

## Bond, Estes, Kingery, Love, Trent to be honored

# Five to be inducted into Chickasaw Hall of Fame on April 23



REFORD BOND

NORMAN, Okla. - Five Chickasaw citizens will be honored with induction into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame April 23 in a special ceremony at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman. Inclusion in the Hall of Fame is the highest honor bestowed on Chickasaw citizens.

Two honorees will be inducted posthumously.

They are Reford Bond, a longtime tribal attorney, statehood proponent and Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner, and Hiawatha Estes, nephew of famed



HIAWATHA ESTES

Chickasaw storyteller Te Ata Thompson Fisher and a nationally known home architect and proponent of providing scholarships for students at his beloved University of Oklahoma.

Three inductees continue to blaze trails globally in business, science and art.

They are Love's Country Store founder and chief executive officer Tom Love; internationally renowned artist and 2017 Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year Brenda Kingery; and Dr. Jonathan Trent, famed oncologist forging new scientific discoveries



BRENDA KINGERY

and techniques to treat and cure cancer patients.

### Reford Bond (1877-1954)

Born Aug. 10, 1877 in Johnsonville, Indian Territory, Mr. Bond served as National Attorney for the Chickasaw Nation from 1913-1921. He was admitted to the Indian Territory Bar Association in 1899 and opened shop in Chickasha. His law firm was considered the oldest operating practice in the state at the time of his death. A proponent of "single



THOMAS LOVE

statehood," (a two-state option - one for Oklahoma Territory and "Sequoyah" Indian Territory - was opposed by then-President Theodore Roosevelt), he was appointed committeeman-at-large for both constitutional conventions. Following statehood in November 1907, Mr. Bond served as president of the state election board and as a special justice on the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

He was elected to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission in 1934 and served as chairman of the energy-regulating body. He



DR. JONATHAN TRENT

remained on the commission until his death in 1954.

A strong advocate of Oklahoma education, Mr. Bond served as a trustee on the William H. Murray Education Foundation and was active in many Oklahoma civic and benevolent organizations.

He successfully represented Chickasaw and Choctaw tribal interests in federal court that resulted in judgments or settlements of more than \$50 million to the tribes.

SEE HALL OF FAME, PAGE 5

## Dynamic Women Conference set for May 2-3 at WinStar



DR. AMANDA COBB-GREETHAM

Registration is now open for the 2019 Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference, May 2-3, at WinStar Convention

Center in Thackerville, Okla. Dr. Amanda Cobb-Greetham, 2018 Dynamic Woman of the Year, is this year's keynote speaker.

Registration deadline in Friday, March 29.

Dr. Cobb-Greetham serves as chair of the Native American Studies Department at the University of Oklahoma.

She previously served as a tenured associate professor of English at Oklahoma State University, specializing in Native American Studies.

She is known for her work as editor of the Chickasaw Press and is a former administrator of the Chickasaw Nation Division of History and Culture.

Dr. Cobb-Greetham worked

as an assistant professor at New Mexico State University and later went on to serve as a tenured associate professor at the University of New Mexico.

While serving as a Native American Studies associate professor, Dr. Cobb-Greetham founded the Institute for American Indian Research.

She continues to research, write and curate museum exhibitions in addition to her duties as Director of Native American Studies at OU. Dr. Cobb-Greetham's research examines the state of Oklahoma's American Indian identity as portrayed in popular culture.

She has published articles in numerous peer-reviewed

journals, including *American Quarterly*, *American Studies*, *Studies in American Indian Literature* and *American Indian Quarterly*.

Dr. Cobb-Greetham has previously directed the Chickasaw Nation's language programs, museums and archives, as well as the Chickasaw Press - the first tribal publishing house of its kind.

The Press received the Harvard Award for Excellence in Tribal Self-Governance and two Oklahoma Book Awards during her tenure.

The artwork for this year's conference was created by Paige Busick. Ms. Busick works with variety of mediums but

specializes in painting with oils. She graduated from Harding Fine Arts Academy in May 2018.

The conference, themed "Conquer Life's Opportunities," is hosted by Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities.

This conference recognizes the strength and leadership of Chickasaw women from all walks of life and salutes their valuable contributions, talents and skills.

Deadline to register to attend is Friday, March 29.

Visit [Chickasaw.net/DynamicWomen](http://Chickasaw.net/DynamicWomen) to register.

For more information, contact Kati Cain at (580) 272-5520 or [Kati.Cain@Chickasaw.net](mailto:Kati.Cain@Chickasaw.net).

CONTRIBUTED BY Savannah Burwell, Tribal Communications

## Providing for healthy, successful students

# Tribe assisting with HealthCorps volunteers in Chickasaw Nation high schools

SULPHUR, Okla. - Ivan Silva joined the ranks of HealthCorps to gain public health experience before he begins medical school.

Through the organization, Mr. Silva works with 3,400 students at Upland (California) High School, instilling the organization's key foundational principles of nutrition, physical activity and mental resilience through classes, clubs and mentorship.

Mr. Silva, a native of Highland, Calif., was among dozens of HealthCorps coordinators based at schools across the U.S., who converged in Chickasaw Country for a weeklong training last month.

The HealthCorps Annual Winter Training, Jan. 28-31 at the Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center, brought together HealthCorps coordinators, staff and board members for professional development training. A midweek luncheon provided an opportunity for stakeholders to hear firsthand the positive impact of the program.

The Chickasaw Nation and HealthCorps joined forces six years ago to transform health outcomes for students in selected schools in southern Oklahoma. The Chickasaw Nation currently sponsors HealthCorps programs in Kingston, Byng, Latta, Tishomingo and Davis Public Schools.

HealthCorps is a national health and wellness nonprofit



Gov. Bill Anoatubby with Chickasaw Nation-sponsored HealthCorps Coordinators at the organization's Annual Winter Training Jan. 30 at the Chickasaw Conference and Retreat Center in Sulphur, Okla. From left, Candace Shy, Davis High School; Emily Sun, Tishomingo High School; Gov. Anoatubby; Erica Sun, Latta High School; Mechel Dickerson, Byng High School; and Macheala Taylor, Kingston High School.

organization founded by Dr. Mehmet Oz.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby said the program aligns with the tribe's mission.

"We are always looking for ways to improve the quality of life of our people, and we want to improve the quality of life of the people who are around us, Gov. Anoatubby said.

"HealthCorps does just that. We are so thankful we have the opportunity to see firsthand this beneficial program which empowers young people change their lives for the better."

Macheala Taylor serves as HealthCorps coordinator for

Kingston School. A Tishomingo native and Choctaw citizen, Ms. Taylor was born in Ada at a Chickasaw Nation medical facility.

"The Chickasaw Nation has been a part of my life since the very beginning," she said.

Ms. Taylor said she appreciated the program's overarching goal of giving back to the community.

Shelby Gibson is the HealthCorps coordinator for Latta Public Schools. A native of Gilbert, Ariz., Ms. Gibson earned a degree in Public Health from Brigham Young University.

Erica Sun serves Tishomingo High School as a HealthCorps

coordinator. A Detroit native, she graduated from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's in dance, life science, and psychology. She earned a master's degree in exercise physiology from Eastern Michigan University.

During the Winter Training, Ms. Sun led a presentation about the Chickasaw Nation's Family Mealtime Blessings Campaign, an initiative to encourage and promote conversations around the dinner table.

Through the initiative, HealthCorps coordinators work with their schools and communities through cooking programs, video projects and

community events. The five participating high schools also conduct pre- and post-intervention surveys to determine changes in students' perception of family meals and barriers to family mealtime.

Mechel Dickerson works with Byng Schools students. A native of Ada, she is a graduate of Oklahoma State University where she earned a bachelor's degree in physical education health & safety.

Candace Shy serves as HealthCorps Coordinator for Davis Schools. A Georgia native, she earned a degree in health and community wellness from the University of West Georgia.

"HealthCorps has been the biggest blessing of my life," she said.

### About HealthCorps

Founded in 2003 by Dr. Mehmet Oz, host of "The Dr. Oz Show" and attending physician at New York Presbyterian-Columbia Medical Center, HealthCorps is a nonprofit organization whose goals include "make students happier and more productive by giving them everyday skills in nutrition, fitness and resilience."

HealthCorps' mission is "to unleash the power of America's youth so they can live productive lives."

To learn more about HealthCorps programs, please visit [www.healthcorps.org](http://www.healthcorps.org).

Straughn's work featured at Jacobson House through March

# Chickasaw artist's work evolves, expresses 'spirit painting'



LANCE STRAUGHN

NORMAN, Okla. - For more than 60 years, Lance Straughn has applied paint to brush and brush to canvas creating a realistic impressionism of Native American life.

As the leaves of summer acquiesced to autumn 2018, the Chickasaw artist experienced a soul-searing change. Guided to paint a style previously unexplored, brush strokes transformed a canvas into his first "spirit painting" - a sacred white buffalo standing proud on the Oklahoma Plains. He proclaimed it "Strong Medicine."

What spiritually inspired the painting, what forces moved Mr. Straughn to depart from impressionistic Indian art and where "spirit paintings" will take him in the future are all unknown.

Mr. Straughn's art - from spirit paintings, to realistic impressionism to sculptures - may be enjoyed through March 31 at the University of Oklahoma's Jacobson House Native Arts Center in Norman.

The Chickasaw citizen is the featured artist with approximately 30 works on display at 609 Chautauqua Ave., in Norman.

The home's former owner, Oscar Jacobson, is famed for introducing the "Kiowa Six" to international art prominence beginning in the early 20th century. Mr. Jacobson was a renowned artist, art professor, promoter, proponent

and enthusiast of Native American art until his death in 1966.

"I am at a loss for words on how to describe it," Mr. Straughn said about the new style. "It has abstract elements and realism working in tandem. I suppose the abstract is more in the colors and in the backgrounds of my spirit paintings. My former style is what I would call realistic impressionism. Those painting weren't meant to be photographic but are meant to look realistic.

"I feel I have a spirit guide inspiring the art. I'm not doing it on my own. I am groping my way through it," he said with amused fascination. "It has to be coming from somewhere."

Mr. Straughn said when the spirit first directed him toward the new style, he embraced it.

"The white buffalo painting came out of nowhere," he said. "It was so different from what I had been doing before. I sent it to my son Lance and said, 'I don't know what happened, but here it is.' He fell in love with it. In fact, it is displayed in his living room right now."

The next attempt at reproducing the painting was "a total disaster because I was trying to replicate it," Mr. Straughn said.

"I decided I needed some help so I called another artist to be my coach. He said, 'You need to quit trying!' After viewing several of my spirit paintings, he started comparing it to work by

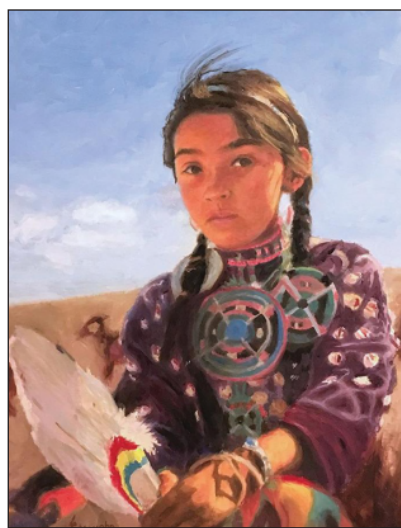
Native painter R.C. Gorman," Mr. Straughn said with a chuckle. "So, I quit trying. I just turn it loose and let it happen now."

## HARD WORK

Mr. Straughn is no stranger to art exhibitions, although he did not pursue art as a full-time endeavor until retiring in 2011. As a youngster, he remembers his mother, Lillian, "loved to paint and was quite artistic. I guess I caught the bug from her because I've never really had any formal training.

"I learned by actually painting and studying works and techniques from some of my favorite artists," Mr. Straughn said.

He gravitated toward impressionistic artists such as Ramon Kelley, a Colorado painter nationally known for portraits, and Nicolai Fetchin, a Russian who migrated to America and



A painting by Mr. Straughn called "Children of the Feather." This work displays the artist's previous painting style.

excelled in impressionistic works.

All of his Chickasaw heritage is from his father, Vernon, who passed down his heritage and affection for tribe when his son was a youngster. The elder Mr. Straughn's prowess as a top Chickasaw athlete and softball pitcher are legendary in Oklahoma. In fact, he was inducted into the state's American Softball Association Hall of Fame

in 2014.

With a degree in computer science, Mr. Straughn was an electronic engineer his entire career.

His masterful paintings and exquisitely detailed sculptures have been exhibited at the Southeastern Arts Show and Market, the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Red Earth, Artesian Arts Festival and the Smithsonian Institution Museum of the American Indian's "Chikasha Poya" offering in 2014.

Yet, nothing has thrilled - or frustrated -- him more than exploring spirit painting and attempts to understand the forces guiding his art currently.

"I use my son as a sounding board," Mr. Straughn said. "Lance told me he anticipated the change in my painting would be extremely difficult. It was only after he mentioned it I thought, 'Yeah, this seems to be the most difficult thing I have ever done.' To me it is like attempting to learn to play a musical instrument while listening to a full symphony orchestra."

## VENUE SEARCH

Physical limitations may curtail Mr. Straughn from participating in future arts festivals. However, he is exploring gallery exhibitions. New Mexico art galleries at Santa Fe and Taos are being examined as possible showcases, in addition to other nationally-recognized Native-themed venues.

"I am unable to walk well or even sit for long periods of time," Mr. Straughn said. "Those activities are required at arts festivals," he said with a lighthearted laugh. "Galleries allow you to market yourself and display your work without having to travel. You can pack up your art and ship it to a gallery where thousands of eyes will see it.

"The Jacobson House exhibition is exactly the type of show I am most interested in. My work has been on display for quite a while and many art lovers have seen,

and hopefully enjoyed or been inspired by my efforts. I see it as an introduction to long-term gallery exhibitions in the future."

Alerted to the Jacobson House show by a Chickasaw Nation call to artists, Mr. Straughn submitted his portfolio and was selected.

"I jumped on that opportunity with both feet," he recalled with delight. "I am honored (Jacobson



A Chickasaw warrior sculpture at the Jacobson House in Norman. Mr. Straughn's work is on display there through March 3.

House) chose me to be one of its featured artists."

In his Bethany, Oklahoma residence, Mr. Straughn has finished a spirit painting of a bear. However, he is not entirely abandoning the tried-and-true paintings of the past. He is working on a painting of a headdress. He explained it will be finished in a more representative abstract style "to show reverence" and to embrace Native artistic techniques already in his quiver.

"I am extremely proud to be Chickasaw and let everybody know that I'm not only a Chickasaw, I'm a Chickasaw elder," he said. "It's an honor. I feel privileged. The way the Chickasaw Nation conducts itself and its affairs have become the benchmark."

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations

## Chickasaw artwork shown near traditional homeland

# Visual Voices touring exhibition featured through June 2 in Mississippi

JACKSON, Miss. - Chickasaw artists will showcase the beauty and mystery of their contemporary Chickasaw art March 2 through June 2 at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson, not far from the original Chickasaw Homeland.

The VISUAL VOICES: Contemporary Chickasaw Art touring exhibition will feature nearly 60 artworks by 15 Chickasaw artists who each

find deep connections to the Southeast, where Chickasaws lived prior to Removal.

"This opening is especially meaningful for VISUAL VOICES artists because it is like a homecoming," Chickasaw Artist Board vice chair Kristen Dorsey said, referring to an area of Chickasaw Homeland north of Jackson near Tupelo, Mississippi.

"Many of us create art to honor the visual traditions and

knowledge of the generations who came before us," Ms. Dorsey said. "We call this land our Homeland because this is where our ancestors lived, and where our culture flourished. We are thankful to be presenting this show here as the voices of our ancestors speak through each piece."

Chickasaw citizens and others will want to save important dates to attend exhibit events at the

Mississippi Museum of Art, 380 Lamar St., in Jackson.

Exhibit co-curator Manuela Well-Off-Man will lecture about the artworks Tuesday, March 12. The museum will also host an evening reception for the exhibition Thursday, April 25, and Chickasaw artist demonstrations during the museum's family day Saturday, April 27.

VISUAL VOICES-featured artists providing interactive

demonstrations on family day at the museum are textile artist Tyra Shackleford, painter Erin Shaw and mixed-media artist Lokosh (Joshua D. Hinson).

Other Chickasaw artists featured in VISUAL VOICES include Brenda Kingery, Brent Greenwood, Joanna Blackburn, Kristen Dorsey, Daniel Worcester,

SEE VISUAL VOICES, PAGE 3

## Upcoming Events

Book Page Crafts with Leanne Parker-West  
March 4, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Pastels with Leanne Parker-West  
March 6, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Quill Ink and Watercolor with Leanne Parker-West  
March 11, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Pastels with Leanne Parker-West  
March 18, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Book Page Crafts with Leanne Parker-West  
March 21, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Rendezvous at Fort Washita  
April 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Fort Washita  
Durant, Okla.  
(580) 371-9835

Coffee and Careers  
March 5, 1-6 p.m.  
Carl Albert Service Center  
Ada, Okla.  
(580) 436-7259

Mini Canvases with Leanne Parker-West  
March 7, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Book Page Crafts with Leanne Parker-West  
March 12, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Mini Canvases with Leanne Parker-West  
March 19, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

National Public Health Week Mini Fair  
April 1, 10 a.m.-noon  
Chickasaw Nation Medical Center  
Ada, Okla.  
(580) 559-0880

National Public Health Week Mini Fair  
April 4, 10 a.m.-noon  
Tishomingo Health Clinic  
Tishomingo, Okla.  
(580) 559-0880

Scratchboard with Leanne Parker-West  
March 5, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Youth Arts Month Celebration  
March 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Chickasaw Community Center  
Ada, Okla.  
(580) 272-5520

Scratchboard with Leanne Parker-West  
March 14, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

Quill Ink and Watercolor with Leanne Parker-West  
March 20, 4-6 p.m.  
ARTesian Gallery & Studios  
Sulphur, Okla.  
(580) 622-8040

National Public Health Week Mini Fair  
April 2, 10 a.m.-noon  
Ardmore Health Clinic  
Ardmore, Okla.  
(580) 559-0880

National Public Health Week Mini Fair  
April 5, 10 a.m.-noon  
Purcell Health Clinic  
Purcell, Okla.  
(580) 559-0880

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# Our Chickasaw language programs are getting great results

Step back in time for a moment and imagine you are being raised in a home where the primary language is Chickasaw. Virtually all words spoken to you as a child at home are Chickasaw. You formulate thoughts in your native language, and you find yourself speaking the language easily and intuitively.

This scenario was still common in the Chickasaw Nation just 60 to 70 years ago. Children often spoke English at school, Chickasaw at home with their parents and grandparents. Today, this is a rare occurrence.

One of the very special gifts delivered to us by our ancestors is our Chickasaw language. It came with us from the homelands during Removal, about 180 years ago. When Chickasaws first arrived in our new home, our native tongue was spoken by all Chickasaw and functioned as our primary language.

Of course, as America grew, people who spoke English only became more and more factors in our lives. And throughout the country, virtually all business was conducted in English. The environment in which we built our new homes brought with it the necessity to learn and utilize English.

Our Chickasaw language is a vital connection to our origins, and who we are as a people. Today, as we have become immersed in modern American society, the use of our original language has waned. And that makes its preservation and use more important than ever!

The Chickasaw Nation is committed to not only preserving, but growing our language among Chickasaw people. We have put forward a number of initiatives to nurture our language, and happily we are seeing some tremendous results!

For many years we have attempted to revitalize the Chickasaw language. Our capable Language Revitalization staff has created a number of ways for you to become



**GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY**

Governor,  
The Chickasaw  
Nation

involved with your native language. Many have already taken advantage of our language initiatives, and I hope you will too.

Our Chickasaw Language Committee is the advisory group that helps shape all our language outreach. This committee of 28 includes a number of fluent and conversational Chickasaw speakers. This committee helps keep us true to our language and offers important guidance.

Three years ago we started Chikasha Academy, a learning center for students with a desire to immerse themselves in our native language. Students attend language class for 20 hours weekly over a two-year period.

This technique is showing success in producing new Chickasaw speakers who will help introduce the language back into our communities.

Chickasaw language classes are available at East Central University in Ada. These exceptional classes are taught by fluent speakers and educators who propel students on their paths to understanding the structure of our language and speaking it conversationally.

Chickasaw youth have a terrific opportunity to have lots of fun together while also learning their native language.

Chipota Chikashshanoampoli is the Children Speaking Chickasaw Language Club. These young students enjoy learning together and competing annually in the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair at the University of Oklahoma.

Most adult Chickasaws know about our Rosetta Stone Chickasaw program. This online, computer-aided language acquisition program offers excellent video-based language lessons. Thousands of users have already accessed this excellent tool. Rosetta Stone is a great way to get started on your path to speaking Chickasaw!

We also offer the Anompa language application. This app is a great way to continually improve your Chickasaw language skills. You can access Anompa by going to [www.chickasaw.net/anompa](http://www.chickasaw.net/anompa), or you can access the app on your iPhone at the App Store. You will find a self-study packet and a great interactive word and phrase list. Anompa is an easy-to-navigate, convenient way to learn!

Our quest is to not just preserve our language, but to make it vital once again. Today, we likely have less than 100 fluent Chickasaw speakers. Many of these elders have been very gracious to share their language and skills with us as we develop these programs for you. Right now is a perfect time to get started learning your language!

We are so pleased to report that more and more Chickasaws, particularly younger people, are participating in our language programs and becoming proficient. And there is always room for more!

Please make the decision today to honor your tribal ancestors and begin learning your native language. There can be no greater gift to future generations of Chickasaws.

Please contact our Chickasaw Language Revitalization office today. The staff works in the Culture and Humanities building adjacent to tribal headquarters in Ada. They would love to talk with you!

## Mallory, Morgan Graves happy they 'chose' Southwestern College

# Chickasaw twins end up at small Kansas college via erroneous application



An error in a college admission application sent Chickasaw twins Morgan and Mallory Graves to Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. Morgan studies biology and Mallory studies communications.

WINFIELD, Kan. - Chickasaw twins are living the college experience they dreamed of in this small Kansas community best known for crowning America's national champion flatpick guitar and mandolin players each September.

Yet, it was an error that sent Morgan and Mallory Graves to Winfield's Southwestern College, founded in 1895 and claiming a 2018 student enrollment of 1,306.

A year ago, both were searching for colleges to attend after graduating from Plainview High School in Ardmore, Okla.

Morgan was a state champion cross-country runner. She planned to stay close to home by enrolling at East Central University in Ada, Okla.

Mallory was undecided. She sent an admission application to Southwestern Christian University in Bethany, Oklahoma. Or so she thought.

Mallory received an acceptance letter ... from a school in Kansas.

"My dad looked at her and said, 'You applied to the wrong school!' My sister said 'I guess I will apply to the correct school,'" Morgan recalled with delight.

But the Kansas college began sending emails to Mallory sharing scholarship opportunities for which she qualified. On a snowy February day in 2018, Mallory and her father, Chad, ventured to Southwestern for a tour and talk with Southwestern officials.

"They came back and said, 'We love it. Mallory loves it.' I was like, 'Well, good for her.' Then they said, 'You have to apply, too.'"

"I am not applying," Morgan protested. "I don't want to go there. It's in Kansas. It's far away. It's snowy."

"They forced me to apply and I was accepted," Morgan laughed.

### Sports opens door

Morgan's admission application mentioned she was a state champion runner. That tweaked the interest of Southwestern track and cross-country coach Tim Testa, who emailed a scholarship was waiting for Morgan when she joined the team.

"I thought, 'Well, now I'm tied to Kansas, too,'" Morgan said. Both girls ventured to the college - Morgan for the first time - and enrolled in winter 2018.

"I remember thinking, 'I hope I like it here.'"

After just one semester, Morgan proclaimed, "I really do love it. I never guessed I would like it as much as I do. I like how the school is small. The teachers are all so nice. The classroom-per-student ratio is small. You can meet with teachers one-on-one and receive tutoring. They want to help you any way possible. Their whole goal is for you to graduate."

Currently, Morgan is competing at indoor meets. That season will continue into late February and then outdoor cross-country competition will be in full swing at the collegiate level, a season Morgan is anxiously awaiting.

She was pleasantly surprised to find many of her teammates at Southwestern are Native Americans. Morgan is one of five Indians on the squad. She is joined by Morgan Benton, Navajo; Sydney Staples, Choctaw; Kacie Lancaster, Muscogee Creek; and Jax Pekley, Cheyenne-Arapaho.

As it turns out, Southwestern College searches opportunities for Native American students. A former Ada resident, Choctaw citizen Cedric Sunray, is on Southwestern's admission staff.

"There are a lot of options for Native students here at Southwestern," Mr. Sunray said. "There's a level of diversity you don't usually find at small

colleges. We have students from all over the world, but we're close to the Kaw, Tonkawa and Osage nations in Oklahoma, so it's easy to attend the cultural events and pow wows there, at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, or the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation



Chickasaw cross-country runner Morgan Graves is cheered on by her coach Tim Testa during collegiate cross-country competition in fall 2018.

near Topeka."

### Don't take it for granted

After winning a state championship in 2014 as a Plainview freshman, the opportunity to reap another title eluded Morgan. Injuries stymied her progress. Though she was winning first and second place trophies individually, it wasn't enough to catapult the entire team into state championship contention.

"In my senior year, it dawned on me I only had two more cross-country meets left," Morgan said. "I didn't think I would miss (competing). I thought I'd be happy. I found myself crying at night because I didn't want it to end."

"On Oct. 5, 2017, I ran my last cross-country race (for Plainview

at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. I came across the finish line and started bawling. I was a big mess. My parents were holding me in the mud as I cried. I thought 'it's over, it's all over. I'll never get to run in this jersey again. I can't believe I took this all for granted.'" Her mother, Becky,

photographed the drama. That race, coupled with a deep personal loss, changed how Morgan addresses the future. "You just don't take things for granted. Make sure you take everything in. Make sure you tell people you love them. Be consistent in everything you do because you don't know what's going to happen." She interprets her sister's college application error as a "blessing from God."

Morgan's wish to continue competing was realized. The sisters are roommates. Mallory is active on the Southwestern cheerleading squad and immersed in studies with an eye toward communications. Morgan is majoring in biology, preparing to be a marine biologist. And, oddly enough, Southwestern has

one of the finest marine biology departments in the nation.

"I could not believe it. It's in Kansas," Morgan exclaimed.

Southwestern College, Morgan said, was proud to have the Chickasaw twins and goes out of its way to provide a quality education. The kitchen staff bakes goodies every day for them to enjoy. Coach Testa's dedication is somewhat legendary as he "runs around constantly cheering you on, telling you your time, saying what place you are in. He runs everywhere," Morgan said. "He invests in you. He wants you to be the very best you can be."

Southwestern, a private college founded by the United Methodist Church, has won 30 consecutive league championships in track and cross-country.

"Only five other universities in the entire nation can boast that kind of record," Mr. Sunray said.

With the addition of so many quality Indian athletes, the college expects national recognition of its program in the coming year.

The sisters are discovering the blessing of Chickasaw heritage even here in a 12,000-population town, 40 miles north of Ponca City, Okla.

"Cedric Sunray is always showing us important information about the tribe, through books or newspaper clippings," Morgan said. "It takes me back to my childhood where my grandmother, Becky, would have all sorts of tribal information or tribal items in her house. We always knew our Chickasaw heritage was unique and understood it was a blessing."

Her Native lineage comes from her father, who works in Ardmore as senior environmental engineer for Valero. Her mother is assistant vice president of the Ardmore First National Bank Broadway branch office.

The Chickasaw Nation, Morgan said, was a constant presence in the twins' lives. Through scholarship funds, clothing grants, birthday cards and more "the tribe lets you know you're important. We are proud to be Chickasaw."

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations

## VISUAL VOICES | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Billy Hensley, Margaret Roach Wheeler, Paul C. Moore, Maya Stewart, Lisa Hudson, Dustin Mater and Norma Howard.

Noted for its innovation and diversity of works, VISUAL VOICES artworks address questions of identity, spirituality, environment, tradition and contemporary issues.

The exhibit was curated by Dr.

Well-Off-Man, chief curator of the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) Museum of Contemporary Native Arts (MoCNA), Santa Fe; and Karen Whitecotton (Citizen Potawatomi Nation), owner of Heritage Museum Services, LLC, in Norman, Okla.

It is managed by Laura Marshall Clark of WildHorse Consulting, LLC.

VISUAL VOICES is made possible by a grant provided by the Chickasaw Nation, guidance from the Chickasaw Artist Board, and assistance from the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum.

Additional support is provided by the Community Foundation for Mississippi-Tommy G. Ramey and Peggy Huff Harris Fund, and

Ross and Yerger Insurance, Inc.

More information about VISUAL VOICES is available at [www.ChickasawArtists.com](http://www.ChickasawArtists.com) and on the museum's website at [www.MSMuseumArt.org](http://www.MSMuseumArt.org).

The exhibition will also be hosted in August 2019 by the IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts (MoCNA), during the Santa Fe Indian Market.

### Moccasins class March 16 at Council House Museum

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - The Chickasaw Council House Museum will host a moccasins class from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, March 16 at 209 N. Fisher in Tishomingo.

This event is free and open to the public. Class size is limited.

For more information, call (580) 371-3351.

Tribe would recapture independence with ratification of 1856 Constitution

# Treaty Creates Chickasaw District in Choctaw Nation

In January 1837, Chickasaw leaders signed the nation's final removal treaty with the United States. This treaty, which included the Choctaw Nation as well, made the Chickasaw beneficiaries to the Choctaw's 1830 Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, and created a Chickasaw District within the lands secured to the Choctaw Nation by that earlier treaty.

Thus, while Chickasaw concern for maintaining Chickasaw national identity was central to the decision to sign the 1837 treaty, the United States, with the stroke of a pen, required the Chickasaw Nation to maintain that identity as a district within the Choctaw Nation as a treaty condition. This condition lasted until a new treaty was signed by the United States, the Chickasaw Nation and the Choctaw Nation in 1855.

But during this eighteen year period, Chickasaws were citizens of the Choctaw Nation and were represented in the Choctaw government by a chief elected from the Chickasaw district.

According to the 1837 Treaty, often called the treaty of Doaksville, the Chickasaw district of the Choctaw Nation would be placed on an equal footing with the other districts of the Choctaw Nation.

While this preserved Chickasaw identity, it relegated Chickasaws to minority status within a Choctaw Political and legal system. In 1855, this minority status ended when 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.

Negotiation of the Treaty of Doaksville began on January 11 and the treaty was signed January 17, a relatively short period for such a significant agreement.

That was due, at least in part, to significant changes in living conditions in the homeland that took place between the 1830 Treaty of Franklin and the 1837 Treaty of Doaksville.

In 1830, Chickasaw leaders signed their first removal treaty, sometimes called the Treaty of Franklin. That treaty included a provision that the Chickasaws would remove when they found land equal to the land they ceded in the homeland.

In October of 1830, the Chickasaws sent a delegation searching for land suitable for a new homeland for the Chickasaw people. That was the first of several expeditions of Chickasaws searching for a new homeland in Indian Territory.

When Chickasaw leaders were unable to find suitable land in Indian territory, the treaty of Franklin became null and void.

As these forays into Indian Territory to find suitable land continued unsuccessfully, conditions in the homeland continued to deteriorate for the Chickasaw people.

Most Chickasaws had resigned

themselves to the reality of removal. Some Chickasaws, however, believed the Supreme Court decision in Worcester v. Georgia gave them hope of avoiding removal. While that ruling found Cherokee people had a right to a separate nation and freedom from state control, the decision was ultimately not enforced to prevent forced Cherokee removal by the United States.

Not long after the Treaty of Franklin, non-Chickasaw settlers flooded into the lands prior treaties with the United States secured to the Chickasaw Nation, which constituted an untenable challenge to Chickasaw survival.

At this time, an aging Tishomingo enforced Chickasaw law and seized the trade goods of non-Chickasaw traders who were selling their goods illegally.

In response, the new state of Mississippi ignored the political and legal status of the Chickasaw Nation and Tishomingo, as its Minko, jailing him on charges of theft of the non-Chickasaw traders' goods.

The state court trial and conviction of their tribal leader underscored the existential challenge the laws of Mississippi - and the failure of the United States to abide by its prior treaty



This reenactment captures what the Removal of 1837 may have looked like as the Chickasaw people moved to their new lands west of the Mississippi River.

promises - would mean for the Chickasaw Nation.

This brought a new urgency to finalizing a removal agreement.

Chickasaw leaders offered to purchase land in the Choctaw Nation which would be governed by Chickasaw laws and regulations.

With the support of the United States, the Choctaw refused to sell the land, but did agree to establish a Chickasaw district within the Choctaw Nation.

The treaty accordingly provides for the Chickasaw to pay the Choctaw \$530,000 in exchange for land and political rights

within the Choctaw Nation. The United States joined and modified the Choctaw Nation's 1830 removal treaty, the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.

Even though the 1837 treaty was not what Chickasaw leaders had set out to achieve, it did create a framework for Chickasaw Nation Survival, a framework strengthened by the treaty of 1855, which re-recognized Chickasaw Nation governmental autonomy and further strengthened by the Chickasaw people drafting the Chickasaw Nation Constitution in 1856.

## April mini health fairs set for Medical Center, satellite clinics

National Public Health Week kicks off April 1. The Chickasaw Nation Division of Public Health will host mini health fairs at Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and each of the satellite health clinics in Ardmore, Purcell and Tishomingo.

A health fair at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada will run from 10 a.m. to noon. Health fair activities will continue throughout the week at the satellite health clinics.

The health fairs will highlight programs and services Chickasaw

Nation offers that promote public health.

Mini health fairs will also be hosted at:

- April 1 - Chickasaw Nation Medical Center- 10 a.m.-noon
- April 2 - Ardmore health clinic- 10 a.m.-noon
- April 4 - Tishomingo health clinic- 10 a.m. -noon
- April 5 - Purcell health clinic- 10 a.m.-noon

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

## Six APRNs fill midwifery roles

### Midwives vital part of Medical Center obstetrics operation



CECILY FLOYD

According to Cecily Floyd, certified nurse midwife at Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, childbirth is much more than delivering a healthy baby; it is akin to a female rite-of-passage.

"As with all rites-of-passage, there is a task to accomplish and fears to overcome," Ms. Floyd said.

"Our society puts a lot of pressure on women as far as motherhood and childbirth. Women have in mind how they think it's going to go and sometimes it doesn't go that way.

"Our Chickasaw Nation physicians and midwives work to support and communicate with every woman throughout the pregnancy, delivery and postpartum phases. This collaborative teamwork eliminates those fears early and

builds confidence."

Ms. Floyd is one of six advanced practice registered nurses/certified nurse midwives at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. All have a minimum of a master's degree. On average, Ms. Floyd assists with 100 births a year.

Midwives and physicians are both experts in labor and delivery.

"We're all there in the clinic together so the communication between the team is seamless," Ms. Floyd said. "And no matter what is happening, the patient is always getting the most qualified person, with the most knowledge and the most experience for her situation.

"This proven model of care provides the absolute best results possible for all moms-to-be."

Ms. Floyd joined the medical center staff Dec. 5, 2016. She earned her master's degree from the University of Utah and began midwifery practice in Pocatello, Idaho, where she and her family resided for 20 years. They then moved to the Dallas, Texas area where she practiced for a number of years. This was followed by a three-year stint working with the Navajo Nation.

Ms. Floyd has given birth to six children of her own, all of whom were normal deliveries.

"I had a very positive experience with childbirth," she said. "I came out of it feeling very good about myself as a person. Childbirth can be a scary thing,

but I faced those fears, conquered them and came out on the other side victorious. It was a very positive experience.

"But I met so many women for whom it was not a positive experience."

Ms. Floyd said she wanted to help other women have the same positive experience. After doing a lot of research, her dedication and passion led her to become a certified nurse midwife.

Ms. Floyd said sometimes the most difficult aspect of delivery for an expectant mother is letting go.

"We all have times in our lives where we have to give control to a higher power, basically, and that's hard for a lot of people.

"I have a very strong faith in God and believe that ultimately I am the servant and I'm doing His work. Everything I'm involved with is about serving each woman. In doing that, in giving up power and giving it outward, God allows me to see the bigger picture."

Ms. Floyd said she was grateful to be working in a hospital setting where collaborative relationships with physicians is the norm.

"The model of care at Chickasaw Nation Medical Center is amazing," she said. "Certified nurse midwives are treated as esteemed colleagues, so it's a very rewarding work environment that results in top notch care for our patients."

CONTRIBUTED BY Loné Beasley, Media Affairs

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<b>MARCH 23</b> <b>CRAZY RICH ASIANS (PG-13)</b>
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**HALL OF FAME** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**Hiawatha Estes (1918 – 2003)**

Hiawatha Estes was an architect and founder of the Nationwide House Plan Book Company, later known as Hiawatha Estes and Associates.

A nephew of Mary "Te Ata" Thompson Fisher, Mr. Estes was born in Tishomingo, Oklahoma, and formed a close relationship with his famous aunt. He attended the University of Oklahoma and played in the Pride of Oklahoma marching band until he graduated in 1940.

He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps 37th Fighter Squadron during World War II, attaining the rank of captain.

Following the war, he moved to California and started his business in designing modern homes. Mr. Estes' inexpensive, practical designs were featured in newspapers across the country, showcasing to millions of Americans the newest trends in home building. His designs incorporated the rapid changes occurring in U.S. households, including the increased use of air conditioning, homes centered on privacy and watching television instead of hosting guests.

Mr. Estes was known for

**Annual Children's Fair set for April 6 in Ada**

ADA, Okla. - The 18th Annual Children's Fair will take place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 6 at the Pontotoc County Agri-plex in Ada.

This free community event recognizes Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The Children's Fair offers information regarding child abuse and neglect prevention. A number of community organizations will be represented at the fair, and there will be various activities for children and families.

Attendees can enjoy rides, games, food and entertainment.

For more information, contact prevention services at (580) 421-8734 or PreventionServices@Chickasaw.net.

continuously working toward his goals, earning him the nickname, "roadrunner" from his aunt, Te Ata. While his home designs resonated with modern Americans, he focused on giving back to his alma mater, becoming a founding member of OU's President's Associates. He financially supported more than 75 university scholarships, including establishing the Hiawatha Estes Pride of Oklahoma Scholarship to aid music students.

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.

Mr. Estes passed away in 2003, leaving an enduring legacy at the University of Oklahoma and in neighborhoods around the country.

**Brenda Kingery**

A contemporary artist and champion of women's empowerment globally, Ms. Kingery was born in Oklahoma City. She earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts and history from the University of Oklahoma. She attended graduate school at Ryukyus University in Okinawa and completed a master's in arts from the University of Oklahoma.

She returned to Okinawa where she taught drawing, painting and Okinawan cultural history for the University of Maryland's Far

East Division. She later settled in San Antonio, Texas where she taught at San Antonio College. Her artwork has been displayed in many private, corporate and public collections around the world and is part of numerous permanent collections.

She is the founding member of Threads of Blessing International, an organization that teaches textile and design to women in developing countries to use their indigenous artistic skills. Her efforts to empower women around the world led to her being named the 2017 Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year.

In 2007, Ms. Kingery was appointed by the President of the United States to the board of trustees of the Institute of American Indian and Native Alaskans in Art and Culture of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**Thomas Love**

Mr. Love is founder and executive chairman of the family-owned company Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores. Born in Oklahoma City, Mr. Love, the descendant of two different Chickasaw families bearing the name, attended St. John's University but dropped out to join the U.S. Marine Corps. During his service, he rose to the rank of corporal. Following his service, he attended the University of Oklahoma, but dropped out again.

Mr. Love and his wife, Judy, opened their first service station in 1964. With a \$5,000 investment from Mr. Love's family, the Loves

opened a filling station in Watonga, Oklahoma and quickly found success.

When the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) announced an oil embargo in 1973, it threatened the Loves' businesses, which relied almost entirely on gasoline sales. He pioneered combining the gas station with the 24-hour convenience store as well as self-service pumps. Mr. Love and his family grew the company to more than 480 locations across the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Love have also been leaders in philanthropy. Between personal donations and corporate giving, the Love family has supported institutions of higher education as well as local charities across the country. Since 1999, the Loves have partnered with the Children's Miracle Network hospitals, raising more than \$30 million for children's medical research.

**Jonathan Trent, M.D.**

Dr. Trent is a board-certified oncologist and associate director of clinical research at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida. He is a professor of medicine at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.

Dr. Trent combines research, teaching and treatment of cancer patients. His work is precision cancer medicine focusing on development of "targeted therapies" matched to specific cancers and genetic mutations.

Since joining Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

in September 2011, Dr. Trent has led an award-winning team that has made breakthroughs in gene discovery and leads one of the first human trials for drug treatments for specific cancers.

He earned his undergraduate degree in chemistry at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. His medical degree and doctorate in cancer biology were earned from the University of Texas Health Science Center.

Dr. Trent completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the center, located in Houston. He was chief fellow while completing his medical oncology fellowship at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, also in Houston.

**Chickasaw Hall of Fame**

The 2019 Chickasaw Hall of Fame ceremony marks the 32nd anniversary of the Chickasaw Hall of Fame.

The ceremony is open to the public free of charge. However, reservations are required.

Reservations will be accepted until 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.

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March is National Nutrition Month!

Ada Nutrition Services	Ardmore Nutrition Services	Purcell Nutrition Services
<b>Dates &amp; Times:</b> March 5 at 10 a.m. & noon March 7 at 10 a.m. & noon	<b>Dates &amp; Times:</b> March 5 at 10 a.m., noon & 5 p.m. March 6 at 10 a.m. & noon	<b>Dates &amp; Times:</b> March 5 at 10 a.m., noon & 6 p.m. March 7 at 10 a.m. & noon
<b>Location:</b> 518 E. Arlington, Ada, Oklahoma (580) 272-5506	<b>Location:</b> 2350 Chickasaw Blvd., Ardmore, Oklahoma (580) 226-8289	<b>Location:</b> 1530 Hardcastle Blvd., Purcell, Oklahoma (405) 527-6967
Family Life Center	Duncan Nutrition Services	
<b>Date &amp; Times:</b> March 6 at 10 a.m. & noon	<b>Date &amp; Times:</b> March 8 at 10 a.m. & noon	
<b>Location:</b> 229 W. Seabrook, Ada, Oklahoma (580) 272-5506	<b>Location:</b> 1302 W. Main, Duncan, Oklahoma (580) 470-2150	

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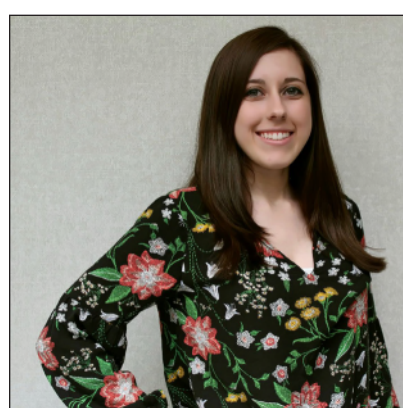
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**Nailing students' sugar intake a priority**

**Local HealthCorps coordinator committed to promoting healthy habits to high school students**



SHELBY GIBSON

The Chickasaw Nation and HealthCorps have joined forces to transform health outcomes for students in a number of southeast Oklahoma schools.

HealthCorps is a nonprofit organization founded in 2003 by Dr. Mehmet Oz, host of "The Dr. Oz Show," and attending physician at New York Presbyterian-Columbia Medical Center.

HealthCorps' mission "to unleash the power of America's youth so they can live productive lives." The outreach is being sponsored locally by the Chickasaw Nation in Latta, Kingston, Byng, Tishomingo and Davis, Oklahoma, public schools.

Shelby Gibson, HealthCorps coordinator for Latta Public Schools, says students are often surprised to learn how much sugar there is in many of their daily dietary choices.

A HealthCorps effort called "Think Before You Drink" helps illustrate the point.

"The program guides students to read nutrition labels to see how much sugar is in the products," Ms. Gibson said.

Grams of sugar listed on a popular product's label are then

converted to granular sugar, which can add up to as many as 10 teaspoons for a common beverage.

"We measure it out in a cup and a lot of time students are pretty shocked by it," she said. "They don't realize how much sugar is in there."

Ms. Gibson said Oklahoma children are America's fifth most obese and Oklahoma adults are third on the U.S. obesity list. Her goal is to change that by helping implement HealthCorps' three pillars of wellness that focus on nutrition, fitness and mental resilience.

"I would like for students to be happy and healthy, whatever that may be for them, whatever that may look like," she said. "It's different for everyone. My goal is for them to implement the HealthCorps message in the manner that suits them best."

Ms. Gibson meets weekly with 30 students who form the school's HealthCorps Ambassadors Club.

"We rotate between the pillars of wellness," she said. "We've recently done yoga exercises, created homemade pizza, and examined the differences between gluten versus gluten-free cookies."

Every Wednesday, students are encouraged to forgo typical sweet drinks in favor of fruit-flavored water.

"I place dispensers with fruit infused water in the hallway to encourage students to drink water as opposed to a sugary beverage," Ms. Gibson said. "They are always excited to see what the flavor of the week is."

Ms. Gibson said she helped write a grant that secured \$2,500

used to purchase and install two water fountains. Replacing them became a priority after Latta DECA and Latta First Lego League team members swabbed the former fountains to determine their bacteria count. Ada's Sunrise Rotary Club sponsored three additional fountains.

Reggie Steel, First Robotics LEGO team, assisted with the effort.

"Last year's project focused on the school's water fountains," Ms. Gibson said. "This year, they took a lesson from each of HealthCorps' three pillars of wellness and taught it in Latta's afterschool program."

The new water fountains have sensors that fill water bottles to the appropriate container level. "Students can bring water bottles and fill them so they can have them in class and throughout the day."

She said this saves on plastic and expense since students can reuse containers rather than buying new ones each time their contents are depleted.

Another project in the works is a food pantry for the school.

"I've been working with Katrina Lewis of Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services," Ms. Gibson said. "A lot of students who go hungry over the weekend will get food they can take home Friday afternoon so they'll have food Friday evening through Monday morning."

Ms. Gibson said her interest in a career in health began at a relatively early age.

"I took an anatomy class in high school and fell in love with it," she said.

The decision was later

cemented by the tragedy of losing her mother to cancer.

"I was 19 and had just finished my freshman year of college," she said. "My mom lived a relatively healthy life, but there were warning signs."

"I think I took things for granted because cancer was not in my family history. Now I just want to spread the message of good health to others."

Ms. Gibson grew up in Arizona and graduated from Brigham Young University in Utah with a

degree in public health with an emphasis in health promotion.

She said she sees differences in Oklahoma and where she was reared.

"Arizona is hot and dry and Oklahoma is humid, she said.

"Something else I've noticed about Oklahoma is everyone is genuinely kind and will go out of their way to help you no matter what. They don't even have to know you. I think that is unique to Oklahoma."

CONTRIBUTED BY Loné Beasley, Media Affairs

**CHICKASAW EXPLORERS**

HOMELAND TRIP-ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MAY 19-JUNE 1, 2019

Join the Chickasaw Nation Heritage Preservation Division, as well as archaeologists and students from the Universities of Mississippi, South Carolina and Florida on a two-week expedition to the Chickasaw Homeland.

**Eligibility:**

- Chickasaw citizen
- Ages:18-35
- Must be a full-time or part-time college student
- Relative interest in anthropology, Native American studies, archaeology or any similar interest

This experience will train young leaders to identify and record ancient artifacts, participate in archaeological surveys and excavation and search for the site of 1541 Chicasa.

**Application deadline is March 30, 2019**

For more information and to obtain an application, visit [Chickasaw.net/ChickasawExplorers](http://Chickasaw.net/ChickasawExplorers) or contact Catie Hamilton at (580) 272-1286 or [Catie.Hamilton@Chickasaw.net](mailto:Catie.Hamilton@Chickasaw.net).

**the Chickasaw Nation**

## Tribe's internship program is perfect for students age 18-25 seeking knowledge

**C**hokma, chinchokma, Hello, how are you? The Chickasaw Nation offers many programs to allow and encourage all of our citizens to get the education and skill development needed to enhance their lives and prepare them for lifelong careers. I would like to highlight two of those programs this month.

For those exceptional college students who would like to go further than completing a degree, and who are especially motivated to become leaders in their chosen fields and real world problem solvers, there is the Internship Program. The Internship Program works as a partnership with leaders across the country to provide an exclusive educational opportunity to "exceptional" students. Students are able to seek internships in a variety of areas, including: history, agriculture, business, accounting, human resources, Native American studies, communications, anthropology, and many more.

"The program is designed to train young leaders to identify problems and implement lasting solutions through collaborative working relationships with government and business leaders."

During the six- to eight-week Internship Program, the interns are paid a salary, provided housing, and travel expenses are covered for any participant living outside the job location area. If you are a full-time college student, currently enrolled, and between the ages of 18-25, and you are interested in applying for an internship this coming summer, the deadline to apply is March 1, and the deadline to apply for the fall semester is July 1. For more information or to submit an application, visit the website, [www.chickasaw.net/internship](http://www.chickasaw.net/internship), or call 580-272-1286.

Another educational program designed to help those citizens who may need additional financial help in order to pursue a college degree is the School to Work Program. This program provides eligible student employees the opportunity to pursue higher educational goals while receiving full-time pay and benefits. During the program, student employees must actively pursue an educational or vocational degree while employed. On-the-job training provides student employees with specific types of employment opportunities related to their course of study.

This program is perfect for those non-traditional students, who may have a family, and going back to school full time would not be possible.

For more information, visit [www.Chickasaw.net/SchoolToWork](http://www.Chickasaw.net/SchoolToWork), or call (580) 559-0815. If any citizen has a need for skill development in order to help get a better job, the Chickasaw Nation is here to help, if needed. Check the Program and Services Guide for a complete list of educational and vocational programs. They can also be found at our website.

Please let me know if I can help you in any way.

Chipisala cho anowa, Until I see you again,

Nancy  
Pontotoc District Seat 2  
[Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net](mailto:Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net)  
(580) 399-4374

## Chickasaw Historical Society's Ittafama Ithana Conference April 4-5 in Sulphur

The Chickasaw Historical Society "Ittafama Ithana" Conference is scheduled for April 4-5, at the Chickasaw Retreat & Conference Center, 4205 Goddard Youth Camp Road in Sulphur.

Conference registration is free for Chickasaw Historical Society members. Registration for non-members is \$25 and includes a one-year membership to the Chickasaw Historical Society.

Attendees will receive a gift bag and free lunch. Seating is limited. Registration will begin at 8 a.m.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Historical Society at (580) 436-7282 or [Chickasaw.net/CHS](http://Chickasaw.net/CHS).

## The Chickasaw Times wants to see your photos from tribal events of the 1980s

We need your assistance!

We are requesting any photos you or your family may have from Chickasaw Nation events in the 1980s. These photos will be copied specifically for Chickasaw Nation historical records of past events.

Events could include Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival, ribbon cuttings, ground breakings, holiday gatherings or any other tribal events you or your family attended during that time.

If you would like to submit photos, please bring them to the *Chickasaw Times*, 1500 Hoppe Boulevard, Suite 1, Ada, OK 74820.

If you would like more information, please contact the *Chickasaw Times* at (580) 332-2977.

## Preparation for the future is a hallmark of Chickasaw success, past and present

**T**offvphi tikba essentially means to spring forward and as the days draw longer. I am reminded that preparations for my garden soil must happen quickly. It is a time of planning and planting if I want fresh vegetables and herbs. I am reminded of the seeds of survival our ancestors planted, generations ago. They planned for survival and posterity even in the face of ultimate uncertainty. Our shared ancestors such as Piominko, Tishomingo, Payamataha, George Colbert, Molly Gunn, Cyrus Harris, Douglas Johnston, Teata, Charles Carter and our more contemporary influencers such as Jonas Imotichey, Vinnie Mae Humes, Helen Cole, Pearl Carter Scott, planned for survival and for success.

From our Treaty of Hopewell (1786) to current day negotiations the Chickasaw Nation continues to lead with the future in mind. I am thankful for visionary leaders. And not just leaders who can see into the future, but visionary leaders who put their hand to the plow and do the work. Chickasaw citizens live all over the world and are doing incredible things in business, the military, education, sports, the arts and this list goes on and on.

The Chickasaw Nation continues to plant seeds in preparation for a great harvest in the future. And as our tribe sows into our youth they simultaneously care for our elders as well.

I am grateful for our tribe and for our people. I am grateful for our gatherings and our celebrations. I look forward to meeting more of you as I travel to various community connection meetings. As Chickasaw citizens we must continue to spring forward, move ahead, and plant seeds of success. Please send me an email and let me know what you are doing wherever you live.



Thank you to Pat Woods who is one of leaders who put her hand to the plow to help create the Chickasaw Nation that we all enjoy.

## 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](http://www.chickasaw.net/addresschange) or call (888) 661-0137.

## Tribe's storm shelter program offers safety from severe weather across the country

**C**hokma! Greetings from the Tishomingo District! March has arrived and soon we will celebrate the first day of spring. As the days get longer, we look forward to warmer weather, outdoor activities and the renewal spring brings -- budding landscapes of flowers, gardens, grass and trees.

Spring weather can turn severe quickly, unfortunately. These storms can lead to devastating tornadoes, floods and other natural disasters; not only in Chickasaw Country but in all parts of the United States.

It is during these times - when the weather has the ability to damage homes and endanger lives - the storm shelter program's importance is highlighted.

We are fortunate our tribe is able to provide several programs to protect our safety.

Chickasaw Nation provides protection through programs such as the storm shelter program. Thousands of shelters have been installed since the program began in 2003.

The program is available to those who live inside, as well as those who live outside, the Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

Chickasaw private homeowners who live in the tribal boundaries are eligible for a storm shelter installation at their home. Those Chickasaws who live outside the boundaries are eligible for a grant for the installation of a storm shelter.

Shelters can be provided on a one-time basis in order to meet the needs of all Chickasaws.

Several Chickasaw families have been protected from the storm when tornadoes hit their area, which is a testament to the importance of this program.

Please call the Housing Department for more information at (580) 421-8800, or visit [www.chickasaw.net](http://www.chickasaw.net) for more information and an application.

If you have a storm shelter, please take the time to register it. By registering your storm shelter, Chickasaw Nation Search and Rescue will be able to better assist you and your family during a disaster.

If an emergency arises, the Chickasaw Nation is committed to providing assistance. Please remember to update your address, if needed, at [chickasaw.net/Our-Nation/Contact/Change-of-Address-Form](http://chickasaw.net/Our-Nation/Contact/Change-of-Address-Form), or call 1-888-804-3234 to receive news, guides and to inform Chickasaw emergency responders of your location.

Stay safe this spring!

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature. It is a privilege and an honor to serve you.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Tim Colbert  
[Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net](mailto:Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net)  
(580) 421-7242

## Youth Language Club meets March 28 at Tishomingo Community Center

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - Chipota Chikashshanompoli Youth Speaking Chickasaw Language Club will meet 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday, March 28 at the Tishomingo Community Center.

Members will learn the Chickasaw language through songs and activities.

Meals will be provided at each meeting.

For more information, contact Clovis Hamilton at (580) 272-5592.

## 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](mailto:Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net)

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

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

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

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

### Pickens District Seat #

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

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

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

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

### Tishomingo District Seat #

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

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

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

### Panola District Seat #

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

**NEWSTART BOOKKEEPING**  
CHICKASAW CITIZEN OWNED & OPERATED  
[WWW.NEWSTARTTEXAS.COM](http://WWW.NEWSTARTTEXAS.COM)

PAYROLL SERVICES  
QUICKBOOKS HELP  
BOOKKEEPING & TAX

State & Federal  
817-851-9383  
[INFO@NEWSTARTTEXAS.COM](mailto:INFO@NEWSTARTTEXAS.COM)

## Secret of the Chickasaw seal on the little red serving dish solved at Panola event

It is actually true - what you do today has the potential to effect the future! The Panola Senior Center was having a party of sorts and that means extra treats and goodies to eat. The pretty red dish was full of Oreo balls! Crushed Oreo cookies mixed with cream cheese and dipped in white chocolate. As the treats begin to disappear another interesting picture began to appear—the Chickasaw Nation Seal! It was in color too!



**BETH ALEXANDER**

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

What a nice surprise to see the Seal hiding under the yummy treats! My next question- where did this ceramics piece come from and who made it?! The mystery was quickly solved by looking on the bottom of the dish. Turns out that it had been created and signed by Ms. Leona Wilson. To learn more, I caught up with Leona at the Chickasaw Nation Valentine Party for Elders. As the story goes, back in 1973-74 a small group of ladies would meet a couple times a week at the Overton James Village located in Ada, to do arts and crafts. Neva Wilson was hired to teach ceramics, beadwork and silverwork. The creations were then sold at various gatherings held in places like Byng and Tishomingo. Somewhere along

the way the red dish made its way into the possession of former Gov., Overton James and today it resides with Ms. Deatron (Dede) Williams. Dede and her husband, Gary, were crowned this year's King and Queen of the Panola Senior Center. I was able to introduce the dish owner to the dish creator at that banquet! Both parties were surprised and happy to make the connection. The dish was originally designed to be an ashtray but it was destined to be so much more! After 46 years, the beautiful red dish has found a new purpose! My thoughts: If a 46 year old dish can be repurposed, then there is hope for all of us! We may have to go thru some "repurposing" but our worth is still there! The dish started out as a lump, was molded, painted and then it went thru the fire to emerge as a bright and shiny piece. Each of us make a difference in the lives we come in contact with. Don't be guilty of underestimating your worth and contributions you bring to others!

Dede, congratulations to you and Gary on representing the Panola Senior Center as King and Queen for 2019 and for being the owner of a 46 year old bright red unique dish with our beautiful tribal seal on it! A one of a kind piece!

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. II Corinthians 5:17

Beth



Dede and Gary Williams, King and Queen, Panola Center



## Annual Elders Valentine Banquet and Coronation offers great times for all

Hello Everyone,  
Last month I had the pleasure of attending the annual Elders Valentine Banquet and Coronation in Ardmore. This is one of my favorite elder events because they have such a fun time. Each senior site selects a King and Queen or a Sweetheart to represent their site at the banquet. The ladies look beautiful in their red outfits and the men are handsome as well.



**CONNIE BARKER**

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

This year's winners were Larson and Nanette Walton from Ada, Bobby and Luella Thomas from Ardmore, Wayne and Nikki Garrett from Duncan, Carl and Donna Pershica from Madill, Bill and Sharon Ragland from Oklahoma City, Gary and DeDe Williams from Panola, Kelly and Sharon Beck from Pauls Valley, John and Joyce Meyers from Purcell, Glenda and David Supernaw from Sulphur, Lonnie and Ruth Shelley from Tishomingo, Dean Starns and JoAnn Ellis from Kullihoma, Juhree Greenwood from Connerville, and Oreta Hilton from Tuttle. Each queen received and tiara and the kings received a crown.

Later a wonderful meal was served and dancing was the entertainment. It was such a

pleasure to see everyone enjoying themselves. Spring is just around the corner and hopefully we are in store for warmer weather. During this time of year, we feel a sense of renewal and new found energy. Seniors are getting geared up for the end of the school year and graduation while their parents are making plans for college in the fall.

During the summer, Chickasaw students ages 14-21 have the opportunity to apply for summer jobs through the Toksali employment program. This program provides training, mentoring and paid work experience for students from June 17 through August 2. This is a great program for students who would like to learn more about career opportunities and get paid at the same time. If you would like more information, you can contact your local area office.

The Chickasaw Legislature holds its monthly Session meeting on the third Friday of each month. During this time we would love for citizens to come visit with us, give us a chance to get to know you better and to see firsthand how the Legislative branch of the Chickasaw Nation works. Please feel free to contact our office for hours and directions.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your Legislator and God bless you.

Connie Barker, Pickens District



ELDERS VALENTINE BANQUET

## Silk painting class March 16 in Sulphur

SULPHUR, Okla. - A silk painting class will be offered Saturday, March 16 at the ARTesian Gallery & Studios in Sulphur.

Classes are split into two sessions for different skill levels. The morning sessions, 10 a.m. to noon, will cover beginner's techniques. The afternoon sessions, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., will guide intermediate students.

Silk painting is the application of dyes artfully placed onto silk fabric using a fusion of contemporary original design concepts and traditional Native American motifs.

To reserve a seat, contact the ARTesian Gallery & Studios at (580) 622-8040.

## Mrs. Kruger makes contribution to Foundation scholarship annually



KAREN M. KRUGER

Karen M. Kruger has contributed a yearly matching award to the Edward L. Kruger Memorial Ittish Aaisha' Scholarship, established in 2004 by the Chickasaw Nation, on behalf of her late husband, Capt. Edward L. Kruger.

Capt. Kruger was very proud of his work with the Chickasaw people, devoting his time and knowledge in pharmacy to the Indian health care system, to ensure the Chickasaw people received the best possible care. He was one of the first contributors and an annual contributor to the Chickasaw Foundation. Capt. and Mrs. Kruger believed that quality and pride in the educational system is key.

Since 2000, Mrs. Kruger has continued to donate to many educational causes through her church, the Performing Arts of Tulsa, children's programs at public schools and Native American educational programs in Arizona. She has enjoyed living close to her children, three grandchildren and visiting her son in Scottsdale, Ariz. She loves to travel, and has had the opportunity to travel internationally several times with her friend, Henry Piwowarek, and with her church on two pilgrimages.

"I have watched the Chickasaw Nation thrive the past 20 years, and I am very happy for all the success that has been achieved for everyone. The programs are amazing, and the people are as kind and caring as I remember they were when I lived in Tishomingo and Ada, Oklahoma. I will continue to donate to the foundation to educate young pharmacists. This is how my late husband discovered the kindness and love of the Chickasaw people, as a pharmacist, in your hospitals."

~God Bless You, Karen Kruger

## Shields is Foundation Employee Charitable Contribution Plan Champion



CHRISTOPHER SHIELDS

Chris Shields has been with the Chickasaw Nation's Department of Interior Services Legal Division as an Assistant General Counsel since 2016. He has participated in the Chickasaw Foundation's Employee Charitable Contribution plan since February 2017. He is a descendant of original enrollee Ryan Turnbull. Mr. Shields graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2001. After graduation, he served as General Counsel for the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism. Prior to joining the Chickasaw Nation, he was in private practice focusing primarily in the areas of real property and oil and gas.

"The activities of the Chickasaw Foundation are a natural complement to the mission and core values of the Chickasaw Nation," Mr. Shields said. "By contributing each paycheck, I know that I am giving money to an organization that makes a positive impact in people's lives."

## Finger weaving class March 30

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - A finger weaving class is set for 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, March 30 at the Chickasaw National Capitol, 411 W. Ninth Street in Tishomingo.

This event is free and open to the public. Class size is limited.

For more information, call (580) 371-9835.

## Beaded badge clip class April 13

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - A beaded badge clip class is set for 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, April 13 at the Chickasaw National Capitol in Tishomingo.

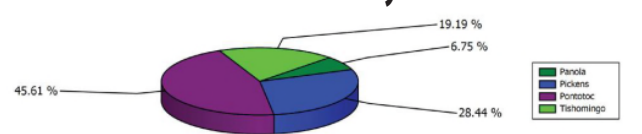
This event is free and open to the public. Supplies will be provided. Class size is limited.

For more information, call (580) 371-9835.

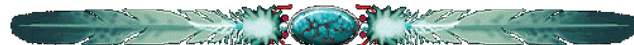
## Count of Voters by District

Panola	2,416	Pontotoc	16,315
Pickens	10,173	Tishomingo	6,866
		<b>Total</b>	<b>35,770</b>

### Count of Voters by District



## 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 PLAY 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.



Budding engineers on the way to state championships

## Chickasaw STEM Academy robotics teams hit the ground running in competition



VEX-IQ teams took first and third place, along with several other awards and earning a spot in the state competition during the regional qualifier in Moore, Okla. From left are team members Noah Hinson, Drennan Jesse, Jacob Baker, Trevor John, Jackson Swopes, Aaron Troglin and Bradan Estrada.

ADA, Okla. - Season qualifiers are well under way for the Chickasaw Nation STEM Academy robotics teams. Qualifiers pave the way to regional, national and world championship competitions in robotics.

In February, the VEX-IQ teams, an intermediate program that brings beginning builders into advanced robotics, placed in the VEX-IQ conference in Moore, Okla.

The Chickasaw Nation VEX-IQ program has two competitive teams, Hattak Tali' (Metal Men) and Tashka Tali' (Metal Warrior),

with seven members.

Tashka Tali' placed first in the robot competition, while Hattak Tali' placed third in the qualifier. Tashka Tali' took home the Excellence Award, STEM Research Award and Robot Skills Award. Hattak Tali' won the Amaze Award.

Both teams advance to the state championship March 9 in Tahlequah, Okla.

In January, both teams took home awards from the VEX-IQ conference in Blackwell, Okla. Hattak Tali' won the Amaze Award, Teamwork Award, Robot

Skills First Place, Excellence and Research Award and earned first place in the tournament. Tashka Tali' won the Amaze Award.

The FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) robotics team, the YNot Robots, made it to the final round at the qualifier in January in Muskogee, Okla., earning a spot in the state championship and taking home the Inspire Award.

Robotics team members must maintain a minimum grade point average, attendance at practice and events and volunteer hours.

The robotics competitions are part of the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) network, an international nonprofit established to motivate students to career opportunities in STEM fields. The Chickasaw Nation teams compete in these qualifiers each year and have placed in

world competitions.

In addition to placing in the competitions, special awards are given based on choices of volunteer judges. Some of the award criteria are:

The Excellence Award is the most prestigious award presented in the VEX-IQ challenge and is given for the team that creates the highest quality robot with engineering notebooks and a STEM research project presentation.

STEM Research Award is for the most effective research project presentation.

Robot Skills Award is for the team with the top combined programming and driving skills challenge score.

Amaze Awards are won by the team with the most amazing, well-rounded and top performing robot.

Teamwork Award is for the teams who perform the best during the alliance portion of the competition, when teams must join forces with competitors to win a challenge.

Inspire Award is given to the team that inspires the judges with their STEM research project.

Chickasaw citizens who participate in the robotics program are dedicated to their teams, spending hours after school and weekends preparing for competitions, volunteering in the community and performing robotics demonstrations. The VEX-IQ team is for students entering seventh-eighth grades.

For more information about VEX-IQ and other STEM programs and activities, visit Chickasaw.net/STEM.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jennifer Jones, Tribal Communications

### Unique program trains nontraditional students, offers employment while preparing for careers

## Chickasaws graduate School-to-Work, move on to jobs



Chickasaw citizens graduated from the Chickasaw Nation School-to-Work Program Jan. 11 at the Carl Albert Service Center in Ada, Okla. From left are Kaelynn Skinner, Misti Ryan, Kasey Miller, Josey McDonald, Tristan Lackey, LaQuita Taylor and Melissa Landreth. Not pictured are Brennah Jones and Benjamin Davidson.

ADA, Okla. - Fall graduates of the Chickasaw Nation School-to-Work Program completed their degrees with job offers in hand. All nine Chickasaws transitioned from their degree programs to their new careers, and most became part of the Chickasaw Nation workforce.

Misti Ryan graduated from East Central University (ECU) with a bachelor's degree in human services counseling. She accepted a Human Resources position at the Artesian Hotel & Spa, a Chickasaw Nation property.

Melissa Landreth graduated from Seminole (OK) Junior College with a licensed practical nurse (LPN) certification. She accepted an LPN position at Holdenville (OK) General Hospital.

Kasey Miller earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from ECU and accepted a job with Chickasaw Nation Department of

Community Services.

Josey McDonald earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from ECU. She accepted a position with the Chickasaw Nation Department of Treasury.

Benjamin Davidson earned a bachelor's degree in business finance from ECU. He accepted a job with Hollis Analytics in Dallas, Texas.

Katelyn Skinner earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from ECU. She accepted a position with the Chickasaw Nation Department of Treasury.

Tristan Lackey earned a bachelor's degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in behavioral science. He accepted a position in Chickasaw Nation Career Services.

LaQuita Taylor earned an associate of applied science in nursing from Oklahoma City

Community College. She accepted an RN position with Integris-Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Brennah Jones earned a bachelor's degree in environmental sustainability from the University of Oklahoma. She accepted an internship with Chickasaw Nation Environmental Health Services.

The School-to-Work program is a unique opportunity for non-traditional college students to earn a full-time wage, complete on-the-job training and have access to Chickasaw Nation careers while earning a college degree.

Partnering with other departments and businesses within the Chickasaw Nation, the School-to-Work program allows the Chickasaw Nation to "grow our own" by providing students with real world work experience, increasing employment retention from applicants and developing loyal, dedicated employees.

The graduating students were able to work in jobs related to their fields of study while pursuing their educations. The program creates graduates who are ready to step into careers with job skills and work experience.

Positions are filled in both the Commerce and headquarters operations and are located in Ada, Ardmore and Norman. Interested citizens can find program openings listed on Chickasaw.net/Careers.

For more information about the school-to-work program, visit Chickasaw.net/SchooltoWork.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jennifer Jones, Tribal Communications

### March 30 deadline to apply for youth support honor cords, senior reimbursements

Chickasaw Nation Youth Services is now accepting applications for the youth support honor cords and senior reimbursement.

Chickasaw high school students can now receive honor cords to wear during high school graduation, as well as reimbursement for costs associated with graduation.

Braided in yellow, purple and blue, the honor cords feature a button displaying the Great Seal of the Chickasaw Nation. Honor cords are presented to graduates who are Chickasaw citizens to keep as a memento and/or wear during high school graduation.

"This is the first year we are presenting honor cords to graduating seniors," Chickasaw Nation Programs Manager Tonia Wasson said. "The (college) stole program has been so successful and popular we wanted to make

something like it available to high school seniors. The honor cord is something people can cherish and keep with their diploma."

Application deadline is March 30 for the honor cord. Graduation reimbursements are processed from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

Approved high school senior expenses include graduation announcements, caps and gowns, class rings, letterman jackets and senior pictures. Up to \$150 will be reimbursed for costs associated with these purchases.

"Between letterman jackets, senior pictures and the cap and gown, costs associated graduation can mount," Mrs. Wasson said. "This service is used by families to offset these."

For additional information, or to apply, contact youth services at (580) 310-6620 or visit Chickasaw.net/YouthReimbursement.

### Chickasaw Players in Progress make mark during halftime of Murray State game



The Players in Progress (PIP) end their spectacular performance at Murray State College with a team chant.

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - Chickasaw Nation youth wowed the crowd with an energetic and exciting performance Feb. 12 at Murray State College.

Students from the Chickasaw Youth Club (CYC) Players in Progress (PIP) of Sulphur and Tishomingo showed off their skills during halftime of the women's basketball game.

PIP members showcased an array of advanced drills choreographed for the AC/DC hit *Thunderstruck* for Aggie fans and community members. The performance included single personal drills and also featured partner drills that challenged students to trust and encourage each other.

The incredible performance ended with a team chant and

an eruption of cheers from spectators, parents and Murray State College basketball players.

The Chickasaw Youth Club promotes and encourages children's character development and leadership qualities. The program provides exceptional after-school programs and activities.

Students ages five through 17 residing in the Chickasaw Nation who are Chickasaw citizens or the child of Chickasaw Nation employee are eligible to join. Applications are available online at Chickasaw.net/CYC.

For more information, or to sign up, contact youth services at (580) 310-6620.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kortney Samis, Tribal Communications

### Toksali Smart summer youth job opportunity program accepting online applications through March 8

The Toksali SMART program is accepting online applications through March 8.

Toksali SMART provides work experience opportunities for Chickasaw youth ages 14-21. The program has consolidated the areas where the program is offered. Offices are located in Ada, Ardmore, Purcell and Tishomingo.

Sulphur residents will use the Tishomingo program

office. Pauls Valley and Duncan residents will use the Purcell program office.

The program begins June 13 and ends Aug. 2. One-day onboarding events will take place May 20 through June 1 for selected participants.

New this year, direct deposits and pay cards are required.

For more information, visit Chickasaw.net/ToksaliSMART or

contact your designated Toksali SMART program office.

Ada Toksali SMART Office (580) 310-9240  
Ardmore Toksali SMART Office (580) 310-9242  
Purcell Toksali SMART Office (580) 310-9241  
Tishomingo Toksali SMART Office (580) 387-2780

### Chickasaw Historical Society essay contest submission deadline March 27

The Chickasaw Historical Society essay contest is open to Chickasaw youth in division one, grades six through eight; and division two, grades nine through 12.

The deadline to submit essays is March 27.

Contestants must submit an original work of 1,000 words or more on the topic of an "Influential Chickasaw." Contestants are required to cite references within their work with preference given to interviews and oral history.

Prizes will be awarded for first and second place. Each winning contestant will receive a cash award \$250 for first prize and \$150 for second. In addition, all works submitted could potentially be published in the *Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture*.

Winners will be notified before the Annual Chickasaw Historical Society Conference. They will receive their award at the conference evening reception at the Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center in Sulphur,

Okla.

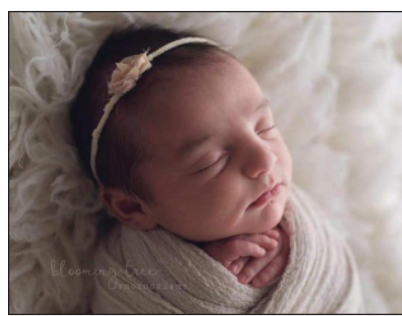
The contest is free and open to enrolled citizens of the Chickasaw Nation.

Writers must include a copy of their citizenship card or CDIB, along with contact information.

Essays may be submitted electronically at CHS@Chickasaw.net or by mail 1020 N. Mississippi Ave., Ada, OK 74820.

For more information, contact a Chickasaw Historical Society representative at (580) 436-7282.

BIRTHS



CHARLOTTE RAIN TRAVIS

Kristian Frazier and Colin R. Travis are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, Charlotte Rain Travis. She was born Nov. 12, 2018, at McKinney, Texas.

Her loving paternal grandparents are Edward Sr. and Rebecca Hatcher Travis, of Sulphur, Okla. Her paternal great-grandparents are Gary Robinson and the late Lahoma Massey Robinson, of Houston, Texas.

Her paternal great-great-grandparents were original Chickasaw Dawes enrollees Benjamin W. and Bettie (Young) Massey.

Charlotte is also welcomed by two sisters and four brothers.

BIRTHDAYS



GRACIE JANE WILLIAMS

Gracie Williams turns one

Gracie Jane Williams turned one February 2, 2019.

She is a Chickasaw citizen and is also Choctaw. She is the daughter of Jayson and Mollie Williams and the sister of Gage and Gabriella Williams.



CRAIGHTON CHRISTENSEN



CANON CHRISTENSEN

Christensen sibilings earn Super Star Stallion awards

Canon Christensen, a pre-kindergarten student, and his sister, Craighton, a third grader, both received Super Star Stallion awards Feb. 1 at Schwartz Elementary at the Mid-Del School (OK) District. Both were cited for coming to school each day prepared to work, being good neighbors and treating others with respect and making awesome choices. It was Crazy Hair and Hat day at Schwartz. The Christensens are the children of Trisha and Adam Christensen and the grandchildren of Chickasaw elder Philip Wiseman and his wife, Pat.

Weshinskey earns MBA



KARA (GILBERT) WESHINSKEY

Chickasaw citizen Kara (Gilbert) Weshinskey completed her Master's of Business Administration degree December 2018 at Southern Illinois University.

Ms. Weshinskey has been a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) since March 2015 and is currently teaching advanced accounting at the college level.

She obtained her bachelor's degree in business administration in May 2013 from Southeast Missouri State University, where she was an accounting major.

She is proud of her Chickasaw heritage and grateful to the Chickasaw Nation for supporting her education, helping her obtain her CPA license and giving her the opportunity to further her degree.

Caroline Landreth excels at Girl Scouts event



CAROLINE LANDRETH

Chickasaw Caroline Landreth won the Grand Champion award Feb. 10 at her Girl Scouts Service Unit Pine Wood Derby event.

She first won the gold in the Daisy level races and continued to win the races against all the levels combined.

She helped design her car, put on the wheels and painted and decorated it all herself. She named it "Dream Catcher."

Caroline is a kindergartner and the daughter of Daniel Landreth and Alisha Landreth. They reside in Williamson, Ga.



CODY GREENWOOD

Chickasaw student named to Dean's Honor Roll

ADA, Okla. - Chickasaw citizen Cody Greenwood, of Byars, Okla., recently achieved placement on the East Central University Dean's Honor Roll.

Students taking at least 12 credit hours and compiling a minimum 3.33 grade point average are eligible for the Dean's Honor Roll.

Mr. Greenwood is a freshman majoring in mass communications with a Native American studies minor. His hobbies include, playing video games, spending time with friends and family and learning more about his Chickasaw heritage.

His future plans include completing his bachelor's degree and working for the Chickasaw Nation.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kortney Samis, Tribal Communications



TERRI MITCHELL

Mitchell receives St. David's 'Caregiver of the Year' award

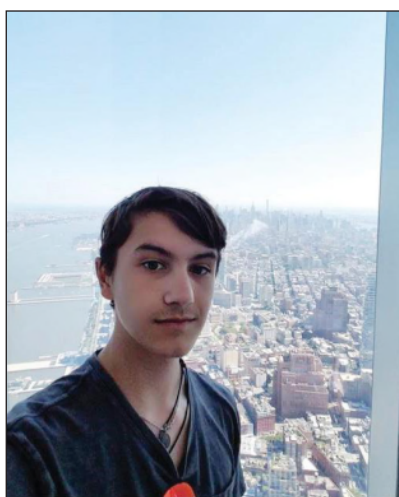
Chickasaw citizen Terri Mitchell was one of five employees recently awarded the 2018 Caregiver of the Year Award by St. David's Rehab in Austin, Texas.

Ms. Mitchell is a physical therapist assistant with 27 years' experience, specializing in aquatic physical therapy. She has worked at St. David's since 1991.

She is also affiliated with the Aquatic Therapy and Rehab Institute, where she is a frequent presenter, having learned and shared many specific aquatic therapy skills over the years.

Ms. Mitchell works with patients who have had joint replacements, CVAs, back surgery and more. She enjoys helping her patients feel better in the warm, therapeutic water to reduce pain, make strength gains and functional progress.

Chickasaw visits cities of Northeast US



BRYCE JAMES

Bryce James, Chickasaw citizen, son of Timmy James and grandson of Jimmy James, took a highly anticipated trip during the summer 2018 exploring New York City and the Northeastern regions of America.

His trip started in Asheville, N.C., to visit the Biltmore Estate. He then traveled to the U.S. Capital in Washington, D.C. and toured the Capitol, Smithsonian and White House.

After his time in Washington, he traveled to New York City. He visited Times Square, the World Trade Center, Ground Zero, the Empire State Building,

Central Park, watched a show on Broadway, briefly visited the Bronx, ventured to Brooklyn and saw the Statue of Liberty. He met a fellow Chickasaw during his time there.

Following New York City, he traveled to Boston, where he explored the city, threw tea in the harbor and had lobster by the sea. He also ventured out onto the Atlantic for some whale watching.

After Boston, he flew to Quebec, Canada. He stayed in Montreal, where everything was French. Luckily he had been taking French and could understand some of it.

Following Montreal, he visited Toronto. One of his favorite movies, "Scott Pilgrim Vs. The World," takes place in Toronto, so he traveled around and visited the different locations from the film.

Leaving Toronto, he traveled south to Niagara Falls, on the Canadian side, the last location for his adventures. He enjoyed the beautiful waterfall and exploring behind the falls. After his time in Niagara, he packed up and headed back to St. Louis.

He thoroughly enjoyed the trip and can't wait for the adventures summer 2019 bring.

March dates for ceramic workshops at ARTesian Gallery

SULPHUR, Okla. - Several ceramic workshops with Cherokee instructor Tanya Lowrance are set for the ARTesian Gallery & Studios in Sulphur.

All workshops will be conducted from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Workshop dates are Monday, March 18; Wednesday, March 20; Monday, March 25; and Wednesday, March 27.

Topics include molding, bisque firing and glazing. No prior ceramics experience is necessary.

An enrollment fee of \$100 will apply for materials. Enrollment fee is waived for Chickasaw citizens.

To enroll, contact ARTesian Gallery & Studios at (580) 622-8040.

Outstanding Achievement Award recipients

Kira Miller

Kira Miller is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for citizenship and academics.

Kira is in fifth grade at Latta Public Schools in Ada, Okla. She was nominated by her teacher, Shana Senkel.

Ms. Senkel describes Kira as an extremely well-rounded student who is willing to help her peers and teachers in any way she can. She is also a member of the gifted and talented program.

Kira's hobbies include basketball, softball, reading, writing, drawing, singing, walking her dog and cooking. Her future plans are to continue to make good grades and attend college.



KIRA MILLER

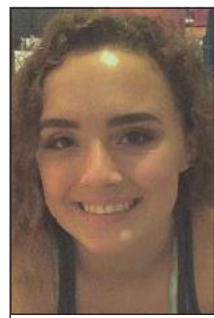
Cailen Cadenhead

Cailen Cadenhead is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for citizenship and academics.

Cailen is a senior at Academic Excellence for the Scholar, Athlete and Artist (AESA) Prep Academy in Austin, Texas. She was nominated by her counselor, Rick Garza.

Mr. Garza describes Cailen as driven and academically advanced. Cailen is known as a cheerful and uplifting person who makes everyone she meets a new friend. Mr. Garza is confident Cailen will be an asset to any college she attends in the future.

Cailen's hobbies include art, music, volleyball, basketball, boxing and skating. Her future plans are to attend college and become a social entrepreneur.



CAILEN CADENHEAD

Michael Rincon Bonillas

Michael Rincon Bonillas is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement for Academics.

Michael is a junior at Lincoln High School in Stockton, Calif. He was nominated by his mother, Katharine Ayers.

Michael is described as a great role model who has been recognized by the California Scholarship Federation as an academically advanced student. He is active in many programs at the Stockton Police Department and a leader for younger students.

Michael's hobbies include karate, riding motorcycles and going to the gym. His future plans are to attend college and work in law enforcement.



MICHAEL RINCON BONILLAS

NEWS FROM CHICKASAW PRINCESS



2018-19 CHICKASAW PRINCESS MIKAYLA HOOK

Chokma!

My name is Mikayla Hook, and I am your 2018-2019 Chickasaw Princess.

I am the 22-year-old daughter of Michael and Deborah Hook, and a junior at East Central University. My career goals are to become a dental hygienist. In the future, after working in the dental hygiene profession, I

would like to further my career and go back to school to become a pediatric dentist.

When I was younger, I did not enjoy going to the dentist and I had to have a lot of work done on my teeth. My dentist was very patient with me and he inspired me to follow in his footsteps. One day, I would like to do the same for other children.

The most important thing that I have learned so far as Chickasaw Princess is to never underestimate myself because no goal is ever impossible to achieve.

I believe there our times we all have fear inside that tells us we can never achieve our goals. Everything that we need to achieve our goals is already inside of us. Having faith in ourselves will allow us to achieve any goal we ever dreamed of achieving. Thank you!

Chipisala'cho, 2018-2019 Chickasaw Princess Mikayla Hook

# 2019 Camps, Clinics and Academies

The Chickasaw Nation will be accepting applications soon for 2019 youth camps, clinics and academies. A number of tribal divisions work together to offer a variety of educational and recreational activities for youth and families to explore new opportunities and learn new skills.

Application deadline is April 15.

Chickasaw Nation 2019 youth events include:

## Running Clinic

March 19-20

Ages 8-18

Ada High School Track, Ada, Oklahoma

This clinic teaches participants the proper techniques and skills to become a successful runner. Clinic instruction is led by highly skilled high school coaches, experienced runners and the youth services staff. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

## Fishing Clinic

May 11

Chickasaw Families/ Ages 4-18

Inslee Fish Farm, Tishomingo, Oklahoma

The fishing clinic promotes aquatic resources awareness and is a great way to give youth and their families an opportunity to learn about fishing. Participants will learn about identifying types of fish, knot tying, fish cleaning and cooking, proper equipment to use, water safety, outdoor ethics, water quality, and state laws and regulations. This is a one-day camp. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Chikasha Albinachi "Cultural Camp"

May 22-23

Ages 6-11

Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, Oklahoma

This two-day camp provides students the opportunity to learn about and experience a variety of cultural activities, such as traditional games, stomp dancing, crafts and the Chickasaw language. Transportation is provided from Ada, Ardmore, Norman and Tishomingo.

For more information, contact Cultural Resources at (580) 622-7140.

Application deadline April 15.

## Environmental Camp

May 30-31

Ages 8-12

Chickasaw Nation Housing, Ada, Oklahoma

The two-day Environmental Camp focuses on connecting students with nature and the outdoors, which is essential to our children's health and development. Activities include outdoor ethics and the importance of taking care of nature, safety and identification of dangerous and poisonous plants and animals. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Environmental Services at (580) 272-5412.

Application deadline April 15.

## Camp Survivor

May 28-31

Ages 9-13

YMCA Camp Classen, Davis, Oklahoma

Camp Survivor is a wellness camp that incorporates activities promoting physical, mental, cultural and spiritual health. Throughout the week, campers participate in numerous activities, including swimming, hiking, fishing, archery, canoeing, rock climbing, stickball and nutrition education. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Youth Golf Camp

Golf 101- June 3-4/Ages 8-11

Golf II- June 5-6/Ages 12-18

WinStar Golf Course, Thackerville, Oklahoma

Golf Camp provides Native American youth the opportunity to enjoy the game of golf while learning life skills, such as honor, integrity and sportsmanship. Instruction for all skill levels is provided by a highly knowledgeable and motivated staff.

Please note that Golf 101 is a day camp, and Golf II is an overnight camp. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## History Camp

June 3-5

Ages 8-14

Chickasaw Capitol, Tishomingo, Oklahoma

At this camp, participants will have the opportunity to tour the Chickasaw Council House Museum, Chickasaw Capitol, Boggy Depot and Fort Washita. Students will enjoy activities such as stickball, fishing and flying kites and learn how to create stickballs, arrows and fish nets. Lunch is provided. This is not an overnight camp. Transportation is only provided during the tours.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Press at (580) 436-7282.

Application deadline April 15.

## Chickasaw Nation Aviation and Space Academy (CNASA)

June 3-7

Ages 10-18 or grades five-12

Science, Technology and Math Academy Building, Ada, Oklahoma

CNASA is an action packed educational camp of learning through hands-on activities, challenges and teamwork designed to inspire, motivate and challenge Chickasaw youth. This weeklong journey of discovery is aimed to ignite a desire to pursue careers in science, technology, aviation and space exploration.

Transportation and accommodations are provided for CNASA scholarship students who live out of state, but availability is limited.

For more information, visit Chickasaw.net/STEM. Contact the STEM program at (580) 272-5579 or STEM@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## FCA Competitors Camp

June 5-8

Ages 11-14

Camp WOW, Gerty, Oklahoma

The FCA Competitors Camp combines great facilities and activities with the athleticism and competition that defines the Fellowship of Christian Athletes ministry. Activities include a climbing wall, zip line, waterslide, rope course, obstacle course, the Blob, Bible devotions, upbeat music, topical discussions and more. The Chickasaw Nation sponsors 20 students to attend the FCA Competitors Camp. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is not provided.

This camp is hosted by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Native American Junior Open Golf Tournament

June 7

Ages 8-18

WinStar Golf Course, Thackerville, Oklahoma

The Native American Junior Open allows youth to experience a tournament atmosphere without the pressures of a school or golf association tournament. It is also a qualifying tournament for Chickasaw youth ages 12-18, for 10 available spots on the Team Chickasaw golf team. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Tennis Clinic

June 10-11

Ages 6-18

Oklahoma City Tennis Center, Oklahoma City

This clinic offers students the experience of training on both indoor and outdoor courts. Participants learn life skill lessons, nutrition and all of the tools necessary to build a solid foundation for the sport of tennis. Class instruction is led by a highly skilled coaching staff. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Holisso Ikbi "Book Creation" Camp

June 11-14

Ages 10-18

East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma

This camp introduces students to the world of book publishing from concept to writing, illustrating, editing, design and production. The students will be trained and guided through the steps of book creation while they produce a book in digital format. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Press at (580) 436-7282.

Application deadline April 15.

## Softball Clinic

June 13-14

Ages 6-18

D-Bat Sports Plex, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

This camp focuses on improving the fundamentals of hitting, pitching, fielding, conditioning and teamwork. Camp instruction is led by high school and college-level coaches and players, who are dedicated to helping students improve their softball skills. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Yaakni' Inaalhpsaat Chokma "The Nation's Laws are Good" Camp

June 13-14

Ages 8-14

Chickasaw Nation Judicial Building, Ada, Oklahoma

This two-day camp educates youth on the operations of a tribal court system. Students meet tribal judges, supreme court justices, Chickasaw Lighthorse police officers, peacemakers and court staff. Students will visit the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training facility and participate in mock trials. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Tiffany Postoak at (580) 235-0279 or Tiffany.Postoak@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## FCA Xtreme Camp

June 16-20

Ages 15-18

Crosspoint Camp, Kingston, Oklahoma

This camp is for students who want to participate in challenging activities and great fellowship. Campers have the opportunity to water ski, water tube, skeet shoot, rappel, ride horses, compete in hurdle competitions, scale a 65-foot climbing tower and experience a high ropes challenge course.

The Chickasaw Nation sponsors 20 students to attend the FCA Xtreme Camp. This is an overnight camp.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Baseball Clinic

June 17-18

Ages 6-18

D-Bat Sports Plex, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

This clinic is designed to teach essential life skills, such as dedication, goal setting and teamwork, while teaching the basic skills of baseball. Camp instruction focuses on improving the fundamentals of hitting, pitching and fielding. Campers learn how goal setting and self-discipline improve playing ability and help in everyday life. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Youth Academy

June 17-20

Ages 9-15

Lighthorse Police Department, Ada, Oklahoma

This academy provides an excellent opportunity for youth to explore a career in law enforcement. Academy students will hear presentations from law enforcement personnel and learn life skills, such as teamwork, communication, safety and crime prevention. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact the Lighthorse Police Department at (580) 436-1166.

Application deadline April 15.

## Champions Football Clinic

June 20-21

Ages 8-18

Ada High School, Ada, Oklahoma

At this clinic, a team of veteran coaches and players teaches students fundamental football skills. Highlights include an 8-to-1 student to instructor ratio, offensive drills, defensive drills and more. This clinic also includes testing and evaluate on for the 40-yard dash, pro-agility, vertical and broad jumps. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Cheerleading Clinic

June 20-21

Ages 6-18

Chickasaw Nation Family Life Center, Ada, Oklahoma

At this clinic, a team of cheerleading coaches instructs students on motion, jumps, spirit, rhythm, health and fitness. Students enhance their abilities and learn basic cheerleading fundamentals geared toward their skill levels. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Chickasaw Cultural Enrichment Family Camp

June 25-28

Chickasaw families

Tantanka Ranch, Stroud, Oklahoma

This camp promotes the use of the Chickasaw language through language immersion sessions, games and a variety of cultural activities. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact the Language Department at (580) 272-5318 or email LanguageDepartment@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Tanumpo Hosa Apisa "The Place for Shooting Guns" Camp

July 1-2

Ages 12 to 18

Southern Oklahoma Sportsman's Club, Davis, Oklahoma

This camp features instruction on gun safety and marksmanship techniques. The camp focuses on the disciplines required for Olympic-style target shooting and consists of both classroom instruction and firing practice. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Youth Basketball Camp

Basketball Clinic 101: July 8-9/ Ages 6-11

Basketball Clinic II- July 10-11/ Ages 12-

18

Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Youth Basketball Camp participants learn basketball techniques from high school head coaches, university coaches and current and former university players. Basketball 101 is a day camp, and Basketball II is an overnight camp. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Chickasaw Arts Academy

Intermediate and Major Levels: July 12-27/Ages 12-18/University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

Starting Arts Rotation (STAR): July 15-26/Ages 8-11/East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma

The Chickasaw Arts Academy is an intensive exploration of the various artistic fields, career preparatory programming and student-oriented skill development.

Participants gain experience in 2-D and 3-D visual art, culinary art, musical theater, dance, vocal music, instrumental music and composition, photography, theater technology, video production, fashion and accessory design, costume design, special effects and makeup and much more.

\*Attending the summer session of the academy is a prerequisite for the fall session, spring session, and any additional session of the Chickasaw Arts Academy. Transportation is provided from Ada to Norman.

For more information, contact the Arts and Humanities office at (580) 272-5520 or email ArtsAcademy@Chickasaw.net.

Application deadline April 15.

## Chikashshaat Hoochokoshkomo "Chickasaws are Playing" Camp

July 23-24

Ages 8-18

Location TBD, Ada, Oklahoma

This day camp provides students the opportunity to learn the history of playing the traditional game of stickball. Students will also learn the fundamentals of lacrosse. Students will participate in stickball and lacrosse drills. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact the Language Department at (580) 272-5592 or email LanguageDepartment@Chickasaw.net

Application deadline April 15.

## Chikasha Poya "We are Chickasaw"

Aug. 5-9

Incoming High School Freshman-Senior Department of Culture & Humanities, Ada, Oklahoma

This five-day camp provides students the opportunity to have an in-depth Chickasaw language-learning experience. Students will be taught practical language with a focus on interactions with other tribal citizens. Students will participate in a cultural exchange with other Native American tribes and experience cultural enrichment through fun and engaging activities. Transportation is not provided.

Conducted by the Chickasaw Nation, Washington State University, Oklahoma State University

# High blood pressure study seeks Indian patients in the Chickasaw Nation

A unique study relating to high blood pressure among Indian citizens will soon be launched in the Chickasaw Nation.

The Chickasaw Nation, Washington State University and Oklahoma State University are seeking Indians with high blood pressure to participate in this national medical research study. Six hundred Indian citizens with high blood pressure living in Carter, Johnston, Murray and Pontotoc counties in Oklahoma are needed for the study.

Individuals will receive free access to a fitness center, a Fitbit Fitness Tracker and the AYA Chickasaw Culture and Walking Mobile Application for smartphones. Half of study participants will be randomly selected to receive heart healthy foods delivered directly to their homes, as well as \$20 per month to be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables.



Enrollment for the six-month study includes two in-person visits for blood pressure readings, height and weight measurements, and a series of short surveys. This confidential information will be collected at the beginning and the end of the study and compared to measured changes in participants' blood pressure and health.

For more information or to setup a screening appointment, contact Joy Standridge at (580) 310-6463.

## Uniquely Chickasaw

Joy Standridge, deputy director of WIC and child nutrition at the Chickasaw Nation, said this study was only the second of its kind with a Native American population. Information gathered will shed light on preventing and managing chronic conditions such as heart disease and stroke associated with high blood pressure.

Information provided by Washington State University suggests Native Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders experience more risk factors for heart disease and related complications than any other racial group in the United States.

Washington State University and Oklahoma State University selected to collaborate with the Chickasaw Nation based on previous successful partnerships with the tribe, in addition to the large Native American population within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

The Chickasaw Nation already has in place much of the infrastructure needed by the universities for the study. The three major components of the study - food, technology and cultural factors - have been addressed within the Chickasaw Nation through various programs and services.

Chickasaw Nation Wellness Centers, which are outfitted with exercise equipment and staffed with professional fitness trainers, are located in each of the four participating counties. Open to the public, these facilities offer fitness education, weekly group classes and mentorship to those



Enrollment in the upcoming high blood pressure study includes two in-person visits for blood pressure readings, height and weight measurements and the completion of a series of short surveys. Participants will also receive fitness center access, a Fitbit fitness tracker and the AYA mobile application.

who want to improve their health.

The Chickasaw Nation currently provides elders, veterans and those in need with vouchers for fresh fruits and vegetables available at local farmers' markets. Dietitians with the tribe's GET FRESH! program have incorporated healthy recipes and alternative ingredients within traditional Chickasaw meals. Currently, there are multiple long-term programs addressing the needs of Native Americans and their continuing battle with

diabetes, similar to the chronic health condition of hypertension.

An interactive mobile walking app, "AYA Your Fitness Journey" was developed to encourage people to become physically active. AYA, which means "to go" or "to journey" in the Chickasaw language, allows users to walk through history and unlock new cultural and historical context along their fitness journey. AYA features step-tracking technology, syncing with the Fitbit provided by the study.

## Senior Golf Academy for over-50 Chickasaws set for May 14-16 at WinStar course in Thackerville

THACKERVILLE, Okla. - A three-day Senior Golf Academy is set for Tuesday, May 14 through Thursday, May 16 at WinStar Golf Course in Thackerville.

The academy will run each day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is hosted by the Chickasaw Nation Division on Aging.

This camp is for Chickasaw citizens 50 years of age and up. Meals and lodging will be provided. Participants are required to have collared shirt, shorts/pants and closed-toe

shoes. Golfers will also need to provide golf clubs, golf balls and tees. It is recommended participants bring hats, sunscreen and bug repellent.

Entry deadline is March 31. Selected participants will be notified by April 3.

Applications are available at Chickasaw.net/SeniorGolf.

For more information, contact the Division on Aging at (580) 795-9790 or Aging@Chickasaw.net.

## Chickasaw Nation Veterans Lodge offers many activities for vets; open Monday to Saturday

Chickasaw veterans are invited to enjoy fellowship at the Veterans Lodge on the Ada South Campus. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

The 15,000-square-foot lodge features a rec room where visitors can relax while waiting between medical appointments or anytime during the day.

Below are organized activity times. These activities are also available any time the lodge is open.

Mondays: Billiards, 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Tuesdays: Board games, 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Wednesdays: Dominoes, 10 a.m.

and 4 p.m.

Thursdays: Card games, 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Fridays: Billiards, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Saturdays: Billiards, 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Ping pong, 1 and 3 p.m.

Board games, dominoes, card games, 4 p.m.

All activities are tentative and may change due to other scheduled activities.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Veterans Services at (580) 272-2550 or Veterans.Services@Chickasaw.net.

## Use of virtual visit option helps stop spread of influenza, makes visits fast and convenient

Avoiding unnecessary trips to the emergency room or health clinics helps control the spread of influenza. If you do not have the flu, but suffer from a common ailment or injury listed below, you can now use the virtual visit service to receive treatment.

Virtual visit is an audio/video communication service that can minimize wait times, allow more convenient access to health care and eliminate exposure to the flu and other airborne illnesses.

Virtual visit is available to patients who live in Oklahoma, have an active chart at any Chickasaw Nation health facility and have one of the following symptoms:

- Rashes
- Sore throat
- Sinus pressure, drainage
- Runny nose, cough
- Sprains and strains
- Constipation

If medications are needed, the provider will order through

closest pharmacy for patient pick-up. Prescription refills are not available via the virtual visit service.

To access the virtual visit service, you must be connected to the internet on your mobile device or computer. Virtual visit appointments are available 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.

To set up an appointment, call toll free (866) 610-7776.

For more information, visit [www.Chickasaw.net/VirtualVisit](http://www.Chickasaw.net/VirtualVisit).

## Chickasaw Nation's Empowered Living clinic offers specialized services for children, teens' healthy living

March is National Nutrition Month. This month provides an opportunity to focus on the importance of making healthy food choices and engaging in healthy physical activity.

The Chickasaw Nation has developed a team of health-focused professionals that recognizes each child is unique. Every family enjoys different activities and foods. Healthy kids and healthy families are the focus of Empowered Living.

The Empowered Living clinic at the Chickasaw Nation Ardmore Health Clinic offers children and teens specialized services and resources to assist them in achieving healthy lifestyle goals.

Empowered Living assists parents who are considering making life changes to improve their children's overall health and

well-being, or those whose family has a history of diabetes, high blood pressure or other serious health concern.

A typical day in the clinic begins with a medical evaluation with the pediatrician discussing fasting lab results and family medical history. Patients receive personalized dietary and physical activity recommendations from the registered dietitian and physical therapist. Patient and family members also meet with a medical family therapist who can help identify barriers and strategize how goals the family has set can be met.

The Empowered Living program is not just a clinic-based program. Members of Empowered Living and staff are active in the community through garden days, field trips, participation at

Chickasaw Nation Department of Health events, and public health events such as the Chickasaw Nation 5K runs.

The Empowered Living clinic is open every Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Ask your pediatric care provider if your child qualifies for Empowered Living.

Participants can obtain a referral to the pediatric Empowered Living clinic from a Chickasaw Nation health care provider. Parents and guardians may also call the Empowered Living program directly at (580) 222-2928 to set up an appointment.

To learn more about this program, visit [www.Chickasaw.net/EmpoweredLiving](http://www.Chickasaw.net/EmpoweredLiving).

CONTRIBUTED BY Dallas Rudd, Tribal Communications.

## 2019 CAMPS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

For more information, contact the Language Department at (580) 272-5318 or [LanguageDepartment@Chickasaw.net](mailto:LanguageDepartment@Chickasaw.net).

Application deadline April 15.

### Hayaka Unta "Into the Woods" Camp

Fall Camp: Oct. 11-13  
Spring Camp: April 10-12, 2020  
Ages 8-18/Chickasaw families  
Camp Bond, Tishomingo, Oklahoma

Hayaka Unta Camp gives Chickasaw youth and their parents or guardians an opportunity to share quality time together while enjoying the natural beauty of the outdoors. This camp offers a variety of exciting and challenging activities, including canoeing, hiking, fishing, archery and camping. This is an overnight camp for parent(s) and children. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or [YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net](mailto:YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net).

Application deadline August 15.

### Halloween Lock-in

Oct. 25-26  
Ages 8-13  
Andy Alligator's Fun Park, Norman, Oklahoma

Students who attend this Halloween-themed lock-in participate in mini bowling, go-karts, batting cages, mini-golf, a rock climbing wall, bumper cars,

arcade games and a variety of other fun activities throughout the night. This is an overnight event.

Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or [YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net](mailto:YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net).

Application deadline August 15.

Soccer Clinic  
Soccer Clinic 101: Dec. 19/Ages 6-8  
Soccer Clinic II: Dec. 20/Ages 9-13

In this one-day soccer clinic, participants learn techniques from college-level coaches, dedicated to teaching students the fundamentals of soccer and teamwork. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or [YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net](mailto:YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net).


Application deadline August 15.

### Application Information

Submitting an application does not guarantee selection to the camp. Applicants should be aware once acceptance to a Youth Services event has been determined, attendance is required. If circumstances prevent attendance, without notifying camp organizers, selection for future events may be hindered.

For more information, contact Youth Camps at (580) 272-5716 or [YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net](mailto:YouthCamps@Chickasaw.net). Camp application can be submitted online on [Chickasaw.net/YouthCamp](http://Chickasaw.net/YouthCamp).

**Chickasaw Healthy Eating Environments Research Study**  
*Improving Blood Pressure Control in People With Hypertension*



- ⇒ Do you have high blood pressure?
- ⇒ Are you a Native American adult age 18 or older?
- ⇒ Do you reside in Pontotoc, Murray, Carter or Johnston Counties?


**If so, you may qualify to participate in a healthy lifestyle study lasting six months. During the study, eligible participants will receive free access to the following benefits:**

- Fitness Center Membership
- FitBit Fitness Tracker
- AYA Chickasaw Culture and Walking Mobile App

**Participants in select communities will also receive a Healthy Heart Food Benefit with monthly home delivery.**

If you or a loved one are interested in participating, or would like more information, please call (918) 660-3675 and ask for Cassandra Camp, study coordinator.

Tribal Researcher: Joy Standridge, Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services, (580) 310-6463



*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](mailto:milissanichols@sbcglobal.net)

## Health care providers here to keep you healthy

# Make good use of Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, clinics to stay on top of your health

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

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

### March is National Kidney Month

Each March the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health observes National Kidney Month. This month gives people the opportunity to give their kidneys extra attention, with a well-deserved checkup.

Kidneys do a lot of work throughout the body. Kidneys help regulate blood pressure, direct red blood cells, remove drugs from the body, balance the body's fluids, and produce active form of vitamin D which promotes healthy and strong bones.

More than 30 million Americans are living with kidney disease and do not know it. According to Kidney.org, kidney disease is now the ninth leading cause of death in the country.

For more information about kidney health and preventative measures, visit [www.Kidney.org](http://www.Kidney.org).

### National Nutrition Month

The Department of Health recognizes March as National Nutrition Month. National Nutrition Month is a time to focus on the importance of healthy food choices and healthy eating habits.

Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services provides healthy lifestyle resources throughout the community. It promotes a healthier way of living for Chickasaw citizens with cooking classes, information about healthy food choices and registered dietitians who promote healthy eating and exercise. The program continues to evolve to meet the needs of the Chickasaw Nation.

With registered dietitians on staff, Nutrition Services provides advice, cooking tips, recipes, Get Fresh! food preparation

demonstrations, and advice about healthy foods to prevent disease and promote wellness.

The farmers' market program serves a broad audience, from WIC recipients to our elders. Coupons are distributed at the beginning of each summer. These coupons can be redeemed for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables from farmers' market or farm stands across the Chickasaw Nation.

### Make Your Plate Colorful

Chickasaw citizens enjoy discovering new foods and choose foods and drinks that are essential to healthy eating. Dare to make your plate colorful!

By creating healthier eating habits, you can reduce your risk of harmful disease such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease. A healthy diet will also help decrease your chances of becoming overweight.

Grocery shopping as a family is a fun way to get everyone involved in choosing healthy foods and correct foods. This offers a time for everyone to participate in finding where all the food groups come from and all of the different options of food in these categories.

This month is also a great time to evaluate portion sizes. Try and be mindful of the portion sizes you choose.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) MyPlate suggests a healthy plate consists of fruits, grains, protein, vegetables and dairy. This means to make half of your plate fruits and vegetables, half of the plate whole grains, vary your protein routine each day and add dairy in the form of yogurt or low-fat milk.

For healthy eating options, portions and nutritional guide, visit [ChooseMyPlate.gov](http://ChooseMyPlate.gov).

### Get Fresh!

The Chickasaw Nation's "Get Fresh!" program teaches healthy meal preparation with entertaining cooking shows that are free and open to the public. These cooking shows are offered at several locations including Ada, Ardmore, Duncan and Purcell or may be scheduled by request.

Shows consist of live, interactive cooking demonstrations led by specialists who sprinkle in bits of healthy knowledge.

The nutrition education presentation is science-based and grounded in the USDA's "MyPlate" program.

The Get Fresh! program also provides nutrition education for a wide variety of youth organizations and schools. Nutrition education is taught through interactive cooking classes, food demonstrations, interactive classroom lessons and health fairs. Youth cooking classes are scheduled by request.

You can find recipes and monthly calendars, at [GetFreshCooking.com](http://GetFreshCooking.com)

### Ask A Dietitian

Chickasaw Nation registered dietitians can provide sound, easy-to-follow personalized nutrition advice to meet your lifestyle, preferences and health-related needs. They are registered and licensed dietitians who would like to help you reach your individual nutrition goals.

The dietitians are committed to improving the health of our community. Department of Health dietitians would love to help you on your path to achieve the hopes and dreams you have for you and your family.

For more information about Chickasaw Nation registered dietitians, visit [Chickasaw.net/](http://Chickasaw.net/) or call (580) 436-3980.

### National Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

According to the Centers for Disease Control, of the 39,513 HIV diagnoses in the U.S. in 2015, one percent (209) were among American Indians and Alaska Natives.

There are 573 federally-recognized American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes and 170 languages. Cultural diversity, poverty and stigma can pose a challenge in HIV prevention.

Many Native communities are working to overcome barriers by increasing education about HIV/AIDS. The Chickasaw Nation Department of Health is encouraging HIV testing and also working with the CDC to share stories, build awareness and reduce the toll of HIV on Native communities.

CDC recommends that all adults and adolescents be tested for HIV at least once every year. HIV testing is vital and important to maintaining healthy lifestyles.

The goal of National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is to prevent further spread of HIV and improve health outcomes for those already living with HIV and AIDS.

These goals are supported through increasing routine HIV screening, reducing and preventing infections by communication public health messages on the importance of knowing your personal HIV status.

To find a testing site near you, call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636), or call the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center at (580) 436-3980.

### Flu safety at Chickasaw Nation Health Facilities

Due to climbing numbers of influenza cases, parents of well-children, under the age of 12, and those who are not critical to the patient's care, delivery or well-being, are asked to strictly limit visitation to health facilities.

As a result of widespread influenza activity across Oklahoma, the Department of Health is taking additional measures to prevent the transmission of the flu and flu-like illnesses. We strongly recommend that if you have not

received a flu vaccine that you request one from your primary care provider, as soon as possible.

For your safety, face masks are readily available for anyone using Chickasaw Nation health facilities. When you arrive for your appointment, if you are experiencing any symptoms of respiratory infection (cough, runny nose, fever), face masks are available at the hand-hygiene kiosks at every building entrance.

Face masks should be worn during visitation in the rooms of patients who are in isolation for influenza. You may also be asked to wear a face mask if you are showing signs of respiratory infection.

In the event the kiosk is empty, notify staff at the front desk, and they will provide you with a face mask.

The Department of Health is working diligently to prevent the transmission and spread of illness by taking these additional measures. These preventative measures are for the safety of our patients, visitors and staff. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

For more information about influenza and the preventative measures, visit [www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov).

## Limit your exposure to flu by taking steps to protect yourself

The Chickasaw Nation Department of Health staff works diligently to prevent the transmission of illness. Hospitalized patients, visitors and staff are protected by measures designed to minimize the spread of influenza and flu-like symptoms.

With the spread of flu this year, parents of well-children under age 12 are strongly encouraged to limit their children's visitation to health facilities.

Visitors who are not critical to the patient's care, delivery or well-being should also limit visitation to health facilities.

The goal is to protect patients, staff and visitors from being exposed to the virus. Flu can be spread through coughing, sneezing or by touching something the flu virus has infected.

People at high risk of serious flu complications include young children, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions, like asthma, diabetes or heart and lung disease, and people age 65 and older. People who care for infants should be vaccinated. These groups should avoid visitation to health facilities unless seriously ill or in the case of emergency.

Coughing, muscle and body aches, fatigue, chills and sore throat are all symptoms of the flu virus. Complications

such as pneumonia, bronchitis and sinus and ear infections can also develop. If you have flu symptoms, you should go to a doctor for diagnosis and treatment.

If you do get sick, vaccination appears to lessen the severity of the illness. Your illness may not be as severe, and the duration of illness may be shorter. Avoid sick people and crowds whenever possible during flu season. Wash your hands often and try not to touch your mouth or nose after touching other surfaces. If you have contracted the flu virus, stay home until you have fully recovered.

According to the Centers for Disease and Control, flu vaccination has been associated with lower rates of some cardiac events among people with heart disease, especially among those who experienced a cardiac event in the past year. Flu vaccination protects women during and after pregnancy and can also protect baby from flu after birth.

The flu vaccine only protects against influenza, not other illnesses. Some people may have already been exposed to a flu virus, before receiving the vaccine, which can cause flu-like symptoms.

For more information about influenza and preventative measures, visit [www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov).

## Measles is making a big comeback in U.S.; you can protect your children with the vaccine

Measles (Rubeola), thought to be mostly eradicated in the U.S., 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 to be aware of the signs and symptoms of the disease and the methods necessary to avoid infection.

### Measles can be serious

One in four people in the U.S. who get measles will be hospitalized.

One out of 1,000 will develop brain swelling, which could lead to permanent brain damage.

One out of 1,000 people will die even with medical care.

### Symptoms of measles:

- Fever
- Rash
- Runny nose
- Red eyes

### Measles is very contagious

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.

An infected person can spread the disease before he knows he is

infected. People with measles are infectious prior to any symptoms of the disease.

### You can protect your child with the MMR vaccine

The best protection is the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine.

The first dose at 12-15 months of age.

The second dose at 4-6 years of age.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov/measles](http://www.cdc.gov/measles)) offers information on measles.

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

## It's TAX Time!

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**JANUARY 2019 LEGISLATIVE MINUTES**

**CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION  
Legislature Building  
Ada, Oklahoma  
January 18, 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, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

**Member absent:** David Woerz

**Staff present:** Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms Les Wesberry, Legislative Counsel

**Guests present:** Michael L. Wingo, Dana Lance, Rachel Stick, Lorie Carmichael, Mike Larsen, Martha Larsen

**AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Ms. Billy.

**AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - December 21, 2018**

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Dr. Goodnight to approve the December 21, 2018 minutes.

**Members voting yes:** Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy,

Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

12 yes votes

The motion to approve the minutes of December 21, 2018 carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM #5 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**AGENDA ITEM #6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**(A) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT** by Committee Chair Dr. Karen Goodnight

**General Resolution 36-016, Assurances for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs, Replacing General Resolution 34-017**

This resolution rescinds and replaces GR34-017 wherein the total project cost increase was granted for the Chickasaw Nation's application for an Indian Community Development Block Grant for a community facility by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the establishment of a Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Center to be located in Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma.

The total project cost estimate increased from \$1,075,360 to \$1,450,000, an increase of \$374,640. Additional costs are attributed to location, normal inflation, steel and other material increases due to Tariff issues.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Colbert to approve GR36-016.

**Members voting yes:** Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy,

Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Shana Hammond, Lisa Impson, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

12 yes votes

The motion to approve GR36-016 carried unanimously.

Dr. Goodnight concluded her report.

**(B) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT** by Committee Chair

Linda Briggs

**General Resolution Number 36-015, Waterline Easement in Coal County**

The City of Oklahoma City has requested the Chickasaw Nation grant a permanent easement for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a waterline/water main across the east side of tribal tract 21 at Centrahoma in Coal County. The City has agreed to pay \$13,750.00 to the Chickasaw Nation for the easement and former trespass.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Colbert to amend GR36-015 by removing the fifth "Whereas" paragraph.

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

12 yes votes

The motion to amend GR36-015 carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Barker to approve GR36-015 as amended.

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

12 yes votes

The motion to amend GR36-015 as amended carried unanimously.

Ms. Briggs concluded her report.

**AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)**

Mr. Mike Wingo reported on the Susan G. Komen 3-Day Walk in which he participated in four of the seven events. The total walks raised \$14.2 million for breast cancer research. The four walks he participated in raised \$10.1 million.

**AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT**

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wood, Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by:

Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

**NOTICE**

General Resolution Number 36-013 published in the February 2019 *Chickasaw Times* was incorrectly stated. Below is the correct version of the resolution.

**General Resolution Number 36-013  
Gubernatorial Appointment to the Board of Directors of  
the Chickasaw Historical Society  
Mr. Leon Brown**

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with Article VIII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property subject to federal law, and

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

**WHEREAS,** Section 6(a) of the Chickasaw Historical Society Act of 1994 provides for the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation to appoint a board of directors for the Chickasaw Historical Society which shall be comprised of not less than seven (7) regular members, each of whom shall be confirmed by the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, and

**WHEREAS,** Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed Mr. Leon Brown to serve on the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Historical Society to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Michael Cornelius, and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Brown is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and is fully qualified to sit on that board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby confirms the gubernatorial appointment of Mr. Leon Brown to the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Historical Society, to fill a term of office ending on September 30, 2020.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on December 21, 2018, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

**FEBRUARY 2019 RESOLUTIONS**

**General Resolution Number 36-017**

**Authorization for Acceptance of Real Property in Pontotoc County**

**Explanation:** 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, more specifically described in Exhibit "A" 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.

**Property Location:** 14870 CR 1560, Ada, Oklahoma 74820

**Use:** To be utilized for economic development

**Presented By:** Land Development Committee

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

**General Resolution Number 36-018**

**Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Johnston County**

**Explanation:** 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 described below: A tract of land 12 feet by 12 feet located in the Northeast Comer (NE/C) of Lot 5, Block 43, Original Townsite of Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma, more particularly described as follows: A tract bounded by a line beginning at the Northeast Corner of said Lot 5 and running thence southwesterly along the easterly line of said Lot 5, a distance of 12 feet; thence northwesterly and parallel to the northerly line of said Lot 5, a distance of 12 feet; thence northeasterly and parallel to the easterly line of said Lot 5, a distance of 12 feet; thence southeasterly along the northerly line of said Lot 5, a distance of 12 feet to the point of beginning, containing 144 square feet.

**Property Location:** A part of 505 W. 7th Street, Tishomingo, Oklahoma

**Use:** for the Chickasaw Nation expansion of the Chickasaw Nation Capitol Campus properties

**Purpose:** Self-determination

**Presented By:** Land Development Committee

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Legislative Committee Meeting**

**February 4, 2019**

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

**Land Development Committee**

**February 11, 2019**

**Present:** Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Lisa Impson, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

**Absent:** Lisa J. Billy

**Finance Committee**

**February 11, 2019**

**Present:** Connie Barker, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins

**Absent:** Linda Briggs, David Woerz

**Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**February 11, 2019**

**Present:** Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Nancy Elliott, Dr. Karen Goodnight, Lisa Impson, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Toby Perkins

**Absent:** Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, David Woerz

**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.

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.

**At-Large Chickasaw Citizens (all age groups)**

If you are a Chickasaw citizen living outside the tribal boundaries and would

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EXHIBITING MARCH 2 - JUNE 2, 2019

JOANNA UNDERWOOD BLACKBURN  
KRISTEN DORSEY  
BRENT GREENWOOD  
BILL HENSLEY  
LOKOSH (JOSHUA D. HINSON)

NORMA HOWARD  
LISA HUDSON  
BRENDA KINGERY  
DUSTIN MATER  
PAUL MOORE

ERIN SHAW  
TYRA SHACKLEFORD  
MAYA STEWART  
MARGARET ROACH WHEELER  
DAN WORCESTER

CHICKASAWARTISTS.COM  
Grant provided by the Chickasaw Nation

Kristen Dorsey  
Panther Woman Hair Comb  
2012, fine silver, 14k yellow gold,  
diamonds, labradorite  
6 x 6.25 inches

## Christine Elaine John



Christine Elaine John went to be with the Lord Jan. 7, 2019.

Services were Thursday, Jan. 10, 2019 at Calvary Baptist Church, Tishomingo, Okla., with Pastor Allen Beck and Randy Wade officiating. Interment was in Sandy Creek Cemetery at Fillmore, Okla.

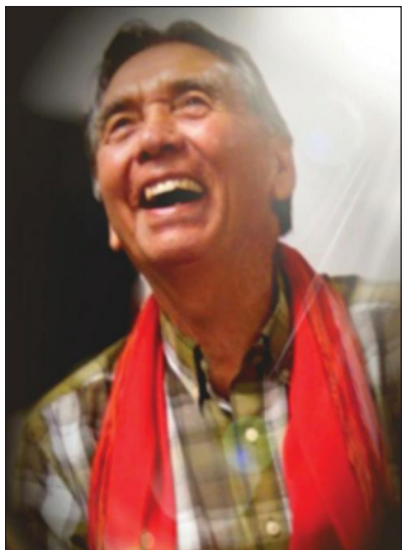
Ms. John was born May 24, 1976, to Luther and Norma John at Oklahoma City. She graduated from Tishomingo and continued to live in the Ada and Tishomingo are where she worked for the Chickasaw Nation in the health and administration field.

She loved spending time with her boys and laughing with friends and family. She was also a member of Sandy Creek Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by two sons, Christopher Jericho Miller, 16, and Ty Zane Pearce, 11, of Ada, Okla.; grandmother, Dorothy Green, of Tishomingo; parents, Norma John, of Tishomingo, and Luther and Judy John, of Milburn, Okla.; siblings, Stephanie and Strickland Scott, of Ada, Brandon and Lisa John, of Ada, Travis and Johanna John, of Sulphur, Okla., Kelly and Cody Reynolds, of Tishomingo, Adrian John, of Ada, Kristi and Joe Jackson, of Okmulgee, Okla., and Karrie Sewell, of Okmulgee; along with many cousins and friends.

Pallbearers were Rob Howard, Bryan Howard, Claude Culp, EJ Green, Travis John and David Cripps. Honorary bearers were Brandon John, Adrian John and Jeff Albersen.

## Edward L. Harris



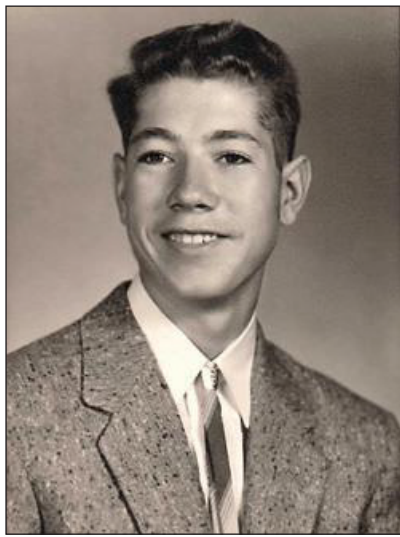
Edward L. Harris, 84, of Greenville, Texas passed away Friday, Jan. 18, 2019 at Plano, Texas. A memorial service was Jan. 26, 2019, at Living Christ Fellowship at Greenville with Bro. Tim Griffin officiating. Interment was in Little Cemetery at Seminole, Okla.

Mr. Harris was born Oct. 12, 1934, at Holdenville, Okla., to Louis Henderson Harris and Iva Marie Harris. He was in the Army National Guard. He married Edith Burk June 12, 1954 at Hughes County, Okla. She preceded him in death Dec. 30, 1969.

Mr. Harris was preceded in death by grandsons, Joshua Hibdon and Eddie Harris; twin brother, Edwin; and five sisters.

Those left to cherish his memory are daughters, Karen J. Jones and husband, Daniel E. Jones, Teresa Hibdon; son, Craig E. Harris and wife, Joyce; grandchildren, Tonayia Davidson, Rachael Laymance, Rebecca Laymance, Danielle Parrent, Jeremy Hibdon, Isaac Hibdon, Timothy Hibdon, Sarah Hibdon, David Harris, Kimberly Steele, Jamie Harris and Carries Harris; 27 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

## Tommy Dan Tucker



Tommy Dan Tucker, 81, of Healdton, Okla., passed away peacefully in his sleep Friday, June 15, 2018.

Mr. Tucker was born Aug. 17, 1937, to Bert Oliver Tucker Jr. and Daisy Latana Leaf. He was an only child and spent his childhood living and attending the Fort Sill Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indian Boarding School near Lawton, Okla., from the tender age of three to 16. He then transferred and graduated as a senior from Healdton High School in 1955.

Eager to see the world, he served three years in the U.S. Navy, stationed in Southern California where he met his first wife, Paula. After being honorably discharged from the Navy, he and Paula stayed in Southern California and raised their four children while he worked hard at any job he could get, including delivering the LA Times newspaper at night, seven nights a week, because he attended East Los Angeles Community College during the day. He later went on to earn his bachelor's degree in Computer Science from UCLA.

He loved to watch any and all sports and drank his Dr Pepper soda with a hand full of peanuts thrown inside for added flavor. Not many people know that Tommy loved to sing and his young heart dreamed of being a country singer. He was proud to say that he once sat on stage and played guitar with country singer Johnny Cash.

He retired in 2001 and moved back home to Healdton, Okla., where, he said, "he would rather live with tornadoes than earthquakes any day!" He left this world a humble man, a man who found his faith in God and found his love for our savior Jesus Christ. He will remain that way in our hearts forever. Amen.

He is survived by four children, sons, Thomas and Eric; and two daughters, Karen and Erran; seven grandchildren, Christian, Kasey Jo, Gabriel, Colette, Jazmine, Daniel and Rebekah; and one great-grandchild, Talent.

## Ruby Virginia Akins



Ruby Virginia Akins passed away Oct. 13, 2018, at Lodi, Calif., at the age of 95.

She was born to William I. Leslie and Nannie Wade Leslie at Pontotoc County, Okla. She was child number eight of 12 siblings. Mrs. Akins mother was a full-blood enrolled Chickasaw.

She married Clarence "Jay" Akins at Wenatchee, Wash., May 29, 1943. They for the most part lived in California and that is where they had their family, Doyle Dwayne Akins, Barbara Gail Akins (now Gornto) and Ronald Lynn Akins. They spent periods of time in Washington and were there at the time of

Mr. Akins death June 2, 2003 at Yakima, Wash. After the death of her husband, she lived with her daughter Barbara and son-in-law Roy Gornto at Walnut Grove, Calif.

When her family could no longer care for her at home she went to a care facility where they visited her often. This was where she passed.

She had a great love for family and adored and cherished her grandchildren. She loved family gatherings and being with family and friends.

She was proud of her Chickasaw heritage and had fond memories of her mother's storytelling and of her family's life in Oklahoma. She loved telling about her children and grandchildren and of her life with her husband.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence Jay Akins; her mother, Nannie Wade Leslie; and her father, William I. Leslie. She was also preceded in death by 11 siblings, Lillie Mae Vineyard, Walter Sidney "Pete" Leslie, Maud Lee "Juanita" Haight, Eveylyn "Lena" Hatton, Otto Calvin Leslie, Orel William Leslie, John Floyd Leslie, Thomas Charles Leslie, Harvey Leroy Leslie, JD Leslie and Glen Leon Leslie.

She is survived by her son, Doyle Dwayne Akins; her daughter, Barbara Gornto and son-in-law, Roy Gornto; and her son, Ronald Akins and her daughter-in-law, Julie Akins, all of California. Survivors also include several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Besides her immediate family, she is also survived by her last surviving sibling, Frances Jamie Herridge and husband, Marvin Herridge, of Port Townsend, Wash., and cousins, nieces, nephews, in-laws and friends too numerous to name.

She will be greatly missed by all who have been a part of her life and loved her. She was cremated and is to be placed with her husband at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Wash., at a later date.

## Christine Marie Brown Anderson



Beloved mother and Chicksaw Native, Christine Marie Brown Anderson, 85, of Lone Grove, Okla., passed away Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019, at her home surrounded by family.

Mrs. Anderson was born Dec. 17, 1933 to John and Sina Brown at Sasakwa, Okla. She married Raymond Anderson and the couple had eight children, four boys and four girls. She had a kind, gentle soul and was good to everyone she met. She was strong minded and very determined in everything she did, including her job, for which she was given a white glove award. She was also a member of AFB Church in Ardmore, Okla.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Raymond Anderson; parents, John and Sina Brown; sister, Juanita Walker; and brothers, Cat Brown, Joe Brown and Gene Brown.

She is survived by her eight children, Billy Anderson, Tim and Debra Anderson, Ronald Anderson, Raymond D. Anderson, Vera Sue Johnson, Debra Two-Babies, Tina and Anthony DeCarlo and Lisa Anderson; 15 grandchildren; and 22 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were Wednesday, January 30, 2019, at Smith-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel in Ada, Okla. Burial followed in High Hill Cemetery.

## Susan Elaine Kelso (Beane)



Susan Elaine Kelso (Beane) passed away peacefully Feb. 3, 2019, at Nampa, Idaho. She was 72 years old and the granddaughter of original enrollee Lelia Beane (Smith) and great-granddaughter of original enrollees John and Tacey Smith.

She was born Nov. 4, 1946, at Tacoma, Wash., to Harriett Maude (Parker) and John Henry Beane.

Her family relocated to El Monte, Calif., when she was a young girl and she lived there until 1971 when she moved with her husband, John and children to Caldwell, Idaho. She then lived in Walla Walla, Wash., for a time, but made her way back to Caldwell. She also lived in Marsing, Idaho and Greenleaf, Idaho.

She was employed by Albertsons as a grocery clerk until her retirement in the mid 1990s. She made many lifelong friends in both Walla Walla and Caldwell throughout her time at the company. In later years she worked with preschool children, helping to prepare them for kindergarten, as an aid at Nampa State School and Hospital and also as a hospice volunteer. She held the hands of many as they passed from this world.

Susan was a kind and compassionate soul. She was always willing to help, even giving her own personal things away to those who might need them more. Her home was open to family and friends and she provided a safe place for both to get back on their feet when needed. She had a wonderful sense of humor and great talent for drawing and writing. She was brilliant and had the most beautiful handwriting. She was a lover of animals. She was interested in historical places in the valley and loved exploring in the Owyhees, especially in the Silver City (Idaho) area. She was drawn by the mystery of old abandoned schoolhouses.

She was very proud of her Chickasaw heritage and in 2000 traveled to Oklahoma to connect with her relatives there. She passed that heritage on to her children. She enjoyed attending powwows and encouraged family and friends to attend with her.

Susan had a strong faith in Jesus Christ and was baptized in the Boise River in 2003.

She was preceded in death by her parents; granddaughter, Jennifer Kelso; and brother, Michael Beane.

She is survived by three siblings, Denise Shaumann (Ken), Helen Werre (Ron) and Bruce Whitney (Roxanne); five nieces and four nephews, Cheyanna, Vanessa and Landon, Autumn, Denver and Skye, Sean, Leah and Helen; five children, Christine Heimbigner (Steve), Mark Kelso (Kimberly), Denise Kelley (James), Glenn Kelso (Ginger), Bryant Kelso (Robin); 12 grandchildren, Stephanie Burger (Stephen), Cara Perry (Michael), Ian Heimbigner, Tyler Kelso (Lisa), Jeffrey Kelso, Courtney Daniels (John), Samantha Tua (Joe), Hunter Kelso, Peyton Kelso, Adrian Kelso (Emily), Katelyn Kelso (Ryan), Ryanne Nebeker (Jeremy); 17 great-grandchildren, Ashlyne and Rebekah Burger, Taylor and Sidney Perry, Jude, Muriel and Ezra Heimbigner, Kamryn and Chase Kelso, Weilynn Kelso, Kalliope and Lorelei Tua, Reagan and Reese Daniels, Oaklynn Kelso, Luke Keating and Charlotte Nebeker.

But it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have

entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 1 Corinthian's 2:9

We miss you, but will see you again!

A memorial service was Feb. 8, 2018 at Flahiff Funeral Chapel at Caldwell, Idaho. Graveside services followed at Greenleaf Cemetery in Greenleaf, Idaho.

## Larry Lee Cravatt



Larry Lee Cravatt, a proud Chickasaw citizen and elder who crafted a life filled with family, friends, University of Oklahoma football, fishing, hunting and music, passed away Feb. 12, 2019. He was 74.

Funeral services were Feb. 15, 2019 at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center at Ada, Okla. Interment followed in Rosedale Cemetery.

Born in Claremore, Okla., May 29, 1944 to Ada Catherine Cravatt and Henderson "Jack" Cravatt, he was one of 13 children born to the couple on the family farm.

Reared with a steely respect for hard work and accomplishing personal goals, he worked in several industries that specialized in supplying raw materials for varying construction projects. Mr. Cravatt was associated with Dolese, Meridian Aggregates and the Chickasaw Nation before retiring in 2018.

He would earn a master's degree in counseling from East Central University and served his country during the Vietnam War from 1965-67. He was friendly and gregarious, always ready to assist anyone in need. He served as a pastor for various churches, and would offer counseling, spiritual reflection and encouragement.

He was the father of four sons and a daughter; Larry Cravatt, Jr., McAlester, Okla.; Phillip Cravatt, Ada, Okla.; Sood Cravatt, El Dorado, Kan.; Lee Cravatt and Shanda Loper, Sulphur, Okla.; and daughter, Stormy Busby, Davis, Okla.

Aside from his children, cheering on the Sooners, slipping off to that special fishing hole or singing and playing guitar - widely acknowledged as an accomplished musician - Mr. Cravatt was lovingly devoted to more than 20 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Norman, Albert and Gene Cravatt; and a grandchild, Jamie Cravatt.

He is survived by nine brothers and sisters, David Cravatt, Ardmore, Okla., Lucille Loman and her husband, Howard, Antlers, Okla., Jerry Cravatt, Savannah, Ga., Marilyn Lewis, Irving, Texas, Norma Wallace and her husband, James, Sulphur, Okla., Judy Poolaw and her husband, Flint, Phoenix, Ariz., Shirley Lewis, Sulphur, Okla., Tommy Cravatt, Neosho, Mo., and Tim Cravatt, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Surviving grandchildren include Cristie Cravatt, Veda Cravatt, Kiona Cravatt, Raynie Cravatt, Phillip Cravatt II, Patrick Cravatt, Darian Cravatt, Sasha Preast, Morgan Keck, Paisley Cravatt, Levi Dill, Ben Dill, Kaleb Dill, Taloa Dill, Vyse Dill, Destiny Dill, Gage Dill and Braxton Dill.

Surviving great-grandchildren include Brody Ketcher, Jaxon Camacho, Zayne Keck, Darvin Gilliam, Kellen Keck and Mason Keck.

Mr. Cravatt is also survived Donna Iti Tupa, of the home.

### Charlene Kay (Carter) Benson



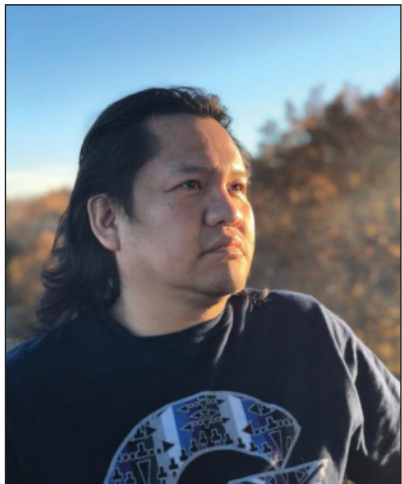
Charlene Kay (Carter) Benson, 62, passed away Feb. 14, 2019 at her home at Connerville, Okla. A funeral service to honor and celebrate her life was Feb. 20, 2019 at Blue Baptist Church at Connerville, Okla.

Ms. Benson was born Oct. 30, 1956 to Charlie and Pearlina Carter. She attended school at Connerville and McLish. She enjoyed playing basketball, softball and spending time with her family. She loved her tribe and was proud to be a full-blood Chickasaw citizen.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charlie and Pearlina Carter; and her grandson, Jeffrey Griffith.

She is survived by her two sons, Shannon Carter and wife, Sarah, and Eric Tyson; daughters, McKisha Factor and Mondra Factor; sister, Lorene Johnson; brother, David Fort; nine grandchildren, Lane Farmer, Alyssa Givens, Jacob Carter, Ethan Carter, Nathan Park, Johnny Park, Mason Carter, Kensey Carter and Waylon Tyson; two nieces, Candle Fort and Preston Fort; nephew, Colton Johnson; and a host of other family and friends who will deeply miss her.

### Myron Shon Johnson



Myron Shon Johnson, 43, of Wayne, Okla., passed away Feb. 2, 2019 at a local hospital. Services were at Criswell Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. Randy Wade officiated. Burial was in Steedman Cemetery.

Mr. Johnson was born Aug. 12, 1975 at Oklahoma City to Melvin and Wilma Johnson.

He was a budget analyst for the Indian Health Service at Gaithersburg, Md.

He was preceded in death by his father, Melvin Johnson.

Survivors include his mother, Wilma Johnson; his step-father, Mitch Watan; and a brother, James Johnson, all of the home.

Bearers were Travis Johnson, Jarvis Johnson, Jr., Ray Dean Johnson, Jr., Isaac Yates and Mike Watkins.

### Murray Gene Goforth



Murray Gene Goforth, 87, reunited with his sweetheart, Mary Frances Dodson Goforth, Feb. 22, 2019 at his home in Ardmore, Okla.

Funeral services were Feb. 26, 2019 at The Chapel at Griffin ~ Hillcrest Funeral Home with Rev. Bob Smea officiating. Interment followed in Hillcrest Memorial Park of Ardmore.

Mr. Goforth was born Nov. 12, 1931 at Coleman, Okla., to the

late Solomon Calvin Goforth and the late Lillian Beebe Goforth. He married his soulmate and best friend, Mary Frances Dodson, May 29, 1955. Together they had two children, Greg and Marsha.

He joined the U.S. Navy in Feb. 1950 and was honorably discharged in 1953. He later became employed with OG&E as a District Accountant where he worked for 34 years upon retirement.

He was a member of the McLish Church of Christ of Ardmore. His main hobby was working, whether it be accounting, building a deck and fence, making things for his great-grandkids, or helping with remodeling a home. He loved life and his family unconditionally. His daily goal was to make one person smile every day. He will forever be remembered by his woodworking skills. We are blessed with many treasures that we will forever cherish in our hearts.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Solomon and Lillian Goforth; his beloved wife, Mary Dodson Goforth; two brothers, Garth Solomon Goforth and Paul

Calvin Goforth; and two sisters, Iwanah Lorenzino and Margaret Hogg.

He is survived by his two children, Greg Goforth and wife, Kim, of Mountain Park, Okla., and Marsha Raines of Healdton, Okla.; three grandchildren, Brandon Goforth and fiancé, Chelsea Grogan, of Edmond, Okla., Mehgan Machinski and husband, Matt, of Elgin, Okla., and Juston Norman and wife, Natalie, of Healdton; six great-grandchildren, Myla, Bear, Gunner, Gus, Gradi and Avery; his best friends, Ola Mae Kemp and husband, Gene, of Ardmore whom the family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to for their love and sacrifices over the last 18 years plus. They are not just friends, they are family.

Pallbearers were Brandon Goforth, Juston Norman, Matt Machinski, Joe Norman, Kelly Norman and Jeff Willingham.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Cross Timbers Hospice, 207 C St NW, Ardmore, OK 73401. Condolences may be left at www.griffinhillcrest.com.

### Walking to Stomp Out Sexual Assault event set for April 13 at Wintersmith

ADA, Okla. - The 2019 Walking to Stomp Out Sexual Assault event is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 13 at Wintersmith Park in Ada.

The walk is sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation.

This marks the 11th year for the walk. The event raises awareness of sexual assault and educates the community on

available services. The event is free and open to the public.

Free lunch and T-shirts will be provided while supplies last. The Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts program will offer tips and illustrate defensive tactics.

For more information, contact Debra Campbell at Debra.Campbell@Chickasaw.net.

### Diabetes Camp set for June 3-7 at Chickasaw Retreat Center in Sulphur

SULPHUR, Okla. - The 2019 Diabetes Camp is set for June 3-7 at the Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center in Sulphur.

This camp is hosted by the Chickasaw Nation Diabetes Care Center.

Campers must be patients of the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center or one of the Chickasaw Nation satellite clinics. Applicants must complete the camp application and have the medical

release form signed by their primary care physicians.

Campers are allowed to bring one guest. The guest must also complete the medical release form. All campers and guests must be 13 years or older.

Application deadline is May 3. Visit Chickasaw.net/DCC for an application.

For more information, contact Shondra McCage, at Shondra.McCage@Chickasaw.net.

### Volunteer workers needed

### Rabbit Run 5k, 1-Mile Fun Walk set for May 18 at Purcell City Lake

PURCELL, Okla. - The annual Rabbit Run 5K 1-Mile Fun Walk is set for Saturday, May 18 at Purcell City Lake. The 1-mile fun walk begins at 8 a.m. and the individual and team 5K at 8:30 a.m.

This event is free and open to the public.

To pre-register, visit rabbitrun5k.itsyourrace.com.

For more information, or to register, contact Beth Cartwright at (580) 559-0880 or email ChickasawRun@Chickasaw.net.

The Chickasaw Nation Department of Health is seeking volunteers for the Rabbit Run 5K. The run is set for Saturday, May 18 at Purcell City Lake/Park in Purcell, Okla.

Volunteers will be needed from 6:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Certificates given for community service IDP credit.

If you are interested in volunteering, or have any questions, contact (580) 559-0880 or ChickasawRun@Chickasaw.net.

### Education sessions for veterans now available at Chickasaw Veterans Lodge

ADA, Okla. - Education sessions for Chickasaw veterans will be conducted from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., every second Friday of the month at the Chickasaw Veterans Lodge on the Ada South Campus.

These sessions will feature guest speakers in multiple fields.

Speaker topics are chosen by Veterans' Lodge patrons.

Sessions are open to Chickasaw veterans and their families.

For more information, contact the Veterans Lodge at (580) 272-2550.

## March MOVIESHOWCASE

### 7<sup>TH</sup>

THE SECRET GARDEN  
(G)

### 14<sup>TH</sup>

THE SECOND TIME AROUND (1961)  
(GENERAL AUDIENCES)

### 21<sup>ST</sup>

DESK SET  
(GENERAL AUDIENCES)

### 28<sup>TH</sup>

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME  
(GENERAL AUDIENCES)

**SHOWTIMES: 2 P.M. & 7 P.M.**  
**\$3 GENERAL ADMISSION • \$2 SENIORS • \$2 CHILDREN UNDER 12**  
**\$5 COMBO DEAL - TICKET, POPCORN & DRINK**

**McSwain Theatre**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR  
 130 W. MAIN, ADA, OK 74820 • 580-332-8108  
[WWW.MCSWAINTHEATRE.COM](http://WWW.MCSWAINTHEATRE.COM)

## THE HORNS PRESENTS 42ND ANNUAL GOSPEL SINGING WITH SPECIAL GUEST

THE CROSBY FAMILY



**MARCH 23 2019**  
**7 PM**  
**BRYAN COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**1901 S. 9TH STREET**  
**DURANT, OK**

**ALSO APPEARING**

  
**CANAANBOUND**

  
**Masters Touch**

  
**THE JOHNSONS**

  
**Foreman Sisters**

  
**Travis & Sheara**

  
**Judy Chastain**

  
**Heavenly places**

**\* SAVED BY GRACE \* 2 BECAME 1**  
**JAN & VIRGIL \* REJOICE \* CORNERSTONES**  
**FLO WISE \* KENNETH CROSBY FAMILY \***  
**FRANCIS BRANDY VEGA**  
**PLUS MANY MORE GROUPS**

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
**BONNIE HORN @ 580-740-9519**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
**CONCESSION WILL BE AVAILABLE**

# 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.



## Mahota Studios 2019 Workshops

Jan. 26

### Needle Punch Work with Mary Wilds

Participants will draw or transfer a design using a backlight onto weaver's cloth. Using a hollow punch needle, they will punch loops of embroidery thread, forming lines of running stitches on the back of the fabric while forming the loops of the stitches on the front of the fabric. Completed designs will be mounted and framed.

(\$100 covers all class instruction and materials.)

Feb. 23

### Love for Turtle Island Quilting with Carla Hemlock

Participants will begin the workshop viewing a PowerPoint presentation and trunk show. After, they will work on an original quilt pattern designed by Carla. Their finished product will be hung on a 45"x60" wall hanging.

(\$100 covers all class instruction and materials.)

March 30

### Painted Warps with Suza Wooldridge

Participants will prepare threads in advance. During the workshop methods of applying, layering, and blending dyes will be demonstrated. Participants will leave with dyed warps, ready for the loom.

(\$100 covers all class instruction and materials.)

April 13

### Southeastern Woodlands Beadwork with Martha Berry

Students will learn the history of Southeastern Woodlands beadwork, and learn the traditional two-needle applique beading technique. The class project will be a beaded Southeastern symbol suitable for framing

(\$100 covers all class instruction and materials.)

June 22

### Embroidery with French Knots with Julie Marks Blackstone

Students will begin with an overview of color/design/composition planning, followed with basic embroidery techniques, emphasizing the use of the French knot with special attention on combining thread colors to create visual color mixing. A grid-based mini-sampler of embroidery techniques will be created, with an option to begin preliminary work on a second, more artistic sampler.

(\$100 covers all class instruction and materials.)



For more information, or to enroll, call the ARTesian Gallery & Studios at (580) 622-8040.



## 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.

Sights and sounds of Spring have emerged all over campus.

## PROFILES of a NATION

CHICKASAW-TV

Meet youth wrestler Tohmi Carney. His Chickasaw warrior spirit could take him all the way to the Olympics. His story on [www.Chickasaw.tv](http://www.Chickasaw.tv)

Facebook: CHICKASAW-TV, Twitter: @CHICKASAWTV, Instagram: @CHICKASAWTV