Pawnee Nation and Pawnee Nation College Employees Recognized

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Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma P.L. 102-477 Program Honored

Article on Page 4

April/May 2012
Greetings to all members of the great Pawnee Nation.

As we come up to this time of year many people think of Easter and associate it with bunny rabbits, eggs and baskets, but the true meaning of Easter is the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Pawnee People have always been spiritual people, believing and praying to Atius Tirawahut. When the missionaries came, the Pawnees were not surprised that they brought with them their teachings of Jesus Christ. To the Pawnees it was very reasonable that the Father would have a Son. With that I want to wish everyone a joyous holiday as we celebrate the true meaning of Easter.

Mother’s Day is also coming up. This is a time to celebrate, thank and pay tribute to all mothers. Our mothers are very special to us. So far this year we have enjoyed different functions celebrating mothers with a Peyote meeting and a handgame for a mother turning 90 years of age. Mothers have shown their pride and honored their young ones in the arena and in handgames.

We look forward to great things happening in the near future. There are many functions we look forward to, such as the Memorial Dance, the Homecoming and also the arrival of a custom Pendleton Blanket in the design of the Pawnee Flag.

Once again I would like to reiterate that we are members of the greatest Nation in the world, the Pawnee Nation. We are known as “Men of Men” or “Chaticks si Chaticks”. We can do and achieve anything with prayer and support of one another.

Please pray for our Pawnee leaders, tribal members, employees and all Indian people, that we may have health, happiness and prosperity.
Education
Free General Educational Development (GED) classes are ongoing until May. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 - 8 p.m. in the Cultural Learning Center. For more information, contact Matt Jim, Youth Services coordinator, at (918)762-3227.

Health
Substance Abuse Program (SAP)
Every Wednesday of the month, the SAP support group meets from 7 - 8 p.m. in the SAP building. For more information, call (918) 762-2153.

Diabetes Program
On Wednesdays from 11 a.m. - noon and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. the Diabetes Program provides blood sugar checks. For more information, call (918) 762-4045.

Title VI Senior Program
Bingo held from 12:30 to 1:30 every Wednesday and a 50/50 raffle and bake sale sponsored every Friday beginning April 6. Donated baked items are accepted and chances are three (3) for $1. For more information, contact the Title VI Senior Program at (918) 762-4042.

April 13, May 9 & 23
Pawnee Business Council Meetings held in the Roam Chief Building. For more information, call (918) 762-3621.

April 22
Kitkahaki Dance sponsored by Kitkahaki Chiefs Ralph Haymond and Morgan Little Sun held at the Camp Grounds. For more information, contact Ralph Haymond at (918)762-3821 or (918) 606-5520.

April 22 - 28
Pawnee Nation Learning Center celebrates the lives of children. Planned events include “A Walk to Remember,” “Teaching and Teachers Matter,” “Share a Book,” “Go Blue” and “Family Appreciation Day.” For more information, call (918) 762-2489.

July 6
Deadline to enroll in the fall 2012 term of the Higher Education Program. Visit the Pawnee Nation Web site or call (918) 762-3227 for details.

Visit www.pawneenation.org for information about the Pawnee Tribe and upcoming events.

Earth, Wind and Fire Offers Emergency Response Training
By Gerald Woommavovah
Emergency Coordinator


EOCs throughout the state were asked to participate as well as the Tribal Nations. Pawnee Nation participants in the exercise included the Department of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement, Division of Natural Resources and Safety, Information Technology (IT), the Division of Finance, the Executive Office and the Communications Department.

Other jurisdictions from Pawnee County that participated include the Pawnee County Emergency Manager, Pawnee County Commissioners, City of Pawnee Emergency Manager, Pawnee Fire Department, City of Cleveland Emergency Manager, Cleveland Fire Department, Oklahoma State Health Department, American Red Cross, Peninsula Fire Department and Basin Fire Department.

This exercise established a learning environment for emergency personal and community leaders to exercise emergency response plans, policies and procedures.

To provide an effective exercise, experts and local representatives from numerous agencies participated in the planning process to assist EOCs around the State to receive the adequate training and knowledge needed to handle possible disasters in the future.

*Earth, Wind and Fire* consisted of two separate shifts and required briefings between the two shifts. Interjections were given out throughout each shift and required replies back to the State EOC within a timely manner.

Scenarios included tornados, a sink hole on Highway 64, wide power outages, road damages, road blockage, structure fires, animal control problems and sheltering throughout the county.

Pawnee Nation’s EOC has been in operation since February 2011 and is always being improved to meet and adapt to the community’s needs.

Pawnee Nation’s IT Department has done a great job in keeping this EOC up and running and providing vital technical support while emergency operations are in full force.

Pawnee Nation now has an established process and the needed technology at hand to respond and manage incidents and disasters that may affect our community.
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma P.L. 102-477 Program Honored

by Freda Tippeconnie
Education Division Director

The 2012 Public Law 102-477 National Conference was held at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Acme, Mich., March 5-8.

An award ceremony was held at the last general session of the conference on Thursday, March 8.

There are four Awarding Official Technical Representatives (AOTRs) employed by the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (OIEED) that are responsible for providing support and overseeing a certain number of tribes’ P.L. 102-477 programs.

Each of the AOTRs presented an award to one of their tribes, but they also voted on one program as the “Program of the Year.”

This year that award was given to the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma P.L. 102-477 Program.

The Pawnee Nation 477 Program AOTR is Jeffery Barwick. He came to Pawnee in March 2011 to complete a program review. He was very impressed with the amount of support we receive from our Council, which included the purchase of the Berry Building and the renovation of the upstairs for our Education Offices, classrooms and computer lab.

Barwick was also pleased with the way our staff was cross-trained and able to work together to provide services for our clients.

Native American Finding Critical, Supporters Needed

by Freda Tippeconnie
Education Division Director

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma currently receives Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funding from the Department of Labor through our Public Law 102-477 Program, which is the largest program within the Education Division.

WIA is the principal workforce development legislation in the United States.

The focus of our P.L. 102-477 Program is to improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency and enhance the production and effectiveness of our clients.

Some of the services we provide include assisting with job searches, temporary job training placements, assistance with vocational training programs, resume preparation, supportive services, as well as needs-related payments.

One of the most prevalent activities within our 477 Program is the Summer Youth Work Program.

However, these services are currently in danger.

Taxpayers currently pay to provide 47 separate federal job training programs, but 33 of these programs are said to overlap and provide the same types of services for participants.

Congresswoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) introduced H.R. 3610, the Streamlining Workforce Development Programs Act on Dec. 8, 2011 in an effort to combine these job training programs and improved services.

Foxx’s idea is to pool the 33 programs that duplicate services into four Workforce Investment Funds, which are the following. The Workforce Investment Fund, The State Youth Workforce Investment Fund, The Veterans Workforce Investment Fund and The Targeted Populations Workforce Investment Fund.

This would have a negative impact on our Indian and Native American (INA) programs because the funding that has been distributed to the 163 tribes, tribal organizations, consortia, community organizations across the country (19 in Oklahoma) would be moved from the federal to the state level.

It will be up to the states to determine how the money would be distributed, which is a violation of our sovereignty.

H.R. 3610 has been referred to 12 different committees for review and comment.

It is very important for everyone to speak up, from the youth that participate in the summer youth work programs in our various communities to the program participants we are trying to work with to increase their education, training, employment, earnings and job retention.

Letters need to be written to ensure those people representing us know what a detrimental effect H.R. 3610 will have on our communities.

Please contact our office at education@pawneenation.org or (918)762-3227 for more information.

Also, feel free to visit http://www.ninaetc.net/hr3610.pdf.

Example letters and templates are also available at www.pawneenation.org.
The WHPP Encourages Healthy Activity And Congratulates Winners

By Suzy Knife Chief
HP/DP Healthy Nation Coordinator

The Tiny Tot Basketball League had a total of 102 boys and girls, from 2nd through 5th grades, participate, 34 percent were Native American. By organizing leagues, physical activity has increased for the 102 students that participated in basketball. This is creating a social approach towards a physical activity environment. The students practiced twice a week for an hour each with games on Saturdays. The goal was to increase the support and encouragement offered to the participants that will lead to increased physical activity and confidence in the ability to work out.

The Weight Loss Challenge, which kicked off Jan. 9, ended on March 12. This challenge was created by the Wellness and Health Promotion Program (WHPP) Advisory Board, who voted for the challenge to consider weight loss percentage instead of actual weight loss. The viewpoint remained that the participants were coming from very different body shapes, sizes, heights and weights. A fair way to measure the weight lost existed by determining the percentage of a participant’s body weight. On March 14, the WHPP Board sponsored a healthy cook-out for all the participants in congratulating them on their accomplishments. Along with the cook-out was a fun activity and the announcement of winners.

First place winners, who received the consolidated entry fee and money gained from the weigh-ins, were the “The Pokes,” Darrel Banning and Tiffany Frietze. Second place winners were “The Mustangs,” Robbie Harjo and Jackie Beard and third place winners were the “The Spears,” Richard and Kacie Spears who received a six-month membership and three-month membership respectively to the Pawnee Nation Fitness Center.

It was great to see how many participants finished the competition. The goal of the two-month competition was to get participants to change their eating habits and lifestyle behaviors to include healthy options.

For more information, please contact HPDP Healthy Nation Program at (918) 762-2153.

Human Resources Application Procedures Change

In an effort to become paperless and more efficient, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma’s office of Human Resources will now require applicants to apply online at www.pawneenation.org. Applicants will be able to access a link to our online application. A valid email address is required in order to apply for any vacancies.

For more information, contact Shelby Exum, Human Resource specialist at (918) 762-3621 x52 or via email at hrspecialist@pawneenation.org.

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NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

Dawna Bowman was selected as Accountant. Ms. Bowman began her new position on Feb. 21, 2012.

Jannae Kanuho was selected as Housekeeper. Ms. Kanuho began her new position on Feb. 20, 2012.

Ramona Horsechief was selected as Head Cook. Ms. Horsechief began her new position on Jan. 18, 2012.
Construction Continues For The U.S. 64 Entrance To Tribal Complex

By Toni Hill
Communications Manager

Cranes larger than the men who control them are used to lay the concrete beams. Picture taken Jan. 11, 2012.

The construction of a bridge over Black Bear Creek is progressing. The builder, Oklahoma Bridge Contractors, is based in Edmond, Okla.

“This project was not designed to compromise existing business revenue for Pawnee,” said Cecil Riding In, Pawnee Nation transportation director.

“However, based on the number of commuters that currently use the existing pathways, more than 2,700 cars daily, the Pawnee Nation (Business Council) felt that another option was necessary to ensure safe and unrestricted travel.”

The bridge deck is in place leading to the creation of galvanized handrails, additional Rip-Rap bank stabilization and final dirt work.

“The contractors have diligently continued their work throughout the winter months, as the weather allowed, and will be moving much of their equipment and supplies from the job site soon,” said Jim McCormick, project manager.

“The final stage of work will be to place the Bermuda sod for additional slope and bank stabilization.”

This structure will link the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma complex and the Indian Health Services center to U.S. 64 East.

The bridge project had sparked discussion for more than a decade due to a need for additional access to the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma headquarters.

Currently, the only routes to the Tribal complex utilize the green bridge located on East Harrison Street. This passage is often blocked, and travel delayed, due to railroad usage.

Brawley Engineering Inc. designed the new entry in compliance with federal standards required by the Federal Highway Administration.

One area of focus involved confirming proper water disbursement to avoid potential flooding.

Upon completion of all bridge and dirt work, the Pawnee Nation Department of Transportation and Safety (PN DOTS) will begin making plans for Phase II, which will include roadway paving and the formation of curbs, gutters and sidewalks.

Once finished, a new route will be available for travel to and from the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma offices, the Pawnee Nation College, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Pawnee Indian Health Services center, which provides medical services for those living within the multi-county region.

Other entities benefited include Pawnee Nation Law Enforcement, the Pawnee Nation District Court and many other Tribal offices and programs.

“We would like to thank the citizens of Pawnee for their support,” McCormick said. “This development could ease traffic burdens on existing venues of travel without having any known negative effects on business revenue.”

The PN DOTS would like to remind the community that the use of the bridge and roadway is restricted until official notification.

Any concerns should be directed to the PN DOTS at (918) 762-3655.

Editor’s note: Article updates provided by Cecil Riding In and Jim McCormick.
The Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, is responsible for providing health benefits to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The access to health services for federally-recognized tribal members stemmed from agreements between the federal government and the tribes.

“The IHS is the principal federal health care provider and health advocate for Indian people, and its goal is to raise their health status to the highest possible level,” said Joyce Oberly, performance improvement officer. “Our local IHS facility, the Pawnee Indian Health Center (PIHC) provides health care services to federally recognized American Indians.”

The PIHC is actively participating in the Improving Patient Care (IPC) initiative.

“The aim of the IPC program is to change and improve the Indian Health system,” Oberly said. “The result will be a medical home that sets new standards for health care delivery and further advances the health and wellness of the American Indian and Alaska Native people.”

One of the major changes involves the implementation of the medical home type of treatment which assigns a regular health care provider to each patient. This allows for the development of a professional relationship between the physician and client. This partnership enables the health care provider to focus on each person’s unique medical background and needs.

Another area of change embraces appointment scheduling. Based on the IPC foundation, the goal focuses on providing appointment availability when a patient wants and needs care.

“We see approximately 5,000 individuals a month for services including dental, pharmacy, general medical and optometry,” said Travis Scott, IHS chief executive officer. “In order to meet the patient volume demand and provide high quality care, we had to restructure our appointment system.”

According to Scott, this new procedure eliminates the previous system of scheduling three to four months in advance.

Currently, patients are provided with a business card upon check out advising them to call back within a four-week time frame to set an appointment.

This revision has resulted in fewer no-shows and opportunities to increase the efficiency of emergency care.

“Since we stated this procedure, our no-show rate has dropped from 30 to 15 percent,” Scott said. “Not only does this allow IHS to offer better service, but this procedure is more cost effective for the providers and more efficient.”

Another challenge faced by PIHC’s administration involved phone coverage. To combat this potential roadblock to care, the facility implemented a Call Central area staffed with an appointment clerk and a registered nurse. The clerk handles calls involving chronic or routine visits while the nurse addresses situations potentially requiring a same day appointment.

The Call Central format also allows the medical professional to offer remedies over the phone while allowing access to a physician when appropriate.

“The largest segment of our population is getting older meeting the demand for access to a provider will be difficult,” Scott said. “We offer many services including five adult medical clinics and specialists; a pediatrician, a podiatrist, a psychologist, a licensed social worker and four dentists. Our specialty clinics include cardiology, rheumatology and wound care.”

To assist PIHS in providing the best care, clients are asked to utilize the current phone system.

For same day appointments, call (918) 762-6548 and for chronic/routine care, call (918) 762-6539. For informational inquiries, individuals may call the main line at (918) 762-2517.
PAWNEE BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

The following are only a brief synopsis of topics and actions taken by the Pawnee Business Council (PBC). The PBC minutes range from seven to eleven or more pages. If you would like to review a complete set, please contact the executive office.

Jan. 11, 2012 PBC Meeting:

All Council members were present and provided reports on their meetings and Committees since the last Council meeting. Executive Director Dawna Hare and General Manager Roger Foster of the Tribal Development Corporation (TDC) provided reports.

The minutes of the Dec. 14, 2011 and Dec. 28, 2011 PBC Meetings were approved.

During the Executive Director’s report, Ranger Monty Matlock presented last minute information he had received regarding the tribe’s water quality standards. Council agreed to allow him to submit the water quality standards to the Environmental Protection Agency approval.

Old Business:

1. Letter of Intent – This item is regarding a possible Internet Pay Day Loan opportunity for the Tribe. Attorney General Geoffrey Standing Bear attended the meeting and provided his opinion regarding the information received. He suggests that the TDC consider this item and that the Pawnee Nation consider updating its banking codes to include a lending code. If the TDC does not accept this offer, the PBC can create an LLC, update the lending codes and accept the offer. At this time, it is referred to the TDC Board of Directors. No other action taken at this time.

New Business (Added items):

1. Approval of Budgets – The Finance Director is still compiling information and asked that this agenda item be tabled. Motion to table carries.

Jan. 18, 2012, PBC Meeting:

Six Council members were present. Richard Tilden and Jim Fields were excused. There were no Committee Reports or reports from the Executive Director or General Manager of the TDC. This was intended to be a one-item agenda, however President Gover asked for two items to be added to the agenda for discussion.

Executive Session:

2. The Council reviewed a confidential legal issue with attorneys from NARF. No action was taken at this time. This was attorney/client privileged information only.

New Business (Added items):

2. President Gover asked permission from the Council to pursue having a custom-made, Pawnee Pendleton blanket designed. All Council members present agreed it was a good idea and additional information will be brought to the next full Council meeting. No other action taken.

3. President Gover also reported to the Council that he received a letter from the BIA that a person is requesting to sell trust land. The person that wants to buy it is not Pawnee; therefore the BIA requires the tribe’s permission to sell the land. President Gover suggests that the Council deny the request and consider purchasing the land for the tribe. Mrs. Hare will get additional information and request an appraisal and bring additional information to the next Council meeting. No other action was taken at this time.

Jan. 25, 2012, PBC Meeting

Seven Council members were present. President Gover was excused. Council members, the Executive Director, and the TDC General Manager provided reports on their activities since the previous PBC meeting.

The minutes of the Jan. 11, 2012 and Jan. 18, 2012 PBC meeting were approved.

Old Business:

1. Appointments to TDC Board of Directors – Resolutions 11-113 and 11-114 were tabled.

New Business:

1. Resolution 12-01 – Reappointment to TDC Board was tabled. Council made a motion that all tabled items be standing items on the next agenda until they are disposed of and the motion carried.

2. Resolution 12-02 – ANA Language Grant. The Resolution was approved to submit the ANA Language Grant.

3. Request to purchase - The Transportation Department had three requests for purchases. Bids were provided for each purchase and all three were approved by Council. These requests are to purchase a Field Transportation vehicle, the Goosebody truck bed for the vehicle and a Line-Striping machine. The Transportation Budget has sufficient funds in the equipment line item for these purchases.

4. Request to Purchase - The Pawnee Nation College requested to purchase 17 new computers and software. They have carry-over funds identified for this item. Motion carries to approve the purchase.

5. Godberson Lease - The Property Department has negotiated the lease of what is known as the “Day Property” that is adjacent to the Tribal Reserve. Mike Godberson is willing to lease the land again and the revised lease was approved by Council.

6. Approval of Budgets: The Budgets were tabled until Feb. 8.

7. Purchase of Pawnee Pendleton. This item was tabled to determine the funding source.

8. Lucy Jim Allotment - The Council requested additional information. The item was tabled and a letter will be sent to the BIA indicating the Pawnee Nation’s intent to purchase and requesting a list of all the heirs and an appraisal.

9. Elmo Thomas Morgan – Mr. Morgan thanked the Council for their support of the American Indian Exposition and his appointment as the Pawnee Director. He gave a brief report on the Exposition and the new Princess, Autumn Only A Chief. Mr. Morgan also asked Richard Tilden and Roy Taylor to be among the honored Veterans at the Native American Marine Organization ceremony that will be held on Nov. 10, 2012. Both accepted.

Executive Session:

1. Resolution 12-03 – Approval of Settlement – Nez Perce v. Salazar. No action was taken after coming out of Executive Session pending an opinion of Attorney General Geoffrey Standing Bear.

PAWNEE BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING NOTES continued on page 9.
Feb. 4, 2012 Quarterly PBC Meeting:

Six Council members were present. Karla Knife Chief and Jim Fields were excused. Executive Director Dawna Hare provided an introduction to the quarterly report and all division directors provided reports on their programs. No business was conducted at this meeting.

Feb. 8, 2012 PBC Meeting

Seven Council members were present. Carol Nuttle was excused. All Council members provided a report on their meetings and Committees since the last Council meeting. Executive Director Dawna Hare and Cecil Sterne, Acting Chairperson of the TDC provided reports to Council. Mr. Sterne informed the Council that Mr. Roger Foster was no longer employed for the TDC.

The minutes of the Jan. 18, 2012 and Jan. 25, 2012 PBC meetings were approved.

Old Business:

1. Appointments to the TDC Board – Resolutions 11-113 and 11-114 were tabled for one month.
2. Appointment to TDC Board – Resolution 12-01 – This was also tabled for one month.
3. Approval of Budgets – The budgets were tabled.
4. Approval to Purchase Pawnee Pendleton for resale – Approved. Council approved a Drawdown of Proceeds of Labor by Resolution 12-04 to accomplish the design and purchase of the Pendleton blanket.
5. Lucy Jim Allotment – Mrs. Hare informed Council that the letter was sent to the BIA that was requested at the last PBC meeting. The time-frame and process for the appraisal was discussed. No action needed or taken at this time.

New Business:

1. Approval of the TDC Leases – Corporate Office and Trading Post. The Council requested a Market Study to determine what the appropriate rental fee would be. Item was tabled to conduct the study and assess the needs of the buildings.
2. Approve to Develop Lending Code – President Gover requested permission to have the Attorney General develop Lending Codes for the Pawnee Nation. Motion carries.
3. Discussion and possible approval of Letter of Intent – Internet Pay Day Loans. The Council approved a motion to drop this issue and not consider it.
4. Community Development Fund Investment Presentation. Mrs. Hare gave a report on this organization and asked Council to allow her to pursue additional information. The Council agreed and it is reported that when it is developed it will be brought back to Council for approval.
5. Resolution 12-05 – Approve Revisions to the Gaming Ordinance. The Gaming Commission and Attorney General Geoffrey Standing Bear reported they have been working on the Gaming Ordinance since the Administrative Procedures Act was revised. Council approved Resolution 12-05 and the revisions are to be sent to the NIGC for final approval.
6. Approval of 2011 Auditor – Mid West Professionals. Mid West Professionals performed the 2010 Audit and did a great job. Mrs. Hare is requesting we extend their contract for two more years. Approved by Council.

Executive Session:

1. Resolution 12-03 – Nez Perce vs. Salazar – was tabled. Council will hold a special meeting on Feb. 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. to review this information.

Feb. 22, 2012 PBC Meeting

Seven Council members were present. President Gover was excused. Executive Director Dawna Hare provided a report. There was not TDC request reported at this meeting.

The minutes of the Feb. 4, 2012 quarterly and the Feb. 8, 2012 PBC Meeting were not ready and were tabled.

Old Business:

1. Appointments to TDC Board – (three positions) – Tabled until 03-14-12
2. Resolution 12-03 – Nez Perce vs. Salazar was moved into Executive Session.
3. Approval of Budgets: The Budget Committee recommended the approval of 22 Program Budgets. Council approved.
4. TDC Leases – Property provided the results of the Market Study and the assessment of the needs of each building leased by TDC. The Council approved both the TDC Lease and the Trading Post Lease. These now have to be approved by the TDC Board of Directors.

New Business:

1. OST and BIA Representatives – Information sharing. The staff from the BIA and the Office of Special Trustee joined the meeting to review the tribes P.L. account, upcoming Oil and Gas and Agriculture Lease sales, land issues, etc. No action was taken.
2. Purchase Request – Transportation signs – The Program asked that this agenda item be removed. After submitting the request to be on the agenda, they found another source for less money.
3. Enrollment Resolutions: The Council approved six resolutions for Enrollment. All had been reviewed by the Nasharo Council. Resolution 12-06 was to add new applicants, Resolution 12-07 Documenting Deceased members, Resolutions 12-08 and 12-09 are for Conditional Relinquishments, Resolution 12-10 for an Absolute Relinquishment and 12-11 was for a Change in Blood Quantum. All were approved.

Executive Session:

1. Resolution 12-03 – Nez Perce vs. Salazar – was tabled. Council will hold a special meeting on Feb. 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. to review this information.

Feb. 28, 2012 PBC Meeting:

All Council members were present. There were not Committee Reports or reports from the Executive Director or TDC.

The Minutes of the Feb. 4, 2012 Quarterly Meeting and the Feb. 8, 2012 PBC Meeting were approved.

Executive Session:

1. Resolution 12-03 – Nez Perce vs. Salazar. After coming out of Executive Session the Council voted to approve the resolution and submit it to NARF.
The Multi-Generational Effect Due To Unresolved Trauma

By Mike Ortiz
Substance Abuse Program Counselor

How we experience trauma is greatly affected by what we learned growing up. No two people will have the same experience when the opportunity to respond arises. Usually, what we learn is a reflection of another’s behavior based on what they learned from their own personal experiences. As an example let’s take into consideration a family whose father is mainly absent because of work and spending many nights in the bars. When he is home he is usually quiet but occasionally given to violence. The mother works hard all day and comes home nervous or anxious because she does not know what to expect when she walks in. With the scenario given we have to ask ourselves these two questions:

1. What type of life lessons can the children be expected to learn from this existence?
2. How will their behavior as adults be impacted?

There are many behavioral characteristics that can be displayed by adult children of alcoholics and some will be listed below:

- Afraid to trust someone else.
- Taking on more responsibility than can be handled.
- Fear of depending on another.
- The feeling of having to be in control.
- The feeling of having to be right.

- Denial that a problem exists.
- Looking to keep things chaotic or dramatic.
- Unable to relax and enjoy life.

As we reflect back on these characteristics we are able to recognize any that may have been passed on from grandparents to parents and ourselves. More importantly do we see any that we may be passing on to our own children?

Learning to change how we act is difficult to do so a story will be used to reflect a simple truth.

Grandfather is watching his grandson coming home from school and sees that something is wrong and asks if he will share with him, his problem. The grandson hesitates and grandpa waits patiently for him to begin.

Finally grandson speaks and tells him that he is being bullied and tormented at school by some of the kids at school. Grandson says that he tries to ignore them but they keep on. Grandson says that he does not want to get in trouble at school but at the same time wants to act out against them. He asks Grandfather what he thinks he should do. Grandfather picks his words carefully and begins to speak.” You know I have felt that way myself also. Sometimes it feels like there are two wolves inside me. One is respectful. He wants to want help and always do the right thing. The other is angry and wants to hurt and yell at people. He tries to fight instead of getting along. These two wolves are always fighting inside me.” The grandson looks confused, and finally asks, “Which wolf wins?” Grandfather tells him, “Whichever one I feed!”

This story is told in many different forms. Each version is telling us that regardless of the obstacle we are faced with, we alone make the decision on which path we take. Once we understand and accept this then we can decide which behaviors we want to keep because they make us feel good about ourselves and allow us to build a desirable lifestyle. We can also make that decision about what we want to change because of the difficulties that behavior has caused with others. The choices we make every day will affect our own personal future as well as our community’s future.

Trauma comes in many forms and the life skills we learned in the past and teach to the future have far reaching results in how we choose to confront it. We can bring the circle back to hope and purpose when we weigh what we do with the outcome we want to have.

Ted Moore And Freda Tippeconnie Selected As Representatives Of CoLA

By Toni Hill
Communications Manager

Congratulations to Ted Moore, Pawnee Nation tribal planner and grant writer, and Freda Tippeconnie, division director for the Education and Training department, for their recent appointment to the Circle of Leadership Academy (CoLA). Moore and Tippeconnie will utilize their philanthropic skills to serve a much larger community.

According to Daniel Lemm, director of Programs and Finance for Native Americans in Philanthropy (NAP), CoLA is an 18-month leadership development program designed to “enhance and empower Native American leadership in the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors.”

Lemm further explained that a new partnership between NAP and The Center for Leadership Innovation (TCLI) allows for more resources to be accessible in order to meet CoLA’s objectives.

Benefits to CoLA participants include diverse training in addition to networking and mentorship opportunities that continue after the 18-month commitment concludes.

“The CoLA program enriches leadership skills that are firmly rooted in Native values and traditions,” Lemm said “The CoLA leaders will be challenged to develop and increase their individual skills, knowledge and networks.”

Both Moore and Tippeconnie will serve the Central Region cohort and will attend the National Summit held in Los Angeles, Calif. April 24-27.

Two areas of professional development offered during the convention include “Foundation Leadership and Governance” and “Nonprofit Leadership and Governance.”

One way the CoLA leaders will demonstrate service is by volunteering at the Native Philanthropy Institute April 25 - 27.

“By being a CoLA leader I would eventually have the skills, knowledge and resources to assist our community to develop programs for our museum, seeds preservation, language and other Pawnee cultural projects,” Moore said. “I look forward to the challenge.”

Pawnee Tribal member Carly Hare serves as the executive director of NAP.
The Pa<ee Pakoo<oo Childcare Expands Into A New Facility

By Marilyn Feathers
Learning Center Coordinator

We are involved in so many activities, but one thing that is a priority for our staff is the safety of our children.

With spring comes the chance of severe weather. We monitor the weather to be prepared for what the forecast brings. All of our childcare sites do drills to prepare staff for evacuation procedures with the children.

Please become familiar with the designated safety areas for the community to keep your family safe.

The expansion of the Pawnee Nation Early Learning Center is also very close to being completed. We need phone lines, furnishings and a fire marshall’s report in place before the Department of Human Services/Licensing comes in to give approval to use the facility for children.

We are almost there!

The staff is excited to move the infants and wobblers into the building.

An Open House was held on April 3. We invite the public to come and view our beautiful new addition.

For more information, contact the Pa<ee Pakoo<oo Center at (918)762-2489.

FIRST QUARTER 2012 RESOLUTIONS

#12-01 – A resolution to Re-appoint to the TDC Board of Directors – Table.

#12-02 – A Resolution to submit the ANA Language Grant – Approved Jan. 25, 2012. Seven Council members were present, one excused (Lone Chief), Vote was six for, one not voting (President Gover).

#12-03 – A Resolution to Approve the Settlement of the Nez Perce v. Salazar case – Approved Feb. 28, 2012. Eight Council present. Seven for and one not voting (President Gover).

#12-04 – A Resolution to Drawdown Proceeds of Labor to order a Pawnee Pendleton design blanket for resale – Approved Feb. 8, 2012. Six for and one excused (Nuttle) and one not voting (President Gover).

#12-05 – A Resolution to approve revisions to the Gaming Ordinance – Approved Feb. 8, 2012. Six for and one excused (Nuttle) and one not voting (President Gover).

#12-06 – A Resolution for Enrollment – New Applicants – Approved Feb. 22, 2012 by a vote of six for, one excused (President Gover) and one not voting (Vice-President Lone Chief).

#12-07 – A Resolution for Enrollment – Documenting Deceased – Approved Feb. 22, 2012 by a vote of six for, one excused (President Gover) and one not voting (Vice-President Lone Chief).

#12-08 – A Resolution for Enrollment – Conditional Relinquishment – Approved Feb. 22, 2012 by a vote of six for, one excused (President Gover) and one not voting (Vice-President Lone Chief).

#12-09 – A Resolution for Enrollment – Conditional Relinquishment – Approved Feb. 22, 2012 by a vote of six for, one excused (President Gover) and one not voting (Vice-President Lone Chief).

#12-10 – A Resolution for Enrollment – Absolute Relinquishment – Approved Feb. 22, 2012 by a vote of six for, one excused (President Gover) and one not voting (Vice-President Lone Chief).

#12-11 – A Resolution for Enrollment – Change in Blood Quantum – Approved Feb. 22, 2012 by a vote of six for, one excused (President Gover) and one not voting (Vice-President Lone Chief).
Pawnee Nation and Pawnee Nation College employees were honored by the Executive Staff on Friday, Feb. 17, 2012. During the luncheon, Pawnee Business Council President Marshall Gover thanked employees for their hard work and dedication to the Tribe stating that each individual “was important and each person has an important job regardless of title.”

Gover also shared his vision of taking the Pawnee Tribe and Nation to a worldwide recognition through building on the foundation already in place and expanding through education, development and faith.

“Right now Pawnee Nation is a small Nation, but mighty in spirit and action,” Gover said. “Our seal represents the Chaticks si Chaticks, “men of men”, that will build Pawnee Nation step by step. Together, we can do anything that we determined to fulfill because we are members of the greatest Nation on the face of this earth.”
On March 20, Pawnee Business Council President Marshall Gover presented “The Past and Future of the Pawnee Nation and Pawnee Scouts” at the Peggy V. Helmerich Library in Tulsa, Okla. This demonstration was part of the 2012 American Indian Festival of Words sponsored in part by Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma.

Other sponsors included the College of the Muscogee Nation, Friends of the Helmerich Library and the Tulsa City-County Library Green Team.

Photo caption: Left: A picture of the display representing Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and the Pawnee Tribe located at the Tulsa County-City Library in downtown Tulsa. Top Right: A picture of the display filled with mementos of Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and the Pawnee Tribe located at the Peggy V. Helmerich Library in Tulsa, Okla.

Artists profiled include PBC Vice-President Charles Lone Chief, Sonny Howell and Charles Chapman.

Photo credit: Toni Hill. Displays arranged by Toni Hill, communications manager with assistance by Gordon Adams, THPO officer and Sonny Howell, artist.
Sexual Assault Not Defined By Status, Gender Or Age

By Chelsie Baldwin
VAW Advocate

The “perfect family” image is often an allusion to the painful realities that are often experienced within the home.

I’m a decent fan of football. I watch the NFL (National Football League) and college ball when I hang out with my friends. For those of us that watch ESPN (Entertainment and Sports Programming Network) or the news on even a rare occasion; it was nearly impossible to miss the top sports news story — the Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) sex abuse scandal involving former Penn State football assistant coach Jerry Sandusky.

Every day the Pawnee Nation Violence Against Women Program (VAW) finds ways to stop sexual assault, dating and domestic violence and stalking by bringing awareness to the public about these four issues and their prevalence in our Native community.

Penn State has definitely raised public awareness about sexual violence and child abuse. Wow. I mean, it’s almost incomprehensible. When you think of sexual assault you think of girls getting raped at a party or something, not boys being assaulted by an assistant football coach away at college. This directly points to the fact that sexual assault does not pick or choose based on race, sex, social status or age.

Sexual assault occurs quite often actually and even two times more so in Indian Country. According to the Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN), “Forty-four percent of victims are under age eighteen and eighty percent are under age thirty.”

We’re talking assaults at a pretty young age, and then they are left with the rest of their lives to cope with it; most not even reporting the attack to the authorities. “Sixty percent of sexual assaults are not reported to police and fifteen of sixteen rapists will never spend a day in jail,” states RAINN.

Most of the time, you will know the offender and it may even be a close friend or family member. Although we do not talk of it, incest is quite common in homes. I am a sexual assault survivor; the offender was a family member. It happens in families and that is where it has got to stop. Being assaulted does not just mean rape. It is any unwanted sexual attention, no matter how big or small.

What can be done as individuals and as a community to help prevent this violence from happening to our neighbors or to our loved ones? All of us have a role in building safe, healthy relationships and communities. When we start the trend of talking about things that are happening in our community and taking a stand against it, we are making steps in the right direction and other people will follow suit.

Parents can talk to their children about healthy relationships and share warning signs that may equal abuse. Neighbors can call the authorities when they hear, see or suspect abuse.

Schools can create and enforce zero tolerance policies for harassment and abuse. The local government can coordinate with our program to identify ways to raise community awareness and help with prevention efforts.

Emergency responders must document and photograph evidence of abuse while sensitively responding to children who have witnessed the abuse. Faith communities can learn about domestic violence and how to help. For more information on sexual assault, stalking and domestic dating violence, contact the VAW Program at (918) 399-3310.

Disclaimers: The above article is for informational purposes only and not meant to suggest any actions.

Assistance Available Through Indian Health Service Program

Joseph L. Jones
Sr. Field Engineer Pawnee Field Station

So you have decided to build a new house, or maybe you are moving a mobile home out onto your property. Did you know that the Indian Health Service (IHS) can provide assistance to your family as you go through this exciting time to ensure you have a safe water and sewer system?

Or maybe you already own you home and the grass being greener is not a good thing…

So you live out in the country, and you have an area where the septic system always stays wet and you can’t even get it mowed, or the grass stays green and the ground is spongy. Then you might have a failing on site wastewater system.

Or, you live in town, and your older home has a “slow drain”, and maybe you have had the plumber snake-it-out and they said you have something called “orangeberg” for a sewer service line. You could be in need of a replacement sewer service line.

These and similar issues are problems that some just deal with and make due, but they are matters that need to be addressed because they can have a detrimental health impact on you and your family.

The IHS Sanitation Facilities Construction (SFC) program provides water and wastewater facilities for individual Indian homes. The program is able to provide water and wastewater services to new and like-new Indian homes (including mobile homes) and to existing Indian homes in need of water and sewer repairs. The SFC program is looking for all possible Indian homes in the area so that their needs may be evaluated.

To request an application for services, contact the IHS OEH&E Field Station in Pawnee at Indian Health Service, OEH&E Field Station; 1201 Heritage Circle; Pawnee, OK 74058. Interested individuals may also call (918) 762-6580 or email at pwnoeh@ihs.gov. Applications may also be picked up in basement of the Pawnee Indian Health Center.
Child Abuse Prevention Preserves Our Future

By Kari Little
ICW Coordinator

Since 1983, April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month. This month is really about supporting families and strengthening communities in order to keep kids safe.

Most parents do not intentionally hurt or neglect their children. Sometimes a combination of drugs, alcohol, stress, domestic violence and lack of parenting skills causes a situation to escalate out of control.

So what can you do to help these families and prevent child abuse?

Offer to be a support.

All parents need someone they can talk to, ask for advice or maybe use as an emergency baby sitter. When parents are isolated, they feel more frustration and stress, which can sometimes end up directed at their children.

If there is a problem in a family that is beyond your level of expertise, refer them to someone who can help. If there are issues involving drugs or alcohol, domestic violence or mental health; let the parents know where they can get help. Building strong relationships and community connections benefits all parents.

Check the Pawnee Nation Web site, www.pawneenation.org, for upcoming Child Abuse Prevention events during April!

For more information, contact Kari Little at (918) 762-3873 x3.
Happy 1st Birthday, Easton David Exum! We love you! Mommy, Daddy, Terrien, Bella and Nippy.

Makenzie Morgan Aldrich made the Honor Roll at West Middle School located in Lawrence, Kan. She is the granddaughter of Charles S. Hawkins of Lawrence, Kan.


Haeli Stevens and Granthum Stevens attended the father/daughter dance in Stillwater, Okla. on Feb. 10, 2012. Haeli is the daughter of Louise and Granthum Stevens. Haeli is in the 2nd grade at Pawnee Elementary, Granthum is the Gaming Director for the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma. Both had fun and enjoyed the dance.

Randall Bernard Foye and Shannon Louise Eppler were united in marriage on Dec. 31, 2011 in Quapaw, Okla. at the Spring River Indian Baptist Church. Rev. Warren Pratt Jr. officiated. Shannon’s parents are Lozana Eppler and Timothy Sletto. Her grandparents are the late Teddy and Rebecca “Pratt” Eppler. Her great grandparents are the late Joseph A. Eppler and Myra “Lonechief” Eppler and the late Adam and Hazel “White” Pratt. Randall’s parents are Michael and Ramona Foye. His grandparents are Dolores “Rice” Kahrahrah and Bernard Kahrahrah. His great Grandparents are Lucien and Louise “Shunatona” Rice and Roe and Bertha “Komacheet” Kahrahrah.

If you love the feeling of helping others, you may be looking for other ways to get involved with kids in the community. Indian Child Welfare (ICW) is always in need of foster parents, for both short-term and long-term situations. If you are hesitant because you think foster parents need to be perfect, check out the ad campaign of AdoptUSKids at www.adoptuskids.com. Their message is, “You Don’t Have to Be Perfect to Be a Perfect Parent.” Though this is aimed at potential adoptive parents, the message is the same for foster parents. If you have the time and love to devote to a child, you may have what it takes to be a wonderful foster parent.

Another great way to get involved and help kids is through the Pawnee Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program. CASA volunteers are individuals who receive training to be advocates for kids involved in the child welfare system. CASA volunteers typically have one or two cases to monitor, which involves meeting with the children and providing reports to the court.

For more information about the Pawnee CASA Program, contact Helen Norris at (918) 762-3776. For more information about becoming a foster parent, contact Kari Little at (918) 762-3873 ext. 3.
Watershed Management Plan For The Black Bear Creek Developed

By Kelly Kersey
Ranger/Environmental Specialist

Pawnee Nation Department of Environmental Conservation and Safety has developed a Watershed Management Plan for the Black Bear Creek Watershed. This plan is a management tool designed to assist and coordinate watershed protection and restoration through the management of nonpoint source water pollution. This plan will also provide a framework for the Pawnee Nation to target projects and activities that will provide for the reduction of pollutants in our watershed.

The plan has been submitted to the USEPA for their review and acceptance. Once their acceptance is received it will provide an opportunity for the Pawnee Nation to work with other agencies in acquiring additional funds to apply projects in the watershed.

Nonpoint source water pollution occurs when rainfall, snowmelt or irrigation water runs over land or through the ground, picks up pollutants and transports them into surface waters or groundwater. Major sources of nonpoint source pollution include agricultural activities, livestock access to streambeds and waterways, poor roadway design and maintenance, urban runoff and construction sites.

In developing the watershed plan the causes and sources of the pollution were identified from analyzing the activities in the watershed.

This plan identifies the possible sources of pollution in the watershed, categorizes these sources and provides targeted activities or management practices to improve the overall quality of the water.

Examples of some of the management practices identified in the plan include:
- Riparian restoration and reforestation
- Fencing of the riparian for livestock exclusion
- Streambank stabilization
- Floodplain management
- Septic system operations education and upgrading
- Fertilizer application management
- Stormwater management

A major component of the plan is the education of stakeholders or citizens of the watershed on the significance of managing the watershed.

To view the watershed plan and see how you can contribute to a cleaner environment visit our webpage at http://pawneenation.org/divisions/view/49.

PNC Promotes Higher Education

By Toni Hill
Communications Manager

The values of the Pawnee Nation College (PNC) remain stable although the face of leadership has changed. PNC President Dr. Joseph Bohanon, who joined the staff in August 2011, lifts the standard of higher education within the Pawnee community.

A member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Bohanon plans to combine the secular world of education with the historic Native American tradition. This goal is met by offering courses that focus on Native American heritage along with basic classes needed for many disciplines.

Curriculum offered at PNC that focuses on the Native American heritage include “Introduction to Sovereignty and Tribal Government,” “American Indian Mythologies” and “Pawnee Language.”

PNC also offers an American Indians studies program and various outreach opportunities to engage with culture. Part of the PNC vision involves recruiting students from diverse backgrounds through the attendance of various functions.

In line with this mandate, on March 16, PNC students and staff enjoyed the action of the Tulsa 66ers as they beat Springfield 106-97.

Bohanon’s professional goals include the accreditation of PNC and fund-raising activities to promote additional opportunities for higher education to a wider geographical area.

"I have always worked hard but felt that I could offer so much more to not only my two teenage daughters and son, but to others as well if I continued my own education. I try to instill the same love of learning to not only my family, but to my students as well.”

Future events include the Oklahoma Native Leadership Initiative (ONLI) Conference and Fund-raiser scheduled for April 20.

For more information, contact PNC at (918) 762-3343.
The Pawnee Nation REACH US Program has been progressing with the Tobacco Cessation classes as scheduled. The classes are going good and the participants are doing an awesome job on quitting their addiction.

Facilitator Suzy Knife Chief is doing a splendid job on teaching the classes and we are very lucky to have her on our team. The REACH US Program looks forward to hosting more Tobacco Cessation opportunities in the future.

On March 21, 2012, REACH US hosted a walk for the Kick Butts Day 2012, a nation-wide campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. REACH US partnered with the Healthy Nation program to give our children the opportunity to “Stand out. Speak up. And Seize Control Against Big Tobacco.”

Our walk and the balloon release that followed represented our commitment to speak out against the dangers of tobacco addiction.

For more information, call Whitney Nuttle at (918) 762-3873 Ext. 5.

Easter Cake Pops Make Holiday Time More Festive

Submitted by: Monie Horsechief
Title VI Head Cook

Ingredients:
- One 9 x 13 cake, any flavor
- One can (16 oz) prepared frosting, any flavor
- 4 cups white candy coating
- Assorted sprinkles and small candies for decorating
- About 48 lollipop sticks

Preparation:
1. Prepare a baking sheet by lining it with aluminum foil or waxed paper.
2. Place the cake in a large bowl, and crumble it roughly with your hands. Once it's in fine crumbs, add about 2/3 of the frosting and begin to mix it with your hands into the cake crumbs, working until the mixture is evenly moistened. You want the cake mixture to easily hold together when you press it into a ball, but still retain a little texture. My personal preference is to have some “crumb” left to the crumb, so that it is not just a gooey ball. So if it seems as if the cake mixture is too dry, or you like a gooier taste, add more frosting until you’re happy with the taste and texture.
3. Using a cookie scoop or teaspoon, form the mixture into small balls about 1 inch in diameter. Roll the balls into oblong shapes between your palms, and pinch one end until it's thinner so that they resemble egg shapes. Place them on the prepared baking sheet and freeze until firm, about 30 minutes.
4. After the Easter egg pops have been frozen, remove them from the freezer. Melt the candy coating in the microwave and stir until completely smooth.
5. Poke a skewer into the bottom of each “egg” to make a small hole. Dip the tip of a lollipop stick into the melted coating, then push the coating-covered tip into the hole in the egg. The coating will soon solidify and help hold the stick in place. Repeat until all of the eggs have been skewered.
6. Holding a cake pop by the stick, dip the cake entirely in the candy coating until it is covered. Remove it from the coating and gently tap the stick against the side of the bowl to remove excess coating. Hold it until the coating sets (which will not take long with cold cake!) or stick the cake pop in a piece of Styrofoam to set. Repeat until all of the eggs are dipped. If they start to get too soft and move too much on their sticks, return them to the freezer very briefly until they firm up.
7. Once all of the Easter egg cake pops have been dipped, it's time to decorate! Pour some of the remaining melted candy coating into a plastic bag with the tip cut off, and pipe on lines, dots, or squiggles for decorations. While the coating is still wet, cover it with sprinkles or candies to make colorful designs and patterns on your eggs.
8. Let the coating or corn syrup dry completely, and your Easter egg cake pops are finished! This makes 48 cake pops.
WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today warned senior citizens and other taxpayers to beware of an emerging scheme tempting them to file tax returns claiming fraudulent refunds.

The scheme carries a common theme of promising refunds to people who have little or no income and normally don’t have a tax filing requirement. Under the scheme, promoters claim they can obtain for their victims, often senior citizens, a tax refund or nonexistent stimulus payment based on the American Opportunity Tax Credit, even if the victim was not enrolled in or paying for college.

In recent weeks, the IRS has identified and stopped an upsurge of these bogus refund claims coming in from across the United States. The IRS is actively investigating the sources of the scheme, and its promoters may be subject to criminal prosecution.

“This is a disgraceful effort by scam artists to take advantage of people by giving them false hopes of a nonexistent refund,” said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman. “We want to warn innocent taxpayers about this new scheme before more people get trapped.”

Typically, con artists falsely claim that refunds are available even if the victim went to school decades ago. In many cases, scammers are targeting seniors, people with very low incomes and members of church congregations with bogus promises of free money.

The IRS has also seen a variation of this scheme that incorrectly claims the college credit is available to compensate people for paying taxes on groceries.

The IRS has already detected and stopped thousands of these fraudulent claims. Nevertheless, the scheme can still be quite costly for victims. Promoters may charge exorbitant upfront fees to file these claims and are often long gone when victims discover they’ve been scammed.

The IRS is reminding people to be careful because all taxpayers, including those who use paid tax preparers, are legally responsible for the accuracy of their returns, and must repay any refunds received in error.

To get the facts on tax benefits related to education, go to the Tax Benefits for Education Information Center on IRS.gov.

To avoid becoming ensnared in this scheme, the IRS says taxpayers should beware of any of the following:

- Fictitious claims for refunds or rebates based on false statements of entitlement to tax credits.
- Unfamiliar for-profit tax services selling refund and credit schemes to the membership of local churches.
- Internet solicitations that direct individuals to toll-free numbers and then solicit social security numbers.
- Homemade flyers and brochures implying credits or refunds are available without proof of eligibility.
- Offers of free money with no documentation required.
- Promises of refunds for “Low Income – No Documents Tax Returns.”
- Claims for the expired Economic Recovery Credit Program or for economic stimulus payments.
- Unsolicited offers to prepare a return and split the refund.
- Unfamiliar return preparation firms soliciting business from cities outside of the normal business or commuting area.

This refund scheme features many of the warning signs IRS cautions taxpayers to watch for when choosing a tax preparer. For advice on choosing a competent tax professional, see Tips for Choosing a Tax Return Preparer on IRS.gov.

For additional information on tax scams, see the 2012 Dirty Dozen list.
Velma D. Peters Smith was born on June 6, 1922 on the Otoe Reservation in Red Rock, Okla. To James Peters and Minnie Saunders Peters. She passed from this life on Friday, Feb. 24, 2012 in Pawnee, Okla. having reached the age of 89 years, 8 months, and 18 days.

She married Charles Smith on Dec. 1, 1943 in Avery, Okla., and he preceded her in death on Sept. 2, 1971. They moved from Avery, Okla. to Pawnee in 1954. She was a loving mother and devoted grandmother. She loved her family, Pawnee and Otoe people. She had many grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, and loved them all. She enjoyed her Indian dancing cultural events and sports. She traveled all over the United States and enjoyed playing bingo, and playing at the casinos. She was an advocate for the American Indian Movement, and her favorite sayings were Right On! Mussie! You’re the Best! She loved to “LuLu,” and she loved the AIM song.

Velma is survived by five daughters and one son, Dona Gregory and her husband, Ken, Pawnee, Okla.; June Hamilton and her husband, Donnie, Pawnee, Okla.; Berdina George, Shawnee, Okla.; Virginia Riley, Shawnee, Okla.; Thomas Whiteshirt, Sr. and his wife Deborah, Pawnee, Okla.; Anita Whiteshirt, Pawnee, Okla.; adopted children, Marilyn Spoon, Tama, Iowa; Lorena Spoon, Shawnee, Okla.; Ann Starr, Prairie Island, MN.; 21 grandchildren; 53 great grandchildren; eight great-great grandchildren, plus a number of other relatives, and many friends.

Besides her husband, Charles, she was preceded in death by her parents, James and Minnie Peters; son, Kenneth Charles Smith; brothers, Eugene Peters, Darwin “Don” Peters, Lewis Peters Only A Chief, and Albert Green; two sisters, Alice Green Masquat and Maxine Peters Whiteshirt; and adopted children, Charles Spoon and Francis Spoon.

Services were held at 1 p.m., Monday, Feb. 27, 2012 at the Pawnee Nation Multi-Purpose Complex, Pawnee, Okla. with Rev. Duane Pratt and Rev. James Gregory officiating, under the direction of Poteet Funeral Home, Pawnee, Okla.
RAYMOND FRANK HOWELL
Nov. 9, 1941--March 10, 2012

Raymond Frank Howell was born on Nov. 9, 1941 in Pawhuska, Okla. to Gauthier Howell and Juanita P. (Grimes) Howell. He passed from this life on Saturday, March 10, 2012 in Oklahoma City, Okla. having reached the age of 70 years, four months and one day.

He retired from the United States Navy after serving 20 years, retiring as Chief Petty Officer. He also retired from Jet Propulsion Laboratories in Pasadena, Cali. after 19 years. He served as a member of the Pawnee Nation Business Council, and Pani Arts, as a Web Designer. He also served as President of the Pawnee Indian Veterans Organization.

Raymond is survived by two sisters, Doris Doty, and Reba Jo Howell, both of Pawnee, Okla.; his son, Mark Howell, California; plus numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Raymond was preceded in death by his father, Gauthier Howell; his mother, Juanita Howell, and his brother, John Robert Howell.

Visitation was held from noon until 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at the Pawnee Nation Roam Chief Building, Pawnee, Okla. Arrangements were handled by Poteet Funeral Home, Pawnee, Okla.

RUNNINGBEAR GIBSON

Runninbear “Bubba” Gibson was born on Dec. 11, 1978 in Claremore, Okla. to George Gibson, Jr. and Diana Only A Chief. He passed from this life on Wednesday, Feb. 29, 2012 in Perkins, Okla. having reached the age of 33 years, 2 months and 18 days.

He attended basic training at Fort Sill and was stationed with B Battery, 2D Battalion, 3D Field Artillery Regiment Division Engineer Brigade in Germany. He was employed with the Iowa Tribe as an Eagle Aviary Handler Assistant, a job he greatly enjoyed.

Runninbear is survived by his son, Isac Bennett Gibson, both of Pawnee, Okla.; daughter, Elisha Bennett Gibson, Washington State; mother, Diana Only A Chief and her companion, Billy Brown, Tulsa, Oklahoma; brothers, Kerwynn N. Gibson, Stillwater, Okla.; Mikal H. Rice and his companion, Mary, Tulsa, Okla.; sister, Georgia Gibson, Stillwater, Okla.; plus numerous other relatives and friends.

Runninbear was preceded in death by his father, George Gibson, Jr.; his paternal grandparents, George Gibson, Sr. and Cordelia Murray Gibson; and his maternal grandparents, Don Peters and Rosie Norman Peters.

Services were held at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 3, 2012 at the Pawnee Nation Multi-Purpose Complex, Pawnee, Okla. with Rev. Warren Pratt, Jr., officiating. Interment was at the South Indian Cemetery, Pawnee, Okla. under the direction of Poteet Funeral Home, Pawnee, Okla.

DAWNA JO DUSHANE
Sept. 28, 1951—Feb. 25, 2012

Dawna Jo DuShane, 60, was born on Sept. 28, 1951, in Cushing, Okla., the daughter of Virgil and Lolita (Caesar) Cook. She passed from this life on Feb. 21, 2012, at her residence in Tahlequah, Okla.

She celebrated her 30th wedding anniversary to Dale DuShane on Feb. 6, 2012. She was a 1984 graduate of Northeastern State University, completing her BA Degree.

She has been preceded in death by her parents; a daughter Elisha Bennett; brothers, Wallace and Wade Cook; grandfathers, Julius Caesar and Ruben Cook; grandmothers, Francis Hood and Mary Scott.

A loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend she is survived by her husband Dale; children, Chrisitan Bennett, Adoesha, Soloman, Dawne DuShane, Necoti DuShane, and Samantha Serrano; 13 grandchildren; sisters, Pamela Cook, Dena Cook and Angela Barnoski, as well as a host of other relatives, friends, and loved ones.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012, 10:30 a.m. at the Elm Tree Baptist Church. Officiating was Rev. DJ McCarter. Interment followed in the South Indian Cemetery in Pawnee, Okla. under the care of Green Country Funeral Home, Tahlequah.
Gaming Commission Commissioner Needed

The Pawnee Nation is seeking one seat (1) to serve on the Gaming Commission pursuant with Article Three of the Pawnee Nation Gaming Ordinance. The selected individual shall be appointed by the Pawnee Business Council (PBC), by resolution, and will serve as commissioner for the Pawnee Nation Gaming Commission. Primary responsibilities include regulatory matters concerning the gaming facilities located within the jurisdiction of the Pawnee Nation, it will include but not limited to licensing, minimum internal controls, regulatory issues concerning state, federal and tribal laws and regulations, conducting hearings on regulatory issues.

The candidate will be required to maintain a Pawnee Nation Gaming Commissioner License issued by the Pawnee Nation Business Council and serve for a term of three years.

Commissioners Needed For Environmental Regulatory Commission

Pawnee Nation is seeking two seats of Citizens Pawnee Nation who are interested in serving as Environmental Regulatory Commissioners pursuant with Chapter One, Section 102 of the Pawnee Nation Natural Resource Protection Act (Title 12, Pawnee Nation Law and Order Code). Selected individuals will be appointed by the President of the Pawnee Nation and will serve as commissioner for the Pawnee Nation Environmental Regulatory Commission (ERC). The ERC shares responsibility with the Pawnee Nation Department of Environmental Conservation and Safety for planning and managing the natural resources and other services within the jurisdiction of the Pawnee Nation.

Primary responsibilities include regulatory functions requiring administrative review, authorizations, and/or enforcement (administrative/civil) as specified by the Natural Resource Protection Act. Additional responsibilities include assisting the director in developing and implementing regulations as authorized which are deemed necessary to carry out, implement and enforce the goals, purposes and provisions of the act.

The Election And Utility Authority Commissions And The Enrollment Committees Have Openings

Qualified persons for the above postings may submit a letter and resume to President Marshall R. Gover, Pawnee Business Council, P. O. Box 470, Pawnee, OK, 74058. Application process will remain open until positions are filled.
Pawnee Nation Food Distribution Serves Community

Submitted by: Florissa Kanuho
Food Distribution Coordinator

The Food Distribution Program is helping our participants achieve good nutrition by providing over 90 food items. Our canned vegetables and beans are low sodium. The canned fruit are in light syrup and we provide some food items that are low fat. Our evaporated milk will be changing to evaporated skim milk, which is a rich source of calcium and Vitamin D. We also provide fresh produce and frozen meats.

If you would like more information on how to apply for the program, you can call 918-762-2541. You can also come by the Food Distribution office which is located at the Roam Chief Building.

Tribal Buildings Available For Rental To Accommodate Community

Tribal Buildings offer many amenities favorable for community and personal gatherings. Locations for rent include the Roundhouse, Community Building, Camp Grounds, Multi-Purpose building, Wellness Center and the Roam Chief building. Rental rates vary for Tribal Members and outside individuals and organizations. Prices range from complimentary up to $250 based on both half-day and full-day rentals.

Reservations must be made in person and not exceed 90 calendar days in advance. In order to give another person or organization an opportunity to reserve a facility during weekends, holidays and Tribal events; facilities may not be reserved for multiple or consecutive days. Locations needed for official Tribal business are excluded from policy.

If a person or organization requires more than 90 calendar days to plan for an event, the person or organization shall be required to pay an advanced rental charge to reserve the facility. Tribal Operations personnel shall not be allowed to reserve a facility no more than 30 days prior to an event.

It is the policy of the Pawnee Nation to give precedence in the event of a Tribal death. The Roam Chief shall be made available for the funeral service and feast. However, the family will be notified that the Pawnee Nation program(s) retain the option to conduct Tribal business if necessary.

In event the family does not wish to use the Roam Chief, then the Tribal Roundhouse shall be offered. The Pawnee Nation shall not waive cleaning, security or key deposits for any Tribal facility. The Tribal Operations office is located at 361 Clinic Road in the metal building next to the old IHS clinic. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding Tribal holidays.

For special arrangements, call 918-258-0548.

Notice Of New Mailing Fee and Advertising Opportunities

The Pawnee Tribal Newsletter, Chaticks si Chaticks, is published every other month. The newsletter is mailed to enrolled members of the Pawnee Nation, one per household or address, free of charge. If no one in your household is receiving the newsletter, or more than one is being sent, please contact the Communications Office. Beginning with the June/July issue, a fee of $2 per copy will be charged for newsletters mailed to non-tribal members. Copies may be printed off the Web site, www.pawneenation.org complimentary.

For more information, contact the Communications Office at 918-762-3621 ext. 25 or via e-mail at communications@pawneenation.org. Correspondence may also be mailed to P.O. Box 470, Pawnee, OK 74058.

Letters To The Editor Guidelines

A letter to the editor is meant to express your opinion or point of view.

Length: Letters on issues of public concern should be 300 words or less.

Guest Opinions: Articles submitted by readers as guest opinions will be printed as such at the discretion of the editor.

Thanks: Letters of thanks must be generic and limited to events of public interest. Lists of participants or sponsors will not be published.

Limits: We reserve the right to limit letter writers to one published letter every other newsletter.

Send letters to communications@pawneenation.org or PO Box 470, Pawnee, OK 74058. They must be signed and should include your full address, e-mail address and a phone number for verification of authorship.

Disclaimer: The Chaticks si Chaticks reserves the right to edit or withhold from publication any letter for any reason whatsoever. Once received, all letters become the possession of Chaticks si Chaticks. Letters reflect the opinion of the author only.
PAWNEE NATION BUILDING DIRECTORY

Building #64:
(918) 762-3621
- Pawnee Business Council
- Executive office
- Finance
- Human Resource
- Grants & Contracts
- Information Technology
- Tribal Planning
- Communication
- Indian Community Development Block Grant

Roam Chief Building:
(918) 762-2541
- Food Distribution

Fire Station
- Pawnee Police Dept.: (918) 762-3013
- Division of Natural Resource & Safety/Transportation: (918) 762-3655
  - Environment
  - Transportation: (918) 762-3655

Building #68:
(918) 762-3378
- Gaming Commission

Cultural Learning Center (Berry Building):
(918) 762-3227
- Education & Training
- Repatriation
- THPO

Pawnee Nation College
- Albin Leadingfox Building:
  (918) 762-3393,3363
- Staff Quarters Building:
  (918) 762-3343

Health & Community Services Center:
(918) 762-3873
- Indian Child Welfare
- Violence Against Women
- CHR/EMS: (918) 762-4641
- Diabetes Program: (918) 762-4045
- REACH US

Pawnee Nation Housing:
(918) 762-3454

Family Development Center
- Fitness Center: (918) 762-3006
- Learning Center: (918) 762-3007

Tribal Operations:
(918) 762-2273
- Reserve Maintenance
- Building Rentals

Substance Abuse Building:
(918) 762-2153
- Substance Abuse Program
- Healthy Nations Program

I.H.S Housekeeping:
(918) 762-3605

Pawnee Tribal Court:
(918) 762-3649

Wellness Center/ Multi-Purpose Building
- Title VI (Elderly Meals):
  (918) 762-4042
- Early Learning Center and care given 0-2 yrs: (918) 762-2489

Pawnee Nation Development Corporation:
(918) 762-4832

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Questions? Call 800.331.0500

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