



The Shawnee Journal

29 South Highway 69A Miami, Oklahoma 74354 918-542-2441

Volume 10, issue I

Summer 2012

Points of Interest:

- ▶ Inter Tribal Pow Wow
- ▶ Program Updates
- ▶ Chief's Update
- ▶ Important Dates



Inside this issue:

NEO Flag Plaza Dedication	2
School Supplies Give Out Scheduled	2
Environmental Department Update	3
Tribal Members In The News	3
Shawnee Tribe Tax Commission	4
Social Security Statement Online	4
Update from the Chief	5
Shawnee Trails Gift Shop & Gallery	5



INTER-TRIBAL CHILDREN'S POW WOW & FUNFEST

On June 9, 2012 the Shawnee Tribe will be hosting the annual Inter-Tribal Children's Pow Wow and Funfest at the Ottawa Pow Wow grounds in Miami, OK. Directions to the grounds are 3.6 miles East on OK-10 from the toll booth at the Will Rogers Turnpike entrance in Miami, Turn right onto South—137, turn left onto East 110 Road, turn right onto South—613 Road and end at 11400 613 Road.

Activities include educational and fun games, entertainment, prizes, exhibition dancing, storytelling, a stick ball demonstration and a Potato Dance Contest as well as a Watermelon Walk. The funfest activities will be held from 11 am until 5 pm. Arena entertainment will be held from 11 am until 6

pm. Gourd Dancing will be held from 3 - 5pm. Supper will be served from 5 - 7 pm and is free and open to all attendees. The Grand Entry will be starting at 7 pm. The day will end with stomp dancing following the Pow Wow. All area Pow Wow princess are invited to attend the event. The 2012 Inter-Tribal Children's Pow Wow Princess is Shawneese Hernandez.

Special Appearances this year include the Poarch Creek Drum/Dance Group and the Eastern Shawnee Dance Group. A performance by Operation Eagle Dance Group will also be showcased. The Full Circle Dancers will be performing the Buffalo Dance, the Eagle Dance and a Hoop Dancing demonstration.

The Shawnee Tribe Language Preservation Program will also be hosting activities as well.

The staff for this year's Pow Wow includes Head Man ~ Beaver Hamilton, Head Lady ~ Johnna Blalock, Head Singer ~ Damian Blackfox, Head Gourd Dancer ~ Dude Blalock, Youth Gourd Dancer ~ Eli Crowels, Head Boy ~ Chance Wallace, Head Girl ~ Taliha Nava, MC ~ Brad Kills Crow, Arena Director William Tarrant, and Youth Area Director ~ Jackson Ross. Pow Wow coordinators are Tena Booth and Bruce Martin.

The Pow Wow is sponsored by the local tribal area CCDF, Family Services, Preserving Safe and Stable Families programs.

AREA CHIEFS DEDICATE NEO TRIBAL FLAG PLAZA

Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College recently dedicated a Tribal Flag Plaza at the corner of Central and I streets in front of NEO's new residence hall to commemorate the College's ties to the 10 Tribes located in Northeastern Oklahoma. The flag plaza was dedicated during Wednesday morning, February 15, 2012. The event was widely attended despite the rainy weather.

The College sits on what was originally Ottawa tribal lands. "It's just a phenomenal thing for our tribe," Ottawa Chief Ethel Cook said during the ceremony. "We are so pleased to have it sitting in our area."

The nine local tribes—Ottawa, Miami, Peoria, Eastern Shawnee, Modoc, Quapaw, Seneca Cayuga, Shawnee and Wyandotte as well as the Cherokee are represented by a flag and plaque in the plaza.

Pictured to the right are Tribal

Leaders and Representative attending the ceremony. From left: NEO A&M College President Dr. Jeff Hale, Miami Tribe Chief Tom Gamble, Modoc Tribe Second Chief Judy Cobb, Ottawa Tribe Chief Ethel Cook, Wyandotte Tribe Chief Billy Friend, Eastern Shawnee Tribe Glenna Wallace, Quapaw Business Committee Member TC Bear, Seneca-Cayuga Tribe Chief Leroy Howard, Shawnee Tribe Chief Ron Sparkman, Peoria Tribe Chief John Froman, NEO's

American Indian Center for Excellence Cultural Specialist Claudia Little Axe and American Indian Center for Excellence Director Emilee Truelove-Ellick. Current NEO students representing each of the 10 Tribes also participated in the ceremony. Following the ceremony, a traditional Indian feast was served in the NEO Student Activity Center. Tribal leaders received a souvenir tile commemorating the occasion.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The Shawnee Tribal will be offering school supplies on July 31st, August 1st and August 2nd from 4 - 7 pm at the Shawnee Tribal office. Tribal children living within 100 miles of Miami, Oklahoma and attending Pre-K through 8th grade are eligible to receive supplies. Backpacks are stuffed with fundamentals like paper, pencils, glue, crayons and items required by schools. To pick up school supplies please bring each child's enrollment card at time of pick up. Tribal staff will mail reminder postcards to Tribal households within the service area in July. Please make sure that any family members who are moving this summer remember to change their address with the Tribe's Enrollment and Genealogy Department.

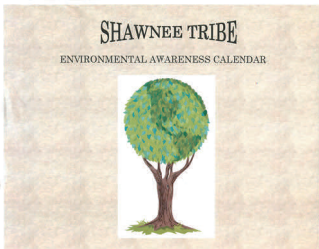
Please call the tribal office at 918-542-2441 if you have any questions.



ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES

The Tribe's Environmental and Natural Resources Department if funded by a General Assistance Program (GAP) grant provided each year by the Environmental Protection Agency. The department has been working on deliverables for the FY 2012 grant in the amount of \$110,000.00.

In January each Tribal member household was mailed an environmental cal-



endar giving tips to take steps to reduce their impact on the environment. Another activity of the department this year included an education project with a local elementary school. The Department held an all school assembly at Nichols Elementary in Miami, OK informing the children about the benefits and importance of recycling. As a part of the FY 2012 GAP Grant the department was able to purchase recycling bins to place in the school



to help the children have an opportunity to recycle.

Other deliverables for this year include hosting a 1 day training workshop for

Healthy Tribal Communities and a public outreach project about water conservation and promoting water efficiency in the household.



TRIBAL MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



Mikah Phillips is the daughter of Richard and tribal member Crystal Blalock and Kris Phillips. Mikah will be graduating in May from Afton High School in Afton, Oklahoma. Mikah plans to attend Northeastern Oklahoma College in Miami, Oklahoma in the fall with a major in Criminal Justice. Mikah then plans to further her education at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Missouri. Congratulations Mikah !!!!!



If you would like to have a family member featured in the newsletter please provide a photo and narrative to the tribal office. You can mail the photos to P.O. Box 189 Miami, OK 74355-0189 or email the image as a jpeg attachment to shawneetribe@shawnee-tribe.com.

SHAWNEE TRIBE TAX COMMISSION

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to renew their motor vehicle tags on time to avoid the \$.10 per day late fee. The late fee is counted for each calendar day the renewal is late. The tag department sends out courtesy reminder post cards at the beginning of the month your renewal is due.

If you are not receiving the postcards or have moved

and not updated your information with the tag department please call and do so.

If you are a first time tag purchaser, please call the Tribal office in advance of coming to make sure that you bring everything you will need. (call 918-542-2441 and ask for Kim Jumper).

If you are renewing an existing tag, you can conduct your transactions through the mail. The fastest way to do

this is to mail back your reminder post card that you receive from us, together with a check or money order in the amount noted on the postcard and a copy of your current proof of insurance.

Tag Office hours are from 8:30 am to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Kim at the Tribal office to inquire about prices. Personalized plates are available for \$45.00.

SOCIAL SECURITY STATEMENT NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security, announced an online version of the Social Security Statement is now available at www.socialsecurity.gov. The new online *Statement* provides eligible workers with secure and convenient access to their Social Security earnings and benefit information. In addition to helping with financial planning, the online *Statement* also provides workers a convenient way to determine whether their earnings are accurately posted to their Social Security records.

This feature is important because Social Security benefits are based on average earnings over a person's lifetime. If the earnings information is not accurate, the

person may not receive all the benefits to which he or she is entitled. The online *Statement* also provides the opportunity to save or print the personalized *Statement* for financial planning discussions with family or a financial planner.

To get a personalized online *Statement*, people age 18 and older must be able to provide information about themselves that matches information already on file with Social Security.

In addition, Social Security uses Experian, an external authentication service provider, for additional verification. People must provide their identifying information and answer security questions in order to pass this verification.

Social Security will not share a person's Social Security number with Experian, but the identity check is an important part of this new, robust verification process.

Once verified, people will create a "My Social Security" account with a unique user name and password to access their online *Statement*. In addition, the portal also includes links to information about other online services, such as applications for retirement, disability and Medicare. People who cannot verify online initially also may visit their local Social Security office and present an identity document in order to create an account and gain access to the online version of the *Statement*.

UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF

Barry Kerr, your Second Chief, has resigned. He has some health issues and of course, we wish him the best. He will be missed. Barry has been involved in our tribal government for many years. He has always exemplified a very cooperative attitude and was very interested in seeing our Tribe progress. He often volunteered his time to our annual Children's Pow Wow as well as the Color Guard. He was always willing to represent the Tribe when needed. Every year the AARP honors a tribal elder at the AARP Indian Elder Awards in Oklahoma City at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, this year Barry is our nominee. The awards will take place on October 2nd. We would like to thank Barry for his years of service to the Tribe and wish him well in his recovery.

Your elected Tribal officials have selected Ben Barnes to fill the remaining term for Second Chief. Corey Winesburg has also been selected to fill the remainder of Ben's Business Council seat. I look forward to working with these young gentlemen and I stress the word young. A lot of our Tribal officials, including myself, are reaching our advanced years and it is very good to see the younger ones stepping forward. It makes me feel so proud that the future of our Tribe will be in good hands.

All Tribal programs are running as planned. The Tribe's financial position is strong. If you ever have any questions please call me or the Tribal office. It is an honor to be your Tribal leader.

Ron

SHAWNEE TRAILS GIFT SHOP & GALLERY



Next time you are in the Miami area please be sure to stop by the Tribal office and check out the new items in the gift shop. We have a continuously changing inventory of American Indian art work and jewelry. We have many unique, hand made, one of a kind pieces. We also keep dance regalia in stock as well as beadwork items and Shawnee Tribe logo

items such as tribal flags and clothing and hats with the tribal seal. The gift shop also carries custom made shawls and ribbon shirts in a variety of colors, fabrics and sizes. The Gift Shop regularly showcases a wide variety of silver jewelry made not only by Navajo and Pueblo artisans, but also by local

Shawnee, Seneca and Comanche jewelry artists. A large selection of Pendleton blankets, handbags, desk accessories and home décor are also available. Hours are weekdays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. If you are unable to make a trip to the Gift Shop you can call the tribal office at 918-542-2441 and ask for Gift Shop Manager Agnes Sappington. Agnes can help you purchase items through the mail.





SHAWNEE TRIBE
P.O. BOX 189
MIAMI, OK 74355

Phone: 918-542-2441
Fax: 918-542-2922
E-mail: shawneetribel@shawnee-tribe.com

MAIL TO:

THE SHAWNEE JOURNAL

PUBLICATION
OF THE
SHAWNEE TRIBE

VOLUME 10, ISSUE I

THE SHAWNEE JOURNAL

Summer 2012

**THE TRIBAL OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED THE
FOLLOWING DAYS:**

MEMORIAL DAY

05/28/2012

INDEPENDENCE DAY

07/04/2012

LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 6, 2012

**INTER TRIBAL
CHILDREN'S
POW WOW
JUNE 9, 2012**

ELDER OLYMPICS

JUNE 15TH

OTTAWA PEORIA BLDG

10—1 PM

CALL LINDA PLOTT @

918-541-1990 TO REGISTER

**APPLICATIONS NOW
AVAILABLE FOR:
CCDF
DAY CARE
ASSISTANCE**

**SUMMER SCHOOL &
FALL 2012
EDUCATION
ASSISTANCE**

**NAHASDA
EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE**