

Keetoowah News

February 2008

Published Monthly

Address Service Requested

PR SRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 49
STIGLER, OK. 74462

Issue #2

US Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Visits United Keetoowah Band

United States Department of the Interior's Carl J. Artman, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, made an historic visit to Tahlequah, Oklahoma for a meeting with top United Keetoowah Band officials Tuesday, January 8.

Assistant Secretary Artman met with Chief George Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Charles Locust and toured the Keetoowah Cherokees Tribal Headquarters, as well as the tribe's 80 acre Tribal Complex which currently includes the Community Services Building, Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center and the UKB Wellness Center. They also visited new construction sites for the tribe's Elderly Community Center and Civil Defense Station as well as the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration grounds.

Mr. Artman was accompanied by Mr. Mike Smith, Indian Affairs Deputy Director from Washington, D.C. and Ms. Janette Hanna, Regional B.I.A. Director from Muskogee.

Assistant Secretary Artman stated to Chief Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Locust that being in Washington doesn't present an accurate picture of the trust application land, and having the opportunity to visit and tour the tribe gave him a better appreciation of what the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is working toward.

Assistant Secretary Artman also had the opportunity to view the master plan of development for the

tribe's 76 acres and remarked favorably to the layout of the master plan. He observed that no casino plans were involved in this acreage, and the trust application land is located some distance away from the Administration offices and the offices of the CNO. "We need to and will make a decision very soon," Artman stated to Chief Wickliffe.

Mr. Artman is an enrolled member of the Oneida Tribe of the Indians of Wisconsin. He was nominated by President Bush and confirmed by the U. S. Senate on March 5, 2007. Artman served as Department's Associate Solicitor for Indian Affairs. Prior to joining the Solicitor's Office he was chief counsel for the Oneida Tribe, managing all legal affairs of the tribe.

"We considered this visit as landmark event for the UKB tribe. The Keetoowah Cherokee tribe is finally communicating with Department of Interior and is viewed on a national level as the federally recognized tribe that Congress approved us to be over 57 years ago. The United Keetoowah Band is honored to have such a distinguished group from the Department of Interior," stated Assistant Chief Charles Locust.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is an agency of the federal government of the United States within the department of the Interior charged with the administration and management of 55.7 million acres of land held in trust by the United States for American Indians, Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.



UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's Chief George Wickliffe, left; and Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs for the Department of the Interior, Carl J. Artman, right; pose for photographs during Mr. Artman's visit.



ASSISTANT SECRETARY of Indian Affairs for the Department of the Interior, Carl J. Artman, center; poses with top United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma officials during Mr. Artman's visit. Pictured left to right are, UKB Tribal Secretary Liz Littlelaved; UKB Chief George Wickliffe; Artman; Muskogee Regional B.I.A. Director Janette Hanna; and UKB Assistant Chief Charles Locust.

Inside This Issue

- A Look Back At 2007.*.....pg 4
- UKB Voters by District.*.....pg 5
- Title VI Nutrition Program February Menu.*.....pg 6

United Keetoowah Band Announces Intent to Contract to Provide Health Care Services at Indian Health Services Facilities within the Tahlequah Service Unit

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma announced in mid-January its intent to contract all Indian Health Services (IHS) facilities in the Tahlequah Services Unit. The UKB which is comprised of approximately 12,000 members, 97% of whom live within the boundaries of its tribal jurisdiction (14 counties in eastern Oklahoma) have traditionally been underserved by the IHS facilities in the area. The failure of the current IHS system to provide adequate care to the Keetoowah Cherokee people has provided the primary emphasis for this effort.

The UKB membership, which consists of Cherokee Indians of one-quarter blood or more have faced many cultural barriers to acquiring the health care they are eligible for and negotiations with the current Administration of the IHS facil-

ities in the Tahlequah Service Unit have not resulted in positive changes for the Keetoowah Cherokee people. The UKB are also concerned that a proposal made by another Tribe to provide services in the area will not address the real health care problems faced by eligible Indians in the Tahlequah service unit nor will it adequately protect the present employees of the facilities at the Tahlequah Service Unit Facility. Although the UKB requires all members be ¼ degree blood quantum this has no bearing or connection to eligibility for IHS services.

Keetoowah Cherokee Chief George Wickliffe states that the UKB plan is designed to "provide the maximum health care benefits that can be provided to IHS eligible Indians. A large factor in our action is to retain the services of the dedicated health care providers

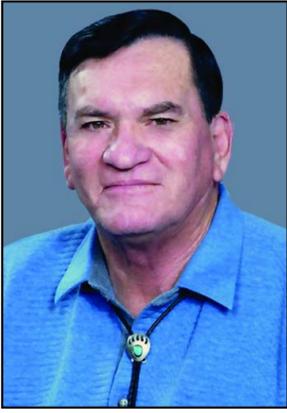
presently employed in the Tahlequah Service Unit."

Robert McSwain, the Acting Director of the IHS was informed of the UKB's intent to contract to provide health care services at Indian Health Service facilities in the Tahlequah Service Unit. This Unit includes not only W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital but also other federally funded health service units, health programs and clinics operated or staffed by IHS. The UKB anticipates direct discussions with the IHS as the UKB presents its initial contract proposal to the IHS. Efforts to discuss this plan will also be made with the present Tahlequah Service Unit employees as part of an effort to retain present IHS employees after the facilities are operated by the UKB.



ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE IN YOUR DISTRICT?

In this month's issue, The Keetoowah News is publishing a list of enrollees by district who are registered to vote in UKB tribal elections. Please check the list and make sure your name is on it. If you are not on the list, and you believe you are qualified to be on the list, please contact the enrollment department at (918) 453-9375. Also, if a family member is deceased since the last election, we are requesting that you take your loved one's name off the list. To take a name off the list, the UKB must have a signed notarized affidavit by a spouse or child of the deceased. Affidavit forms are available in the enrollment office.



A Letter to the UKB People

From Chief George Wickliffe

Dear Tribal Members,

“To protect any interest which the United Keetoowah Band or its members may have in treaties made with the Cherokee Nation,” appears in the charter of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma (UKB), approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Subsequently, the Constitution was ratified by Keetoowah Cherokee voters in 1950.

The Keetoowah Cherokee Constitution, which all Department of Interior officials and employees are mandated to follow, also gives the Keetoowah Cherokee the power to “negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma.”

Recently, a spokesman for the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma stated that the United Keetoowah Band has “no right or ability to run a hospital,” adding that it does not have “the governmental authority to dispense aspirin, much less do surgery.” On behalf of all people of Cherokee ancestry, I deeply regret the disrespectful comments made by the local CNO spokesman. The spokesman’s blatant disrespect for the tribal membership of the United Keetoowah Band of Indians is unfortunate, at best. I take great comfort in the knowledge that tribal sovereignty is revered by the membership of the CNO and the United Keetoowah Band, and that the comments of people, like the CNO spokesperson, (who is a non-Indian) who poke fun at it are instantly disregarded by those who hear them.

Our constitutional authority to negotiate with the federal government and enter into binding contracts regarding matters routinely dealt with by Tribal governments are beyond question among people of good faith. Indeed, during a recent tour of some of our lands with the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, the strength of our government-to-government with the United States

was manifestly clear. Indeed, it may have been the impetus for the childish remarks that have caused me to have to make my statement today.

Of course, the leadership of the United Keetoowah Band is dedicated to ensuring health care services to those who need them in Oklahoma through the Indian Health Care Service. We are as committed to protecting our tribal members’ rights to health care as we are to ensuring that no Indian person is denied services for not being a member of the CNO. If getting into the business of administering hospital health care services at the Hastings Hospital is the only way to assure that, then we shall work toward that end.

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma is not in a legal or official position to judge our level of capabilities. This will be performed by qualified government program and contracting officials.

Through an Act of Congress known as the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, the UKB was federally-recognized in 1950. The governmental organic documents also establish a jurisdictional area.

The fact that our jurisdictional area is termed the ‘nine districts of the old Cherokee Nation’ substantiates the fact that Cherokee Nation does not exist, and Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma is a new entity. The nine districts include all or portions of 14 counties in Northeastern Oklahoma; Cherokee, Adair, Sequoyah, Muskogee, McIntosh, Wagoner, Mayes, Delaware, Ottawa, Craig, Rogers, Nowata, Tulsa and Washington.

Cherokee Nation was terminated through a legal agreement with the United States called the “Cherokee Agreement,” which was ratified by voters in 1902. The agreement clearly states that the tribal government would be terminated on March 4, 1906. The only legislation which has been offered to recognize tribes is the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, under which the Keetoowah Cherokees as well as other tribes in the state have done. Cherokee Nation has not applied for reorganization under this provision.

Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma developed at a much later date, after Congress passed an act allowing the Five Civilized Tribes to “popularly select” their own Chiefs solely to manage remaining assets for the Dawes enrollees. After 1906 and until the enactment, the Principal Chief was appointed by the President of the United States.

Under the Ross Swimmer administration, a new Constitution was drafted without a convention being called, as prescribed in the existing Constitution. This document titled the new entity, “Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.”

The tired rhetoric of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma which continually attacks the United Keetoowah Band is not our concern. What is our concern is that our tribal members and all Native Americans receive quality healthcare that is non-discriminatory and non-political and we are committed to that goal. Our organic documents ensure the privilege of securing benefits, rights, and powers provided by law which are administered by the United States. This includes health programs.

Sincerely,

Chief George Wickliffe
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma

UKB Tribal Office Closed for President’s Day

The tribal offices of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma will be closed Monday, February 18 in observance of President’s Day. The offices will re-open on Tuesday, February 19 at 8:30 a.m.

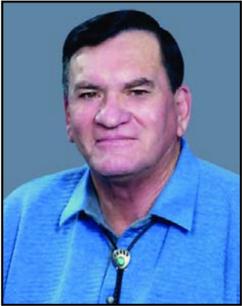
The Ancestor’s Voice

The following article is reprinted from the Vinita Chieftain, 1897 and was titled “A Bit of History.”

As a little matter of curiosity, and at the same time a bit of unwritten Cherokee history, we give it as told to us by one of our oldest living Cherokees, Mr. George Scrapper, who lives with his son-in-law, G.W. Scrapper.

Mr Scrapper said: “Back in the old nation, before they thought of emigrating west, a leading and influential Cherokee, Mr. George Lowrey, undertook to introduce a new style of naming the days of the week; that is, five of the days. While allowing the name of Saturday and Sunday to mean as then in common use, he called Monday Ah-day-luh-ee-gah (Money Day). He called Tuesday Gu-soo-yay-sti (to choose), and uneducated people pronounce “Chooseday.” Wednesday, Oo-way-nu-sti as near as the Cherokee can pronounce Wednesday, it means “Going along.” And Oo-dah-isa-go-to, ‘Thirsty’ for Thursday. Friday he called Ah-su-nah-toh-di, ‘to fry and roast.’ But the new names would not take with the people, and soon died out, and now there are very few living who know anything of this.

UKB Council



Chief
George G. Wickliffe
Office: 918-431-1818
Cell: 918-822-1953



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



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



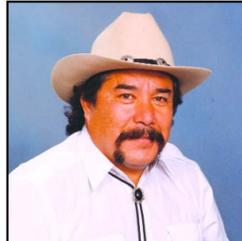
Tribal Treasurer
Shelbi Wofford
Office: 918-456-5491



District Representatives:
Canadian Dist. Rep
Eddie Sacks
Cell: 918-822-1957



Cooweescoowee Dist. Rep.
Cliff Wofford
Home: 918-825-1682



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



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



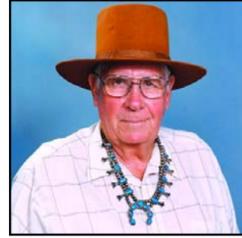
Goingsnake Dist. Rep.
Joyce Fourkiller
Cell: 918- 822-3809



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



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



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



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



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

Liz Littledave **Shelbi Wofford**
Secretary **Treasurer**

District Representatives

Barbara Girty	Jerry Hansen	Albert Shade
Barry Dotson	Woodrow Proctor	Charles Smoke
Joyce Fourkiller	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

United Keetoowah Band Headquarters

Sam L. Still, Editor

The Keetoowah News is mailed free to Keetoowah registered voters, government and other offices and upon request to other citizens. Subscription rates are \$18 per year or \$30 for two years. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the United Keetoowah Band unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements of the Keetoowah News, guest columns and readers’ letters reflect the opinions of the writer and not necessarily those of the Keetoowah News editor, staff or tribal administration of the United Keetoowah Band.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Keetoowah News. Editorials must be signed and include address and telephone number. Send all inquiries to: Keetoowah News, P.O. Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

UKB Honors Keetoowah Leaders in Naming of New Facilities

The United Keetoowah Band tribal council passed two motions brought in front of the council in their January council meeting. One motion that was passed was to name the newly constructed Elder Community Center in honor of the late Jim Proctor. The center is scheduled to open in spring of 2008. The other motion that was passed was to name the soon to be built Multi Purpose Culture Center/Museum scheduled to begin construction in 2008 as the John Hair Multi Purpose Culture Center/Museum.

As a member of the UKB Elderly Council, former Chief John Hair addressed the council. "In our history (United Keetoowah Band tribe) there are a few individuals that have experienced and lived the history that I have. And in that history there are few people that come down the road that perform outstanding deeds and are considered as outstanding people.

The Elderly Council would like to recommend that the new Elderly Community Center be named in honor of Jim Proctor. Mr. Proctor was one of the most influential people on our tribal council in the 1980s. He never missed a meeting, and worked very hard for the tribe. In our history someone who makes a major contribution to their tribe should be honored, Jim Proctor was one of those people," stated Hair. The tribal council agreed with Mr. Hair and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Woodrow Proctor, UKB tribal councilmember and son of the late Jim Proctor thanked Mr. Hair for the recommendation. "I want to thank you John (Hair) for honoring our family," stated Proctor.

Former UKB Chief Hair was also honored by the council by unanimously passing a motion made from the recommendation of Assistant Chief Charles Locust to name the new Cultural Museum as the John Hair Multi Purpose Cultural Center/Museum.

"When I think of all our Keetoowah history, archives and documents that will be preserved and housed in one location, I think of John Hair. Mr. Hair is the one person that led us here today using his own personal finances

to keep the United Keetoowah Band tribe active. Who else is more deserving by honoring John's name on the new Multi Purpose Cultural Center/Museum that will house our historical documents? John is one of the leading Individuals that have kept the tribe active, this is why I feel he would be a perfect individual to be honored," said Assistant Chief Locust.

In other business, questions arose regarding this year's tribal election. "This is the year tribal elections will be held for all council members and officers. We face problems every year, whether its county elections, tribal elections, even in the Presidential elections there are many kinds of changes," stated Chief Wickliffe. Concerns arose over situations of tribal family members voting in different districts and some tribal members voting out of their districts. "The problem is that the tribal members did not notify the UKB Enrollment office of their change of address or changes in their household," added Chief Wickliffe.

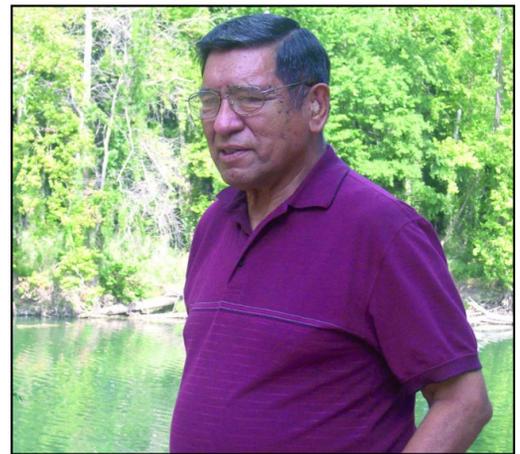
Another concern was dual membership with tribal members. "There are two processes we accept enrollment, which are both legal, one method is by the UKB 1949 Base Roll, the other is the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma's Dawes Roll, stated Chief Wickliffe. If a tribal member can trace lineage from the 1949 Base Roll you are automatically an exclusive UKB member, if you trace lineage from the Dawes Commission Rolls, any descendant from this roll can be a member of CNO but to be a UKB member you must at least be 1/4 degree Keetoowah Cherokee and be an exclusive member to vote in the UKB election. The United Keetoowah Band Tribal Council normally meets on the first Saturday of the month in the UKB Community Services Center conference room in Tahlequah. Occasionally, if there are conflicting events scheduled on that first Saturday the council will meet the following week. For more information on the council meetings, contact Tribal Secretary Liz Littlelavede.



The Jim Proctor Elder Community Center will be completed in the spring of 2008.



Former tribal councilman and leader, the late Jim Proctor, whom the Elder Community Center is named after.



The tribe will name the new Cultural Museum the John Hair Multi Purpose Cultural Center/Museum for the former UKB chief.

AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Visit the website: www.mtsu.edu/powwow
8th Annual MTSU

Award Winning Festival
A Top Twenty Event for Four Years!
Southeast Tourism Society

Join our Celebration!
Shake your Feathers!

Family Entertainment!
Kid Friendly!
Educational and Fun!
Indoor Arena!
Climate Controlled!
Free Parking!

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

March 1/2 - Saturday/Sunday
Doors open 10 a.m. both days

Grand Entry/Parade of Nations
12 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday and 12 p.m. Sunday

Tennessee Livestock Center
Middle Tennessee State University Campus
1720 Greenland Drive - Murfreesboro, TN

Admission at door: Adults \$6, youth \$3, toddlers FREE with paying adult. Weekend pass - Adult \$10, youth \$5.
Call for ticket information: 615-796-4210. Sponsored by Native American Student Association, MT Anthropology Society, MTSU Anthropology Program, and Student Unions and Programming.
Non-profit, non-political scholarship benefit program.

Home of TN's Largest Indian Arts and Crafts Market

Traditional and Contemporary
Turquoise
Leather Pottery
Silver Baskets
Gourds Carvings
Fur Wampum
Music Books
Masks Beadwork
Totems Blankets
Drums Flutes
Clothing Fetishes
Feathers Stone
Herbs Flags Bone
Bows Lances
Buckskin Jewelry
Moccasins
Paintings Flags
Gorgets Wood
Buffalo Prints
T-shirts Darts

Special Guest Artists
Cultural Exhibits
Exhibition Dancing
Traditional Gourd Dancing
Skills Demonstrations
Traders Village - Native Foods
Silversmith On Site
Native Talent Stage
Storytelling and Games
Native Drum Competition
Furnished Plains Lodge
Creek Living History Exhibit
Award Winning Art

EEO/AA

United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma Directory

Accounting	918-453-9162
Administration	918-431-1818
Keetoowah Cherokee Casino	918-456-6131
Economic Development Authority	918-453-9162
Education	918-456-8698
Election Board	918-772-3773
Enrollment	918-453-9375
Family Services	918-456-9200
Federal Programs/Grants	918-456-8698
Indian Child Welfare	918-456-9200
Gaming Commission	918-458-4714
Health and Human Services	918-456-8698
Henry Lee Doublehead Child Development Center	918-431-9998
Housing	918-431-1808
Human Resources	918-456-8698
Information Technology	918-456-8698
UKB Gaming Administration	918-456-9350
Keetoowah Cherokee Gift Shop	918-431-0025
Keetoowah News	918-456-6533
Language, History and Culture	918-431-9998
Law & Justice	918-458-4714
Lighthouse Security	918-453-9961
Media/Public Relations	918-456-6533
Natural Resources	918-453-2823
Roads and Construction	918-456-8698
Tag Office	918-456-3235
Tribal Community Coordinators	918-431-1818
Tribal Victim's Assistance	918-456-9200
Satellite Offices	
Ft. Smith Office	479-783-9912
Kansas Office	918-868-2656
Stilwell Office	918-696-7672

2007 Year in Review



JANUARY 2007 BROUGHT a paralyzing ice storm affecting people in 14 counties in northeastern Oklahoma. With the aid of the Eastern Cherokees the United Keetoowah Band brought aid to tribal members and others affected by the ice storm. Tahmra O'Field serves Chief George Wickliffe stew and sandwich at one of the UKB Ice Storm Relief Stations that was set up for work crews, electric company workers, volunteers and members of the community that had no power for cooking.



MARCH 2007 UKB Chief George Wickliffe signed the Grant Award Letter for the UKB Elderly Care Center as Assistant Chief Charles Locust and Grant Writer Georgia Dick looked on. The nearly completed elderly center is scheduled to open in the spring of 2008.

ALL KEETOOWAH CHEROKEE Language instructors are required to attend Keetoowah Cherokee Language Certification classes before they can teach in the communities. Spring, summer and fall classes are scheduled throughout the year within the nine districts of the UKB.



UKB LANGUAGE, HISTORY and Culture department held two culture camps during 2007. The Spring Break Mini Culture Camp in March provided youth with the opportunity to learn their culture and tradition and in October elders, adults and youth participated in a traditional culture camp near West Siloam Springs.



HUNDREDS OF UKB children and their families turned out to enjoy the annual UKB Easter Egg Hunt. The families enjoyed a balloon toss, egg hunt and were treated to a fried chicken lunch while listening to gospel singing.



UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND accounting department issued over five hundred assistance checks to elder tribal members in December. The checks were issued by the accounting staff at the Wellness Center.

2007 Year in Review



ON MAY 11, 2007 United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's Assistant Chief Charles Locust was confirmed before the Oklahoma State Senate to serve on the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission. Pictured with Assistant Locust is Oklahoma Senator Jim Wilson.



JUNE 29, 2007 Henry Lee Doublehead Child Care Center celebrated it's first year anniversary. The first year of the program has been very successful working in the black and the center almost at capacity. With 17 paid employees the center is committed to providing safe, dependable, high quality child care and is committed to the families.



IN 2007 UNITED Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma issued their first baby UKB CDIB card to Raini Amyah Smith from the Saline District. Raini was born February 19, 2007 to Heather Michelle Stapleton and Jeremy Smith. The UKB CDIB program will enable parents to apply for UKB tribal membership for their babies.



KEETOOWAH CHEROKEE YOUTH Choir were featured at Mount Juliet Pow Wow Benefit Concert September 21 at the Charlie Daniels Park. The choir performed along side of an award winning line up of Native American Music Award performers. The Mount Juliet Pow Wow has been named as one of the Top Twenty Events from Southeast Tourism Society. The Keetoowah Cherokee Youth Choir is made up of Keetoowah Cherokee youths ages 10 to 16 years of age.



KEETOOWAH TRIBAL MEMBER, David O'Field, purchases his United Keetoowah Band car tag from UKB tax commission clerk Whitney Glass.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Executive Officer, Don Ade, visits with his assistant, Sandy Houston as they discuss economic issues for the United Keetoowah Band.



NEW RESTROOMS WERE constructed for the 2007 Keetoowah Celebration. The new restrooms made it more convenient for visitors attending the annual Keetoowah Celebration.

More pictures online at: www.unitedkeetoowahband.org

UKB Regular November Council Meeting Minutes

UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting
At the UKB Community Service Building
December 01, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

II. Invocation: Leroy Adair

III. Roll Call: 11 + Chief answered Roll Call. Quorum declared. (Hansen arrived at 10:15 AM)

IV. Chief's Address

Informed litigation information would be discussed in Executive Session later in this meeting. Last week there was a meeting with IHS and as a result of that meeting a resolution is necessary. This topic will be discussed at the completion of new business.

In November of 2009 there will be a UKB Election. The district of Cooweescoowee covers a large area and this causes the need to open another voting precinct. This will allow a better opportunity for more people to vote in UKB Elections.

CNO is trying to prove they are not racists. This Freedman issue is not a racial issue, it is a Civil Rights Issue. The Civil War settled the slavery issue and slaves were freed. During this time "We," the UKB, were the Cherokee tribe. The white government called for voluntary movement to the land west of the Mississippi River, which was acquired as the Louisiana Purchase. The government wanted to expand their western boundaries. Gold caused a forced removal of Indians.

The Watson Bill, 2824 is not to terminate CNO but is a Civil Rights Issue.

CNO is claiming the Watson Bill, 2824 is going to terminate the Cherokee Nation. I don't believe the Old Cherokee Nation will ever be terminated but the new Cherokee Nation is not an official tribe. The one that is called the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma was not organized until 1975. 1976 was the year their (CNO) constitution was ratified. They did not organize under the Indian Welfare Act as did the Keetoowah. They were the ones who were forcefully removed, the Keetoowah voluntarily left our lands before the forced removal of the Indians.

(Jerry Hansen arrived – 10:25 AM)

Today the Keetoowahs are the ones who have no land base but we have made much progress in obtaining such. In the latest edition of the Cherokee Phoenix, CNO is making appeals to everyone to help them break the Treaty of 1866. The Treaty of 1866 made it a mandate that the Freedmen and all people who lived in Indian Territory would become citizens. The Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Seminole and Chickasaws were forced to sign this treaty. The traditional Indian did not sign this treaty but the mixed-blood Cherokees did sign this treaty. The Watson Bill has nothing to do with being prejudice but has everything to do with allowing people to have their civil rights.

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma is trying to get the people's support to break the Treaty of 1866. If this treaty is broken, the four other tribes would likely receive the same treatment.

Congress can decide to break the 1866 treaty and if they do, they can come after the Indians again as they did before when they tried to terminate Indians under the Curtis Act. Because of the previous attempt to terminate Indian tribes, we should never let a treaty be broken.

The original Cherokee Nation is the United Keetoowah. We are organized under the Indian Welfare Act under a constitution but we are being embarrassed all over the United States.

CNO was represented at the National Indian Conference meeting in Denver, CO. They arrived early in order to "fix" the elections. Many small tribes were not present for voting. The Choctaws supported our Charles Locust in the election for alternate Vice President. CNO's Joe Grayson again was voted in as Vice President. CNO appeared to be concerned when the Keetoowah delegation arrived at the conference. UKB had the larger number of people/votes but an illegal entity, the Delaware tribe, was utilized as CNO voters. CNO had in the past terminated the Delaware tribe but used them to allow Joe Grayson to win the election for Vice President. This is the normal conduct of CNO.

Chad Smith has practically moved to Washington because he has many situations facing him.

We must tell the people; the Watson Bill does not contain the word "termination." It has been decided; the next issue of the Keetoowah News will contain an explanation of the Watson Bill. This explanation will also be sent to Indianz.com and the others. The Watson Bill is not a termination bill, but Chad Smith wants everyone to believe this bill is for termination of Cherokee Nation this is not true.

Last week CNO began spreading news that before Christmas, Watson will close services to Cherokee people who rely on \$300 million CNO receives. This is not true. If funding for Indians health care is stopped it would probably be funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. These funds could then be turned over to IHS or the funds could be turned over to the Keetoowahs because we are a federally recognized tribe. All this doesn't mean anyone will lose their jobs. This is propaganda from CNO.

CNO should not be federally recognized because they did not go through the process of organizing under the Indian Welfare Act.

We have our rights and we have our treaties, we must keep them, let's not break a treaty and cause a mushroom effect of treaties being broken. I will be careful and adhere to the guidance of our attorneys in statements for editorials.

The litigation on our casino continues. This could take two or three years. Depending on a final decision, we must have a surplus of funds for operations in the event such funds are needed to ensure tribal business continues six months to a year. We don't know when we will go back to court over one issue or another. We must always analyze what could happen in the future for our tribe/band.

CNO's AG Diane Hammond says UKB is not a government. She was told; all you need to do is read, and you will know we are a government, we are federally recognized.

UKB is not finished. Charlie and I must be on alert and ready to travel to Washington at a minute's notice. UKB must continue to be aware of the actions of CNO.

V. Approval of the minutes for the month of November 2007

MOTION by Barry Dotson to approve the November Council minutes; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VI. Presentations

Ken Bellmard: RE: Procedure in Secretarial Election

(This was a response of an inquiry from Barry Dotson at the November Council Meeting)

Hand-out material was presented to each member of Council.

Under our constitution the UKB Council can propose amending the Constitution

Some simply time consuming steps are required not only because the constitution requires such but also because of regulations, section 81 specifies directives RE: Article 12 detailed explanation was presented by AG Bellmard.

VII. Reports to Council

Charles Locust: Budget and Finance Report

Informed Mr. Albert Shade had stated he was considering resigning from the Budget and Finance Committee. The committee voted on this and accepted his resignation. Mr. Shade submitted he would like for Lois Fuller to be named to the committee. The committee agreed with Ms. Fuller being named to the committee. Mr. Shade was asked if his decision was presently unchanged. Mr. Shade stated his decision remained unchanged. Mr. Locust then officially recognized Mr. Shade's resignation from the Budget and Finance Committee and accepted the nomination of Lois Fuller as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Albert Shade.

MOTION by Charles Locust to place Lois Fuller as member on the Budget and Finance Committee; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 11 Yes, 1 No (Proctor), 0 Abstentions.

Enrollment Committee Report:

Liz Littledave

32 Applications for new membership were reviewed and verified to contain all required enrollment documents. These are submitted to Council for approval for membership.

2 CDIB cards were processed for children to 0-3 years of age and have been entered into tribal membership. This is presented for acknowledgement and to be honored by Council.

34 Total memberships are presented to be approved and/or acknowledged and honored by Council.

MOTION by Barry Dotson to accept and/or acknowledge 34 new applicants into tribal membership; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks;

Proctor: questioned ownership of a house by a person listed on the relinquishment list.

NOTE: AG Ken Bellmard informed by operational law, when a person presents a signed relinquishment, whether the Council accepts the relinquishment or not, that person is no longer a member.

DISCUSSION: (See "Enrollment" Supplement "A" attached)

VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Barry Dotson to acknowledge and honor the 4 requests for relinquishments from UKB tribal enrollment; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VIII. Public Forum

Georgia Hogner: inquired if the tribe had a loan program that assisted people in reference to probate Indian land.

Chief Wickliffe: would send attorney to follow-up and check out the situation and make recommendations

Dotson: inquired of funds for Marble City School, where the school's ball team had won state play-offs and the school was inquiring of money for the purchase of rings.

Chief Wickliffe: there is promotion money in the budget that could probably help in this inquiry. Dotson: said he would get details of this subject.

John Hair: complimented Council on job being done. He reminded that soon there would be an election of Council. He stated he enjoyed coming to meetings and watching the Council work and he said the Council was doing a good job. He said the Council was now going into the 4th year and he would like to see the same bunch continue to serve after the 4th year. He said it was a good time to be a Keetoowah and that he will always be a Keetoowah.

IX. Unfinished Business

Revision of the Election Ordinance

Leroy Adair: Chairman of the Election Board, stated since last Council meeting the board and the Enrollment Committee has met three times in discussion of the revision of the election board ordinance. Much work has been done.

Every Council member received a copy in their packets of the latest revisions which have been reviewed by attorney Michael McMahan. DISCUSSION: (See Supplement "C" for details)

MOTION by Barry Dotson to table Agenda Item IX, 1 and move this Election Ordinance to be scheduled on the January Council meeting agenda; SECONDED by Albert Shade; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Proposed: Special Council meeting spoken of earlier in this Council meeting was cancelled by affirmation. (See Supplement "B"; Secretarial Election)

Leroy Adair: submitted the name of Norma Jimerson to be placed on the Election Board. She has agreed to serve.

MOTION by Charles Locust to place Norma Jimerson on the Tribal Election Board; SECONDED by Barry Dotson; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Proctor not available at vote).

Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove the revisions of tribal membership relinquishment policy and procedures, RE: Section 16, 17 and 18 of 1990 membership ordinance

DISCUSSION: (See Supplement "D" attached; Relinquishment and Duel Enrollment)

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to accept by unanimous endorsement the revised proposal of tribal membership as presented in reference to relinquishment policy and procedure; SECONDED by Shelbi Wofford; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Sammy Still: policy and procedure for enrollment can be put in the

Continued on page 8

Congratulations Grads

Claudia Carnes



Claudia Carnes of Tahlequah recently completed a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Elementary Education. Her parents are Claudie Wilson and Ester Sequichie. Her grandparents are Ella Wilson and John and Peggy Sequichie. Her future plans are to teach elementary education in an area school.

Marilyn McDonald



Marilyn McDonald of Twin Oaks recently attained her degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse through Indian Capital Technology Center. She is the daughter of Cosondra Clouse and the granddaughter of Molly Nofire. She plans to continue to pursue her education as a registered nurse.

Belinda Chewie



Belinda Chewie of Kenwood, Oklahoma completed the Business and Information Technology Program at Indian Capitol Technology Center. She is the daughter of Geneva and the late Lewis Chewie. Her goals for the future include working for the United Keetoowah Band.

Belinda Chewie

Kimberly Drywater



Kimberly Drywater, of Tahlequah, Oklahoma completed the Business and Information Technology Program at Indian Capitol Technology Center. Her parents are Jackie and the late Archie Drywater. She hopes to work for the Keetoowah Cherokee Tribe and someday start her own business.

Kimberly Drywater

Lora Loy



Lorna Loy of Jay, Oklahoma graduated with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Recreation from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She played four years of college basketball. She is the daughter of James and Annie Loy and the granddaughter of Walt and Nancy Loy. She plans to get her Masters' Degree in Business Administration.

Lora Loy

Brittany Sapp Homecoming Royalty

Brittany Renee Sapp, 18, of Kansas High School was chosen as Senior Attendant for Kansas' Basketball Homecoming on January 12, 2008. She is the daughter of Aaron and Stephanie Sapp of Colcord. She has two sisters; Wendy Sapp and Ashley Sapp.

Brittany played basketball during her freshman year. Her sister Wendy Sapp also plays Senior High basketball and participates in power lifting. Her younger sister Ashley plays on the 7th grade basketball team.

Her grandparents are James and Cindy Hair of Tahlequah, Oklahoma and John and Mary Sapp of Colcord, Oklahoma.



UKB Regular December Council Meeting Minutes continued

paper. Before election time and a sample voting ballot can be in the newspaper, telling location of polling place, etc.

Locust: a published district voting list can be published in the paper where if individual finds a need for change, there will be time to correct any data.

X. New Business

Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove a resolution stating the full value of unaccounted for Christmas cards issued to District Representatives. LENGTHY DISCUSSION: (See Supplement "E" attached; 2006 and 2007 Christmas Gift Cards) MOTION by Shelbi Wofford that all unaccounted for Christmas Gift Cards for calendar year 2006 will be entered as "Earned Income" and unaccounted for Christmas Gift Cards for calendar year 2007 will be deducted from Council person's stipend; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 10 Yes, 1 No (Proctor), 0 Abstentions (Hansen not available for vote).

Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove opening a new account at the Bank of Cherokee County to be used as a reserve account for 10% of the monthly payment (\$1,092.00 per month) up until it reaches an annual payment (\$13,204.00) for rural development; a requirement of the USDA for loans (15 year note).

DISCUSSION:

Good Voice: this was to finance a road on the 40 acres 2001 application was made to USDA to be used for community development. It was designated for the circle road and to put in sewer lines. It was a grant and a loan. The loan was a higher amount than the grant. He believed there was a resolution passed by Council on this topic. MOTION by Shelbi Wofford to

indefinitely table Agenda Item #2, under New Business until she could confer on this subject with the controller. She stated she had some memory of what Mr. Good Voice had stated/explained; SECONDED by Charles Locust; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Meeting with IHS: Not an agenda item - Liz Little-dave

DISCUSSION: (See Supplement "G" for details)

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to adopt a resolution that all necessary efforts be made to see that UKB Tribal Members are fully served under the IHS or as funded under any other Indian Health Services Program; SECONDED by Charles Locust; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Shelbi Wofford to enter into Executive Session for discussion of Legal Issues, this session is to include AG Ken Bellmard; SECONDED by Charles Locust; (camera off at this motion) VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Proctor left earlier for employment purposes).

Time - 2:03 PM

MOTION by Barry Dotson to exit from Executive Session and return to Regular Session Council meeting; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Proctor left earlier for employment purposes).

Time - 3:32 PM

XI. Announcements: Liz Little-dave

XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Charles Locust; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; Approved by affirmation. Conclusion: 3:38 PM

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My name is John Chewey of the Butler Community in Delaware County and I would like to thank everyone for their kindness and all their help at the passing of my wife, Nancy Chewey on December 22, 2007. Special thanks go to Jerry Hansen, Chief George Wickliffe, Assistant Chief Charles Locust, and the Lighthouse Color Guard.

Sincerely,
John Chewey

We're Proud of our Youth!

The United Keetoowah Band has many talented and outstanding youth, and The Keetoowah News wants to feature our youth's accomplishments. Please send biographical material and a photo to UKB, Keetoowah News, P.O. Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465. Make sure and include a return address so that we may return the photographs. Information to include:

Name of Student _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Age _____ Grade Level _____
 School _____

Academic Accomplishments _____

Athletics _____

Other extracurricular Activities _____

Hobbies _____

Family Members _____

Goals for the future _____

