



# The Shawnee Journal

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

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## Points of Interest:

- ▲ More Kids In the Woods
- ▲ Chief's Update
- ▲ Children's Pow Wow

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## Intertribal Children's Pow Wow

On June 4, 2016 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.

Bring the whole family and spend the day! Activities include educational and fun games, entertainment, prizes, exhibition dancing, Potato Dance Contest and arena entertainment. We will hold the 1 mile Fun Run/Walk again this year as well as the 5k race. Any children 8 years old or younger must be accompanied by an adult. All participants must complete a registration form. Registration starts at 7 am and the run begins at 8 am. The cost for the

5K is \$15 and the Fun Run is free. Proceeds benefit the Miami's Boys and Girls Club to help them get into their new location. For more information on the 5K or Fun Run and to register, contact Melissa Moore at 918-540-1641 or find us on Facebook by searching Turtle Classic 5K and fun Run.

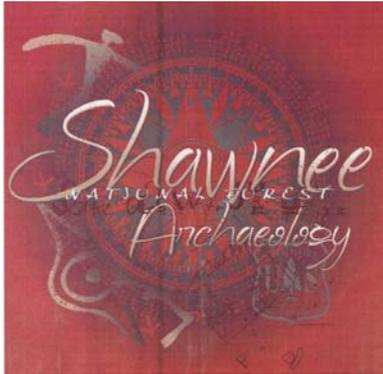
The Kid's Fun Fest activities will be held from 10:30 am until 5 pm. Gourd Dancing will be held from 2 - 5pm. A supper break will be from 5—7 pm this year and will be on your own.

There will be many great food vendors there that you can purchase food from. The Intertribal Dancing will start at 7 pm and last till 11 pm. The day will end with stomp dancing following the Pow Wow. All area Pow Wow princesses are invited to attend the event. Special appearances this year include the Operation Eagle Youth Group and Haudenosaunee style

singing and dancing from the Six Nations Reserve, Ontario, Canada.

The staff for this year's Pow Wow includes Head Man ~ Jared Liston, Head Lady ~ Lyndee McClellan, Head Singer ~ Littlebear Littlecook, Head Gourd Dancer ~ Don Stroud, Youth Gourd Dancer ~ Noah Yazzie, Head Boy ~ Jordan Buffalo, Head Girl ~ Mash-ta Littlecook, Arena Director ~ Dude Blalock, Jr. Arena Director ~ Wyatt Chuckluck, M.C. ~ John Arkeketa and Honor Guard ~ Richard White Jr. Honor Guard, 2015 Princess ~ Chloe Tyner-White and 2016 Princess ~ Mallory Blackfox. Pow Wow coordinators are Tena Booth, Mariah Tyner and Tonya Blackfox. The Pow Wow is sponsored by the local tribal area CCDF Programs, Family Services, and Preserving Safe and Stable Families programs.

# More Kids In The Woods



The Shawnee National Forest recently received a second grant that will allow junior high and high school students to travel to southern Illinois for cultural emersion, service learning and career training opportunities in outdoor recreation, heritage and natural resources, geographic information systems and law enforcement. The grant allows for 10-12 students to represent our Tribe.

This program is its second year and allows for an expansion of the Shawnee National Forest's Master Trail Steward program and the Shawnee Volunteer Corps. The students will learn leave no trace and backcountry etiquette, traditional tool use, and most importantly, leadership and mentoring skills. Each week long camp will include two days for travel to and from Oklahoma and three days for service learn-

ing on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and other designated trails in the Forest.

The program will immerse 10-12 students in the forested landscape from which their ancestors once lived and walked upon. Beginning with a trail project at Hamburg Hill, an original segment of the road system used by the Cherokee during the Trail of Tears. Specific service learning activities will revolve around the individual needs and wishes of each Tribe. There will be hands on learning programs that will include dip netting, learning about non-native invasive species and native plants, the geology of flint-knapping, canoeing as well as tree and native plant identification.

The main goal of the program is to combine physical emersion in the out-of-doors and service on public lands with career training opportunities in outdoor recreation, heritage and natural resources, and law enforcement.

To apply for this amazing opportunity please visit our website at [www.shawnee-tribe.com](http://www.shawnee-tribe.com). A registration form that must be completed and returned to the Tribal office is under the "What's New" section or call the Tribal office and ask for a registration form to be mailed to you.

All registration forms must be submitted to the Tribal office by May 31st, 2016. The Tribe will select 10-12 students to participate in this week long camp. Students will be leaving from Miami, Oklahoma on June 6th and will return to Oklahoma on June 10th.

It will be the students responsibility to get to and from Miami, OK. All lodging and meals will be provided by the grant program. If you have specific questions about the camp you can email Business Council member Roy Baldrige at [ckrtstr@yahoo.com](mailto:ckrtstr@yahoo.com).

Treasurer Baldrige works closely with the Forestry Departments throughout the United States. If any tribal member is interested in an internship with the Forestry Department please email Treasurer Baldrige for more information.



## IHS Water and Sewer Assistance

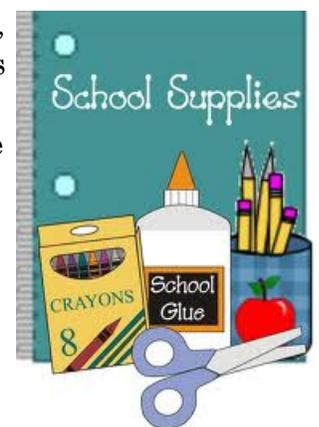
The Indian Health Service, Miami Office of Environmental Health and Engineering, offers programs to install water and sewer facilities to qualified Indian home owners. Funding and construction of sanitation facilities, such as wells, water service lines, septic tanks and drain fields wastewater lagoons and sewer service lines are available. Minimum eligibility requirements include: property must be located within the boundaries of the nine tribe of the Inter-tribal Council, Inc of NE Oklahoma in Ottawa and Delaware Counties, Oklahoma, you must be a member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe, band or group, the home must be Indian owned and occupied and HUD homes must be paid in full before service can be provided.



Documentation of tribal affiliation and home ownership or long term lease (5 years minimum) will be required with the application for services. Mobile homes must be tied down, skirted and wheels removed prior to service. Please note that applying for service does not guarantee you will receive service. Service depends on the availability of funding. Please contact Erik Somers, Construction Inspector at 918-399-5186 or email at erik.somers@ihs.gov for more information. You may also call the office at 918-542-6414 or stop by the Indian Health Service Miami Office of Environmental Health and Engineering office located in the Inter-Tribal Council Inc. Administrative offices at 21 North Eight Tribes Trail, Miami, Oklahoma.

## School Supply Handout Dates Set

The Shawnee Tribe is offering school supplies on July 26th and 27th, 2016 from 9 am to 7 p.m. at the Shawnee Tribe Community Services building. Tribal children living within 100 miles of Miami, Oklahoma and attending Pre-K through the 8th grade are eligible to receive supplies. Backpacks stuffed with fundamental supplies required by schools in the area will be distributed. To pick up school supplies, please bring each child's enrollment card to be presented at the 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.



## Children and Family Services Program Update



Currently our child care program is serving 90 families and 150 Children. The average number of children served per month is 117.2, the average monthly amount paid for child care services per child is \$287.22 and the average monthly parent copayment is \$17.39. Monthly CPR/AED/First-Aid classes are held at our Shawnee Community Building for child care providers and their staff.

In March, the Shawnee Tribe CCDF Program has helped co-sponsor and host our local annual Child Care Conference. This training provided caregivers, teachers and parents the opportunity to learn about "Circle Time Fun" and "Transition Tips" that discussed and demonstrated a variety of techniques and strategies for presenting music, movement, rhythm instruments, songs, finger plays, stories, puppets, and creative activities.

Also in March, all our local tribal child care programs hosted our Annual Provider Appreciation Banquet that honored child care providers and their staff for all the services they provide to our tribal children.

In April, staff provided two separate child care provider trainings "On the Front Line... Legal Issues" that was presented by Ron McGuckin, Attorney at Law, specializing in child care issues. The training focused on legal issues that impact direct care staff such as The Americans with Disabilities Act, custody and confidentiality issues, as well as safety concerns, parent and personnel issues as they relate to staff. Participants also learned how to include the above information in their policies and procedures.

We continue to meet with other tribal programs in NE Oklahoma and agencies in planning for future activities for children and coordinating quality trainings and events such as our annual "Week of the Young Child". This is an annual event celebrat-

ing early learning, young children, their teachers and families. Our local 4 day event was attended by over 2,700 participants this year.

Program staff has been busy coordinating this year's Inter-Tribal Children's Powwow/ Fun Fest and Turtle Classic 5K and Fun Run scheduled for Saturday, June 4th. The Pow Wow will be held at the Ottawa Powwow Grounds and the race will be held at the Riverview Park in Miami.

If you or anyone you know have any questions regarding tribal child care services within 100 miles from the Shawnee Tribal complex in Miami, OK please call the Shawnee Tribe Child Care Administration office at (918) 542-7232. Our staff will be glad to answer any questions you might have. Applications and information may be obtained on the Shawnee Tribe website at [www.shawnee-tribe.com](http://www.shawnee-tribe.com).

# Environmental Program Update

## What You Need to Know About Lead-Based Paint and Why



Lead-based paint, this. Lead-Based paint, that. If you're buying or selling a home for the first, second or twentieth time, you're bound to hear these words pop up a few times throughout your transactions. Lead-based paint is a three-word phrase that gets tossed around quite a bit in the real estate world, particularly when a home is constructed prior to 1978.

So, what is lead-based paint? Why do we care? Lead in its natural state is harmless. However, once it is processed, lead is part of the environment forever and can not be destroyed. We care because of lead's harmful effects on humans. While most lead escapes the body in the matter of a few days, some lead may build up in internal tissue. There is no acceptable amount of lead exposure. Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6. At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead. Children's growing bodies absorb more lead and babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can have lead dust on them. In children, exposure to lead can cause:

- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Wash your hands and your children's hands often, especially before they eat and before nap and bed time.
- Keep play areas clean. Wash bottles, pacifiers, toys and stuffed animals regularly.
- Keep children from chewing window sills or other painted surfaces, or eating soil.

While low-lead exposure is most common, exposure to high amounts of lead can have devastating effects on children, including seizures, unconsciousness, and, in some cases, death.

What can you do to protect your family? If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk:

- If you rent, notify your landlord of peeling or chipping paint.
- Keep painted surfaces clean and free of dust. Clean floors, window frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or sponge with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner.
- Carefully clean up paint chips immediately without creating dust.
- Thoroughly rinse sponges and mop heads during cleaning of dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.

Lead can be found:

- In homes and childcare facilities in the city, country, or suburbs,
- In private and public single-family homes and apartments,
- On surfaces inside and outside of the house, and
- In soil around a home. (Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint or other sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

The Shawnee Tribal Environmental Staff will soon be sending out home surveys pertaining to tribal members in door air/health concerns, including but not limited to Radon and Lead-Based Paint issues. Staff will also be gaining their Lead-Based Paint Inspector/Risk Assessors State License as well as Radon Measurement and Mitigation Certification to better address these concerns.

More information about where Lead-Based Paint issues and causes can be found at [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead).

# KA KAW THEE / TORNADO

Springtime brings new life to the world and we are all excited with the warmth and renewal of Mother Earth. Flowers bloom, trees bud out and the grass turns green. We can hear birds starting to sing new songs for the season. Spring rains spawn all these gifts from God and we are refreshed by the renewal.

But along with this renewal of spring, we look for thunderstorms that sometimes turn violent and threatening. Some of us have experienced storms more than others and we know their potential can be great. These Grandpa Thunders, as we Shawnees call them, can have a loud roar and a ferocious sound accompanied by intense lightning that makes us jump. Then at this moment we take notice of their presence and wander to the window or outside to see where they are. They grab our attention and we honor their presence as we are quite aware of the power these Grandpa's possess.

When those ominous black clouds roll in with these spring storms, tornados can spawn at any minute and wreak havoc on all those around and lay devastation in their path.

To Shawnees, tornado **Ka kaw thee**, is our kindred spirit. She is our grandmother with long silver hair. She slings her hair violently tearing up everything in her path. We know to respect and fear her presence. We feel a sense of cautiousness in the air because it lies still. The urgency to be prepared overcomes us as we stand outside looking west, in her direction. Now in modern times, weather alerts alarm us to her path. The weatherman can only tell us to take heed of their warnings and advise us to take cover. My grandmother used to say just sit still and pay attention to what is going on - we have things that Creator gave us for protection. This is one of the reasons Shawnees have a fire place outside of their homes called **La tay thee chi ka**. This is a fire-place where they do their cooking as well as their praying. It is constructed of two poles standing with a Y on each end with a cross bar going across. As a boy, I learned many things from my grandmother and my aunts standing around **yoma La tay thee chi ka** (this fireplace). Inside **yoma La tay thee chi ka** there was our **Me som tha na Sko tay len nee** (Grandpa Fire). His presence, as well as the ashes that lay on the ground after he was out, notified this grandmother that her **Kos the may tha na key** (Grandchildren) live here and that she is to go around when she sees our homes.

At the Spring Bread dance they are to address her in their prayers and when she encounters us, her Grandchildren, she is to bypass us and our homes and possessions. **Ka kaw thee** is part of **Me te le ta ka Ki ya na** (Creator of Us) creations and like all things she doesn't leave us without instructions on how to deal with them.

My Shawnee elders always talked about when you are in her path to offer her tobacco and put it down on the ground. Tobacco is always used as a gift when asking someone to do something for you. The power of **Thae ma** (tobacco) is immense and is a gift from **Kokomethana** to be used in time of need. "Don't be afraid of her she is our grandmother", my grandma used to say. You can offer a short prayer when placing tobacco down. Here is something you can say:

Wahee Noki,	No kom tha na	Toche mo toe wa shee	Ha ka wet ta wee	Yoma Thaema
Ok again	Grandmother	I am talking	Listen	with This Tobacco
Kat to may lay	Kay ka way thee	Ne la Ta shi.	Ti kye'pa chee shi sa key	Kos the may tha na key
I am begging you	go around	my home.	Don't scare	your grandchildren.
Ti kye'pay ke ske pay	no ki	Kay' ki ta me na quay lim ma pay.		
Don't bother us	and	pity us.		

Hini!!

If you cannot remember this in Shawnee you can at least say it in English. Also if you have someone in the family who was born in the spring or summertime they can take a **Tek ha ka** (axe) and face toward the storm and drive into a tree stump or a tree to split the storm. It is also said you can just drive it in the ground. However, **Ka kaw thee** (Tornados) forces us take action. As Shawnees, we must do more than run for a storm shelter. We must do something while in her path and part of it is to acknowledge her power. These are just a few of the things our ancestors taught us to do and they had a firm belief in their practices, and we should too!!  
Hinii!!

Written by Business Council Member Eric Wensman

## Update from the Chief

Located on the first page of this newsletter is an article about our annual Children's Pow Wow. I encourage you to attend this great family event if you are able. Our staff has worked very hard to put on this great day for our tribal children and families.

A new project we are working on is the construction of a Heritage Center in Miami, Oklahoma. It is going to be a place where Tribal members, other Native Americans as well as visitors to Oklahoma can go to study, reflect and celebrate the Native American Culture. I would like to thank Second Chief Ben Barnes, Treasurer Roy Baldrige, Business Council member Eric Wensman and Tribal Administrator Jodi Hayes for all their efforts on this project. Be watching for more updates on the Herit-

age Center as it progresses.

Our potential casino endeavor in Guymon, Oklahoma is moving along. The wheels turn slow but I am hopeful that we will have a decision on this project by the end of the year.

Your Business Council approved the purchase of a new enrollment software during the recent May meeting. This software is going to allow the Tribe to produce new enrollment cards with a picture id. Staff has begun the process of acquiring the software. We will notify all Tribal members when the new cards will be available and what you will need to do to acquire one.

Tag Agent Kim Jumper has worked diligently with Oklahoma law enforcement officials to get our tag program online with OLETS (Oklahoma Law Enforcement Tele-

communication System).

This new system will allow our tag database to be available to all local and state law enforcement officers. This means our tribal tags can now be ran through the state of Oklahoma's system.

As always, I am very proud of our Business Council for their dedicated efforts to make our Tribe successful. A special thank you to Second Chief Ben Barnes for all his efforts with our continued language program and cultural preservation efforts. I want to also thank Treasurer Roy Baldrige for his service and assistance in working with the Forest Service Department and the Department of Agriculture.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. Keep in touch.

Ron

## Replacement of Tribal Tags

Recently the state of Oklahoma Highway Patrol's office has made comment about how numerous license plates are becoming faded and not legible. The Shawnee Tribe first issued tribal tags in 2004. The initial vendor we contracted with produced our tribal tags with a light blue ink that has not weathered well. Shortly after issuing the first set of tags, we realized we would need to find a more durable ink for our tags and we changed vendors. The Tribe is wanting to replace all tribal tags that were the very first set issued with the light blue ink. We will not be replacing your number but instead issuing you a new tribal tag with the next number in our sequence with the dark blue ink. You may bring your old tribal tag into the tag office and get the new tag. Please call tag agent Kim Jumper at 918-542-2441 with any questions.



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

*MEMORIAL DAY*

**MAY 30, 2015**

*INDEPENDENCE DAY*

**JULY 4, 2016**

*LABOR DAY*

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2016**

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