

Chickasaw Hall of Fame set for April 23 in Norman



The Chickasaw Nation Honor Garden at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

NORMAN, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby and other dignitaries will gather April 23 when five Chickasaw citizens are inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame. Induction is the highest honor bestowed on Chickasaw citizens.

This year marks the 32nd anniversary of the Chickasaw Hall of Fame. The Embassy Suites in Norman will host this year's event. Located at 2501 Conference Center Drive.

The highlight of the April 23 ceremony will be induction of five Chickasaws into the hall of fame. Three nominees are living and represent outstanding achievement in art, business and science. Two Chickasaws will be honored posthumously for their service and dedication to the Chickasaw Nation.

Living honorees include Brenda Kingery, a nationally and internationally renowned artist and champion of women's empower-

ment; Thomas Love, chief executive officer of the family-owned Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores, with more than 480 stores nationwide; and Dr. Jonathan Trent, whose scientific breakthroughs in fighting and curing cancer through genetic "target therapies" has won awards and is being employed to fight cancers worldwide.

Two Chickasaws will be inducted posthumously. Reford Bond (1877-1954) served on the Chickasaw Nation legal team, was a longtime member of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and served on the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Hiawatha Estes (1918-2003) was a nationally recognized home architect, World War II veteran and proponent of more than 75 university scholarships to advance the educational opportunities of music students at the University of Oklahoma. He was awarded

the OU Regents Alumni Award in 2002 for outstanding service and contributions to the university. A courtyard at OU's Catlett Music Center named in Mr. Estes' honor was landscaped with his assistance to provide a quiet place for students.

This year's celebration will feature T.W. Shannon as master of ceremonies. Mr. Shannon is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and president of Bank2, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Chickasaw Banc Holding Company. Bank2 provides more home loans to Native Americans than any other Oklahoma bank.

Mr. Shannon was the first Native and African-American to serve as Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, taking the gavel in January 2013. He was elected to the state Legislature from Lawton's District 62 in 2006. He also became the youngest speaker of the house at age 34.

Mr. Shannon and his wife, Devon, operated a Lawton public relations firm prior to his assignment at Bank2.

Hall of Fame entertainment will be provided by the Oklahoma Strings Quartet, founded in 1974. The quartet



OKLAHOMA STRINGS QUARTET

is comprised of four classically trained musicians performing on two violins, viola and cello. The quartet's repertoire includes such classical pieces as "Pachelbel's Canon" and Bach's "Jesus, Joy of Man's Desire."

The group does not limit itself to classics. It also performs contemporary favorites such as Kansas' "Dust in the Wind" and the Beatles' "Eleanor Rigby."

The quartet plays private parties, wedding and other functions, in addition to public performances such as the Chickasaw Hall of Fame and Oklahoma Hall of Fame induction ceremonies.

The Hall of Fame ceremony is open to the public at no cost.

However, reservations are required.

Reservations will be accepted through April 5 by calling Chickasaw Nation Special Events at (580) 332-1165 or email reservations to Randi.Payne@Chickasaw.net.

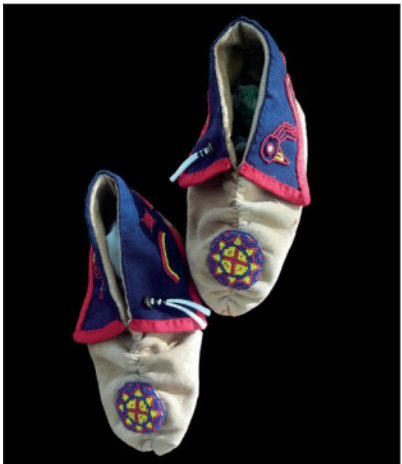
The ceremony will stream live from the Chickasaw Hall of Fame website at HOF.Chickasaw.net and on Facebook Live at Facebook.com/TheChickasawNation. The livestream will be available for viewing on all devices. For more information, visit HOF.Chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations

Artesian Arts Festival May 25 in downtown Sulphur

SULPHUR, Okla. - The annual 2019 Artesian Arts Festival will be Saturday, May 25 in downtown Sulphur. The festival will run from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. In its sixth year, the Artesian Arts Festival continues to expand and is fast becoming one of the most celebrated Indian art markets in the U.S.

Open to the public, over 100



Beaded moccasins by Chickasaw artist Rena Smith

artists from a variety of Native American cultures will display a diverse array of art media. More than 20 art disciplines will be represented at the event. Paintings, basketry, jewelry, sculpture, metalwork, beadwork, textiles and more will be presented at the festival.

Various art demonstrations and/or discussions will take place within the ARTesian Gallery & Studios. These will include such famed artists as Oklahoma and Chickasaw Hall of Fame inductee Mike Larsen.

Entertainment provided at no charge during the Artesian Arts Festival will include a children's tent for make-and-take items and a senior arts and crafts booth. Two stages will provide a program of live performances. Tribal dance troupes will be on hand to perform throughout the day.

More than 15 food vendors will offer varied culinary delights.



Chickasaw artist Dustin Mater, right, describes the creative process used in his various media to Artesian Arts Festival visitors.

Shuttles will be available to transport patrons to and from the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

The Artesian Arts Festival takes place at the Artesian Plaza, adja-

cent to the Artesian Hotel and Spa, 1001 W. First Street in Sulphur.

For more information, contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Human-

ities at (580) 272-5520 or email ArtistInfo@Chickasaw.net.

About the Artesian Arts Festival

Hosted by the Chickasaw Nation, the Artesian Arts Festival spotlights prominent Native artists from across the country. The event celebrates all types of art, with an emphasis on Native American works and artists.

Open to artists from all federally-recognized tribes, organizers accepted more than 100 artists representing 19 Native American tribes from eight states.

A wide variety of musical entertainment, tribal dance demonstrations, artist talks and food vendors accentuate the Artesian Arts Festival. Open to the public at no charge, the event welcomed more than 10,000 visitors to downtown Sulphur last year.

CONTRIBUTED BY KC Cole, Media Relations

21st Annual Chikasha Ittafama (Chickasaw Reunion) scheduled for May 3-4 at Kullihoma



From left, Chickasaw elder Rose Jefferson, Anoli Billy and Chickasaw elder Pauline Brown enjoy the day at the 2018 Chikasha Ittafama.

KULLIHOMA - Hundreds of Chickasaws and guests will gather May 3-4 at Kullihoma for the annual Chikasha Ittafama (Chickasaw Reunion).

Chickasaw culture, tradition and fellowship will be featured at the reunion. Festivities kick off at 6 p.m., Friday, May 3 with a meal, prayers and stomp dancing.

A full day of fun for the whole family is set for Saturday, May 4.

Events include cornstalk shoot competitions, horseshoes, chunky, artistic and educational demonstrations and more.

Everyone is invited to join in the domino tournament each evening in the council house.

A singles tournament will be played Friday, followed by a doubles tournament Saturday evening.

See below for a schedule of

events:

Friday, May 3

Welcoming and Prayer, Honor Guard
6-6:20 p.m.,
Dinner
6:25-7:30 p.m.
Domino Tournament (Singles)
7:15-10 p.m.
Cornhole Tournament (Singles)
7:30-8:30 p.m.
Youth and Adult Stickball Social Games
7:30-8 p.m.
Social Stomp Dance
8-10 p.m.

Saturday, May 4

Cornstalk Shoot, located at the ball field
8 a.m.-Noon
Registration starts at 7:30 a.m.
Fishing Derby
9-10 a.m.
Welcoming and Prayer
10-10:15 a.m.
Chunky Tournament
10:15-11:15 a.m.
Children's Tent

10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Cultural Classes
10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Trail Rides with Chickasaw Rangers
10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Loksi Races
11:20 a.m.-Noon
Stickball Registration
Noon-12:30 p.m.
Traditional Meal
12:30-2 p.m.
Stickball Tournament
1-7 p.m.
Horseshoe Tournament, located at the ball field
1:30-5 p.m.
Squirrel Stick Throw
2-3 p.m.
Archery Demonstration
2-5 p.m.
Martial Arts Demonstration
5:30-6 p.m.
Dinner
6-7 p.m.
Domino Tournament (Doubles)
7-9 p.m.
Stomp Dance
9 p.m.
To reach the reunion site, take State Highway 1 east from Ada. Travel to the Kullihoma sign

seven miles east. Turn right and travel three miles east and one mile south.

For more information, contact Dixie Brewer at (580) 622-7140.

CONTRIBUTED BY Savannah Burwell, Tribal Communications.



Leerene Frazier rings the bell at the 2018 Chikasha Ittafama to announce dinner is ready.

Chickasaw artist's 'In.Sight' on display at Tulsa's McKeon Center for Creativity



Chickasaw artist Donna Welch holds "Spirit Bear" at the 2018 Southeastern Art Show and Market in Tishomingo, Okla. The work is accented with spiral copper wiring, agate stones and Indian symbols.

ADA, Okla. – A multi-talented Chickasaw artist is engaging admirers by crafting gourds into colorful and haunting vessels that can be functional or merely beautiful works for display.

Donna Welch's art has been exhibited in California, Utah, ARTesian Arts Gallery in Sulphur, Okla., and in the Chokma'si Gallery located at the Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities building in downtown Ada. She has also provided gourd artwork for the 2018 Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference.

Her unique work was displayed in the McKeon Center for Creativity's exhibition "Convergence: Challenging Anthropocentrism." The center is an extension of Tulsa Community College.

Mrs. Welch's "In.Sight." was used to represent the antithesis to the statement "mankind is separated from nature."

The 30-inch tall work features copper metal woven together representing the "tree of life." The gourd's focal art is of man, woman, birds, land and sea creatures.

"It shows mankind that despite living in areas that would seem inhospitable to nature, in fact mankind remains a part of nature's splendor," Mrs. Welch said.

Within the hollowed gourd, Mrs. Welch painted the world and its continents. Inside, it is lighted so "viewers understand the light of the world – God's handprint – is upon everything," she added.

"In.Sight." was showcased in Tulsa through January. It is now at the ARTesian Art Gallery for area residents to admire and enjoy.

Art is Life

Mrs. Welch honed her varying talents for more than 20 years as a resident of California, Oregon, Alaska and – as of two-and-a-half-

years ago – Oklahoma.

It was in Enid, Okla., her parents Ben and Phyllis Witham Courtney met and married before moving to Bakersfield, Calif. Her father was the son of Willie Courtney, an original Dawes Commission enrollee. Mrs. Welch was born in Oregon.

"I have known about my Chickasaw heritage all my life," she said, hurriedly filling finished gourd pottery with decorative rocks to keep a brisk Oklahoma breeze from sending them airborne at a recent arts festival.

It was October and she was busy showing several pieces during the Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival's Southeastern Art Show and Market (SEASAM).

At SEASAM 2018, Mrs. Welch was celebrating the two-year anniversary of moving to Oklahoma with her husband, Russell, and teenage daughter, Trinity. All of her life, she resided in the Pacific Northwest while her Chickasaw heritage tugged at her heart to reinvent life within the Chickasaw Nation.

The desire to relocate was reinforced by forays to Oklahoma. Trinity participates in the Chickasaw Nation Book Camp and Chickasaw Arts Academy, a highly successful program providing Chickasaw youngsters and teens with instruction in a plethora of art forms.

"We wanted Trinity to experience her heritage firsthand," Mrs. Welch said. "She had the same experience that I had growing up on the west coast. My dad would say 'You're Chickasaw. Don't ever forget it. Don't let anyone tell you you're not Chickasaw.' But being separated from Chickasaws, I did not meet anyone of Chickasaw heritage outside of the immediate family until I was in high school."

A deeper emotional investment to illuminate Trinity's Native blood could only be experienced in Oklahoma, her parents realized. That epiphany is echoed by Trinity, who said the move from

California opened her eyes to "my culture, my heritage (and) my ancestors. It has been such a blessing to find out more about who I am as a Native American."

Since age eight, Trinity's heart has been set on a career in fashion design. California might be seen as offering greater proximity to professional designers and learning experiences, but the Welch family emphatically argues the opposite is true.

"We lived near Los Angeles," Mrs. Welch said. "You are one person among 23 million living in the region. It is easy to get overlooked. We came to Ada, this small Oklahoma town, and Trinity has been given the opportunity through the Chickasaw Nation to study with top, world-class fashion designers such as Margaret Roach Wheeler, Maya Stewart, Adam Minor West and Patricia Michaels."

Branching Out

Mrs. Welch designs traditional Chickasaw regalia, sewing garments from scratch, in addition to making quilts and handbags. She shares her knowledge with Trinity and is her daughter's instructor through Oklahoma approved home schooling curriculum.

She draws with colored pencils, is experienced in beadwork and a traditional Chickasaw storyteller. The artist in her experiments, but the teacher in her researches Southeastern Indian decorative designs. She incorporates ancient motifs in her work, including her gourd art, which is the chosen medium in which she hopes to expand, grow and flourish.

"Gourds are one of the first forms of pottery," Mrs. Welch said. "Plants that produce gourds are found on every continent. Each part of the unusual orbs may be utilized and are 100 percent reusable and recyclable. Native women would haul water with hollowed gourds in ancient times. They were used to hold beads or cherished personal items. They were decorated."



"Blue Dreams" was one of the most admired pieces displayed at SEASAM. The butterfly is painted with a German brand of paint – called Inka-Gold, by Viva Décor – that provides brilliant color with a silky texture and appearance. Beading and metal wiring accent the gourd for a beautiful all-purpose piece.



"Sunrise" is a gourd purse with leather straps and a wedge cutout so personal items may be carried. Elaborate gold leafing and etched carvings of sun and flames add a beauty and conductivity to nature. Tiger-eye beading at the bottom adds weight to the piece, keeping it upright.

The gourd plant resembles a hard-shell pumpkin. When it is sliced and gutted, the fruit and pulp are usually discarded and the inner walls scraped clean and permitted to dry. Mrs. Welch usually paints the inside to match the color palette of her work. It also acts as a sealant.

"Long ago, if women hauled water, the walls would leach and actually act as a coolant for the water within," she said. "Netting would be made to surround the gourd for easier transport."

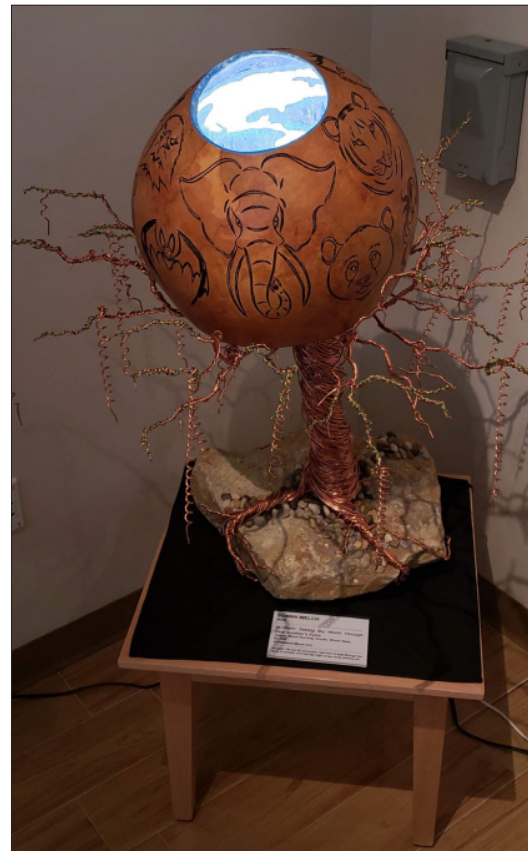
It is not unusual for Mrs. Welch to use a small, handheld rotary tool to fashion intricate Native symbols to the outer shell, or reach for a drill for openings where metal wiring and beading are required for authentic Native artistry. Even a small jigsaw is used for specialty items – such as hair barrettes – or to accent spacious areas in a larger work, as illustrated on a gourd called "Spirit Bear."

New Challenges

A special exhibit at the McKeon Center in June and July is moving Mrs. Welch to create art unlike anything she has attempted. The exhibit will be called "Please Touch the Art" and specifically introduces blind and visually impaired individuals to art.

"Most art is appreciated visually," Mrs. Welch said. "I think this new exhibit is absolutely wonderful. It forces the artist to creatively craft art for those who cannot enjoy it merely by sight."

One piece has already been manufactured. It is called "Offi' Tohbi Thunder Gourd," named for the legendary Chickasaw



Donna Welch's "In.Sight." on display at Tulsa's McKeon Center for Creativity.

White Dog who protected tribal citizens on their migration journey to the Mississippi Homeland.

It is a gourd made with acoustic holes and plastic mylar. When touched, the gourd emits a sound similar to thunder.

Mrs. Welch envisions making a gourd rain stick and a handheld gourd rattle for the exhibition. "It is very exciting. I am pleased they asked me to participate," she said.

As she pursues her passion, Mrs. Welch is creating art at the request of patrons. Commissions are the dream of professional artists. Two "Thunder Gourds" have been commissioned thus far. New works will be exhibited at the Chickasaw Nation's Exhibit C in Oklahoma City's Bricktown and at welcome centers operated by the tribe in the near future.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations

Columbia University Law School students visit the Chickasaw Nation



From left, Gov. Bill Anoatubby; Chickasaw citizen and Native American Law Students Association president Mari Hulbutta; tour guide Thom Hulbutta; Jan Friedeborn, of Germany; Suz Kroeber, Juannell Riley and Michelle Gomez-Reichman, all of New York; Juliana Bennington, Hawaii and Dina Kang, Texas.

A Chickasaw law student last month guided a group of classmates through a week of service and cultural awareness in Chickasaw Country.

Mari Hulbutta, president of the Native American Law Students Association at Columbia Law School, served as host and tour guide for six NALSA members during a March trip to Oklahoma.

During the week, students worked with citizens of numerous tribes preparing wills and fielding legal questions. The

students, who hailed New York, Germany, Hawaii and Texas, also learned about tribal sovereignty and became more familiar with the uniqueness of indigenous legal issues.

For most students, it was the first time to visit Oklahoma and experience its vast and varied Native culture. Working alongside Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS), the group visited and worked with Apache, Comanche, Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Chickasaw and other tribal citi-

zens.

"It's been a real treat to be able to bring students from across the United States and even from around the world to the Chickasaw Nation," Miss Hulbutta said on the last day of the trip, which was spent at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur.

"(During the trip) we were able to see the thriving Chickasaw culture and engage with conventional wisdom that our elders

SEE NALSA, PAGE 5

The Chickasaw Times is published by the Chickasaw Times, 1500 Hoppe Blvd., Suite 1, Ada, OK 74820, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821 monthly with two special issues published, one in June and one in September. Subscriptions are free.

Send mail to:

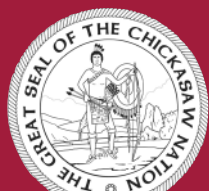
P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821
Chickasaw Times: (580) 332-2977; Fax: (580) 332-3949
e-mail: Times.Chickasaw@chickasaw.net
Chickasaw Headquarters: (580) 436-2603

Bill Anoatubby
Governor

Tom Bolitho
Editor

Vicky Gold
Communications Management and Support Services
Executive Officer

Contributors
Chickasaw Times: Mallory Jones, Briana Scribner
Media Relations/Media Affairs: Justin Lofton, KC Cole, Brandon Frye, Gene Lehmann, Loné Beasley, Dana Lance
Tribal Communications: Savannah Burwell, Jennifer Jones, Aleshia Lofton, Dallas Rudd, Kortney Samis
Photographers: Mike McKee, Marcy Gray, Mike Scott, Jacquelyn Sparks



Jefferson Keel
Lt. Governor

Tony Choate
Media Affairs Executive Officer

The Chickasaw Times is mailed free to Chickasaw registered voters, government and educational offices, and upon request to other Native American citizens. Reprint permission is granted with credit to The Chickasaw Times unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements of the Chickasaw Times, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of the Chickasaw Times, its staff or the tribal administration of the Chickasaw Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Chickasaw Times. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Investment in Chickasaw students paying big dividends

The Chickasaw Nation is an education tribe. The Chickasaw government and Chickasaw people have understood for generations a good education is key to a successful and fulfilling life. Since our removal to our new lands in the 1830s, Chickasaws have consistently been drawn to educational achievement.

In those very early times, Chickasaw students engaged with church mission schools. Later, there were community schools, government-run schools and "finishing schools" for Chickasaw girls. Some of the experiences were culturally uninformed, and all Indian students were subject to serious challenge. But Chickasaws continued to enroll in schools wherever they could find them. Education was, and is, that important to us.

In today's Chickasaw Nation, our students are achieving at levels our ancestors could not have imagined. We invest in excess of \$25 million annually in tribal funding for education. From our three-year-old Head Start students to our post-doctoral academics, your tribe is taking huge steps to provide quality educations for Chickasaws.

At our tribally-funded Ada Early Childhood Center, a total of 120 Chickasaw youngsters are enrolled, and about half of those will graduate this year. This facility has recently received accreditation by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation, the gold standard for education facilities across the U.S. Our staff is outstanding and our commitment to getting our kids off on the right foot in school is second to none! Our goal is to create lifelong learners and excellent students.

Throughout our students' secondary school years, we provide lots of guidance as our students make their ways toward high school graduation. We offer tutoring reimbursement to students needing assistance in core sub-



GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor,
The Chickasaw
Nation

jects. We recognize our top students through our Chickasaw Honor Club. Our Native Youth Community Project works with a number of public school students providing community, cultural and academic leadership. Our Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs utilize robotics training to guide our students to lucrative STEM careers. It's amazing what our kids can achieve!

At the college level, our Chickasaw student engagement is wide-ranging and highly successful. For example, in Fiscal Year 2018, the Chickasaw Nation assisted 4,630 Chickasaw college students. Our students benefitted from grants and scholarships that helped them pay for everything from tuition to books to clothing.

Our students received higher education grants, general scholarships, text book grants, ACT and SAT services, degree completion incentives, laptop scholarships, graduation assistance and much more. And our college students have responded in amazing ways!

We also offer help and support for our students

throughout their college careers. Our Chokka' Kilimpi program supports our students on campus by creating an environment that promotes fellowship, commitment and academic excellence. We know college is challenging and we are there to support our students along the path.

For 2018, a total of 473 Chickasaw students earned bachelor's degrees or better. That is truly remarkable! Each of those graduates is now armed for tremendous success!

We understand some of our students take a career path other than college. The Chickasaw Nation offers a great menu of programs for career tech students. Many of these students seek to learn a trade or make a career in a field that does not require college.

Our career tech students can receive tribal grants for tuition, exam and licensure, text books and supplies, plus a certification completion incentive. Our career tech students are incredibly hard workers and they are building the foundation for excellent careers and growing families!

It doesn't matter where you live or what your major field of study will be. Your tribe is helping Chickasaw students from New York to California, Florida to Washington state. Plus we are assisting a number of Chickasaw living overseas! If you have the desire to make it, we are here to help you every step of the way!

A quality education is one of the greatest gifts a person can receive. With degree in hand, a Chickasaw man or woman can enjoy a great career while building a great family.

Remember, we are here to help you! Call our Education office today, or check out all the offerings online. You have a great opportunity for a fantastic future, and your tribe will be with you throughout your entire journey!

National Volunteer Week; Holisso Fellowship

National Volunteer Week is April 7-13. This week is an annual opportunity for the Chickasaw Foundation to thank all volunteers across the Chickasaw Nation who keep our programs running, the community safer and for providing services that otherwise may not exist without them. The foundation treasures its volunteers, and recognizes them for the awesome services they provide.

It is also a time to consider volunteering or providing support to organizations vital to your community. The foundation wants to know: *What inspires you to serve?*

If you are interested in becoming a Chickasaw Foundation volunteer, please contact the foundation office at (580) 421-9030, or email ChickasawFoundation@Chickasaw.net to obtain information on upcoming opportunities.

Holisso Fellowship

The Holisso: The Center for Study of Chickasaw History and Culture Fellowship application is available for Chickasaw students and those studying Chickasaw history and/or culture. The fellowship includes a one-week research period conducted at the

Holisso: The Center for Study of Chickasaw History and Culture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla. The fellowship provides up to \$2,000 in expenses for room, board, hotel, airline tickets, etc., to the selected applicant.

To be eligible, applicants must be pursuing a master's, doctoral or professional degree as a full-time student at an accredited graduate school in the U.S. OR preparing an academic paper, book or presentation on Chickasaw history and/or culture; able to demonstrate a financial need; and a registered citizen of the Chickasaw Nation or a registered citizen of another federally-recognized tribe or Alaska village/corporation. Students applying for this fellowship will attend a college or university accredited by a recognized national or regional accrediting association. Individuals, researchers and professionals who are not students may also apply. The ultimate goal of the project will be a scholarly work prepared by the selected applicant.

Each individual proposal is subject to additional approval by the Chickasaw Nation Institutional Review Board. Additionally, the

Chickasaw Nation will retain the intellectual property rights in the research.

Native Americans Transforming Visions Scholarship

The Chickasaw Foundation announces the Native Americans Transforming Visions Scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic year. This general purpose education scholarship is provided to a high school graduate of the Chickasaw Children's Village.

To be eligible, applicants must also be attending an institution of higher learning that includes, but is not limited to, vocational-technical school, trade school, or any undergraduate program at a two- or four-year college/university with a major in any field, and maintaining a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

The deadline to submit completed applications for both scholarships is June 3, 2019.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Foundation at (580) 421-9030 or visit Chickasaw-Foundation.org.

Red Earth Youth Art Competition May 17-19

The Red Earth Youth Art Show and Competition is scheduled for May 17-19 at the Oklahoma City Outlets, 7624 W. Reno Ave.

Registration begins Friday, May 17, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Art can be viewed May 18-19 and the awards ceremony starts at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 19.

Artists can submit work in the following categories:

- Pottery
- Painting/Drawing
- Graphics/Photography
- Sculpture
- Basketry
- Beadwork
- Cultural Items
- Jewelry

Participants are divided in three age divisions: nine-12, 13-15 and 16-18. Artwork can be delivered by the artist, parent or teacher.

Entries are limited to one per artist per category. Students may enter as many categories as they wish.

Award winners will be featured at the 33rd Red Earth Festival, June 7-9 at the Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit www.RedEarth.org.

Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Center receives top quality accreditation

ADA, Okla. - The Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Center in Ada has recently received an important accreditation designating the center a top facility.

The center has been accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. North Central is well-recognized throughout U.S. education facilities. North Central accreditation is recognized as a critically important benchmark for education excellence.

The Ada Early Childhood Center is the first tribally-funded Chickasaw Nation pre-school. The North Central accreditation indicates the "above and beyond" environment of the center. The

center exceeds Oklahoma state education guidelines.

"Accreditation demonstrates to our students, parents and community that we are focused on raising student achievement, providing a safe and enriching learning environment, and maintaining an efficient and effective operation staffed by highly qualified education," Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Director Robert Pickens said.

The Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Center in Ada, along with three sister Head Start Centers, provides school readiness instruction and parent support for children ages three through five.

The Ada Early Childhood Cen-

ter is funded entirely by tribal funds and serves Chickasaw citizens. The Head Start centers receive both tribal and federal funding. Those centers serve students from all federally-recognized tribes.

The North Central Association Commission completed a comprehensive review of the Ada Early Childhood Center last year. The review included assessment of parent and staff surveys, achievement test scores, classroom evaluations, student engagement measurements, and more.

The center achieved a 99 percent score on the 400 standards reviewed by the commission. The center exceeded scores on facilities, instruction and instructor-

to-students ratio.

Part of the commission accreditation requires implementation of a continuous improvement program at the center, which is in place and ongoing.

The accreditation eases transfers of students from other accredited facilities. It also assures parents the school is meeting national standards for quality and successful professional practices.

North Central engaged non-profit education review organization AdvanceED to complete the on-site assessments and outside reviews.

"The primary goal of accreditation is to create lifelong learners," AdvanceED president Dr. Mark Egart said. "The Chickasaw

Nation pre-school is to be commended for engaging in this process and demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement."

The tribe has dedicated significant investment in childhood education, both at the Ada Early Childhood Center, and at the other facilities throughout the Chickasaw Nation. The tribe's Head Start program began operation in 1978. That year, 33 young students graduated the program. In 2018, the program's 40th anniversary, 220 children graduated.

The primary goal of the program is to prepare young students for success in kindergarten and throughout their school careers.

NEWS FROM CHICKASAW JR. PRINCESS



2018-19 CHICKASAW JR. PRINCESS
LAKALA ORPHAN

Chokma, Saholchifoat LaKala Orphan. Hello, my name is LaKala Orphan. I'm your 2018-2019 Chickasaw Jr. Princess. I am the 14-year old daughter of Ray and LaTonia Orphan and an eighth grader at Byng Junior High.

It has been an honor serving as your Chickasaw Jr. Princess these past few months.

We have attended many events such as the Chickasaw Nation Elders' Thanksgiving and Christmas luncheons. We performed *the Lord's Prayer* in sign language and served food to our elders. It was a good time for fellowship.

We traveled to the Chickasaw Homelands in Tupelo, Miss. While there we visited the Natchez Trace Parkway and the Chickasaw Preserve. One of my favorite experiences was exploring the Tishomingo State Park. It was an adventurous time to see and learn more about our great Nation, and also see a beautiful site.

In December, we attended the children's Christmas celebrations in Tishomingo and Oklahoma City. We handed out toys to the children who also met Santa Claus.

In January, I read to the children at the Chickasaw Nation

Head Start while taking part in the Twice upon a Time Reading Challenge.

In February, we attended the Oklahoma Tribal Legislature Reception in Oklahoma City. We performed *the Lord's Prayer* with the Choctaw Nation princesses. It was fun meeting new people who also care about their tribe, and see them doing great things in their community.

I am so glad that I get to be your 2018-2019 Chickasaw Jr. Princess. Chokmashki, LaKala Orphan
2018-2019 Chickasaw Jr. Princess

Language classes offered in Ada

Chickasaw language classes are offered each Monday in Ada.

Classes run from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., in the Chickasaw Nation Culture & Humanities training room. Attendees will need to enter at the back of the building.

Classes are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Emma McLeod at (580) 399-8284.

Vicky Gold appointed Communications Management and Support Services Executive Officer



VICKY GOLD

ADA, Okla. - Governor Bill Anoatubby recently appointed Chickasaw citizen and experienced communications professional Vicky Gold to a leadership position in the Chickasaw Nation Department of Communications

and Community Development.

Mrs. Gold was appointed Executive Officer of Communications Management and Support Services.

"Vicky Gold has a long record of dedicated service to the Chickasaw people," Governor Anoatubby said. "She has exhibited servant leadership, loyalty, stewardship and a can do attitude throughout her career. Her work ethic and passion for serving the Chickasaw people make her a great asset to the Chickasaw Nation."

Originally from Ada, Mrs. Gold began her career with the Chickasaw Nation 20 years ago as an accounts payable specialist. She accepted a position in 1999 as administrative assistant of *the Chickasaw Times* and has been in communications since then.

Communications Management

and Support Services is charged with communications project management, departmental budgeting and finance, team member training, entering and storing vital statistics in a resource database, and the preparation of *the Chickasaw Times*.

Mrs. Gold's duties include ensuring projects are completed in a timely manner to inform Chickasaw citizens of the Chickasaw Nation's actions and that divisions within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Communications and Community Development are practicing responsible stewardship of the Nation's resources.

"I feel very honored that Governor Anoatubby and (Secretary of Communications and Community Development) Robyn Elliott believe in me and know the Chickasaw citizens are first and

foremost," Mrs. Gold said. "I'm excited for the new challenge and working with a new team."

Mrs. Gold has been married to her husband, Bill, also a Chickasaw citizen, for more than 16 years. They have four children, Billy Jack Gold, Melissa Morgan, Rachael Collins and Marcus Tart-sah, and eight grandchildren.

"Over the last 20 years, I can tell we have instilled pride in our kids and grandkids in being Chickasaw, serving citizens and working for the Chickasaw Nation," Mrs. Gold said.

Three of her children currently work for the tribe. The other previously worked for the tribe for 10 years, and Bill Gold retired after more than 30 years of service in housing for the Chickasaw Nation.

Mrs. Gold's mother initially

encouraged her to work for her tribe.

"She told me, 'You are Chickasaw. You should be working for the Chickasaw Nation,'" Mrs. Gold said.

Since accepting her position with *the Chickasaw Times* in 1999, Mrs. Gold has worked as *Chickasaw Times* office manager, Media Relations manager and Media Relations director. She said her work ethic has been enhanced through the support of the tribe and its leadership.

"Working for the Chickasaw Nation and the Department of Communications and Community Development has exceeded what I ever thought I could accomplish," Mrs. Gold said.

Joy Moon appointed Director of Communications Management and Support



JOY MOON

Ada, Okla. - Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed Joy Moon director of communications management

and support within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Communications and Community Development.

"Joy Moon understands the vital role of good stewardship in our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people, Governor Anoatubby said. "Her education, experience and drive to serve the Chickasaw people make her a true asset to the Chickasaw Nation."

As director of communications management and support, Ms. Moon is involved in developing a resource database, managing numerous budgets and keeping a wide range of projects on track.

"It is an honor and privilege to serve in Governor Anoatubby's

administration," Ms. Moon said. "Our goal is to streamline departmental operations and develop a database to ensure we provide accurate, up to date information. As a Chickasaw, I am proud to serve my people in this new capacity and continue to support the mission of the Chickasaw Nation."

Ms. Moon and her team are involved in projects including direct mail, websites, social media, video production, advertising and more. These projects often include personnel from several divisions, and may include information about education, health care, housing or other matters important to the Chickasaw people.

Ms. Moon also helps manage more than 20 department bud-

gets and helps oversee production accounting for Chickasaw Nation Productions' feature films.

Ms. Moon began her career with the Chickasaw Nation in 2008 as an administrative assistant within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Communications and Community Development. In this capacity, Moon provided administrative support to the department director of public affairs and media relations.

In 2013, Ms. Moon was promoted to project manager within the department of communications and community development. Ms. Moon developed and provided oversight concerning special departmental projects, accounting procedures, and reviewing and

managing departmental agreements.

Completing her undergraduate with a Bachelor of Science in accounting in 2015, Moon was selected to be the special assistant to the Department of Communications and Community Development Secretary.

A graduate of Leadership Ada and Leadership YOUniversity, Ms. Moon has been recognized for her contributions to both the Chickasaw Nation and the community at large.

She was selected as NextGen in Oklahoma under 30 in 2016. NextGen recognizes and encourages the next generation of Oklahoma leaders for their innovative, creative and inspiring attitudes.

Kyle Impson appointed Director of Community Development



KYLE IMPSON

OKLAHOMA CITY - Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed Kyle Impson Director of Community Development within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Communications and Community Development.

"Kyle Impson understands the importance of developing constructive partnerships," Gov. Anoatubby said. "He has built solid relationships with numerous individuals and organizations throughout Oklahoma and understands our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people should have a ripple effect that reaches all our neighbors."

Mr. Impson began his career within the Chickasaw Nation in 2009 as a special projects assistant within the office of strategic development. In this capacity, he researched potential business development interests and prepared official correspondence for various administrative offices within the Chickasaw Nation. Key among

these was the Executive Office.

"The Chickasaw Nation has such depth that moving in any direction is possible," Mr. Impson said. "Getting into leadership was definitely a goal of mine."

In 2011, Mr. Impson was appointed special assistant within the Office of the Governor where he coordinated special projects, and worked directly with Chickasaw citizens and community organizations to address special requests. He coordinated philanthropic donations from the Chickasaw Nation, and managed personnel and logistical matters for the Chickasaw Nation Oklahoma City Regional Office.

As Director of Community Development, he works with community leaders to strengthen the

Chickasaw Nation's bonds with nearby communities. He has created and maintains relationships with chambers of commerce, various economic groups, municipalities, community groups and nonprofits.

"Governor Anoatubby often says what is good for Oklahoma is good for the Chickasaw Nation and what's good for the Chickasaw Nation is good for Oklahoma," Mr. Impson said. "I am looking forward to working with our community leaders to find common ground to address issues that affect us all."

Firmly believing in the tenets of servant leadership, Mr. Impson currently serves as a member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Second Century Board. He also

serves on the board of directors of both Infant Crisis Services and Oklahoma Contemporary. He is a member of the Downtown Club of Oklahoma City.

In the past, he has served on the advisory team to Lt. Governor Todd Lamb for the Oklahoma Young Professional's Conference. He has also volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Oklahoma City Arts Festival, Allied Arts and the Ada Boys and Girls Club.

Mr. Impson earned a bachelor's degree in agribusiness from Oklahoma State University. He received a Master's of Business Administration from Southeastern Oklahoma State University while working full time for the Chickasaw Nation.

Brittney Orr appointed Director of Tribal Communications



BRITNEY ORR

ADA, Okla. - Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed Brittney Orr Director of Tribal Communications.

"Brittney Orr understands the important role effective communications play in our mission to enhance the lives of the Chickasaw people," Governor Anoatubby said. "Her experience, knowledge and commitment to the Chickasaw people make her well suited for this position."

Ms. Orr plays a decisive role in the production of communications that reach Chickasaw Nation employees and citizens.

She also manages, mentors and directs a team of professionals all working to get the news of the Chickasaw Nation published and available through multiple media types. It is an interconnected effort which includes not only

communications but every other department within the Chickasaw Nation.

"I am honored to be appointed by Governor Anoatubby," Ms. Orr said. "I have been blessed greatly by the Chickasaw Nation, both as a citizen and an employee. It is very rewarding to be able to give back to my tribe while serving the Chickasaw people. It is my privilege to serve in this new leadership role and I am grateful to be part of such an amazing mission."

Ms. Orr began her career with the Chickasaw Nation in 2010 as a college intern, working with both the Chickasaw Nation and Koch Communications.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 2011. She was on the dean's list for academic achievement all four years and served as president of the Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority.

After completing her degree, she accepted a full-time position with the Chickasaw Nation. As a communications officer, she wrote press releases, public service announcements, website copy and radio spots.

She joined the Chickasaw Nation Marketing Department in 2012 as a marketing coordinator. In this position she developed campaign project budgets, supervised contracts with vendors and advertising agencies, as well

as worked with creative teams to develop new content.

In 2016, she became a senior creative marketing specialist. In this role, she helped promote Chickasaw Nation benefits, programs and entertainment. She also created content for the Chickasaw Cultural Center's website, eventually leading a project to redesign the site.

Ms. Orr became a manager in marketing in 2017 taking a step into bigger picture thinking and bringing multiple teams together on projects involving different de-

partments within the Chickasaw Nation. She developed plans and timelines, then guided marketing projects into implementation. At the same time, she supervised a team of marketing coordinators.

Becoming director of Tribal Communications is her most recent career milestone.

She is a 2017 graduate of the Ada Chamber of Commerce Leadership YOUniversity. She has reached the bronze level of the Chickasaw Nation leadership program and received a 30 Under 30 NextGen Award from ionOkla-

homa Online Magazine in 2015.

Ms. Orr serves on the New Little Sure Shots Leadership Team for the Annie Oakley Society based out of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. The group celebrates the diversity of America's heritage by honoring significant women who have achieved remarkable accomplishments or recognized as trailblazers of national notoriety.

She and her fiancé Phillip Morton live in Ada. The two plan to be married October 2019.

Jennifer Matthews appointed Director of Graphic Design and Photography



JENNIFER MATTHEWS

ADA, Okla. - Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed Jennifer Matthews Director of Graphic Design and Photography within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Communications and Community Development.

"Mrs. Matthews understands the important role core values such as teamwork, integrity and cultural identity play in serving the Chickasaw people," Governor Anoatubby said. "Her education, experience and dedication to our mission make her well-suited for this position."

Mrs. Matthews began her career within the Chickasaw Nation in

2009 as a graphic designer within the Division of Commerce. As her first job in the graphic design industry, she was responsible for leading various advertising projects through conceptual design, initial layout and final submissions to multiple entities within the Chickasaw Nation. Projects included brochures, posters, advertisements, logos and direct mail pieces.

"I was offered a job with the Chickasaw Nation as a graphic designer after graduating from Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology," Mrs. Mat-

Chickasaw physician makes preventative care a priority



DR. KENT DENSON

Dr. Kent Denson, Chickasaw Nation Medical Center Chief of Primary Care, envisions a day when proactive patient care prevents common diseases and reduces or eliminates the need for treatment after the fact.

"We really want to focus on preventative care," Dr. Denson said.

"We can and do help patients after they've had a heart attack, heart failure and diabetes live better lives. But what we really want to focus on is preventing these diseases before they happen.

"That's one thing that draws me to family care. You get to start at the beginning with a patient to hopefully prevent illnesses instead of waiting until they become ill to treat a patient back to good health. Getting an ill person well again can often times be more difficult than prevention."

Dr. Denson, a Chickasaw citizen, said the keys were health education and proper screening at earlier ages.

Dr. Denson's Chief of Primary Care duties entail supervisory responsibilities while still allowing him to see patients.

As Chief of Primary Care, Dr. Denson sees patients part of the

time, while spending the rest of his time supervising and supporting the 36 medical providers at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and in Tishomingo, Purcell and Ardmore satellite health clinics.

Dr. Denson said he and his medical teams worked to create access to family care for as many patients as possible, while remaining committed to preventative, safe, quality care.

Dr. Denson knew he liked science at an early age. In college he discovered he enjoyed learning about human anatomy and physiology. As a college junior, the Chickasaw Nation Native Explorers program gave him an opportunity to shadow different medical professionals.

In 2007, after earning his undergraduate degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Dr. Denson served as a unit

clerk at Carl Albert Indian Hospital. There, he manned phones, scheduled screening tests and handled paperwork for doctors. He wanted to be certain medicine was the correct career path.

The Chickasaw Nation and Indian Health Service provided a scholarship that allowed Dr. Denson to attend the University of Oklahoma Medical School.

"I am thankful for what the Chickasaw Nation has done to support me to get me through medical school and to get to where we are today," he said. "I owe the Nation a large debt of gratitude and hopefully we can pay that back through the years by taking care of patients and providing great care.

"This is a great place to work and you couldn't ask for better people. They care more about patients than anybody I've ever seen."

Dr. Denson's Chickasaw heritage comes down through his father's side of the family.

"My great-grandmother was a full-blood original enrollee. We still have part of the original allotment land down around Jesse, Oklahoma," he said.

Dr. Denson said he and his family had always been proud of their Chickasaw heritage.

"We grew up in the Chickasaw Nation," he said. "We've eaten some traditional foods, such as pashofa, and spent time trying to learn the language."

It is a heritage he wants to continue sharing with his own children.

"I have taken some language classes and my kids and I have downloaded the Rosetta Stone app to learn more," he said.

CONTRIBUTED BY Loné Beasley, Media Affairs.

Chickasaw Nation WIC services offered

The Chickasaw Nation Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition program (WIC) has a heart for serving eligible pregnant or postpartum women, infants and children up to the age of five. Caring staff provide a safe and nurturing environment for new moms and all family members including a generous food package and encouragement and support in feeding their children. It also helps families improve their diet, get immunizations and health care as well as encourages women to breastfeed.

WIC educators and nutritionists are available to assist mothers and fathers in feeding their families and helping their children grow to their full potential by providing helpful nutrition information and counseling.

Lactation consultants and

breastfeeding peer counselors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to encourage and support breastfeeding moms through daily challenges.

The Chickasaw Nation WIC program serves more than 4,000 Native and non-Native families providing a variety of great tasting, healthy foods and feeding solutions.

A WIC food package includes milk, cheese, yogurt, fruit juice, eggs, cereal, whole grains, canned fish, peanut butter, beans/peas as well as fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables. Infant foods are also offered and formula for infants is provided if needed. Enhanced food packages are offered to breastfeeding women.

In the summer months, the participants are eligible for farmers' market nutrition program checks

for the purchase of Oklahoma-grown fresh fruits and vegetables from authorized farmers markets and farm stands throughout the Chickasaw Nation and surrounding areas.

Services are available to anyone who meets the following guidelines:

- Is currently pregnant or breastfeeding
 - Has had a baby in the past six months or has a child up to five years of age
 - Meets WIC income guidelines (approximately \$3100 per month for a family of three)
 - Has a nutritional assessment at the WIC office
- For information on how Chickasaw Nation WIC can serve you, call (855) 559-0985.

NALSA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and our communities embraced in our homelands. It's been nice to be able to speak more about that at the end of a long week of seeing a multitude of different cultures, different approaches to embracing tribal sovereignty and maintaining that culture.

"It is really nice to be able to devote a day to learn about not only how our leaders operate and how the government functions, but how we are able to integrate the culture into educating our youth, our elders and our employees. It really means a lot to me to be able to share that."

The Chickasaw Nation assisted with ground transportation and lodging during the trip. The group also met Gov. Bill Anoatubby to share appreciation for the support.

"I am confident this trip might not have been the same or as informative if we had not had the support of the Chickasaw Nation," Miss Hulbutta said.

Columbia law student Juliana Bennington, who grew up in Hawaii, described the trip as a great

experience and an opportunity to learn more about Ms. Hulbutta's tribe.

"It's been a great experience," Ms. Bennington said. "Knowing Mari and then getting to know her tribe, it all makes sense. She's such a great representative for the Chickasaw Nation and her personality (is so) strong, but also caring. That is (also) what I see here. It makes sense."

About Native American Law Student Association at Columbia Law School

Founded in 1989 to foster academic support for Native American students and others interested in American Indian Legal issues, NALSA seeks to increase awareness of Indian issues, viewpoints, culture and societies. The organization also focuses on increasing Indian recruitment to build a vital and diverse Native American student body.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Upcoming Events

National Public Health Week Mini Fair April 1, 10 a.m.-noon Chickasaw Nation Medical Center Ada, Okla. (580) 559-0880	April 5, 10 a.m.-noon Purcell Health Clinic Purcell, Okla. (580) 559-0880	May 4, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 1:30-3:30 p.m. ARTesian Gallery and Studios Sulphur, Okla. (580) 622-8040	Arts and Humanities Ada (580) 272-5520
National Public Health Week Mini Fair April 2, 10 a.m.-noon Ardmore Health Clinic Ardmore, Okla. (580) 559-0880	Beaded Badge Clip April 13, 1-3 p.m. Chickasaw Capitol Tishomingo (580) 371-9835	Chickasaw Press Spring Sale May 9, 4-8 p.m. Chickasaw Community Center Ada (580) 436-7282	Fishing Clinic May 11, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Inslee Fish Farm Tishomingo (580) 272-5716
Rendezvous at Fort Washita April 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fort Washita Durant, Okla. (580) 371-9835	2019 Chickasaw Hall of Fame Ceremony April 23, 5:30 p.m. Embassy Suites Hotel Norman, Okla. (580) 332-1165	Chickasaw Press Spring Sale May 10, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Chickasaw Press Ada (580) 436-7282	Grape Dumpling Cooking Class May 16, 6-8 p.m. Kullihoma Allen, Okla. (580) 622-7140
National Public Health Week Mini Fair April 4, 10 a.m.-noon Tishomingo Health Clinic Tishomingo, Okla. (580) 559-0880	Loom Beading April 27, 10 a.m.-noon Fort Washita Durant (580) 924-6502	Mother's Day Tea May 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Chickasaw White House Emet, Okla. (580) 235-7343	Movie Night at Fort Washita May 18, 8:30-11 p.m. Fort Washita Durant (580) 924-6502
National Public Health Week Mini Fair April 4, 10 a.m.-noon Tishomingo Health Clinic Tishomingo, Okla. (580) 559-0880	Basket Weaving April 27, 1-3 p.m. Chickasaw Council House Museum Tishomingo (580) 371-3351	Daddy and Me Mother's Day Paint May 11, 10 a.m.-noon, 1-3 p.m.	Artesian Arts Festival May 25, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Artesian Plaza Sulphur (580) 272-5520
National Public Health Week Mini Fair	Mother's Day Scarves		

MATTHEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

thews said. "It was my first full-time job in the industry. I was very excited to make the move to Ada because my parents were raised in the area and I spent much of my childhood in Pauls Valley."

Mrs. Matthews transferred within the Chickasaw Nation to the Department of Communications and Community Development. Once promoted to graphic design manager, she was involved in the early planning stages of project development. Using her knowledge of graphic design, she worked closely with leadership to visually communicate the goals and mission of the Chickasaw Nation.

As graphic design manager, she continued to hone the technical skills needed by those she supervised. She maintained a close working relationship with staff photographers and was involved in the planning of photo shoots. She was also tasked with overseeing printed materials from

outside vendors to ensure they conformed to Chickasaw Nation standards and guidelines.

As Director of Graphic Design and Photography, Mrs. Matthews works with departments within the Chickasaw Nation to effectively promote advertising projects, making sure projects fit the needs of all audiences, up to and including tribal government and international audiences.

"I currently lead a team of seven graphic designers and five photographers," she said "We are involved in a wide variety of projects within the Chickasaw Nation."

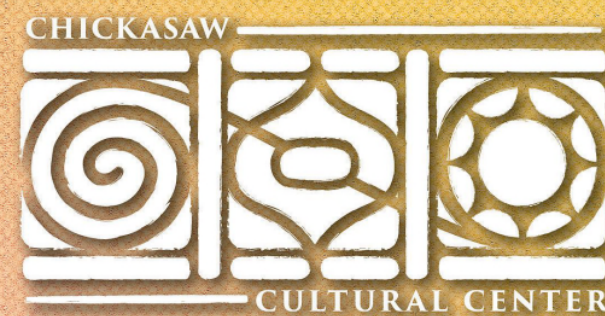
Mrs. Matthews has been recognized within the Chickasaw Nation and the community for her work. In 2016, she was inducted into the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology Hall of Fame. She has received recognition for her work within the Chickasaw Nation, including multiple "Can Do" awards. This award is presented to employees

who display a positive attitude and show exceptional dedication to their work. Among her advertising peers, she has been the recipient of numerous American Advertising awards.

According to Mrs. Matthews, being a successful leader means giving to the community in which you live. She currently sits on the committee for the Wear Red for Women event in Ada, a campaign that educates women on the symptoms of heart attack and heart disease. She is also a marketing panel speaker during the Pontotoc County Career Discovery Day sponsored by East Central University, Ada.

Mrs. Matthews spent two years mentoring female high school students through the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce Mentorship Program and was on the advisory committee for the digital media production program of Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee.

SATURDAY EVENING MOVIES



ALL FILMS SHOWING IN THE ANOLI' THEATER

SHOWS START AT 6:30 P.M.

APRIL 6
RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET (PG)

APRIL 13
ROBIN HOOD (PG-13)

APRIL 20
SAMSON (PG-13)

APRIL 27
CLUE (PG)

EXPERIENCE OUR NEW DIGITAL CINEMA PROJECTOR FEATURING OVER 32 TRILLION COLORS!

\$3 PER CHILD • \$4 PER ADULT OR \$6 MOVIE DEAL: INCLUDES TICKET, POPCORN & DRINK
CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN 16 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

WWW.CHICKASAWCULTURALCENTER.COM

Plenty of great information, fellowship during Albuquerque Community Connection

Chokma, I hope all is well with you and your family.

Last month I had the pleasure of attending the Chickasaw Community Connection Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I had a great time visiting with everyone. When a group of Chickasaws gets together, there is guaranteed to be a lot of stories, laughter and of course food! Chance Plett, Chickasaw Nation Social Media Director, gave an enlightening presentation on the many channels where information, history and current events are shared. Social platforms like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram allow citizens to engage and follow the latest developments. Chickasaw.tv has hundreds of hours of video content available that shares our history and culture with all who have an internet connection. These communication channels are making a big impact, keeping our Chickasaw citizens informed and connected while sharing our unique story with the country as well as around the world.

In Legislative session, there were three resolutions. The first Resolution changed the date of Legislative Session for April due to the Good Friday holiday. Session will be on Thursday, April 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the Legislative Building in Ada, Oklahoma. Two other Resolutions were approved, granting service line agreements in Latimer County to Dobson Technologies and Public Service Company of Oklahoma.

I would like to take a moment and recognize my good friend Monette Lynie Richardson for her 35 years of service to The Chickasaw Nation. She began her service in the Legislative Department on November 25, 1991. Lynie is a dedicated member of the team, jumping in to help whenever and wherever she is needed. I appreciate how she always has a smile on her face and a cheerful attitude as she works with us each day to enhance the over quality of life of the Chickasaw people. Congratulations, Lynie!

I would love to hear from you. Please contact me with your concerns, needs or questions. I am here to help. May God bless you and your family.
Toby Perkins, Legislator
Pontotoc District, Seat 1
(580) 399-2606
toby.perkins@chickasaw.net



Chickasaw students graduating college eligible to receive graduation stoles

The Chickasaw Nation Higher Education Program offers graduation stoles to Chickasaw college graduates. Recipients must earn an associates degree or higher at an accredited college or university.

Stoles are purple and yellow, embroidered with the Chickasaw Nation seal. Students are eligible for one stole per degree.

Apply at www.Chickasaw.net/highered or call (580) 421-7711.

Chickasaw Nation Head Starts now accepting applications

ADA, Okla. -- Chickasaw Nation Head Start locations in Ardmore, Sulphur and Tishomingo are accepting new students.

Children ages three through five can attend the early learning program that helps prepare young children for school. This program is offered at no cost to families.

Both Sulphur and Tishomingo centers have recently been renovated, making room for more students.

The programs are open to members of the community, with preference given to Native American children, low-income families and children with disabilities.

Enrollment deadline for the upcoming school year is June 1. Applications are accepted year-round.

To learn more or apply, visit Chickasaw.net/EarlyChildhood or call (580) 421-7711.

Tribe offers comprehensive services to those suffering violence, sexual assault

Chokma, chinchokma, Hello, how are you? April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month in order to bring awareness to a problem in our world that we'd rather not talk about.

However, sexual violence is highly prevalent. It is estimated by the Centers for Disease Control that one in three women and one in four men have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes. Nearly one in five women and one in thirty-eight men have experienced completed or attempted rape. Another horrible statistic shows that sexual violence starts early. One in three female rape victims and one in thirty-eight male rape victims experienced it for the first time between 11 and 17 years old and one in eight reported that it occurred before age 10.

Unfortunately, researchers know that the numbers are underestimated due to the fact that many cases go unreported. Victims may be ashamed, embarrassed or afraid to tell the police, friends, or family about the violence. Victims may also keep quiet because they have been threatened with further harm if they tell anyone or do not think anyone will help them.

As with other forms of violence, some racial/ethnic and sexual minority groups are disproportionately impacted. Native American women are ranked as one of the highest groups to experience sexual or domestic assault. The Chickasaw Nation has a long history of being dedicated to offering assistance to women and their children who experience domestic violence, sexual abuse or substance abuse.

The Chickasaw Nation Violence Prevention Services assists victims of sexual assault. Services are voluntary and available to Native Americans, ages 15 and older, who meet eligibility criteria. An advocate is available and on call 24 hours a day to assist victims with crisis intervention, safety planning, transportation, criminal advocacy, emergency shelter, and an examination by a trained SANE nurse.

Services offered by the Chickasaw Nation focus on many factors needing attention in a victim's life. For anyone needing service, the tribe offers shelter, to immediately remove victims from the threat of violence; relocation, to facilitate moving on with life at a new violence-free site; jobs, the tribe helps victims create a professional resume and helps schedule interviews to help victims find work; services, including counseling; assistance with dependent children, so the victim can work or go to counseling or pursue other helpful services provided by the tribe; and education for both abuser and abused, helping create a healthy relationship.

For the last several years, the Chickasaw Nation has hosted a walk at Wintersmith Park in Ada to bring awareness to this problem. "Walking to Stomp Out Sexual Assault" starts at 11 am on April 13, 2019, and everyone is invited to walk around the park and learn more about how we can prevent sexual assaults for ourselves and our loved ones. Educating our youth on healthy relationships, training students from middle school to college to intervene when they see someone engaging in unhealthy behaviors, and working within our communities to promote safe, stable, and nurturing environments are ways we can all get involved to make a difference. The Chickasaw Nation has many programs to help those affected by sexual assault and abusive situations. For more information, call (580) 272-5580. Please let me know if I can help you in anyway.

Chipisala cho anowa, Until I see you again,
Nancy
Pontotoc District Seat 2
Nancy.elliott@Chickasaw.net
(580) 399-4374

2018-2019 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District Seat

1. Toby Perkins
15810 CR 1569
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-2606
Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net

2. Nancy Elliott
620 Ann
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 399-4374
Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net

3. J. Lisa Impson
P.O. Box 2669
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 235-3185
Lisa.impson@chickasaw.net

4. Karen Goodnight
P.O. Box 759
Washington, OK 73093
(580) 235-2654
Karen.goodnight@chickasaw.net

5. Lisa J. Billy
19259 150th Street
Lindsay, OK 73052
(580)399-7083
LisaJ.Billy@chickasaw.net

Pickens District Seat

1. David Woerz
P.O. Box 669
Ardmore, OK 73402
(580) 235-3240
David.Woerz@chickasaw.net

2. Connie Barker
509 SW 7th Ave.
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-4175
Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net

3. Linda Briggs
P.O. Box 241
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 272-7268
Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net

4. Shana Tate Hammond
801 North Mississippi
Ada, Oklahoma, 74820
(580) 235-1438
Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net

Tishomingo District Seat

1. Scott Wood
101 West Main Street
Tishomingo, OK 73450
(580) 221-1430
Scott.Wood@chickasaw.net

2. Tim Colbert
P.O. Box 773
Sulphur, OK 73086
(580) 421-7242
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net

3. Steven Woods
5071 Gray's Road
Davis, OK 73030
(580) 272-7270
Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net

Panola District Seat

1. Beth Alexander
Box 246
Achille, OK 74720
(580) 272-7850
beth.alexander@chickasaw.net
bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Higher education, career tech scholarships, much more available through our tribe

Chokma! Greetings from the Tishomingo District! It's April and soon another school term will come to an end, and a new crop of high school graduates will be pursuing higher education goals or begin a career in the workforce.

Many Chickasaw students are better able to achieve their higher education goals, thanks to the many education resource programs the Chickasaw Nation offers.

The Chickasaw Nation's higher education and career technology programs provided almost \$19.4 million in scholarships, grants and other forms of support to more than 5,000 Chickasaw students.

The number of grants, scholarships, incentives and other education assistance has continually grown each year. By investing in our young people through these programs, we are investing in our future.

The tribe provides tutoring assistance to hundreds of Chickasaw students through the tutoring reimbursement program and provides school supplies to thousands of Native American students through the Chickasaw Nation Johnson O'Malley program.

The Native Explorers program gives Chickasaw students the opportunity to learn more about all types of sciences and experience unique learning activities, and the hard work of maintaining good grades is rewarded to outstanding students through the Chickasaw Honor Club.

We partner with Oklahoma universities to offer recruitment and retention programs which helps increase the graduation rates of Chickasaw students.

The Chickasaw Nation's internship program offers our students a chance to gain employment experience in companies throughout the nation. The Toksali SMART program offers our young people summer employment that is matched with their interests.

The Imatahli program assists Chickasaw middle and high school students with preparing and planning for college and career.

Commitment to education does not stop at school-aged children. The Chickasaw Nation also offers adults programs such as the adult learning program and School to Work, which gives citizens who are non-traditional college students, support and offers on the job training while earning a degree.

It is evident our tribe places a high value on education, because the youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature.

It is truly an honor and a privilege.

Chokma' shki,
Tim Colbert
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net
(580) 421-7242

Update address online or by phone!

It is a happy new year when we can keep in touch with Chickasaw citizens!

Let us know your physical address with an easy address update online or by phone.

Receive important news, resources, guides and help us respond when you are affected by a natural disaster or weather emergency when you add your current information online at www.chickasaw.net/addresschange or call (888) 661-0137.

Sign up now and enjoy our upcoming Chickasaw Dynamic Women conference

Chokma, Hello. I hope you and your families are all doing well and staying active and healthy. I also hope that you enjoyed celebrating National Women's history month in March by honoring all of the incredible women who have made a difference in our world. At the Chickasaw Nation, we honor and recognize the importance of women in our society, so I spent some time



KAREN GOODNIGHT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

watching the women highlighted in our videos on Chickasaw.tv. I really enjoyed learning about these amazing women, like Lisa Billy, the first female and Native American congresswoman, Rebecca Owens - a US Naval Officer, Jerry Brown, a WWII Veteran, and Pearl Scott, Aviator, just to name a few. When you have some free time, be sure to go to the website and check it out. You will love it! Last month, the Legislators from the Pontotoc District attended the Newcastle Community meeting. We had such fun connecting with everyone there and enjoyed the terrific cultural presentation. Many of the Legislators also traveled together to attend the Chickasaw Community Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We had a wonderful time

visiting with all of the Chickasaw people and their families (around 40 attending). They were all so welcoming and Rita Yepa (see pic) does an outstanding job of hosting and making things happen for this Chickasaw community group! Thank you for your hard work Rita!

Recently, I was going through some of my mom's old photos and it reminded me of what a dynamic woman she truly was. Dedicating over 40 years of her life in service to the Chickasaw Nation and the Chickasaw people!

This made me think about our upcoming conference: Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference being held May 2nd, & 3rd at Winstar, in Thackerville, Oklahoma.

Please visit the website at Chickasaw.net for more details and to sign up. This conference is well-known and is one of the best conferences I have attended. It was one of my mom's favorite conferences as well. It is filled with amazing women who come together from near and far to fellowship, learn, celebrate, and have fun together. You will need to register soon because the seats fill up fast.

God bless you all, and as always, I am honored to serve as your Legislator. Please contact me anytime at Karen.goodnight@chickasaw.net, or call (580) 235-2654.

My best,
Karen



Legislator Karen Goodnight with Chickasaw citizen Rita Yepa.

Congratulations and thanks to Lynie Richardson for her service to our tribe

For the month of April I am spotlighting one of our very own! Congratulations Mrs. Lynie Richardson, Legislative Department Administrative Assistant, on completing 35 years of service with the Chickasaw Nation! That is something to be proud of! Lynie started working at the Chickasaw Nation in 1983-84 as a file clerk for the Finance Department. She has been with the Tribal Legislative Department for over 27 years and has served under two Chickasaw Governors, Overton James and Bill Anoatubby. Legislative trips, mileage and travel arrangements are just a few of the areas that she handles on the job. Her family history, way of life and personal convictions bring "active" Chickasaw culture and heritage to our office! She is a dancer, does beadwork and is a ribbon shirt/dress maker. I am proud to say that she made my first traditional dress!



BETH ALEXANDER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

When not at the Office, Lynie and her husband, Pat enjoy taking leisurely ocean cruises with various family members! She is the proud mother of five children, Rachel Stick, Theea Swinford, Dohna Logan, Summer Stick and Stirling Stick, 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild! In her spare time, Lynie enjoys sewing, quilting and being on hand to cheer and support her grandchildren at their sporting events!

Lynie is the great-granddaughter of original enrollee, Ms. Nedo Greenwood, of Ada, the granddaughter of Mr. Norman Greenwood and the daughter of Dorothy Greenwood Harris. She is one of seven children and was raised and attended school in Tupelo, Oklahoma. Her family's allotment land is located around the Duncan, Oklahoma area.

We are so thankful to have Lynie at our Legislative Office. Her presence, hard work and years of service are a testimony to her dedication to her family and to the Chickasaw Nation!

Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Proverbs 31: 28

Beth Alexander



Health care managers available to At-Large citizens and elders

Health care managers are available to provide program information for At-Large citizens and elders residing within tribal boundaries. Chickasaw citizens living outside the tribal boundaries or Chickasaw elders within the boundaries over age 60 can access Tribal Health Case Managers. The managers are available to answer questions regarding Chickasaw Nation Health programs.

At-Large Chickasaw Citizens (all age groups)

If you are a Chickasaw citizen living outside the tribal boundaries and would like more information on Chickasaw Nation Department of Health programs and services, call Amy Wampler, Services At-Large Case Manager at (800) 851-9136, ext. 61097.

Chickasaw Elders Age 60 and Older

If you are a Chickasaw elder over the age of 60, and live within tribal boundaries, contact Stefanie Luna, Elder Case Manager at (800) 851-9136, ext. 80110.

Chickasaw NextGen development offers networking opportunity May 30 - 31 in OKC

OKLAHOMA CITY - A new conference for Chickasaws exploring careers or just entering the workforce invites citizens to connect, network and grow in Oklahoma City May 30-31. Chickasaw NextGen is a one-of-a-kind professional development opportunity for recent high school graduates through citizens age 25.

Taking place in the beautiful Boathouse district near downtown Oklahoma City, the conference offers keynote speakers, networking with top business leaders, resume building, interview skills, personal branding and Chickasaw Nation resources.

Travel and accommodation assistance is available. This conference is open to the first 250 eligible applicants. Space is limited, please register early.

For more information, visit Chickasaw.net/NextGen.

Outstanding Achievement Award recipients

Bowdy Fires

Bowdy Fires is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for Athletics.

Bowdy is in the seventh grade at Sulphur Public Schools in Sulphur, Okla. He was nominated by his martial arts instructor, Dawn Ridden.

Ms. Ridden describes Bowdy as respectful, thoughtful and a hard worker. Bowdy has placed in the top three at two major karate tournaments and continues to work toward becoming a member of the Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts demonstration team.

Bowdy's hobbies include karate, skating, reading, hiking, swimming, golfing, gaming and watching YouTube. Bowdy's future plans are to become an archeologist or a technology programmer.

Emily Foraker

Emily Foraker is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for Citizenship and Academics.

Emily is a sophomore at Comanche High School in Comanche, Okla. She was nominated by her business information technology education instructor, Bandy Sanders.

Ms. Sanders describes Emily as a responsible student who has a strong work ethic. Ms. Sanders said Emily is a crucial part of many successful programs in the school.

Emily is active in Business Professionals of America, FFA, CRAVE Media team, basketball manager and Ray of Hope youth group. Emily's future plans are to graduate, attend nursing school and care for babies in the newborn intensive care unit.

Ava Foraker

Ava Foraker is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for Art, Citizenship and Academics.

Ava is a fifth grader at Comanche Elementary School in Comanche, Okla. She was nominated by her teacher, Linette Simpson.

Ms. Simpson describes Ava as honest, a leader who works hard every day and is always willing to help others.

Ava's hobbies include working with horses, playing basketball and spending time with her friends. Her future plans are to go to school to become an animal trainer.

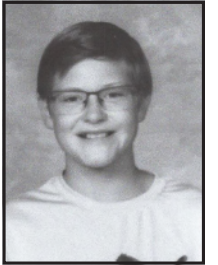
Trevor John

Trevor John is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for Citizenship and Art.

Trevor is an eighth grader at Ada Junior High in Ada, Okla. He was nominated by his school counselor, Lora Anderson.

Ms. Anderson describes Trevor as a well-rounded student with incredible character and compassion for others. He is also described as dedicated and talented.

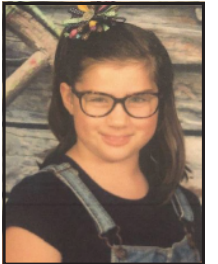
Trevor's hobbies include drawing, art classes, robotics, reading, playing games and bowling. His future plans are to attend college for art and animation.



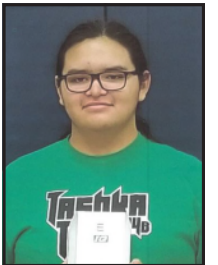
BOWDY FIRES



EMILY FORAKER



AVA FORAKER



TREVOR JOHN

Seniors are invited to mentor local school children through community service partnership

ADA, Okla. - Area seniors are invited to mentor local school children through a unique Chickasaw Nation and Corporation for National and Community Service partnership.

Any member of the community age 55 or older is invited to apply to become a volunteer in local school classrooms and help children according to their needs. Seniors will provide academic assistance, plus have an opportunity to offer support, guidance and friendship to children who need a little extra attention in the classroom.

The volunteer opportunity is available through the Chickasaw Nation Foster Grandparent Program. While it is new to the Pontotoc and Carter county areas, the program has existed for more than 50 years. The foster grandparent program gives volunteers a chance to be role models, mentors and friends to children with exceptional needs. Volunteers can add support in the classroom by providing extra attention and assistance while greatly increasing their own quality of life.

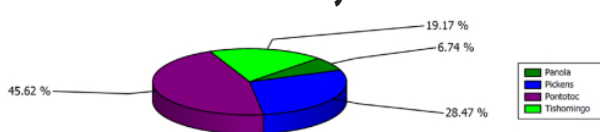
The Chickasaw Nation program has volunteer positions for any member of the community over 55. Volunteers must meet income eligibility requirements and also receive a small stipend for their service. Grandparents can be placed in public schools in Ada, Ardmore, Byng, Latta, Purcell, Sulphur and Tishomingo. Additional locations are available.

Any member of the community over 55 can apply. Visit Chickasaw.net/Grandparent or call Jade Bess at (580) 421-7711 to apply or learn more about this volunteer opportunity that can change lives.

Count of Voters by District

Panola	2,423	Pontotoc	16,391
Pickens	10,230	Tishomingo	6,887
		Total	35,931

Count of Voters by District



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Chickasaw Nation's Hilltop Meadow Addition

A public hearing regarding construction of the roadways for the Chickasaw Nation's proposed Hilltop Meadow housing addition, to be located east of the intersection of Lonnie Abbott Boulevard and North Monte Vista Street in Ada, Oklahoma, will be held Monday, April 8, 2019.

Interested parties may attend the hearing from 10 to 11 a.m. at the roads program's office, located at 1901 N. Broadway Blvd.

For more information, contact Terry Holman at (580) 272-5448 or Terry.Holman@Chickasaw.net.

Ada Senior Center Gift Shop

The gift shop is located inside the Chickasaw Nation Ada Senior Center at 1005 Chamber Loop Road, in Ada.

Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Call (580) 436-1007 for more information.

BIRTHDAYS



AALIYAH ARLES-REYNOLDS

Aaliyah turns seven

Aaliyah Arles-Reynolds turned seven years old Feb. 21, 2019. Aaliyah is the daughter of Sarah Arles, of Ardmore, Okla.

Aaliyah is the granddaughter of Joe and Armetta Looney, of Davis, Okla., and Francis Lewis of Ardmore, Okla.

Happy Birthday, Aaliyah!



LOLAMAЕ JAYMES OGAS

Lolamae Jaymes Ogas celebrated her first birthday Dec. 7, 2018. She was born at Silver City, N.M., to Marshall and Ashley Ogas.

She is the granddaughter of Tamera Sands and Callie and Mario Ogas. She is the great-granddaughter of Betty and Leroy Sands, Valla Dee Jack Egge and the late Walter B. Egge. She also has a great-great-grandfather, Sands.

She is descendant of Apache ancestors on her Grandpa Ogas side and the descendant of Chickasaw original enrollee, John McLish, and more recently, original enrollee, Mary Sugar Johnson Jack. Many wishes and much love for a long, happy life!

Chickasaw basketball player receives awards



CARRIE JOHNSON

Congratulations to Chickasaw/Pawnee junior point guard Carrie Johnson, of Collinsville (TX) High School, for her basketball awards from this season.

She received three All Tournament Awards including two MVPs, District Co-MVP, All Texomaland Player of the Year Finalist, Texas Association of Basketball Coaches All Region and Texas Girls Coaches Association All State and All Stars team selection.

Her father, Daniel Johnson, is the head coach and is Chickasaw. Her mother, Melissa Johnson, is an assistant coach and is Pawnee. They were awarded District Coaching Staff of the Year. Mr. Johnson is also All Texomaland Coach of the Year Finalist.

The team had a 31-2 record and were undefeated district champs, bi-district champs, area champs and regional quarterfinalists.



SERENITY TRUJILLO

Student wins Delta Kappa Gamma essay contest

Chickasaw student Serenity Trujillo won first place in the Delta Kappa Gamma essay contest during March. The contest was sponsored by Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and is the local organization for Pontotoc and Murray counties.

Serenity is in seventh grade at Ada Junior High.

Student receives Silver Honor Award



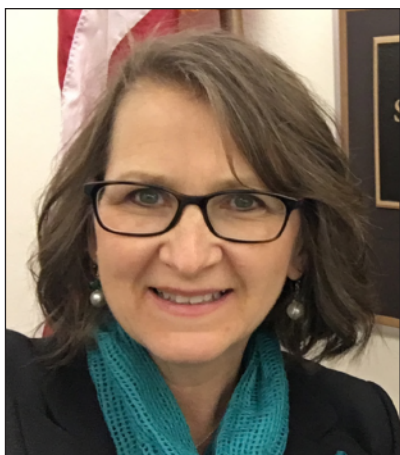
BRAYDEN GERDES

Brayden Gerdes recently received a Silver Honor Award from his school, Steven's Middle School, at Port Angeles, Wash.

He is a member of the Outreach Program of the Chickasaw Tribe and is very proud of it. He sends his thank you to the tribe for the gift cards he received.

He is a very well behaved 12-year-old boy and is always helpful. He teaches his sister, Chloe, with patience and understanding. He helps his Grandma and Grandpa Gerdes with chores and keeps them laughing all of the time. They are very proud of him.

Chickasaw cancer survivor advocates for cause in Washington



TAMMY SANDLIN

Tammy Sandlin recently traveled to Washington, D.C., along with nearly 100 other ovarian cancer survivors and supporters, after she was invited to serve as one of Tennessee's advocate leaders.

In 2013, she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer 3c and is currently battling her first recurrence from 2017. As a Chickasaw, it was a great pleasure for her to meet with Oklahoma Representative Tom Cole's staff and Kansas Representative Sharice Davids to discuss issues.

Chickasaw brothers win state in hockey



SAM & JACK ALEXANDER

Brothers Sam and Jack Alexander recently both won state in their respective age divisions at the Texas State Hockey Championships.

Sam's team, the Dallas Penguins, won state in the 18u age group and will play in the National Tournament at San Jose, Calif.

Jack's team, the McKinney Northstars, won state in the 16u age group and will play in the National Tournament at Dallas.

Sam and Jack are the sons of Jon and Tammi Alexander, of Lewisville, Texas, grandsons of J. D. and Aleta Alexander, great-grandsons of Wildo V. and Pearl Alexander, the great-great-grandsons of David and Mary Ella (Coyle) Alexander (original enrollee) and the great-great-grandsons of Albert Pike (original enrollee) and Clarissa Coyle.

Chickasaw student named to President's Honor Roll at OU



DANIELLE R. FIXICO

Chickasaw citizen Danielle R. Fixico received a letter and certificate as a member of the President's Honor Roll for the 2018 fall semester at the University of Oklahoma (OU), at Norman, Okla.

Ms. Fixico is a senior at OU. She is a Native American Studies major and a studio arts minor. She is a member of the Pride of Oklahoma color guard.

Ms. Fixico is also an artist. Her charcoal drawing "Eho Chikashsha" (Chickasaw Woman) has been selected for the 105th Annual OU School of Visual Arts Student Exhibition.

Her parents are William and Joyce (Hamilton) Fixico. Her maternal grandparents are William and Harriett Hamilton, Chickasaw. Her paternal grandparents are Billy and Sareda Fixico, Muscogee (Creek).

Polstone, Pich exchange vows in Missouri ceremony



Chickasaw elder Charles A. Pich, 85, of New Haven, Mo., married Patricia A. Polstone, of Gasconade, Mo., Mar. 16, 2019. The wedding ceremony was at the Faith Baptist Church at Washington, Mo., and attended by more than 70 friends and family members. Congratulations to the lovely couple.



KINZLEY NEAL

Chickasaw first-grader plays in opening tourney

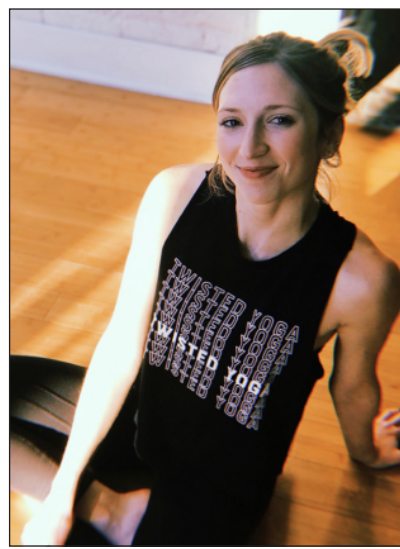
Chickasaw citizen Kinzley Neal, 7, of Ada, Okla., recently played in the opening season tournament Mar. 8 -10 at the Bouse Sports Complex at Choctaw, Okla.

It was freezing cold and the wind was blowing so hard but she still played her heart out and enjoyed the games.

Kinzley attends first grade at Homer Elementary. She will attend the Chickasaw Nation softball camp this summer and is so excited that she is finally old enough to attend and very grateful that her tribe is able to provide these activities.

Her parents are Kimberly Graves, and stepdad, Christopher Graves, of the home, with a younger sister and number one fan, Emry Graves, of Ada. Her father is Haven Neal, of Pauls Valley, Okla.

Chickasaw citizen opens Virginia yoga studio



BREE DODD

Chickasaw citizen Bree Dodd found the opportunity to open her own yoga studio called Twisted Yoga in downtown Richmond, Va., after completing her yoga training.

Disappointed and frustrated with mainstream yoga culture, she decided to create a space that makes yoga accessible and fun

Chickasaw West Point cadets visit Jordan



BLAKE HAVERN & ABBIE BURNS

Two Chickasaw West Point cadets, Blake Havern, of Texas, and Abbie Burns, of Oklahoma, traveled with West Point's Department of Foreign Language to Jordan over Spring Break.

Mr. Havern and Ms. Burns and the other cadets on the trip are studying Arabic at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. One of the trip highlights was a camel trek to the famous archaeological site of Petra. The trip also included a city tour of Amman, Bedouin Camp and visiting the Dead Sea.

The cadets also had the opportunity to practice Arabic when they had a traditional meal with a local family from the Ammarin Bedouin Tribe.

to all. She solely owns, manages and teaches at the studio where she invites people of all experience levels to come socialize and move.

Since inception, Twisted Yoga has been focused on creating community. She will be furthering this purpose with the expansion of a second business next door to the studio this year called Sip.

Sip will be a beverage lounge with a highly social atmosphere that marries community, health and wellness. All through local vendors and partnerships, Sip will provide smoothies, smoothie bowls, pressed juices, coffee and small bites.

Her Chickasaw heritage comes from her paternal great-grandmother Elizabeth (Culberson) Dunn.

Her parents are David and Laura Dodd, of St. Croix USVI. Her maternal grandparents are George (Buster) Dunn and Maxine Neely and her paternal grandparents are Bobby and LaNeta Dodd.

Nichols Accounting Service, LLC

Milissa Nichols, MBA

Accounting · Tax Preparation · Payroll

Office: (580)223-2488

Fax: (877)-266-5191

Mobile: (580)504-4627

milissanichols@sbcglobal.net

CHICKASAW WEST

ANNUAL CHICKASAW PICNIC
SANTEE LAKES, CA
SPONSORED BY CHICKASAW WEST

COME SPEND TIME WITH YOUR CHICKASAW FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

WHERE: SANTEE LAKES, SANTEE, CALIF.
619-596-3141
GAZEBO # 3 (IN THE BACK)

WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS AND BEVERAGES WILL BE SERVED AT 12 NOON

PLEASE BRING A FOOD DISH TO SHARE

WE PLAN TO HAVE MEMBERS OF THE CHICKASAW LEGISLATURE AT THE GATHERING

ENTRANCE FEE IS \$ 6.00 PER VEHICLE. PARKING IS NEXT TO THE PICNIC AREA.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING LAWN CHAIRS. THERE WILL BE COVERED AREAS IN CASE OF RAIN/HOT TEMPERATURES.

FISHING, PADDLE BOAT AND CANOE RENTALS ARE AVAILABLE.

SANTEE LAKES IS WITHIN 60 MINUTES OR LESS OF SEVERAL SAN DIEGO ATTRACTIONS YOU MAY WISH TO PLAN YOUR WEEKEND IN THE AREA. PLEASE CALL SANTEE LAKES FOR INFO REGARDING FISHING, CAMPING & RV 619-596-3141

FOR MORE INFO CALL SHARON TANDY 818-985-8392 OR 818-378-3295

FOR DIRECTIONS PLEASE CALL SHARON TANDY OR SANTEE LAKES.



1856 Constitution reestablishes Chickasaw national government

A variety of forces converged to pressure Chickasaws to leave their Homeland in 1837 and remove to new lands in Indian Territory.

While forces that led to Chickasaw Removal could be said to originate with the arrival of DeSoto in 1540, Thomas Jefferson was among the first to press for a federal policy of Indian Removal in the early 1800s.

While federal policy was moving toward removal, Chickasaws were undergoing changes in their own government and in the larger society.

The Chickasaw people began to diverge from traditional Chickasaw government structure. Increasing numbers of non-Chickasaws moved onto Chickasaw lands. Chickasaw laws were ignored by Mississippi and Alabama, and the U.S. government chose not to intervene to enforce treaty provisions or Chickasaw law.

Those forces built steadily for years, then seemed to increase exponentially between 1820 and 1830, when the first removal treaty was signed by the Chickasaw Nation. Pressure to remove continued to intensify for the next seven years leading up to the

1837 Treaty of Doaksville.

Added to all the other forces at play, federal government officials consistently advocated for the Chickasaws and Choctaws to join together as one nation.

Federal officials achieved that goal, as provisions of that treaty effectively changed the status of the Chickasaw Nation to a District of the Choctaw Nation. Nevertheless, the Chickasaw people continued to see themselves as a nation of people.

For several years, Chickasaws settled not only in the Chickasaw district, but across the Choctaw Nation, leaving the Chickasaw district with fewer members than other districts of the Choctaw Council.

Therefore, Chickasaws were seriously underrepresented in the Choctaw Council, which was a serious immediate concern.

That concern was overshadowed by the more compelling long-term fear of losing their Chickasaw identity. Chickasaw people knew that self-governance was vital to the future of their people, their culture and their language.

Although the Chickasaw people had little power through representation in the Choctaw govern-

ment, the Chickasaw Commission helped to preserve a form of governance that served the Chickasaw people more directly.

Created in the treaty of 1834, the Chickasaw Commission was responsible for administration of certain treaty provisions. Over time, the range of responsibilities increased to include most aspects of Chickasaw business life.

The Chickasaw Commission helped provide representation for the Chickasaw people during the first years as a district in the Choctaw Nation.

In addition to the Chickasaw Commission, the Chickasaw District Chief and elected representatives provided a form of local government.

Leaders of the district government also began experimenting with a Chickasaw Constitution as early as 1846. Drafted by the Chickasaw District Council during a general Council at Boiling Springs, and ratified by the Chickasaw people, that first document stated Chickasaw intentions to guard their liberty and their property.

In 1848, a second Constitution adopted by the people established a more defined government structure, including executive

and legislative branches.

Further changes to the constitution in 1849 and 1851 provided for a national treasurer, auditor and other public officials.

Success with constitutional government helped unify Chickasaws and fan the flames of nationalism that had remained despite the powerful outside forces at play.

Responding to that sense of nationalism and the desire of Chickasaws to once again govern themselves, Winchester Colbert, Isaac Alberson and other Chickasaw leaders developed an approach that was ultimately effective in gaining federal support for separation from the Choctaw Nation.

That approach included challenging treaty provisions regarding ownership and boundaries of the Chickasaw District. In addition, Chickasaw leaders complained of being a minority district in the Choctaw Nation, where they were mistreated by an oppressive government.

Winchester Colbert summed up the feelings of the Chickasaws in an 1851 letter to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

"The Chickasaw are dissatisfied with their current political condition; nothing but a separa-

tion from the Choctaws will ever satisfy them."

By 1853, Federal officials offered their full support for Chickasaw separation from the Choctaw Nation. In 1854, Chickasaw and Choctaw commissioners began initial negotiations regarding separation.

In 1855, the United States, the Choctaw Nation and the Chickasaw Nation signed the Treaty of Washington, which re-established the Chickasaw Nation's separate government-to-government relationship with the United States.

That treaty once again recognized the Chickasaw Nation as an independent entity, which was no longer part of the Choctaw Nation. It also established permanent jurisdictional boundaries between the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations, while continuing certain shared legal rights with respect to the United States.

In 1856, the Chickasaw people drafted and ratified a new constitution, creating a new organic document laying out the structure and powers of the Chickasaw Nation.

Health Department offers programs, services, resources

The Chickasaw Nation Department of Health has many exceptional programs, services and resources to offer Chickasaw citizens, Chickasaw Nation employees and the community.

There are different times in our lives when we need to check on our health and ensure we are meeting every milestone, getting every test or immunization needed. Protecting our children's health and maintaining our own well-being are vital.

Following are some important "Did You Know" facts and tips for a healthier lifestyle:

National Public Health Week

To celebrate National Public Health Week, the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health, Research and Public Health, will host mini health fairs at Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and each of the satellite health clinics in Ardmore, Purcell and Tishomingo.

National Public Health Week kicks off April 1 in Ada with a health fair at Chickasaw Nation Medical Center from 10 a.m. to noon. It continues throughout the week at the satellite health clinics.

These health fairs will highlight programs and services the Chickasaw Nation offers that promote public health.

Mini health fairs will also be hosted from 10 a.m. through noon at: April 2 - Ardmore health clinic; April 4 - Tishomingo health clinic; April 5 - Purcell health clinic.

For more information on the mini health fairs, call (580) 559-0880.

Pediatric Services Available at All Chickasaw Nation Health Clinics

The Chickasaw Nation now offers pediatrics at all three satellite clinics in Ardmore, Purcell and Tishomingo. The pediatric clinics serve outpatient needs for children under the age of 18, for Chickasaw citizens and citizens of any federally recognized tribe.

Services include well-child checkups, immunizations, non-emergent urgent care and medical family therapy.

What you can expect from well-child checkups:

Well-child checkups typically occur at newborn, two months, four months, six months, nine months, one year, 15 months and annually thereafter. Well-child checkups focus on your child's overall health, developmental milestones, nutrition, safety, and your child's and the family's emotional well-being.

Make the Chickasaw Nation your child's primary care provider, by scheduling a well-child checkup at any of our satellite clinics. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call the Ardmore clinic at (580) 222-2950, Purcell clinic at (405) 527-4700 or the Tishomingo clinic at (580) 387-2722.

National Infant Immunization Week April 27-May 4

The Chickasaw Nation Department of Health observes National Infant Immunization Week, April 27 to May 4. The observance of this week is to highlight the importance of immunizations protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Vaccinations are important because they protect not only the person getting vaccinated, but also helps prevent the spread of disease to people who are high risk and have weakened immune systems.

Without vaccines, children are at an increased risk for diseases

that can spread easily to others at day cares, schools and home. It is important for children who are around young babies to be fully vaccinated. To be current on all vaccinations make sure your children's shot records are up to date.

Vaccines protect children and teens from serious and potentially life-threatening disease.

Measles, mumps and whooping cough still exist and cause outbreaks. Vaccines can help prevent against contracting these diseases.

Parents can find more about recommended vaccines by visiting www.CDC.gov/vaccines/parents.

To schedule an appointment to assess your child's immunization needs, call the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center at (580) 436-3980, the Ardmore clinic at (580) 222-2950, Purcell clinic at (405) 527-4700 or the Tishomingo clinic at (580) 387-2722.

Measles – Department of Research and Public Health

– Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Program

Measles (Rubeola), once thought to be mostly eradicated in the United States is making a resurgence throughout the country. A recent outbreak in nine states has brought to light the dangers and communicability of this disease. Nine cases have been recently confirmed in Texas with one case identified in Denton County. With a case identified in North Texas, it is important that we are all aware of the signs and symptoms of the disease and the methods necessary to avoid infection.

1. Measles can be serious.
 - a. One in four people in the U.S. who get measles will be hospitalized.
 - b. One out of 1,000 will develop brain swelling, which could lead to permanent brain damage.
 - c. One out of 1,000 people will die even with medical care.
2. Symptoms of measles:
 - a. Fever
 - b. Rash

- c. Runny nose
- d. Red eyes
3. Measles is very contagious
 - a. Measles spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. If one person is infected, it is estimated that they will potentially infect nine or 10 people.
 - b. An infected person can spread the disease before they know they are infected. They are infectious prior to any symptoms of the disease.
4. You can protect your child with the MMR vaccine
 - a. The best protection is the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine.
 - b. The first dose at 12-15 months of age.
 - c. The second dose at 4-6 years of age.

-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/measles)

For more information about measles, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/measles>.

It's time once again to feature our Chickasaw High School Seniors

The Chickasaw Times would like to congratulate each of you on your accomplishment by featuring you in our May 2019 issue.

Your biography and photo will appear in this special issue if you email them to us at times.chickasaw@chickasaw.net or by completing the form below and mail it to us with a photo no later than Monday, April 15, 2019.



NOTICE:
Email (preferred):
 Information (300 words or less) and photo can be emailed to times.chickasaw@chickasaw.net.
Mail:
 Please send form and an original photo (not a photo copy). The photo will be returned if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Senior Profile Form

(Please PRINT clearly)

Name _____

Home town _____

High School _____

Parents/guardians _____
 (If parents are deceased or divorced, please indicate)

Grandparents _____

Information about graduate (include school activities, extracurricular activities, future plans, etc.)

Please mail your completed form to
 Chickasaw Times, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821

April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month

April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month. The Chickasaw Nation Dental Department encourages everyone to schedule regular dental exams and oral cancer screenings. Every year in the U.S., an estimated 50,000 people are diagnosed with oral cancer.

According to the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, oral and pharyngeal cancer collectively kill nearly one person every hour, every day of the year.

You are three times more likely to get oral cancer if you smoke or chew tobacco and 30 times more likely to get oral cancer if you have the human papillomavirus (HPV). Other risk factors include poor oral hygiene, poor nutrition and drinking alcohol.

Twenty-five percent of oral cancer patients have no known risk factors of the disease. Yearly screenings and exams can help catch oral cancer early.

You can perform an oral cancer self-exam, by standing in front

of a mirror, feeling the insides of your lips and cheeks, tilting your head back and looking at the roof of your mouth, looking and feeling front and back of gums, and all of the surfaces of your tongue. Look for sores that do not heal, feel for lumps or enlarged lymph nodes, or discolored patches.

If you find anything unusual, schedule an appointment with your dentist. Early detection is key to fighting oral cancer. Regular routine dental exams give your dentist the best chance to detect oral cancer.

Schedule an appointment with the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health dental clinics, for regular checkups, cleanings, examinations and tips for maintaining healthy dental hygiene.

For more information on dental services through the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health, call (580) 421-4596.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dallas Rudd, Tribal Communications

FEBRUARY 2019 LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

**CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
February 15, 2019**

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Toby Perkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

Members absent: Connie Barker, Dr. Karen Goodnight

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms, Les Wesberry, Legislative Counsel, Monette "Lynnie" Richardson, Legislative Assistant

Guests present: Michael L. Wingo, Dana Lance, Wanda Scott, Todd Martin, Summer Stick, Cade Smith

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Billy.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - January 18, 2019

A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve the minutes of January 18, 2019.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

11 yes votes

The motion to approve the minutes of January 18, 2019 carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 36-017, Authorization for Acceptance of Real Property in Pontotoc County

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's acceptance of a transfer of real property from Sovereign Properties Holdco, LLC, located in Pontotoc County, State of Oklahoma, and hereby incorporated by reference together with all improvements thereon, if any, in the present condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted. The Governor is authorized to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to place the property U.S.A. in Trust for the Chickasaw Nation after acquisition, if such action is advantageous.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Woerz to approve GR36-017.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR36-017 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 36-018, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Johnston County

This Resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property in Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma, for the Chickasaw Nation expansion of the Chickasaw Nation Capitol Campus properties.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mrs. Alexander to approve GR36-018.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR36-018 carried unanimously.

Ms. Briggs concluded her report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

Comments by Ms. Wanda Blackwood Scott

Ms. Scott praised the Legislature for the work they were doing.

Chairperson Perkins recognized Ms. Monette Richardson for her 35 years of service to the Nation and presented her with a plaque.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wood, Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by:

Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Election Rules & Regulations Ad Hoc Committee

March 11, 2019

Present: Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Lisa Impson

Legislative Committee

March 11, 2019

Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Steve Woods

Absent: Scott Wood

Finance Committee

March 11, 2019

Present: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, David Woerz, Toby Perkins

Land Development Committee

March 11, 2019

Present: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Lisa Impson, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

Committee of the Whole Meeting

March 11, 2019

Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

MARCH 2019 RESOLUTIONS, CONTINUED

General Resolution Number 36-019

Resolution Changing the Meeting Day for the April, 2019, Legislative Session

Explanation: This resolution changes the meeting day for the Regular Session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature in April, 2019. The April Regular Session falls on Good Friday, which is a Chickasaw Nation scheduled Holiday; therefore, it is imperative the Legislative Session be held on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Presented By: Legislative Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

General Resolution Number 36-020

Service Line Agreement in Latimer County

Explanation: Dobson Technologies has requested the Chickasaw Nation grant a service line agreement for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, operating, transmitting, distributing, repairing, and replacing fiber optic lines situated across the South East side of a tract located in Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 21 East, Latimer County, Oklahoma.

Property Location: SE/4 corner of Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 21 East of the Indian Meridian, Latimer County, Oklahoma.

Use: To be utilized as a service line agreement for Dobson Technologies.

Requested By: Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

General Resolution Number 36-021

Service Line Agreement in Latimer County

Explanation: Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) has requested the Chickasaw Nation grant a service line for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, installing, repairing and replacing cables situated in Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 21 East, Latimer County, Oklahoma.

Property Location: a part of SE/4 of Section 3 Township 3 North, Range 21 East, Latimer County, Oklahoma.

Use: To be utilized as a service line agreement for Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO).

Requested By: Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Lisa Impson, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

It's TAX Time!
Lisa S. Huling, C.P.A.
Professional and Affordable
(580) 332-3239
102 E. 12th Street, Ada, OK 74820 (Across from Aldridge Cafe)
Open Mon. - Fri., 9:00-5:30: Saturdays, 9 a.m. - Noon and by appointment.

- Tax preparation fees can be deducted from your refund
 - Advance Loan up to \$6,000 in as little as 24 hours
 - Load refund on E1 Debit Card
- Refund Check (can be cashed with no fees at local bank)

Walk-ins Welcome!!! Affordable!

Stop Paying High Bank Fees!!!

10% Off for New Clients!

Sharon L. (Parnell) Locke



Sharon L. (Parnell) Locke, 78, passed away Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019, at Oklahoma City. Graveside services were Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019, at Hillcrest Memorial Park at Ardmore, Okla.

Mrs. Locke was born May 22, 1940 to Ewing Ross Parnell Sr. and Lillie Audrey (Coyle) Parnell at Oklahoma City. She attended St. Mary's Catholic School. Sharon married Henry "Hank" Locke Dec. 15, 1962 at Ardmore, Okla. She worked as a nurse at Ardmore Veterans' Home for over 40 years before she retired. She loved watching pro-wrestling, horse racing and gambling at the casinos. Sharon will be remembered for her stubbornness.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Locke; son, Robert Rogers Jr.; daughter, Gloria Faulkner; and three sisters.

Sharon is survived by her son, Levi Locke; three grandchildren, Robert "Robby" Rogers III and wife, Brandy, Lajauna "Turkey" Sanchez and family friend Mose Love and Anthony "Toby" Sanchez; five great-grandchildren, Cydnee Payne-Windham and husband Casey, Catherine Sanchez, Azlin Sanchez, Tyler Rogers and Jerome Cohee; one great-great-grandchild, Jordan Windham; and brother, Ewing Parnell Jr.

Condolences may be left at www.griffinhillcrest.com.

Patsy Lynn Milson



Patsy Lynn Milson, 66, Chickasaw citizen of Duncan, Okla., passed away Feb. 19, 2019 at Oklahoma City.

Mrs. Milson was born Mar. 11, 1952 at Odessa, Texas to Vivian (Knotts) Holmes. She married her best friend since 1979, Shane L. Milson, Mar. 22, 1991 at Pittsburg, Texas.

She was active throughout her life and loved watching her grandchildren play sports. She played soccer with friends and family and enjoyed tending grapes at the vineyard. Any outdoor time, especially at the lake was special. She also enjoyed quilting and making jewelry and her dogs. She treasured going on her girls' hunting trips with her sisters.

Survivors include her husband, Shane Milson, of Duncan; her parents, Vivian and Vernon Kelley, of Pittsburg, Texas; a daughter, Randa Darnell and husband, Keith, of Midlothian, Texas and two grandchildren, Andrew Shane and Chloe Ryann; two sisters, Pamela Wynn and husband, Richard, of Kingsland, Texas and Johnnie Finney and husband, Lee, of Pittsburg; two brothers, Wade Johnson and wife, Cathey, of Houma, La., and Carlton Kelley, of Emory, Texas; her mother-in-law, Clara Milson, of Benjamin, Texas; and two sisters-in-law, Kathy Woolley and husband, Kermit, of Spur, Texas and Kelley Slade, of San Marcos, Texas; and numerous other loving family members.

She was preceded in death by her infant daughter, Shawna Rene Walker; her brother-in-law, David Milson; and father-in-law, Sharon L. Milson.

She was proud to be a lung cancer survivor for 19 years and would be honored for memorial gifts to be made in her name to the American Cancer Society or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Barbara Ann Matthews



Barbara Ann Matthews, 78, passed from this life Mar. 8, 2019 at Altus, Okla. Services were March 11, 2019 at People's Cooperative Funeral Home Chapel at Lone Wolf, Okla.

She was born April 10, 1940 to Jacob Loren Thompson and Nellie Mae (Devoll) at the home place at Greer County where she grew up. She was a Vinson High School graduate.

She loved her job as a realtor and excelled at selling real estate and helped many families to purchase their own home all around southwestern Oklahoma. She liked to make candy, loved Christmas and had a giving spirit. She was always outside working in the yard and loved to remodel and do home improvements.

She is survived by her son, Kelly Matthews and wife, Ashlie, of Lone Wolf; daughter, Pam Hamilton and husband, Dennis, of Knoxville; sisters, Geneva Hancock, of Edmond, Jean Pence, of Duke, Nancy Dillahunt, of Edmond and JoAnn Bassel, of Altus. She leaves a legacy of grandchildren, Kaden Hamilton and David Logan, of Chattanooga, Boman Hamilton, of Knoxville, Karson and Abree Matthews, of Lone Wolf; and one great-granddaughter LeeLa Logan, of Chattanooga. She is also survived by a number of nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jacob and Nellie Thompson; brother, Bill Thompson; and sister, Janie Smith.

Memorials can be made to the Parkinson Research Foundation.

Bennie DeWayne Durant

Bennie DeWayne Durant, 84, retired 1st Lieutenant Commander with the Oklahoma Highway Patrol and former Pittsburg County Sheriff, passed away peacefully Feb. 5, 2019 at home at McAlester, Okla., with his family by his side.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Durant; daughter, Diana Lorber and husband, Bill, and two children, Austin and Ayden; Alan Durant and wife, Gina, and three children, Amanda, Rosemary and Rayce; Dwight Durant and wife, Shelley, and two children, Bailee and Shaelee; two sisters, Lois Ward and Laveta Dryden; and numerous nieces and nephews.

At his request, a private memorial with family was held in his Honor.

Patricia Gail Lanier

RICHLAND, Wash. - Patricia Gail Lanier passed quickly from this life to be home with Jesus for Christmas Dec. 18, 2018. A celebration of life was Jan. 5 at the First Baptist Church, at Bethany, Okla.

She was born July 27, 1938 at Pontotoc, Okla. She graduated as valedictorian. After high school, she attended Murray State College, Tishomingo, Okla.

Moving to Ada for work, she

joined First Baptist Church. There, she met and married the love of her life, David Lester Lanier. They had two children.

She worked as secretary for the First Baptist Church of Moore and then as the WMU secretary for the Baptist Convention of Oklahoma until retiring at 65. Her husband passed at Oklahoma City after a long difficult illness. She then moved to Richland, Wash., in 2017 near her daughter and son-in-law.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Wilson and Polly Harden; brother, Hardy Harden; and husband, David Lanier.

She is survived by her two sisters, Sue Combes and Linda Maughan (John); two children, Rene' Moore (Tom) and Stephen Lanier (Kylla); five grandchildren, Matt, Sarah, and Drew Jackson (Sarah), Ben Lanier, Kim Clay (Ethan); three grandchildren by marriage, Kari Peterson (Mark), Isabel Banks (Zack) and Faith Guzman; also, five great-grandsons.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial contributions can be made in her name to the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions.

Jerry Snider



Jerry Snider, 78, passed away Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019 at Edmond, Oklahoma. A memorial service was Thursday, March 7, 2019 at First United Methodist Church at Edmond.

Mr. Snider was born at Crowder, Okla., and graduated from McAlester High School. He then graduated from the School of Pharmacy at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Okla. While living in Weatherford he met Elizabeth House and they married Aug. 20, 1961. Prior to moving to Edmond two years ago, Jerry and Liz lived in Kingfisher, Okla., McAlester, Okla., Muldrow, Okla., and most recently, 48 years in Cushing, Okla.

Mr. Snider was very active in the United Methodist Church. He sang in the choir for over 50 years and also served on the Administrative Board and as Chairperson of the Finance Committee. For years Jerry was a member of the Cushing Lion's Club, often serving as its song leader. A long time trumpet player, he played "Taps" for a number of veterans' graveside services over the years. Jerry also liked to play golf, tennis, was a skeet shooter and was

an excellent snooker player.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Liz Snider; son, David and his wife, Theresa; grandchildren Jennifer, Holly, Jacob and wife, Alissa and great-granddaughter Ariana; son, John and his wife, Cynthia; grandchildren, Hillari and Cole.

Donations in his honor can be given to fund the Volunteers In Mission effort of Edmond First United Methodist Church.

Joyce Liberty Barber



Graveside services for Joyce Liberty Barber of Marietta, Okla. were Feb. 26, 2019 at Lakeview Cemetery, Marietta, with Major Albert Villafuerte and Major Yvette Villafuerte officiating.

Mrs. Barber was born Sept. 25, 1933 at Tulsa, Okla., the daughter of Elmer Stout and Dovie Deshan Stout. She was promoted to Glory on Feb. 23 at Lake Country Nursing Center, Marietta, at the age of 85.

As a teenager her family moved to Los Angeles, Calif. There she worked in factories until she met a wonderful man named Virgil Barber, Sr. She then stayed home as a mother to six children. In 1969 the family moved to Thackerville, Okla., and she went to work at Weber Aircraft, a job she had for 27 years.

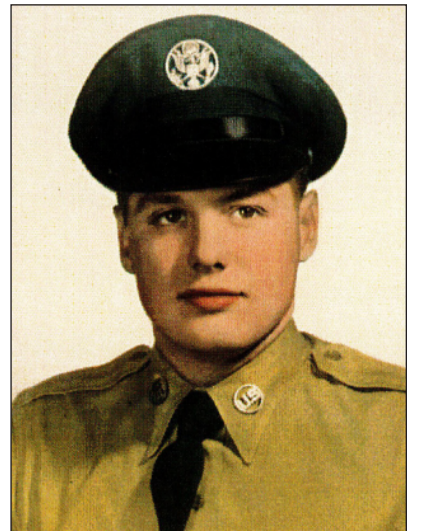
She loved children and animals and when she became acquainted with various animals she would immediately name them whether they already had names or not. She became friends with the animals and the new name she provided them. She also loved red roses and music, especially country and the music of the 50's and 60's era. She was a member of The Salvation Army Church.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Virgil Sr.; and stepdaughter, Cheryl Bunting and baby, Jessica Ann Bunting.

She is survived by her children, Linda Tillis, Dovie Elmore and son-in-law, Sam, Brenda Voller and son-in-law, Kevin; stepdaughter, Debra Stinson and son-in-law, Dewayne; and stepson, Virgil Barber Jr. and daughter-in-law, Isabel; grandchildren, Eric, Brad, Jamie, Robert, Kimberly, Billy, Allie, Verna, Curtis, Amber, Renee, Jennifer, Duston, Anna and Travis; and many great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the American Diabetes Association or to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Charles Edwin Howard Sr.



Charles Edwin Howard Sr., of Berryville, Ark., was born Jan. 1, 1934 at Chickasha, Okla., to William Bryan and Edith (Bloomer) Howard. He departed this life Jan. 29, 2019 at the age of 85. Funeral services were Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, at the Charles M. Nelson Memorial Chapel. Interment followed in the Berryville Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mr. Howard proudly served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association, American Legion and First Christian Church in Berryville. He loved spending time with his family and playing with his dogs. He also enjoyed bowling, watching football and the Weather Channel and was always tinkering on something.

On June 20, 1992 he was united in marriage with Cheryl (Schraml) Howard, who survives him, of the home.

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Annette Howard; brother, William J. Howard, Jr.; sisters, Mary Louise Danhof and Illa Mae Hargrove; and great-grandson, Logan Elfindale.

He is survived by four daughters, Edi Tipton (Rick) of Green Forest, Kathy Iles (Mitch) of Eureka Springs and Deborah Elfindale (Mike) of California; one son, Charles E. Howard, Jr. (Karen) of Missouri; extended family, Tera Generaux of Berryville, Dwayne Generaux (Ronda) of Buffalo, Mo., Kimberly Proctor (Roger) of Grove, Okla. and Billy Bean (Bess) of Beryville; 24 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorial donations may be made to Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45250-0301. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com

McSwain Theatre
PRESENTS
DAILEY & VINCENT



GRAMMY award winners **JAMIE DAILEY** and **DARREN VINCENT**
present a Bluegrass/Gospel Variety Show

7 P.M. SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

WWW.MCSWAINTHEATRE.COM

580-332-8108 | 130 W. MAIN | ADA, OK 74820






Robotics teams win Oklahoma State VEX IQ Elementary Robotics Championship



Chickasaw Nation robotics teams win the Oklahoma State VEX IQ Elementary Robotics Championship March 9 at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Front row from left, Bradan Estrada, Jackson Swopes, Aaron Troglin. Back row from left, Drennan Jesse, Trevor John. Team members not pictured: Jacob Baker and Noah Hinson.

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The Chickasaw Nation robotics teams recently landed first-place finishes in state competition and are headed to the next rounds.

Chickasaw Nation Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Academy (STEM) Vex IQ teams, Hattak Tali' (Metal Men) and Tashka Tali' (Metal Warrior) earned spots in the VEX world competition after placing first in the March 9 Oklahoma State VEX IQ Elementary Robotics Championship. Teams battled their bots at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

The Chickasaw teams also won the Teamwork Skills Challenge when paired together for the final round.

Tashka Tali won the Robot Skills Champion and Excellence awards. Hattak Tali' swept the Sportsmanship and STEM Research Project awards.

This is the third year the VEX team qualified for the world championship. The team of seven Chickasaw students head to Louisville, Ky., April 27 to battle for the world championship.

The students prepare for the season with build nights, practices, demonstrations and regional competitions. They earn spots in the state and world competitions based on their performances. The Chickasaw Nation VEX IQ team is for students entering seventh and eighth grades. The intermediate robotics program uses a

snap-together robotics system to guide young engineers. Building, programming and planning for competitions naturally encourages teamwork and critical thinking skills. Teams must work together to meet the objectives in the competition courses.

The STEM Academy offers robotics programming for students between ages six and 18. Each level has its own set of competitions. Visit Chickasaw.net/STEM for more information about robotics and other STEM programming.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jennifer Jones, Tribal Communications

Chickasaw Citizen Groups - Chickasaw Community Councils

Ada Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Monthly at 6:30 p.m.

Alaska Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Annually in Anchorage, AK

Ardmore Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Bimonthly, Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Arizona Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly in Phoenix/Tempe area

Bryan County Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Durant, OK

Central Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Second Sunday at 2 p.m. in Austin, TX

Colorado Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Second Saturday bimonthly at 11:30 a.m. in Lakewood, CO

Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Tony Poe: (580) 421-4994
Third Monday bimonthly at 6:30 p.m.

Duncan Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

East Texas Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday at 2 p.m. in Tyler, TX

Florida Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Orlando, FL

Georgia Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Atlanta, GA

Houston Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Kansas City Metro Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Kansas City/Olathe, KS

Louisiana Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semiannual, Saturday at 1:30 p.m. in West Monroe, LA

National Capitol Region Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday in Washington, D.C.

Nevada Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday at 1 p.m. in Henderson, NV

New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semiannual, Sunday in Windsor, CT

New Mexico Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Albuquerque, NM

Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Sacramento, CA

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Bimonthly, second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Newcastle, OK

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Paula Motaharnia: (903) 436-4980
Third Saturday at 1:30 p.m. in Bedford, TX

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
Scott Factor: (405) 830-8831
First Tuesday monthly. Potluck at 6 p.m.; meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Oregon Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday in Eugene/Springfield, OR

Ozark Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semiannual, Sunday in Fayetteville, AR

Pacific NW Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday at 1:30 p.m. in Vancouver, WA

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
Carolee Maxwell: (405) 527-7676
Fourth Tuesday monthly at 6:30 p.m.

San Diego Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday in La Jolla, CA

Southern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Fontana, CA
St. Louis Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Triannual, Saturday in St. Louis, MO

South Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Ellen Brooker: (210) 421-1956
Second Sunday at 2 p.m. in San Antonio

Texoma Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Kingston, OK

Tishomingo Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Monthly at 6:30 p.m. in Tishomingo, OK

Tri-State Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semiannual, Sunday in Newark, NJ

Tulsa Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturday in Tulsa, OK

Wichita Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semiannual, Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in Wichita, KS

For more information about each group's meeting times, contact the Chickasaw Nation Community Outreach at (580) 332-1165.

5TH ANNUAL CHICKASAW VETERANS CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY • JUNE 19, 2019 | WinStar World Casino & Resort
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. | Check in Begins at 8:30 A.M. | 777 CASINO AVENUE THACKERVILLE, OKLAHOMA

Please RSVP by May 10, 2019 | RSVP online at Chickasaw.net/VetConf
Lunch provided by the Chickasaw Warrior Society
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (580) 272-2550.

WINTER FIRE

How did plant life impact the culture of the Chickasaw people? See the story in the latest episode of Winter Fire on www.Chickasaw.tv.

CHICKASAW TV
@CHICKASAWTV

SPRING TRADITIONS

WELCOME THE PLANTING SEASON

Our campus tells the story of the resilient Chickasaw people. Share in the discovery of our traditions and join us in celebrating Spring's vitality with daily cultural activities!

ChickasawCulturalCenter.com • Sulphur, OK • 580-622-7130

OUR SKY PAVILION offers a bird's-eye view of our Traditional Village and the Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

AdventureRoad.com Travel Partner

Tour lush gardens where the "THREE SISTERS," beans, corn and squash, have taken root.

CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER

Sights and sounds of Spring have emerged all over campus.