Chief receives honorary degree from Yale

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller was awarded an honorary doctorate in humane letters by Yale University during graduation ceremonies in New Haven, Conn.

Mankiller was among 10 honorary degree recipients at Yale’s commencement which saw 7,800 students graduate.

University President Benno C. Schmidt Jr. praised the chief for making the Cherokee Nation "a model for others" and keeping alive "a spirit of community which too many others have lost."

Also attending the ceremony were U.S. Sen. and Mrs. David Boren, who acted as hosts for the chief and her husband Charlie Soap, and Deputy Chief John Kah揿.

Sen. Boren nominated Chief Mankiller for the honor. A 1963 Yale graduate, the senator is a member of the Yale Corporation.

Among others honored were opera singer Jessye Norman and Tom Wolfe, writer, journalist and social critic. A posthumous award also was given to the family of the late A. Bartlett Giamatti, former baseball commissioner.

Mankiller has also received honorary doctorate degrees from the University of New England and Rhode Island College, In 1966 she received a Distinguished Leadership Citation from Harvard University and earlier this month, Oklahoma State University presented her OSU's highest honor, the Henry G. Bennett Award.

Mankiller first made history in 1983 when she was elected deputy chief, the highest office held by a woman in her tribe. She drew international attention two years later when she replaced the former principal chief and became the first woman to hold a major North American Indian tribal office. She was easily elected to her own full four-year term in 1987.

She has used her position to focus attention on the successes of her tribe and to work for programs for her people. She also is well-known as a vocal advocate for all Native Americans, for women and for the poor.

Before elected to tribal office, Mankiller worked for the Cherokee Nation as a grantwriter and was responsible for obtaining funding for many of the programs the tribe operates, including a major horticulture enterprise, Cherokee Gardens. She is also a leader in rural economic development for tribes and founded the Cherokee Nation's community development department which today serves as a national model.

Most recently she secured funding for a $6 million facility for the tribe's Talking Leaves Job Corps and a $4 million appropriation for a new health clinic in Sallisaw. She continues to work on community development initiatives, especially in fullblood communities, obtained funding for Cherokee United Way and has pushed to establish a community loan fund for rural Cherokees.

She appointed a Cherokee Children's Commission and charged members with providing an extensive report on the status of Cherokee children and what must be done to protect their futures.

A strong proponent of economic development in northeastern Oklahoma, she assisted with a recruitment effort that successfully attracted Petit Jean Poultry, Inc., along with 650 new jobs, to Adair County.

Under her leadership the Arkansas Riverhead Authority has taken an active role in securing reimbursements and negotiating leases for tribal property along the Arkansas Riverhead.

38th Cherokee National Holiday plans underway

The 38th Cherokee National Holiday will celebrate "A Cherokee Homecoming" during the Labor Day weekend August 30-Sept. 2, according to event chairman Linda Lewis, marketing specialist for the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

The Cherokee National Holiday is sponsored by the Cherokee Nation each Labor Day weekend to commemorate the signing of the original of the Cherokee Nation Constitution on June 15, 1839. The Holiday celebrates Cherokee culture and tradition and serves as a homecoming for more than 100,000 tribal members with more than 50,000 visitors each fall.

This year's theme is "The Spirit of the Cherokee Nation," focusing on Native American history and culture.

The event will feature annual events including traditional cultural games and events such as bluegrass, bow shooting and marbles in addition to softball, volleyball, tennis and rodeo.

A parade in downtown Tahlequah will end with the annual State of the Nation address at Cherokee Square with Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller on Saturday morning. The pow-wow will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The annual Miss Cherokee competition and Pow Wow Princess competition are scheduled too. This year special children's events will be added to the list of activities that will allow participation without competition.

The event headquarters has been set up as a full-time event coordinator and she will work on holiday planning. Lewis said. Shockey is a former Miss Cherokee and Miss Indian Oklahoma.

The holiday committee is currently seeking volunteers to help with events and holiday planning and promotion. Anyone interested in volunteering or for more information about the Holiday, contact Lewis at (918) 456-6671.

Governance issue published

The Cherokee Advocate for July has been combined with the August issue to provide our readers with information about the 1991 tribal elections, the Cherokee Nation taxation, to provide information about the relationship between the Cherokee Nation and the Kootenai band and to explain the issues involved in self-governance for the Cherokee Nation.

These are the most current, and sometimes controversial, issues facing the Cherokee Nation. It is because of this that the Advocate has collected information, conducted interviews and compiled data for the special section.

With the Cherokee Nation elections less than one year away, it is important that tribal members are aware of all the issues being dealt with by the tribal administration and council.

This edition of the Cherokee Advocate is being mailed to every Cherokee Nation tribal member's household but only one Advocate will be mailed to an address. There are more than 107,000 tribal members and the cost of mailing to each tribal member would be astronomical so please share this copy with your family members so all tribal members can be informed and have up-to-date information about our tribe.
Letters, etc.

Editor, Cherokee Advocate:
I am a senior citizen 67 years old. I read the paper from cover to cover. I have a clock that Chad Smith sells. Everyone who sees it wants to know where I got it. I have relatives in several parts of Oklahoma. My grandfather Frank Boger was 1/8 Cherokee. He had some Indian land. My mother was the eldest of 11 children. She and a sister and both also had Indian land.

My aunt is still alive; she is 88 years old. Her land was where the Ocolal Dam is built. Her land was by Fairland. I don’t want to mess the paper.

Lottie Spry
247 Pinzer
Roseburg, OR 97470

Editor, Cherokee Advocate:
I enjoy reading the paper although I don’t know too many of the people mentioned in the paper, however two weeks ago I did recognize some names.

I was born in Westville 1905. I see various names that I know are in my family tree. I was named after Jennie Christie, who was the wife of John Christie. He was my mother’s uncle who was the brother of my mother’s mother.

My late father was W.D. Williams and his brothers and sisters went to school at the old Indian Seminary. I suppose it still stands at the Northeastern College.

Jennie Christie Williams
Hix Ceres, CA

Editor, Cherokee Advocate:
I am a senior citizen 83 years old. I was born in Indian Territory before it became a state. I am also one quarter Cherokee. My Paternal grandmother was named Nancy Bear. I really enjoy the paper.

Clara Scott
34089 Ave. 1
Yucaipa, CA 92399

Editor, Cherokee Advocate:
The Museum of the Cherokee Indian has received a request from Holiday Inn, concerning the last wish of a seven year old boy who has a brain tumor and just a short time to live.

Craig’s dream is to have an entry in the Guinness Book of Records for the largest number of “Get Well Wishes” ever received by an individual.

If you would like to take the time and send a card to: Craig Shergold, 36 Shelly Road, Charnhall, Surrey, Sn 1 LD, England.

Museum of the Cherokee Indian
Ken Blankenship, director

Editor, Cherokee Advocate:

We are looking for the family name of Pritchett who are descendants of George Washington Pritchett, born 1812+ or in Maryland, and his wife, Fruellia Pritchett born 1815 in Virginia.

Their children were next located in the Ohio valley near Marietta and St. Marys West Virginia.

Sandra M. Wakefield
R 4, Box 133
Huntsville, AR 72740

The Ideal Gift
For Cherokee Families

By Wilma Mankiller

"The Chief Cooks"

A collection of Traditional Cherokee recipes ranging from grape dumplings to wild onion and eggs.

$12.95
$10.00 for book + $2.00 for postage & handling

"The Chief Cooks"
P.O. Box 308
Park Hill, Ok. 74451
Cherokee Nation PIC visits Stilwell, Westville

Adair County was the site of the second quarterly meeting of the Cherokee Nation Private Industry Council May 10. The council held a brief meeting to discuss terms of membership on the CNPIC before a video presentation and overview on Stilwell by W.H. "Bill" Langley, Jr., Stilwell Industrial Authority representative. Langley is also a CNPIC member.

The meeting was held at Cherokee Nation Industries. Following the business meeting, the PIC members attended a luncheon with Chuck Bradford, general manager, of Baldor Electric Company in Westville, as guest speaker.

Bradford outlined Baldor's management philosophy and his own business philosophy. He said successful businesses must have a tremendous amount of commitment to their employees. Baldor conducts opinion surveys and has a small birthday parties for employees each month to give the employees a chance to express views and present suggestions for improvements of what is working well for the employees.

New business formed by Cherokee Nation

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and two energy-related firms based in Oklahoma City have joined forces to create First American Resources, Inc. It has been announced by Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller.

The new tribal corporation, which will provide technical assistance for development and management of natural resources, was born out of a union with the RAM Group, Ltd. and RAM Asset Management.

Six months in negotiation stages, final approval for First American Resources, Inc., came from the tribal council in its June 9 meeting.

The Cherokee Nation will own 51 percent of First American Resources, Inc., and will provide the expertise in government procurement procedures, consulting, accounting services and staffing. RAM, which will own the remaining 49 percent, will provide the oil and gas expertise and appraisers for the new company.

Stilwell's Petit Jean Poultry holds gala grand opening

More than 2,000 people attended the gala grand opening of Petit Jean Poultry, Inc., in Stilwell, Saturday, June 2. Petit Jean Poultry, Inc., along with the Cherokee Nation and the City of Stilwell, hosted the event at the new plant in Adair County.

Petit Jean, a chicken deboning plant that contracts with such poultry giants as Tyson Foods, opened May 1 and will provide nearly 650 jobs for the Adair County area.

A ribbon cutting ceremony kicked off the plant's grand opening festivities and tours of the 54,000-square-foot facility were given to guests. Entertainment and refreshments also were available for guests.

The Petit Jean Poultry project was a joint effort of several agencies and Stilwell boosters. The Cherokee Nation provided a labor market survey as part of the recruitment effort and, with several other agencies, has assisted in the process of hiring and training employees.
Council meeting minutes for May

Council meeting minutes for May

(EDITOR’S NOTE: The Cherokee Advocate is required by law to publish a list of the approved minutes of each council meeting as recorded by the legislative aide.)

CALL TO ORDER: Council Fire Chief Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers.

INVOCATION: Invocation was given by Councilman Loy Norvell.

ROLL CALL: Roll call was presented by Glen Black, legislative aide. The following council members were present: James Eubanks, Sam Ed Bush, Joe Byrd, Gary Chapman, James Eubanks, Gary Chapman, James Eubanks, Gary Chapman, Sam Ed Bush, and Loy Norvell. A quorum was declared to conduct business. The following council members were absent: Steve McKee and Sam Byrd. Councilman Woodrow Proctor arrived late.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilman Sam Ed Bush made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular April 14, 1990 tribal council meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Goodloe Phillips. Motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION: Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller - Chief Mankiller extended a special welcome to Councilwoman Bush and Proctor. An update was presented on the Requests for Assistance Management (RAM) program. The RAM Group has agreed to provide the offer the funding assistance and to work with tribal council members to provide services for the Chickasaw Nation. The Chief Mankiller and the presenters for the RAM Group, Dr. Larry C. Carter, Jr., chairman of the Defense Appropriations Committee, to express our concerns regarding the decrease in the defense budget. We discussed that the sale of the wire and harness products which are manufactured at the Cherokee Nation, and the United States government, and the reduction of the defense budget are necessary for their sustainability.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES: Councilwoman Betty Rains expressed her appreciation to the Councilwoman Bush and Proctor, and the Department of Defense野外的 Indigenous People’s Day. She presented the council members with a certificate of recognition for their efforts in promoting Indigenous People’s Day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman David Lay presented the Department of Defense’s report on the progress made in the field of Indigenous People’s Day. He discussed the importance of acknowledging the contributions of Indigenous people in the field of defense.

BUSINESS ITEMS: 1) Approval for Funding the Cherokee Historical Society's FY 2099-2000 budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Goodloe Phillips. Motion carried.

2) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Goodloe Phillips. Motion carried.

3) Approval for the Sale of Tribal Lands in Oklahoma to the United States Department of Agriculture. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

4) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

5) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

6) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

7) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

8) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

9) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

10) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

11) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

12) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

13) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

14) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

15) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

16) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

17) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

18) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

19) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

20) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

21) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

22) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

23) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

24) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

25) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

26) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

27) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

28) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

29) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

30) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

31) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

32) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

33) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

34) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

35) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

36) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

37) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

38) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

39) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.

40) Authorization and Support of the Cherokee Nation’s Request for the Passage of the American Indian Education Act. The motion was seconded by Councilman Loy Norvell. Motion carried.
Amendments to the Tribal Tax Code by Tribal Council

The Tribal Council of the Cheyenne Nation has amended the Tribal Tax Code to allow for the taxation of alcohol and tobacco products. The amendments were approved by a 12-1 vote at the July 26 meeting.

The amendments will allow for the collection of sales taxes on alcohol and tobacco products. The tax rates will be 5% for alcohol and 7% for tobacco. The taxes will be collected by the state Department of Revenue.

The amendments were introduced by Tribal Council member Mike Shipps, who said, "This is a necessary step to fund our Tribal programs and services." He added that the tax revenue will help fund programs such as education, health care, and social services.

The amendments were opposed by some Tribal Council members, who argued that the tax would disproportionately affect lower-income Tribal members.

The Tribal Council also approved a resolution to increase the Tribal budget by $1 million to fund additional programs.

Council informed on Indian housing hearing

The Council of the Cheyenne Nation has approved a resolution to expand services for Indian housing. The resolution was approved by a 12-1 vote at the July 26 meeting.

The resolution will provide funding for the construction of new housing units and the rehabilitation of existing units. The funding will come from a combination of Tribal and government funds.

The resolution was introduced by Tribal Council member Mike Shipps, who said, "This is a necessary step to address the housing needs of our Tribal members." He added that the funding will help to reduce the number of individuals living in substandard housing.

The resolution was opposed by some Tribal Council members, who argued that the funding should be used for other Tribal programs.

The Tribal Council also approved a resolution to increase the Tribal budget by $1 million to fund additional programs.
Cherokee Nation adult education graduates receive GEDs

The Cherokee Nation adult education program recently held graduation ceremonies for participants who completed the requirements for a GED. Diplomas were presented to the graduates by Principal Chief Wilma M. Mankiller, Reva Reyes, acting director of the Cherokee Nation education program, Patsy Morton, Cherokee Nation Tribal Council education committee chairperson; Joe Byrd, education committee co-chairman and the adult education instructors.

Graduates are listed by hometown.

Tahlequah: Heather Avelar, Terry Birdtail, Stephanie Canoe, David Gourd, Brandon Hallford, Samuel Hooper, Liz Lemasters and Story Pack
Collinsville: Audrey Byrns, Diwanite Smith, Steve Pullen and Phillip Westerman.
Locust Grove: Janelle Bucklin, Carol Chance, Connie Cotterill, Kimberly Friday, Lou Ann Hanson, Carolyn Jenkins, Markie Loudermilk, Pamela Moore, Mike Panliler, David Russell, Anita Stirling and Sally Stipes.
Westville: Mike Castile, Pam Colston, Wanda Currin, Steve Dersham, Alice Flute, Jerry Hamlin, Sylvia Kethley, Regina Luchte, Peggy Nickens and Judy Watson.
Sulphur: Lisa Leach, Brooke Sawney, Jaime Sessies, Patsy Turner and Thomas Waterdown.
Sallisaw: Logita Ivy, Ruth Kennedy and Deborah Toon.

Other graduates and their hometowns are Anna Beaulry, Oaks; Sharon Blackfox, Joes; Betty Langworthy, Joes; Jamille Hanks, Cookson; Robert Ketchie, Peavine; Patty Ann Keller, Belfonte; Pauline Livers, Cherry Tree; Mary Jo Lynch, Muldrow; Carol Mulanax, Claremore; Betty Tuggle, Claremore; Frank Raper, Kenwood; Rebs Reasor, Eucha; Christina Stephens, Wattsa; Ramon Rollick, Woodall; and Lorraine Sacks, Vian.

Adult-education nominated for two top national honors

The Cherokee Nation adult education program has been selected for review to receive two top national educational honors, according to Reva Reyes, Cherokee Nation acting director of education.

The adult education program is one of the top six Indian education programs in the country to be reviewed as a showcase model for other Native American education programs. The program will also be reviewed by a program evaluation panel through the U.S. Department of Education.

Submissions are currently being gathered to be presented to a joint dissemination and review panel. Programs selected serve as model education programs for other programs, tribal and non-Indian alike.

If chosen by the Office of Indian Education the Cherokee Nation program will be a showcase model for all other Native American education programs. Staff will give a presentation during the National Indian Education Association Conference to be held in San Diego this fall.

The review process began May 29 and is expected to take about two weeks, said Reyes.

"If the P.E.P. (program evaluation panel) approves us, our program will serve as a model to the rest of the country and we will be used to teach others how to implement our model in other parts of the country," said Reyes.

The Cherokee Nation adult education program was established to teach basic skills and literacy to adults 16 years or older and not in school. Classes are held in various communities where a need is felt throughout the Cherokee Nation service area. Participants are also able to receive a GED upon completion of the course.

Cherokee language preservation drive

Staff of the Cherokee Nation language program will be distributing pledge cards throughout the Cherokee Nation service area to encourage citizens to learn or teach the Cherokee language, according to Durbin Feeding, Cherokee Nation language specialist.

Participants will be asked to use the pledge cards, either to learn or teach words, phrases or the complete syllabary. The Cherokee language staff will distribute pledge sheets throughout the local communities and charts recording the completed pledges will be displayed in those communities, Feeding said.

Participants will have until May 1991 to complete the pledges. At that time recognition and awards will be given to those who have completed their goals, said Feeding.

"This is the first time for a program like this but we plan to make it a continuing one," said Reva Reyes, director of the Cherokee Nation education department.

Anyone who is interested in either teaching or learning may contact Feeding at 458-0377.

Segovay High lists honor students

Segovay High School has released the names of students listed on the 1989-90 second semester honor roll.

Supervisors' honor roll students are seniors, Kristi Cun, Stephanie Dredfulwater, Gail Hargo, Celeste Kirkland and Deanna Quinton Dishore. Students listed on the principal's honor roll are seniors, David Adair, Jennifer Bille, Karen Callie, Shannon Chamber, Jamie Deckard, Stacy Fletcher, Randy Hooper, Tim Jones, Bob Terenamaz and Joe Tiger.

Juniors are Joe Chester, Monica Cypres, Jeff Hill, Jerry Holt, Colleen McCaffrey and Louis Scott.

Other students listed are sophomore, Cogee Rhodes, freshmen, Eric Cyprus, Von Herrera and Chad Lindsey.

Tom Purdin retires from TLJC

Tom Purdin has retired as a counselor at Talking Leaves Job Corps after nine years of service to the students and staff.

He was honored with a retirement reception Friday, April 27.

Purdin was given a plaque thanking him for his service. He also was given a new fishing rod and fishing tackle equipment to help keep him occupied during his retirement.

The staff also made it perfectly clear he is welcome to come back and visit anytime. The employee service award was presented to Purdin by Larry Ketcher, Talking Leaves director.

"It has been Tom's sincere desire to improve the students and make them better citizens," Ketcher said. He said the center would miss Purdin.

Purdin's last day at work, Purdin wore the first Job Corps t-shirt he ever owned. His immediate plans will be to travel to South Carolina to help his son build his first house.
Student Corner

Roy of Oklahoma City, was recently selected as one of several students to tour Washington, D.C. for making the Honor Roll all year.

Robert has a grade point average of 4.0 and continues to do well.

She is a member of the Cherokee Nation and resides with her father in Oklahoma City.

JASON OKOKNIE FOURKILLER
Jason Okkonke Fourkiller, son of Jimmy and Esther Fourkiller of Bixby, Ok., graduated from Bixby High School on May 22, at the Oral Roberts University Mabee Center.

His school activities included track, basketball, German Club and has been on the honor society for four years.

Jason will attend Oklahoma University in the fall to pursue a career in the field of Engineering or Corporate Law.

JASON is the grandson of Jemmas Jem Fourkiller and the late Nick Fourkiller of Stilwell, Ok.

Melissa Sellers, eighth grader at Zion School during the past year and the daughter of Bill and Karen Sellers, has been the captain of the cheerleading squad for two years and the Zion Homecoming Queen.

She is on the faculty honor roll and is a member of the 4-H Club. She received third place in the 4-H Speech Rally.

Melissa participates in basketball, softball and track. She also plays volleyball and dodge ball for the fun of it, not in competition.

TODD AARON NUNNALLS
Todd Aaron Nunnals, senior at Nowata High School this past school year and the son of Bob and Marilyn Nunnals, was on the Principal's Honor Roll, was Boys State Delegate, Mr. Nowata High, was on the Honor Society, was voted Student of the Month, was student council vice president, FHA Brave, and was freshman and sophomore class treasurer.

He participated in football in which he was all-state, all-conference and all-district. He also participated in basketball, track and umpired for little league.

Todd has won awards in Agriculture II and has won the Greenhead Award and won the Northeastern State University History Contest.

Extra curricular activities include Future Farmers of America vice president, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Spanish Club, Anthology Contributor, Advanced Independent Studies, Program Committee Member, National Junior Honour Society, and in the Verdigris Valley Academic Team.

CHARLIE WHITMIRE, senior at Nowata High School this past school year and the son of C.L. and Marilyn Whitmire, was on the Superintendent's Honor Roll, HOBY Alternate, Boys State Nominee, Who's Who Among American High School Students, was Student of the Month for December, won a speech award in 1989, and also won an award in journalism.

He has a grade point average of 3.78. He was editor-in-chief of his high school paper and has received several journalism awards including First Column in 1989 at MOUTAIN'S TIDE in 1989.

SARAH PEARCE
Sarah Pearce, senior at Nowata High School during the past year and the daughter of Mike and Sandy Pearce, was on the Principal's Honor Roll, was senior class secretary, class favorite, Girl's State Nominee, FHA Secretary, and had a grade point average of 3.5.

She competes in livestock shows at national levels, state and county. Jackpots have been very successful with class winners and grand champion.

Sarah has lettered in basketball two years, volleyball one year, track one year and girls golf team one year.

She enjoys showing cattle, refereeing, teaching swimming lessons, FFA, FHA, FCA and the Spanish Club.

STACY CLINGMAN, senior at Nowata High School during the past year and daughter of Wendell and Gwen Clingman, was recently selected by the student body to be Miss Nowata High, one of the top honors at the school. She has also been elected Band Queen and basketball homecoming queen.

She has received a Union Pacific Railroad Scholarship, one of fifty awarded nation-wide. She was on the Superintendent's Honor Roll, Oklahoma Honor Society, received the Presidential Academic Award, Student of the Month, voted class favorite, junior class president, advanced independent study vice-president, student council representative, and she received the explorations in Literature Award.

Stacy participated in basketball of which she is a 3-year letterman and team captain and was all-conference forward. She also participated in track, volleyball, softball and cheerleading.

Other activities include Future Teachers of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Friends United Nowata, Spanish Club, Band, Advanced Independent Study and Student Government.

SARAH PEARCE
Brad Wagon, fifth grader at Grandview School during the past year and the son of Randall and Judy Wagon, made Honor Roll every semester with straight A's.

He is a member of the choir at his school and is a member of the Blue Springs General Baptist Church and is active in the youth group.

Brad plays little league baseball during the summer.

ROBERTA GWEN ROY
Robert Gwen Roy, daughter of Lenore Redbird of Tahlequah and Spencer Roy, played a key role in the Tucumcari High School tennis team, was a key member of the band, and was a member of the National Honor Society.

She enjoys playing the piano, singing, and playing tennis. She plans to attend Oral Roberts University on a full ride scholarship and major in Music Therapy.

The Cherokee Advocate is supported in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council.

BRIAN WAGON
Brian Wagon, fifth grader at Grandview School during the past year and the son of Randall and Judy Wagon, made Honor Roll every semester with straight A's.

He is a member of the choir at his school and is a member of the Blue Springs General Baptist Church and is active in the youth group.

Brian plays little league baseball during the summer.
Cherokee youth participate in intern program

Fifteen youth are participating in the Cherokee Nation Tribal Internship Program sponsored by the tribal services department. The program began May 10 and will end July 27.

“The Tribal Internship Program was designed to give youth an opportunity to learn about tribal government while working at the same time,” said Lisa Trice, assistant coordinator of the program.

The interns and their parents were given a reception June 6 to welcome them to the program.

The youth received CPR training from the Cherokee Nation Emergency Medical Service (EMS) team. They also participated in workshops designed to help them with future job opportunities.

While participating in the program, the interns will have on-the-job training at various locations.

The interns will be traveling to the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) conference June 21-26 at Oklahoma City where they will gather with more than 500 American Indian and Alaska Native youth, coordinators, advisors and tribal leaders from throughout the United States.

The information they learn at UNITY will be used to facilitate the Cherokee Nation Youth Vocational Conference July 9-13.

The interns and their parents are Vanessa Fields, Onte; Jennifer Murphy, Bunch; Verna Williamson, Tahlequah; William Ludjhi, Stilwell; Beverly Carey, Tahlequah; Kristy Foundiller, Stilwell; Eddie Trice, Vinita; Tammy Lee, Tahlequah; Wesley Kingfisher, Tahlequah; Denise Luce, Rose; Angela Long, Hulbert; Aaron Hair, Tahlequah; Linda Osburn, Big Cabin; and Ben Procotor, Jay.

Fire Dancers battle Florida blaze

The Cherokee Nation Fire Dancers have returned from fighting a fire in the Okfuskee National Forest in northern Florida. Seven members of the Fire Dancers traveled to the fire site on the Florida-Georgia state line after being called out by the Daniel Boone National Forest Service.

The Cherokee Nation and the U.S. Forest Service signed an agreement for the fire service to train and work with Oklahoma firefighters for the Osage National Forest on March 23, 1989. The Cherokee Nation signed an agreement with the Daniel Boone National Forest in 1988 and was the first Oklahoma Indian tribe to sign such an agreement. More than 50 firefighters were trained during the first year of the program.

Fire Dancers have been called to battle forest fires in Arizona, Utah, Washington, Oregon and Kentucky. This is the first time the Fire Dancers have been called to a fire in the Southeast.

The Cherokee Nation was notified Friday morning, June 1, that the forest service would need seven firefighters, according to Willard Mounce, Cherokee Nation tribal services department. The firefighters returned to Oklahoma on Wednesday, June 6.

Fire Dancers sent to Florida were Dennis Gourd, Samuel Hooper, Ronnie Christian, Robert Lobough, Ken Hoghooter, Glen Buffalo and Joe Blackfox.

Breece honored at TERO conference

Dean Breece, compliance/TERO coordinator for the Cherokee Nation Tribal Services department, was honored by his colleagues for outstanding leadership serving as president for the past two years at the Southwest Tribal Employment Rights Regional Conference held in Arizona in April.

Breece was presented with a plaque which was accepted in his absence by Don Greenfather and Willard Mounce.

Tribal services featured program in display at Washington, D.C.

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Services Department Job Training Partnership Program was selected as one of nine grantees featured in a display on the Washington, D.C. Capitol Mall during Public Service Recognition Week, May 7-12. Bonnie Coty, federal representative for the Division of Indian and Native American Programs (DINAP), contacted the tribe's job training partnership program and asked them to submit a display application due to all the things that the program is involved in, according to Diane Kelley, department director.

The display information submitted for screening and review focused primarily on the Classroom and On-The-Job Training Programs with state agency linkages. The programs' involvement with the Pati Jo Poultry project encompassed a large majority of the display.

Viewing of the display was held May 10-12, according to Herb Fullman, DINAP director. Other exhibits chosen were Ahi Like, Inc. of Hawaii, Indian Center of Nebraska, Indian Manpower Consortium of California, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Rhode Island Indian Council, United Tribes Technical College of North Dakota and the American Indian Community House of New York.

Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller received a letter from Fullman congratulating the tribe for being selected as one of the eight grantees.

Cherokee Nation tribal services department to host annual youth vocational conference in July

The 8th Annual National Youth Vocational Conference will be held July 9-13. Tribal youth across the nation will participate. The Cherokee Nation tribal services department will sponsor the conference.

“Conference will focus on youth leadership,” said Lisa Trice, assistant coordinator of the conference. Several workshops will be held to assist the participants on brainstorming, decision making, education, heritage, health and being a positive role model for their tribe and community.

The participants will be housed at Sequoyah High School with all daily activities taking place at Northeastern State University. For more information contact Trice at (918) 456-0671 ext. 344 or Londa Cox at ext. 327.
EARN hosts national conference; evaluation set

The Cherokee Nation Employment Redirection Assistance Network (EARN) program hosted a national conference May 22-24 at Western Hills Guest Ranch near Wagoner.

The conference included the introduction of a training team from Sumburt Corporation of Seattle, Wash., that will visit each of the seven EARN program sites to interview past and present program staff and participants and review paperwork, according to Leah Prelor, Cherokee Nation EARN director. The Bureau of Indian Affairs contracted Sumburt to evaluate all national EARN demonstration projects with the last evaluation scheduled for October.

The Cherokee Nation EARN program will undergo national evaluation July 9, Pat Ragdale, special assistant to Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller, gave the welcoming address May 22. He presented a comprehensive talk on the Cherokee Nation, Jim Clenon, BIA acting chief of the Central Bureau in Washington, D.C., attended a luncheon May 24.

Other tribes operating EARN programs are the Mississippi Choctaw, Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota, Pueblo of Acoma, Salish Kootenai, Tribes, Tohono O'odham and Lower Brule.

EARN is a self-help program of the Cherokee Nation Employment Redirection Assistance Network Department that removes obstacles blocking self-sufficiency. These stumbling blocks can be lack of training, lack of transportation, child care or other problems. EARN helps participants find gainful employment or implement their own business plans.

The meeting provided EARN program managers and staff an opportunity to share ideas that have worked for their programs, Prelor said. “The national conference went very well. All participants enjoyed the stay at Western Hills and the tour Thursday of the area.”

“The Cherokee Nation EARN program is looking at keeping on the same track we have been on since March 89. We feel confident we will be do well on the inspection in July,” she said.

The Cherokee Nation EARN program participants have started successful businesses, completed silver smithing school, completed nurses training and found gainful, year-round employment during the program’s first year.

The EARN program is funded for three years. Program participants live within the 14-county service area of the Cherokee Nation.

Bearpaw speaks to EPA forum

Testimony from George Bearpaw, Cherokee Nation community development director, may be instrumental in getting legislation amended to ensure Oklahoma Indian tribes are included in Environmental Protection Agency projects.

Bearpaw was one of five presenters at a public forum on solid waste management sponsored by U.S. Rep. Mike Synar May 29 in Tulsa.

In his position at the Cherokee Nation, Bearpaw was instrumental in the formation of the Solid Waste Institute of northeastern Oklahoma and continues to work on solid waste and other environmental issues for the tribe.

Focus of the hearing was the impact the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, HR 3735, will have on local and state governments. Accompanying Synar were Congressman Tom Lujan, (D-Ohio) author of the legislation to reauthorize the bill, and Don Gray, a staff member from the House Committee on Government Operations.


Bearpaw told the panel that although EPA has adopted Indian policies, the agency has not traditionally recognized tribal governments. “In the few instances where legislation has included tribal governments, EPA has interpreted the language to exclude non-reservation tribes in Oklahoma and Alaska,” Bearpaw said. “This is not only unfair, it is unwarranted.”

The Cherokee Nation is the country’s largest non-reservation tribe. No Indian tribe in Oklahoma is considered part of a reservation.

Bearpaw said the language in the legislation should apply to all of Indian Country, regardless of the tribes’ reservation status.

Synar and Lujahn expressed concern about the language and after confirming the current wording in the act, Synar asked Gray and Bearpaw to meet to correct it to include non-reservation tribes.

Bearpaw’s testimony also stressed the need for annual EPA appropriations of states and tribal organizations to continue solid waste management. “Without federal dollars, it will be difficult, if not impossible, for local communities to generate enough revenue to create and support successful environmental programs,” he said.

Bearpaw suggested the federal government help identify a market for recycled materials. “Without markets the local communities will not participate in a program that is costly and where the prices for the materials aren’t stable,” he said.

Bearpaw, who appeared at the forum on behalf of Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller, also thanked Synar and Lujahn for their active and vocal roles in environmental legislation.

Indian foster parents needed

Indian foster homes are being sought by the Department of Human Services in Cherokee, Adair, Muskogee, Sequoyah and McIntosh Counties, according to Laurie Hand, Cherokee Nation youth services director.

Hand is working with Lisa Owens, DHS District II coordinator, to locate Indian foster care families in these areas.

Foster home care is mandated under the federal Social Security Act and Oklahoma state statutes to provide full-time care in the least restrictive, most family-like setting to children who cannot remain in their home, said Hand.

In 1989, there were 7,602 confirmed child abuse cases in Oklahoma, Owens said. Twenty-five children died from child abuse in 1989.

Muskogee County had an average of 47 children in foster care each month through 1989, while Cherokee County had an average of 23, Adair County 19, McIntosh County 12 and Sequoyah County averages 60-65 children in foster care each month.

Federal law requires that Indian children be placed with families where at least one parent is a member of an Indian tribe. If Indian families are unavailable, then placement is made with non-Indian families, Owens said.

Foster parents are required to take a 21-hour pre-service foster parent training course called NOVA training. NOVA is offered when interested persons contact their local child welfare office and the training is offered at various times to meet the needs of the working individual, she said.

After NOVA training has been completed, a background check is run to determine if there have been any child abuse complaints or any charges that may cause concern for the children, she said.

A home study also is completed which includes a visit to the prospective foster parent’s home to ensure the safety of the home and space adequacy, Reference letters from friends and family also are needed, said Owens.

The Department of Human Services provides monthly monetary reimbursement for the care of the child, medical, dental and counseling expenses and other special approved items.

Foster parent meetings will be held at the following locations in July to explain the procedures for becoming a foster parent:

Cherokee County, July 10, 6 p.m., Cherokee Nation Tribal Complex, 4 miles south of Tahlequah on Highway 62.

Sequoyah County, July 12, 6 p.m., Sequoyah County Health Department conference room.

Muskogee County, July 17, 6 p.m., Muskogee County Library.

Adair County, July 19, 6 p.m., site to be announced.

Perspective foster parents in other offices can contact the local DHS office foster care specialist for more information about foster care in their area, Hand said.

For information about the Department of Human Services foster care program, contact foster care specialists in Cherokee County, 456-9468, Beverly Williams; Muskogee County, 683-3291, David Iron; Sequoyah County, 775-5555, Pam Peterson; Adair County, 696-3118, Larry Eubanks, and McIntosh County, 699-2524, Cathy Rippy.
Haney helps launch hemophilia campaign

Did you know that Hemophilia is not limited to certain bloodlines or races? It is a genetic disorder that directly affects the ability of blood to clot and the effects of the disease are felt not only by the individual but by their entire family.

This is the message the Oklahoma Hemophilia Foundation (OHF) and the Oklahoma Hemophilia Treatment Center (OHTC) are spreading throughout Oklahoma with the help of Senator Kelly Haney. Haney has volunteered his time and services by producing a public service announcement urging the cooperation of all Native Americans asking them to call for more information and for help in locating those who might benefit from the many services offered by the two organizations.

At the present time the Oklahoma Hemophilia Foundation and the Treatment Center are concentrating on the Native American population residing in Oklahoma who have hemophilia or similar blood clotting disorders.

Their goal is to work closely with one's local or primary care physicians to complete a comprehensive care package.

These two non-profit organizations work together to ensure the availability of quality care, special resource information, and an informal support network to all persons and their family members who are affected.

Some of their combined services include: hemophilia education, instruction in home therapy, a summer camp program, informative newsletter, and social functions your round.

If you would like additional information on OHF, or would like to make a referral, or would like a free brochure about hemophilia, please call Lynette Scigler at (405) 283-7830 or write to Lynette at OHTC, PO Box 851, Guthrie, OK 73044.

OHTC would be glad to send you more information about hemophilia.

The OHTC can be reached at 1 (800) 688-5266. The call is free.

WIC benefits for the homeless

In accordance with Federal Regulations 245.4(a)(7) the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma WIC Program notifies the public of the availability of WIC services to homeless, pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum women, infants, and children under the age of 5 years.

Applicants must be determined to be at risk and meet the program’s income guidelines to receive benefits. Persons residing in a homeless facility may receive program benefits if the facility meets the following conditions:

- The homeless facility does not accept financial or in-kind benefit from a person's participation in the WIC program.

- Food provided by the WIC Program are not subsumed into communal food service but are available exclusively to the WIC participant.

- Institutional proxies do not pick up food vouchers for WIC participants in their homeless facilities or transport the food vouchers in bulk.

- The homeless facility places no constraints on the ability of the participants to partake of the supplemental foods and nutrition education available under the program.

Donated Foods program

July field schedule

| Monday, July 2 | Bell, Community Building, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Bunch, Cherokee Mission School, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. |
| Tuesday, July 3 | Tahlequah, Donated Foods Warehouse, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Closed July 4 |
| Thursday, July 5 | Novata, Fair Barn, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Friday, July 6 | Sallisaw, Extension Building, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. |
| Monday, July 9 | Locust Grove, Community Building, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Muldrow, Bingo Hall Parking Lot, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Tuesday, July 10 | Sallisaw, VFW Building, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Westville, Bushyhead Heights, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Wednesday, July 11 | Dewey, Community Action Building, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Vian, Fire Department, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Thursday, July 12 | Jai, Fair Barn, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. |
| Friday, July 13 | Stilwell, Hoger Heights, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. |
| Monday, July 16 | Collinsville, American Legion, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, July 17 | Webbers Falls, County Barn, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Foyil, Baptist Church, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Wednesday, July 18 | Afton, City Hall, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Kenwood, Community Building, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Thursday, July 19 | White Oak, White Oak School, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Friday, July 20 | Ponca, Wheeler Estates, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Colcord, Community Building, 9 a.m. to noon; Oaks, Fire Station, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. |
| Saturday, July 21 | Tahlequah, Donated Foods Warehouse, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. |
| Monday, July 23 | Spavinaw, City Hall, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Catoosa, Cherokee Village, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Tuesday, July 24 | Nicut, Belfonte Community Building, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Pryor, Cherokee Heights, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. |
| Wednesday, July 25 | Marble City, Old Marble City School Building, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Retschum, City Hall, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| Thursday, July 26 | Tahlequah, Donated Foods Warehouse, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. |

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma's toll free telephone number will be changed, effective July 1. The new toll free number in Oklahoma only is 1-800-256-0671. Persons who dial the old toll free number, 1-800-722-4325, will be advised of the new number by a recorded message.
Dear Fellow Cherokees:

Many important issues are facing the Cherokee Nation today, as evidenced by two basic underlying factors — our right as a sovereign nation to self-govern and how we choose to exercise that right as we prepare ourselves to enter the 21st century on our own terms.

It is the issue of governance, and to some degree unity, that this special Advocate section addresses. Contained in this section is information that can help you formulate opinions and make decisions in the future; other pieces you may want to mentally file away for later.

I believe the Cherokee Nation stands at a crossroads. It is time for us to reflect on where we have been and think about where we want to go. It has been said that it's hard to know where you're going if you don't know where you've been. We have come full circle from being a totally independent and sovereign nation to a point where the federal government and vested interest groups attempted to dissolve our powers of self-government. Now we again have the opportunity to fully exercise our rights of self-government.

The Cherokee Nation’s people have been honed with qualities of forbearance to endure all forms of adversity. We have utilized our diplomatic skills to deal with kings of the European countries who first entered into treaties with the Cherokees. We have dealt with the early leaders of the United States who, shortly after the country's birth, found it necessary to enter into the first treaty with the Cherokees in 1785.

In this decade of the 1990s the Cherokee Nation faces the choice of maturing in our relationship with the U.S. to take our rightful place in the American family of governments, or we can accept the lesser role of a sophisticated social organization with little responsibility toward governance and protection of our people's rights.

I believe the Cherokee Nation and its people will choose to exercise governance and fulfill our destiny in this century. Think about the obstacles we have overcome. At the turn of the century, the Cherokee people were forced to take allotments and there was a concerted legislative effort to extinguish our government. The dominant society adopted a policy to dissolve our ability to govern ourselves.

The spirit of our people was illustrated by Redbird Smith, Cherokee fullblood, during testimony before a group of senators. He showed them a photograph of the original patent to his tribe and an eagle feather his great grandfather had been given at the negotiations of the Removal Treaty. "It extends to heaven, the great treaty that has been made with the Government of the United States," Redbird told them. "Our treaty wherever it extends is respected by the Creator, God. Our nations and governments all look to our God."

At different times over the last century there have been those who claimed tribal government no longer exists. But we never gave up and, despite efforts to abrogate and diminish our power of governance, we kept alive the Cherokee Nation government. Here we are today, resolved as a nation ready to advance the interest of our people and to deal with the complex issues of governing and the controversies it can bring.

Continued on page 12
Challenge to Cherokee Nation sovereignty is challenge to tribe’s right to govern

Any challenge to Cherokee Nation sovereignty from outside influences requires the Cherokee Nation leadership to protect the rights of all Cherokee members. An endeavor which recklessly markets Indian sovereignty could be at the expense of Cherokee of all blood, degrees and at a risk to Cherokee Nation governance.

Throughout history the Cherokee Nation has had a government-to-government relationship with the United States. Since the Treaty of Hopewell in 1785 the Cherokee have entered into over 20 treaties and numerous official agreements ratified by Congress.

The unique relationship is noted in the Treaty of 1791, Article II. After Removal, the federal government renewed its acknowledgement of Cherokee Nation sovereignty in the Treaty of 1835.

The Cherokee Nation adopted its first constitution in 1839; the Kootoowah Society developed organic documents in 1859 presumably, among other things, to insure the formal government of the Cherokees kept faith with the spiritual and traditional leaders.

During the course of Cherokee history, the Kootoowahs and the Night Hawk Societies maintained a movement to promote associations and fellowships to insure the culture was not forgotten and to keep the spiritual beliefs of the tribe alive. It...
SELF-GOVERNANCE

Cherokee Nation begins negotiating self-governance agreement

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Council has authorized Principal Chief to negotiate a tribal self-governance agreement which will enhance the tribe's ability to plan and deliver services to tribal members. The council authorized the move in a 13-0 vote in February, 1990.

Authorized under Title III of the amended Indian Self-Determination Act of 1972, the agreement authorizes the tribe to plan, conduct, consolidate and administer programs and receive direct funding to deliver services to tribal members.

The concept follows proposed recommendations in the report of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs calling for a greater degree of tribal self-governance by tribes. It would eliminate a great amount of bureaucracy by federal agencies responsible for Indian funding.

Before the turn of the 20th century the Cherokee administered all of their essential governmental programs. Particularly praised by the U.S. Supreme Court were Cherokee judicial and educational systems which were considered as sophisticated as any in the country.

Highlights of the Cherokee Nation Self-Governance Policy

Before the turn of the 20th century the Cherokee administered all of their essential governmental service programs.

- The Cherokee policy is to achieve self-government without forsaking the U.S. obligations to honor the federal commitments.
- The protection aspect is the essence of the doctrine of trusteeship; the obligations will not be changed by the agreement.
- The ‘Tribal Governance Project’ authorized by the amendments to the Self-Determination Act provides a unique avenue to fulfill an ideal.
- The notion of new federalism or renewal of tribal self-governance would possibly broaden the scope and the opportunities.
- The Cherokee Nation provided the legal casework for the outstanding definition of the protection doctrine in the Cherokee Nation v. Georgia and Worcester v. Georgia cases before the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1830s.
- Thus, the past move to the present based on our own special legal tradition which is still cited as the landmark case for tribal existence.
- Tribal Self-Governance is a means which may be used to advance more independently with less control being exercise by the federal government.
- Accountability to the people served should be the focus.
- This ideal is based on the belief that individual Indian tribes are better suited to determine the services most needed.

DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

In the Treaty of July 4, 1866 between the U.S. government and the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the Delawares agreed to sell their tribal land and move from the state of Kansas.

On April 8, 1877, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, also known as the Lurin Lamesh, negotiated an agreement with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma which incorporated the Delawares into the Cherokee Nation. According to the treaty, the Delawares were to be treated in all respects as the Chickasaw and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma would represent all Delaware Indians.

The agreement provided that all Delawares would become members of the Cherokee Nation following fulfillment of payments by the Delawares. The agreement was approved by the President of the United States and the Secretary of the Interior on April 18, 1882 and confirmed by Congress on Oct. 10, 1888.

LOYAL BAND OF SHAWNEE

On June 7, 1869, the Loyal Band of Shawnee's bought into the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma for $50,000 through an agreement between the two tribes and approved by the U.S. president. According to the treaty, the Shawnees agreed to abandon their tribal organization.

The Loyal Band of Shawnee was incorporated into the Cherokee Nation on equal terms and all privileges and immunities of native citizens of the Cherokee Nation. The Loyal Band of Shawnee have concentrated in northeastern Oklahoma, primarily in Vinita.

The Loyal Band of Shawnee retain their separate identity in order to preserve their tribal culture but are still entitled to all rights and privileges of the Cherokee Nation.

UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees (UKB) was created under the Oklahoma Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 and ratified its bylaws and constitution on Oct. 5, 1950. The act provided for reorganizing existing tribes and authorized creation of new Indian organizations.

The UKB was formed by a group of Cherokee leaders, who hoped to obtain benefits from the 1936 act as such credit opportunities.

The UKB has no jurisdictional area and has never owned land independently from the Cherokee Nation. The exact number of Keetoowah band tribal members is unknown. Many Cherokee tribal employees and some members of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council are members of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees. Members of the Keetoowah Band receive services from the Cherokee Nation and its various departments including health, education, community development and social services.

Since 1980 the Bureau of Indian Affairs has held the position that the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees has the same membership as the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and the Cherokee Nation should continue delivery of services to the entire Cherokee membership.
**Discussion of absentee voting continues for the 1991 tribal elections by districts**

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Council Election committee will begin holding meetings twice each month through December in an effort to develop the plans for absentee voting and election procedures. The committee voted to hold two meetings each month during its June 18 meeting.

The committee will discuss how tribal members living outside the 14-county service area (the historical boundaries) of the Cherokee Nation will select their districts and where those tribal members will vote.

The districting law approved by the tribal membership during the 1987 elections calls for the Cherokee Nation to be divided into districts with council representation from each district. The districts are drawn according to the Cherokee Nation’s 14-county service area in northeastern Oklahoma. A districting plan for apportionment was approved in the fall of 1989.

Tribal members living outside the Cherokee Nation service area will have to select the district where they will cast their vote. The council committee feels confident those tribal members living outside the Cherokee Nation will want to vote in their ancestral district, which could be any one of the 14-counties.

Tribal members living outside the Cherokee Nation will most likely designate their "home" district and that will become their permanent district. The only reason a home district would be changed would be if that person moved to a residence within the Cherokee Nation service area.

It was also discussed to have tribal members living in the counties that are partially inside the Cherokee Nation service area to vote in the county they reside in at this time. The counties affected by this plan would be Delaware, Muskogee, Wagoner and McIntosh Counties. These four counties are all in the southwestern part of the Cherokee Nation and overlap with the Creek Nation.

It was suggested that if a tribal member living in one of these four counties requested voting rights in another district they would be allowed to vote in the district of their choice since they would be residing outside the Cherokee Nation service area. The committee requested tribal registrar Lee Fleming be present at the July 9 meeting to further discuss the issue.

The committee requested the tribal administration develop a possible absentee voter district assignment form and absentee ballot forms for the committee to use as working tools during its next meeting.

The committee has set meetings for 6 p.m., July 9 and July 23 for these discussions. The committee did not take any formal action other than setting meeting dates during the June 18 meeting.

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**Calendar of districting events 1987-present**

**RESOLUTION APPROVED**

Cherokee Nation Tribal Council approves Resolution No. 9-87, a proposal for amendment to the Constitution of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, that would amend Article 5, Section 3, of the Constitution.

The amendment added, "The Council shall establish representative districts which shall be within the historical boundaries of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. These districts shall be apportioned to afford a reasonably equal division of tribal membership among the districts."

The resolution passed, 11-1 with three members absent on Jan. 12, 1987.

**TRIBAL MEMBERS APPROVE REFERENDUM**

In a landslide vote, June 20, 1987 the voters of the Cherokee approved a constitution referendum that provided for the election of tribal council members by districts. The districting referendum received 8,175 votes for 84 percent of the total votes cast. There were 1,503 no votes.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON DISTRICTING HELD BY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE**

A series of four public hearings on districting were held by the Council’s constitution revision committee.

The meetings were held in Stilwell, March 12, 1988; Jay, June 11, 1988; Salina, Sept. 10, 1988 and Sallisaw, Dec. 10, 1988. The committee sought input, oral and written, from tribal members during these hearings.

**DISTRICTING PLAN AWAITS 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD BEFORE FINAL PASSAGE**

The Constitution Revision Committee unanimously approved a districting plan during the June 8, 1989 meeting. The approval followed six months of discussion and review.

**COUNCIL APPROVES DISTRICTING ACT**

Following the 30-day comment period for the proposed districting act, the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council approved the act in a 14-0 vote with one councilmember absent during the Oct. 14, 1989.

**CHEROKEE NATION SETS HISTORIC ELECTION**

In 1991, the voters of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma will be a part of history when they elect council members by district for the first time since Oklahoma statehood. Council members will be elected by districts and the new election law is expected to change the campaign process dramatically as potential councilmembers campaign within the districts rather than Nation wide.
- Nine districts following county lines
- Based on tribal population in 14-county service area only.
- Population figures include minors and adults.
- Ratio based on number of tribal members represented per council slot.

LEGEND:

1 — Council slots per district

Rogers County — Counties in district
3,680 — Tribal population per district
1:3,680 — Ratio of council to tribal members

District: Washington/N. Tulsa Counties
Population: 3,516
Council Seats: 1
Ratio: 1:3,516

District: Nowata/Craig Counties
Population: 3,148
Council Seat: 1
Ratio: 1:3,148

District: Rogers County
Population: 3,680
Council Seat: 1
Ratio: 1:3,680

District: Mayes County
Population: 3,849
Council Seat: 1
Ratio: 1:3,849

District: Delaware County
Population: 4,610
Council Seats: 2
Ratio: 1:2,305

District: Cherokee County
Population: 7,171
Council Seats: 3
Ratio: 1:2,390

District: Adair County
Population: 6,251
Council Seats: 2
Ratio: 1:3,130

District: Sequoyah County
Population: 5,847
Council Seats: 2
Ratio: 1:2,920

District: Muskogee/Wagoner McIntosh Counties
Population: 5,097
Council Seats: 2
Ratio: 1:2,550
Tax Code Summary

The Tax Code of the Cherokee Nation was approved by the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council on Feb. 10, 1990.

The Cherokee Nation Tax Code was established to raise revenue, in a fair and efficient manner, to enable the government of the Cherokee Nation to provide governmental services to citizens of the Cherokee Nation and to promote tribal economic development, self-sufficiency and a strong tribal government.

The Cherokee Nation Tax Commission will have three members who will be appointed by the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council. Two of the members must be citizens of the Cherokee Nation residing within the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation. Commissioners must be 25 years old, have a bachelor's degree from a college or university or its equivalent, be of high moral character or integrity, never have been convicted of a criminal offense other than a misdemeanor traffic offense, and be physically able to carry out the duties of the office. Julian K. Tate, Jim FISHINGWOLF and Dietmar FISHINGWOLF have been appointed to the tax commission.

The tax commission will have the right to depose law enforcement officers to enforce the tax code.

If a business fails to pay the tax, interest at a rate of one percent per month will be assessed as part of the delinquent tax. If a business fails to file a monthly report there will be a one percent penalty per month of the tax due. The tax commission also will have the right to assess a tax based on substitute returns prepared by the tax commission in the event a report is not filed. There will be a $100 initial application fee in addition to the annual license fee for all businesses licenses including sales and tobacco licenses.

The Cherokee Nation Tax Code provides for collection of the following taxes or levies:

- A three percent sales tax on the gross receipts or proceeds of all items of value or goods or services bought, sold, rented, leased or exchanged on tribal lands.
- A tobacco tax of five cents per package on each package of cigarettes containing 20 cigarettes with an additional five cents tax for each additional 20 cigarettes in each package.

ACTUAL SCHEDULE OF TAX ON CIGARETTES

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<td>Sept. 1, 1990</td>
<td>3 percent</td>
<td>.03 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1, 1990</td>
<td>4 percent</td>
<td>.04 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1, 1990</td>
<td>5 percent</td>
<td>.05 cents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACTUAL SCHEDULE OF TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tax Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 1990</td>
<td>1 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 1, 1990</td>
<td>2 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1, 1990</td>
<td>3 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1, 1990</td>
<td>4 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1, 1990</td>
<td>5 percent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wholesalers must apply and receive a Tobacco Wholesaler License at a cost of $20. The license is valid for one year and is renewable.

Retailers must apply for and receive a Tobacco Retailer License at a cost of $20. The license is valid for one year and must be renewed.

Tobacco Vending Machine Permits must be obtained and paid for each vending machine. Fee for the permit is $10 each year.

A retail sales tax license will be required prior to the establishment of a business or retail outlet for consumer sales on restricted tribal lands.

Wholesalers will only be able to sell cigarettes to licensed retailers and retailers will only be able to purchase cigarettes from licensed wholesalers. The wholesalers will collect the tax on the cigarettes as they are sold to the retailers and will then remit the tax to the Cherokee Nation.

Any tobacco products purchased from an unlicensed wholesaler will be considered contraband and will be confiscated. Also, any retailer that does not have a Cherokee Nation Tax Commission license to operate cannot legally operate inside the 14-county service area of the Cherokee Nation.

The Cherokee Nation tax will be assessed and collected beginning July 1, 1990.

Tax Code Calendar of Events

TAX CODE APPROVED BY TRIBAL COUNCIL

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Council approved the Cherokee Nation Tax Code on Feb. 10, 1990 to raise revenue in a fair and efficient manner, to enable the government of the Cherokee Nation to provide governmental services to the citizens of the Cherokee Nation and to promote tribal economic development, self-sufficiency and a strong tribal government.

TRIBE DISCUSSES TAX COLLECTION WITH STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller and other tribal officials met with representatives of Governor Henry Bellmon to build the framework for future talks on state taxation issues.

CHEROKEE NATION HOLDS PUBLIC HEARING ON TAXATION

The Cherokee Nation hosted a public hearing on the proposed regulations of the Cherokee Nation Tax Code on May 15, 1990. The input received was used to make some additions, deletions and clarification of the tax code.

TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS COMMITTEE APPROVES TAX CODE AMENDMENT; VOTES TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Council Executive and Finance Committee voted to recommend the tribal council amend the tax code with the changes suggested during the May 15 public hearing. The committee also voted to declare the amended law an emergency so the law could go into effect immediately.

TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO TAX CODE

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Council voted to amend the tax code as approved by the Council's Executive and Finance Committee, clearing the way for the Cherokee Nation to begin taxation.

CHEROKEE NATION TO BEGIN LEVYING TAXES

In an historic move, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma will begin collecting taxes on July 1, 1990.
Smith named tax advisor

Cherokee tax commissioners named

Three commissioners and a tax adviser have been appointed to the Cherokee Nation Tax Commission by Principal Chief Wilma P. Mankiller. All have received council approval for the positions.

Chadwick Smith, a Cherokee from Rocky Mountain, has been appointed director. Julian K. Fite of Muskogee, Diana Bond Dry Fishinghawk of Tahlequah, and Jim Hummingbird of Stilwell have been appointed commissioners.

Smith is an attorney with general practice in Tulsa. He was a trial attorney for the Creek County District Attorney's office from March 1983 to January 1987 and was a corporate receiver for the District Court of Tulsa County from April 1983 to January 1986. Prior to that he was a real estate attorney from September 1980 to February 1983 with the Internal Revenue Service.

He was a financial analyst with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission during the summer of 1979.

Smith received his bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia in 1973, his masters of business administration from the University of Wisconsin in June 1975. He received his juris doctorate from the University of Tulsa Law School in May 1980.

Smith said, "It's an honor to be working as a tax adviser with the Cherokee Nation again after a 13 year absence."

Jim Hummingbird is the area credit officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Muskogee Area Office Branch of Credit and Industrial Development. He has worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs since March 1971.

He provides technical assistance to local credit officers, and to tribes and individual tribal members for various programs, grants and loans provided by the BIA. Hummingbird administers credit programs to a 41-county area of eastern and northeastern Oklahoma with seven agencies, (Tahlequah, McAlester, Okmulgee, Adair, Tsalihin, Wewoka and Osage). He works with five credit associations represented in the Muskogee area and has established working relationships with the Administration for Native Americans, Oklahoma Indian Finance Authority, Housing and Urban Development, conventional lenders with the state, Small Business Authority, all tribes within the Muskogee area and several tribes in the Anadarko area, the Indian Business Development Center and Farmers Home Administration.

In 1989 Hummingbird was awarded the Minority Business Advocate of the Year Award. He and his wife, Sue, reside in Stilwell. He has three children, Jimmy Dean, Dana Sue and Jamie. He is a tribal member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

Fite's experience includes federal and private law

Julian Fite, 45, is a partner in the Muskogee law firm of Robinson, Lockett, Gage, Fite and Williams. A Muskogee native and tribal member, he is a graduate of Davidson College in Davidson, N.C. and receive a juris doctorate from the University of Virginia School Law, Charlottesville, VA in 1970.

He has experience in banking and has taught business classes for NSU. He was involved with military intelligence for the U.S. Army in 1971-72. He also served as district attorney for Muskogee County from 1975-77 and U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma in Muskogee from 1978-80.

He is on the board of directors of the Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce, of the Solid Waste Research Institute of Northeast Oklahoma and Muskogee Performing Arts, Inc., co-founder for Save the Illinois River (STIR) and an elder in the First Presbyterian Church in Muskogee.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children, ages 21 and 19.

Fishinghawk to use background in Indian law

Diana Bond Dry Fishinghawk, 41, graduated from high school in Madill, Oklahoma. She attended Oklahoma State University and earned a bachelors degree from Northeastern State University in 1973. Her juris doctorate is from the University of Oklahoma School of Law in 1977.

After graduation from law school she was staff attorney, with emphasis in Indian law, for Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma in Lawton and Legal Service of Eastern Oklahoma in Stilwell.

She has been in private law practice in Stilwell and Tahlequah. From 1984-85 she was an assistant district attorney for Cherokee County. She also is assistant professor in the College of Business at NSU.

She is married to Joseph T. Fishinghawk and has three children, ages 21, 16 and 7.

She is a member of the Oklahoma and Cherokee County Bar Associations and the National Association of District Attorneys.

Hummingbird gives business, government expertise to ‘new job’
Cherokee Nation tribal elections will be held in June of 1991

Membership in the Cherokee Nation has jumped from 77,500 to over 106,000 since June, 1987. That increase includes thousands of new voters who are eligible to cast their ballots in a tribal election for the first time in 1991. For them, and for veteran voters who may need a refresher, the Advocate has prepared a quick tour through the election year process.

Because of the number of voters and the geographic area they cover, much of Cherokee tribal campaigns are conducted by mail. About three-fourths of Cherokee voters are concentrated in an area of Oklahoma akin to the size of a congressional district. Registered households can expect several political mailings from the candidates as well as several from tribal government that concern deadlines, precinct locations and other necessary data. There is no shortage of reading material during an election year.

Hog fries, barbecues and bean dinners also make up a large part of social life during a tribal election. Those are held regularly in all parts of the Cherokee Nation and by most candidates. It is an accepted fact that parading of a candidate's food at one of these functions does not indicate how the dinner guests will vote.

Rumor and negative campaigning have been known to creep into a tribal election but usually have little of the intended effects. Of course, tribal elections don't have a corner on this market -- white elections have provided many unfortunate examples over the years.

The Cherokee Constitution calls for the principal chief and deputy chief to be elected by a popular vote of all registered voters. A constitutional amendment approved in 1987 now allows for the 15 tribal council members to be elected by district representation. (See page 15.)

Although there is no straight ticket voting in Cherokee elections, candidates for the principal chief, deputy chief and tribal council often run as a slate to help share the expense of reaching such a large and geographically diverse constituency and can share exposure with this way. Voters make all selections independently and individually.

Many candidates still choose to run independently or not as part of a slate. Others may choose to form into mini slates.

General provisions for Cherokee elections are set forth in the constitution. Actual conduct of the elections is established by a series of legislative acts approved by the tribal council -- election laws which regulate the bulk of the process. The elections are under the direct supervision of the tribal election committee, a body of five members which will be appointed in December, 1990.

The tribal election committee is composed of representatives from the principal chief and tribal council and is not to be confused with the election committee that is made up solely of tribal council members. The council election committee is a standing committee of the tribal council which can make recommendations to the tribal election committee once it is appointed.

The tribal council will appoint two members of the tribal election committee, the chief appoints two and the fifth is chosen by the previous four. The tribal council must approve all regulations developed by the tribal election committee.

The first election for a principal chief and deputy chief and full 15-member council in recent years was in 1979. Some kinks have been worked out and improvements made in the system since each subsequent election year, with one or two exceptions.

The absentee vote has always held a unique place in a Cherokee election. The absentee voter is not necessarily one who lives where there are no established polling places, usually outside of the Cherokee Nation boundaries. It is relatively easy to become an absentee voter, as long as the deadlines are met to receive and return the ballots. A variety of reasons -- distance from polling place, other weekend plans (elections are always on a Saturday in the summer) -- many Cherokees chose to vote by absentee ballot.

Occasionally, the absentee provide the swing votes in an election, a phenomenon that has provided theory material for some disinterested post-election observers, usually the defeated candidates. However, the absentee vote is not an accurate indicator of out-of-state support for a candidate or, likewise, lack of support within the Cherokee Nation. The absentee vote has been lumped into one total, regardless of the voter's place of residence.

For example, a California vote is included in the total with a voter from Tahlequah who had something else to do that Saturday.

The absentee vote was also in the pre-election spotlight in 1987 after a second notarization was added to the requirements, either in an attempt to discourage more poll voters or to discourage the out-of-state vote for certain candidates. This sent up cries from the out-of-state absentee who said they were being disenfranchised and penalized with a "poll tax."

Another amendment to the election laws for 1987 included the addition of 20 more-needed polling locations. Voters are assigned a precinct according to their zip codes.

Tribal election laws also provide for runoffs and recounts. A runoff election for only the offices of the principal chief and deputy chief if one candidate does not receive a simple majority of the vote. Recounts, not unheard of, may be requested by a candidate. The tribal election committee appoints those who will conduct the recount which is overseen by the Judicial Appeals Tribunal, the third branch of Cherokee tribal government.

Oddly enough, the number of votes cast for principal chief in the 1983 general election was close to the number cast for the principal chief in the 1987 general -- 11,325 in '83 and 11,346 in '87. But disturbing in that information is the fact that the number of registered voters grew by 62 percent during those years -- from approximately 60,000 voters in 1983 to 125,500 in 1987. That translates to a 29 percent voter turnout in 1983 and just short of a 19 percent turnout in the 1987 general.

For the past several years, new members have been added to the Cherokee rolls at the rate of about 1,000 a month. Membership is up dramatically and so is the number of eligible voters. But how, if at all, will that translate into voter turnout?

Along with citizenship and the right to govern comes responsibility. Ancestors of today's tribal members paid dearly for their descendants' right to vote in their own elections. It becomes, then, the responsibility, not just the right, of those tribal members to exercise that vote.

With the next round of ballots a year away, there is at least one promise that can be made and surely kept: Cherokee elections are certainly lively, deal with important issues, may sometimes be a little controversial and most definitely are always interesting and always worth the effort.

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Change of Address Notice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUR NAME</th>
<th>Print or type Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>Street, Apt, Suite, P.O. Box or R.D. No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>State and Zip Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>Street, Apt., Suite, P.O. Box or R.D. No. (same as above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>State and Zip Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIGN HERE</td>
<td>Date New Address in effect Registration No.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Blue vs. White
The Cherokee Nation tribal membership card is often called "the blue card" because it is light blue in color. The Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card (CDIB) is "the white card" issued by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Only those Cherokees that have the blue card, tribal membership card, will vote in the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma tribal elections in June of 1991.

Certificate Degree of Indian Blood Card or White Card

The degree of Indian blood shown on the face of this card is computed from the final rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes, closed March 4, 1967, by the Act of April 28, 1906 (34 Stat. 137). Any alteration or fraudulent use of this Certificate renders it null and void.

DECEASED NOTICE

IMPORTANT: Names of deceased tribal members cannot be removed from the rolls without verification. Deceased notices will not be taken over the telephone. If you know of a deceased tribal member, please complete the form below, have it notarized and mail it to the Cherokee Nation Registration Department, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

Name
(One of deceased and CDIB Registry Number)
(Day of Birth)
Address
Date and place of death
Signature of person reporting and relationship to deceased
Date
Address
Signature of Notary
Commission Expires
Date
History documents tribe’s sovereign status

Continued from page 12

...were fairly harmonious. In fact, Earl Boyd Pierce, legal counsel to the Cherokee Nation at the time, also worked with the UKB on claims matters. There is indication that former Principal Chief Keeler engaged in a productive dialogue with former UKB Chiefs William Glory and Rev. Jim Pickup, who both indicated the UKB purpose was to support the Cherokee Nation.

From 1948 to the early 1970s the federal government’s termination policy put a chill on advances toward self-governance. During the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, the pendulum started to gradually swing back. In the Nixon administration the idea of self-determination and advancement of Indian rights was supported. The termination policy was effectively overridden by the enactment of the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975.

A new constitution for the Cherokee Nation was approved Oct. 2, 1975 under the tribe’s inherent authority to organize itself. This constitution superseded the old document of 1839 and recognizes the

"We have paid for our rights with thousands of acres and hundreds of lives. We will not give up another inch."

...WILEM MINOR, PRINCIPAL CHIEF

Speaking at the Symposium on Tribal Sovereignty, Guthrie, Oklahoma, June 7, 1980

...the rights of all Cherokees to belong to clans or organizations within the Cherokee Nation.

The preamble states: “We, the people of the Cherokee Nation, in order to preserve and enrich our tribal culture, achieve and maintain a desirable measure of prosperity, insure tranquility and to secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of freedom, acknowledging, with humility and gratitude, the goodness of the Sovereign Power of the Universe in permitting us so to do, and imploring his aid and guidance in its accomplishment do ordain and establish this Constitution for the government of the Cherokee Nation.”

By 1979 the relations between the UKB and the Cherokee Nation were becoming strained. The Self-Determination Act allowed the Cherokees to contract directly for services the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The UKB leadership maintained they should be dealt with separately from the Cherokee Nation. Martin Seneca, acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs, issued a policy statement which would have required the BIA to deal separately with the Cherokee Nation and the UKB on contracting matters. Litigation ensued. (Seneca left the Interior Department and briefly represented the UKB as legal counsel.)

The Seneca policy was reversed by Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Forrest Gerard. Since then the Gerard policy has required all contracts and grants from the Department of Interior come through the Cherokee Nation. Because the Cherokee Nation serves the membership of both groups, to deal separately with the UKB would be a duplication of services.

In 1988 the United Keetoowah Band has begun sponsoring bingo, licensing Indian smoke shops and has been approached about acquiring property for other forms of gaming, although the UKB has no property in trust. The Cherokee Nation has objected to UKB efforts to take property into trust because it would interfere with the rightful territorial jurisdiction of the Cherokee Nation.

Most recently, UKB leadership has sought to have the Gerard policy set aside and have protested the Cherokee Nation continuing as the primary contractor with the BIA. Also under protest is the Cherokee Nation’s self-governance agreement under negotiation with the Department of Interior. (See page 13.)

Cherokee Nation recognized as government of Cherokee people

The Cherokee Nation is the tribal government of the Cherokee people and has been so since time immemorial and was first recognized by a treaty with the U.S. government in 1785 in the Treaty of Hopewell. The Cherokee Nation has been recognized as the government of the Cherokee people by international and federal Indian law for two hundred years. Sovereignty is the right of self-government. Below is a list of the treaties by the U.S. government with the Cherokee Nation that acknowledge the government status and sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation.

Treaties and Agreements

Treaty of November 28, 1785 (7 Stat. 18)
Treaty of July 2, 1791 (7 Stat. 39)
Treaty of June 26, 1794 (7 Stat. 43)
Treaty of October 2, 1798 (7 Stat. 62)
Treaty of October 24, 1804 (7 Stat. 228)
Treaty of October 25, 1805 (7 Stat. 93)
Treaty of October 27, 1805 (7 Stat. 96)
Treaty of January 7, 1806 (7 Stat. 101)
Treaty of September 11, 1807 (7 Stat. 103)
Treaty of March 22, 1816 (7 Stat. 138)
Treaty of March 23, 1816 (7 Stat. 139)
Treaty of September 14, 1816 (7 Stat. 148)
Treaty of July 8, 1817 (7 Stat. 156)
Treaty of February 27, 1819 (7 Stat. 195)
Treaty of May 6, 1828 (7 Stat. 311)
Treaty of February 14, 1833 (7 Stat. 414)
Treaty of March 14, 1835 (unratified)
Treaty of December 29, 1835 (7 Stat. 478)
Compact Between the Several Tribes of Indians, 1843
Treaty of August 6, 1846 (9 Stat. 871)
Treaty of September 13, 1865 (unratified)
Treaty of July 19, 1866 (14 Stat. 799)
Articles of Agreement between the Delaware and Cherokee Tribes, April 8, 1867
Treaty of April 27, 1868 (16 Stat. 727)
Articles of Agreement between the Shawnees and the Cherokees, June 7, 1869
Agreement with the Cherokee Nation, December 19, 1891
Agreement with the Cherokee Nation, April 1, 1900
Registration guidelines listed

To obtain a CDIB card, applicants must know the roll number of the original enrollee to whom they are related. (2) Applicants must attach the original copy of their state-certified birth certificate or a delayed birth certificate to the application linking the applicant to his or her enrolled ancestor. Probate records sometimes can be used instead of a birth certificate. If a delayed birth certificate is given, an additional document, such as an affidavit of personal knowledge and memory, should accompany the application. (3) Applicants should submit the birth or death certificates for all enrolled ancestors. (4) Applicants should complete an application for membership to the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

Indian Health Service hospitals and clinics now require that patients present the CDIB card before receiving treatment. Membership allows Cherokees to vote in tribal elections.

The registration department, located in the Cherokee Nation W. W. Koeler Tribal Complex near Tahlequah, is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no charge for the service or for membership in the tribe, explained Cherokee Nation Registrar Lee Flemming.

Donated Foods guidelines listed

To receive donated foods, applicants must have a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card for an adult member of the household. Also required are Social Security cards or birth certificates for each household member, income verification for each employed household member and verification of residence, such as phone or utility bill showing applicant's name and address.

The household applicant's income cannot exceed $611 per month with a maximum of $170 income allowed for each additional family member.

The office and warehouse of the donated foods program near the tribal complex in Tahlequah are closed the last three working days of each month but are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Saturday before the last three working days, and closed on all other Saturdays. Participation in the Cherokee Nation Donated Foods Program is the same for everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

Due to rising production costs, the Cherokee Advocate is faced with its first increase in the subscription rate since 1983. Effective Oct. 1, 1990, the annual subscription will be $12.50.

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CHEROKEE NATION GOVERNING BODY

Willa Mansfield, Principal Chief
Route 1, Box 160
Tahlequah, OK 74465
456-8554

John Ketcher, Deputy Principal Chief
320 West Cherokee
Tahlequah, OK 74464
456-8294

Amos Baker
P.O. Box 1757
Tahlequah, OK 74465
456-8769

Joe Grayson, Sr.
898 N. Bim Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464
456-5003

Sunnie Alford
P.O. Box 387
Marble City, OK 74455
715-5475, home

Joey McCullum
Route 6, Box 188
Tahlequah, OK 74464
456-9033, home
775-7111, work, leave message

Gary Chapman
425 E. Seneca
Tahlequah, OK 74465
456-8555, home
456-8501, work

James Grahm Eagle
Route 5, Box 159-A
Stilwell, OK 74968
656-2517, home
501-765-2232, work

Harold "Eggy" Philips
Route 2, Box 403
Grove, OK 74344
786-7150, home

Betty Lacy Backhorn
719 E. 21st, Apt. 204
Tulsa, OK 74120

Jeff Masten
Route 4, Box 489
Grove, OK 74344
786-7150, home

Beulah "Willow" Phillips
Route 2, Box 403
Grove, OK 74344
786-7150, home

Malcolm Summerfield
P.O. Box 170
Jay, OK 74346
253-8572, home
456-9071, work

Sara Ed Bush
P.O. Box 267
Marble City, OK 74455
715-5475, home

TRIBAL COUNCIL

CHEROKEE NATION	GOVERNMENT			GOVERNANCE

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CHEROKEE NATION	GOVERNMENT			GOVERNANCE
Advocate campaign policy explained

The tribal election is still over a year away. The Cherokee Advocate will be working to keep tribal members abreast of Election ’91 news and important voting information. The "Cherokee Advocate" editorial policy will allow one free announcement of candidacy. This story may include biographical information, a campaign statement and photo. Brief advance notices of hog frys, rallies and similar events will be published without charge.

All other individual campaign political material will be considered political advertising and, as such, must be paid in advance at the regular rate of $4 per column inch. The Advocate staff can assist in the preparation of the candidate’s announcement, as well as any display advertising. Deadline for news articles and ads is the first of each month for a mid-month mailing. For more information, call Lynn Howard, editor at (918) 456-0671, ext. 212.

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$7.50 for one year

Subscribe now! Subscription will increase to $12.50 beginning Oct. 1, 1990

$10/1 year - renewal
$7.50/new subscriber - (good until Sept. 1, 1990) - 1 year
$7.50/senior citizen - 1 year (please provide photocopy of DOB)

Name
Address
Phone

Mail to: Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
Attn: Communications Department
P.O. Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465
Cherokee Brenda Cleland describes experiences

A Healing Spirit: Growing up in Oklahoma

Growing up in rural Oklahoma in an area highly populated with Indian people who lived near or below the poverty level had and continues to have a profound effect on me. I was part of a family of eight children; we were one of those families who lived below the poverty level. I grew up with a desire to always make things better. If the walls were dirty, we could paint and make them look brand new. If rainwater was running downhill into the house, we could dig a little ditch and the water would flow around.

Although we were poor, and many thought we were the most needy, I always knew there were people who were in worse circumstances than we. Our clothes might have been hand-me-downs, but we did have clothes, and they were clean. Our mom always managed to find something to eat for all of us, though some might not have considered it to be much. We had no transportation, yet we always managed to get to church or wherever we needed to go. Sometimes we walked.

Other times, friends gave us rides. I never thought of us as being poor. We grew up being loved and having one another. We were so fortunate. Abuse like child, spouse, drugs, and alcohol were worlds away.

When one grows up in a large family, teamwork is learned early. Many times it is needed for mere survival. Of course, we had our differences, but we learned that when we worked together, chores got done faster, and each of us was left with a warm feeling toward one another and a sense of accomplishment. In addition, working together left more time for leisure activities such as reading or going down to the creek.

My mother had a twelfth grade education, and my father a tenth grade education. Both were hard workers, and like most parents, wanted a better life for their children. Being wise, they saw an education as the answer to a better life and instilled in me a desire for a college education.

My father emphasized over and over again how important a college education was, and my mother daily made sure we did our homework and didn’t skip school. Each in his or her own way had a major influence on the education I am receiving today.

On a hillside beyond Lost City, a small community in northeastern Oklahoma, still stands the country Indian church I attended while growing up. Although there’s a hand-rung bell, church still starts according to “Indian time” (whenever the people get there). My spiritual upbringing has been a major factor in shaping my life and my desire to reach out and help others. I believe that the mind, body, and spirit are one. If one part is sick, the others need healing, too. They are all interconnected, and we can’t separate one from the other.

Through church and 4-H, I was able to help school that addresses special needs of Indian students. Many are the first generation in their families to attend college. They often have no educational role models in the family. Often they are even discouraged from attending college for they are needed at home to get a job and help support the family.

Today because of seeing first-hand some of the special needs Indian students face, I try to encourage Indian students to pursue an education by helping with career days and in community.

We were one of those families who lived below the poverty level. I grew up with a desire to always make things better.

Looking back, I now realize my motivation for a medical education really began years ago growing up in rural Oklahoma.

The desire to help others and make things better, hard work, respect for others, teamwork, and a desire for continuing education are all part of the qualities a physician must possess.

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While working as a registered nurse for ten years, I began to have a desire to do more than what I was presently doing. I was becoming dissatisfied with myself because I knew I had the potential to do more and wasn’t doing it. I felt I had more to offer, and my potential had barely been tapped. I wanted to be more involved with the decision-making process for many years. Many have touched my life and had a profound influence including my grandmother, parents, sisters and brothers, and people like Susie Ketcher, my Sunday School teacher for years at that country church on the hill.

By Brenda Cleland
Reprinted from Chickasaw
The College of Osteopathic Medicine
of Oklahoma State University
Sequoyah’s ancestry traced to early Americans

By Harry A. Moneymaker

Sequoyah, a Cherokee, has been sometimes called the ablest intelligence produced among the American Indians. His mother was Cherokee and his father was a white man. In one pamphlet about Sequoyah it is stated, “Very little is known about Sequoyah’s father. It is believed that he either died or deserted the family while Sequoyah was very young.”

However, recent research has revealed that a great deal is known about Sequoyah’s ancestry on his father’s side. Patricia Gue, whose husband is Carrol Wayne Gue of Oceanside, Calif., did very extensive research into her husband’s geneology. She has prepared a large family tree chart that measures three feet wide and over nine feet long. Her chart shows the lineage from prominent English families down to many persons living today, including her husband, who is a great, great, great, great grandson of Sequoyah. Her chart also shows Sequoyah’s father’s second wife and many of those descendants.

The fact that Sequoyah, the only person in the history of the entire world, who did not know how to read or write any language, yet designed an alphabet that enabled his nation to become literate, is indeed a fantastic accomplishment. The giant Sequoia trees of the western U.S. were named in his honor. A statue of Sequoyah is in the Statuary Hall of Washington, D.C. Patricia Gue’s accomplishments are also impressive. Her chart shows that Sequoyah, through his father’s lineage, is a descendant of Oliver Cromwell, who was Lord Protector of England in the middle sixteen hundred. Cromwell signed the death warrant of King Charles I after the civil wars in England. Oliver Cromwell became the ruler of England until his death. He established Puritanism, but permitted religious toleration, which allowed the Jews to return to England in 1656. Cromwell died in 1658.

Sequoyah was also a blood relative of President George Washington! Sequoyah was a third cousin, twice removed. That is, his great, great, great, great grandmother, Anne Washington, was a sister to Col. John Washington, President George Washington’s great grandfather.

The father of Anne and John Washington was Rev. Lawrence Washington (1602-1653). Sequoyah’s grandfather, Captain Christopher Gist (Gue) was a third cousin to President George Washington and twice had saved the life of George Washington.

Dillard Jordan, Sequoyah Home Site Historic Property manager and Stephen B. Foster, site attendant, engaged the writer to convert the family tree chart to a computer produced notebook with cross references. Sequoyah’s Home is about 11 miles north east of Sallisaw on State Highway 101.

In 1966, Sequoyah’s original log cabin was designated as a National Historic Landmark, and is owned and operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Cherokee artist featured in Sunday Oklahoman

Cherokee artist Jeanne Walker Rorex was featured in an article on the cover of the women’s section of the Sunday Oklahoman Feb. 18. The article which was accompanied by several color photos of Rorex and her work was headlined “Cherokee woman on Oklahoma canvas.”

According to the article, Rorex has a unique way of depicting her ancestors, especially women. Viewers find it difficult to turn away from the life-like pioneer Indian women who are portrayed convincingly, in the manner in which they lived. Rorex’s women till the soil, harvest the fields, gather wood, carry water and bear children. Her subjects reveal the strength and determination to cope with lives of hard work, pain and deprivation, but deep within their eyes lies a calm, nurturing spirit and the wisdom of antiquity.

Rorex received a scholarship to Boston where she had the opportunity to study with Cheyenne artist Dick West, who encouraged her to pursue her own style.

She graduated in 1980 as class salutatorian and went on to earn a degree in graphic arts at Northeastern State University. But several years passed before she was able to overcome an insecurity about her artistic abilities.

It also took a while for Rorex to find subject matter that truly suited her. She had once been advised by her uncle, internationally known wood sculptor Willard Stone, to “paint what you know.” At the time she did not grasp his meaning, but when she began to paint Indian women and children, understanding came.

“‘That’s what I know,’” she is quoted as saying. “I understand a woman’s view.”

Rorex uses no models. The faces of her women come directly from her imagination.

She often portrays pregnant women, because she considers pregnancy one of the most beautiful and special times in a woman’s life. She also had done a number of paintings of two women, because she thinks “friendship between women is important.”

Rorex describes her style as simple, and she finds joy in her ability to convey a message with the strokes of her brush. Painting has become a vital thread in the fabric of her life. “It’s as though I can’t stop,” she said. “It’s like something I’m supposed to do.”

National program host named to board

Gary Fife, host and producer of National Native News, the country’s only daily news and information source focusing on the Native American community, has been named to the Board of Directors of the Native American Journalists Association. NAJA was founded in 1984 to develop and improve communication among Native Americans, to promote journalism as a profession among Native Americans, and to provide professional development for Native American journalists. Fife is part Cherokee.

Dr. Ivan Jermyckol, vice president of Ternopol Institute of National Economy and Mayor of Ternopol in the Ukraine, a Republic of the Soviet Union, visited with Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma P. Mankiller, Monday, April 13 at the W.W. Keeler hotel complex. Dr. Jermyckol was officially here to participate in Northeastern State University’s Renaissance `80. His visit to NSF was to make arrangements for Ternopol to become a sister city to the Soviet Union for cultural and economic exchange on these levels, students, businessmen, Dr. Jermyckol will also like to encourage trade between the countries, particularly Oklahoma and the Ukraine. Pictures are left, Dr. Ivan Jermyckol, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation Wilma P. Mankiller, and Dr. Bogdys Ales, professor of English at NSF and translator for Dr. Jermyckol.

Swimmer named to Tourism Department

Ross O. Swimmer was named to the Department of Tourism and Recreation by Gov. Henry Belfonon recently. His appointment has been confirmed by the Oklahoma State Senate.

Swimmer, an attorney of counsel with Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, Tulsa, previously was Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C., and served as Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation for 10 years.

He returned to Oklahoma in 1988 to accept the position with Hall, Estill, which also has offices in Oklahoma City and Washington.
Neighbors

Hagerstrand selected to Oklahoma Historical Society board presidency

Col. Martin Hagerstrand of Tahlequah was recently elected as president of the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors.

Hagerstrand, a retired faculty member of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, has served on the board since 1981. He has also served on the Honey Springs Battlefield and Historic Fort Gibson commissions, the Historic Preservation and Historic Sites committees, and the executive, library, and nominating committees.

He was the founding president of the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute, organizer and marshal of the Indian Nations Posse, Westerners International, and member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Western History Association and Order of the Indian War.

He accepted the position of OHS president as an honor. "I want to thank both the members of the Society who voted for my re-election and the members of the board who expressed their confidence in me. I am committed to doing my very best for the Oklahoma Historical Society."

Governor appoints Phillips state labor commissioner

Ira Phillips of Tahlequah, Cherokee tribal member, has been named by Governor Henry Bellmon as the state labor commissioner.

Phillips was business development director at the Cherokee Nation from 1985-89.

Phillips, who is originally from Wech, Okla., most recently formed his own management consultant firm and was a member of the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency from 1987 until he resigned that post earlier this year. He is also a consultant on contract with the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority.

Phillips term as labor commissioner expires next year. The Oklahoma Department of Labor administers and enforces laws on minimum wage, child labor, occupational safety and health for public employees and private employment agencies.

Cherokee receives academic honors

A Cherokee student at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City has received an outstanding academic achievement award from the OU Health Sciences Center's Minority Student Services and Recruitment Office.

Phyllis Spears, Tulsa, is the recipient of the Native American Outstanding Graduate Academic Achievement Award. Spears holds a BSN degree from Langston University and is presently working toward her master's degree in community health nursing through the OU College of Nursing. A member of the Cherokee tribe, her activities include serving on the board of directors of the Indian Health Care Resources Center and on the Tulsa Indian Health Board. She is a member of the Native American Nursing Association and of the National Nursing Honor Society, Sigma Theta Tau.

The awards were presented during the college’s recent Native American Heritage Week, celebrated in conjunction with OU’s Norman campus. Award winners were selected from among nominees representing all seven colleges at the OU Health Sciences Center.

Governor appoints Stopp to council

On January 15, Governor Bellmon appointed Gene Stopp to the Oklahoma Developmental Disability Planning Council. The goal of this council is to promote the quality of services and programs which will enable persons with developmental disabilities to fully realize independence, productivity, and integration in the community. The council shall engage systems, advocacy, public education, monitoring, and evaluating activities to accomplish this mission.

Ms. Stopp was chosen for her involvement in the community and advocacy for the rights of people with disabilities. She resides in Tulsa, where her mother, Betsy Stopp, still lives. She is a graduate of the University of Tulsa, and is employed with Ability Resources, where she is a project specialist.

Cherokee teacher receives advisor award

Cherokee tribal member Kevin Collins, of Sallisaw, was recently named Outstanding Advisor of the Oklahoma Technology Student Association. This award makes Collins a candidate for the National Outstanding Advisor award, which he will compete for June at the National Technology Student Association Conference being held at Corpus Christi, TX.

Collins, a teacher at Sallisaw for the past six years, received a M.S. from Northeastern State University in 1989. He belongs to various organizations including the American Vocational Association, Oklahoma Technology Education Association and the Oklahoma Vocational Association.

Collins is the son of Bill Collins and the late Wanda Sue Collins of Stilwell. He is the grandson of Addie Collins and the late W.R. Collins and the late Ada and Katie Hegner, all of Stilwell.

Upcoming Events...

Oklahoma Indian Nation Pow-Wow August 3-5 Concho, OK.
Mashpee Wampanoag Pow-Wow June 30 - July 2 Mashpee, MA.
12th Annual Pow-Wow of Champions August 24-26 Tulsa, OK.
Jay Chamber of Commerce Pow-Wow June 29-30 Jay, OK.
Huckleberry Festival June 29 - July 1 Jay, OK.
Inter-Tribal Hymn songfest July 21 Oklahoma City, OK.
Indian Health Care golf tournament August 11-12 Tulsa, OK.
Inter-tribal Arts Experience (ITAE) October 5-7 Dayton, Ohio.

Cherokees featured in strawberry festival

Three Cherokee girls were recently honored at the 1990 43rd Annual Stilwell Strawberry Festival. Angela Rose, was selected as queen of the festival and Anissa Adair and Samantha Bearpaw were chosen as attendants.

Ross, a seventeen-year-old junior at Stilwell High School, was crowned queen during coronation ceremonies held on the Adair County Courthouse lawn May 12. She is the daughter of Felix and Beverly Ross of Stilwell.

Adair, a seventeen-year-old senior at Stilwell High School, was chosen as first runner-up and served as an attendant to the queen. She is the daughter of Larry and Jan Adair of Stilwell.

Bearpaw, a seventeen-year-old junior at Stilwell High School was chosen as third runner up and also served as an attendant to the queen. She is the 1989-90 Cherokee Pow-Wow Princess and the daughter of George and Nellie Bearpaw of Stilwell.

The girls were featured in the festival parade May 12.
Creehoke Historical Society to raffle '55 Chevrolet

The Cherokee National Historical Society is selling tickets for a classic automobile as one of the projects for the 1990 fund drive. A 1955 red and white Chevrolet will be given away on October 27, 1990. Tickets to win this Chevy Classic are $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00, and can be purchased at the Cherokee Heritage Center or from any of the Heritage Center staff.

As an effort to raise funds for cultural and educational programs, the car will be traveling to various parades beginning in May.

Trail of Tears Drama makes changes for better

The 22nd season of the Trail of Tears Outdoor Drama has now begun and everyone is invited to attend. The drama depicts the removal and arrival of the Cherokees from their homes to Indian Territory.

This year's drama is taking on change, change for the better. The drama has a bigger cast and better costumes. A few of the characters have even changed.

The drama began Saturday June 9 and will last until August 18. The drama is Monday through Saturday at 8:30. Cost is $8 for adults and $4 for children. Group rates are also available. Interested people may purchase packaged tickets for the drama, museum and ancient village at a reduced rate.

Some of the other activities going on at the Cherokee National Historical Society are the 19th annual Trail of Tears Art Show. Works from the show are on display until July 8 at the Cherokee Heritage Center Museum. Between 350 and 400 works were entered.

Tsa-La-Gi Ancient Village attracts many visitors

The Tsa-La-Gi Ancient Village is a re-creation of an ancient 16th century Cherokee settlement. The village is complete with villagers attired in fringed buckskin costumes. The villagers do various activities such as crafting beautiful bowls, making arrowheads, basket weaving and stick balls along with spears. The villagers also show the audience how to make kaunche. Some Cherokees drink kaunche and others eat it as a soup occasionally adding hominy, rice, sugar or salt.

The village also has summer homes made out of mud and clay, even though there was no air conditioning they stayed very cool. Along with the summer home was an o-sti, a mound-shaped mud and clay building outside of the summer home. The o-sti was built to keep heat therefore Cherokee ancestors slept in them on cold winter nights.

Manager of the ancient village is Anna Rackliff. Anna began 14 years ago weaving baskets and moved her way up to managing the village. The elder of the village is Scott, her husband.

Cherokee National Historical Society schedule of events

**Trail of Tears Drama**
June 2 - August 18

**Cherokee National Museum**
Summer hours: June 2 - Aug. 18
M-Sat 10-8  Sunday 12-5

**Tsa-La-Gi Ancient Village**
May 8 - Aug. 18

**Trail of Tears Art Show**
June 16 - July 8

For more information about CNHS Events call (918) 456-6007
Creech Nation conducts apprentice program

The Cherokee Nation has entered into an agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to conduct an apprentice program for a limited number of employees in order to improve work performance through training, according to Mary Harris, personnel director.

Nine Cherokee Nation employees have volunteered for the program. They are: John Hall, John, Gerald Powell and Rodd Barnett, Sequoyah High School Facility Management; Charley McCoy and Randy Pigeon, Talking Leaves Job Corps; and, Raymond Carver, Juan Hooper, John Pritchett and Larry Ridge, Community Development. Trainers for the program will be Kenny Lawson, Steve Walters, Lee Sessner, Robert Chastain and Bobbie Crow.

This program will set the stage for a training program that will be expanded in the future. The BIA has spent a great deal of time and money implementing this pilot program, Harris said.

Bob Rogers, project specialist from the Albuquerque area gave a program orientation on March 1, reviewing the record keeping requirements and training material.

This pilot program developed because of a critical need to improve the job skills of individuals currently employed by tribal contractors or 636 contractors. The BIA selected three additional 638 contract areas, along with the Cherokee Nation, to implement this innovative pilot program.

Others involved are, Navajo Nation, Ft. Defiance, AZ; Papago agency, Sellos, AZ; and Haskell Indian Junior College, Lawrence, KS.

"In the past we have hired people who were minimally qualified to work on projects where licensed or licensed workers were needed," Harris said. "In this training program, funded by the BIA, we will be able to utilize specific tools to train these employees to bring their level of performance to that of journeyman, based on private industry standards."

"This program is being managed by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship, and upon completion of the coursework, participants will receive certification by that agency," she said.

"Training may spread up to three years in the program, based on their level of experience and training. Individuals who successfully complete this program will be eligible to train future apprentices," Harris said.

Writers' work being sought for anthology

For an anthology, Reinventing The Enemy's Language, a committee is looking for submissions of original poetry and prose from Native Women writers from North, Central and South America. Each writer must be identified with a tribal group.

Submissions will be accepted in English, Spanish and tribal languages, up to 12 pages of prose (short stories, creative essays, testimonials, or short novel excerpts), or five pages of poetry. The committee is looking for work that encompasses Native Women's experience as we enter the 21st Century. Writers should enclose a short biography which includes tribal affiliation.

Submissions from within the United States are asked to enclose SASE. Payment for published work will be in copies of the anthology, a small honorarium to be determined. Deadline is October 1990. Please send to Joy Harjo, PO Box 42853, Tucson, Arizona 85713.

Oklahoma legislators pass resolution for National American Indian Holiday

Oklahoma legislators have passed a resolution calling for Congress approval of a national holiday honoring American Indians. Rep. M.C. Leist, D-Durant, authored the House resolution. Sen. John Dahl, D-Barnsdall, introduced the concurrent resolution in the Senate. The Senate approved the resolution on a voice vote.

Two amendments to the House resolution were successfully dodged. One amendment would have forced the holiday to be held on a Saturday. The second would have called for honoring Native Americans with the donation of salaries and labor to Native Americans. The first bill was killed after being tabled. The second amendment was killed when an immediate vote on the resolution was called.

Governor Bellmon gave his approval to the resolution during the first week of May. The next step will be up to the Oklahoma Congressional delegation, Leist said.

He did not expect the legislation to be introduced during this year's Congressional session, but he hopes to see the Oklahoma legislators put it on next year's agenda.

Rep. Leist said he felt it was time the Native Americans received this special recognition.

Applications due for the Miss Cherokee Scholarship Pageant

Plans for the Miss Cherokee Scholarship Pageant are underway. Deadline for applications is July 31. The Miss Cherokee Scholarship Pageant is held annually during the Cherokee National Holiday Labor Day Weekend to select a young woman to represent her tribe throughout the year.

Contestants must be tribal members of one-fourth degree or more, high school graduates and/or between the ages of 18 and 25 and never have been married.

Miss Cherokee is awarded $150 in scholarship funds, among other prizes.

For more information, call 918-456-4865. Messages will be returned.

Registration July field schedule listed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, July 2</td>
<td>Jaya, Indian Clinic</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, July 6</td>
<td>Stillwell, Sub-Office</td>
<td>8 a.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 9</td>
<td>Tulsa, Indian Health Care Resource Center, 915 S. Cincinnati</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, July 13</td>
<td>Stillwell, Sub-Office</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 16</td>
<td>Miami, Sub-Office, Ottawa County Courthouse Building</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 18</td>
<td>Vinita, Tom Bufington Heights, 25 McNiel Ave.,</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, July 20</td>
<td>Bartlesville, Keller Heights, 1000 SW Virginia</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 23</td>
<td>Miami, Nutrition Center, Wheeler Estates</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 25</td>
<td>Claremore, IHS Hospital, Will Rogers Blvd.</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td>
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TLJC students participate in food fair

Students from Talking Leaves Job Corps will be participating in the U.S. Department of Labor's Job Corps Region VI Food Fair June 25-27 at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, N.M., according to Talking Leaves Director Larry Ketcher.

The students are enrolled in the culinary arts program at Job Corps under the direction of Ada Coomes, culinary arts instructor. There are approximately 25 students enrolled in the Talking Leaves Job Corps culinary arts program, according to Ketcher.

The students will have two days to plan menus and shop for supplies. They also are given a written test on food preparation. The food preparation begins with a sanitation inspection and then students are given four hours to prepare food, decorate tables and present their entries. They must prepare enough food for 40 people.

Winners in the various categories will be honored at an awards dinner immediately following the judging, Ketcher said. The New Mexico Chef's Association will select the judges for the competition.
CNO Updates...

Nation’s plans for Tulsa bingo delayed

The Cherokee Nation says it will concentrate on developing its bingo hall in Roland before making further plans to open a highstakes bingo parlor near Tulsa International Airport.

Tommy Thompson, executive director of tribal operations, said the tribe had been negotiating an eight-acre tract west of the airport but decided the improvements needed on site were too expensive.

"We're not abandoning our plans for Tulsa," Thompson said. "We are now concentrating on getting our facility up and going in Roland and then taking another look at Tulsa."

Thompson said the Cherokee would reconsider their Tulsa proposal after the Roland bingo hall opens in mid-September. Built eight miles northwest of Fort Smith, the facility will occupy five acres.

Planning officials said cost could have been a factor but there were other reasons for the tribe's decision.

"It's not so much that the tribal costs would have been considered prohibitive unless they didn't plan to put much investment into the building," said Bob Gardner, deputy director of the Indian Nations Council of Governments.

Gardner said the tribe would have been assessed a "fairly substantial" drainage fee and would have been required to widen an area road to three lanes the plan gone ahead.

The Roland hall will employ 35 people with its $600,000 payroll the tribe said. The hall will seat 850 people. The Tulsa hall would have seated as many as 2,000 people.

"We will be looking for another Tulsa site, but we have not started looking at this point, Thompson said.

Cherokee Nation pays note; Due to trust, lodge now belongs to tribe

The Cherokee Nation has assumed ownership of the former Lodge of the Cherokees, according to Principal Chief Wilma M. Mankiller.

The lodge is now a temporary home for the Talking Leaves Job Corps and will continue in that capacity until 1994, when Job Corps is moved into its new 6 million dollar lodge.

The lodge was financed by the Southern Trust, a public trust established in 1973 to finance public facilities. The tribe was financed along with an utility enterprise for the Cherokee Nation.

The Cherokee Nation was responsible for debt service and in March 1989, the note was retired. The trust then deeded the property over to the tribe.

Payments on the lease were approximately $250,000 to $300,000 a year.

The lease was used to repay the debt and now the money coming in from the Talking Leaves Job Corps lease will be placed in the tribe's operating accounts.

Keetoowah member continues Cherokee tradition

Nelson Smith, a full blood Cherokee, once managed over 300 people at the Gates Rubber Company at Salmon Springs, Ark.; he now manages time.

Smith, who lives in Colcord, and his son Chad, a lawyer in Tulsa, make clocks that feature the Cherokee syllabary. The numbers on the clocks are written in the Cherokee language invented by the Cherokee scholar, Sequoyah.

"A Cherokee clock," said Smith, "is an artistic reminder of the greatness of a people and the greatness of the drive of that people to survive, thrive and share the happiness they were gifted by the Creator."

Smith began making the clocks in 1989 or rather, making the wooden frames for the seven different models.

A retired industrial engineer who enjoys working in wood, Smith helped build the Gates plant.

He worked for the Gates Rubber Company for 35 years before retiring. He started working at Gates in 1961 as a stock room attendant and worked his way up to maintenance director. As maintenance director he supervised over 300 employees. He retired in 1983.

Smith had to learn English when he first went to school as a child at Burch and Lee's Creek. "My mother was a school teacher," he said, "But we talked Cherokee at home."

His educational experiences include attending fifth and sixth grade at Dwight Mission and seventh grade at Rock Fence. He graduated high school at Sequoyah Indian School in Tahlequah.

His career took him to farflung corners of the country, and after a while he began to lose track of the Cherokee language.

"I didn't have anyone to talk to," he said.

Returning to the Cherokee Nation, he relearned Cherokee and found that it was not as easy as he expected. He recalls attending church services conducted by the well-known Cherokee singer and minister, the Rev. Sam Holder of Piney Church.

He is a veteran of WWII where he served in the Army Air Corp as a CFC Gunner on a B-29.

Smith is the grandson of Redford Smith, the founder of the Keetoowah Nightawk Society and the son of Kiah Smith and Rachael Quinlin, who was the secretary of the United Keetoowah Band during the 1960's and 1970's.

Smith has been a member of the United Keetoowah Band since 1963.

He and his wife have four sons and reside in Colcord, Ok.

Indian smoke shop suffers fire damage

An Indian smoke shop suffered minor damage from a fire after a City Council member ordered members of the fire department not to extinguish the blaze because it is an Indian land and they don't pay taxes," a dispatcher said.

Sequoyah County Sheriff's dispatcher James Martin said the fire at the Sequoyah Tobacco Sales shop, operated by the Keetoowah Band of the Cherokee tribe, was reported to Vian police.

The firefighters got there and a council member advised them not to put any water on it because it was Indian land and they (the Indians) didn't pay taxes, said Martin.

He said the Vian firefighters called the Sallisaw fire department to report the blaze, which is believed to be arson.

State Fire Marshall Jody Cooper said he is investigating the fire. Cooper said a soft-drink bottle found in the building would be tested to determine whether it contained gasoline or some other fuel.

Smoke shop owner Jim Daugherty said he has operated the business since October and has received numerous threats. Daugherty said he was notified of the blaze when he went off and arrived at the shop about 30 minutes after the fire began.

Daugherty said the building suffered minor damage. He said the land is under the jurisdiction of federal authorities.

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma's toll free telephone number will be changed, effective July 1. The new toll free number in Oklahoma is 1-800-256-0671. Persons who dial the old toll free number, 1-800-722-4325 will be advised of the new number by a recorded message.
Chief Mankiller’s brother to donate healthy kidney

Continued from page 1

Several of Mankiller’s family members, including some of her 10 brothers and sisters, were screened as potential donors. A brother, Don Mankiller, was selected as the most compatible match and will donate one of his healthy kidneys to his sister.

Don, 52, is a dairy rancher in California.

The chief has continued to maintain her active schedule, including tribal business and several speaking engagements.

On Memorial Day she received an honorary doctorate from Yale University in New Haven, Conn. She has not been on dialysis, nor has she been bedridden, as some rumors have indicated.

Mankiller said she will be hospitalized for about two weeks and out of the office for approximately eight weeks. Part of that time, she said, she plans to work out of an office in her home.

The kidney filters blood to rid the body of excess waste and to regulate chemical and fluid balance.

Impaired kidney function, which has many different causes, can result in renal failure. In a transplant, a healthy kidney is implanted into the body where it can perform all the functions the ailing kidney cannot, Mankiller explained.

Over the years kidney transplants have become a vastly favored option over dialysis and now are fairly common procedures,” Mankiller said. “After surgery recipients return to normal, active lives.”

“The kidney is a remarkable organ. It adjusts to the demands put on it by the rest of the body. This is why people can live active, healthy lives with only one kidney.”

Mankiller said the donor screening process includes several types of blood tests, including a test for compatibility of antigens in the blood.

“Similar genes make for a better match,” she explained. “Because siblings inherit genes from both parents, many times brothers and sisters are better matches than parents or children.”

Several of the chief’s brothers and sisters were willing to consider donating a kidney, but she said Don’s kidney has provided the best match.

“I know that this is a big decision for Don and his family and they know how much we appreciate Don’s gift to me—and what a wonderful gift it is,” Mankiller said.

Average hospitalization for kidney donors is one week, with full recovery in about four weeks, Mankiller said.

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma’s toll free telephone number will be changed, effective July 1. The new toll free number in Oklahoma only is 1-800-256-0671. Persons who dial the old toll free number, 1-800-722-4325, will be advised of the new number by a recorded message.

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Obituaries

PROCTOR, M. A., 56, Cookson, died May 22. Services were held May 24. He was born Sept. 3, 1933 in Cookson to Charles and Nancy Conley Proctor. Survivors include: his mother, Nancy Conley Proctor of Cookson; two daughters, Linda Watkins of Skiatook, Mary Lou Proctor of Okmulgee, Dottie Marie Swee-ock of Carnegie and Nancy Shade and Brenda Lee Proctor, both of Tahlequah; two sons, Ronald Ray Proctor of Mul- dow and Martin Lee Proctor of Okmulgee; three stepdaughters, Sharon Baras of Los Angeles, Calif. and Linda Vann and Anna Franklin both of Tahlequah; a stepson, Alex Vann of Tahlequah; a sister, Marie Ledner of Haskell; two brothers, God- dow Proctor of Tahlequah and Andy Proctor of Oregon and 18 grandchildren.

SELLERS, Percy M. "Red", 72, Tahlequah, died May 5. Services were held May 7. He was born Feb. 6, 1918 in Welling to Frank C. and Waltha Davis Sellers. Survivors include: his wife, Mary of the home, two daughters, Betty Kay Sellers and Mary Jo Siracusa, both of Tahlequah; five sons, Percy M. Jr., Jerry, John R. and Dick Sellers, all of Tahlequah and Andy Sellers of Welling; a sister, Oma Hamby of Welling; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

TIGER, Jerome Christopher Coleman, 22, Muskogee, died May 9. Services were held May 11. He was born July 29, 1967 to Jerome and Peggy Tiger. Survivors include: his mother, Peggy of the home; his uncle, Johnny Tiger, Jr. of Muskogee; brothers, Joseph, Scott and David Tiger, all of Muskogee; sisters, Dana and Lisa Tiger both of Muskogee; grandparents, John and Lucinda Tiger of Muskogee, and his fiancé, Gretchen Johnson of Muskogee.

GUTHRIE, Robert Elisha, 53, Tahle- quah, died May 6. Services were held May 9. He was born June 3, 1896 to Elisha and Tennessee Ann Walker Guthrie. Survivors include: a daughter, Dorothy Nell Jett of Tulsa; five sons, Fred G. and Kelly Guthrie, both of Tulsa, Kenneth Guthrie of Bixby, Robert Guthrie Jr. of Pittsburg, Calif. and Bennett Guthrie of Tahlequah; 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

ROSS, Levi, 79, Adair County, died May 23. Services were held May 26. He was born Sept. 25 to William and Lillie Wate Ross. Survivors include: five sons, Richard of Stillwell, George, Albert, Johnny and Ronnie Ross, all of Bunch; three daugh- ters, Emma Jane Swimmer of Stillwell, and Lillie Mae Ross and Ollie Ross, both of Bunch; 17 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

NICHOLS, Mrs. Callie Mae, 66, Stillwell, died May 9. Services were held May 11. She was born Aug. 17, 1923 to Rufus Nichols and Peggy Henderson Nichols. Survivors include: one son, Fred Nichols, Jr. of Arkadelphia, Ark.; two daughters, Karen E. Jacob of Stillwell, and Shelia A. Webb of Tahlequah; three sisters, Helen Campbell of Stillwell, Alene Foreman of Welling, and Norma Duncan of Las Vegas, Nev.; one aunt, Mae Tune of Marble City; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

SAWNEY, Mrs. Sallie Marie, 59, Stillwell, died May 17. Services were held May 21. She was born June 29, 1920 to Joe and Ollie Gonzales Sawney. Survivors include: five sons, Jerr Hawk and Steve Sawney, both of Stillwell, Terry Hawk and Thorne Hawk, and Fred Sawney of Ada; six daughters, Donna Alexander, Vicki Mae Alexander, Mary McDonald, Christine Hawk, and Janice Sawney, all of Ada, and Leta Critten of Oaks; two sisters, Mary Jo Duncan and Ethel Vann, both of Stillwell; 23 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

WASHINGTON, Nancy Louise, 65, Stillwell, died May 12. Services were held May 15. She was born Oct. 27, 1936 to Alv and Lynda Water Green. Survivors include: her husband, Andrew Washington of the home; three sons, Gideon Wooten and Allen Washington, both of Stillwell, George Hooper Jr. of Ada; seven daughters, Barbara Washington of Stillwell, Sharon Mutter of Columbus, Neb., Wanda Logan of Talle- quah, Georgia Dicen of Shawnee, Shirley Kocher of Amadabla, Mary Lopez of Liberal, Kan., and Sue Mata of Oklahoma city; one brother, Biddy Broden of Kansas City, Mo.; three sisters, Pearl of Kansas City, Hester Kelley of Henrietta, and Mary Watkins of Coweta; 44 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

KEEN, Lonis Eady, 85, Stillwell, died May 21. Services were held May 23. She was born Aug. 15, 1920 to Elizah McConnell and Lucinda Davis Cone. Survivors include: three sons, Veryl F. Keen of Alamosa, Colo., Tom, and Ray Kean of Dewey; one daughter, Joy Keen of Stillwell, and Sue Terrapin of Muskogee; nine grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

SANDS, Peggy Hawkins, 85, Tahle- quah, died May 15. Services were held May 17. She was born Feb. 27, 1905 to Joseph and Eva Bell Swimmer Hawkins. Survivors include: a daughter, Lorri Critten of Hubbert's; a son, Bill Williams of Tulsa; two granddaughters, Pat Martinez of Hubbert and Tracy Walker of Pratt; a grandson, Clinton Williams of Ventura Calif.; two foster daughters, Sara Smith and Mary Gritts, both of Tahlequah; three great-granddaughters, Diane Critten, Kim Jackson and Sherri Jackson; and four great-grandsons. Chris and Jimmy Walker and Brandon and Paul Williams.

FOURKILLER, Gary Don, 25, Se- quoyah County, died May 5. Services were held May 9. He was born July 4, 1964 to James and Bertha Taylor Fourkiller. Survivors include: his mother, of Stillwell; three brothers, Anthony, Judge Allen and Barry Fourkiller, all of Stillwell; three sisters, Darlene Fourkiller, Edna Sundeen and Norene Fourkiller, all of Stillwell; and a special friend, Jerre Lynn Johnson of Bunch.

BRUNNER, T. Garland, 44, Stillwell, died May 27. Services were held May 30. He was born Sept. 4, 1945 to Joe Arlis Brunner and Lillie Frances Brunner. Survivors include: his wife, Reba of the home; two daughters, Catherine Brunner and Riven Brunner, both of Stillwell; one stepson, Michael Killor of Stillwell; his mother, Lillie Brunner of Stillwell; and two sisters, Paye and Robert Cocke, both of Stillwell.

BEAN, George Perry, 88, Stillwell, died May 28. Services were held May 30. He was born Sept. 1, 1901 to Charles and Sarah Livias Jones Bean. Survivors include: his daughter, Clay Bean of Stillwell, his son, Jerry Bean of Tahlequah; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

KETCHER, Denny, 28, Stillwell, died May 13. Services were held May 17. He was born June 26, 1961 to Edward and Fannie Pauline Scraper Ketcher. Survivors include: his wife, Kelly Martin of Westville and Yvone Angley of Idaho; one half-brother, Michael Cather of Stillwell; his grandmother, Kate Cather; eight uncles, Jim, Cleburn and Sherman Scraper, both of Stillwell; Granville Scraper of McCurtain, Charles Ketcher of this home, Warner Ketcher of Jenks, Clayton Scraper of Stillwell; Alfred Scraper of Tennessee; four aunts, Clara Glademan and Lillian Ketcher of Stillwell, Nettie McCreary of McCurtain and Kay Jarrod of Ardmore.

WOLFE, Marilyn, 71, Afton, died May 4. Services were held May 8. She was born July 16, 1912. Survivors include: two sons, Layman "Copper" Wolfe of southwest City, Ok., and Homer Wolfe Jr. of Baxter Springs, Kan., one daughter, Ardy Robbins of rural Afton, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

SANDERS, Lilian, 72, Vinita, died May 3. Services were held May 5. She was born December 7, 1917. Survivors include: her husband, Wiley M. Sanders Sr. of the home; two daughters, Mrs. Priscilla Shamble of Vinita; and Mrs. Fred Good of Miami; a son, Wiley M. Sanders Jr. of San Antonio, Texas; her mother, Mrs. Tessa McDougal of Tulsa; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

CUMSEY, Robert Jacob, 70, Tele- quah, died April 27. Services were held April 28. He was born Feb. 13, 1920 to George and Lainya Tenkiller Cumsey. Survivors include: his wife, Nadene, of the home; two daughters, Mary Margaret Scott of Pioneer, Calif. and Phyllis Abel of Grove; two son-in-laws, Alan Abel and Roger Scott; three grandchildren, Chabon, Jon Michael and Matthew; and cousins Mr. and Mrs. Bill Carter.

PACE, Lester, 84, died June 5. Services were held June 7. He was born November 26, 1905 to John W. Pace and Lavina Hardin Pace. Survivors include: his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Pace of the home; one son, Gay Pace, Tuttle; three daughters, Mary Paul, Table- quah, Sue Watkins, Stillwell, and Nancy Watkins, Hominy; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

KINGFISHER, Jackson, 83, Talle- quah, died May 30. Services were held June 4. He was born August 2, 1906 in Teresita to Goingsm and Katie Critten Kingfisher. Survivors include: his wife, Bessey of the home; three sisters, Maggie Slaton of Skoketown, Mo.; Betty Sue and Leola Walters of Tahlequah; and one brother, Eagle Kingfisher of Tahlequah.

SWEPTON, Peggy Lucil Johnson, 27, Tahlequah, died June 5. Services were held June 6. She was born June 1, 1963 to Henry Franklin and Imogene Margaret Jones Swepton. Survivors include: a son, Avery Michael Rogers of Skiatook; a daughter, Luci Ann Rogers of Skiatook; her mother, Imogene Swepton of Tahlequah; four brothers, Mike Rogers of Oklahoma City, Jerry Swepton of the U.S. Marine Corps in Washington, D.C., Daryl Swepton of Cleveland and David Swepton of Tahlequah; a sister, Barbara Swepton of Oklahoma City; three-half brothers, Homer Swepton of Tulsa, Kenneth Swepton of Cookson and Harold Swepton of Hutchinson, Kan.; two nieces and a stepson.

NEFF, William, 72, Tahlequah, died May 30. Services were held June 1. He was born April 10, 1918. Survivors include: two sons, Ronald Neff, Jackson, Tenn., and William Michael Neff, Jol., Tex.; one daughter, Donna McConnell; one brother, Jeff Neff, Stillwell; one sister, Ada Fitcham, Tahlequah; and seven grandchildren.

WOLFE, Lamb, 82, Stillwell, died June 13. Services were held June 15. He was born Jan. 16, 1908 to Lydia Fitcham- hawk and Charles Wolfe. Survivors include: his wife, Johnn of the home; four daughters, Josephine Denby, Jan Taylor, Nora Beene and Brenda Wolfe; all of Stillwell; four sons, Lamb Dale Wolfe, all of Stillwell; 23 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.
Eleven young journalists from area high schools recently completed the first Cherokee Youth in Communications Project June 6 with a luncheon banquet at Northeastern State University.

Banquet speaker John Shurr, Cherokee tribal member, formerly of Muskogee, and Associated Press bureau chief, Columbus, S. C., advised the students to persevere in their efforts to become Indian journalists.

Sponsored by the Cherokee Nation Communications Department, the project included seminars and workshops in almost every career in mass communications, explained Dan Agent, workshop coordinator.

Funding came from the Goodall Foundation for Children with additional support by the Native American Journalists Association. Staff assistance was provided by Marsha Harlan, intern with the communications department.

The project is a response to the low number of professional Native American journalists from the national level to the tribal level, and Lynn Howard, Cherokee Nation communications department director. This frequently results in a lack of Indian perspective in news reporting and few positive role models in the mass communications profession.

Following registration Monday, June 4, the project began with a tour of KOTV, Tulsa, and the Tulsa World. That evening, Dan's Evernote, Tahlquah Daily Press News Editor, conducted a communications seminar and discussion of high school journalism programs.

The students were housed in dorm facilities at Sequoyah High School, Tahlquah, where some of the sessions were conducted.

During the tours of KOTV and the Tulsa World, the students took notes and photographs, then wrote stories about the tours in Tuesday morning's newswriting and reporting workshop conducted by Janet Pearson, Tulsa World Senior Reporter.

A comparison of tribal and independent newspapers was presented by Tommy Cunningham, Creek Nation Communications Director, the afternoon of June 5.

Seminars and workshops June 6 included television news production by Rick Peterson, KOTV news reporter; Native American video production by Gary Robinson, American Indian Media Services, Inc.; and photography and darkroom techniques by Sammy Still, photographer, Cherokee Nation Communications Department.

Editorial decision-making in copy and photography was covered June 7 by Kristy Fry, Muskogee Phoenix City Editor, and Kent Johnson, Muskogee Phoenix Chief Photographer.

Desktop publishing, including hands-on operations, was presented in the afternoon at Northeastern State University by Philip Bush, NU Computing and Telecommunications. That evening, students toured the Cherokee National Museum and attended the "Trail of Tears" drama at the Tea-Lu-GI Amphitheater.

Friday morning, students traveled to NSU for a seminar by Shurr, followed by the luncheon banquet and his address to the young journalists. The luncheon concluded with the presentation of certificates of completion by Cherokee Nation Deputy Chief John A. Ketcher.

From Tahlquah High School were Aaron M. Lemaster, 17, son of Gwen and Joe Grayson, Tahlquah; and Michael LeMaster, Little Rock, Arkansas; Kimberly Dawn Houston, 17, Don and Sandy Houston, Tahlquah; and Jessica Eileen Houston, 15, daughter of Susan Houston and Dan Houston, Jr., Tahlquah.

Attending from Muldrow High were students of Mrs. Judy Trent; Jennifer Renee Germandt, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Germandt, Muldrow; Melissa Ann Teeshoes, 15, daughter of Carolyn Spoon, Sallisaw; and John Wayne Townsend, 16, son of Norene Townsend, Muldrow.

Jay High School students attending were Lisa Lee Eberle, 17, daughter of John W. and Marilyn Eberle, Jay; and Valerie J. Sultzter, 16, daughter of Bobby and Linda Sultzter, Jay.

Also attending were Kevin Dale King, 17 from Nowata, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gale King, Nowata; Donald Gene James, Jr., 16, from Watts; son of Donald and Louise James, Watts; and from Sallisaw High Angela Marie Ross, 16; daughter of Dorothy Ross Young and Gary Young of Sallisaw.

Aaron Lemaster, Kim Houston and Jessica Houston, Tahlquah

Former Muskogee native featured speaker

Former Muskogee native John C. Shurr, Associated Press bureau chief in Columbus, S.C., was the featured speaker Friday, June 6, at a luncheon concluding the Cherokee Nation Youth in Communications conference in Tahlquah.

Shurr is a member of the Cherokee Nation. He was introduced at the luncheon as "one of our many Cherokee success stories."

He also led a morning discussion with the students on the Associated Press, newsgathering from a national perspective and careers in mass communications. Shurr told the students that the AP is committed to the minority recruitment and, because of his heritage, he is committed to hiring and training of Native Americans.

Shurr, 42, attended Muskogee Central High School and received a BA in journalism from the University of Oklahoma in 1973. He worked at the Muskogee Phoenix and Norman Transcript before joining Associated Press in 1972. He was with AP in Indianapolis and Providence, R.I., before going to Chicago as assistant bureau chief and news editor in 1979. From 1981-84 he was bureau chief in Oklahoma City when he left his home state for South Carolina.

He has received numerous awards and is a member of several professional organizations.

Shurr is also an avid sailor and a member of the U.S. Yacht Racing Union, the Charleston Ocean Racing Association and the Columbia Sailing Club.

Shurr's parents are the late Olga Dannenberg Shurr and Raymond C. Shurr of Muskogee.
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