental functions; locally, statewide and nationally.

You've selected individuals whom I've had the privilege to work with for four years now. I can tell you this much, they do have the advancement of our people in mind. The strengthening of the UKB Nation is their daily goal! The overall philosophy is to re-generate, re-invigorate, and re-vitalize the UKB nation; its past, present, and future. These leaders are some of the most compassionate, generous, patient, down-to-earth humble people I know. Best of all, they are fearless.

They are fearless in that they know that our people's betterment will not be handed over cheerfully. Like I've said before, forces from within and from outside are always trying to tear them down. So I say this to all UKB Nation Citizens:

"Pray to the Father-Son-Holy Spirit to let his spirit be with them always, to not give up, to not let anyone or anything be a stumbling block. They are looking out for all of us; past, present, and future. The battle has only begun. Help them. Don't be a fault finder, be a helper. You'll feel better."

On another note, I want to say "A Big Thank You" to the players who made our date with the good people at Gravette, Arkansas on November 16. All the gospel singing groups that showed up was a big surprise, but an even better success after the wonderful dinner.

You know who you are; there are too many to write. God Bless you all who came and God Bless you all who received the UKB people with such open arms. A very special thank you goes to Kay Roberts and Teresa Ford and their staff. These folks work very hard to make this possible. I'd also say a very special thank you to UKB employees who gave of their time to put on demonstrations about cultural topics. These folks deserve praise because they don't have to do this, but they always put out that extra time and effort and expense to promote Kituwah/Keetoowah. This includes Sammy Still, Sequoyah Guess, Choogie Kingfisher, Cindy Hair and Mary Ballou.

Once again, "Thank You" musicians and singers. Second to none! Anywhere!

Thank you,
Jerry Hansen

Purchase of 40 Acres continued from page 3

82, north of Tahlequah, October 27. "I just want to recognize the family and give my condolences from the Council, I think I speak for everybody on this council expressing a deep hearth felt sadness for you Albert (Shade, Tahlequah District Representative), on your loss of friends and family," added Proctor.

In New Business, Council discussed to vote to approve or disapprove the decision on proposed use of the balance of 2007 Christmas Gift Cards. Tahlequah District Representative Albert Shade made a statement that he would like for all unused 2007 Christmas gift cards be given to District Representatives for use as emergency assistance for tribal members.

Woodrow Proctor, Flint District Representative, agreed with Mr. Shade that the 2007 Christmas gift cards would be put to good use for emergency assistances, but that he would prefer to have the cards given to the Indian Child Welfare department. "We have people there that need help, because they are abused and need some type of assistance too," stated Proctor.

"I think both are good choices, the domestic violence is a better choice," said Assistant Chief Charles Locust. "We have Advocates who work on weekends and do not have access to our payroll or accounting systems. Abused families have to wait two days to receive any assistance, but if we allow our Advocates to have these gift cards, they can assist these families with emergency funding on weekends or at nights. Domestic violence doesn't happen just from 8 to 5, so we have to have something for them."

Representative Shade acknowledge the decision to have the gift cards turned over to the UKB Tribal Victim's Assistance/Indian Child Welfare to aid families in need. The motion to issue the balance of the 2007 UKB Children's Christmas cards to tribal Victims/Indian Child Welfare program was voted on and passed unanimously.

No other New Business was on the agenda for discussion. The next UKB council meeting will be December 6 at the UKB Community Services Building. For more information please contact the Administration office by calling 918-431-1818.



LAHOMA KAY Roberts, second from left, Gravette, AR resident and United Keetoowah Band tribal member and Teresa Ford, left, volunteer cook, help with the serving of the Thanksgiving meal to members and guest attending the annual Thanksgiving dinner.



ROBERTA SMOKE, left, Cindy Hair, center, and Mary Ballou, right, demonstrate craftmaking during the Thanksgiving gathering in Gravette, AR. Smoke and Hair taught the art of basketweaving and Ballou taught corn husk doll making to several interested people attending the Saturday event. Keetoowah Cherokee members and guests listened to story telling, and singing and were treated to a Thanksgiving dinner.



KEETOOWAH CHEROKEE tribal members fifty-five years and over received their Elderly Assistance check recently in December. The Assistance checks were distributed to the elders to help with their financial need. UKB elders receive assistance through the Elderly Assistance program two times a year which has proven to be very beneficial for the Keetoowah Cherokee elders.