HENRY CHAPMAN STONEROAD,
PG 4.

OCTOBER 2010
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Pawnee Tribal Members:

God Bless and comfort all of our tribal members and families who lost loved ones or have family members who are ill. Our prayers and sympathy go out to you, we understand and empathize with you. On a personal level, thank you for all the prayers and condolences received upon the loss of our Uncle Hank Stoneroad and the serious illnesses of my two sisters. Your kind words and prayers sustain the family. We pray to Our Lord for you too.

The past two weeks have been productive and good for the Pawnee Nation. On September 27th, the long awaited Pawnee Nation Cultural Learning Center and Museum was opened - formally the Berry Building. The First National Bank of Pawnee donated to the Center/Museum seventeen paintings by local Indian artists. Mr. Clark Shouse, Bank President, presented the paintings on Grand Opening day. The Pawnee Nation appreciates the generous donation and will display them for generations to come and enjoy.

Upon purchase of the Berry Building by the Pawnee Nation, plans went into effect to create both an educational center and the long awaited dream of a museum. Both are now housed in the Cultural Learning Center/Museum. It is a beautiful reality you must visit.

Another big event for us Pawnees, was the Grand Opening of the Roam Chief Building. This Pawnee Nation facility received extensive remodeling in order to provide two much needed event centers in the north end of the building. The south end of the building was remodeled to accommodate a modern Food Distribution Center for convenience and accessibility. The Food Distribution Center, the south end, is the second facility to be equipped with Geo-thermo heating and cooling. This system will cut utility costs.

The facility renovations and pleasing outcomes are the end results of Mrs. Muriel Robedeaux, Project Director, and her efforts teamed with Anishinabe Designs Architectural firm and Construction Contractor Builder’s Unlimited, both Oklahoma businesses. Each completed project shows professional expertise. Tribal members present, made positive remarks.

An earlier major renovation was to the old IHS hospital which now houses our Health Programs and temporarily the Pawnee Tribal Development Corporation (TDC). This remodeled facility was the first to have Geo-thermal heating and air conditioning throughout the building.

The face lifting of our Pawnee Nation facilities are ones we can be proud of. We are proud of the accomplishments the Pawnee Business Council has made, and with God’s blessings we will continue to move forward.

Thank you.

President George Elton Howell

Pawnee Business Council Members

President: George E. Howell
Vice President: Charles “Buddy” Lone Chief
Secretary: Linda Jestes
Treasurer: Roy Taylor
Council Seat 1: John Only A Chief
Council Seat 2: Elizabeth Blackowl
Council Seat 3: Jimmy Fields
Council Seat 4: Marshall Gover

Chaticks si Chaticks Publication Schedule

Submission Deadline November 19
Next Issue Date December 6

*** To meet issue dates, submission deadlines will be strictly enforced ***
EDUCATION

Free GED Classes- at Berry Building. Classes start September 7, and are every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Contact Chris Hill, Youth Services Coordinator at 918-762-3227.

Pawnee Nation College Powwow- October 9th:
- Gourd Dance from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Supper at 5 p.m.
- Grand entry at 7 p.m.

HEALTH

Healthy Nations Program:
- October 16th- volleyball tournament starting at 9 a.m.
- October 16th- ETA (Extreme Teen Association) Youth Dance from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
- October 27th- “Red Ribbon Health Day & Walk”.
  For more information, contact Suzy Snell at 918-762-2153

Reach US Program:
- Thursday, October 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. “Make It Your Business” training in the Health and Community Services conference room at 400 Agency Road. Contact Christi or Debbie at 918-762-3873, ext. 5 to sign up or for more information.
- October 7- Freedom From Smoking cessation class in the Health and Community Services conference room at 400 Agency Road. from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. The rest of the classes will be October 14th, 21st, 26th, 28th and November 4th, 11th and 18th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

PN Violence Against Women Program:
- October 12 From 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Celebrating Women and Girls at the Pawnee Cafe. Make your reservation today by calling 918-762-3873 x 2 or 918-399-3310.

Title VI Senior Nutritional Meals Program:
- I.H.S. Registered Dietician, Kellie Bryant visits the program the 1st Thursday of every month to discuss topics on nutritional health and education on how to eat a well-balanced meal for yourself or for your family. Her next meeting with us will be on Thursday, October 7th from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m at the Title VI dining room.
- Every Tuesday and Thursday of each month, the Diabetes Program will be providing blood sugar and blood pressure checks from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Once a month we will be providing a Caregiver support group meeting to help those Caregivers who are caring for an elder and to let them know what types of assistance and resources are out there to assist them. Refreshments will be provided as well as door prizes. The date for this will be announced at a later time.
- October 28th is the date that we plan to have our annual Halloween Party but we are in the works of trying to get things going. So if you have any ideas, suggestions, donations or would like to come out and help contact the Title VI Office before October 25th by 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

GENERAL

Every other Wednesday at 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Elder’s Bingo at the Title VI Dining Room. If you need further information or would like to donate items for the bingo games, please contact the Title VI Senior Program at (918) 762-4042.

Young Dog Dance, November 7, 2010. If you want to dance on November 7, please contact Adrian Spotted Horse Chief, adrian_horsechief@yahoo.com.

NEWS FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma would like to welcome and/or congratulate the following staff members on their recent hire or transfer:

Warfield Blackowl-Dershem has been selected for the position of Seasonal Groundskeeper for the Division of Tribal Operations. Mr. Blackowl-Dershem began his new position on August 24, 2010.

Brian Knott has been selected for the position of Maintenance Worker for the Division of Tribal Operations. Mr. Knott began his new position on August 24, 2010.

Kathy Griesel has been promoted from the position of Infant thru Pre-K Teacher to the position of Infant thru Pre-K Lead Teacher for the Pawnee Nation Learning Center. Ms. Griesel began her new position on August 25, 2010.

Keller Roaming Warrior has been selected for the position of CHR Generalist for the CHR program. Mr. Roaming Warrior began his new position on October 4, 2010.
CULTURAL LEARNING CENTER GRAND OPENING

On Wednesday, September 22, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma held a Grand Opening ceremony for the Cultural Learning Center, located at 657 Harrison Street in Pawnee.

The Invocation was given by Roy Taylor, Treasurer of the Pawnee Business Council. The welcome and artist history was given by Charles Lone Chief, Vice-President of the Pawnee Business Council. A complete historical background of the building was given by William Howell, of the Pawnee Historical & Cultural Museum. The artwork donation was given by Clark Shouse, from the First National Bank of Pawnee. The keynote address was given by George E. Howell, President of the Pawnee Business Council.

The Pawnee Nation recently acquired the building, which had been remodeled in the 1990s, and re-named the Pawnee Cultural and Historical Museum. Upon acquiring the building, the Pawnee Nation began more remodeling and it has now become the Cultural Learning Center.

The Cultural Learning Center, formerly known as the Berry Building and the former Piggly Wiggly grocery store, now houses the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma’s Education and Training offices.

MR. HENRY CHAPMAN STONEROAD POSTHUMOUSLY RECEIVES AARP AWARD

The late Mr. Henry Chapman Stoneroad received recognition by the Oklahoma AARP when presented with an Indian Elder Honors award on August 30, 2010 at the Oklahoma Cowboy Hall of Fame. Mr. Stoneroad was nominated prior to his death. He was one of fifty American Indian elders selected to receive the honor based upon his lifetime achievements. He passed away on August 23, 2010.

Mr. Stoneroad was born on September 25, 1920 in the Pawnee Indian Hospital. He was of the first generation Pawnees to be born in the new state of Oklahoma and was an enrolled Pawnee tribal member. He attended the Pawnee Indian Boarding School and Pawnee High School. Mr. Stoneroad talked proudly of having been a tackle for the Pawnee Black Bears.

Upon the start of WWII, Mr. Stoneroad joined the U.S. Army and saw action in the Pacific. While in the Philippines, he was a Type 2 Code Talker. After the war, Mr. Stoneroad attended Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa where he played football. Later, he joined the Bureau of Indian Affairs and served 43 years in education.

Mr. Stoneroad married Wanda (White) Stoneroad, Otoe, in December, 1950. They were married nearly 60 years. He leaves behind his wife, two sons, two daughters and one adopted son; also six grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Stoneroad were widely recognized as the oldest living American Indian veteran couple of World War II. She is a WWII U.S. Navy veteran. Mr. Stoneroad was an outstanding Southern Straight Dancer and noted Master of Ceremonies at powwows across the country. He was proud of his Pawnee heritage and played a major role in preserving Pawnee culture and the Pawnee language. Many family members and others saw him as a true role model.

Receiving the AARP ribbon medal for Mr. Stoneroad was his nephew, Mr. George Elton Howell, President of the Pawnee Business Council, and himself a 2009 recipient of the AARP award. In attendance were Mr. Stoneroad’s numerous family members and friends, including his cousin, Pawnee Business Councilwoman Mrs. Linda Chapman Jestes. After a moment of silence for Mr. Stoneroad at the award ceremony, Misters Lance and Pat Leading Fox of the Pawnee Nation Indian Veterans sang the Pawnee Flag song.

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**ECHO-HAWK EXPLAINS MANIFEST INJUSTICE IN NEW BOOK**

Written by DANA ATTOCKNIE,  
Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY – Fairness is expected. Yet, sometimes it has to be fought for.

“Most American’s equate justice with our legal system. As American’s we reasonably expect justice. We do expect fairness and in an impartial forum … designed to find the truth of the matter.

Unfortunately, that’s not always the case,” Walter Echo-Hawk Jr said, citing the justice system is a man-made institution. “Historically, the law has really been a double-edged sword.”

In his new book titled, “In the Courts of the Conqueror-The ten worst Indian law cases ever decided,” Echo-Hawk, Pawnee, dissects Indian law cases that created a resounding negative impact on American Indians and Indian country. Although he said in its finest hour, the legal system does embody justice; he walks readers through ten controversial Indian law cases that have never been overturned.


A book signing was held Sept. 21 at the Oklahoma Heritage Association Museum in Oklahoma City. As Echo-Hawk provided a synopsis of each case, his son, Walter (Bunky) Echo-Hawk III, painted a portrait of a “warrior nerd” using his father’s words for inspiration.

“My father was a huge influence on me,” Echo-Hawk III said.

Pauline Echo-Hawk said it’s inspiring to see her husband and son collaborating. She helped her husband with book signings after his presentation.

The book, which features illustrations from Echo-Hawk III, also looks at the U.S. Supreme Court decisions under Chief Justices William H. Rehnquist and John G. Roberts Jr.

Echo-Hawk states, “The Rehnquist Court ruled against Indian tribes in 88 percent of the cases. The Roberts Court appears to be following in the same tragic footsteps.”

The book title itself comes from Chief Justice John Marshall who gloomily portrayed the judicial system in America as “The Courts of the Conqueror.”

“In writing this book my methodology was to pick ten cases and study them,” Echo-Hawk said, adding that the use/notion of race was very much embedded in these opinions. “I think the notion of colonialism is found very evident in the Lone Wolf decision.”

The Lone Wolf case centers on the forced allotment of Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache land. A Kiowa chief named Lone Wolf and others fought against having their land taken, carved up, and distributed via a lottery drawing. In 1901, a suit was filed by Lone Wolf, who put his faith in the Medicine Lodge Treaty. However, on Jan. 5, 1903 the Supreme Court made its decision and introduced the plenary power doctrine, which states congress has the supreme power over Indians and their land since congress has guardianship over them.

Echo-Hawk said it’s time to soften the harsh edge of manifest destiny and reform the dark side of federal Indian law once and for all. One goal would be to strengthen the law so it comports with the United Nations minimum standards, he said.

“I’m very optimistic that federal Indian law can be reformed,” Echo-Hawk said, before listing five reasons why Indian law can be strengthened.

His reasons are: 1) Americans are fundamentally fair people. 2) Tribes are poised to vigorously protect their rights. 3) There is increased prosperity as a result of economic development -justice costs money. 4) Human resources. There were only a handful of Native American attorney’s when he graduated, now the numbers are increasing. 5) There are larger social changes going on and Indians have a foot in the land.

“When there is a miscarriage of justice the easiest solution is to deny that injustice exists,” Echo-Hawk said, also mentioning how people have bowed down or been a hostage to the prevailing politics of the day.

Reading from his book, Echo-Hawk said, “When a miscarriage happens, we must pause and soberly diagnose the cause. The outbreak of injustice dampens the human condition. Its spread across the land places our highest ideals beyond reach. Against that evil, the impulse to resist life under unjust laws is strong. It is seen in the traditions of Thoreau, the wisdom of Gandhi, the words of Martin Luther King Jr and the litigation of Thurgood Marshall. They followed Saint Augustine’s maxim that ‘an unjust law is no law at all.’”

Echo-Hawk works of-counsel for the Crowe & Dunlevy law firm of Oklahoma and served as a Native American Rights Fund staff attorney for 35 years. He was worked on legislation for religious freedom and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

“I was elated to hear (Echo-Hawk’s) wonderful orations,” audience member Patsy Cooper said. “What an outstanding speech that was. It brought awareness of past adverse Native court proceedings and what the future vision holds for our Native people in the legal realm … I look forward to reading his book and I was totally amazed at the painting created by Bunky (Echo-Hawk III) while his father gave his speech.”

The book, which took Echo-Hawk four years to write, can be ordered online at http://www.fulcrum-books.com/productdetails.cfm?PC=6071 or call Fulcrum Publishing at (800) 992-2908 to find a local bookseller or retailer.
The Pawnee Nation held a Dedication Ceremony for the newly renovated Roam Chief and Food Distribution center on Thursday, September 30.

The Roam Chief Building is located at 810 Morris Road, and houses the Pawnee Nation Food Distribution Program offices, and will also be an event center.

The seven month project was funded by stimulus grant funds through the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Energy.

For more information on the Roam Chief Building, contact ICDBG grant coordinator, Muriel Robedeaux at 918-762-3621.

The Pawnee Nation REACH US Program and Pawnee County Headstart want to build a healthier community. The Pawnee Nation REACH US Program recently purchased the CATCH curriculum and physical activity sets for the Pawnee and Cleveland Head Start programs. All of the Headstart teachers participated in the curriculum training held at the Pawnee Nation and plan to implement the activities this school year.

CATCH (Coordinated Approach To Child Health) is an evidence-based, coordinated school health program designed to promote physical activity and healthy food choices, and prevent tobacco use in children from preschool through grade 8. The CATCH Program has proven that establishing healthy habits in childhood can promote behavior changes that can last a lifetime.

If you are interested in the CATCH curriculum for your school or youth organization, contact Christi or Debbie at Pawnee Nation REACH US (918) 762-3873, ext. 5.

For more information about CATCH, the website is www.catchinfo.org. The Pawnee Nation REACH US (Racial and Ethnic Approached to Health) Program is funded through a grant from the Oklahoma State Department of Health, www.strongandhealthy.ok.gov.
**July 14, 2010 – PBC Meeting**

The June 23, 2010 PBC Meeting minutes were approved. Council members and the Executive Director provided reports on their activities since the previous PBC meeting.

**Under Old Business:**
1. Resolution #10-29 – Oil and Gas Lease – was tabled.
2. Interview A&E Firms (two) for 2009 ICDBG – The firm of Robert Johnson was selected for the 2009 ICDBG project – Child Care Center Expansion

**Under New Business:**
1. A contract with the Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad was approved to allow access through tribal land to replace the trestle located just west of Morris Road.
2. Enrollment requested to purchase new Enrollment software called Progeny. The purchase was approved.
3. The Learning Center requested to replace the carpet. The purchase was approved.
4. The Learning Center also requested to purchase Child Safety Software for each Child Care Facility. Approved.
5. The IT Department requested to purchase new servers to upgrade the computer systems. One purchase would be made through the ANA grant and the other would be purchased through the required tribal match. This request was tabled.

Items that were added to the agenda:
6. Resolution #10-32 – a resolution to terminate two tribal employees failed.

**July 28, 2010 PBC Meeting:**

The minutes of the July 14, 2010 PBC meeting were approved. Council members and the Executive Director provided reports on their activities since the previous PBC meeting.

**Under Old Business:**
1. Resolution #10-29 – Oil and Gas Lease – was approved.
2. Approval to purchase new Servers for the Computer System was approved utilizing only ANA grant funds.

**Under New Business:**
1. Dr. Laura Hubbs-Tait with OSU has worked with the Child Development Center for several years and it was time to renew her contract. Contract approved.
2. A Memorandum of Agreement for Little League Football to utilize tribal land was terminated due to lack of appropriate approval. Property was asked to make some revisions and bring the Agreement back to Council for formal approval.
3. The Office of Environmental Health, I.H.S. reported that the project requires a tribal match of $5,000. Approved.
4. A contract for an additional Public Defender for the purpose of ICW cases was requested by Tribal Court. A contract for Jack Elsey was approved.
5. Request for additional funds for Elder’s Assistance was approved based on availability of funds.
6. Request for approval of Bid – Skedee Bridge paving project.
7. Council was asked to vote on the Summer Youth Program posters.
8. Budget Committee recommends 3rd Quarter Budgets of tribally funded programs be approved – Council approved.

**August 7, 2010 Quarterly Meeting**

All Programs provided written reports and Directors were present for questions.

**Under New Business:**

Gisette Meade was hired as a grant writer and the contract was approved.

**August 11, 2010 PBC Meeting:**

The minutes of the August 7, 2010 PBC meeting were approved.

All Council members and the Executive Director provided a report on their activities since the previous meeting. Roger Foster, TDC, also provided a report to Council.

**Under Old Business:**
2. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to conduct a survey as part of their grant renewal. Approved.
3. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to research a Boys and Girls Riding Club and asked for Council support. Council asked him to provide a written request that includes a budget.
4. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to use the remaining reburial funds for a reburial in Nebraska in August.

**September 9, 2010 PBC Meeting:**

The minutes of the August 11, 2010 PBC meeting were approved.

All Council members and the Executive Director provided a report on their activities since the previous meeting. Roger Foster, TDC, also provided a report to Council.

**Under Old Business:**
1. 1. Resolution #10-29 – Oil and Gas Lease – was approved.
2. Interview A&E Firms (two) for 2009 ICDBG – The firm of Robert Johnson was selected for the 2009 ICDBG project – Child Care Center Expansion

**Under New Business:**
1. The Little League Football Agreement was tabled to get a legal review.
2. The Repatriation Program requested to use the remaining reburial funds for a reburial in Nebraska in August.
3. Council was asked to vote on the Vietnam Veteran’s “Moving Wall” – tabled.

**September 22, 2010 PBC Meeting:**

The minutes of the September 9, 2010 PBC meetings were approved.

All Council members and the Executive Director provided a report on their activities since the previous meeting. Roger Foster, TDC, provided a report to Council.

**Under Old Business:**
2. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to conduct a survey as part of their grant renewal. Approved.
3. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to use the remaining reburial funds for a reburial in Nebraska in August.
4. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to research a Boys and Girls Riding Club and asked for Council support. Council asked him to provide a written request that includes a budget.
5. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to conduct a survey as part of their grant renewal. Approved.
6. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to research a Boys and Girls Riding Club and asked for Council support. Council asked him to provide a written request that includes a budget.
7. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to conduct a survey as part of their grant renewal. Approved.
8. Morgan LittleSun requested permission to use the remaining reburial funds for a reburial in Nebraska in August.

**Under New Business:**
2. The Property Department had five items for Council approval:
   a. TDC office space lease – approved.
   b. Trading Post lease – approved.
   c. Signs for VAW and MSPI Programs – determine maximum height. 8 ft. was approved.
   d. Revised Building Rental fees – approved.
   e. Three bids for tree removal – The bid of ABC Tree Service was approved.
3. Approval of UML lease at Chilocco – Failed (Council did not have the correct contract.)
5. Transportation Department – Request to approve bid for Driveway at Food Distribution Expansion Program – approved bid from Builder’s Unlimited.
6. Appointment to the HR Committee – tabled.
7. Resolution #10-47, 10-48, 10-49, 10-50 and 10-51 for appointments to the TDC Board – all tabled.
8. Added item – Purchase request for Standing Bear Pow-wow - $500 donation and a Pendleton Blanket - approved.
The Nutrition site has been very busy over the past couple of months with elder activities, Elder Advisory Board fundraisers and providing nutritional services, nutritional education and health awareness to all of our program participants. Our goal is to keep our elders active and to provide a nutritional well-balanced meal to meet their daily needs. The Title VI office is always open for suggestions and ideas that would compliment the services we provide. If you have a favorite meal or favorite traditional meals please let us know, we would like to hear from you and maybe you might see it on our monthly menu the next time you come and visit us.

Our lunches are served Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Title VI dining room, located in the Blue Multi-Purpose Building. If our serving day and time does change we will notify our program participants in advance. We strongly suggest that non-elders, 54 years of age or younger, please call 24 hours in advance if you would like to request a meal on a certain day so that we can prepare enough food. Our elders come first, when it comes to receiving a meal. Also, I would like to inform everyone again, that the Title VI Senior Program is NOT a disability program for the non-elders, 54 years of age and younger. The Title VI Senior Program is a program for our elders only, disabled and non-disabled, beginning at the age of 55 years and older and you must be a Native American with a degree of Indian blood card and if you are a spouse of an elder of the program then you would be eligible to the program as well. If you would like more information please contact the office.

Last but not least, the Title VI Senior Program will be handing out Needs Assessment surveys, to all of our program elders and for those elders, 55 years of age and older, who is interested in becoming part of the program. Please remember, these are voluntarily, you do not have to put your name on them and the data collected, by the National Resource Center on Native American Aging, will be kept strictly confidential.

We need to submit 80 surveys to the funding agency for another 3 year grant renewal process by November 30, 2010. If you are interested in filling one out or would like to find out more information regarding the surveys, please come by the office. We are open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

FAVORITE RECIPES NEEDED!

THEY CAN BE TRADITIONAL, OLD OR NEW. WE WOULD LIKE TO USE THEM FOR OUR TRADITIONAL MEAL DAY ON WEDNESDAYS OF EVERY MONTH. PLEASE CONTACT US AT 918-762-4042 OR FAX THEM TO US AT 918-762-9927. THANKS!
The Pawnee Elder’s Advisory Board worked very hard for the past 9 months to raise money to attend the 2010 National Indian Council On Aging Biennial Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme, Michigan the week of September 23 – 29th. They shared the cost of a 50 passenger charter bus from the Rocky Mountain Charter Company out of Oklahoma City with several other Oklahoma tribes from the surrounding Title VI Senior Programs such as the Otoe-Missouria Tribe, the Iowa Tribe and the Sac and Fox Nation. The elders would like to give a big thanks to all those who helped and supported them in raising enough funds for the trip. Updated trip details will be announced at a later date.

For those of you interested in becoming a Pawnee Elders Advisory Board member, the elections for the 2011 officers begin October 4th – 15th. The following positions needing to be filled are as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in fulfilling one of these positions please contact our office and please remember you have to be 55 years of age or older and a part of the Title VI Senior Program. All nominations will be accepted and the closing date for nominations will be October 15th. Voting will take place on October 18th and the new officers will be announced on October 19th during lunch in the Title VI dining room and will begin fulfilling their positions November 1st. A “thank-you” party will be given to the outgoing officers to congratulate them for all their hard work and efforts in supporting the elders and their fundraisers on October 21, 2010 at the Title VI dining room from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Our board members for 2010 year are:
- Mollie Davidson – EAB President
- Sandra Moore – EAB Vice-President
- Jean Rice – EAB Secretary (alternate-Ophelia Pratt)
- Richard Roubedeaux – EAB Treasurer

Activities Committee: Bob Cleghorn, Ophelia Pratt, Fern Eaglechief, Ruth Pickup, Harry and Helen Pickering, Tony Tahkeal, Lillie Cummings and Mary Black.

HAPPY 17TH BIRTHDAY ANDREW

LOVE ALWAYS, MOM & DAD

LET’S CELEBRATE!
EVERYONE AT THE TITLE VI SENIOR NUTRITION SITE & STAFF WOULD LIKE TO SAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND GOD BLESS TO ALL OF OUR ELDERS & TITLE VI STAFF WHO ARE CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAYS DURING THIS MONTH.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS
- Jo Only-A-Chief- 3rd
- Rita Chapman- 4th
- Gilbert Mathews- 6th
- Jean Rice- 9th
- Nannie Sewell- 9th
- Elizabeth Blackowl- 11th
- Mary Black- 14th
- Bob Littlesun- 16th
- Dona Gregory- 17th
- Minnie Fields- 18th
- Clara Hunter- 26th
- Jerry Kraft- 26th

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS
- George Carson- 1st
- Iris Pohocsucut- 7th
- Raymond Howell- 9th
- Harrison Fields- 11th
- Yvonne Fletcher- 11th
- Gracie Tahkeal- 11th
- Phyllis Soxie- 14th
- Marshall Gover- 17th
- Ophelia Pratt- 17th
- Sandra Moore- 21st
- George Edward Howell- 26th
- Kathleen Leading Fox- 26th
- Leda Snell- 26th
- Kay Tefertiller- 26th
- Karen Haymond- 27th
- Ann Collins- 28th
- Juanita McGlaslin- 28th

If your birthday is not listed and you are a part of the program we do apologize.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

HAPPY 17TH BIRTHDAY ANDREW

LOVE ALWAYS, MOM & DAD

ERICA PRETTY EAGLE MOORE

Crowned 2010-11 Standing Bear Princess

She was crowned at the 17th annual powwow. Of Osage, Otoe-Missouria and Pawnee descent, she is a senior at Woodland High School in Fairfax where she plays basketball and is interested in graphic design. Erica is the daughter of Ted and Terry Moore.

(News Photo by Rolf Clements)
SAFE SLEEP FOR YOUR BABY

What is SIDS?
SIDS stands for sudden infant death syndrome. This term describes the sudden, unexplained death of an infant younger than 1 year of age.

There is no 100-percent effective way to prevent SIDS, but there are ways to reduce the risk.

Health care providers don’t know exactly what causes SIDS, but they do know:

- Babies sleep safer on their backs. Babies who sleep on their stomachs are much more likely to die of SIDS than babies who sleep on their backs.
- Babies who sleep on or under soft bedding are more likely to die of SIDS. Every sleep time counts. Babies who usually sleep on their backs but who are then placed on their stomachs, like for a nap, are at very high risk for SIDS.

So it’s important for everyone who cares for your baby to use the back sleep position for naps and at night. Communities across the nation, including Native communities, have made great progress in reducing SIDS! Since the Back to Sleep campaign began in 1994, the SIDS rate in the United States has declined by more than 50 percent.

Here are 11 ways that you and others who care for your baby can reduce the risk of SIDS.

1. Always place your baby on his or her back to sleep, for naps and at night. The back sleep position is the safest, and every sleep time counts.
2. Place your baby on a firm sleep surface, such as on a safety-approved* crib mattress, covered by a fitted sheet. Never place your baby to sleep on pillows, quilts, sheepskins, or other soft surfaces.
3. Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of your baby’s sleep area. Don’t use pillows, blankets, quilts, sheepskins, or pillow-like crib bumpers in your baby’s sleep area, and keep all items away from your baby’s face.
4. Do not allow smoking around your baby. Don’t use commercial tobacco before or after the birth of your baby.
5. Do not drink alcohol while you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Drinking alcohol while you are pregnant increases your baby’s risk for SIDS. There is no known safe level of alcohol consumption during pregnancy or breastfeeding.
6. Keep your baby’s sleep area close to, but separate from, where you and others sleep. Your baby should not sleep on a couch or armchair with adults or other children, but he or she can sleep in the same room as you. If you bring your baby into bed with you to breastfeed, put him or her back in a separate sleep area, such as a bassinet, crib, cradle, or a bedside co-sleeper (infant bed that attaches to an adult bed) when finished.

7. Think about using a clean, dry pacifier when placing your infant down to sleep, but don’t force the baby to take it. If you are breastfeeding your baby, wait until your child is 1 month old or is used to breastfeeding before using a pacifier.
8. Do not let your baby overheat during sleep. Dress baby in light sleep clothing, and keep the room at a temperature comfortable for an adult. Baby may be too warm if he or she is sweating or breathing rapidly or has damp hair, flushed cheeks, or heat rash.
9. Avoid products that claim to reduce the risk of SIDS, and do not use home monitors to reduce the risk of SIDS. Most products have not been tested for effectiveness or safety. If you have questions about using home monitors for other conditions talk to your health care provider.
10. Reduce the chance that flat spots will develop on your baby’s head: provide “Tummy Time” when your baby is awake and someone is watching; change the direction that your baby lies in the crib from one week to the next; and avoid too much time in car seats, carriers, and bouncers.
11. Invite a Public Health Nurse (PHN) into your home. Visits from a PHN are known to reduce SIDS risk. For more information about SIDS risk reduction, visit http://www.nichd.nih.gov/SIDS.

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PINK POWER!

Being that October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it is the perfect time to discuss what breast cancer is, signs and symptoms, risk factors, prevention methods, and myths. Breast cancer is today’s second leading cause of cancer death in American women (lung cancer is the first). Cancer among Native Americans/Alaska Natives is becoming a growing concern. Within the last few generations, cancer has become the leading cause of death for Alaska Native women and is the second leading cause of death among American Indian women.

Cancer is a disease that occurs when cells become abnormal and divide without control or order. If cells divide when new cells are not needed, they form too much tissue. This extra tissue, called a tumor, can be benign or malignant. Breast cancer is cancer that forms in tissues of the breast, usually the ducts (tubes that carry milk to the nipple) and lobules (glands that make milk). It occurs in both men and women, although male breast cancer is rare. It is considered a heterogeneous disease—differing by individual, age group, and even the kinds of cells within the tumors themselves. Age, weight, diet & lifestyle, menstrual & reproductive history, and family/personal history are considered to be risk factors of breast cancer.

The following are a few myths and truths about breast cancer:

- **Myth: Men do not get breast cancer.**
  - **Truth:** Each year it is estimated that approximately 1,700 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 450 will die. While this percentage is still small, men should also give themselves regular breast self-exams and note any changes to their physicians.

- **Myth: Ending breast cancer means you will get it.**
  - **Truth:** While women who have a family history of breast cancer are in a higher risk group, most women who have breast cancer have no family history. If you have a mother, daughter, sister, or grandmother who had breast cancer, you should have a mammogram five years before the age of their diagnosis, or starting at age 35.

Individuals can take control of their health by performing self breast exams and having a clinical breast exam during pregnancy or breastfeeding. This term describes the sudden, unexplained death of an infant younger than 1 year of age.

Health care providers don’t know exactly what causes SIDS, but they do know:

- Babies sleep safer on their backs. Babies who sleep on their stomachs are much more likely to die of SIDS than babies who sleep on their backs.
- Babies who sleep on or under soft bedding are more likely to die of SIDS. Every sleep time counts. Babies who usually sleep on their backs but who are then placed on their stomachs, like for a nap, are at very high risk for SIDS.

So it’s important for everyone who cares for your baby to use the back sleep position for naps and at night. Communities across the nation, including Native communities, have made great progress in reducing SIDS! Since the Back to Sleep campaign began in 1994, the SIDS rate in the United States has declined by more than 50 percent.

Here are 11 ways that you and others who care for your baby can reduce the risk of SIDS.

1. Always place your baby on his or her back to sleep, for naps and at night. The back sleep position is the safest, and every sleep time counts.
2. Place your baby on a firm sleep surface, such as on a safety-approved* crib mattress, covered by a fitted sheet. Never place your baby to sleep on pillows, quilts, sheepskins, or other soft surfaces. It is very dangerous to place your baby to sleep on water beds, sofas, couches, or armchairs.
3. Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of your baby’s sleep area. Don’t use pillows, blankets, quilts, sheepskins, or pillow-like crib bumpers in your baby’s sleep area, and keep all items away from your baby’s face.
4. Do not allow smoking around your baby. Don’t use commercial tobacco before or after the birth of your baby.
5. Do not drink alcohol while you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Drinking alcohol while you are pregnant increases your baby’s risk for SIDS. There is no known safe level of alcohol consumption during pregnancy or breastfeeding.
6. Keep your baby’s sleep area close to, but separate from, where you and others sleep. Your baby should not sleep on a couch or armchair with adults or other children, but he or she can sleep in the same room as you. If you bring your baby into bed with you to breastfeed, put him or her back in a separate sleep area, such as a bassinet, crib, cradle, or a bedside co-sleeper (infant bed that attaches to an adult bed) when finished.
7. Think about using a clean, dry pacifier when placing your infant down to sleep, but don’t force the baby to take it. If you are breastfeeding your baby, wait until your child is 1 month old or is used to breastfeeding before using a pacifier.
8. Do not let your baby overheat during sleep. Dress baby in light sleep clothing, and keep the room at a temperature comfortable for an adult. Baby may be too warm if he or she is sweating or breathing rapidly or has damp hair, flushed cheeks, or heat rash.
9. Avoid products that claim to reduce the risk of SIDS, and do not use home monitors to reduce the risk of SIDS. Most products have not been tested for effectiveness or safety. If you have questions about using home monitors for other conditions talk to your health care provider.
10. Reduce the chance that flat spots will develop on your baby’s head: provide “Tummy Time” when your baby is awake and someone is watching; change the direction that your baby lies in the crib from one week to the next; and avoid too much time in car seats, carriers, and bouncers.
11. Invite a Public Health Nurse (PHN) into your home. Visits from a PHN are known to reduce SIDS risk. For more information about SIDS risk reduction, visit http://www.nichd.nih.gov/SIDS.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and Oklahoma State Attorney General Drew Edmondson has announced a month long series of events to raise awareness and reduce the shame and silence surrounding the chronic issue.

Edmondson said, “Domestic violence is a crime. People who are suffering at the hands of an abuser should feel safe in coming forward. For them, there should be no shame. The shame should lie with the perpetrators.”

Edmondson has a long history of targeting domestic abuse, creating the Victims’ Services Unit in the attorney general’s office over 10 years ago.

“We want these kids to know that abusive behavior is not OK,” Edmondson said. “If they or someone in their home is being abused, we want it to be clear that they should tell police officers or teachers or other family members. We want them to know where to go for help.”

The Third Annual Capitol Dome Lighting Ceremony will be held October 3rd in Oklahoma City, in which the dome of the state capitol building will be lit in purple, the color of domestic violence awareness. The lighting ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m., with speakers including Attorney General Edmondson and a performance from an Oklahoma City school choir.

"Lighting the capitol dome in purple is a great way to bring attention to the issue of domestic violence," said Jan Peery, Executive CEO of YWCA Oklahoma City. "We hope that this encourages discussion on this important issue."

The following are a few ways that individuals can participate in Domestic Violence awareness month:

- The color for domestic violence is purple. Wear a purple ribbon on your blouse or shirt. When people ask about it tell them that you are raising awareness.
- Email a link to an article about domestic violence.
- Send a donation of any size to a national organization or a local shelter.
- Contact your local domestic violence agency to see if you can volunteer your time. There may be special events where extra hands are needed during October.

Ask your pastor to preach about it from the pulpit or include a prayer for survivors during corporate prayer time.

The Pawnee Nation Violence Against Women Program will be hosting several events during October to honor those that have lost their life to domestic violence and to promote speaking out about domestic violence. More details about the events will be announced via newspaper, flyers, displays, and emails.

For more information about Domestic Violence Prevention and Resources call 918-762-3873 x 2 or 24-hours 918-399-3310.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM NEWS

The Substance Abuse Program (SAP) is currently gearing up for their upcoming fall activities such as Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week focuses on educating students about healthy choices, especially the choice to avoid drugs and is held every year nationally at the end of October. This year’s week falls on the dates October 25-29 and SAP will host an annual walk at the elementary school to honor this week. According to program coordinator, Barbara Attcocknie, “The event has been occurring for the past five years and we hope that more adults will participate even if they do not have a child in the school system. Adopt one for the day to walk with!” At the end of the walk, participants receive drug free memorabilia to signify not only their participation in the walk but their healthy choice. The running theme is “Be All You Can Be: Be Drug Free” and items distributed feature camouflage silicone bracelets and dog tags.

During the same week the SAP program will also partner with the Wellness Healthy Promotion Program (WHPP) to observe not only Red Ribbon Week but National Drug-Free Workplace Week. The short documentary “Methamphetamines: A Killer in our Midst”, will be shown on October 27 at 2 pm on the reserve and is open to the public. SAP will also promote these observances by placing up signs and banners across the reserve and will air radio announcements (more details will be provided as these events get closer).

In July SAP also participated in the Great Expectation Summer Youth Camp by sponsoring the second and fourth week of activities. Counselor Alison Black presented the dangers of Meth and alcohol abuse and a poster board contest was held to capture the youth’s ideas about the presentations. Each youth used the subject “I Don’t Do Drugs or Drink Because…” to design their poster boards and Pawnee Business Council (PBC) judged the posters. First place winner was Trenton Gaut, second place went to Alyssa Vetter and third place was awarded to Xandar Simmons. The posters were left on display in Building 64 to be viewed and eventually given back to the participants so their parents could enjoy their child’s work.

Next up SAP will attend the bi-annual Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Professional Counselor Association conference in Norman, OK on October 5 and 6. The Substance Abuse Program is proud of the youth participants and looks forward to not only working with them again in the future but to all upcoming events.

TRICK OR TREATING WITH DIABETES

Having diabetes doesn't mean you can't have sugar or treats; you just need to plan ahead. Do not let peer pressure or misinformation prevent you from going out with your friends and family. Keep in mind you are exercising while collecting your Halloween snacks, therefore, wear comfortable shoes. DO NOT wear new shoes if you plan to do a large amount of walking. New shoes will increase the occurrence of blisters, sores, or worsen any existing damage.

Walking and excitement is a large part of the Halloween festivities. Take along your meter and periodically check your blood sugar. Walking can lead to your blood sugar level to become slightly low and you may need a fun carbohydrate to bring it back within a normal range.

Go ahead and enjoy a treat(s) if your levels are low! Checking your blood sugar is imperative. Knowing your blood sugar levels enables you to enjoy sweets without the fear of going either too high or low. Keep in mind, that chocolate is not necessarily a simple carbohydrate that will rapidly increase blood sugar. On the other hand, candy corn has the possibility to have this effect.

Having collected a large amount of goodies, it is possible you can keep Halloween going over the next few weeks. Portion out the treats for your daily enjoyment, determine the carbohydrate content and balance your insulin intake accordingly.

There is no need to deprive yourself of the fun or the chocolate if you just strategize and plan ahead. Incidentally, I recommend the same daily treat strategy for all families: with or without children that have diabetes. Everyone should be treated equally... especially during Halloween.
**JAN PAUL ADAMS**

August 2, 2010

As a gesture of respect, on July 23, 2010 all flags on the Pawnee Nation reserve were lowered to half-mast, and the visiting Wichita people stopped their drum to take official notice of Jan Paul Adams' death. Jan Adams, also known as Sky Falling, was a Pawnee Nation citizen and Skidi Warrior. Jan died in Deland, Florida with Linda Adams at his side, his loving wife and constant companion through life. A family memorial service will be held at a later date.

Jan entered this world in 1950 as the second of three sons born to his pre-deceased parents, Dorthene and Gordon F. Adams, Sr. Jan's brothers are Gordon F. Adams, Jr. of Pawnee and Jesse T. Adams, of Victoria, WA. Gordon said, "Jan and I experienced many adventures together during our lives and I will miss him very much." Gordon and Jesse deeply mourn Jan's passing.

Jan was a highly decorated combat veteran who served with the 82nd Airborne Division, detached to the 173rd Airborne (The Herd) during his Vietnam tour of duty in 1968-1969. Jan's Indian name, "Sky Falling," refers to his combat experience as a paratrooper. Jan once described his arrival in Vietnam, saying "I stepped out of the plane, right into the middle of the Tet Offensive." Jan's abrupt initiation and distinguished service as an Airborne Warrior brought profound change to him, as it does all young men who survive combat service.

Jan was endowed with a natural courage, a courage perhaps endowed by his Pawnee ancestors, Crooked Hand and Dog Chief, or his Chickasaw ancestors, Cyrus Harris and Edmund Pickens. Jan not only possessed great courage in the face of death, he also possessed courage of his convictions. Anyone who knew him knew Jan Adams was a man who felt very strongly about what he felt very strongly about. Jan firmly stood behind his beliefs.

Jan Adams enjoyed success in his life—not only in his career, and as a Warrior, but success in what matters most—Jan and Linda Adams spent 36 years together. Jan's family also loved him very much, and he loved them.

Jan is survived by Barbara, Donald and Amanda Speicher, Pawnee; Charlene Arnold and Charles Pratt, Pawnee; Sandy Tsosie, Ponca City; Jeff Adams, Cleveland; Denise Grove, Cleveland; Mac McCurtain, Stillwater; Gary, Brenda and Katey Ingle, Orlando, FL; Jana Deroin, Yale; Ida Faye Knifechief, Pawnee; Irene Adams, Mesa, AZ; Gordon Adams, III, Toms River NJ; Lara Adams, Toms River, NJ; Juanita and Charles Tate, Ardmore; Jarod Tate, Denver, as well as many others whose life he touched. Jan was also pre-deceased by S.D. Adams, Francis Adams, Cecil Adams, and Alex "Junebug" Adams.

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**THEODORE WILSON “TETER” MORGAN**

May 21, 1934-August 17, 2010

Theodore Wilson Morgan was born on May 21, 1934, in Pawnee, Oklahoma and passed away on August 17, 2010 in Oklahoma City.

His Indian name was “Rak-tah tsu Ti hira sa” meaning Shield Leader. This name comes from his Skidi Band, although most people called him “Teter.”

He attended the Pawnee Indian Boarding School; better known as "Gravy." He also attended Pawnee High School and then he transferred to Great Bend, Kansas where he graduated in 1953. He played football, basketball and baseball. He was a well-rounded athlete. He also played semi pro basketball in Kansas.

He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on October 24, 1955 and was honorably discharged on March 1, 1963.

Theodore supported himself at various jobs on the coast. He eventually decided to try his luck in Alaska. He was employed as a cook on a fishing vessel where he learned to become a gourmet chef. He was injured on the job and returned to Pawnee.

Teter undertook several projects at his own expense representing the Pawnee Nation, traveling to many states, including Alaska and Hawaii. He founded the Pawnee Warriors Running Club and sponsored many road races as well as other local annual events, including the Indian School Reunions. He also had his own concession stand by himself.

He basically did what he wanted to and enjoyed life in his hometown. He made a lot of friends along the way. One of his special events was preparing a meal during the annual Pawnee Indian Homecoming for his friends from the Chicago Field Museum. Mary Ann Bloom and a group of volunteer have been attending the “Pow-Wow” for over 20 years.

Theodore was a walking history book. He was very knowledgeable in Pawnee Tribal History. This is why he had so many friends throughout Kansas and Nebraska, wherever the Pawnee made their encampments. He sponsored the Kitkehahki ceremony and dance, and he also held handgames using the Morgan Family handgame sticks. Teter was also the head of the Morgan Family Native American Church fireplace. He enjoyed other cultures, also, like Polka music from when he was in Chicago, and was taken in by a Scottish Clan from Tulsa.

His health started to fail the past two years and his doctor and family had to place him in Westhaven Nursing Home in Stillwater. He constantly claimed he was being held “prisoner.” He was transferred to Oklahoma City for special treatment but passed away from his ailments.

Teter was preceeded to the Creator's Glory by his parents, Bill Morgan, Sr., and Mamie Grant Morgan; paternal grandparents, Tom, and Susie Morgan; U.S. Grant and Charlie KnifeChief. He is survived by one brother, Elmo Thomas Morgan and his wife of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Ann Collins of Pawnee and Sue Cotanny of Tecumseh; one special niece, Kathy Sue Morgan and her family, plus numerous other nephews, nieces and relatives. Teter also leaves behind several close friends in Republic, Kansas and several locations in Nebraska.

Today Teter is running free!

Arrangements were handled by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home. A memorial service was held on Saturday, August 21, 2010, in Pawnee.
JOAN DELPHINE BARRONE
March 31, 1934-August 30, 2010

Joan Delphine Barrone, longtime resident of Fairfax, passed away Monday, August 30, 2010 at the Stillwater Medical Center. She was 76.

Joan was born March 31, 1934 West of Fairfax, the daughter of Adolphus Graves and Josephine (Henderson) Graves. She was the granddaughter of Simon and Mary Henderson and Frank and Bertha (Long) Graves. She was a 1952 graduate of Fairfax High School. She then attended Vo-Tech and in 1981 completed the nursing program at Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa. She was married to Charles Gilbert Barrone on December 22, 1954 in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Joan had been employed most recently with the Fairfax Senior Citizens Nutrition Program. She took great pride in her Native American heritage and was a past-president of the Pah-Sue-Lee Club. She was a member of the First Osage Baptist Church. Her enjoyments included reading her Bible and Christian books, traveling, especially to Colorado, all Native American gatherings, cooking and spending time with her family.

She is survived by two daughters, Donna M. Barrone of Fairfax and Brenda Hardin of Oklahoma City; one sister, Judy Tiger of Fairfax; three grandchildren, Charles Taos Barrone, Steven Charles Hardin and Michael James Hardin; several great grandchildren and extended family. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one son, Charles Anthony Barrone; one infant daughter, Sharon Kay Barrone; one brother, Howard Sonny Graves and two sisters, Anita Whitlatch and Colleen Graves.

A prayer service was held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 1, 2010 at the Hunsaker-Wooten Funeral Home. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, September 2, 2010 at the First Osage Baptist Church in Fairfax. Burial was held in the Fairfax Cemetery under the direction of the Hunsaker-Wooten Funeral Home.

Casket bearers were Steven Hardin, Michael Hardin, Joseph Goodeagle, Zachary Paul Martinez, Elijah Jim Martinez, Paxton Charles Evans and Charles Taos Barrone.

PAWNEE – WICHITA VISITATION 2010

By Chloe Jake

On Wednesday July 21, our Wichita relatives came to Pawnee for the Annual Visitiation. Saturday July 31 was the last day of visitation. During the time our visitors were here, Pawnee tribal members acted as most gracious hosts and represented the tribe well. Each day different groups fed the Wichita’s and hosted activities. There were also hand games and other various activities.

On the last Friday of Visitiation, there was another breakfast hosted in honor of our guests where everyone socialized and ate well. Then a member of the Wichita group got up with his grandson to speak. He thanked everyone for their hospitality and for providing a nice meal, then he acknowledged his grandson and spoke, “This here is my grandson, it’s his first visitation, of hopefully many more. I hope that these young kids will carry on the traditions with pride. This is our future.”

Another Pawnee tribal member remarked on Visitiation as, “It’s pure Pawnee and it’s a good way of getting together and visiting with our Wichita relatives.” So as another Visitiation has come to a close, it’s time to thank and commend the people that worked hard to put together such an enjoyable event and to continue to preserve, carry out, and treasure our most honored Pawnee traditions.

Freedom From Smoking Classes

- Starts Thursday, October 7 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. - weekly for 7 weeks
- Classes at Health & Community Services Building, 400 Agency Road, Pawnee Nation
- Free classes and workbooks
- Open to the public
- Classes limited to 12 participants

Call Christi or Debbie at 762-3873, ext 5.
Sponsored by REACH U.S.
in time and get a glimpse of these massive herds—surely it would be an awe inspiring sight! Historical paintings of these herds show buffalo for as far as the eye can see. By the time the camera entered history, it only recorded the piles of buffalo hides and mountains of skulls.

The buffalo were a perfect fit for the great plains of the American West. Being well suited for the extremes in temperature, their furry coats would protect them from the bitter cold, and then it would come off just in time for the summer heat. They survived off the abundant and common prairie grasses. Their bodies were built for surviving. They reproduced easily and in great numbers. Young calves were up on their feet and ready to run within hours after birth. Large herds accommodated the winter by sweeping away snow to get at the grasses below. Pioneers used to lament, "Oh give me a home, where the buffalo roam..." They were an icon of the power and strength found in America.

The buffalo and the Indian have always been closely linked. Indians have used the bison as a source of food, shelter and clothing for millennia. The entire buffalo was used by the Indian and the uses were endless and many. (I always laugh a little imaging my wife using a buffalo tongue as a hair brush!) The Pawnee specifically followed a yearly schedule based on the buffalo. It started with the winter hunt for buffalo, return to the mud lodges to sow their corn, pumpkin and squash, go back for the summer buffalo hunt, and then return to harvest their crops. Year in, year out this routine was followed. Like most Indian tribes, the Pawnee counted on the buffalo for survival. (Historians have estimated that the total buffalo killed by Indian tribes throughout America had a negligible effect on the total bison population. Indians have always had great respect for the buffalo and only took what was needed. I know there are anecdotes of some tribes who needlessly slaughtered buffalo, but these cases were historical anomalies and not the norm.)

In the 1800s, the U.S. Government subscribed to the notion of Manifest Destiny for our nation. Manifest Destiny was the belief that the American settler/pioneer should seek out new western lands and enrich it with farming and animal husbandry of cattle. The two major road blocks to this policy were the Indian and the Buffalo. The Indian owned the lands needed by the settler and the buffalo roamed the lands needed for their cattle. This was a major inconvenience for the government.

The Indian and the buffalo were so clearly linked the US government policy towards both was a mirror image. The government turned a blind eye while the pioneer harassed, hazed and killed Indians for their lands. The frontiersman/hunter annihilated the buffalo. In one of the most prodigious and grotesque slaughters in the history of mankind, hide hunters were allowed to wipe the continent of any trace of buffalo in a very, very short period of time. The buffalo hunters took high powered rifles onto the plains. They systematically and carefully fired bullet after bullet into the herd, killing them. They stripped the buffalo of its hide, leaving the carcass to rot. The good ones could kill 5,000 buffalo or more in a month. The buffalo did not have a chance. (I would encourage you to research this time period. There are many excellent books out there that tell about this travesty. The pictures alone will make you sick to your stomach!)

We all know what happened next. Without the buffalo, the Indian had to turn to the government for sustenance. Of course, the food supply provided by the government to the Indian was never enough. Soon after the last buffalo roamed the prairie, many starving tribes were forced onto reservation lands.

The Pawnee’s relocation to Oklahoma and surrender of their valuable Nebraskan homeland was a direct result of their last buffalo hunt. Hungry and desperate, the Pawnee people went out in search of buffalo in 1873. Under agreement with the government, the Pawnee were supposed to be afforded military protection while they went in search of buffalo. Many men, women and children left the village with high hopes of finding buffalo but were ambushed by the Pahuksikat in what is now called Massacre Canyon. The government’s protection never came. Many of our brothers and sisters died that day. The survivors returned to the village and soon after decided that only safe thing to do was to sell their lands and move south. But what if the buffalo were still so abundant at this time that neighboring tribes didn’t have to compete and fight over them? Our sacred Nebraskan homeland might have been saved.

In the late 1800s, small herds of buffalo kept popping up here and there. Instead of being prudent, hunters kept firing away; killing at will. Towards the end of the 1800s, mounted buffalo heads were commanding a hefty sum because of their scarcity, so the killers kept at it. By the turn of the century, the wild buffalo herds were a memory—a legend...

Or were they? I’ve always taken the buffalo for granted. It’s a novelty—some poor animal that you can feed old bread to on a ranch. Sadly, the more I read, I realized that those poor beasts aren’t really buffalo, but a crossbreed between the American Bison and the cow! How else could they get these notorious wanderers to stay put?!!

Here comes the good part: In the 1800s, there were a few renegade bands of truly wild buffalo that didn’t give up. In fact, there are two of these still wild herds still in existence! One is located in Alberta, Canada. The other is located in Yellowstone Park, USA!

My first reaction: Hurray! Some of these wonderful creatures made it—they still exist—they still fight on. These are wild ancestors of those icons that once roamed the Earth in great numbers. These survivors should be afforded the same protections as the bald eagle. They are truly a national treasure and need to be saved.

I was excited to read about our human
efforts to re-establish them into their natural habitat. Much to my amazement, I was shocked to learn this isn’t the case. These bison - these links to our past - these hopes for our future are still being killed. You’ll probably not be surprised when you learn who is doing it; the government, of course. The Montana Department of Livestock and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks continue to harass, haze and kill these buffalo. Sadly, Yellowstone National Park - those who should be protecting and defending the buffalo - is as equal a partner in their harassment and death as are the livestock interests. Since 2000, there have been a reported 3,700 deaths (this includes lethal government action, quarantine, hunts and highway mortality) according to the Buffalo Field Campaign. This is about 10% of the reported wild population left in the Americans.

As I dig deeper, it seems like pure economics driving the continued killing and hazing. The cattle industry is well financed and politically powerful. Buffalo grazing on “their cattle’s land” is not an option (even if this land is public property.) Unfortunately, Montana’s government buys into the cattlemen’s argument that buffalo carry a nasty disease called brucellosis that is dangerous to their livestock. Ironically, it was the cow that first gave the disease to the buffalo and there is no reported case of the buffalo giving it back. So the ranchers win, the buffalo lose and Montana Fish and Game continue to force buffalo off cattle land. In some cases, they have the authority to kill these wild buffalo.

Do you know what scares me most? What if they succeed? What if they put enough stress on this herd that not enough of them make it through a cold winter? What if the herd’s numbers become so depleted that they can’t recover? What if the last living remnant of that once vast herd that covered the new world disappears on our watch? Many Indians from the 1800s predicted the day would come where the white man would cover the land and destroy the buffalo.

So what happens now? You might be asking what you can do to help. The first step is to inform yourself. There are a lot of great organizations out there that educate the public and/ or protect the buffalo. I personally support and follow the work of the Buffalo Field Campaign (www.buffalofieldcampaign.org), a group that is on the front line in Yellowstone doing their best to make sure no more bison are slaughtered. There are many more organizations out there doing their share and a simple Google search will help you find them. The following books were also quite informative on the plight of buffalo: Grassland by Richard Manning, American Buffalo by Steven Rinella and Last Stand by Michael Punke. Check them out if you get a chance. After informing yourself, take action! Write, donate and raise your strong Indian voice to the Federal and state governments (I am glad to hear we now have a Pawnee in Washington, D.C.)

I’ll leave you with these two pictures of wild buffalo taken by Stephany Seay and Peter Bogusko of the Buffalo Field Campaign. Maybe those once massive, roaming herds are a thing of the past but I’d like to think that we can give their surviving ancestors a fair shake.

Questions or comments? Please contact me at anthonyddavis@gmail.com
Recently, the Pawnee Nation opened the doors to our newly renovated Cultural Learning Center located down town at 657 Harrison Street, and for the Roam Chief and Food Distribution Center located on the Pawnee Tribal Reserve at 810 Morris Road. I am proud to say that these renovations brought a new look to these centers and are here to benefit the Pawnee Indian community. Both of these renovations were funded through Indian Community Development Block Grant of the Housing and Urban Development Agency. I want to thank Muriel Robedeaux, the construction teams, and architects for all their hard work.

Recently, the Pawnee Nation received a partial ICDBG grant to renovate the Early Childcare Center. We are currently in the design phase of this project, and looking at late spring for the construction to be completed.

The Pawnee Nation was recently approved for special funding in the amount of $45,510 through the BIA to renovate the court building and to purchase new computers. The renovation will improve operations and provide a professional courtroom appearance for our clientele.

On September 14, 2010, the Pawnee Nation submitted a proposal request for a one-time funding consideration in the amount of $76,228.00 to provide additional equipment to the Pawnee Nation Police Department. If funded, we would have additional dollars for purchases which will consist of needed police equipment, weapons, crime reduction initiatives, security equipment, and other equipment needed to assist with the Pawnee Nation Police Department’s operations. This request was to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services.

We just received the notification that funding has been received for the System of Care for Pawnee County. The special project will support a behavioral health care system that is not available in the community. This special project will add a full time Care Coordinator, and full time Family Support Provider. The Care Coordinator facilitates the wraparound process as well as provides advocacy on behalf of the youth and family and also links and refers the youth and family to supports and resources for their identified needs. The Family Support Provider is an advocate and support person who has either lived with or raised a child with emotional and behavioral health needs. A School Based Therapist was also funded. The School Based Therapist will be licensed or licensed eligible and will provide therapeutic services to youth in the elementary, middle, and high school with the focus on American Indian youth. The Circle of Wisdom Advisory Board and CREOKS Behavioral Health Services will offer guidance and support.

Currently, I am teaching the Grants Writing and Fundraising Class at the Pawnee Nation College for the fall semester. We have eleven students taking the class. As the class progresses, each student will have a completed grant proposal ready. We are off to a good start and I am very excited about the positive feedback in class. Thank you to all of the students taking this class.

The purpose of the Young Dog Dance trot dance, and our purpose, is simply to bring healing to all who need comfort in any of our human aspects: physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

To prepare, males or females can bring out or make a rattle for use by any males who wish to dance on November 7; likewise, eagle bone whistles are used. Tom Evans sent the rattle in the photo for us to use as a model. It has a leather covered wooden dowel with attached deer toes. There is also a rattle from Maud Chisholm on display at the Pawnee Bill Museum, for reference.

If you want to dance on November 7, please contact Pius Spotted Horse Chief, Walter Echo-Hawk, Ralph Haymond or Marshall Gover.

Toodahay!

For information about this article, please contact Gwen Shunatona, gwen.shunatona@att.net, 918-399-1265 or Deb Echo-Hawk, dechohawk@yahoo.com, 918-820-2008.
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