

Restaurant opening highlights tribe's economic, business development

Economic development has been one of the primary goals of Principal Chief Joe Byrd since his inauguration in August 1995. One aspect of that goal is being realized with the opening of the Restaurant of the Cherokees by Aug. 31 in time for the Cherokee National Holiday.

Many tribal members have wanted the restaurant to re-open ever since it closed in 1988.

"I have been approached by several tribal members who live outside the 14-county jurisdiction who voiced concern about why the restaurant wasn't open for business," Byrd said. "One of my campaign promises was to re-open the Restaurant of the Cherokees. I am fulfilling my promises."

A restaurant first opened in the building in 1967 as the New Frontier Stage Stop In for a few months, before it became the Restaurant of the Cherokees. From then to its close in 1988 to become the temporary home of Talking Leaves Job Corps, the restaurant had evolved into a popular gathering place for tribal members, area citizens, and civic and community organizations. In addition to its revival for economic purposes, Chief Byrd hopes that the restaurant will revive the sense of community it created.

"Re-opening the restaurant is just the first step," Byrd said. "A lot of positive growth and economic development is happening in Tahlequah and northeastern Oklahoma now, and the Cherokee Nation is an integral part of it. We know there is enough business potential out there to benefit everyone, and we want to work with local, county and state governments to realize that potential."

Jobs are an essential part of economic development, and 40 full-time employees will be serving as many as 250 patrons in the dining room and as many as 350 in the ballroom. The original chef of the restaurant, Jack Reavis Sr., is returning to manage the preparation of a menu of 50 selections, with en-

trees ranging from beef to seafood and a breakfast, lunch and dinner buffet, as well as fresh fruit.

"It was only natural for Jack Reavis Sr. to be the master chef," Byrd said. "He was the original chef, and it is only right that he be involved in the restoration of the restaurant."

Reavis, a certified master chef and a member of the American Honor Society of Chefs, brings 48 years of experience to the position, much of it spent traveling and refining his culinary skills throughout the United States and Europe. Reavis is excited about the re-opening and the effect it will have.

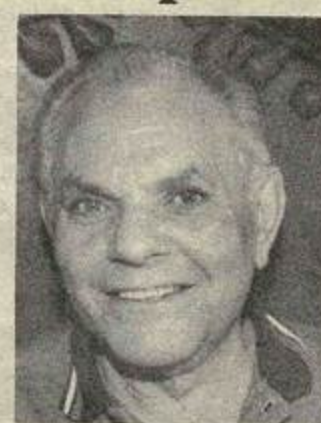
"I never felt better about anything in my 48 years in the food business," Reavis said. "We're looking forward to seeing all the old-timers who used to come here and all the new customers. We'll have something for everybody," Reavis said. "We want families to come and enjoy our food and our hospitality. And there won't be any alcoholic beverages on the premises as long as I'm here," he emphasized.

Customers will see some of the familiar items that previously decorated the restaurant. "Chief Byrd is helping mend ties that have been broken," Reavis said, including "placing the Exodus sculpture by Willard Stone and the painting of W.W. Keeler back in the lobby where they were originally placed."

The restaurant will be open 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., with a Sunday brunch from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., with the exception of Christmas, when it will be closed, Reavis said.

The restaurant and the ballroom will once again be available for use by community organizations and civic groups. Even before it opened, a wedding reception was held at the restaurant. Reservations are now being taken for such events and can be made by calling (918) 453-9349.

The re-opening of the Restaurant of the Cherokees may be the very visible



JACK REAVIS SR.

JACK REAVIS Sr., above and left, chef at the renovated Restaurant of the Cherokees, inspects the kitchen prior to the re-opening of the restaurant in time for the Cherokee National Holiday. (Photos by Bobby Watkins)

first step in the revitalization of Cherokee businesses, but Cherokee Nation Enterprises (CNE), formerly Cherokee Nation Outpost Inc., has taken many new steps in business and economic development during the past year.

One example is The Outpost, formerly the Hop-In, the Cherokee Nation's first convenience store, located just a few yards away from the restaurant. The Outpost, like the convenience stores under development by CNE, including one that will be located near Fort Gibson on Highway 62, will offer the usual items, perhaps some that are specifically Cherokee, as well as tobacco products, and motor fuels that will be sold at standard competitive prices.

A primary goal of CNE is independence. "We're striving to be less dependent on the federal government," CNE CEO and Manager Gerald Cantrell said. "That really epitomizes what we're all about. Providing jobs for people is an important part of achieving independence. With the opening of the restaurant, we will employ a total of 500 people with a total payroll of more than \$6 million that can turn over as much as seven times in the communities."

"Because Chief Byrd's focus is to expand economic development for the tribe, the CNE board felt re-opening the restaurant would do just that, help keep Cherokee dollars at home," Cantrell said.

The solvency of CNE is becoming

progressively solid with a consistent 15 percent per month increase in profits, according to Cantrell.

Cherokee Nation Enterprises Inc. is a wholly-owned, for-profit subsidiary of the Cherokee Nation.

CNE has operated Bingo Outpost gaming facilities and accompanying Outpost Tobacco stores in Roland since 1990, Catoosa since 1993 and West Siloam Springs since 1994. These facilities currently employ 425 workers, most of whom are Native American, 200 at Catoosa, 125 at Roland and 100 at West Siloam Springs. An additional 25 employees are employed at the corporate office in Tahlequah.

CNE is an Indian preference employer.

The change of the name to Cherokee Nation Enterprises Inc. from Cherokee Nation Outpost Inc. brought logo change. "We took the opportunity to redesign our corporate logo," Cantrell said. "The central star is taken from the flag of the Cherokee Nation, while the background 'tracks' represent friendship, unity, cooperation and endeavor. We feel this is an accurate representation of our corporation and its goals."

"With the passage of the Oklahoma Fuel Tax legislation and the accompanying opportunities, CNE will soon enter the fuel market," Cantrell said. "A planned truck plaza in Catoosa, a second

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Restaurant of the Cherokees to re-open in time for Cherokee holiday FROM PAGE 1

Outpost convenience store location in Fort Gibson, Bingo Outpost expansion in Roland and expanded offerings from our Outpost Tobacco stores will enable us to move closer to fulfilling the CNE mission statement."

An example of those business ventures is the recent historic agreement Chief Byrd and CNE negotiated with Polyplex Corp. Ltd. to locate a polyester products factory in the 14-county jurisdiction of the Cherokee Nation.

In July, Chief Byrd and Sanjiv Saraf, managing director of Polyplex, signed a memorandum of understanding to continue with negotiations of the details of the final agreement.

"The magnitude of this would be approximately 100 new jobs, and the cost of the company would be approximately

\$45 million," Byrd said at the signing.

Byrd traveled to India in April to see the Polyplex operation there and to meet with Polyplex executives to discuss the location of one of their factories on Cherokee land. Polyplex executives also visited Cherokee Nation Industries to determine the tribe's manufacturing capabilities.

"I am excited about the opportunity of setting up a venture here," said Saraf. "I think this is the beginning of a profitable venture for the Cherokee Nation and us."

Negotiations are continuing, and Byrd said he is hopeful that they will be concluded soon and ground can be broken for the factory in early 1997.

"Our success is due to hard work and intelligent decision-making," Cantrell

said. "We do not succeed because of our sovereign status or because of any compact or legislation. We do not gain unfair advantage when we place land into trust status; we merely protect it for the future so that it may never be lost. We succeed because of our people--our greatest asset--who lend us their knowledge, skill and experience in return for the opportunity to form a better future for themselves and for generations to come."

"The influence of Cherokee Nation Enterprises extends to the communities where our facilities are located, the communities where our employees live, and the communities that we contribute to in forms of charitable donations, charity games, goods donation and community involvement," Cantrell added.

CNE contributions totaling more than \$60,000 have been made to the Fort Smith Tornado Relief Fund, Muldrow Public Library Fund, Cherokee National Holiday, City of Catoosa, Catoosa Chamber of Commerce, Kenwood Volunteer Fire Association, Sequoyah High School, Greasy Community, Kenwood Commu-

nity and the Arts Council of Tahlequah.

"We support the surrounding communities because they are our employees, our families and our customers," Cantrell said. "We support arts and education to promote and sustain culture. We support our youth because they are our future and our greatest investment should be in them."

"We support our employees by making benefits available to all full-time employees," Cantrell added. "We met a 1995 payroll of more than \$2.5 million at our Catoosa facility, almost \$2 million at Roland and almost \$1.5 million at West Siloam Springs. This money returns to the surrounding communities and stimulates local economies."

Chief Byrd and Cantrell are looking forward to a bright future in business development for the Cherokee Nation.

"We are proud of our accomplishments and the projects we have in store for the future," Byrd said. "We will continue to move forward, pursuing opportunities to create more jobs for the Cherokee people and increase profitability for CNE and the Cherokee Nation."

Mission Statement of Cherokee Nation Enterprises

"Cherokee Nation Enterprises Inc. is committed to the economic self-sufficiency of the Cherokee Nation through the acquisition, development and operation of profitable business ventures, while providing quality service, value and career opportunities for the Cherokee people."

Directors work to fulfill mission of Cherokee Nation

Since the inaugural of Principal Chief Joe Byrd a year ago, the Cherokee Nation has hired five department directors, who join two already on board, to work towards fulfilling the Nation's mission. The group includes Jennie Battles, secretary-treasurer; George Thomas, chief of staff; James R. (Bob) Powell, special investigator; Ricky Robinson, executive director of education and welfare; Dr. David Ricketts Kingfisher, director of health services; Ervin Rock, director of human resources; and Dan Agent, director of public affairs.

Jennie Battles was appointed secretary-treasurer of the Cherokee Nation in April, following 18 years of service

with the Housing Authority of Cherokee Nation (HACN). From 1984 until her appointment, she was director of finance for HACN, responsible for daily accounting, data processing and financial management, as well as overseeing all budget and financial preparation and submission. Responsibilities included manage-

ment of general funds and investments, along with selection, design and management of the current micro-computer system at HACN.

Positions at HACN, beginning in 1978 until she became finance director in 1984, include accounting clerk, chief accountant and assistant director of finance. She is a member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, the Oklahoma Indian Housing Association, Alpha Sigma Alpha National Sorority and the National American Indian Housing Council Alumnae and financial advisor for the local chapter.

Battles, a Cherokee tribal member, holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and business administration from Northeastern State University (NSU) and resides in Tahlequah.

George Thomas became the chief of staff in April, after first being named executive director of tribal operations for the tribe in August 1995.

Prior to joining the Cherokee Nation, he worked as the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) deputy director. Thomas was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organization. UNITY is a national youth leadership organization with 125 youth councils in 25 states and is located in Oklahoma City.

Before working for UNITY, he served as an offshore regulatory permitting specialist with the Atlantic Richfield Oil and Gas Co., Santa Barbara, Calif., and was responsible for securing permits required for the construction of offshore processing facilities, offshore drilling

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JENNIE
BATTLES

GEORGE
THOMAS

JAMES ROBERT
(BOB) POWELL

RICKY
ROBINSON

DR. DAVID RICKETS
KINGFISHER

ERVIN
ROCK

DAN
AGENT

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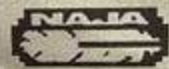
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Mission Statement of the Cherokee Nation

"The mission of the government of the Cherokee Nation is to promote and sustain the self-reliance of its members. All programs will strive to develop an individual's independence by enhancing his or her knowledge, skills and self-responsibility. Inherent in this objective is the recognition that needs are best defined and met by individuals and the communities in which they live."

Tribal council defeats Loyal Shawnee gaming proposal in July meeting

In an agenda-filled meeting July 15, the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council approved seven acts and 14 resolutions, defeated a resolution proposing a gaming partnership with the Loyal Shawnee and discussed the method of filling the council seat resulting when Mige Glory recently passed away. (See related story, page 4.)

The council narrowly defeated the gaming proposal by a vote of 7-6. Voting after impassioned opposition to the proposal by Rev. Bridge Chuckluck of the Cherokee Baptist Association, the council was deadlocked 6-6. The deciding vote was then cast by Troy Poteete, Dist. 4 (McIntosh, Muskogee and Wagoner Counties), who chaired the council in the absence of Deputy Chief J. Garland Eagle. (See related story, page 8.)

The Loyal Shawnee Band has to seek the council's approval for the proposal because they became a part of the Cherokee Nation by agreement in 1869. The defeat of the proposal has prompted the Shawnee to seek separation from the Cherokee Nation and sovereign status. (See related story, this page.)

Voting against the resolution: Poteete, Harold "Jiggs" Phillips and Dora Mae Watie, Dist. 2, Adair County; Mary Cooksey and Sam Ed Bush, Dist. 3, Sequoyah County; and Barbara Conness and Barbara Starr-Scott, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties. Councilmember William Smoke, Dist. 6, Mayes County, abstained.

Voting for the resolution: Bill Baker and Don Crittenden, Dist. 1, Cherokee County; Paula Holder, Dist. 4, McIntosh, Muskogee and Wagoner Counties; Harold DeMoss, Dist. 7, Rogers County; Nick Lay, Dist. 8, Tulsa and Washington Counties; and Chuck Hoskin, Dist. 9, Craig and Nowata Counties.

Acts approved by the council included:

- authorization of an amendment to the Cherokee Nation Tax Commission and Enforcement Procedures Act, for the commission to handle any tax disputes arising from the proposed corporation codes that

tells how a corporation is formed, as well as allowing appeals from the tax commission to be lodged in the Cherokee Nation District Court rather than the Judicial Appeals Tribunal;

- authorization a exemption from franchise tax liability for companies that exercise Indian preference in hiring;

- authorization of the adoption of the Cherokee Nation Limited Liability Act, modeled after the State of Delaware Corporation Code, which is widely accepted and agrees with modern business practices, and the Oklahoma General Corporation Code, allowing both tribal members and the Cherokee Nation the opportunity to form limited liability companies;

- authorization of the replacement of the outdated Cherokee Nation Corporation Code with the Cherokee Nation General Corporation Code, modeled after the Delaware Corporation Code and the Oklahoma General Corporation Code;

- an amendment of the general fund budget for FY 1996 to increase funding for the Jay Food Distribution Center and decrease funding for LIHEAP payments by \$50,000; and will make necessary adjustments for a one-time donation of \$137,413 to the Cherokee Heritage Center in order to terminate the sale-lease back agreement with the Cherokee National Historical Society for the Donated Foods Warehouse Building;

- an amendment of the Cherokee Nation Non-Profit Corporations Act, recodifying it as Chapter 3, in order to provide space for amendments of the first two chapters. It also authorizes either the chair or the co-chair of the executive and finance committee to serve as one of the incorporators of non-profit corporations established pursuant to the act, along with the chief and the deputy chief; and

- an amendment to the act relating to the Cherokee Nation employee termination appeals, which will provide a more efficient process for appeals of terminations by former employees.

Resolutions approved included:

- authorization of the nego-

tiation and execution of a FY 1997 funding agreement pursuant to the Compact of Self-Governance with Indian Health Service (IHS) and all existing IHS-funded programs contracted from IHS, to enhance the tribe's ability to plan and deliver health care services;

- authorization of the submission of a reinventing government proposal to IHS, an initiative sponsored by the Clinton Administration and overseen by Vice President Al Gore, designed to eliminate barriers that prevent quality services from being provided to American Indians and providing the IHS with a new, innovative approach to complete contracting and/or compacting;

- authorization of the submission of a grant application to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to construct a women's rural health care facility in or near Muskogee County, preferably in Fort Gibson, Okla.;

- authorization of the Tribal Services Department's \$650,000 grant application for continued funding of the tribe's Vocational Education Project;

- authorization of the Tribal Services Department's \$360,000 grant application to the Department of Health and Human Services for continued funding of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);

- authorization of the Community Development Department's \$40,000 grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, for Clean Water Act funds to conduct a pilot project to improve water quality of the storm water effluent of the tribe's sanitary landfill. Funds will be used to construct a large carbon filter and to conduct water sampling;

- authorization of the submission of a \$1,500 grant application to the Green Country Marketing Association for printing costs of the Cherokee National Holiday brochure;

- authorization for the tribe's education department to submit a \$100,000 grant application for library services to the U.S. Department of Education;

- authorization for the

tribe's department of education to submit a \$5,000 grant application for library services to the U.S. Department of Education;

- authorization for the Cherokee Nation to waive sovereign immunity from suit in the purchase of 28 acres of land from American Nursery Products in order to consummate the sale of land;

- authorization of negotiations for the purchase of land in Fort Gibson in Muskogee County for the tribe's Muskogee Health Clinic and the placing of the land in trust;

- authorization of the Cherokee Nation Election Office to purchase voter registration equipment at a total cost of \$52,197 to improve the special

election needs of the Cherokee voters;

- authorization of articles of incorporation of Cherokee Nation Education Corporation as a non-profit corporation for the education of tribal members and the promotion and preservation of the language, culture and history of the tribe, and specifying requirements for service on the board of the corporation; and,

- authorization requesting at least 10 days notice, prior to the monthly meeting of the council rules committee, of the identities, qualifications and backgrounds of potential appointees to committees, boards and other positions of public trust of the Cherokee Nation.

Loyal Shawnee Tribe requests separation from Cherokee Nation

Leaders of the Loyal Shawnee Tribe presented a resolution to the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council executive and finance committee at a July 25 meeting, seeking to dissolve the 1869 treaty which made their tribe a part of the Cherokee Nation.

The request comes after the Cherokee council rejected the Shawnees' proposal to build a bingo hall and casino in Kansas during their regular meeting July 15.

Greg Pitcher, a member of the Loyal Shawnee council and a former Cherokee Nation councilmember, assured the committee the request for separation is not a result of the council's refusal to allow the bingo hall and casino.

"If anything, it's just the opposite," he said. "The purpose of the gaming proposal was to help us seek federal recognition."

If allowed to separate from the Cherokee Nation, the 7,000 Loyal Shawnee will then request federal recognition from the U.S. government, Pitcher said.

"The more tribes we have that are federally-recognized the better off we all are as an Indian people," Principal Chief Joe Byrd said at the meeting.

Pitcher also informed the council his tribe would not be seeking anything from the Cherokee Nation, including land.

"This is not the end of the journey; this only the first step," said Pitcher. "We want you to help us make this first step."

Byrd and the committee members supported the resolution to let the Shawnees leave the tribe especially since land will not be in question. The executive and finance agreed to bring the Shawnee resolution before full council on Aug. 12.

"We are not expecting to have a land base in Oklahoma or anywhere else," Pitcher said.

Because the Cherokee Nation has been negotiating with the Delaware Tribe of Indians for a number of years trying to reach a compromise on their request for separation, Byrd said the Shawnee separation should be an easier process than the Delaware request has been.

Pitcher was asked by members of the committee about the Loyal Shawnees who may wish to remain tribal members of the Cherokee Nation. He said it would be up to the individual to remain a member of the Cherokee Nation or become a member of the Shawnee tribe.

The Loyal Shawnee have headquarters in White Oak, Okla.

--Will Chavez

Tribal councilmembers review accomplishments, future goals

Bill John Baker, Dist. 1, Cherokee County, believes that the great strides in economic development--truck plazas, convenience stores, smoke-shops and bingo--have helped place the tribe in a better position to gain self-sufficiency.

"We're not going to do it just with bingo operations, although it's the cornerstone, we need to diversify to other businesses."

Baker, along with other tribal leaders, reached an agreement with the state pertaining to Oklahoma House Bill 2208--the motor fuels tax law, which will mean approximately \$100 million in income within the next 20 years for the tribe.

"If I accomplish nothing else during my term, I would say this would be one hard accomplishment to beat."

Baker is looking forward to the building of truck plazas and the re-opening of the Restaurant of The Cherokees.

He also wants to establish more scholarship funds for tribal members in the middle-income bracket and for those who qualify for PELL assistance. Baker would like to see Cherokee students,



CHEROKEE NATION executive and legislative branches include, seated, from left, Dora Mae Watie, Dist. 2, Adair County; Deputy Principal Chief J. Garland Eagle; Mary Flute Cooksey, Dist. 3, Sequoyah County; Principal Chief Joe Byrd; Barbara Conness, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties; Don Crittenden, Dist. 1, Cherokee County; and Barbara Starr-Scott, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties. Standing, from left, Paula Holder, Dist. 4, McIntosh, Muskogee and Wagoner Counties; William Smoke, Dist. 6, Mayes County; Bill John Baker, Dist. 1, Cherokee County; the late Mige Glory, Dist. 1, Cherokee County; Troy Poteete, Dist. 4, McIntosh, Muskogee and Wagoner Counties; Chuck Hoskin, Dist. 9, Craig and Nowata Counties; Nick Lay, Dist. 8, Tulsa and Washington Counties; Sam Ed Bush, Dist. 3, Sequoyah County; Harold "Jiggs" Phillips, Dist. 2, Adair County; and Harold DeMoss, Dist. 7, Rogers County.

Rules committee completes first step to fill council vacancy

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Council's rules committee completed the first step to fill a vacancy on the council left by the recent passing of long-time councilman Mige Glory.

Glory, who was one of three councilmembers who represent Dist. 1, passed away June 26.

The council nominated Glory's widow Tina for the position. The Cherokee Nation Constitution grants the council the authority to fill vacant council seats but it states only that the "council shall select a qualified person to fill the vacancy, without defining procedure."

The council declined to fill the position during its regular meeting on July 15 but decided to determine the exact procedure for filling the vacancy at the July 25 rules committee meeting.

The 13 councilmembers who attended the committee meeting (Don Crittenden, Dist. 1 councilman, was absent) debated the procedure for filling the seat and had to contend with the question of nepotism if Tina Glory was nominated for the position. Her daughter, Tina Glory Jordan, is the tribe's district judge and the attorney for the tribe's Arkansas Riverbed Authority.

The Cherokee constitution prohibits children of a councilmember from being employed "in any capacity" by the tribe.

After consulting with Cherokee Nation attorney Jim Wilcoxon, a majority of the council was satisfied that nominating Glory for the vacant council position would not be nepotism. Basing his answer on a previous ruling by the

Cherokee Nation Supreme Court, Wilcoxon said because Jordan was under contract with the tribe she was not considered an employee.

The committee had to next determine if they wanted to proceed with the issue of filling the vacancy, with one of eight nominees, during the meeting.

After voting to proceed, the committee also chose to vote by secret ballot. The decision to vote by secret ballot initially stalled when the vote tied at 6-6. Rules committee chair, Troy Poteete, broke the tie, voting to proceed with secret ballots.

Councilman Bill Baker from Dist. 1 presented the names of the eight people who wished to be considered for the seat. Besides Tina Glory, all of the candidates ran for tribal office during last year's tribal election. Five of the seven ran for a council seat in Dist. 1 including Goodlow Proctor, Pamela Chuckluck-Bacon, Jack Reavis, James Duffield and Tommie Ruth Fishinghawk. Harley Terrell and Barbara Dawes Martens ran for deputy chief.

After the ballots were counted, the committee announced Glory received seven votes, Chuckluck-Bacon three, Martens two and Duffield one.

Glory's nomination must be confirmed by the tribal council during its regular meeting on Aug. 12.

She thanked the council for the support and said she would "do her best for the Cherokee Nation."

--Will Chavez

who use tribal scholarship funds, return to work for the Cherokee Nation.

"I am available to help any tribal member at any time," Baker said. "If I don't have the answer, I take great pride in getting the answer and doing my best in taking care of the problems by getting the services they require."

Sam Ed Bush, Dist. 3, Sequoyah County, is continuing to work with county and tribal officials for safe roads for tribal members. He has been lobbying for concrete or asphalt resurfacing of a 3-mile strip of road between the Marble City and Flute Springs communities.

Bush serves on the Housing Authority of Cherokee Nation Board of Commissioners. His future plans include working toward a tribal member retirement village, which he hopes will be built along the Arkansas River in Sequoyah County, and developing more economic and educational opportunities for tribal members in his district.

"I am thankful for better communications with the new administration in developing and planning of future economic ventures for the tribe," he said. "All I ask is that tribal members have patience with the council and get behind and support the new administration of the Cherokee Nation."

Barbara Conness, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties, has been playing an active role in seeking economic development for both the tribe and her district. She supported the memorandum of understanding with the India-based Polypex Plastics Corporation.

Conness has been working on establishing a new donated foods center in Jay, which will be built in the near future. She has also worked on eliminating substandard housing conditions for elderly tribal members. Conness has worked on an Economic Task Force Survey for Delaware County, which is designed to supply important data for those who wish to start a new business in the county.

"Economic development is the primary thing the tribe is pursuing in order to become self-sufficient," she said. "And by doing so, we will help more tribal members receive various benefits, including housing, scholarships and health care."

Conness believes education is an important issue on the tribal members' minds. By helping establish the Delaware County Vo-Tech School in Jay, she feels the tribal members now have a choice between attending a university or attending the vo-tech school.

Her future goals include better health care delivery, scholarships and housing for tribal members.

"Thank you to the tribal members who have contacted me with their questions, concerns and words of encouragement," Conness said. "The councilmembers have to make tough decisions, and as long as we, the tribal members, keep faith in our nation, we will remain a strong nation."

Mary Flute Cooksey, Dist. 3, Sequoyah County, is continually trying to help tribal members receive more housing and jobs in Sequoyah County.

"I am currently working with the other councilmembers on more economic development for tribal members," Cooksey said.

Cooksey believes the tribe has much more to do in the future in order for tribal members to become more self-sufficient.

She was instrumental in the recent opening of the Flute Springs Elderly Nutrition Center.

Cooksey was recently appointed to the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission by Gov. Frank Keating, which she hopes will prove helpful to tribal members.

"I would like the tribal members to understand that the entire council, including myself, are trying as hard as we can to help our members," she said. "We have had some problems. We are trying to correct them as fast as possible, but people expect to see things happen overnight. It takes some time to find the answers to their questions. Please just continue to have patience with us."

Don Crittenden, Dist. 1, Cherokee County, says his main goals this past year

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COUNCILMEMBERS, FROM PAGE 4
have been maintaining current programs, and at the same time, through economic development, creating a better life for all Cherokees.

"I hope to have all Cherokees in the middle-income bracket by promoting tribal economic development," Crittenden said.

Crittenden believes more educational opportunities through scholarships to tribal members and additional business income-bearing facilities would help unemployed tribal members by relieving backlog on the existing programs.

"This would aid the operating programs and provide more services for more tribal members on their way to self-sufficiency," he said. "By helping our tribal members become more self-sufficient, in turn we, as a nation, are becoming more self-sufficient."

Crittenden has been busy locating prime property for the future use of the tribe.

Harold DeMoss, Dist. 7, Rogers County, has been busy working on the recently renovated Cherokee Heritage Center. He has also been busy having community meetings within his district to inform tribal members of programs and services offered by the tribe.

During the past year, DeMoss helped reconstruct the tribe's budget so that current programs wouldn't be affected by the federal budget cuts.

A future goal is to continue to help the tribe's Head Start Program maintain the current 100 percent rating they received from the national review team.

"Our Head Start program is the best in the country. People from around the world have come and visited our Children's Circle to get ideas on how to improve their own programs," He said.

Paula Holder, Dist. 4, McIntosh, Muskogee and Wagoner Counties, has been working toward keeping constituents informed through quarterly community meetings.

She is currently busy trying to locate funds for a health care clinic and a community building for tribal members in her district.

At Holder's insistence, the council allocated funds for the tribe's adult education program through the 1996 fiscal year.

"I will continue to work hard for the Adult Education Program, so we will continue to offer this program during 1997," Holder said. "This is a positive program that helps adults realize they can still get their education and provides hope to help achieve their dreams."

Holder encourages all tribal members to stay informed and be active in their government. "Power is in numbers, and one person can make a difference," she said. "Tribal members need to com-

municate with their representatives and with their government."

Chuck Hoskin, Dist. 9, Craig and Nowata Counties, is working on improving communications with tribal members through community meetings. During the meetings, tribal members are informed about what services and programs are available.

Hoskin has helped five tribal members get their homes refurbished this past year. "This is more homes that have been refurbished in one year than in the last five years, and more are scheduled to be completed," he said.

He has also been working on improving the health facilities for tribal members living in his district of the Cherokee Nation. He has been working on reducing the excessive workload of the small Nowata Health Clinic by working with other councilmembers to have modular clinics moved to the current clinic within the next 120 days. There are future plans for a larger clinic.

Hoskin has also made sure that a mobile health unit will serve the tribal members who live in Craig and Nowata Counties.

"The mobile unit is scheduled to make stops in various communities for tribal members to have easier access for basic services, including prescription refills, health screenings, blood pressure and diabetes tests," Hoskin said. "Feel free to call me, and keep me informed of your concerns," he said. "I am your spokesman, and unless I have input, it is difficult to speak for the tribal members."

Nick Lay, Dist. 8, Tulsa and Washington Counties, believes one of the greatest accomplishments during his first year in office is the purchase of voting machines.

"These machines are the same ones that are used during the Oklahoma state and national elections," he said. "Since many tribal members have called for election reform, the council felt these machines would be a step in the right direction. Each tribal member will be issued an ID card that will have their picture and all their tribal information intact on a magnetic strip, similar to a credit card. This will allow a member the opportunity to vote in a more convenient location, because the votes will be electronically tabulated."

Lay has also made arrangements with the University Center at Tulsa for a polling place at the center. "This is a more convenient location for tribal members to come to in order to vote," he said.

Lay has held community meetings to inform tribal members of what is happening within their tribe.

Lay is a Housing Authority of Cherokee Nation (HACN) Commissioner and volunteers to help provide protection for tribal members through the

HACN volunteer police program. He believes that all Cherokees should help their neighbors, and more funds should be budgeted to help provide educational and housing opportunities for tribal members.

"It is an honor for me to serve the tribe," he said. I will continue to be a voice for all Cherokees by being available for any Cherokee's concern."

Harold "Jiggs" Phillips, Dist. 2, Adair County, has been busy, along with the council, tribal employees and administration this past year, developing several new projects, including the new Stilwell Donated Foods Outlet, a new Baron Recreation Center and a new youth recreation center in Chewey, which is under construction. He has also been helping tribal members in the Greasy community form a new community organization.

Phillips has also worked on forming a community development sub-committee to help alleviate substandard housing for tribal members.

"I feel the Cherokee Nation as a whole has made great strides in handling the federal cutbacks by reconstructing the tribe's budget without substantially limiting the services to the tribal members," he said.

"One of the biggest accomplishments for the tribe was the reestablishment of a working relationship with the employees, staff and the new administration after the election," Phillips said.

Phillips' future plans include organizing community groups and giving the people the opportunity to be involved with the tribe.

"Through economic development and the passage of the motor fuels tax, the tribe's outlook is bright, so don't give up on us," he said.

Troy Wayne Poteete, Dist. 4 McIntosh, Muskogee, and Wagoner Counties, has given his highest priority to the reform of the tribal election process. Poteete, along with the rest of the council, approved a full-time election office. The office is open for tribal members who have questions or would like to register to vote.

Poteete also wants to establish a campaign disclosure law, which would inform tribal members of the major contributors to the campaigns of the candidates for tribal offices.

He has been working closely with fellow councilmember Paula Holder to promote better health care facilities for tribal members in their district.

Poteete is continuing to work toward the holding of a Cherokee Constitutional Convention. He is also an advocate for a Cherokee interpretation center through the U.S. Parks Service to be located at the end of the Trail of Tears at the Cherokee National Museum in Tahlequah.

"Please pray that God gives the councilmembers wisdom in making hard decisions," he said. "I am always happy to hear from any tribal member."

Barbara Starr-Scott, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties, has been helping with the tribe's new business ventures. She has also been assisting tribal members with expanded services such as improved housing, education and voter registration. Scott has also helped organize community groups and held community meetings.

She said she will continue working on new legislation, improving health care, helping the tribe toward economic self-sufficiency by diversifying into new business ventures, while providing career opportunities for Cherokee people, and working on water rights.

"I enjoy serving the Cherokee people," she said. "Serving on the council is a great opportunity for me to help make a difference in people's lives. My service is a privilege."

William Smoke, Dist. 6, Mayes County, worked on establishing the new A-Mo Health Clinic in Salina to help provide better health care for the elders.

"I believe everything seems to be going real well," he said.

Smoke would like to see more health, education and housing opportunities for tribal members.

"I want to see more funding and grants for the numerous youth and adults that want to continue their education," he said. "I will help in anyway that I can. All they need to do is give me a call, and I will see what I can do to help."

Dora Mae Watie, Dist. 2, Adair County, has been busy with the opening of the new Stilwell Donated Foods Outlet. She has hosted tribal community meetings to keep tribal members informed of programs offered by the tribe.

Watie has also assisted the Greasy community in their efforts to construct a community building and helped the Chewey community with improvements to their ballfield.

She is now working with the Cherry Tree community to get the road paved from the highway to their sports complex.

Watie's future plans include helping her district's communities reach their goals, hosting community meetings, helping those families who need paved roads and helping establish economic development so tribal members may receive scholarships, housing and medical help.

"I will cooperatively work with the council to better serve the tribal members in our area," she said. "I would like to thank tribal members for their support and for communicating their concerns to the council."

Judicial Branch is a vital part of Cherokee government

The government of the Cherokee Nation is modeled after the U.S. government with three separate but equal branches achieving a balance of power. The judicial branch of tribal government includes the district court and the judicial appeals tribunal.

In the past six months, the Cherokee Nation Judicial Appeals Tribunal has been involved with employment issues, sovereign immunity, matters involving the scope of the power of the tribunal, its jurisdictional boundaries, as well as the question of who, in appropriate cases, has the ability to present certain issues to the tribunal for resolution.

"Between the adoption of the Constitution of the Cherokee Nation in 1975, and the present, the Judicial Appeals Tribunal has, in reality, become the Supreme Court of the Chero-



DWIGHT W. BIRDWELL
CHIEF JUSTICE

kee Nation," Chief Justice Dwight W. Birdwell said. "We are now capable of hearing, and deciding cases from one end of the spectrum to the other. Sometimes, we act as an appellate court and hear appeals from the district court, and sometimes we are a court of first and last impression."

Chief Justice Birdwell and Associate Justices Ralph F.



RALPH F. KEEN
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

Keen and Philip H. Viles Jr. hear and decide cases from the tribe's appellate court and hear appeals from district court.

The Cherokee constitution and the tribal council provide the tribunal with the rules that guide them in making the determination of which cases go first to the district court and which cases go directly to the tribunal.

"The government cannot



PHILIP H. VILES JR.
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

legally function if all three branches do not exercise their appropriate powers, if one branch over-shadows the other branches, or if one or more of the branches lacks the ability, for whatever reason, to carry out its responsibilities," said Birdwell.

As the tribunal evolves, it continues to become more involved in various tribal issues.

"We believe the scope of issues will vary, including constitutional questions, employment issues, questions involving the rights of children and parents, and questions relating to the ability and qualifications of individuals to hold positions of trust and power in the government of the Cherokee Nation," Birdwell said.

As of mid-July, 10 new cases had been filed with the tribunal. Approximately 20 cases were filed in 1995. "If the present pace continues, we can expect the same number of filings for 1996," Birdwell said.

Birdwell believes the government of the Cherokee Nation is and must continue to be committed to serving the people, and meeting their varied needs. To achieve these objectives, he says the tribunal must and will continue to work with the executive and legislative branches "in order to better serve the Cherokee citizens."

"In a democracy, ultimate power does and must continue to rest with the individual citizen, restricted only by the moral obligation to execute such power responsibly," Birdwell said.

The people's power was demonstrated in the 1995 election when a majority of those voting decreed that the Cherokee Nation would have a constitutional convention this year to revise the 1975 Cherokee constitution.

"The people have spoken,

and as their servants, we must proceed as directed, regardless of any differing personal feelings," he said.

Justice Keen said he hopes that when the constitutional convention is called, that a permanent chairperson would be selected, and that the chairperson would then select as many committee chairpersons as necessary to examine all aspects of the constitution.

"The committee chairpersons could then hold hearings throughout the Cherokee Nation before reporting back their recommendations to the full committee," Keen said. "This would allow participation by all Cherokees who are interested in expressing their views on the subjects."

One topic many Cherokee people have expressed their views on is tribal election reform. The tribunal had to render various decisions dealing with the Cherokee Nation elections last year.

"We all experienced problems or heard reliable stories from others who experienced problems in their effort to vote or attempt to vote in 1995," Justice Birdwell said. "The citizens of the Cherokee Nation should expect and demand better in 1999."

"Election reform encompasses not only changes in the voting process, but assurances against the abuse of power," he said. Birdwell said legislation should be carefully considered, studied, drafted and enacted to assure that even the slightest opportunity for abuse or valid allegations of abuse does not occur in 1999.

As for the future, Birdwell believes in the next 10 years the Cherokee Nation Judicial Appeals Tribunal must continue to be an equal, distinct and separate branch of the Cherokee Nation government, working with the other branches to better serve the needs and expectations of the Cherokee people.

"We must find ways to help Cherokee citizens resolve their differences, whether these differences be with each other or with their government," he said. "Moreover, the process of resolving those conflicts must be made less expensive, and ways and means must be found to the extent possible, to resolve differences before they become lawsuits."

Directors work to fulfill mission of tribe

FROM PAGE 4

and production platforms in waters along the Santa Barbara coastline.

In the early 1980s, Thomas worked as a special assistant to the director of the Office of Trust Responsibilities, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. He was responsible for advising the director on energy and mineral related programs of the BIA.

Prior to this position, Thomas served as a White House Fellow and special assistant to the assistant secretary for Land and Water Resources, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C.

He is also a founder, former board member and former chairman of the board of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, Boulder, Colo. Thomas was also a member of Leadership Oklahoma in Class V.

He holds a master's of science degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Oklahoma and a master's of science degree in business administration from Denver University, as well as a bachelor's degree in mathematics from NSU.

Thomas, a Cherokee tribal member, lives in Tahlequah.

James Robert (Bob) Powell began his duties as special investigator in June, bringing vast experience in investigative work to the position.

Powell has 22 years experience in state and federal investigation. He resigned from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations (OSBI) last December as a senior agent to begin his own professional investigation service. He served in the OSBI for more than 16 years, primarily assigned to Adair, Cherokee and Sequoyah counties.

In the OSBI, he supervised the investigations of major crimes, the conduct of undercover investigations and the collection and preservation of evidence.

He also instructed advanced criminal justice courses for officer certification. He is certified by the state of Oklahoma as a criminal investigations instructor. He is also certified and licensed by the OSBI Board of Polygraph Examiners.

Powell is a graduate of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) Academy and has served in the military since 1963. He is now a major in the Air Force Reserve, employed as a special agent and is currently assigned as a team chief. He has conducted inspections of AFOSI offices worldwide to ensure compliance with Air Force regulations.

Activated for Desert Shield/Storm, he served as commander of two AFOSI detachments. Previous overseas tours include service in Vietnam, Germany, the

United Kingdom, Italy, Spain and the Philippines.

Powell was born in Ponca City. He received a bachelor of arts degree in history education in 1974 from NSU and has 29 hours of graduate studies from the University of South Dakota, Central Oklahoma State University and NSU.

Powell and his wife reside in Cookson. They have two children.

Ricky Robinson, who holds a doctorate in education from the University of Arkansas, began duties as executive director of education and welfare of the tribe in July, bringing an extensive background in education and counseling to the position. For the past two years, Robinson has been chairman of the Teacher Education Department at Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kan., supervising the Haskell Elementary Teacher Education Program. Before becoming chairman in 1994, he was professor of educational foundations, counselor, instructor of Vision Quest (an extended culturally-inspired orientation course) and coordinator of the substance abuse program.

From August 1992 to June 1993, Robinson was principal and social studies teacher for Kinta Public Schools, Kinta,

SEE DIRECTORS, PAGE 31

Economic, business development provides many business-related services

The Cherokee Nation Economic and Business Development Department provides technical assistance, information and opportunities to individual tribal members, Indian-owned businesses, business and industry alliances, community organizations and local credit organizations, as well as other programs within the Cherokee Nation.

"The overall mission of the department is to assist in the improvement of the overall economic condition of the Cherokee Nation through the implementation of activities which stimulate and renew local and regional economies," said Julie Kiddie, director of marketing.

Information and opportunities for tribal members and communities are also provided through consumer credit counseling, business plan preparation, strategic planning, management training, marketing assistance, client referral and application services to various lending sources.

The Economic and Business Development Department is comprised of three major divisions: economic development, credit and finance and marketing. The economic development program works in conjunction with communities and organizations that build basic infrastructure, which will ultimately support additional income for Cherokee people.

"Program efforts are focused on the establishment of economic development alliances, research, review and development of tribal and joint business ventures, local business and industry recruitment, and economic stimulation for existing business growth through activities, projects and specialized workshops," Kiddie said.

Credit and Finance administers the credit operations of the Cherokee Tribal

Credit Programs and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Credit Programs. The credit staff provides financial assistance to tribal members through step-by-step technical assistance regarding loan processes.

Client referrals are also made to outside resources in the private financial sector to obtain financing for requests which cannot be processed through the tribal credit programs or the BIA.

Regardless of the funding source, technical assistance is given regarding mortgage lending, small business lending and consumer lending processes. Consumer credit and budget counseling is provided on an individual one-on-one basis.

The marketing program promotes the Cherokee Nation and tourism within the Cherokee Nation's jurisdictional boundaries, while providing technical assistance to local and tribal businesses, programs, enterprises and tribal members. Technical assistance is provided through marketing plans, advertising campaigns and coordination of special projects.

"One of the most noted special projects is the Cherokee National Holiday held each Labor Day weekend, which attracts more than 50,000 people each year to this area," Kiddie said.

Marketing also assists with the creation, development, printing and distribution of informational material concerning various programs of the Cherokee Nation.

Resources and opportunities for local communities are enhanced by alliances with local chambers, civic groups, sub-state planning districts and many other agencies.

A series of workshops for persons

interested in starting small businesses or expanding existing business is an ongoing entrepreneurial activity, which is provided free of charge. Professionals from many areas of expertise have provided business owners with the best available business information. Topics include marketing, customer service, financing, insurance and bonding and mi-

nority certification.

"The Cherokee Nation Economic and Business Development Department is committed to building strong communities and improving the quality of life for tribal members," Kiddie said.

Additional information on available services can be obtained by calling (918) 456-0671, ext. 535.



JAMES STARR, general manager of the Cherokee Nation West Siloam Springs Bingo Outpost, presents Wyman Thompson, Oaks Mission School Superintendent, with a \$1,760 check. The money will be used to refurbish the school's gym floor. Attending the presentation, from left, were Councilmembers Barbara Conness and Barbara Starr-Scott, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties and Charles Locust, director of gaming for Bingo Outpost Inc. (Photo by Will Chavez)

CNI builds equipment for NASA's International Space Station

Rockwell International's Rocketdyne Division in Canoga Park, Calif., has contracted with Cherokee Nation Industries Inc. (CNI) to assist in the design, assembly, and testing of electrical cables and cable box assemblies for the Space Station's electrical power system.

CNI is a nationally recognized manufacturer of electrical/electronic products for the defense industry.

The equipment being assembled by CNI for the Space Station connects the solar power module that generates electricity from the sun to various sections of the Space Station. The electrical cables are long and large in diameter and provide the high electrical currents required by Space Station operations. They are covered with multiple strands of braided stainless steel. The purpose of the braid is to provide armor protection from micro-meteorites likely to be encountered in space.

CNI has a highly-skilled engineering and manufacturing team that provided Rocketdyne assistance in the development manufacturing procedures to produce the high-tech cables for the Space Station. The cables are built to the highest quality standards required by NASA--the product must be perfect--no defects allowed in space.

CNI was selected from an initial group of five cable manufacturers. Before the final decision was made, manufacturing and engineering personnel visited CNI to ensure that the contract could be carried out as required. After careful examination, Rockwell concluded that CNI was the company best equipped to fulfill the contract.

"In addition to our team of highly skilled engineers and technicians at CNI, we believe that our aggressive marketing efforts and persistence in creating a partnership relationship with Rocketdyne were vital in obtaining this contract for CNI," said Meredith Frailey, CEO of CNI. "This contract marks CNI's first involvement in a space project and furthers our diversification strategy into other governmental and commercial projects."



RENOVATIONS CONTINUE on the Restaurant of the Cherokees, which will feature both family and formal dining at reasonable prices, according to Jack Reavis Sr., manager and master chef of the restaurant. The restaurant is expected to open this month prior to the Cherokee National Holiday scheduled Aug. 29 through Sept. 1. (Photo by Will Chavez)

Tribe signs agreement with Polyplex Corporation of India

Cherokee Nation Enterprises signed a memorandum of understanding with the Polyplex Corporation of New Delhi, India, which will provide an estimated 100 jobs for the local area.

Polyplex plans to build a \$45 million factory within the tribe's 14-county jurisdictional area. A site has yet to be chosen, but the ground should be broken for the factory at the first of next year said Principal Chief Joe Byrd.

The factory will manufacture polyester filling.

Noting the MOU was the first of its kind signed by an Indian tribe and a foreign company, Byrd called the agreement a "very unique opportunity."

"This memorandum of understanding is going to provide jobs in this area and will help stimulate the economy of Oklahoma," Byrd said.

Byrd traveled to India in April to meet with Polyplex Corporation executives to discuss constructing a factory on Cherokee land. Polyplex executives also recently visited Cherokee Nation Industries in Stilwell to determine the tribe's manufacturing capabilities.

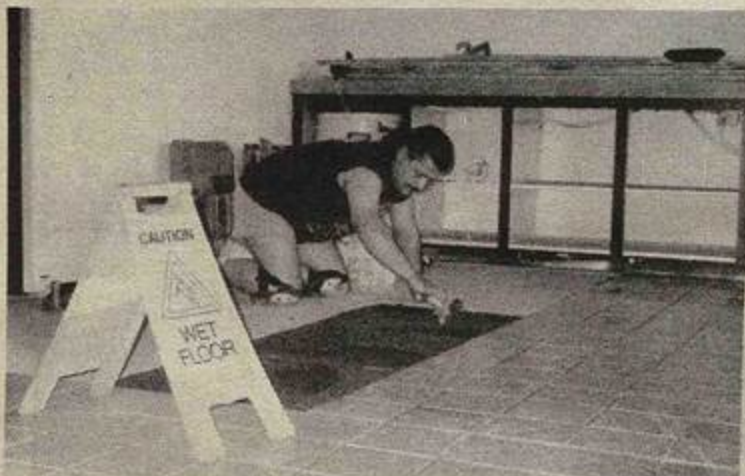
"I am excited about the opportunity of setting up a venture here," said Sanjiv Saraf, managing director of Polyplex. "I think this is the beginning of a profitable venture for the Cherokee Nation and us."

The factory is the first one Polyplex will build in the United States but the company has been doing business with other companies in the U.S. for years, added Saraf.

Chief Byrd's commitment and willingness to accommodate the project was the deciding factor in bringing the factory to the Cherokee Nation, Saraf said.



CHEROKEE NATION Enterprises recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the Polyplex Corp. of New Delhi, India, which may provide an estimated 100 jobs. Attending the signing are, seated, from left, Gerald Cantrell, Cherokee Nation Enterprises CEO; Principal Chief Joe Byrd; and Sanjiv Saraf, managing director, Polyplex Corp. Standing, from left, are Councilmembers Sam Ed Bush, Dist. 3; Dora Mae Watie, Dist. 2; William Smoke, Dist. 6; Mary Cooksey, Dist. 3; Barbara Connors, Dist. 5; and Bill John Baker and Don Crittenden, both from Dist. 3. (Photo by Sammy Still)



BUCK EVANS of Sand Springs, Okla., ceramic tile specialist for Robertson Tile of Tulsa, lays ceramic tile during the renovations of the Outpost convenience store. Cherokee Nation Enterprises (CNE) purchased the store, which is located next to the tribal complex. The store should be open for business in August in time for the Cherokee National Holiday. (Photo by Carla Hubbert)

Deputy Chief carries Olympic torch

Cherokee Nation Deputy Principal Chief J. Garland Eagle was chosen by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) officials to carry the Olympic torch during the 15,000-mile relay run, which traveled through New Echota, Ga.

ACOG officials chose New Echota as part of the 1996 Olympic torch run to pay tribute to the Cherokee Nation, which once included most of northern Georgia.

The town of New Echota served as the national capital and seat of government for the Cherokee Nation during the early 1800s. Almost the entire nation of 16,000 Cherokee people were forced from their ancestral homelands in the southeast by the U.S. government in 1838. Thousands of Cherokees died during the 800-mile journey west, which has become known as the Trail of Tears.

Survivors of the ordeal rebuilt the Cherokee Nation in northeastern Oklahoma. Today, the Cherokee Nation is the second largest Indian tribe in the U.S. with more than 179,000 enrolled mem-



CHEROKEE NATION Deputy Principal Chief J. Garland Eagle (top photo) carries the Olympic Torch on its 15,000-mile relay to the Olympics. Eagle was asked by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) officials to carry the torch when it traveled through Echota, Ga. Eagle and his daughter, Jamie Dineen, (left photo) prepare for the relay run.



bers. The other Cherokee tribes are the Eastern Band of Cherokees of Cherokee, N.C., and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees in northeastern Oklahoma.

"I felt when I carried the torch that I represented the Cherokee people as a whole," Eagle said. "Since our roots began in New Echota before the Trail of Tears, I felt it was only right to pay tribute to our heritage."

Eagle's daughter, Jamie Dineen, followed behind him with the Cherokee Nation Flag. Jamie is an eighth-grader at Bell Elementary School.

"I am extremely proud of my father that he was chosen to represent the Cherokee tribes during the Olympic torch relay," Jamie said. "I feel blessed to have the opportunity to share this experience with my father and to represent our youth during such an important occasion."

Other tribal officials attending the Olympic torch run ceremony were Principal Chief Joyce Dugan of the Eastern Band of Cherokees and Principal Chief John Ross of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees.

Eagle, Ross and Dugan spoke during the dedication ceremony.



TRAFFIC FLOW is less congested on the four lanes of U.S. Highway 62 that pass in front of the Cherokee Nation W.W. Keeler Tribal Complex. The highway now has four lanes from Tahlequah to Muskogee, and should be entirely complete by the Cherokee National Holiday, Labor Day weekend. The new road is complemented with traffic lights located at the intersection of State Highways 62 and 82. (Photo by Will Chavez)

Miss Cherokee Julie Deerinwater begins reign as Miss Indian Oklahoma

It has been an eventful year in the life of Miss Cherokee Julie Deerinwater.

She has traveled throughout Oklahoma and surrounding states as ambassador for the Cherokee Nation, a job she says she takes very seriously.

"I can't believe it has been a year already but it has been the best experience of my whole entire life," Deerinwater said. "I've learned a lot, and I've learned there's a big world out there. I was able to travel and see places I wouldn't have seen if I hadn't had the opportunity to be Miss Cherokee."

"Wherever I went I represented 170,000-plus tribal members. People saw the Cherokee people through me, so I did my best when I represented the Cherokee Nation."

The 23-year-old's reign as Miss Cherokee will end Aug. 16, but she will begin a new one as Miss Indian Oklahoma. She won the crown July 20 in a pageant held at Anadarko. She is the 24th Miss Indian Oklahoma to represent the state and was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship, a shawl, banner and a pendleton blanket.

"I'm very excited," she said. "Now, I not only represent the Cherokee Nation but other Indian people of Oklahoma. My parents are really proud. They stood by me all this time, and I know they will be there for me throughout the coming year."

She will juggle her duties as Miss Indian Oklahoma, along with attending her last year at Northeastern State University, where she is pursuing a major in health and human performance. She is employed with the Cherokee Nation Health Promotions/Disease Prevention Program.

"Julie was an outstanding Miss Cherokee, and I know she will continue to represent all Native Americans with the same poise and dignity throughout



JULIE DEERINWATER
MISS CHEROKEE 1995-96
MISS INDIAN OKLAHOMA 1996-97

the state as Miss Indian Oklahoma," said Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Joe Byrd.

Because she has benefitted from a healthy lifestyle and an education, as Miss Cherokee she encourages people to live healthy and to pursue an education whether it be college, high school, getting a GED or vocational training.

"I feel you have to have an education and knowledge in order to survive in today's world," she said.

She also encourages Cherokee youth to listen to their elders and treasure the stories they tell them so "we can keep our traditions and cultures alive."

"Even though I won't be Miss Cherokee for much longer, I will always promote our cultures and traditions. I want to help my people. After serving them for a year, I want to give something back to the Cherokee people."

Deerinwater says she has had so

many positive experiences in the past year it is hard to choose a favorite. "Everywhere I've been, I've had a good experience because people went out of their way to make me feel special," she said.

In addition to her scholarship, Deerinwater feels being Miss Cherokee has helped her grow as a person. "I have grown a great deal, and I look at things differently," she said. "My communication skills improved and it's easier for me to meet people now. Most of all it has helped my self-esteem and self-confidence. I had good self-esteem before, but everyone can always use a boost of self-esteem."

Young Cherokee women from

throughout the area will be competing in the Miss Cherokee Scholarship Pageant on Aug. 16 at the Talking Leaves Job Corps Center in Tahlequah. They will all have hopes of winning the opportunity to represent the Cherokee Nation and a \$2,000 scholarship.

"The Miss Cherokee contestants are all winners just for trying," Deerinwater said. "They should have fun and do the best they can because you learn just by trying."

"My advice to them is, if they don't win the first time to keep trying because you learn so much and you make friends. I didn't win my first time."

--Will Chavez

MISS CHEROKEE and newly-crowned Miss Indian Oklahoma Julie Deerinwater visits with children at the Cherokee Nation Child Development Center. As ambassador for the tribe, she made similar visits throughout the area this past year.



Rico named director of medical services

Dr. David Rico was recently named the director of medical services for the Cherokee Nation.

His post-medical education began with the Louisiana State University Medical College Department of Family Medicine and the University of Arkansas Department of Family and Community Medicine. He is a widely-published author and researcher in the field of internal medicine.

Dr. Rico was a faculty development and research fellow at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center Department of Family and Community Medicine in Tucson, Ariz. He was also awarded two fellowships from Kellogg-John Hopkins and the National Association of Community Health Centers. The Kellogg-Hopkins fellowship explored and developed community-based American Indian health facilities.

He has worked as medical director, site physician and medical recruiter throughout Indian Health Services (IHS) and tribal systems. He comes to Cherokee Nation to provide a link between academic institutions and the tribe.

"Dr. Rico's role as the link between teaching institutions and the tribe will serve several purposes," said Dr. David Kingfisher, executive director of Cherokee Nation Health Services. "First, he will provide a connection for medical research. Cherokee's typically have medical problems that require specialized treatment, and we need the most current research available. Secondly, a presence in teaching institutions will help us recruit capable, highly-skilled individuals. This is an enormous benefit for our tribal members."

Dr. Rico is of Comanche descent and a decorated veteran who served two tours in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. He is a traditional Southern Straight and gourd dancer, and is a member of the Comanche Little Ponies, a Comanche warrior society.

He and his wife, Lorna, Choctaw/Chickasaw, have a two-year-old son, David Cederic. They have recently moved to the Tahlequah area and look forward to many, productive years at the Cherokee Nation.



BRAVING HEAT and chiggers, Cherokee Nation Office of Environmental Services staff recently placed five signs in three area counties to remind people of the importance of the Spring Creek watershed. The watershed is home to wildlife and fish who have to endure an increasing amount of pollution in recent years. The creek is located in Cherokee, Mayes and Delaware Counties. Admiring their work, from left, are Jerry Cochran, community relations coordinator; Nancy John and Shaun West, environmental scientists; and Sheila Sevenstar, environmental analyst. (Photo by Will Chavez)

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Cherokee Elders Council formed in Pryor

New Cherokee organizations have been formed in recent months to work with the Cherokee Nation government in serving the Cherokee people.

The Cherokee Elders Council was formed last month at a meeting in Pryor. It is made up of Cherokee elders from throughout the area and out of state.

The governing body of the council includes Paul Thomas, chief elder; Jasper Swake, deputy chief elder; Marv Selken, council administrator and press liaison; Marilou Brown, council treasurer; and Fannie Livingston, council secretary.

"It has probably been more than 150 years since the uniform voice of the Cherokee elders was heard," said Chief Elder Thomas at the formation meeting. "We want to hear from any Cherokee who is 55 years or older. We are an independent group and will not be controlled by any nation or political group."

Thomas said he and Deputy Chief Swake met with Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Joe Byrd and spoke and met with other representatives of Cherokee groups throughout the United States.

"Cherokee Chief Byrd gave his blessing to Chief Elder Thomas and Deputy Chief Elder Swake," Selken said. "Chief Byrd offered to help in any way he could."

During the elder council's first meeting, members of the group said they know of many people of Cherokee descent in Arkansas, California, Kansas, Texas, Missouri, Tennessee and Georgia who sometimes feel neglected because they aren't able to take advantage of Cherokee culture and fellowship.

"We would like to have a forum for all Cherokees where two or more Cherokee elders are sufficient for forming a council chapter," Thomas said. "Regardless of where a Cherokee lives geographically, we don't care, we care for these people, wherever they are."

The council is equipped with a computer and plans to establish a site on the Internet "to bring Cherokee people together."

For more information, contact Marv Selken at (918) 479-6807, or write Cherokee Elders Council, 583 South Mill Street, Suite 711, Pryor, OK 74361. Faxes are received at (918) 825-4884.

The Delaware Question?

The Cherokee Nation has been receiving questions and comments regarding the proposed separation of the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma from the Cherokee Nation. Principal Chief Joe Byrd is inviting people who are concerned with this issue to communicate their concerns to him by sending letters to Principal Chief Joe Byrd, Re: Delaware Separation, Cherokee Nation, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

Labor force survey conducted in Delaware County

The Delaware County Business and Economic Development (DCBED) advisory group and Cherokee Nation staff recently completed the first stage of a labor force survey in Delaware County.

According to Diane Kelley, administrative assistant to the chief, the survey will be used to determine the type of labor available in Delaware County. After it is completed it will be used to attract businesses to the county, said Kelley.

"During the past year, a group of people comprised of business leaders, members of civic organizations and elected officials have been meeting to discuss ways in which economic development could be achieved for Delaware County," Kelley said.

The group raised funds from contributions made in the Delaware County area to pay for the survey. An estimated \$9,000 was spent on the survey.

The Cherokee Nation, along with the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation contributed field staff familiar with the county and experienced in conducting surveys in Adair and Cherokee Counties.

Each survey was conducted with individual interviews. Persons were randomly selected by the interviewers.

Welling and Associates of Houston conducted the survey and guided the group of surveyors during the two-week initial phase.

Welling and Associates is a market



CHEROKEE COUNCILWOMEN Barbara Connors, foreground, and Barbara Starr-Scott discuss potential sites for economic development using a map of Delaware County. The women are a part of the Delaware County Economic Development and Education Advisory Task Force Committee who organized a labor force survey of the county. (Photo by Sammy Still)

research consultant firm that has been in business for more than 34 years. They have experience in research in the economic and industrial development field for the U.S. government.

The company will compile information from the 10-page surveys and return their findings to the advisory group. The surveys will provide information on the available labor force in the county, including education, demographics, training, skills, willingness/desire/availability to seek employment and attitudes. Results of the survey should be completed in August.

Hoskin announces candidacy for Dist. 29 State Senate seat

Cherokee Nation councilmember Charles Hoskin of Vinita has announced he is a Democratic candidate for the Dist. 29 State Senate seat.

Hoskin is graduate of Northeastern State University an education degree. He was a teacher and coach for 13 years in the Vinita Public School System.

"One of my primary issues in this campaign is education," he said. "I've been in the classroom I've seen the funding situation for education in the state. It's not going in the direction I feel is best for the state."

He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy, and veteran issues will be utmost on his mind if elected to serve the people of Dist. 29.

"I am running for the state senate for the same reason I ran for the tribal council. I feel there is a definite lack of communication. We have forgotten that the primary job of elected officials is to serve the will of the people."



CHEROKEE NATION Original enrollee Annie Chair Thompson of Tahlequah recently celebrated her 101st birthday. Her grandson, Donnie Thompson, a retired Air Force officer, left, helps her with a birthday cake during a party held at Pettit II on Lake Tenkiller. Oklahoma representative Bob Ed Culver also attended the festivities.



DIST. 3, SEQUOYAH County, Councilman Sam Ed and Bernice Bush of Marble City celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, July 20, with a reception at the Oxley Lodge at Dwight Mission Conference Center. The event was hosted by their family. The couple was married July 19, 1946, in Fort Smith, Ark. Sam Ed has served as a councilman for the Cherokee Nation for more than 20 years. Mrs. Bush is a homemaker. The couple has four children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Lay announces candidacy for Washington County Court Clerk

D.P. Lay of Ochelata, the father of Cherokee tribal councilmember Nick Lay, Dist. 8, Washington and Tulsa Counties, has announced he is Democratic candidate for the office of Washington County Court Clerk.

Lay promises a professional management system and reorganization of the record keeping functions of the court clerk's office.

Lay and his wife Phyllis are ranchers. He has an associates degree in social science with a computer science emphasis.

American astronaut visits Cherokee Nation

One of the four crew members of the upcoming NASA Space Shuttle Atlantis and Russian Mir space station docking mission visited the Cherokee Nation July 23.

Astronaut Edward Lu, Ph.D., visited the Cherokee Nation tribal complex and the Cherokee Heritage Center as part of a visit to Cherokee Nation Industries in Stilwell by Rocketdyne and NASA. Rocketdyne is currently working on a space station project with NASA.

Rocketdyne has contracted CNI to assist in the design, assembly and testing of electrical cables and cable box assemblies for the space station's electrical power system. CNI is a nationally recognized manufacturer of electrical/electronic products for the defense industry.

Lu is the first mission specialist from the 1995 astronaut



EDWARD LU, one of the four astronauts of the upcoming NASA Space Shuttle Atlantis and Russian Mir space station docking mission, visited the Cherokee Nation tribal complex July 23. Astronaut Lu was greeted by Principal Chief Joe Byrd who presented him with a handmade Cherokee knife. (Photo by Sammy Still)

class to be assigned to a shuttle flight. He has worked as a research physicist in the fields of solar physics and astrophysics.

The docking mission will be the sixth between the United States and Russia. Atlantis will

carry the Spacehub double module and will remain docked with the Mir space station for five days, transferring supplies and experiments between the two spacecraft, in addition to the astronaut exchange.

Donation can for SHS Veterans Memorial placed in complex lobby

A donation can for the Sequoyah High School Veterans Memorial has been placed in the lobby of the Cherokee Nation W.W. Keeler Tribal Complex.

The memorial will be located on the grounds of the school and will list the names of former SHS students, from all tribes, who served in the U.S. armed forces during World Wars I and II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam and Desert Storm.

The names of the students will be engraved

on the large, maroon granite panels of the seven-sided memorial.

Approximately \$14,000 is needed to build the monument with almost \$8,000 having been raised so far.

Cherokee veteran and former SHS student George Cameron is coordinating the building of the memorial. In his search for former SHS students who served and died for this country, he has compiled a list of more than 300 names.

Tulsa library schedules Cherokee film series

Cherokee culture will be the topic of a free, public film series to be held during August at the Tulsa Central Library.

The series "In Focus: The

Former Miss Cherokees sought by advisory board

The Miss Cherokee Advisory Board is seeking pertinent information on all former Miss Cherokees.

The board is compiling data on former Miss Cherokees for purposes of keeping in touch with them, so that the board will be able to inform and invite them to Miss Cherokee and Cherokee Nation functions.

Submit the full name, including maiden name if applicable, reigning year as Miss Cherokee, mailing address and telephone number to Cherokee Nation, c/o Miss Cherokee Advisory Board, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

For more information, contact Lisa Trice at (918) 456-5482.

Cherokee" will be held from 12:10 p.m. to 1 p.m. each Wednesday through Aug. 28 in the library's Aaronson Auditorium at Fourth Street and Denver Avenue.

"The Cherokee Odyssey" will be shown on Aug. 14. The film highlights the period of upheaval from 1825 to 1850 when the Cherokees were removed from their homelands

and moved west on the Trail of Tears.

The impact of the Civil War on Cherokees living in Arkansas and Indian Territory will be examined in the film featured Aug. 21, "A Nation Within A Nation...At War."

The final film in the series, "A New Life Begins--Reconstruction," will be shown Aug. 28.

Watie to run for Adair County Clerk

Cherokee tribal councilmember Dora Mae Watie from Stilwell is running as a Republican candidate for the office of Adair County Court Clerk.

Watie has a bachelor of arts degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

She has worked for the Cherokee Nation as the tribe's registrar, the Northeastern State University admissions office and the Bureau of Indian Affairs office in Muskogee. She has more than 23 years of administration experience.

Watie is member of the Cherry Tree Baptist Church, the Dahlenegah School Board and the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council.

"I believe that my varied work experience will be an asset to the office of Adair County Court clerk. If elected my goal will be to work in a cooperative, friendly manner with the county commissioners, district judges, attorneys and other citizens."

Tribal leaders meet with Nowata officials to discuss economic development

Nowata city leaders recently met with state and Cherokee Nation officials to discuss economic development for the city of Nowata and Nowata County.

Principal Chief Joe Byrd told city leaders the tribe intends to work side by side with communities in the Cherokee Nation's nine districts to increase economic development, but it will take the efforts of everyone involved to bring in industry and business.

He used the city of Stilwell in Adair County as an example of how a community can grow and have a boom in economic development. The area around Stilwell used to be considered a welfare county, one of the poorest in the state, but is now experiencing much economic growth, said Byrd.

Diane Kelley, administrative assistant to the chief, told the group about the successes the tribe has had in other counties pulling together different entities to benefit the entire county, not just tribal members.

One of the ways a city can attract new businesses and industry is to conduct a labor force survey to show what resources the county can offer, Kelley said.

Kelley and other Cherokee Nation employees are assisting with a labor force survey, currently being conducted in Delaware County.

"A labor force survey is really a marketing tool," said Ed Crone, executive director of the Grand Gateway Economic Development Association, who is assisting with the survey. "The survey is done from the business perspective. This kind of respected, outside survey is needed to bring in industry and business."

Nowata County Election Board Secretary Barbara Dawson agreed with Crone, saying the county's primary goal should be to raise money to do a labor force survey because the unemployment rate is very high in the county.

According to Mike Mauller, manager of the Nowata County state employment office, the Nowata County unemployment rate was 9.9 percent in May. He also agrees more industry and businesses need to be attracted to the county but says county leaders should target more than just minimum wage businesses to encourage people to stay in Nowata County to work for better wages.

All in attendance at the meeting agreed Nowata County's economy can only improve if everyone involved continues to work together to achieve a common goal.

"I hope these meetings will continue, and we can all work together for the good of the county and the city of Nowata," said Cherokee Nation Councilman Chuck Hoskin, Dist. 9, Craig and Nowata Counties.

--Will Chavez



FOUR TRIBES recently signed a fuel tax agreement, House Bill 2208, with the state of Oklahoma. The agreement moves the point of fuel taxation from the pump to the refinery. Tribal stations will be required to include an amount equal to the state's 17 cents-a-gallon gasoline tax and 14 cents-a-gallon diesel tax on their sales reports, but they will be rebated some of the state's total motor fuel tax revenues in return. Attending the signing of the agreement were, from left, Seminole Nation Assistant Chief James Factor, Seminole Chief Jerry Haney, Chickasaw Nation Lt. Gov. David Brown, Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, (seated), Chickasaw Gov. Bill Anoatubby and Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Joe Byrd.

Family education unit helps tribal members improve lives through education

As the world becomes more technologically advanced, more and more people are beginning to see the benefits of having a well-rounded education.

There are people who passed on the opportunity to receive an education when they were young. These people have opportunities to learn the knowledge they missed through programs like the Cherokee Nation Family Education Unit (previously Adult Education).

The tribe began offering family education 25 years ago with a program designed specifically for tribal members to help them improve their lives through education. It was one of the first programs the Cherokee Nation established through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

"Our classes provide people in the community with the opportunity to get their GED and learn basic skills," said Peggy Girty, family education teacher. "It also provides an opportunity for self-improvement for people."

The family education staff provides instruction in rural Cherokee communities along with transportation to class, child care, referrals to other tribal programs and state agencies and counseling. Higher education assistance is also provided after successful completion of a General Education Development (GED) test or high school equivalency test.

In addition to GED and Adult Basic Education (ABE) instruction, people have the opportunity to study tribal history and the Cherokee syllabary.

"We have a mixture of people who take classes, everyone from 17 to 70 years old," Girty said. "Many of the

younger people want to refresh their math and writing skills; the older people want to learn basic skills. A lot of people want to learn essay skills."

Some people enroll just for the Cherokee language class, arts and crafts and the computer class, according to Beverly Sizemore, family education teacher.

"Some of the people see the classes as social time, especially the elderly," Sizemore said. "It gives them a place to go and socialize while they learn."

The staff also acts as "a link to the tribe for community members," said Sizemore.

"Tribal members we come in contact with want to know things about the Cherokee Nation and they expect us to know everything that's going on with the tribe so we try to stay informed," said Girty.

Four family education instructors teach 16 classes in five counties for nine months. Classes are usually held from 6-10 p.m. or 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Approximately 300 people are served each year through the program. The family education staff includes teachers Sharon Dry, Landra Alberty, Peggy Girty and Beverly Sizemore; Ina Romero, secretary; and Victor Vance, manager.

Before determining where to hold classes, the staff does a verbal needs assessment by going into communities to determine what the needs are for that community.

"We usually try to find the leader of a community to determine if people work mostly days or nights and what would

be the best time to have a class," Sizemore said.

Before beginning classes students are given a test to determine their educational needs. A curriculum of math, writing skills, language, science, social studies, essay writing and critical thinking is offered to the students.

People enroll in the program from many reasons, most of them want to improve their lives through education.

"A lot of times people take the courses because they need them for jobs," said Victor Vance, family education manager. "A lot of jobs require a GED. Others want to go to college."

"We have had a lot of students who have gotten a job or have gotten into college after they finish their courses and get their GED," Girty added.

The family education staff usually hear about and see the results of the education they provide. Former students visit to let staff know how they are doing in college and other successes they have had, said Girty.

"Several people I have taught have gone on to work for the tribe," Sizemore said.

Not all of the people who attend the classes are an immediate success.

Sizemore related a story about a student who enrolled in class to prepare to take the GED test. She took the test three times and failed. When she was eligible to take the test a fourth time, the Cherokee Nation received their own GED testing center. She took the test again, de-

termined to get a GED before her daughter completed high school, and passed.

"When she failed the test the third time I cried with her," Sizemore said. "When she passed it I think it meant as much to me as it did to her."

The GED testing center was something the family education staff had been wanting for a number of years. After continually lobbying for a center one was setup at Sequoyah High School in 1994. The Cherokee Nation is the first tribe in the country to get a GED testing site.

In 1990, the family education unit was selected as an Indian Education Showcase Project by the U.S. Department of Education--one of only four Indian adult education projects selected nationally. Last year, the program was honored as one of the "Promising Programs in Native Education." Only 15 out of 90 programs nominated were selected nationwide.

"This program hits home for me because my mom graduated from adult education," Girty said. "When she got her GED, I knew how important it was to her and to the rest of us because she went to college, finished and is working for the tribe now."

"I know how important this program is to people who take advantage of it. I like to see the end result of this program and see the success people have after they finish. It feels good having been a part of that success because a lot of these people come here not having had success with education."

SHS Booster Club to hold meeting

The Sequoyah High School Booster Club will hold a meeting at 7-p.m., every Tuesday night for the rest of the school year.

The meetings will be held in the Sequoyah High School Library.

Items on the agenda include the election of new officers and the membership drive.

Memberships for the 1996-97 academic school year may be purchased for \$15 each.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

For more information contact Gloria Sly, superintendent, or Bill Watt, head football coach, at (918) 456-0631.



LUTHER COCHRAN, facilities management staff member, paints the walls in the hallway at Sequoyah High School. This is only a small part of the renovations being made at the school in preparation for fall classes. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)

SHS accepting enrollment applications

Sequoyah High School's administration office has the new applications ready for fall enrollment. Interested students must fill out an application before enrolling for the 1996-97 academic school year which begins Aug. 14.

To be eligible to enroll, the student must fill out an application, have a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card, a birth certificate, an immunization record, their social security card, their report cards and a copy of their transcripts of grades.

Enrollment begins Aug. 12 for incoming seniors and juniors and Aug. 13 for sophomores and freshmen.

For more information, contact Sequoyah High School, at (918) 456-0631.

Parent Association to hold meeting Sept. 14

The Sequoyah High School Parent Association will hold their next monthly meeting at noon, Saturday, Sept. 14. The meeting will be held in the SHS library.

Booster club and back-to-school activities will be discussed.

For more information, contact David Marshall, president, at (918) 458-3288, or (918) 696-5135 after 5 p.m.



GROVE PUBLIC Schools Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) students, teachers, staff, helpers and parents take a moment from their busy schedule to enjoy the sunshine during a recent four-day Summer Math and Reading Camp. The camp was for JOM students in grades K-5. In addition to academics, students observed Native American presentations such as dancing, drumming, everyday life and beliefs, and arts and crafts. The students also received "JOM Summer Camp '96" T-shirts.

Tsa-La-Gi Cultural Center preserving, promoting Cherokee language, culture

The Tsa-la-gi Cultural Center houses Cherokee history, language and culture programs. The center was setup by the Cherokee Nation to maintain Cherokee language, culture and history. The center's staff have a wealth of knowledge about Cherokee language, culture and history.

Cultural center staff teach Cherokee language classes throughout the year in many different locations. Tribal members who only know how to speak Cherokee are learning how to read and write it. Those who don't know how to speak, read or write the language are now beginning the process of learning the language.

The most important resource for staff is the Cherokee elders, who they consult with on a regular basis. They have been working closely with elders on revising the "Cherokee Hymn Book."

Since first contact with white civilization, many Cherokee people embraced Christianity. They established churches, translated the Bible into the Cherokee language and created the "Cherokee Hymn Book."

The hymn book served the Cherokee people well for many years. The sound of Cherokee people singing hymns in their native language can still be heard in churches throughout the area. The only drawback to the hymn book has been its size. It is no larger than an adult person's hand which makes it hard for the elderly to read.

Principal Chief Joe Byrd initiated a project to reproduce a larger version of the hymn book for the elderly. The Cherokee Cultural Center staff began working with elders to reproduce the book to improve its readability without diminishing its content.

"We have been helping critique the book, but we don't want to change any of the words," said Hastings Shade, one of the cultural center staff people working on the project. "There are old words in the book that no one knows or uses anymore. I'm always learning new Cherokee words myself."

Shade is fluent in Cherokee, written and spoken, but he still consults with the elders he works with when coming upon a word in the book he does not know.

"The elders we have been working with have been looking forward to the finished hymn book," Shade said. "They feel this is one way they can help preserve the language for the next generation."



SHARING THEIR knowledge of the Cherokee language, elders from the Lost City area assist staff from the Cherokee Cultural Center in revising the Cherokee hymn book. Reading the hymn books are, seated, from left, Loretta Shade, Sarah Keener and Bob Crittenden. Standing, from left, are Sequoyah Guess and Hastings Shade, cultural center staff; Dustin Shade; Laura Crittenden; and Sarah Jane Henson. (Photo by Sammy Still)

Cultural center staff have also setup a Web site on the Internet, which offers access to Cherokee culture, history and language to computer users around the world.

Three sample lessons of the Cherokee language, a list of Cherokee phrases, a condensed version of Cherokee history, pictures and a small movie about stickball are available at the Web site. A learning center is also available which allows people to see and hear part of the Cherokee syllabary. The Cherokee phrases and the word list may be downloaded.

According to Sequoyah Guess, media specialist for the cultural center, more information will be added to the Web site along with pictures.

"A lot of people have e-mailed (electronic mail) us to tell us they are glad we are up," Guess said. "We try to make it interesting for people to visit the site. It's like an advertising piece for the cultural center and the tribe."

People are welcome to e-mail their comments and questions about the Web site or the Cherokee Nation, added Guess.

"I get a lot of e-mail from around the world," he said. Ninety-nine percent of the people claim Cherokee blood. I try to respond to the e-mail comments and questions as best I can. If I can't answer them I research the question or find someone who knows the answer."

Guess related a story about the time he didn't check his e-mail for a week when the center first went on-line. When

he finally checked his e-mail he had 90 messages and spent a whole Saturday morning answering people's questions and comments. "I learned you have to check your e-mail everyday," he said.

There are eight search programs on the Internet that have the cultural center listed which will aid people in finding the cultural center's Web site. The Web site is also listed on the Internet's Na-

tive American list, or people may type Cherokee or Tsa-la-gi to get to the site, said Guess.

"The site is becoming well-known," he said. "People are starting to link-up on our site and other people are linking-up with them to learn more about Cherokee history, culture, genealogy."

The Web site recently linked up with a site to assist people with genealogy research. Information from the Cherokee Nation registration department is also available at the site.

Guess says there will be more cultural items with sound added to the site including more movies and pictures. He hopes to complete a welcome movie--with one version in English and one in Cherokee--for the Web site from the chief and deputy chief.

"There are a lot of Cherokee Web sites out there, but they really don't have as much access to Cherokee culture and history as we do," Guess said. "It's good there is a direct line on the Internet for people to find out information about Cherokee culture and history."

The Web site address is <http://www.ionet.net/skili/center.html>. The e-mail address skili@ionet.net. The phone number for the Tsa-la-gi Cultural Center is (918) 458-6170.

Cherokee Alphabet.

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| D _a | R _e | T _i | Ꭰ _o | Ꭱ _u | Ꭲ _v |
| S _{ga} Ꭰ _{ka} | F _{ge} | Y _{gi} | A _{go} | J _{gu} | E _{gv} |
| Ꭶ _{ha} | P _{he} | Ꭹ _{hi} | F _{ho} | Ꭺ _{hu} | Ꭼ _{hv} |
| W _{la} | Ꭺ _{le} | Ꭶ _{li} | G _{lo} | M _{lu} | A _{lv} |
| Ꭶ _{ma} | Ꭰ _{me} | H _{mi} | Ꭰ _{mo} | Y _{mu} | |
| Ꭰ _{na} Ꭰ _{hna} Ꭰ _{nah} | Ꭰ _{ne} | Ꭰ _{ni} | Z _{no} | Ꭰ _{nu} | Ꭰ _{nv} |
| T _{qua} | Ꭰ _{que} | P _{qui} | V _{quo} | Ꭰ _{quv} | E _{quv} |
| U _{sa} Ꭰ _s | A _{se} | B _{si} | F _{so} | Ꭰ _{su} | R _{sv} |
| L _{da} W _{ta} | S _{de} Ꭰ _{te} | J _{di} J _{ti} | V _{do} | S _{du} | Ꭰ _{dv} |
| Ꭰ _{dla} Ꭰ _{tla} | L _{tla} | C _{tli} | Ꭰ _{tlo} | Ꭰ _{tlu} | P _{tlv} |
| G _{tla} | V _{tse} | h _{tli} | K _{tso} | J _{tsu} | C _{tsv} |
| G _{wa} | Ꭰ _{we} | Ꭰ _{wi} | Ꭰ _{wo} | Ꭰ _{wu} | Ꭰ _{wv} |
| Ꭰ _{ya} | B _{ye} | Ꭰ _{yi} | Ꭰ _{yo} | G _{yu} | B _{yv} |

Sounds Represented by Vowels

a, as a in father, or short as a in rival || o, as o in note, approaching aw in law
e, as e in hate, or short as e in met || u, as oo in fool, or short as u in pull
i, as i in pique, or short as i in pit || v, as u in but, nasalized

Consonant Sounds

g nearly as in English, but approaching to k. d nearly as in English but approaching to t. h k l m n q s t w y as in English. Syllables beginning with g except Ꭰ (ga) have sometimes the power of k. Ꭰ (go), S (du), Ꭰ (dv) are sometimes sounded to, tu, tv and syllables written with Ꭰ except Ꭰ (tla) sometimes vary to dl.

GWY ᎠᎩᎦ ᎠᎩᎦ

Summer Youth Employment Program provides tribal youth with work experience

More than 570 Cherokee tribal youth are gaining work experience and a salary through the Cherokee Nation Tribal Services Department Summer Youth Employment (SYEP) Program that is federally-funded through the U.S. Department of Labor for economically-disadvantaged youth, ages 14-21.

"The program helps economically disadvantaged youth who are in school and the dropouts and youth who are on summer vacation from school," Londa Cox, division manager of tribal services, said.

The program helps communities within the tribe's 14-county jurisdiction by providing the labor force for various communities, schools and organizations during the summer months.

"The program's primary goal is to introduce the youth to the 'World of Work' through an orientation workshop, job site instruction or through one of the many activities planned by the tribe's SYEP staff," Cox said.

The Mobile Lab, part of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Services Department's Youth Fair Chance Program, offers educational opportunities by providing eight computer terminals for the students' use. By using the computer, the youth may receive information on various career choices such as becoming a teacher, a nurse or a lawyer. The computer programs can inform the students about working conditions, salary, and what high school and college courses to take to prepare for a career.

The youth work in various places such as the tribal complex, Sequoyah High School, Cherokee Nation Emergency Medical Services office and W.W. Hastings Hospital.

The Cherokee County SYEP job developers are Faye Baird, David Moore and Lula Steele, and the SYEP temporary counselors are Jolyn Carey Rose and Erb Kimble.

For more information, call Cox at (918) 456-0671, ext. 327.



CHEROKEE NATION Tribal Services 1996 summer interns are, from left, Christy Crittenden, intern assistant; Travis Scott, Sallisaw; Nancie Ross, Tahlequah; Shannon Wacoche, Tahlequah; Jennifer Hayes, Hulbert; Tauni Scott, Tahlequah; Jeremy Davis, Sallisaw; Londa Cox, division manager. (Photo by Sammy Still)



KAKIAWA BEAVER of Stilwell works on a dream catcher during the "Beat The Heat" program sponsored by the Cherokee Nation Youth Fair Chance and Tribal Services Summer Intern Program at the Stilwell Armory. Area children participated in making traditional arts and crafts. (Photo by Sammy Still)



CHEROKEE NATION Marshal Franky Dreadfulwater shows the children in the Tribal Services Department's Child Development Center After-School Program the helicopter the department used during a recent marijuana raid. The marshals informed the children about the dangers of using drugs. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)



CHEROKEE NATION Tribal Services Department Summer Youth Employment Program participants, from left, Jason "Spanky" Wilder, Tahlequah, and Brent Girty, Woodall, carry flowers for planting at the Sequoyah High School Chapel.

Cherokee Nation SYEP sponsors Saline Courthouse Arts & Crafts Show Sept. 21-22

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Services Department's Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) along with the Saline Courthouse employees are now taking booth registrations for persons interested in renting either booth or concession space.

The arts and crafts show is from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., Sept. 21-22. Booth space rental is \$25 and concession rental is \$50. All spaces are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Events include a bow shoot, tomahawk throw, blue grass music, a mock execution, gospel singing, along with primitive camping and trade shows and lots of concessions.

The Saline Courthouse is an original territorial courthouse built in the late 1800s. It is located nine miles east of Locust Grove on State Highway 412 (old 33). At the Delaware County sign turn right and go approximately one mile.

For more information, contact Jan Nichols, SYEP counselor, at (918) 479-5807.

The Cherokee Nation Child Development Center is now taking applications for after school child care for ages 6-12. For more information, contact Jim Johnson at (918) 458-4404.



LU MACCRAW, left, health educator at the Redbird Smith Health Center, measures the body fat of Tammie Sanders, right, of Marble City with a weight measuring machine during the Tribal Services Summer Youth workshop at Brushy Lake near Sallisaw. The workshop included instruction on water safety, the importance of maintaining health and blood pressure, and weight measure screening. In the background observing MacCraw at work is Mike Oliver of Sallisaw. (Photo by Sammy Still)

Rural health centers are a source of pride for tribal leaders

A source of pride for tribal leaders is the health care provided from five rural health centers located strategically throughout the Cherokee Nation.

Three of the five clinics—in Sallisaw, Stilwell and Salina—were built by the tribe to provide the most up-to-date health care to tribal members. Remodeling of the Jay clinic is nearly complete, and a new Nowata clinic will soon be constructed.

A-mo Salina Community Clinic

A new clinic building was completed this year with funding from a federal grant and with additional monies generated by billing Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance of patients at all Cherokee Nation clinic locations.

Greater numbers of Indian and non-Indian patients can now be served with improved convenience to them and to the staff. Vision diagnosis is still performed from the Cherokee Nation Mobile Eye Clinic, which rotates between Salina and Jay, and the new facility has permanent space for dispensing eye glasses. Nearly 21,000 patient visits were recorded at the

Salina clinic in fiscal year 1995.

Services at the clinic include medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, laboratory, X-ray, behavioral health, community health services, nutrition services, vision care, public health nursing and Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

Eligible patients who require hospital care are referred to Claremore Indian Hospital, approximately 30 miles from Salina.

"Our staff is, and has always been, the reason our patients choose to come to our clinic," said Robert Park, clinic administrator. "The new space is great for both the staff and the patients and we are serving more patients everyday."

Clinic service hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments are preferred, however, drop-ins are accepted. Call ahead if possible.

For more information, call (918) 434-8500.

Nowata Indian Health Center

Located in a rented space in downtown Nowata, the clinic is small and less than ideally configured for health ser-

"Our staff is, and has always been, the reason our patients choose to come to our clinic." --Robert Park, A-mo Salina Community Clinic administrator.

vices but continues to serve more patients each year. Approximately 14,000 patient visits were reported in fiscal year 1995.

A new clinic will be constructed soon on land donated by the city of Nowata. The approximately 12,000 square-foot facility will be built as a joint venture between the Cherokee Nation and the Indian Health Service. In the meantime, modular units from the former Stilwell clinic will be placed at the Nowata clinic site to provide more space for patients and providers. The units should be in place by early November.

Services provided at the clinic include medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, laboratory, behavioral health, community health and nutrition. Regular services are also provided to chronic diabetic patients. Eligible patients who require X-ray services or hospital care are referred to the Claremore Indian Hospital, approximately 40 miles from Nowata.

"Patient flow will improve as we have additional exam space with the mobile units," said David Mitchell, clinic administrator. "And although it may create some inconvenience for our staff to transfer records between the two locations, the patients will be better served."

Clinic service hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Same day appointments are scheduled, however, please phone ahead when possible.

For more information call (918) 273-0192.

Sam Hider Jay Community Clinic

The Sam Hider Community Clinic, located in the former Jay Community Hospital building, has been remodeled and expanded to maximize outpatient clinical service to Indian people of the Jay area, as well as non-Indian community members who may receive care on a fee-for-service basis. Patients who need specialty care are referred to providers under contract to the tribe, or to the nearest Indian Health Service facility. The W.W. Hastings Hospital, approximately 40 miles away, is the closest. The Jay clinic recorded 22,639 patient visits in fiscal year 1995.

Services provided at the clinic include medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, laboratory, dental, X-ray, vision, behavioral health, community health representatives, nutrition services and WIC. Cherokee Nation Home Health services also operates out of the Jay clinic.

Clinic service hours are from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

Dental service hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

For more information, call the clinic

at (918) 253-4271.

Redbird Smith Health Center

The Redbird Smith Health Center in Sallisaw was the first tribal health center in the Cherokee Nation Rural Health Network to be constructed from the ground up. Patients began receiving services there in 1993, and the number of patients served has increased steadily since that time with 35,221 patient visits recorded during fiscal year 1995.

Services provided at the clinic include medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, laboratory, dental, X-ray, vision, behavioral health, community health representatives, nutrition services, health education and WIC. Cherokee Nation Home Health also operates in Sequoyah County out of the former health clinic.

"We have made many improvements in our operating systems since we first opened with the goal being to serve our patients better," said Mike Pruitt, clinic administrator. "For example, the scheduling system we now use has made it possible for us to see more patients and to see them in a timely manner. This also allows us more quality time with each patient, and we think they appreciate this."

Clinic service hours are from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday.

Dental service hours are from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, call (918) 775-9159.

Wilma P. Mankiller Health Center

After many years of operating from mobile units and a string of small, under-equipped buildings in Stilwell, clinical services are now offered at the modern Wilma P. Mankiller Health Center to area Indian people.

The new health center was completed early 1995 and had 31,262 patient visits during the last fiscal year.

Services provided at the clinic include medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, laboratory, dental, X-ray, vision, behavioral health, community health representatives, nutrition services and WIC. Cherokee Nation Home Health also operates in Adair County.

"We have a beautiful facility," said Emmett Kelley, clinic administrator. "The laboratory and X-ray departments are state-of-the-art in equipment and service. We have bilingual receptionists and nurses, and a patient advocate whose primary responsibility is to assist patients in getting care here."

Clinic service hours are from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call (918) 696-8800.

WIC serving women, children for nearly 20 years

"The WIC program has proven to be one of the best supplemental food programs in the country." --Brenda Carter, Cherokee Nation WIC director.

The Cherokee Nation Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program has been assisting women and their children in the area with their nutritional needs for nearly 20 years.

WIC is a federally-funded program that serves low and moderate income pregnant, breast-feeding, and postpartum women as well as infants and children up to five years of age who have been determined to be at nutritional risk. Women receive supplemental foods for them and their children along with nutrition education counseling and early access to prenatal care to ensure a healthy pregnancy and baby.

"The WIC program lessens the number of health problems experienced by children from birth to 5 years old," said Cherokee Nation WIC Director Brenda Carter.

Foods received through the program include milk, cheese, juice, eggs, beans or peanut butter and infant and cereal formula.

The program also operates a Farmers' Market Nutrition Program each summer to provide a variety of fruits and vegetables to its participants.

The nutrition program was developed to provide fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables to women and children nutritionally at risk who are participating in the WIC program and to expand the awareness, use and sales of Farmers' Markets.

The tribal WIC program issues coupons to WIC participants which they can use to purchase produce at a Farmers' Market.

According to Carter, the WIC staff's goal for fiscal year 1996 continues to be improving the health of the women and infants they serve.

A number of clients are benefitting from WIC services. There were 6,750 participants in October 1995. The program is currently serving 7,350 women, infants, and children.

"Our caseload goal is 8,800 for fiscal year end," Carter said.

In April the Cherokee Nation WIC Program opened a new site in Vinita. There are 14 other WIC sites located throughout the 14-county area of Cherokee Nation in Salina, Bell, Claremore, Tulsa, Muskogee, Nowata, Oaks, Pryor, Sallisaw, Jay, Tahlequah, Warner, Westville and Stilwell.

"The WIC program has proven to be one of the best supplemental food programs in the country," Carter said.

In order to qualify for the WIC program, clients must meet income guidelines and be determined nutritionally at risk.

Some examples of nutritional risk include anemia, over or underweight, little or no prenatal care, inadequate diet, frequent illness or infections and infants with symptoms of failure to thrive. These conditions may be improved through WIC foods and nutrition education.

For locations of WIC clinics or participating Farmers' Markets, contact the main WIC office at the Cherokee Nation Tribal Complex in Tahlequah at 1 (800) 256-0671 or (918) 456-0671, exts. 589 or 313.

Health services division continues to expand, provide quality care

The Cherokee Nation Health Services Division (CNHS) is the largest division within Cherokee Nation employing nearly 700 people.

The philosophy of the health services division is to treat the whole person with the highest possible level of professionalism.

In addition to the five outpatient clinics located in five different counties, CNHS offers services through its Rural Health Network, the Healthy Nations Project, Farmer's Market, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program, the Jack Brown Regional Treatment Center, community health, behavioral health, a women's breast and cervical screening program, public health nursing, a summer youth fitness camp, a home health

agency, food distribution, and several other programs and departments.

Dr. David Kingfisher is director of the health division. A native of the Tahlequah area, Kingfisher is not only an M.D. but also holds a law degree. He is a Fellow of the College of Legal Medicine and is board certified with the American Board of Medical Examiners, the American Board of Family Practice and the Board of Certification in Emergency Medicine.

According to Kingfisher, preparing for the future is the biggest challenge the health division is facing. He attributes the federal budget problems and changes in the health care industry to be major obstacles. "Federal funding for Indian programs continues to be cut year after

year," he said. "The economy continues to worsen, more people are losing their jobs and are coming to our clinics for services, yet our federal funding is getting smaller. That means we have to look for ways to serve more people with less money."

The Cherokee Nation's health budget is more than \$30 million annually, but the cost of providing health services is more than the amount of money received from the government. Rather than cut services, the money collected from third-party sources is used to pay for services that otherwise would not be available. The new A-mo Salina Clinic was built with third-party collections.

Third-party reimbursement is money collected from a third source, such as Medicare, Medicaid or other insurance after a patient receives a service from a Cherokee Nation facility.

The tribe and W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah have also been discussing ways to ensure use by patients with available third-party resources instead of relying on the hospital's already limited resources. "Money should go first to people who have no means at all to pay for their health care," Kingfisher said.

A significant accomplishment and change made by the health services division recently was to provide longer operating hours for three of the tribe's five outpatient clinics. "We realized that people don't always get sick between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., and that we have to be flexible to meet their needs," Kingfisher said.

The health services division recently signed an agreement which will allow the Cherokee Nation to assume responsibility for W.W. Hastings' contract health services. Kingfisher and staff believe that although it is risky to manage a program

that is already severely underfunded, the agreement must be done to ensure health care is available for Cherokee tribal members and to conserve contract health care money. (See related story on this page)

"Although in the beginning I was hesitant to manage any part of the hospital, I believe that if we don't step in now we could have a crisis on our hands in the future," said Principal Chief Joe Byrd. "This action does not affect money that goes into the hospital, but only money that the hospital pays out."

Prior to the Cherokee Nation assuming responsibility of contract health, W.W. Hastings, through the Indian Health Service (IHS), was paying full prices for some contract health services.

According to Kingfisher, with the agreement the tribe will now have the freedom to negotiate better prices that will save the hospital money.

Another exciting development for Cherokee Nation Health Services is the expected designation as a Reinvention Lab by the White House and IHS in August. The Reinventing Government Program is sponsored by President Bill Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore and looks for innovative ways to reinvent government. In its proposal, Cherokee Nation may assume certain functions being performed by the IHS.

"The IHS is hampered from performing at its maximum because of the restrictive federal regulations, much the same as the contract health service," said Kingfisher. "Cherokee Nation will be able to rewrite old, outdated policies and procedures that keep the system bogged down and find new ways to provide better and more services to our people."

The Reinvention Lab is scheduled to begin in October.

Cherokee Nation to take over Contract Health Services at W.W. Hastings

The Cherokee Nation Health Services leaders recently announced they intend to assume administrative responsibility for all contract health services at W.W. Hastings Hospital in an effort to improve health care provided to Indian people at the hospital.

Contract health services are referrals placed to outside medical providers for health services not available at the hospital.

The agreement does not enable the tribe to take over operations of the entire hospital.

The tribe is able to assume responsibility for contract health services because of a provision under a self-governance agreement it has with the federal government.

The agreement authorizes the Cherokee Nation to assume responsibility for certain Indian Health Service (IHS) operations.

According to Dr. David Kingfisher, executive director of Cherokee Nation Health Services Division, the tribe will begin overseeing the hospital's contract health services possibly the beginning of next year.

"Changes won't be noticeable right away because policies will remain the same," Kingfisher said.

This decision regarding contract health services was made as a result of the federal government shutdowns the country experienced last winter, said Principal Chief Joe Byrd.

During one of the shutdowns W.W. Hastings employees were temporarily without jobs and Indian people without health care.

"I have always been cautious about taking over portions of Hastings, but after the government shutdown threatened to close the hospital I had to reexamine this issue," Byrd said. "I said then we cannot afford to let the hospital close for even one day. We must assure our people health care will be there when they need it."

The request to manage contract health services will not affect money that comes into the hospital, but rather will help control the money paid by the hospital to outside providers for specialized health services not available at the hospital.

"The tribe is not bound by the same restrictive rules and regulations that the IHS must follow," said Kingfisher, at a recent meeting with W.W. Hastings employees. "As part of self-governance, we have the freedom to go out and negotiate better prices that will save money and eventually expand contract health services."

According to Byrd, contract health dollars are not always managed in the most cost efficient manner at the hospital. Providers who participate in the Cherokee Nation Contract Health Network are paid at reimbursement rates that are the same as or less than Medicare.

"If we can bring those providers into our network, we can save money and still provide quality care," Byrd said. "The money saved can be used to expand the services we can provide. If we can't do this right, I don't want to do it at all. That's why we made the request based on the condition that if it didn't improve things for the people, then we would turn it back over to the IHS. I believe we will do a good job."



CHEROKEE NATION Principal Chief Joe Byrd recently signed an agreement with the city of Nowata and the Nowata Chamber of Commerce to build a new health clinic in the city. Present at the signing were, standing, from left, Nowata County Commissioner Clint Hildebrand; Nowata Chamber of Commerce Executive Secretary Karen Miller; Gary Taylor, State Representative, Dist. 10, Nowata, Osage and Washington Counties; Jack Dugger, Nowata County Commissioner; Cherokee Nation Councilmembers Nick Lay, Dist. 8 and Chuck Hoskin, Dist. 9; and Joe Ackers, Nowata County Commissioner. Seated, from left, Nowata City Manager Nancy Shipley, Byrd and Industrial Trust Authority Chairman Raymond Cline. (Photo by Will Chavez)

Ground breaking ceremony held for new W.W. Hastings Hospital wing

Cherokee Nation and Indian Health Service officials recently broke ground for a 12,000 square-foot administration wing for the W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah.

The three-story, \$1.3 million facility will house mechanical, behavioral health and administration services and is expected to be completed in 14 months.

Funding to build the wing came totally from third-party reimbursements such as Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance, according to Hickory Starr, hospital administrator.

"The goal is to improve patient flow and patient care," Starr said. The addition will provide more room for doctors and reduce the waiting time for patients."

Once the construction is completed, the area currently housing the hospital's administrative services will be remodeled for patient care.

Dr. Kingfisher, director of Cherokee Nation Health Services, called the future availability of additional space at the hospital "a dream come true."

The extra space will be especially appreciated by the hospital's cramped behavioral health staff who don't have a

large work area, he said.

The addition to W.W. Hastings Hospital comes at a time when it is greatly needed. The hospital opened in 1984 and was designed to handle 90,000 patients annually. Last year, the hospital treated more than 180,000 patients and the number increases each year, said Starr.

"The people here involved with IHS have a great undertaking in that the number of people they see is just overwhelming," said Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Joe Byrd. "You can come here any day of the week and this place will be full."

Also, during his address to hospital employees and tribal, city and state leaders, Byrd announced the creation of an advisory board for the hospital. The board will include representatives from the tribe, the hospital and IHS to deal with issues facing the hospital. The Claremore Indian Hospital already has a similar board established.



TRIBAL LEADERS joined W.W. Hastings staff to break ground for a 12,000 square-foot administration wing at W.W. Hastings Hospital. Participating in the ceremony were, from left, Dr. David Kingfisher, director, Cherokee Nation Health Services Division; Mary Cooksey, Cherokee councilmember, Dist. 3; Dr. Gail Harris, clinical director, W. W. Hastings; Principal Chief Joe Byrd; Bob Ed Culver, State Representative, Dist. 4; Bill John Baker, Cherokee councilmember, Dist. 1; Jake Drueppel, grandson of Baker; and Hickory Starr, administrator, W.W. Hastings Hospital. (Photo by Sammy Still)

Native people at risk because of the lack of bone marrow donors

Each year thousands of Native American adults and children die from leukemia, aplastic anemia and other fatal blood diseases. Many of these deaths could be prevented and patients cured with a bone marrow transplant.

The Native American Marrow Recruitment Project (NAMRP) was established in Norman, Okla., to recruit Native American volunteers willing to be marrow donors.

"Our efforts involve recruiting Indian people to volunteer to be bone marrow donors," said Charles Tonemah, coordinator for NAMRP. "The other part of our job is educate people about the need for bone marrow donors. Our interest is with Indian people. A bone marrow transplant is usually more successful with someone of their own race."

Bone marrow is found in the cavity of the body's bones. It is a substance resembling blood that produces the body's blood components, including red blood cells, platelets and white blood cells which are the main agents of the body's immune system.

The first step to becoming a volunteer marrow donor involves a simple blood test. Once a match is found the volunteer will undergo a simple surgical procedure to remove a small fraction of marrow from the back of the pelvic bone. Recovery is rapid and the body will replace the marrow in a matter of weeks.

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Community health services provides outreach to Indian communities

Community Health Services reaches out to communities throughout the year to provide a variety of health services to tribal members.

Services such as blood pressure and blood sugar screenings, head lice checks, health education programs and fitness programs are provided by community health representatives (CHRs). They assist with rabies clinics, the tribe's breast and cervical cancer project and various other health promotion/prevention projects. CHRs also make home visits and provide assistance in locating needed resources such as health care for individuals and their families.

Community health van drivers have transported 1,258 clients since January to the tribe's five clinics and the W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah and the Claremore Indian Hospital. A sixth van driver has been hired and is currently driving the wheelchair accessible van that is dispatched out of the tribe's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) office.

"All of our van drivers are well-trained in such areas as defensive driving, CPR and first aid," said Rhonda Stanley, director of Community Health Services.

The Health Education Program has expanded the "Great Body Shop" school health curriculum to seven area schools. The "Great Body Shop" is a comprehensive health and substance abuse prevention curriculum that is offered to students in the first, second and fifth-grade at participating schools.

Forty youth, ages 10-13, attended the 1996 Summer Youth Fitness Camp held at Camp Lutherhoma. This annual camp incorporates fitness, health education, substance abuse prevention, diabetes prevention and self-esteem activities into a fun-filled week that is planned with Native American youth in mind.

Health education staff provides and assists in all types of health education programs--head lice prevention, personal hygiene, dental health, tobacco education, fire safety, hepatitis A, stress reduction, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), poison control, nutrition and fitness.

The public health nutritionist provides cooking demonstrations and nutrition education for groups such as local church groups, Head Start parent groups and area schools. Individual nutrition counseling is provided on a regular basis at the Jay, Salina and Nowata clinics by referral, as well as the Community Dialysis Center in Pryor.

The public health nutritionist is currently working to establish a uniform diabetes education program for all tribal and Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities within the Cherokee Nation.

Established in 1992, the Cherokee Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program was developed to work with Native Americans with disabilities to help them obtain and maintain suitable em-

ployment. Services include training at local vocational schools and universities, homemaker services, physical restoration services, on-the-job training, and specialized services such as job search training, resume writing, mock interviews and other specialized programming.

The vocational rehabilitation program was recently nominated as one of the top 10 exemplary programs providing services to individuals with disabilities in the nation. On Sept. 4, the University of Arizona, Native American Research Center, will conduct an on-site visit in conjunction with this nomination.

"Community Health Services is one of the Cherokee Nation's best resources for health information and assistance for clients and their communities," Stanley said. "I am very proud of the employees that work hard to ensure that services are provided in the most efficient and professional manner possible."

For more information, call (918) 456-0671, ext. 598.

Food distribution field schedule listed for August

Monday, Aug. 12, Collinsville, American Legion, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Tuesday, Aug. 13, Salina Veterans of Foreign Wars building, 9:15 a.m.-12 p.m.
 Wednesday, Aug. 14, White Oak, White Oak School, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
 Thursday, Aug. 15, Stilwell (M-Z), Food Outlet, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Friday, Aug. 16, Jay, Food Outlet, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Monday, Aug. 19, Nicut, Belfonte Community Building, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Pryor, American Legion, 9:45 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Tuesday, Aug. 20, Dewey, First Baptist Church, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Wednesday, Aug. 21, Marble City, Food Outlet, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Thursday, Aug. 22, Vian, Fire Department, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Kenwood, Community Building, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Friday, Aug. 23, Porum, Wheeler Estates, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
 Saturday, Aug. 24, Tahlequah, Food Outlet, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
 Monday, Aug. 26, Webbers Falls, County Barn, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, Aug. 27, Tahlequah, Food Outlet, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tribe's food distribution program expanding to better serve clients

The Cherokee Nation Food Distribution Program provides services to approximately 10,500 participants per month throughout the 14-county jurisdictional area of the Cherokee Nation. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The program maintains 18 "tailgate sites," and four food outlets in communities of the Cherokee Nation. Tailgate refers to semi-trucks delivering food to the individual sites and distributing food from the back of the trucks.

The Tahlequah Food Outlet, established in 1993, currently serves approximately 6,500 people each month; the Marble City Food Outlet, established in 1994, serves more than 390 people a month; and the Jay Food Outlet, established in 1995, serves approximately 1,500 participants monthly.

"In May, a Food Outlet was established in the Stilwell community," said Food Distribution Program Director Sherrie Perry. "This area has a potential

of serving clients that live in the Stilwell, Westville and Bell communities that have to travel to the Tahlequah Food Outlet to receive services."

Nutrition education efforts and activities underway provide monthly food preparation demonstrations in the food outlets and continue to provide information in the monthly Nutrition Newsletter "Enjoy Healthy Foods," Perry said.

Three nutrition aides are employed through a grant from the funding agency to provide this nutrition education through food preparation demonstration and cooking classes.

"The program goal is to operate self-service food outlets in strategically located areas within the Cherokee Nation boundaries to replace the tailgate services. Tailgate services will remain in place in communities where this type of service is needed," said Perry.

For more information, contact the main office in Tahlequah at (918) 458-4483.

Program serving Native American women

The Cherokee Nation Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program is funded by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), which provides breast and cervical screening to Native American women who fit specific eligibility criteria.

The two particular screening procedures which are paid for by the grant are mammogram and pap tests. The mammogram is a simple X-ray that detects breast lumps long before a woman or health care provider can feel them.

"While 80 percent of breast lumps are normal, all should be checked," said Virginia Long, cancer project coordinator for the Cherokee Nation.

Cervical cancer is 99 percent curable if detected in the early stages. The pap test remains the single most important screening method for early detection.

"The Cherokee Nation Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Pro-

gram utilizes female nurse practitioners to perform the clinical breast exams and pap tests," said Long. "As of November 1995, 290 Native American women have been screened through this grant."

To be eligible for the program women must be 40 years of age or older, reside within the Cherokee Nation 14-county jurisdictional area and must have a household income that is at or below 20 percent of the federal poverty level.

Monthly dates for breast and cervical screenings are established for all five Cherokee Nation health clinics and the Muskogee Community Health Clinic. Anyone meeting the criteria and interested in receiving breast and cervical screenings may call the clinic nearest them to schedule an appointment.

For more information regarding this program, call Virginia Long, Cancer Grant Project Coordinator, at (918) 456-0671, ext. 537 or 1 (800) 256-0671.

Cherokee Nation opens food outlet in Stilwell

Stilwell city leaders joined tribal leaders to dedicate the new Cherokee Nation Food Distribution Program Food Outlet in Stilwell July 18.

The Stilwell Outlet is the fourth outlet to open in three years. There are outlets located in Tahlequah, Jay and Marble City. State Rep. Larry Adair, Dist. 86, also attended the opening, which will provide a better atmosphere for food distribution clients.

According to Sherrie Perry, director of food distribution, the outlet will replace tailgate sites in Stilwell, Westville and Bell, which had been serving approximately 234 people.

"Our idea for the food outlet is to give people a better choice of foods," Perry said. "The outlet will also allow clients to shop for the foods they want. At a tailgate site, people are not given a choice of what foods they receive."

The outlet is one example of the need for the tribe to continue to improve and provide services to its members, said Deputy Chief J. Garland Eagle.

"I've always been proud of the food distribution program and the service it provides to our people," Eagle said. "If we work as a team we can get things accomplished like this outlet."

The outlet will be open on two Thursdays of the month from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The first Thursday will be set aside for clients with last names beginning with the letters A-L, and the second Thursday will be open for clients with last names beginning with the letters M-Z.

The first 30 minutes of each day will be set aside to serve only elderly clients with blue color-coded food distribution cards. They may also receive services during standard office hours.

The Stilwell facility will have a certification office for those clients who choose to use the new food outlet. Refrigeration systems for cheese and butter will also be available and the facility will have a full compliment of commodities available for clients. The outlet is located two blocks north of the intersection of Hwys. 100 and 59, at 321 S. Second St., in the back of the Water Office Building.

Standards for participation in the food distribution program are the same regardless of age, race, sex, color, national origin or handicaps.

Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any U.S. Department of Agriculture-related activity should write to the Administrator, Food and Nutrition Services, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.



DEPUTY CHIEF Garland Eagle looks over one of the many food items offered by the Cherokee Nation Food Distribution Program at the program's new food outlet in Stilwell. The outlet is the fourth one the program has opened in three years. It will serve food distribution clients in Adair County. (Photo by Sammy Still)



BRENDA ELDER, a nurse practitioner, consults with patient Joan Lazore as part of the Cherokee Nation Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. The program is available to Native American women who fit specific eligibility criteria.

Marrow donors needed

FROM PAGE 17

There is no cost for Native Americans to join the registry. People who sign up through the Native American Marrow Recruitment Project are automatically placed on the NMDP registry.

"Considering how difficult it is to find a bone marrow match there simply aren't enough Indian people to help those in need of help. We will enroll any minority but our efforts are concentrated on Indian people," Tonemah said. "That's why we go where Indian people are, including reservations, powwows, tribal offices or an IHS hospital. Anywhere there are Indian people gathered we try to get there."

A recruitment drive was held at the Cherokee Nation tribal complex in April. Special emphasis was placed on finding a match for a 16-year-old tribal member

from Arkansas. Sixty-four tribal employees and Talking Leaves Job Corps students volunteered to become potential bone marrow donors.

"We want to provide word of thanks to all the people who have helped, like the Cherokee Nation," Tonemah said. "Indian people are helping other Indian people. We couldn't do it without the help of tribes."

To register with American Indian Research and Development Inc., contact Stuart Tonemah or Donna Rhodes, recruitment coordinators, at (405) 364-5398. To register with the Tulsa Chapter of the American Red Cross call (918) 838-1100, or to register and for more information on becoming a bone marrow donor with the National Marrow Donor Program call 1 (800) MARROW-2.

Registration department processes numerous applications each month

The Cherokee Nation Registration Department processes more than 1,500 applications for Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) cards and tribal membership each month, as well as receiving numerous phone calls daily regarding the enrollment process for becoming a tribal member.

Before becoming a tribal member, an individual must obtain a CDIB card. CDIBs are issued by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) through the Cherokee Nation Registration Department.

To facilitate the process, Lela Ummerteskee, interim tribal registrar, recommends that individuals interested in obtaining tribal membership or CDIBs contact the registration office for an information packet. The packet contains application forms, instructions and useful information.

"Getting an information packet should be the first step an individual takes," Ummerteskee said. "It is important to follow the instructions and answer all the questions."

Registration department staff return approximately half of the applications they receive due to improper birth or death certificates. The application is sent back with instructions and the forms needed to order the correct, state certified photocopy of the original birth or death record from the state, Ummerteskee said. "Most people are not clear about the difference between a hospital or city or county certified record and a record from the highest state office level or the registrar."

To obtain a CDIB, applicants must know the roll number of an ancestor who was listed, with a blood degree, on the final rolls of the Cherokee Nation. This document, compiled between 1899-

1906, is often referred to as the Dawes Commission or Dawes Roll. The amount of Indian blood possessed by an applicant is determined from the nearest direct ancestor with Indian blood listed on the rolls.

"A client may come in person to the registration office to use a computer terminal to access the Dawes Rolls and search for names of possible relatives," Ummerteskee said. "Registration employees are available to assist clients with examining the rolls, although the staff is not equipped to do any research over the phone."

A CDIB application must be completed and returned, accompanied by the applicant's state certified birth certificate or delayed birth certificate, which links the applicant to his or her enrolled ancestor.

If a delayed birth certificate is submitted, additional documents may be required, such as an affidavit of personal knowledge and memory.

Applicants should submit all documents at the same time and may simultaneously submit an application for membership in the Cherokee Nation, which also is available at the registration office, located in the W.W. Keeler Tribal Complex.

"The waiting period for CDIBs has been reduced from two to three weeks to two to three days," said Ummerteskee. "The reason for the reduction time is that in 1993 CDIB signature authority was delegated to the tribal registrar. CDIBs can be signed on a daily basis instead of waiting to have the cards signed once or twice a week by the tribe's self-governance specialist. This prevents delays in the mail-out process."

The CDIB and tribal membership

cards are used to satisfy eligibility requirements for many of the programs and services offered by the Cherokee Nation, BIA and many local, state and national agencies, Ummerteskee said.

Currently, there are more than 179,000 registered members of the Cherokee Nation, second only to the Navajo Nation in population.

"Another concern of the registration office is the number of address changes that are not reported to the registration office," Ummerteskee said. "Approximately 11 percent of tribal members have either failed to report address changes or deaths of family members."

The registration department is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. There is no charge for the service or for membership in the tribe, Ummerteskee said.

For more information, write to Ummerteskee at the Cherokee Nation, Registration Department, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465, or call her at (918) 456-0671, ext. 315.

| CHEROKEE NATION OF OKLAHOMA | | | |
|---|---------------|----------|---------------|
| C000000 | 1/1/1988 | | |
| CHEROKEE REGISTRY NUMBER | DATE OF BIRTH | | |
| John James Doe | | | |
| NAME | | | |
| 123 Main St | | | |
| ADDRESS | | | |
| Tahlequah, OK | 74464 | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE | |
| This card shows the above named person is a certified member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma | | | |
| B. J. Affaire | | | 5/1/1988 |
| TRIAL REGISTRAR | | | DATE APPROVED |

| UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TAHLEQUAH AGENCY | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood | |
| This is to certify that <u>John James Doe</u> | |
| born <u>1/1/1988</u> | is <u>4/4</u> degree Indian blood |
| of the <u>Cherokee</u> | Tribe. |
| <u>5/1/1988</u> | <u>B. J. Affaire</u> |
| Date | Issuing Office |

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--------|
| YOUR NAME | Print or type--Last Name, First Name, Middle Name, Maiden Name | | D.O.B. |
| OLD ADDRESS | No. and Street, Apt., Suite, P.O. Box or R.D. No. | | |
| | City, State and Zip Code | | |
| NEW ADDRESS | No. and Street, Apt., Suite, P.O. Box or R.D. No. (In care of) | | |
| | City, State and Zip Code | | |
| YOUR SIGNATURE | Date New Address in effect | | |
| | Registration No. | | |
| Mail form with a copy of ID to: Cherokee Nation Registration Department P.O. Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 | | | |

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**. Notification must be in writing with proof of death, such as a death certificate, obituary or death affidavit signed by a family member, and sent along with the form (print or type) below. Mail the information to the Cherokee Nation Registration Department, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|------|--|
| Name of Deceased | | | |
| Address | | | |
| City | State | Zip | |
| D.O.B. for Deceased | | | |
| Date and Place of Death | | | |
| Signature of person reporting and relationship of deceased | Date | | |
| Address | | | |
| Signature of Notary | Commission Expires | Date | |

25th Annual Trail of Tears Art Show winners announced

Some of the nation's most renowned Native American artists displayed their works at the special benefit opening of the 25th Annual Trail of Tears Art Show June 15 at the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah.

The art show was dedicated to the memory of one of its greatest supporters, Boyce Timmons.

"Indian people are at a great loss with the passing of Boyce Timmons," said Cherokee Nation Tribal Councilman Harold DeMoss, who is president of the Cherokee National Historical Society. "Mr. Timmons was a



DANIEL HORSECHIEF, Cherokee/Pawnee, shows his oil painting entitled "Going Snake's Trail," the grand award winner in the 25th Annual Trail of Tears Art Show. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)

great help to the Cherokee Heritage Center."

Timmons' daughter, Alesha Moring, who serves on the Cherokee National Historical Society's Board of Directors, presented the artists with their awards after the public previewed the art. After the awards were presented, the public had the opportunity to buy the art on display in the Cherokee National Museum.

The grand award winner for 25th Trail of Tears Art Show was Daniel Horsechief for his oil painting "Going Snake's Trail."

The first place winners in five categories included: paintings, "Legend of Crazy Horse" an oil painting by Brad McLain; graphics, "Remembering the

Warrior Path" by Joseph Taylor; sculpture, "I Will Honor Your Life's Giving" by Ed Rackleff; trail theme, "The Beginning of the End" by Anita Caldwell Jackson; and miniatures, "The Stragglers" by Valjean McCarty Hessing.

The jurors for the show were Kevin Smith, Tulsa; Shirley Wells, Sapulpa, Okla.; and James Yearout, Harrah, Okla.

The Trail of Tears Art Show is held each year in an effort to preserve and promote the rich heritage of American Indians. In its 25-year history, the show has gained national attention and has grown from a show featuring local artists to one that now includes entries from the nation's best Indian artists.

CHEROKEE

NATIONAL



HISTORICAL

SOCIETY

P.O. Box 515, Tahlequah, OK 74465
(918) 456-6007

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Please check: New Member _____ Renewal Member _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| — Youth Membership | \$5 Annually |
| — Student Membership | \$15 Annually |
| — Regular Membership | \$30 Annually |
| — Family Membership | \$35 Annually |
| — Sustaining Membership | \$100 Annually |
| — Sequoyah Membership | \$500 Annually |
| — Chairman's Heritage Council | \$1,000 Annually |
| — Charter Archives Members | \$5,000 Annually |

PAYMENT OPTIONS

— Enclosed is my Check in the Amount of \$ _____

— Please bill my Credit Card for \$ _____

VISA/MasterCard/Discover/American Express

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature: _____

MEMBERS BENEFITS

All Members Receive a membership Certificate and Card
All Members Receive the Quarterly Newsletter, "The Columns."
All Members Receive a 10% Discount on Gift Shop Purchases
Your Membership Card Admits you to the Cherokee Nation Museum Year Round

GWY

TSA-LA-GI [Jah-Lah-Ghee]

is the Ancient Cherokee Word for "Cherokee." It is also the name for the Cherokee Heritage Center operated by the Cherokee National Historical Society. The Heritage Center includes the Cherokee National Museum, the theatre at TSA-LA-GI, the Ancient Village, and Adams corner Rural Museum Village.

ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIPS

YOUTH

Youth Members must be twelve years of age or younger.

STUDENT

Student Members must be currently enrolled in Junior or Senior High School or a College or University Undergraduate Program.

REGULAR

Regular Members may present their membership card to the Theatre Box Office and are entitled to a 10% discount on all "Trail of Tears" tickets purchased. Regular Members will receive invitations to all Society Events.

FAMILY

The immediate members of a family with a Family Membership will receive the same benefits as a Regular member and, when the entire family attends a performance of "Trail of Tears," they receive a 30% discount on tickets purchased.

SUSTAINING

A Sustaining Member receives a Season Pass to all Heritage Center exhibits and performances. \$70.00 of the Sustaining Membership may be claimed as a tax deductible contribution.

SEQUOYAH

A Sequoyah Member receives two Season Passes to all Heritage Center exhibits and performances. \$440.00 of the Sequoyah Membership may be claimed as a tax deductible contribution. Sequoyah Members receive a Cherokee Syllabary Scroll.

CHAIRMAN'S HERITAGE

Chairman's Heritage Council Members will receive complimentary seating for two at both Special Benefit Openings and two Season Passes to all Heritage Center exhibits and performances. \$915.00 of a Chairman's Heritage Council Membership may be claimed as a tax deductible contribution.

CHARTER ARCHIVES

Charter Archives Members will receive complimentary seating for immediate family members at both Special Benefit Openings and a Family Pass to all Heritage Center exhibits and performances. \$4,900.00 of a Charter Archives Membership may be claimed as a tax deductible contribution.

Exhibition provides views of the variety of Cherokee art and life

"Cherokee: The Fire Takers, Images of a Living Culture," an exhibition of the works of 23 contemporary Cherokee artists, will be on view in the newly-renovated Cherokee National Museum through the Cherokee National Holiday and closes Sept. 30.

The exhibition offers the public a variety of views of what it means to be Cherokee today. Common northeastern Oklahoma Cherokee roots and traditions are the foundation of each artist's discipline, which include painting, sculpture, pottery, basketmaking, carving, photography and mixed-media.

Eleven of the artists are women, 12 are men. Nineteen reside in Oklahoma, and 15 of those live in the Cherokee Nation historical boundaries. Four of the artists live outside the state.

Artists living in the state include Dorothy Sullivan, painter, of Norman; Mavis Doering, basketmaker, of Oklahoma City; Mary Stone, basketmaker, of Del City; Bill Rabbit, painter, of Pryor; Ed Rackleff, sculptor, of Claremore; Luther "Toby" Hughes, carver, and painters Franky Dreadfulwater, Wendell

See "FIRETAKERS" PAGE 21

CNHS acts as guardian to tribe's past

Every Indian tribe should have a means to preserve its history and culture, a way to keep the past alive to remind people today where they came from and who they are.

For the Cherokees, the Cherokee National Historical Society (CNHS) acts as the guardian of the tribe's past.

The organizations and activities created by CNHS are designed to make history more accessible to people interested in the rich history of the Cherokees.

CNHS was created in 1963 by individuals dedicated to the preservation of Cherokee history and culture, which included former Cherokee Nation Principal Chief W.W. Keeler and Col. Marty Hagerstrand (ret.).

The Cherokee Heritage Center is a result of the Historical Society's work. On the center grounds are the Cherokee National Museum, the Tsa-La-Gi Amphitheatre, where the Trail of Tears Drama is presented annually, the Tsa-La-Gi Ancient Village and the Adam's Corner Rural Village. CNHS also holds the Annual Trail of Tears Art Show to provide a showcase for Cherokee artists to display and sell their work.

For more information regarding CNHS, the Heritage Center or about becoming a member of the Historical Society, contact the Heritage Center at (918) 456-6007.

Cherokee artists, craftspeople sought for exhibit

The Cherokee Heritage Center and the Cherokee Nation are inviting Cherokee artists and craftspeople to take part in a unique exhibition entitled "Cherokee Homecoming."

The exhibit will be a continuation of "Cherokee: The Fire Takers - Images of a Living Culture" that opened in May, with 23 Cherokee artists, and can currently be seen in the newly-renovated Cherokee National Museum.

The second exhibition will begin Aug. 29 and continue until Sept. 30.

During the Cherokee National Holiday, the exhibits will be showcased in four locations in the Tahlequah area including

the Cherokee National Museum.

"We not only want artisans from the 14-county area, we also want state, regional and national participation in this exhibition," said Mac Harris, executive director of the Cherokee National Historical Society. "During the 44th Cherokee National Holiday, artisans can share their talent with their fellow artists as well as provide inspiration for new artists."

To participate in the exhibition, artists must complete an entry form, and include a copy of their Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card.

Artists living locally may deliver their artwork to the Cherokee Heritage Center,

Wednesday, Aug. 14 through Monday, Aug. 19. Artwork will be accepted from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., each day.

Entries from artists living outside the Cherokee Nation 14-county jurisdictional area may ship their work. All entries must be postmarked by Wednesday, Aug. 14. Artists are limited to three entries.

The names of Cherokee artists who participate in the exhibition will be placed in a data base listing Cherokee artists, Harris said.

For more information, contact the Cherokee Heritage Center at (918) 456-6007, or the Cherokee Nation at 456-0671, ext. 545.

Five Civilized Tribes Museum holds 30th Annual art show

For the second consecutive year, Anita Caldwell Jackson won the "Best of Show" award in the Five Civilized Tribes Museum's 30th annual competitive art show in Muskogee July 7.

Jackson, an art instructor in the Kiowa, Okla., school system received the award for her acrylic painting "A-Maize-ing Grace." She also won second place in the painting category for her mixed-media acrylic "Together As One."

Other winners were Choctaw/Seminole artist Brian Larney of Dallas. He received the Grand Heritage Award for his watercolor entry "Alickchi." The award encourages artists to preserve Five Civilized Tribes history, culture and art. He also won first place in graphics for his work "Tolih."

Cherokee artist Dorothy Sullivan received the Southeastern Wildlife Award for her acrylic entry titled "Heart Song." The award is used to promote quality of wildlife in the Southeastern United States. Sullivan lives in Norman, Okla.

Cherokee artist Gary Hummingbird, of Dallas, won the Cecil Dick Award for his painting, "Medicine Maker." The award is presented to the artist whose work best exemplifies the painting style of the late Cherokee artist.

Creek/Seminole artist Anthony Mitchell of Tulsa took first place in the miniature category with

entries titled "The Dawning" and "Owl Legend."

Sherry Lynn Brown, of Weir, Kan., took first place in sculpture/woodcarving with her earthenware entry "At the Stomp."

George Kountoupis, artist and instructor, judged the show. Kountoupis studied at the University of Oklahoma and Frank Reilly School of Art in New York.

The show was made possible with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council.



ANITA CALDWELL Jackson, left, received the "Best of Show" award at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum's 1996 Competitive Art Show in Muskogee. Presenting the award to Jackson is Ruth Hall, center, member of the board of directors for the Five Civilized Tribes Museum and art committee chairman and Lynn Thornley, executive director of the museum. (Photo by Sammy Still)

DOROTHY TINCUP MAULDIN
GENEALOGIST AND PUBLISHER OF
CHEROKEE RESEARCH MATERIAL

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"MOTIFS OF Long Ago on My Circular Canvas," pottery by Bill Glass Jr., is the first work of art visitors see in "Firetakers: Images of a Living Culture," on view at the Cherokee Heritage Center through Sept. 30.

Cherokee artisans sought to participate in open-air markets

The Cherokee Economic and Business Development Department is seeking Cherokee artists and craftspeople to participate in three upcoming open-air markets.

The first open-air market will be held at the Cherokee Square in Tahlequah from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 17. A second one will be held at the Tahlonteskee Museum at Gore, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 28, and the final one at the Pelican Festival in Grove, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29.

Cherokee artists who participate in the open-air markets will be placed in a data base listing Cherokee artists.

For more information, contact the Cherokee Nation Economic and Business Development Department at (918) 456-0671, ext. 545.

Heritage Center developing quilt exhibition

The Cherokee Heritage Center is developing a new exhibition tentatively titled "Threads of Time: Our Collective Memory Through Quilts of the Cherokee Nation."

The collective memory of the Cherokee people is expressed in many ways. One of those is through the loving care taken by hundreds of Cherokee women who made or are making families warm.

Wedding ring, log-cabin and star are just a few examples of quilt patterns done in tradi-

tional quilt making.

"We are requesting assistance in locating historically-timed quilts, from the 14-county area in the Cherokee Nation," said Mac Harris, executive director of the Cherokee Heritage Center. "We need approximately 20 to 30 quilts to make the exhibition."

For more information, write to Mac Harris, executive director, Cherokee Heritage Center, P.O. Box 515, Tahlequah, OK 74465, or phone (918) 456-6007.

"Firetakers" on view at Heritage Center FROM PAGE 20

Cochran and Webster Grayson, all of Tahlequah; Thomas Muskrat, carver, of Stilwell; Daniel Horsechief, sculptor, and Mary Adair, painter, of Sallisaw; Bill Glass Jr., potter and sculptor, and Brooks Henson, painter, of Locust Grove; Jane Osti, potter, and Anna Mitchell, potter, of Vinita; Mary Forman, basketmaker, of Oaks; Sam Kidd, painter, of Muldrow; and John Walkingstick, painter, of Broken Arrow.

Artists who live out of state include Joe Martin Cantrell, photographer, of Portland, Ore.; Joanna Osburn-Bigfeather, sculptor, of New York City; Dorothy Strait, painter, of Apache Junction, Ariz.; and Kay Walkingstick, painter, of Ithaca, N.Y.

The artists and their works of art were selected in secret ballots by members of the Advisory Curatorial Committee, coordinated by curator Sara Bates, a Cherokee artist and instructor of Native American Studies at San Francisco State University.

The Cherokee National Museum is located on the Heritage Center grounds on Willis Road, 3 miles south of Tahlequah off of Highway 62 east.

For more information, write to the Cherokee Heritage Center, P.O. Box 515, Tahlequah, OK 74465, or phone (918) 456-6007.



Tribe's Individual Indian Monies Department seeking account holders

The Cherokee Nation Individual Indian Monies Department is seeking current addresses for the following individuals.

Individual Indian Monies (IIM) are funds collected from restricted Indian lands or from per capita payments.

The per capita payments

include the 1963 Cherokee per capita payment made to the original enrollees, the 1977 and 1982 Delaware per capita payments, and the 1978 and 1988 Shawnee per capita payments.

If you know an addresses or any information on any of these IIM account holders, please send a letter to the IIM Department,

Cherokee Nation, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

The letter needs to include the full name of the account holder, the date of birth and the current address.

All address changes or account inquiries must be submitted in writing.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Acorn, John | Bluejacket, Jesse R. | Coates, Michael A. | Drum, Christopher D. | Henderson, Thomas A. Jr. |
| Acorn, Levi | Bluejacket, Vickie J. | Cochran, Harold H. Jr. | Drum now Grimmer, Corrina | Henson, Carrie C. |
| Acorn, Lizzie | Bontrager, Ladonna J. | Cochran, Nichollette C. | Dunn, Max T. | Henson, Emily H. |
| Acorn, Robert | Boone, Ashley P. | Colbert, Kerry L. | Durborow, Darren L. | Henson, Hollis J. |
| Adair, Carol | Boone, Curtis | Coleman, Robin L. | Edwards, Stephenie M. | Hernandez, Janessa L. |
| Adair, Jerald D. | Boone, Kirk | Collins, Edward H. | Elliott, Christopher M. | Hildebrandt, Michael W. |
| Adair, Joe | Booth, Emily Helena M. | Collins, Michael D. | Elliott, David W. | Hodgdon, Jennifer R. |
| Adair, Marshalene | Booth, Jesse D. | Conliffe, Patricia L. | Ellis, Andrea L. | Hogner, Ned E. |
| Adair, Shirley S. | Booth, Michelle | Connolly, Nicole S. | Emerson, Jason E. | Holcomb, Nicole R. |
| Addington, Damian J. | Bourne, Gaberial B. | Connor, Amy L. | Ezell, Jennifer A. | Holley, Jimmie M. |
| Addington, Michael D. | Bourne, Katrina C. | Conti, Christopher M. | Favinger, Ryan D. | Holt, Ralph A. Jr. |
| Akright, Andrea M. | Bourne, Nathan E. | Conti, Jessica L. | Fay, Elisa R. | Holt, Tania S. |
| Alleck now Schraier, Ramona J. | Boyette, Kerlin M. | Cook, Charity M. | Fields, Johnathon V. | Honeycutt, Shawn D. |
| Allen now Vall, Blanch | Bradford, Tonia A. Jr. | Cook, Gerry D. | Fish, David A. | Horn, Ben |
| Alley, Charles | Brewer, Jessalynn M. | Cook, Steven R. | Floyd, Lance A. | Horn, Melvin G. |
| Alley, Stacy | Brewer, Vernon | Cooper, Jason G. | Ford, Cora | Hudson, John C. |
| Andersen, Carrie L. | Bridges, Cheryl L. | Couch, James E. | Ford, Dustin H. | Hudson, Shawn P. |
| Andersen, Ryan R. | Bridges, Glena G. | Cousins, Randy M. | Ford, Nadine | Hulsey, John M. |
| Arnold, Stetson W. | Briscoe, Crystal L. | Crawford, Carlos E. | Foster, Michael D. | Hummingbird now Lynd, |
| Atwood, Dana A. | Broadus, Alicia L. | Creed, Misty | Foster, Robert M. | Maggie B. |
| Atwood, John W. | Brown, Anthony | Curtis, Dani L. | French, Lee | Hunt, Sherri M. |
| Austin, Hellen J. | Brown, Clinton P. | Daniel, Thomas R. | Fuller, Larry G. Jr. | Hunt, Tracy L. |
| Austin now Gulley, Beatrice | Brown, Keisha M. | Daugherty, Darlena J. | Gailey, Colin J. | Hunt, William H. |
| Baker, Beverly | Brown, Martha | Daugomah, Bobby L. Jr. | Garcia, Malena R. | Hunter, Joseph A. |
| Baker, Glenn | Brown, Phyllis | Daugomah, Samantha M. | Gathright, Robert G. | Hurst, Tonya L. |
| Baker, Linda | Bullette, Samuel T. | Davenport, Rodney C. Jr. | Gilliam, Randi K. | Hutchinson, Phillip L. |
| Baker, Mark | Bullette, Sarah L. | David, Debbie | Glendenning, Effie L. | Hyatt, Billie |
| Baker, Sandra | Bunch, Amy M. | Davis, Brandon L. | Glory now Ladd, Anna F. | Hyatt, Patricia |
| Barker, Matthew R. | Bunch, Curtis | Davis, Dawn | Goad, Kristi L. | Hyatt, Rickie |
| Barnes, John D. | Bunch now Johnson, Louetta | Davis, Erika L. | Goad, Misti D. | Hyatt, Russell S. |
| Barnes, Kelly R. | Buoy, Eric | Davis, Jennifer R. | Golden, April J. | James, Matthew M. |
| Barnett, Sheila A. | Burnett, Marjorie | Davis, Lindsey R. | Gonzales, Gerri L. | James, Tommy A. |
| Barraza, Vanessa L. | Burtram, Cutris W. | Davis, Mystee L. | Gray, Amber | Johnson, Anthony |
| Barrera, Daniel M. | Busey, Roy H. | Davis, Ruby R. | Greywolf, Tanara V. | Johnson, Darla L. |
| Barrett, Dwayne A. | Butler, Jason N. | Dawson, George B. | Griego, Levi J. | Johnson, Gerald D. |
| Barton, Amy C. | Butterfield, Christie M. | Dawson, Jewel | Griffith, Melenda | Johnson, Jeremiah J. |
| Barton, Douglas W. II | Buttram, Kenneth I. | Day, Charles | Gritts, Winford J. | Johnson, Michael T. |
| Barton, Randall P. | Buttram, Lacey A. | Daylight, Kimberly | Gritts, Zeke C. | Johnson, Paul B. |
| Batt now Hagle, Nellie J. | Buttram, Mary L. | Deen, Benjamin T. | Grohman, Kurt G. | Johnson, Scott F. |
| Batt now Smith, Flora A. | Buttram, Tamera A. | Deen, Eric B. | Gunter, Joshua L. | Johnson, Shila E. |
| Beeman, Myra L. | Buttram, Tina M. | Deen, Jennifer D. | Haff, Arin L. | Johnston, Donald H. |
| Beeman, Norman D. II | Byrd, Dee | Delmont, Steven C. | Haff, Kyle S. | Jones, Charley |
| Bensley, William E. III | Carpenter, Jox C. | Dempsey, Harlan R. | Haff, Nathan L. | Jones, Tiffany L. |
| Berry, Christopher D. | Carpenter, June C. | Denning, Jason D. | Hager, Jeremy L. | Jones, Timothy M. |
| Bierschied, Tiffany M. | Carpenter, Meredith J. | Dianna, Brian K. | Hair, Robert A. | Jordan, James F. Jr. |
| Bingham, Brian D. | Carpenter, Michael S. | Dianna, Joseph V. | Hair now Baldwin, Norma J. | Kahler, Chad C. |
| Bingham, Sarah M. | Carr, Tuskin L. | Dick, Jennifer R. | Hale, Toni | Keener, Unich |
| Blackmon, James S. | Cason, Michelle D. | Dick, Tali N. | Hallisey, Daniel T. | Keith, Brandon W. |
| Blalock, Johnna B. | Cates, Meranda L. | Dickerson, Georgia | Hampton, John M. | Kerr, Justin W. |
| Blanchard, Reuben C. Jr. | Chase, Rhonda L. | Dirteater, Franklin | Hampton, Mary L. | Kerr, Stephen J. |
| Bleecker, Chad M. | Christie, Jack | Dirteater now Martin, Jodie | Hampton, Millie S. | Ketchum, Joseph B. |
| Blevens, Ryan L. | Christie, Henry Jr. | Dixon, Ursula | Hampton, Tonya S. | Ketchum, Pauline M. |
| Blount, Sarah A. | Clark, Allison M. | Domres, Christina L. | Hancock, Matthew L. | Ketchum, Roy E. |
| Bluebird now Whitaker, Ella M. | Clark, Christopher J. | Doran, Shawn | Haney, Kutcha J. | King, Corbin F. |
| Bluejacket, Alicia A. | Clark, Claire M. | Downing, Ethel | Hardee, Bettie L. | King, Donna L. |
| Bluejacket, Don L. | Cline, April M. | Downing, Richard | Harley, Diana J. | King, Henriette P. |
| Bluejacket, Jamie E. | Clingan, Melissa J. | Downing now Owens, Wilma | Harper, Nickolas | King, Susie |
| | | | Harren, Luke A. | Klotz, Christina A. |
| | | | Harrington, Kendra A. | Kyler, James J. |
| | | | Hart, Walter | Lane, Amy M. |
| | | | Hayes, Amanda J. | Lane, David M. |
| | | | Hayes, Melissa S. | Lankford, Dearly G. Jr. |
| | | | Hayhurst, Joshua R. | Lankford, Eric W. |
| | | | Haynie, Ashley A. | Lankford, Michelle D. |
| | | | Heller, Daniel S. | Lankford, Stephen A. |
| | | | Heller, Sarah E. | Larson, Annette M. |

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Address changes, account inquiries must be submitted in writing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Lawson, David Jr. | Nahlen, Billie J. | Robertson, Amos | Steelman, Bethany Leigh | Walker, Kristina L. |
| Layton, Russell W. | Nail, Doren E. | Robinson, David P. | Stewart, Andrea E. | Walker, Walter A. |
| Layton, Staci L. | Nail, James R. | Roblyer, David M. | Stewart, Laura A. | Walker now Christie, Virginia |
| Leaf, Bobby | Newcomb, Nina | Roch, Stephanie L. | Stilley, Raymond A. | Walker now Hobart, Juanita L. |
| Lee, Betty G. | Newcomb Jones, Carolyn A. | Rodgers, Kevin R. | Stock, Donovan P. | Wallace, Bridgette M. |
| Lee, Wallace E. III | Newstrom, Misty M. | Rodman, Jeffrey W. | Strickland, Desiree M. | Waltrip, Justin E. |
| Leflore, Jimmy | Nipper, Tiffany Ann | Rodman, Lisa A. | Strickland, Glenn D. | Ware, Charles W. |
| Lippert, Rebecca M. | Nusser, Gerald Leon | Rogers, Dawes W. G. | Sullateskee now Hair, Polly | Warren, Christopher M. |
| Little, Eva E. | Nusser, Isac Jr. | Rogers, Joyce A. | Sunday, Henry | Washington, Justin W. II |
| Little, Francine P. | Nusser, Lisa D. | Ross, Carl Eugene jr. | Swearingin, Jeanna Lou R. | Watson, Malia S. |
| Long, Kristen N. | Nusser, Rosalyn L. | Russell, Jackie | Swimmer, Lucy | Webb, Micco P. |
| Long, Sean L. | O'Degard, Janelle A. | Russell, Robert | Tagg now Wilson, Kelly | Welch, Jimmy |
| Love, Everett | O'Donnell, Leo | Rutherford, Mark D. | Tanner, Lila | Welch, Mary J. |
| Lowe, Keri Bess M. | Oliver, Mariss L. | Ryall, Elizabeth C. | Tate, Joshua G. | Welch, Thomas S. |
| Lowe, Kristi E. M. | Oliver, Robert Daniel | Ryall, Rachel A. | Tate, Ruth A. | Whistler, Caitlyn R. |
| Lowrey, Nichole R. | Owens, Terri D. | Ryan, Deja U. | Taube, Gabriel A. | White, Beatrice |
| Lowry, Dick Iv. | Pace-rodman, Annur G. | Sam, Leonard | Taube, Rhiannon D. | White, Rachel M. |
| Lyle, Travis L. | Pann, Richard | Sanchez, Jose J. Jr. | Taylor, Alvin D. | White, Roland E. |
| Lyons, Natalie J. | Pannell, Alex | Sapp, Vivian J. | Taylor, Billy D. | Wilburn, Shauna N. |
| Mader, Jacqueline R. | Panther, John P. | Schafer, Julie A. | Taylor, Jewett H. | William, John |
| Madison, David L. J. | Perkins, David | Scott, Justin A. | Taylor, Johnny L. | Williams, Clayton L. |
| Madison, Tracey D. | Perry, HW | Scott, Lacie | Taylor, William H. | Williams, Dennis W. |
| Magill, Mike | Perry, Sylvia J. | Scuggins, Leanne J. | Teaney, Christine L. | Williams, Elizabeth A. |
| Maker, Jamie M. | Petek, Natalie A. | Scullawl, Shelley R. | Teaney, Rebecca A. | Williams, Jason E. |
| Malone, Robert L. | Pevehouse, Crystal L. | Seamer, George C. | Teeter, Shelby L. | Williams, Virginia A. |
| Mannon now Soap, Lucille | Phillips, Frank W. Jr. | Seamer, Julie A. | Thomas, Elizabeth R. | Williamson, Jodie L. |
| Marshall, Melissa A. | Phillips, Johnny Ray | Sereduk, Kenneth Joe A. | Thomas, Jessica L. | Williamson, Johnny C. |
| Marshall, Verda | Phillips, Kimberly A. | Serkowski, Patricia K. | Thomas, Trevor P. | Willingham, Daisy M. |
| Martin, Gabriel T. | Phillips, Lloyd D. Jr. | Sevick, Laura G. | Thomson, Candice | Willis, Mrs. H. B. |
| Martin, John Allen | Phillips, Tracy M. | Shambles, Shawna L. | Thomson, Cassandra A. | Wilson, Charlene |
| Martin, Seth T. | Pierson, Conrad J. | Shockey, Marsha A. | Thomson, Chadrick R. | Wilson, Phillip A. |
| Martin, Sherree M. | Pierson, Troy A. | Shockey, Paula J. | Thomson, Harold E. | Wilson, Ronald J. |
| Martin, Travis S. | Pierson, Troy A. | Shoemaker, Jimmy | Thunderwolf, Nakoda S. | Wilson, Timothy L. |
| Mason, Michael D. | Pittman, Russell, G. | Shokouhi, Shirley D. | Tiblow, Judas R. | Wilson now Allen, Marion |
| Mastain, Nickalas A. | Porter, Jason P. | Shonka, Edward J. III | Todd, George W. | Winder Brown, Anita |
| McConnell, Earl J. | Porter, Jeremy B. | Shores, Lisa M. | Todd, Regina M. | Wing, David G. |
| McConnell now Johnson, Juanita | Porter, Sean D. | Simmons, Thomas F. | Toliver, Jake | Wofford, Herman J. |
| McCoy, Matthew | Pressley, Leroy | Simpson, Melissa L. | Tollett, Gregory J. | Wolf, Christy M. |
| McCoy now Owens, Cherokee | Prestin, Eva M. | Six, M.C. | Tompkins, Heather T. | Wolfe, Rudolph A. |
| McCrery Latisha A. | Pritchett, Caroline | Six now Walker, Nellie | Toney now Rattler, Lala | Wolff, Emily E. |
| McCune, Mindy J. | Pritchett, J.T. | Smart, Irvin S. Jr. | Trinajstick, Stephen F. | Womack, Brandon R. |
| McDonald, Barry L. | Pritchett, Jim T. | Smith, Frederick | Tsosie, Jessica R. | Womack, Zachary L. |
| McDougal, Donna | Pritchett, Odell | Smith, Georgia I. | Van Dyke, Casey M. | Woolery, Tonya M. |
| McDougall, Donna | Pritchett, Tom | Smith, Gregory I. | Vann, John | Wyatt, Betty V. |
| McGehee, Erin K. | Proctor, Jackson (Jack) | Smith, Harold W. | Vardeman now Kearns, Esther | Wyly now White, Mary |
| McMillian, Theron J. | Purcell, Elsie M. | Smith, Hershel | Vasquez, Robert J. | Wyrick, Pearl |
| Meneley, Christal L. | Purcell, Karla A. | Smith, Jami L. | Vaughn, Gregory A. | Ybarra, David E. |
| Merrell, Clarke C. | Pyle, Beverly L. | Smith, Joe D. | Vaughn, Justin S. | Young, Claudine |
| Merrill, Misty G. | Quinton, Mack | Smith, Katherine S. | Vaughn, Leo | Young, Jessie A. |
| Meyer, Karl J. | Raines, Rachel A. | Smith, Travis R. | Vincent, Pamela | Young, John C. |
| Miller, Benjamin S. | Rainey, Luther | Smith now Nogle, Michael J. | Walker, Craig | Young, Joshua C. |
| Miller, Brian C. | Rainey, O'Dell | Snell, Charles W. | Walker, Elizabeth A. | Young, Susan A. |
| Miller, Charla A. | Rantissi, Fatima M. | Snell, Douglas W. | | |
| Miller, Roy Wm. Dee | Rawlinson, Sarah E. | Snell, Eli Jr. | | |
| Miller, Shawn E. | Ray, Heather M. | Snow, Bobby B. | | |
| Mills, Andrew | Ray, Kristy L. | Snyder, James M. | | |
| Mixwater now Carey, Mary | Reheard, Eric G. | Soap, Annie M. | | |
| Morikone, Jennifer D. | Reich, Jeremy | Soap, Crawford | | |
| Morrison, Jesse L. | Reid, Emily K. | Som, Derek J. | | |
| Morrison, Minski | Reynolds, Aron C. | Song, Lisa M. | | |
| Morrison, Pearl P. | Reynolds, Bron H. | Spears, Natalie A. | | |
| Morrow, Arlo J. | Reynolds, Cale E. | Squirrel, Joseph | | |
| Morton, Sam | Rhinehart, Joshua W. | Stacy, Joshua E. | | |
| Mouse, George | Rice, Daniel S. | Stand, Tammy Jo | | |
| Mouse, Kate L. | Riter, Kenna K. | Stand, Tiffany G. | | |
| Mueller, Jeremiah M. | Roach, Amos C. | Starrett, Brac L. | | |
| Murphy, Jane M. | Roberts, Cameron B. | Starrett, Erica R. | | |

If you have information on any of these account holders, send a letter to the IIM Department, Cherokee Nation, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465. The letter needs to include the full name of the account holder, the date of birth and the current address.

All address changes or account inquiries must be submitted in writing.

Cherokee Nation tribal election reform moving steadily forward

In response to the controversies surrounding the Cherokee Nation tribal election last summer, Principal Chief Joe Byrd called for election reform last fall which is steadily moving forward.

He requested input from tribal members and received numerous comments regarding election reform. These election reform comments and suggestions were ranked and have been put in motion.

The priority was a permanent office with permanent staff. Chief Byrd put this in place in October of 1995. With permanent staff in place, the tribal council approved ongoing voter registration last February which allows tribal members, 18 and over, to register to vote year-round. Voters also can make address or precinct changes anytime.

Computer hardware and software for an independent voter data base also has been approved by tribal leaders. The new system will be separate from the tribal registration membership data base.

As requested by many tribal members, the chief and council have approved new photo identification voting cards. Tribal election services will release information on the photo ID cards later. The tribe is considering the acquisition of voting machines with automatic tabulation capabilities.

Automated Election Services, a company with a proven track record in handling tribal elections, has been contacted

for assistance in this area.

The Cherokee Nation Tribal Election Office has moved from the Cherokee courthouse to the old Cherokee National Prison but will move again soon.

The future location will provide easy access to tribal

members to meet with election office staff, according to Margaret Riney, tribal elections services manager.

Tribal members with questions or comments may call tribal election services at 1 (800) 353-2895 or (918) 458-5899.

Attention: Cherokee Tribal Members

"When I was elected to the office of Principal Chief, I made a promise to you to seek reform of the tribal election laws so that each eligible voter would have the opportunity to vote for the candidates of his or her choice. In order to achieve election reform, I asked for your ideas and suggestions, and I want to thank you for sharing your views. Now, it is time for the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council to begin the process of election reform. Wa-do!"

--Principal Chief Joe Byrd



A YOUTH Advisory Group has been formed to lend support to the tribe's voter registration campaign. Assisting in the effort are, seated, from left, Andrea Henson, summer youth intern; chair of the group, tribal councilmember Chuck Hoskin, Dist. 9, Craig and Nowata Counties; and Teresa Jones, tribal youth council. Standing are, from left, Woody Eubanks, summer youth intern; Julie Deerinwater, Healthy Nation intern; Christy Crittenden, tribal services staff; Shannon Wacoche and Jennifer Hayes, summer youth interns. Not pictured are Tammy Hammer, tribal youth council and co-chair and tribal councilmember Barbara Conness, Dist. 5, Delaware and Ottawa Counties. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)

Why do you think people should register to vote?



JENNIE TERRAPIN
MISS CHEROKEE 1984-85

"As individuals we have a right to state our own opinions. We also have that right through the U.S. and Tribal Constitutions to select the candidate that we want and can be proud. We have the freedom to make that choice. I feel this is why everyone should take part in registering to vote and be involved in the voting process."

Let your voice be heard:
VOTE!



TERESA SHOEMAKER-TACKETT
MISS CHEROKEE 1985-86
MISS INDIAN
OKLAHOMA 1986-87

"Citizens should register to vote because each person's vote affects their local, state and national governments. When you vote, you are telling the decision makers what is important in your area, whether it be in health care, education or social programs. We are the ones that make that decision. That is why it's important that each individual register to vote, so our voices can be heard."



LISA TRICE
MISS CHEROKEE 1986-87
MISS INDIAN
OKLAHOMA 1993-94
7TH NATIONAL
MISS INDIAN USA 1994-95

"People should register to vote, not only to have a voice, but it is their duty and responsibility as a U.S. citizen."



JOLYN CAREY-ROSE
MISS CHEROKEE 1989-90
MISS INDIAN
OKLAHOMA 1991-92
6TH NATIONAL
MISS INDIAN USA 1992-93

"It is our right, as citizens of the United States, to have our vote count. It is our responsibility, as Indian people, to have our voices heard. Now is the time for all of us to vote and continue to make a difference for our children."

VOTE • VOTE



TONNETTE
MOUSE-HUMMINGBIRD
MISS CHEROKEE 1990-91

"People should exercise their right to participate in the election process, because leaders at all levels of government impact many areas of everyone's life from taxation to medical treatment."



Tribe continuing with major voter registration drive

A major voter registration drive was organized by the Cherokee Nation last winter to get more people registered to vote in primary and general elections, and to establish a larger voice for the Cherokee Nation in the state and beyond.

According to Phyllis Chaffin, one of the coordinators for the drive, more than 700 people have been registered since February of this year.

"It's important for Cherokee tribal members to register and to vote after they register because we need to make our voices heard," said Principal Chief Joe

Byrd when he kicked off the drive in February. "If we don't get our people registered and educated about voting, we are going to get left behind."

The drive has been extensive, covering the tribe's 14-county jurisdictional area. Cherokee Nation staff have met with most of the election board secretaries from the 14-county area and are networking with Republican and Democratic parties in each county.

State Election Board Secretary Lance Ward pledged his support of the drive and praised the tribe's "excellent

and well-done plan" for getting people registered.

One of the measures being taken to get people registered is to identify staff people in tribal facilities, such as clinics and field offices, to register people. Another is to attend and set up voter registration booths at special events.

Several advisory groups have also been formed to assist and lend support

to the campaign. A tribal council group along with educational, youth and elder groups have their own committees concentrating on getting people registered.

Information on candidate platforms and issues will be provided to Cherokee tribal members in the coming months to keep them informed, said Diane Kelley, special assistant to the chief, who is coordinating the voter registration drive.



LENDING SUPPORT to the tribe's voter registration campaign, elders from throughout the area have formed an elder advisory group. Elders looking over voter registration material, seated, from left, are Tribal Councilman Sam Ed Bush, Dist. 3, Sequoyah County and Virgil Holcomb of Tahlequah. Standing, from left, are Jean Glass of Leach, and Fannie Jane Livingston and Elizabeth Brickey, both of Muskogee. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)

Registering Voters in Oklahoma

Oklahomans may apply to register to vote or change their registration by completing a voter registration application. It must be mailed or returned to the State or County Election Board more than 24 days before an election to be eligible to vote in that election.

Anyone may provide voter registration applications and assistance. Persons eligible to register are Oklahoma residents who are U.S. citizens, are 18 years old or older and have not had their voting rights taken away.

- Do:**
- Use official voter registration applications available from any election board.
 - Have the applicant complete, date and personally sign the application.
 - Have each completed application postmarked and or delivered to the State or County Election Board more than 24 days before an election.

- Do Not:**
- Hold or accumulate completed applications.
 - Allow an application to be postmarked or delivered to the State or County Election Board after the 24-day deadline.
 - Assist an application without providing a name and address where indicated at the bottom of the application.
 - Offer anything of value to induce unregistered persons to register.

Voter identification cards will be mailed to persons whose applications are approved by the local County Election Board. Rejection notices will be mailed to persons whose applications are not approved. Voter identification cards for valid applications received within 24 days of an election will be mailed after the election.

For more information call (918) 456-0671, ext. 344.

Upcoming elections and voter registration deadlines for local, state and national elections

Primary Election/Special Election - Tuesday, August 27

Runoff Primary Election/Special Election - Tuesday, September 17

Voter registration forms should be postmarked by August 23 to vote in runoff/special elections.

General Election/Special Election - Tuesday, November 5

Voter registration forms should be postmarked by October 11 to vote in general/special elections.

Voter Registration Questions & Answers

Q: Can anyone register voters in Oklahoma?

A: Anyone can have and distribute voter registration applications. Only the County Election Board Secretary can approve or reject applications.

Q: Can a group or organization conduct voter registration drives?

A: Anyone--including candidate and members of political organizations--can have and distribute applications, assist individuals to complete the applications and mail or deliver applications to the State or County Election Board.

Q: I have a business. Can I have applications for my customers and people who walk in?

A: Anyone can have and distribute applications. A business may request a supply of applications from the local election board.

Q: Where can I get voter registration applications?

A: County Election Boards have some applications. Large quantities are available from the State Election Board. Permission can be requested to print the application to official specifications.

Q: How and where should applications be returned?

A: Applications may be mailed to the address on the application or delivered to the State or County Election Board.

Q: Can several applications be mailed or delivered in a batch?

A: Yes, but there will be no postmark on each application; therefore, each must be received by the State or County Election Board more than 24 days before an election to be valid for that election. Applications for several counties should be delivered to the State Election Board. Applications for a single county may be delivered to that county's election board.

Q: What if a batch of applications dated before the deadline is delivered to the State or County Election Board after the deadline?

A: Those applications will be not be approved for the immediate election but, if otherwise valid, will be approved for subsequent elections.

Q: If an application is postmarked more than 24 days before an election but not received by the State or County Election Board until after the deadline, will it be valid for that election?

A: Yes, if the applicant is otherwise eligible.

Q: Can we earn money?

A: No compensation is authorized except to motor license agencies.

For more information, call (918) 456-0671, ext. 344.

Microsoft contributes more than \$350,000 in software

New partnership to bring computer technology to remote Indian schools

Calling it "a tremendous step forward in addressing the needs of technologically needy students on remote Indian reservations," Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt recently announced that Microsoft Corporation has contributed more than \$350,000 in software, computers and cash to Four Directions, a project of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) that will electronically link Indian schools using the Internet and provide new technology opportunities to Native American students in eight states.

"Microsoft's donation will bring the power of the Internet to tribal communities that have been geographically and economically isolated," Babbitt said. "This program will supply rich new resources to the children in these communities, powerful new tools to the teachers in these formerly isolated schools, and new communications opportunities for adults throughout their communities. These communities will have the tools and skills to participate more fully in the information age."

Four Directions is a BIA project designed to bring technology to Indian schools. It seeks to expand student access to technology, improve communication among BIA schools, share learning resources and expose the wider community to new technologies.

"We view this as an opportunity to



ADA DEER, assistant secretary for Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, left, Bruce Babbitt, secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, center, and Bill Neukom, senior vice president for law and corporate affairs, Microsoft Corporation, announce a new partnership to bring computer technology to Indian schools.

share the latest technology with students who otherwise might have little or no access," said Bill Neukom, Microsoft's senior vice president for law and corporate Affairs.

He added: "Four Directions will help students, teachers, and the broader communities in which they live. At Microsoft, we understand the potential of the personal computer and the Internet, but we also understand that

some communities do not have access to these technologies."

Microsoft will provide software, computers and cash to fund teacher training in eight pilot schools. Project goals include connecting teachers in the pilot schools around the country with one another to share learning resources, lesson plans and advice.

"The Four Directions Project has the potential to transform teaching and learn-

ing in schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and those public schools educating American Indian children," Gilbert Sanchez, from the Pueblo of Laguna, lead local education agency for the project, said. "Significant learning will occur when technology, Indian culture, language and subject matter is integrated holistically."

The Four Directions pilot schools are: Dilcon Boarding School, Winslow, Ariz.; Ahfachkee Day School, Clewiston, Fla.; Indian Island School, Old Town, Maine; Hannahville Indian School, Wilson, Mich.; Fond du Lac Education Division, Cloquet, Minn.; Laguna Middle School, Laguna, N.M.; Takini School, Howes, S.D.; Quileute Tribal School, La Push, Wash.

"As a former educator with a deep attachment to Indian students everywhere, I am very pleased to see Microsoft providing this hardware, software and training for teachers in these eight remote Indian school," Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Ada Deer said. "These young people deserve the tools to be able to compete in the 21st century, and I look forward to hearing of their progress working with the Internet and being able to enrich their lives through communication with other students, teachers and experts throughout the country and the world."

McCain finds common ground between tribal leaders, adoptive families

U.S. Sen. John McCain (R.-Ariz.) commended tribal leaders and attorneys for adoptive families who recently forged a compromise agreement on proposed amendments to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 that were the focus of a hearing June 26 of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

"The witnesses described a year-

long process of negotiation that has produced draft amendments that the Indian tribes say protect and enhance tribal sovereignty and the adoption advocates say provide the certainty, speed and stability they seek," said McCain. "Everyone agrees that the best interests of the Indian children involved will be served by the compromise."

The amendments would guarantee early and effective notice in all cases involving Indian children combined with new, strict time restrictions placed on both the right of Indian tribes and families to intervene and the right of Indian birth parents to revoke their consent to an adoptive placement.

Jane Gorman, attorney, who represents many adoptive families including the Rust family from Ohio, who have been embroiled in a legal battle over the adoption of Indian twins, urged the committee to support the compromise amendments because they would provide much greater certainty for adoptive families and promote settlement of Indian adoption cases by making visitation agreements enforceable.

"The treatment of Indian children that gave rise to the 1978 Act remains one of the darkest chapters of American history, McCain said. "We can and must improve the Act to better serve the best interests of Indian children without trampling on tribal sovereignty or eroding fundamental principles of Federal-Indian law."

"Now that agreement has been reached, I will urge my colleagues to move this compromise through the Senate and the House without substantive change," said McCain.

During the week of June 17, the

Committee struck Title III provisions from H.R. 3286 which passed the House in June by a narrow margin after extended debate. The controversial title was deleted because of the committee's serious concerns that it would disrupt many child placement proceedings, undermine the Indian Child Welfare Act and fundamentally alter the government-to-government relations between the United States and Indian tribes. Title III has been strenuously opposed by virtually every tribal government in the Nation and by the Justice and Interior Departments.

"We need to ensure that the adoption process is streamlined so there's certainty, speed and stability to the procedure. The compromise amendments show this can be accomplished with the full involvement of the Indian tribes," said McCain.

The compromise has been endorsed by Indian tribes and tribal organizations, including the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Child Welfare Association, and by the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys and the Academy of California Adoption Attorneys. Representatives of these groups testified at the June 26 hearing, along with a panel of various members of the House and Senate, and administration representatives.



RICK WEST, director of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., receives the first installment of \$10 million the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation pledged toward the construction of the museum from Skip Hayward, chairman of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe. The Pequot was the first tribe to step forward in major support of the Museum of the American Indian. (Photo by Tebo)

Chief commends staff involved in the HB2208 Motor Fuels issue

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

Call to Order: President Eagle called the June council meeting to order at 6 p.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers, W.W. Keeler Complex.

Invocation: Invocation was given by Councilman Bush.

Roll Call: Roll call was given by Gina Blackfox, legislative aide. The following members were present: Bill John Baker, Sam Ed Bush, Mary Cooksey, Don Crittenden, Harold DeMoss, Mige Glory, Paula Holder, Nick Lay, Barbara Conness, Harold Phillips, Barbara Starr-Scott, William Smoke and Dora Mae Watie. A quorum was established with thirteen members present. Charles Hoskin and Troy Wayne Poteete were absent.

Approval of Minutes: With no corrections or additions to the May 6 minutes, Councilman Crittenden motioned for approval. Councilman Smoke seconded. Minutes adopted as presented.

State of the Nation Address: Chief Byrd commended the staff who were involved in the HB2208 Motor Fuels issue. The Cherokee Nation was involved in a battle to alter what was presented to include language acceptable to tribes. The bill is now waiting final approval and signature by Governor Keating.

Oklahoma recently hosted the mid-year NCAI convention with 90 tribes participating. The Cherokee Nation and the Corps of Engineers recently signed a memorandum of understanding which allows the Cherokee Nation to take advantage of the Corps cost-sharing program for the development of water management and water related resources. This agreement has joined the forces of the Cherokee Nation as owners of the Arkansas River and the Corps of Engineers as the custodians of the federal government. This will also allow the Cherokee Nation to use the international trade route to launch Cherokee Nation to the international trade marketplace. Cherokee Nation Enterprises are looking into new business ventures. Chief Byrd announced Joe Jones has resigned as Secretary-Treasurer. He has taken a position at the Cherokee Nation Enterprises.

Confirmation of Secretary-Treasurer: Chief Byrd presented the nomination of Jennie Battles to serve as secretary-treasurer of the Cherokee Nation. Councilman Baker made a motion to approve the nomination and Councilmember Conness seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Bill John Baker, yea; Don Crittenden, yea; Mige Glory, yea; Harold Phillips, yea; Dora Watie, yea; Mary Cooksey, yea; Sam Ed Bush, yea; Paula Holder, nay; Troy Poteete, absent; Barbara Conness, yea; Barbara Scott, abstained; William Smoke, yea; Harold DeMoss, yea; Nick Lay, yea; and Charles Hoskin, absent. The confirmation was approved by a vote of eleven (11) yeas, one (1) nay and one (1) abstention.

Councilmember Scott stated she did not receive any information on Ms. Battles prior to this meeting. Chief Byrd also announced Dr. Gloria Sly will continue as superintendent of Sequoyah High School for another year.

Committee Reports: Councilman DeMoss reported the Head Start Program recently received 100 percent rating programatically, administratively

and fiscally in all components during the program audit. The office staff and all center personnel were commended on their dedicated services in making the Head Start Program a success. Certificates were presented to staff for their achievement. Those in attendance were Karen Ryder, Vicki Tate, Kathy Webb, Diane Woodard, Barbara Littlelavede, Doris Phelps, Lynn Davis, Cheryl McMahan, Pat Wind and Regina Martin. Verna Thompson, Head Start Director, assisted Mr. DeMoss. After presentation of the certificates, Chief Byrd requested Jim Wilcoxon, General Counsel, to provide an update on the motor fuels issue. Councilman Baker made a motion to consider business item No. 13, "A Resolution Accepting the Motor Fuel Tax Contract With The State of Oklahoma" as No. 1. Councilmember Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action of Unfinished Business: None pending.

New Business: 1) A Resolution Accepting the Motor Fuel Tax Contract With The State of Oklahoma/R#59-96 Jim Wilcoxon, General Counsel, presented the resolution authorizing officials of Cherokee Nation to enter into a contract with officials from the State of Oklahoma pursuant to House Bill 2208. This Bill, when it becomes law, will authorize the state and tribes to enter into a contractual agreement whereby a portion of the total of all Oklahoma motor fuel taxes collected will be set aside in a special fund to be rebated to all participating tribes. Councilman Baker moved for the adoption of the resolution and Councilman Bush seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

Councilmen DeMoss and Lay abstained.

2) A Resolution Authorizing the Tribal Services Department to Prepare and Submit an Application for Funding to the Department of Education or an Even Start Program/R#60-96

Councilman Phillips presented the resolution authorizing the Tribal Services Department to submit an application for the EvenStart Program. The grant amount requested is \$200,000. Councilman Phillips moved for the adoption and Councilmember Cooksey seconded the motion. Resolution adopted. Councilmembers Scott and Lay were out of the room when this particular item was presented.

3) A Resolution Authorizing the Division of Children, Youth and Family Services to Submit a Proposal to the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, for the Operation of the Emergency Youth Shelter/R#61-96 Councilman Phillips presented the resolution authorizing the Tribal Services Department to submit an application for the operation of the emergency youth shelter. The grant will provide continuation of emergency shelter care and counseling services for runaway, homeless and troubled youth, and will enhance outreach opportunities. The grant amount requested is \$75,000 and 10 percent--\$7,500 matching funds.

Councilman Phillips moved for the adoption of the resolution and Councilman Bush seconded the motion. Resolution adopted. Councilmembers Scott and Lay were out of the room when this particular item was presented.

4) A Resolution Authorizing Community Development to Submit a Grant

Application to the Department of HUD for Funding Under a National Initiative for "Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program"/R#

This item was withdrawn prior to the meeting. Reva Reyes stated this item was withdrawn due to time factor.

5) A Resolution Authorizing Community Development to Submit a Proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6/Indian Environmental General Assistance Program for the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC) Consortium/R#62-96

Councilman Phillips presented the resolution authorizing the Community Development Department to submit a proposal to EPA. The grant amount requested is \$250,000. The goals related to this proposal pertain to the ongoing review and development of tribal environmental codes, assessment of tribal environmental needs, development of tribal infrastructure, and the pursuit of tribal environmental initiatives in the area of the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act.

Councilman Phillips moved for the adoption and Councilman Crittenden seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

Councilman Lay was out of the room when this item was considered.

6) A Resolution Supporting an Application to the U.S. DOI-BIA, School-To-Work Indian Grant Program/R#63-96

Councilmember Holder presented the resolution authorizing the submission of an application which will coordinate business classes, vocational education, work-study and higher education to establish an in-depth training in business. The proposed project will request approximately \$100,000 for a one-year project.

Councilmember Holder moved for the adoption of the resolution and Councilman Baker seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

7) A Resolution Supporting an Application to the U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement Office of Reform Assistance and Dissemination for a Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Program/R#64-96

Councilmember Holder presented the resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for a gifted and talented students education program. The grant amount requested is \$100,000 to \$275,000.

Councilmember Holder moved for the adoption of the resolution and Councilmember Cooksey seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

8) A Resolution Authorizing Human Resources Department to Submit a Proposal to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation/Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness Program for Hazardous Material Incident First Response Training for Cherokee Nation Personnel/R#65-96

Councilman Lay presented the resolution authorizing the Human Resources Department to submit a proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation. The funds will be used to provide training for Cherokee Nation personnel in the Hazardous Materials First Responder Awareness level course. The received funds will be routed through the Cherokee Nation Risk Management Office thus enabling the safety staff to perform the tasks delineated in the work plan.

Councilmember Scott moved for the adoption of the resolution and Coun-

cilman Bush seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

9) An Act Amending the Indirect Cost Ratification Act for Fiscal Year 1996/LA#8-96

Councilman DeMoss presented the amendments to the Indirect Cost Ratification Act. The correction was made in the salary of the Deputy Chief to include an increase of \$4,000.

Councilman DeMoss moved for the adoption of the law and Councilmember Holder seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Bill John Baker, out of room; Don Crittenden, yea; Mige Glory, yea; Harold Phillips, yea; Dora Watie, yea; Mary Cooksey, yea; Sam Ed Bush, yea; Paula Holder, yea; Troy Poteete, absent; Barbara Conness, yea; Barbara Scott, yea; William Smoke, yea; Harold DeMoss, yea; Nick Lay, yea; and Charles Hoskin, absent. The legislation was approved by a vote of twelve (12) yeas; none (0) opposing. *Councilman Baker was out of the room was this item was presented.

10) An Act Amending the General Fund Budget Act for Fiscal Year 1996/LA#9-96

Councilman DeMoss presented the legislation to amend the general fund budget to include the increase of \$5,149. Councilman DeMoss moved for the adoption of the legislation and Councilmember Watie seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Bill John Baker, yea; Don Crittenden, yea; Mige Glory, yea; Harold Phillips, yea; Dora Watie, yea; Mary Cooksey, yea; Sam Ed Bush, yea; Paula Holder, yea; Troy Poteete, absent; Barbara Conness, yea; Barbara Scott, yea; William Smoke, yea; Harold DeMoss, yea; Nick Lay, yea; and Charles Hoskin, absent.

The legislation was approved by a vote of thirteen (13) yeas; none (0) opposing.

11) A Resolution Authorizing the Placement of Land in Trust - 4.00 Acres of Land Located in Delaware County/R#66-96

Councilman Crittenden presented the resolution authorizing the placement of land in trust. The property is located directly east and north of the property wherein the west Siloam Springs Bingo Outpost is situated. The property will allow for additional parking.

Councilman Crittenden moved for the adoption and Councilmember Watie seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

12) A Resolution Authorizing the Tribal Services Department to Prepare and Submit an Application for Continued Funding to the Oklahoma Commis-

sion on Children & Youth Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program/R#67-96

Councilman Phillips presented the resolution for the continuation application for early intervention services. The Early Intervention Project provides screening, intake, resource and referral, and education services to families with children, ages 3-11, who may be at risk of developing delinquent behaviors.

Councilman Crittenden moved for the adoption of the resolution and Councilmember Conness seconded the motion. Resolution adopted.

13) A Resolution Approving Articles of Incorporation of Cherokee Nation Education Corporation and Confirming Board Members/R#

This business item was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

BIA/Cherokee Nation: Dennis Wickliffe, self-governance specialist In the absence of Mr. Wickliffe, no report was given.

Housing Authority: Joel Thompson, executive director

Joel Thompson, Executive Director, reported the next Housing Authority meeting will be held on June 11, 5:30 pm. They are currently awaiting a decision on new units. The Housing Authority has also been called upon to provide emergency service to the Tenkiller Water Company. The modernization of existing units continues and the housing authority is in the process of installing air-conditioning units in some of the low-rent and Mutual Help homes. They continue to follow current federal legislation affecting Indian Housing that is currently in conference following the passage of HR2406. On June 20, Mr. Thompson will provide testimony before the Senate and House concerning this issue. Housing Authority is also working with Councilman Lay on a tenant patrol concept with community volunteers that he has been able to recruit. The City of Bartlesville has agreed to provide training to these volunteers at no cost to the Housing Authority.

Confirmation of Housing Commissioner: Chief Byrd presented the reaffirmation of Alyene Hogner to serve on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Councilman Phillips moved for the approval and Councilman Bush seconded. Motion carried.

Adjournment: With no further business presented, Councilman Baker moved for adjournment.

The meeting concluded at 7:15 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 15, 6 p.m., at the tribal headquarters.

Tribal Council Standing Committees

Community Development/
Tribal Services

Health Committee

Education Committee
(Job Corps, Sequoyah)

Resource Committee
(Land, Roads, Economic &
Development Enterprises)

Employment Committee
(Tribal Personnel,
Acquisition, TERO)

Rules Committee

Executive & Finance
Committee

Language & Culture
Committee

Students get summer jobs with conservation agencies

Shane Kirby and Mandy Terrapin, both Cherokee, are earning school money and learning about conservation of natural resources in their summer jobs.

Shane, a junior at Oklahoma State University majoring in biology, is working for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office in his hometown of Jay, Okla. He is also serving an internship through the Oklahoma Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Engineering and Technology (OKAMP-SMET).

The summer internship program offers quality research opportunities for undergraduate students.

Kirby's project involves a water quality study in the Battle Branch Watershed in Delaware County. He will be taking water samples to determine flow volume, and the amount of nitrates and phosphates in Flint Creek. He will be measuring the effects of a five-year water quality improvement program in the watershed.

"Kirby will also be assisting us with computer input and field work during the summer," Jerry Walker, NRCS district conservationist, said.

Terrapin is working in the Adair County Conservation District office in Stilwell, Okla. She will be a senior at the Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah in the fall and is working through a program funded by the Eastern Private Industry Council.

"We have students through this program each summer and try to provide them with good work experience and also teach them about natural resources conservation," Juanita Miggleto, district program coordinator, said.

Terrapin will be inputting information in the computer and doing other office work.

SHANE KIRBY, NRCS co-op student, (top photo) checks a sample of water he collected from Flint Creek. Shane is doing a water quality study to determine the effect of a five-year water quality improvement program has had on the water in the Battle Branch watershed. MANDY TERRAPIN, left, (bottom photo) summer employee for the Adair County Conservation District, gets ready to enter data into the computer with training and instructions provided by Juanita Miggleto, district program coordinator.



Briggs recently elected to conservation board

J. D. Briggs, has recently been elected as a conservation district board member.

Briggs has been involved in conservation of natural resources for many years. He became a cooperator with the Adair County Conservation District in 1960.

"Caring for our natural resources is very important and I want to volunteer time promoting it," Briggs said.

The conservation district board sets priorities of conservation work in the county and works with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and other state and federal agencies.

The NRCS is a USDA agency that provides technical assistance to land users in solving such problems as soil erosion and flooding. They also provide information on pasture and woodland management, animal waste management, soils and construction of conservation practices such as ponds.

Briggs has often utilized the services of the conservation district and NRCS.

One project NRCS assisted him with was the design and construction of his chicken

houses.

"I wanted to make sure that I didn't have a problem with overhead water or drainage, so NRCS provided me with surveys and helped me select the best location for the houses," Briggs said.

NRCS also assisted Briggs in developing a waste management plan for his 64,000 laying hens. Briggs' chicken houses are designed with waste pits under the chicken cages. He pumps out 6,000 gallons of liquid waste every other day. The waste is spread onto Bermuda grass pastures following the waste management plan.

"The plan identifies those areas where the liquid waste can be spread and how much can be applied annually," Bill Weaver, NRCS soil conservation technician, said.

Briggs spreads the waste on his 80-acre pasture and on nearby neighbors' land.

"It makes excellent fertilizer and helps grow a lot of grass for my cattle," says Briggs.



J.D. BRIGGS, center, discusses his chicken operation with Nathaniel Kester, left, Adair County Conservation District Manager, and Bill Weaver, NRCS soil conservation technician.

He sends soil tests to Oklahoma State University to insure that he isn't getting an excess buildup of nutrients in the soil.

The chicken and cattle operation go hand-in-hand for Briggs, and one only has to look at his pastures to see the benefits of the added fertilizer.

"Briggs does a good job of managing his pastures and following his waste management plan," Ann Colyer, NRCS district conservationist, said.

The NRCS provides technical assistance free of charge. The agency's phone number is located under U. S. government in most phone directories and may still be listed as Soil Conservation Service (the name was changed to NRCS in 1994).

Dairy farmer protects water quality with lagoon

When Jay Blackfox started a dairy last year, he knew about getting up early, milking cows, feeding the cattle and storing and selling the milk.

He also found out in designing the dairy barn that taking care of animal waste around the barn was a big part of the operation. The waste from the barn, holding pen and wash water from 150 head of cows amounts to more than 80,000 gallons per year.

Blackfox requested technical assistance from the Delaware County Conservation District on design and construction of waste management and stor-

age facilities.

Bob O'Bryan, soil conservation technician for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), helped Blackfox develop a waste management plan calling for a storage lagoon, a concrete walkway that trapped all waste and water and diverted it to the lagoon, and a plan for spreading the liquid manure on grassland.

"Blackfox is fortunate to have more acres than required to spread the waste, so he doesn't have to worry about getting an overload of nutrients in the soil," O'Bryan said.

The NRCS office staff developed a map of Blackfox's land to show how much waste could be spread in different areas each year. The map also points out those areas where waste should only be spread between June 15 and Oct. 15 due to

the possibility of flooding. Blackfox's lagoon has the capacity to store waste up to 113 days.

"One of the features of the system that really protects water quality and waste from going over on the neighbor's property is the curb on both sides of the concrete walkway going into the barn. The curb traps all waste and water and diverts it into the lagoon," O'Bryan said. "Protecting water quality is a major concern when there are animals confined in a small area like a dairy lot."

Blackfox's dairy barn was designed so all the water and waste from the area goes into the lagoon.

Assistance with waste management plans like Blackfox's is available from NRCS free of charge and is provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Other assistance with soil erosion or flooding problems, pasture management, water quality problems, pond construction and other resource problems is available upon request at the local NRCS or conservation district office.



JAY BLACKFOX, right, receives information about his management plan from Bob O'Bryan, NRCS soil conservation technician.

U. S. Department of Agriculture

President Lincoln founded the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1862. He called it the "people's department." In Lincoln's day, 90 percent of the "people" were farmers. Today, the newly reorganized USDA still serves the two percent of our Nation who farm as well as everyone else who eats food, wears clothes, lives in a house or visits a rural area or national forest.

Three USDA agencies and their services are described on this page. Their services are provided upon request on a nondiscriminatory basis and without charge.

Farm Service Agency

The Reorganization Act of 1994 combined the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and the farm-lending activities of the Farmers Home Administration to form the Farm Service Agency (FSA). The agency offers the following programs through local offices:

- ▶ **Commodity Loans**--Nonrecourse loans are available for various crops including wheat, rice, corn, grain sorghum, oats, oilseeds, peanuts, and cotton.
- ▶ **Crop Insurance**--For a nominal fee of \$50 per crop, per county, farmers can obtain catastrophic (CAT) insurance on specific crops in their county.
- ▶ **Farm Loans**--Direct and Guaranteed loan programs target farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.
- ▶ **Conservation Programs**--Designed to help control soil erosion through cost-sharing of grass cover, sod waterways, terraces and other measures.
- ▶ **Emergency Programs**--FSA provides emergency conservation and assistance in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audio-tape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-2791.

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity employer.



Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service, has been helping farmers, ranchers and other landowners since 1933. Working closely with local conservation districts, NRCS employees help landowners protect and improve their natural resources.

The NRCS provides assistance to landowners with:

- ▶ soil erosion problems
- ▶ flooding
- ▶ pasture and hayland management
- ▶ water quality concerns
- ▶ animal waste management
- ▶ other natural resource issues

The technical service is provided free of charge and is available to anyone requesting it. Local NRCS offices are listed under USDA in most phone directories and it may still be listed as Soil Conservation Service (the name was changed to NRCS in 1994 to better reflect the agency's current role in natural resource conservation). For information about programs and assistance available from NRCS, contact any local office.

Rural Development

The Reorganization Act of 1994 restructured the Farmers Home Administration into Rural Development. The agency offers assistance in three areas:

- ▶ **Rural Housing.** Decent, safe sanitary and affordable housing for residents is necessary for successful rural communities. Rural Development programs help finance new or improved housing for over 65,000 moderate, low- or very low-income families each year. Call Patsy Graumann, Stillwater State Office, (405) 742-1070.
- ▶ **Community Facilities.** Rural Development assists rural communities in financing construction, enlargement, or improvement of fire stations, libraries, hospitals and clinics, industrial parks and other essential community facilities. Call Harvey Smith, Stillwater State Office at (405) 742-1060.
- ▶ **Business and Industry.** Rural Development provides loans and grants to promote rural economic development and job creation projects, including funding for project feasibility studies, start-up costs, and other reasonable expenses. Rural Development has a full time American Indian Coordinator, Bluford W. (Blu) Miller. Miller is located in Duncan, Okla., and can be reached at (405) 252-3230.

NAJA elects officers

The Native American Journalists Association (NAJA), at the closing of its 18th annual conference on June 22 in Bangor, Maine, elected a news editor from the Oneida tribe in Wisconsin to lead the 439-member organization.

Keith Skenandore, managing editor of the Oneida tribe's Kalihwisaks newspaper, will serve a one-year term as president of NAJA.

"I envision education as a key to the NAJA," said Skenandore who was first elected to the board in 1994. "There is a learning process that requires our organization to reach out to those students entering the field of journalism while at the same time, we need to educate those journalists in the mainstream media."

NAJA is based in Minneapolis, where the 1997 conference will be held. Since its inception in 1984, the group each year has met to examine coverage of Native Americans issues, learn tips on how members can sharpen their journalistic skills and honor accomplishments of members and of those in the news industry.

Skenandore succeeds Karen Lincoln Michel, a religion writer at The Dallas Morning News and member of the Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin.

New officers installed were Kara Briggs, vice-president and a reporter at The Oregonian in Portland, Ore.; Tom Arviso, treasurer and editor of the Navajo Times in Window Rock, Ariz.; and Lori Edmo-Suppah, secretary and media coordinator at The Museum at Warm Springs in Warm Springs, Ore.

Others serving on the 11-member NAJA Board of Directors, in addition to immediate past-president Michel, are Tony Brown, owner of Brown Eyes Productions in Anchorage, Alaska; Nancy Butterfield, owner of DreamCatcher Native Communications in Tacoma, Wash.; Paul DeMain, editor of News From Indian Country published in Hayward, Wis.; Jeff Harjo, telecommunications manager at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Okla.; Dale Kakkak, director of Menominee Nation Communications in Keshena, Wis.; and Ben Winton, religion reporter at the Arizona Republic in Phoenix, Ariz.

The board also appointed Theresa Lumbar as acting executive director while an international search is conducted for a full-time director. Lumbar serves as projects director for NAJA.

Individuals sought for 1997 Battle of Honey Springs re-enactment

The Cherokee Mounted Rifles, a distinguished unit of the Army of General Stand Watie, is in need of individuals to fill its ranks for the 1997 re-enactment of the Battle of Honey Springs.

Although the Civil War ended more than 130 years ago, the Cherokee Mounted Rifle Unit comes to life each year in an reenactment of the battle held near Checotah, Okla.

The recruiting effort is led

by John "Scottie" Danylchuk of Killeen, Texas. He is a native of Scotland and a decorated Vietnam veteran, now retired from the U.S. Army.

"Not only is participation in the reenactment educational, it also provides an opportunity for physical activity," Danylchuk said.

For more information, contact Danylchuk at 1507 Jefferies, Killeen, TX 76543, or phone him at (817) 690-6660.

Hammer completes Navy basic training

Navy Seaman Recruit Crystal D. Hammer, daughter of David L. Hammer of Westville, Okla., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Hammer completed a variety of training--classroom study, practical hands-on instruction and an emphasis on physical fitness. She learned naval customs, first aid, fire fighting, water safety and survival and a variety of safety skills required for working around ships and aircraft.

She and other recruits also received instruction on the Navy's core values--honor, courage and commitment--and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

She is a 1990 graduate of Stilwell High School.

Tribal members participate in Ohio University summer scholars program

Amy Henson of Hulbert and Vince Kirk of Marble City, Northeastern State University (NSU) Native American honor students, have been participating in the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine Summer Scholars program.

Both Henson, a junior, and Kirk, post-graduate, are active in the NSU Native American Student Association, Indian University Scholars and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, as well as the NSU Center for Tribal Studies' APSIRE program. The APSIRE program is designed to recruit, identify, support and channel Native American students into underrepresented careers of medicine and dentistry.

Henson and Kirk, both pre-med majors, are among 22 stu-



AMY HENSON



VINCE KIRK

dents selected nationwide to attend the highly competitive six-week program in Athens, Ohio.

The opportunity to participate in the summer scholars program is a result of networking

by the NSU Center of Tribal Studies with other universities to provide academic opportunities for Native American students preparing for medical and dental professional schools.

Deadline to register for competition is September 24

Designs being sought for memorial to Indians

One hundred twenty years after Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and members of the 7th Cavalry were routed at the Battle of Little Bighorn by combined Plains Indian forces, the National Park Service announced that it will begin soliciting designs for a memorial to honor the Indians who died in service to the United States and to their Native nations.

The Indian memorial was authorized by Congress in 1991, after legislation was introduced by Rep. Pat Williams (D-Mont.) and Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), whose great-grandfather participated in the battle at "Greasy Grass," as the Little Bighorn area was and is known to Indian peoples.

A memorial to Indians who died at the site has been sought by individuals like Campbell and others who believe the Indian sacrifice at Little Bighorn should be memorialized.

The winning memorial design must evoke the theme "Peace Through Unity," which was recommended by Indian elders and adopted by the Department of Interior advisory committee which is overseeing the design competition.

"For American Indian

peoples, no other site stirs such feelings of pride, and few other sites crystallize the past so well and provide a hopeful guidepost to the future," said Leonard Bragger, director of the Institute of American Indian Studies at the University of South Dakota. "For this reason, the advisory committee is especially anxious to receive designs from America's young people--from elementary school age and up--who must learn the lessons taught by the past and point our way toward the future."

Visitors to the battlefield, located near Crow Agency, Mont., follow a road past the Custer National Cemetery, where veterans of U.S. wars are buried, to the top of Last Stand Hill, where a granite obelisk memorializes Custer and some 225 members of the 7th Cavalry who died on June 25-26, 1876.

The proposed site of the Indian Memorial lies across the road to the northwest of the existing 7th Cavalry Monument. Congress specified that the Indian Memorial must be compatible in scale with the existing monument, and demonstrate "sensitivity to the history being portrayed."

With the announcement,

NAPS will be distributing brochures with a reply card that enables an individual to receive for a fee of \$25 a competition program which provides detailed information about the park, the Indian Memorial and guidelines for entering the competition.

The deadline to register for the competition is Sept. 24, 1996, and those entering the contest must submit their designs by mid-January 1997.

A panel of jurors, which includes members of the memorial advisory committee, will select the top three finalists in February 1997.

Three cash prizes will be awarded--\$30,000 for first place; \$15,000 for second place, and \$5,000 for third place. The advisory committee will forward its recommended designs to the Interior Secretary, who will make the final selection.

Individuals wishing to donate to construction of the Indian Memorial may forward those donations to Southwest Parks & Monuments Association, P.O. Box 190, Crow Agency, MT 59022. To be included on a mailing list for the competition, call 1 (800) 969-2830.

Tribe works on response to U.N. draft declaration on rights of Indigenous peoples

Representatives of the Cherokee Nation participated in an historic consultation in Washington, D.C., on July 23 between the U.S. Department of State and federally-recognized American Indian Tribes and Nations on the proposed U.S. response to the United Nations draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The declaration was developed by the U.N. Working Group on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 1993.

The process leading up to the adoption of the declaration by the U.N. General Assembly is expected to take several years, and sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, will be an annual event over the next few years.

The Cherokee Nation was represented by Charles A. Gourd, who holds a doctorate in anthropology and serves as senior administrative liaison for Principal Chief Joe Byrd; Dr. David Kingfisher, director of the Division of Health Programs; and, John McClellan Marshall V, 14th Judicial District Judge, Dallas, Texas. Judge Marshall is the fifth generation direct lineal descendant of Chief Justice John Marshall of the United States Supreme Court, who wrote the definitive statement on international treaty law in 1832 in the Cherokee case *Worcester v. Georgia*.

In opening remarks, Gourd ex-

panded on themes developed at the initial meeting between tribal leaders and State Department in May at Harvard University. Gourd, a life-long proponent of the rights of indigenous peoples, said, "The position that we craft at consultation sessions like this will determine the outcome of events all over the world. What we do today will impact people we will never have the opportunity to meet.

Judge Marshall, whose service was requested by Chief Byrd, reinforced that theme, with two points. "It should be noted as significant that this consultation is being conducted under the auspices of the Department of State," he said. This places the claims to sovereign powers of government by American Indian Tribes and Nations precisely where it belongs, in American government-to-government relations.

The second point of emphasis by Judge Marshall is "that the leadership of Native American people are at last being given a substantive voice in the determination of much of their future. They are here to move forward as partners, not as wards."

Dr. Kingfisher is also a life-long advocate of American Indian sovereignty. He has held professorships at major universities. This summer he attended the National Aboriginal Organizing Committee meeting at the University

of Saskatchewan. Kingfisher is a driving force behind the revitalization of Cherokee government and Cherokee Nation health programs.

"Sovereignty assumes a great measure of control over the decisions that affect the daily lives of our people,"

Kingfisher said. "The only way we can meet that challenge is to take those risks associated with being as self-governing as possible. Unless we are ready as governments to assume responsibility at the highest levels, then we have not properly prepared our people to prosper."

Directors work to fulfill mission FROM PAGE 4

Okla. From 1990 to 1992, he was the senior program development specialist for the Bilingual Education Multi-Functional Resource Center at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, where he developed and conducted staff development training sessions for bilingual program teachers in Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota, and taught master's level courses in the areas of bilingual and multi-cultural education.

Other positions include counselor, assistant principal and team teacher at Cedarville Public Schools, Ark.; principal in charge of dormitories and discipline, Sequoyah High School; director of bilingual aides, Cherokee Education Center, Tahlequah; counselor, Northeastern Oklahoma Talent Search, Bacone College; academic counselor and instructor, Flaming Rainbow University, Stilwell, Okla.; and assistant counselor and principal, Sequoyah High School.

Some of the college-level courses he has taught include Cherokee history; "Learning to Learn," an orientation class that includes life and economic skills; Indian history; multi-cultural education; "Introduction to Education," a general introduction to education, related to American Indian education issues.

In addition to his doctorate, Robinson holds two master's degrees in education—one in guidance, counseling and school administration from NSU and the other in secondary administration and Indian education administration from the University of Oklahoma. He has a bachelor's degree in elementary and secondary education, with a social studies emphasis, and minors in psychology and Cherokee language from NSU.

He is a member of the National Indian Education Association, the National Education Association, the Oklahoma Education Association, the Arkansas Education Association, the National Association for Bilingual Education, the Oklahoma Association for Bilingual Education and Phi Delta Kappa.

Robinson, a Cherokee tribal member, lives in Ft. Gibson with his wife, Fan, and his son, Wesi. Robinson's daughter, Walisi, is a graduate student at the University of Central Arkansas, Conway.

Dr. David Ricketts Kingfisher, director of the tribe's health services division, came to the Cherokee Nation as medical director in 1994 from St. Johns Regional Medical Center MedFlight Air Medical Service, Joplin, Mo., where he was also the medical director.

Previously, Kingfisher was medical director for LifeStar Air Rescue and flight Service, Stormont-Vail Regional Medical Center, Topeka, Kan., 1989-1991; partner in Emergency Physicians of Topeka, 1985-1991, serving in various positions including business manager, president and secretary-treasurer; a peer reviewer for Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Topeka; medical director, Holton Indian Health Center, Kan.; and medical consultant, Haskell Indian Nations College, Lawrence,

SEE DIRECTORS, PAGE 32

CHUCK HOSKIN, Dist. 9, Craig and Nowata Counties, left, presented, from left, Junior Butler and Jennifer Hayes, both students from Hulbert, and Leroy Qualls, former coach at Hulbert, certificates for participation in the All-Indian All-State basketball games. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)



ELIZABETH PARRIS-WALDEN, original enrollee, center, celebrated her 100th birthday June 30. Cherokee Nation Tribal Councilman Harold "Jiggs" Phillips, Dist. 2, Adair County, right, presents her with a plaque for the occasion as her son, Delno Walden, looks on. (Photo by Bobby Watkins)

Registration field schedule listed for July

Monday, Aug. 12, **Pryor**, Sub-Office, 8 S. Elliott, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 825-2116.

Wednesday, Aug. 14, **Bartlesville**, Keeler Heights, 1003 SW Virginia, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 336-7830 or 336-0971.

Friday, Aug. 16, **Salina**, Indian Clinic, south of Salina on Hwy. 82, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 434-5397.

Monday, Aug. 19, **Miami**, Sub-Office, south of Ottawa County Courthouse Bldg., 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 542-6863. Closed until notice.

Wednesday, Aug. 21, **Vinita**, Tom Buffington Heights, 900 W. McNelis Ave., Apt. 31-B, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., 256-8595.

Friday, Aug. 23, **Muldrow**, City Hall, 100 South Main, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 427-3226.

Monday, Aug. 26, **Westville**, Bushyhead Heights, S-150 Goingsnake, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 723-3744.

Wednesday, Aug. 28, **Claremore**, Cherokee Nation Housing, Will Rogers Senior Citizens Complex, 202 Stewart Roosa, Claremore, OK, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 342-2433.

Directors work to fulfill the mission of the Cherokee Nation FROM PAGE 31

Kan. He has been physician at St. Johns Regional Medical Center, Joplin, Mo., 1994; Stormont-Vail Regional Medical Center, 1985-1993; and the Choctaw Nation Hospital, Tahlequah, Okla., 1984-1985.

Kingfisher has received certifications from the American Board of Medical Examiners, the American Board of Family Practice, the Board of Certification in Emergency Medicine and American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians. He is a certified instructor in advanced cardiac life support, advanced trauma life support and pediatric advanced life support.

From July 1983 to July 1985, he

served in the United States Commissioned Corps as a medical officer with the rank of captain and senior assistant surgeon for the U.S. Indian Health Service.

Kingfisher, a Cherokee tribal member, is a doctor and a lawyer, as well, with a medical doctorate from the University of Kansas Medical School and a juris doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley. He also has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wichita State University. He completed family practice residency training at the University of Kansas Medical School.

He is a member of the American Association of Physician Specialists,

American Academy of Emergency Medicine, Association of American Indian Physicians, American Medical Association, National Health Lawyers Association and American Society of Law and Medicine. He has held Fellowship status with the American College of Legal Medicine since 1985.

Ervin Rock, began his career at the Cherokee Nation as an assistant personnel manager in 1995, then moved successively to the positions of deputy director and director of human resources. As director, he is responsible for the formulation of policy, as well as the direction and coordination of all phases of human resources activities, including recruitment, hiring, compensation, benefits, staff training, employee assistance, wellness, safety and risk management. In addition, the tribe's registration department is now under his direction.

Rock came to the Cherokee Nation following a 23-year career in the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Program. Prior to his retirement from the Navy, he served as one of three nuclear field advisors in the United States. From 1992 to 1995, he was responsible for screening nearly 3,000 applicants per year for entry into the program.

Rock served on various nuclear submarines, including fast-attack submarines, in the capacities of enlisted advisor and leading petty officer with responsibility for 50 nuclear-trained technicians and 25 machinery divisions. From 1985 to 1988, he was assigned to the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Training Unit, West Milton, N.Y., responsible for the safe operation and mechanical maintenance of the land-based naval nuclear power plant and coordinated maintenance programs and efforts of 125 personnel.

Rock, a Cherokee tribal member, originally from Porum, Okla., has an associate's degree in business from Connors State College and a bachelor's degree in business administration from

Columbia College, Orlando, Fla. He resides in Tahlequah with his wife and two of his three children.

Dan Agent returned to the Cherokee Nation as director of public affairs in February, following four years of service as public information officer for the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. In working to fulfill the mission of the NMAI as an institution for the preservation and perpetuation of the living cultures of Native Americans, he did promotion and publicity for major exhibitions, including arranging and coordinating interviews of the director of the museum with national and international media; coordinated media contacts, including serving as the primary contact for the media and the public on repatriation; wrote numerous articles and feature stories promoting the museum and Native American culture, which were published in periodicals, including the Smithsonian Runner and Native Peoples magazine; and assisted in fund-raising projects for the museum.

From 1984 to 1991, Agent worked as a staff writer and special projects coordinator for the Cherokee Nation Communications Department. He has also worked as a free-lance film and video scriptwriter, producer and director; videographer; and photographer. Photo credits include Greenpeace, Mother Jones magazine and other publications. He is a Vietnam-era U.S. Army veteran with service as an information specialist for an artillery battalion.

He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Tulsa and a master of arts degree in American studies with an emphasis in Native American literature from NSU. He is a member of the Native American Journalists Association.

Agent, a Cherokee tribal member, was born in Sallisaw and resides in Tahlequah.

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Elect Watie for Adair County Clerk

Cherokee tribal councilmember Dora Mae Watie from Stilwell is running as a Republican candidate for the office of Adair County Court Clerk. Watie has bachelor of arts degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. She has worked for the Cherokee Nation as the tribe's registrar, the Northeastern State University admissions office and the Bureau of Indian Affairs office in Muskogee. She has more than 23 years of administration experience. Watie is member of the Cherry Tree Baptist Church, the Dahlenogah School Board and the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council.

"I believe that my varied work experience will be an asset to the office of Adair County Court clerk. If elected my goal will be to work in a cooperative, friendly manner with the county commissioners, district judges, attorneys and other citizens. I'm asking for your support."



CLASSIFIED

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