

HONOR DANCE & "SWEET 16TH" BIRTHDAY FOR SHAYLA SCOTT MILLER 2009-2011 SW OK VIET NAM VETERAN PRINCESS

January 16, 2010

@ the Chena Building — Iowa Tribal Pow Wow grounds located 1/2 mi South of Perkins, OK

Perkins, OK

Regular Winter Dance Program		Head Staff	
• 2:00 pm	Guard Dance	• MC	Don Patterson
• 5:30 pm	Sepper	• HS	Leonard Couard & John Kenable
• 6:30 pm	Guard Dance	• HMD	Willie Beard, Sr
• 7:30 pm	Intertribal Dancing	• HLD	
• 8:30 pm	Shayls/Family Special	• HGD	Sara Howell
	More dancing	• AD	Randy Frazier
		• Co-Host:	SW Oklahoma Viet Nam Veterans
		• Hon Veteran	
		• Hon Elders	Mary Bassett Lowry & Francis Sweetwater

All Veterans & Organizations, Princesses, Wodees & Eetados!! are Welcome

Sweet 16

Security Furlined Not responsible for accidents or loss

Information: Joyce Miller (Home: 409.369.1561) Email: jhigabiller@yahoo.com Arts & Crafts Welcome (donation)



The BAH-KHO-JE Journal Rt. 1 Box 721 Perkins, OK 74059

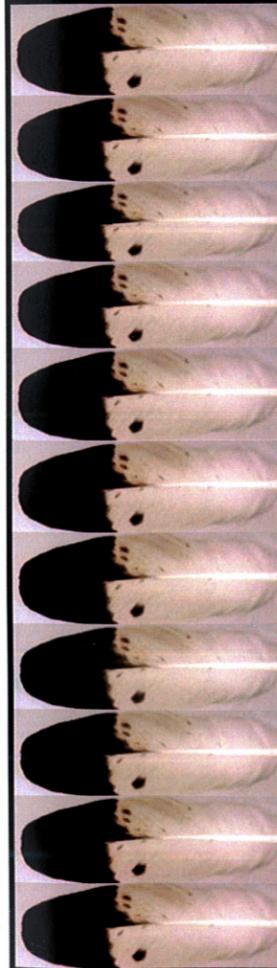
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BAH-KHO-JE JOURNAL The Official Journal of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

Page 1 Vol. 24 No. 1 Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Rt. 1 Box 721, Perkins, Oklahoma 74059 All contents copyright January 2010

INDIAN COUNTRY NEWS Cobell vs Salazar



THE LAW SUIT—The Cobell vs Salazar case is one of the largest class action suits against the U.S. Government concerning Individual Indian Money account holders. The complaint includes approximately 500,000 Indians across the nation of whom are Individual Indian Money Account holders. The "Cobell case" settles the complaint that the U.S. Government has mismanaged the hundreds of thousands of acres of land and millions of dollars; and it also includes proceeds from those lands that it holds in trust for the individual Native American.

SETTLED TERMS-PART ONE—The settlement will contain several elements. The first element will resolve the plaintiffs claims and agrees to resolved claims that centers around the U.S. Government's trust management and accounting of over thousands of IIM accounts for an "historical" accounting for funds they are entrusted to maintain, it will also include any and all associated trust funds with underlying trust assets. The resolution is desired to address the past and the future. Regarding the past wrongs, each "historical" IIM account holder will receive \$1,000.00 checks. The \$1,000.00 check as agreed by both parties is to bring each holder of an Individual Indian Money account into agreement on the balance of each account. The second element will resolve the "trust administration" claims. The alleged claims indicates over the years the U.S. Government has mismanaged the hundreds of thousands of acres of land. In considering this element of the settlement, the U.S. Government had concerns regarding the possible slew of mismanagement cases that would continue the acrimony (or further disputes of this nature), however, it was decided that under the settlement, the plaintiffs will amend their complaint to add these claims, which will then be resolved. By this action, the plaintiff in this class will receive a payment, based on a formula to be approved by the Court. And the U.S. Government, will know that it has put those trust administration

claims, behind it. The obligation for both elements will be in the amount of \$1.4 billion dollars.

PART-TWO- The second part of the settlement is designed to address the continued fractionation that happens when land is probated to new heirs. It has been estimated that the millions of interests will expand to several more million by the year 2030. In remedy, the provision for land consolidation is to use \$2 billion dollars to buy-back fractionated land interests. It is mentioned from statements of the individuals of the Cobell case that "the Department would use existing programs and law to make these acquisitions with additional authority that would be provided under the proposed settlement legislation for the conveyance of interests held by persons who cannot be located after engaging in extensive efforts to notify them and locate them for a five-year period".



(cont'd page 3)

Leslie Peck obituary: She loved being a mom and she loved animals

LESLIE JEAN PECK passed away Saturday, December 5, 2009 in the Jane Phillips Medical Center. She was 20 years old.

Leslie was born October 1, 1989 in Bartlesville, the daughter of Robert "Whisper" Peck and Dora F. Tayrien. She attended schools in Barnsdall, Oklahoma. Leslie was a lover of animals, but she most especially enjoyed being a mom. Surviving are: Her children: Robby Brown and Allissa Kinowski; Her mother: Dora Tayrien; Her grandparents: Corina Leland, and Charles and Irene Tayrien; Her brothers and sister: Charissa Beaver, John Beaver Tiffany Peck and Holden Peck; Aunts and Uncles: Gay Turvey; Carla, Summer and Lori; Lee Peck, Tony Farris, Christy Tayrien, Lee Collins, Tricia Mayes and John Leland; Numerous cousins and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, December 8, at 10:00 AM at the McCartney's Johnson Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. James Hager will officiate. Interment will be in the Ethel Reese Cemetery at Barnsdall, Oklahoma. McCartney's Johnson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements

HISTORY: One of the most Comprehensive Indian laws.

Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 was also known as the Wheeler-Howard Act, or informally the Indian new deal, and was a U.S. federal legislation which secured certain rights to Native American, including Alaskan Natives.

The First Americans

We came from the mountains, prairies and swamps, with 500 years of pain in our eyes. Rebounding from diseases, wars and removals, with harsh words ringing in our ears. We faded off in the shadows, our only trace were the names given to the cities and states. But we were always there, part of the land that we never tried to own, watching. Watching our nations pushed aside, laughed at and ridiculed, then have others claim our culture. Many of us had lost our language, customs and our ways, but still we remained proud. Together we battled alcoholism, poverty and hate, then watched our tribes grow strong. Again we found identity within ourselves, and our people, identity lost almost to the boarding schools. Our children again knowing who they are, and what they are, and speaking their native tongue. Those small faces with eyes of innocence and wonder, our future and our past. Stepping out into the future, with their heads held high, finally taking their place, as the first Americans.

Michael E. Rowe
09/21/04

(CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)

The class notice as it was referred to, will notify individuals of the settlement terms and the Department will notify individuals of the opportunity to convey their interest. Administrative costs will also fall under this amount. The administrative costs are the process of acquisition.

In addition the fund will be designed to contribute to an existing non-profit organization for the benefit of educating American Indians and Alaska Natives, and to consolidate and preserve tribal homelands, settlement parties desired to connect with the next gen-

eration of Indians. It was said that each acquisition of an interest, an additional amount will be contributed to the educational Indian scholarship based on the value of the interest. For instance, for an interest worth \$500.00 or more, five (5) percent of the value will be contributed to the scholarship fund. The settlement legislation would authorize an obligation in the amount of \$2 billion dollars.

Finally, the Cobell litigation will create a Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust to make recommendations and oversee a performance audit of trust systems and controls. It is mentioned

that this provision appears to be intended to review the sunset of the Office of Special Trustee.

Ultimately, the entire lawsuit settlement will need to approved by the U.S. Congress, and the overall terms of the settlement must be approved by the U.S. District Court of whom currently prevails.

After the District Court finalizes the order the court case is subject to appeal. If there are no appeals, they will then move forward with the settlement.

Oklahoma Tribal Council which consists of eight Oklahoma VR Programs including Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma VR Program hosted the Annual CANAR conference November 28 - December 2, 2009. The conference



was a success. There were approximately 66-70 tribal VR programs that attended from across the nation. Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma VR wants to specially thank Victor Roubidoux for his awesome power

point presentation over the Eagle Aviary. (pictured above is Victor Roubidoux, Aviary Manager & Rose Malone, Voc Rehab Dir.)

10 Indian commandments

1. The earth is our mother, care for her
2. Honor all you relations
3. Open your heart and soul to the great spirit
4. All life is sacred, treat all beings with respect
5. Take from the earth what is need and nothing more
6. Do what needs to be done for the good for all
7. Give constant thanks to the Great Spirit for each day
8. Speak the truth, but only of the good in others
9. Follow the rhythms of nature, rise and retire with the sun
10. Enjoy life's journey be leave no tracks.

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Surplus Equipment

The Iowa Tribe will hold a silent Auction on FEBRUARY 6th starting at 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for Iowa Tribal Members only for Surplus items. Auction will be open to the public on Feb. 7th and 8th. TRIBAL MEMBERS SHOULD BE PRESENT ON THE 6th IN ORDER TO GET FIRST PICK.

Please contact Bobby Walkup or Lucy McClellan for details on merchandise available.

All merchandise must be removed starting at 3 p.m. or will be available to the public on the 7th and 8th



For more information please contact Bobby Walkup at (405) 334-6301

LIBRARY NEWS



Read Get Wacky Go Feather

Read 10 books and receive a Wacky Pack Meal Coupon Plus two feathers – one to take home – one to feather the library

The Iowa Tribe Library is very happy to offer this program to our young people. Many new books have been added to our Library collection. Already the library is seeing more books being checked out.

A very special thank you goes out to our local Perkins Sonic for sponsoring this incentive to encourage reading.

The feathers are paper and will be decorated by the individual child. By the end of 2010 – the library hopes to be completely feathered.



- With temperatures dropping below freezing, please remember to check on our elderly, your friends and family!
1. Check on elderly family, friends and neighbors frequently. The elderly are especially susceptible to extremely cold temperatures.
 2. Watch for ice that can cause falls and leave you unable to get back inside.
 3. Indoor temperatures should be set according to activity level, health and medications. A safe, fuel-saving temperature for a young, active family may be dangerous for an older person who has trouble moving or is taking certain medications.
 4. Wear a coat, hat, scarf and gloves even for a short walk to a mailbox. A fall or a locked door can leave you exposed to extreme cold.
 5. Dress warmly if you are inside, especially if you are not physically active.
 6. Avoid drinking alcohol as it can lower the body's ability to keep warm.
 7. If someone has been exposed to extreme cold and is showing signs of hypothermia (confusion, trouble walking, shivering) call 911 right away. Cover the person with a warm blanket. Do not rub the person's arms or legs.

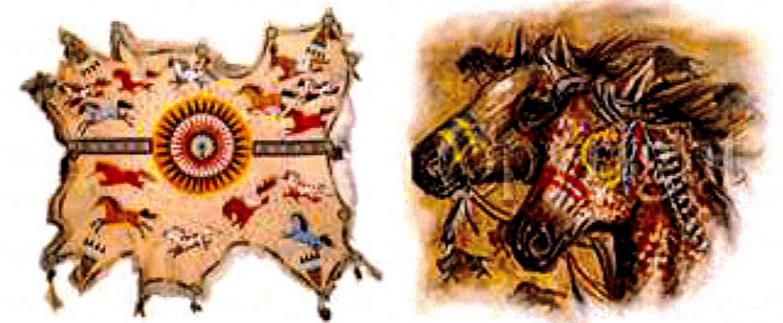
Menu Subject to Change				
JANUARY 2010				
Iowa Tribe Title VI Menu and Elders Activities				
Dieticians Approval:				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			KITCHEN CLOSED	KITCHEN CLOSED
4 Pepperoni Pizza Garden Salad 3-Bean Salad Perfect Berry Fluff Milk	5 Soft Turkey Taco W/lettuce, tomatoes, onions & cheese guacamole & sour cream Mexican Corn S/F Jello w/ tropical fruit Milk	6 Steam Fry Potato Salad Seasoned Green Beans Sherry's Fry Bread Fresh Banana Milk	7 Tuna Salad w/ Wheat Berry Bread Lettuce & Tomatoes Pea Salad Tapioca Pudding Milk	8 Cream of Wheat Boiled Egg Wheat Berry Toast Apricots Milk / Grape Juice Commodity P/U Day Elders Shopping Trip
11 Cold Turkey /Wheat Sub w/lettuce, tomatoes, cheese & mayo Baked Lays Chips Low Fat Cottage Cheese Banana Pudding / Milk	12 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Green Salad Garlic Toast Strawberry Fluff Milk	13 Teriyaki Chicken Breast Fried Chinese Rice Asparagus Snicker Doodle Cookie Milk	14 Breaded Baked Catfish Hushpuppies Broccoli Salad Splenda Peach Crisp Milk	15 Grits Scrambled Eggs Sausage Pattie Blueberries Milk / Apple Juice Elders Trip Osage Library
18 Chicken Noodles w/ Peas & Carrots Garden Salad Wheat Crackers Fruit Salad / Milk	19 Turkey Enchiladas Spanish Rice Refried Beans Baked Cinnamon Peaches / Milk	20 Pork -n- Hominy Corn-n-Pumpkin Seasoned Green Beans Sherry's Fry Bread Red Grapes / Milk	21 Salmon Cakes Coleslaw w/Raisins Broccoli Chocolate Pudding Milk	22 Strawberry Oatmeal Crispy Bacon Bagel w/ Strawberry Cream Cheese Milk / Cranberry Juice January Birthday Month
25 Frito Chili Pie w/ onions, cheese, peppers sour cream & salsa Mexican Corn Mandarin Oranges / Milk	26 Hamburgers w/ Cheese w/lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles Potato Salad Baked Beans Fresh Apple / Milk	27 Pork Chops Buttered Rice Spinach Vanilla Pudding Milk	28 Tuna Casserole w/ Peas Garden Salad California Blend Apricots Milk	29 Ham -n- Egg on English Muffin Hash browns Tomato Slices Milk / Orange Juice



Elders Trip
January 15th - Full Day
Osage Nation Museum & Library
Pawhuska, OK
Bus leaves at 10:00 am after Breakfast
Lunch will be with the Osage Elders
Sign up Sheet at Whitecloud



Osage Nation was first Indian Nation to establish a museum in 1938



Everything on earth has a purpose, every disease an herb to cure it, and every person a mission to fulfill, this is the Indian theory of existence...
author unknown

Equal Employment—Opportunity Statement

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability status in employment. However, individuals of Indian ancestry and Veterans will be given preference by law in initial employment or re-employment. jobs@iowanation.org
<http://www.iowanation.org>

IOWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

The BAH-KHO-JE Journal is the official publication of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma is located 4 miles south of Perkins, Oklahoma on State Highway 177.

The BAH-KHO-JE Journal
Editor
Tonette Ponkilla

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74059
tponkilla@iowanation.org
405-547-2402* 275

Administration & Government

- Transitional Housing Program Project Aide
- Tribal Victims Services Clerk/CJA Project Aide
- Sexual Assault Services Program Victim Advocate
- Cashier/Deli Cook (Carney—Part time)
- Information Technology Manager
- Realty Admin. Asst./Probate Clerk
- Chief Executive Officer
- Dispatcher/Jailer (open continually)

Early Child Hood

- Infant/Toddler Teacher Asst

Education

- Head Mentor Tutor
- Mentor/Tutor (Part time)

Gaming Commision

- Surveillance Officer I
- Surveillance Officer I (part time)

Cimarron Casino

- HR Generalist
- Food & Beverage Manager
- General Accounting Manager
- Environmental Services Engineer (Housekeeping)
- Security Officer
- Slot Floor
- Bartender/Server
- Lead Soft counter
- Cook
- Cashier

ELIGIBILITY: Services are required. Receipt of any assistance is dependent on an unmet need basis, meeting specific program requirements, and availability of funding. Not all services are of a financial nature. **CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION** has integrated employment, training, and related services through Public Law 102-477 to serve the Indian population in central Oklahoma. Under P. L. 102-477, Employment & Training combines funding from Department of Labor (DOL), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and Health & Human Services (HHS). Although no additional Federal dollars are associated with this law, it does allow and encourage combining of resources that has resulted in lowered administrative costs and more dollars reaching participants and more served.

BE COUNTED

United States Census 2010

The U. S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census will show state population counts and determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. Be advised according to the United States Census 2010, a census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households via U.S. mail in March 2010; many households that do not respond will receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census workers also will visit households that do not return questionnaires.

According to the Census count, the Federal government can allocate more than \$300 billion to tribes, states and communities based in part, on census data. Tribal leaders can use census data to gain insight into tribal members living in urban and rural areas and determine the need for tribal development programs. The census data guides local decision-makers on where to build new roads, hospitals and job training ect.

For your information the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's census questionnaire responses with anyone, including tribal housing authorities and other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Department would like to thank some of Santa's little helpers. The Cimarron Casino employees were so generous with there donations and played a big role by helping children in need this holiday season. A special thanks goes out to Christy Taylor, the casino's training and development manager and the NADP for wrapping all the presents. We would also like to thank a special Ioway Tribal member for their charitable contributions, and all of the Social Service Department for the resources and assistance they provided. Approximately thirty Native American children in our community woke up Christmas morning with presents under their tree and smiles on their faces because of the generosity and compassion of Ioway Tribal members and Tribal employees. On behalf of the recipients I want to thank each of you and may God bless each of you during this New Year.

THE BAH-KHO JE COUNT DOWN

- 1 ya' n gki
- 2 nuwe
- 3 denyi
- 4 dowe
- 5 the tan



IOWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Mailing Address:
RR 1 Box 721, Perkins, OK
74059
Fax: (405)547-1092
Phone(405)547-2402
<http://www.iowanation.org>

Tribal Officers

- Chairman
Janice Rowe-Kurak
- Vice-Chairman
Perri Ahhaity
- Treasurer
Lisa Yellowfish
- Secretary
Eugene Big Soldier
- Council Person
Renee
- Lincoln Prince**



STRESS!

Lynn Cicle, MS, LPC, BCPD Perkins Family Clinic

January 7, 2010
5:30-7:00

Child care Provided for Enrolled Families
@ Child Development Center

Dinner Provided:
Chili
Saltines
Pasta Salad
Brownies

Drawing for a Prize!



4th Grade Basketball Tournament Girls & Boys

Iowa Tribe of OK Chena Building
January 30th

\$40 per Team



Contact Bobby Walkup or
the Iowa Tribe Wellness Center
bwalkup@iowanation.org
(405) 547-4325

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma



Wellness Program

Contact Bobby Walkup
for more information
or for rentals
bwalkup@iowanation.org
(405) 334-6301 or

Wellness Center
(405) 547-4325

Indoor pitching
mound and
Batting Cage
\$20 per hour

Gym rental
\$40 for 3 hours

"Improving the Health of the Community"

Now offering
Open Gym
Night
Tuesdays 6-8

Basketball,
Volleyball,
Tennis,
Baseball,
etc.

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Early Head Start & Expectant Families Program

- Monthly Visits
- Monthly Group Meetings
- Resource & Referral Network
- Prenatal Curriculum
- Education Information:
 - Healthy Pregnancy
 - Fetal Development
 - Labor & Delivery
 - Breastfeeding
 - Parenting
 - Nutrition
 - Mental Health &
 - Much More!



For applications and questions please contact:
Diana Cates
405-547-5826

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Early Head Start Expectant Families Program

No Costs

Taking Applications

Program Information

A healthy pregnancy has a direct influence on the health and development of a newborn child. The Expectant Families Program is a FREE comprehensive program for low-income families designed to help eligible program women receive the many services needed for a healthy pregnancy. The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Early Head Start Expectant Families Program is located in the Chena Building, Room 105, which is the second building on the right upon entering the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Complex. For more information, contact Jennifer Acker by either visiting the building or calling (405) 517-2412 extension 271.



Services

- Monthly Visits
- Monthly Group Meetings
- Resource & Referral Network
- Prenatal Curriculum
- Education Information:
 - Healthy Pregnancy
 - Fetal Development
 - Labor & Delivery
 - Breastfeeding
 - Parenting
 - Nutrition
 - Mental Health &
 - Much More!



Native and Non-Native Families
May Apply

Burn Wise

Program of U.S. EPA

BURN THE RIGHT WOOD, THE RIGHT WAY, IN THE RIGHT WOOD-BURNING APPLIANCE

Did you know that by changing the way you burn wood you can save money, reduce air pollution and protect your health?

Here are a few simple tips to make your fire burn hotter, keep your wallet fatter and keep your local air cleaner and healthier.

Season all firewood. All firewood should be split, securely covered or stored, and aged for at least six months. Seasoned wood burns hotter, cuts fuel consumption and reduces the amount of smoke your appliance produces.

Choose the right firewood. Hardwoods are the best. Never burn trash or treated wood which can emit toxic air pollutants.

Start it right. Use only clean newspaper or dry kindling to start a fire. Never use gasoline, kerosene, charcoal starter, or a propane torch.

Don't let the fire smolder. Many people think they should let a fire smolder overnight. But reducing the air supply does little for heating and increases air pollution.

Clean ashes from your wood-burning appliance. Excess ashes can clog the air intake vents reducing efficiency. Be sure to dispose of ashes in a metal container away from the house or any flammable material to reduce the risk of fire.

Keep your chimney clean. A clean chimney provides good draft for your wood burning appliance and reduces the risk of a chimney fire. Have a certified professional inspect your chimney once a year.

Be a good neighbor. Follow best practices for burning wood and always remember to comply with state and local codes.

Follow instructions. Operate your wood-burning appliance according to the manufacturer's instructions and follow all maintenance procedures.

Upgrade to cleaner equipment. EPA-certified wood stoves and fireplace inserts burn cleaner and burn wood more efficiently emitting less particle pollution than older models.

Size matters. Choose the right-sized appliance for your needs. If your wood-burning appliance is too big for your room or house, the fuel will smolder and create more air pollution.



For more information on how to burn wise, go to www.epa.gov/burnwise

Tribal Youth Program

The Tribal Youth Program had a busy fall semester with many activities and new experiences! From September to December, we had many activities, such as bowling, the Fall Carnival and making gingerbread houses. TYP enjoyed many visits to the Library and had the opportunity to learn to bead from Russell McClellan and John Tanner. We watched *Lost Nation: The Ioway* to learn more about the Ioway People. We also had many substance abuse prevention activities. We have enjoyed this semester with the youth and we are looking forward to the second half of the school year!

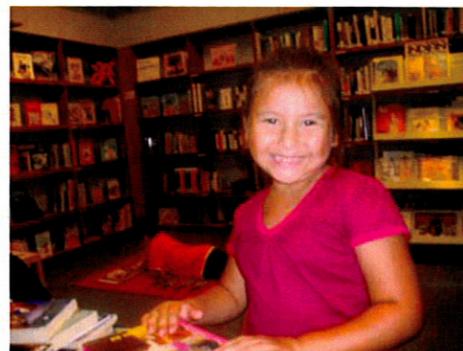
TYP will resume on January 4. TYP is an afterschool program for Native youth. We provide mentoring, tutoring, substance abuse prevention activities, cultural activities, service learning activities and recreational activities. If you are interested in TYP or have any questions, please contact Cho Werito, TYP Coordinator, at cwerito@iowanation.org or 405-547-2492.

JOM

The Johnson O'Malley Program is looking for parents to serve on the Indian Education Committee (IEC). The purpose of the IEC is to promote the welfare of Indian children and youth in home, school, community and tribe; to raise the standards of school achievement of Indian children and to bring close relationship the home and the school so that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of Indian children and youth To achieve this, JOM must have an Indian Education Committee in place to participate in the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the JOM program.

The next meeting of the IEC will be January 19, 5:30 pm at the TYP building.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Cho Werito at cwerito@iowanation.org or 405-547-2492.



Pictures: Clockwise from Upper Left Corner: Youth bowling in Cushing; Keynan looking at books in the Library; Emma in the Library; Youth making gingerbread houses; Rachel holding her gingerbread house; Mr. Tanner showing the youth how to bead.

HAVE A GREAT AND SAFE 2010!

From the Office of Environmental Services

Water Pollution Control Program



Hello, to all the tribal members and non tribal members. This article is to inform the community of the sampling, schedule and activities of the Water Pollution Program. The Office of Environmental Services started a new year and a new grant for Water Pollution Control began on November 1, 2009. This new grant will give us funding for the next two years. OES will be sampling four creeks (Bear, Dug-out, Sand, and Headquarters) at eight locations, and will also include various wetlands and ponds. Water Quality Program Manager, Whitney Warrior, will be sampling for fecal (*E.coli*), Enterococci, metals, chlorophyll A, alkalinity, hardness, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, pH, conductivity, nitrate-nitrite, nitrate, chloride, and ortho-phosphate. Some of the analysis will be conducted by the Water Quality Program Manager in the Iowa Tribe's water lab and the remainder will be analyzed by Accurate Environmental Labs in Stillwater. We have purchased new equipment to expand the types of analysis we can perform in our laboratory. This will expand grant resources through lower contract laboratory costs. The Water Quality Program Man-

ager will receive training to implement the new in house analysis. OES will be writing articles at the end of each quarter to update the community on the progress of the program and facilitate any questions and comments that may arise.

The Office of Environmental Services has completed the FY09 305 (b) report for E.P.A. The 305 (b) or TAR report is to inform the tribal community about the conditions of the creeks, wetlands and ponds located on the Tribal property. The draft of the Water Quality Standards was referenced to determine criteria for surfaces waters to support designated uses which include aquatic life and primary body contact recreation. Creeks in tribal jurisdiction were tested for basic water chemistry parameters, *E.coli*, chlorides, alkalinity, hardness, metals, ortho-phosphates, nitrate-nitrite and nitrates. Physical habitat assessments were conducted on all creek sites as well as fish sampling at both Bear Creek sites. Seven fish species and 242 individuals were collected at the two creek sites. Surrounding agricultural practices impair the quality of the water and prevent it from meeting the water quality standards. Cattle that directly enter the creeks, wetlands and ponds increase pathogens and nutrient levels due to defecation. They also remove riparian vegetation which is vital to the removal of excess nutrients and sediment. Riparian vegetation also helps decrease erosion and water temperatures. The Water Pollution Program is reviewing data and conducting a triennial review of the Tribe's Water Quality Standards. These standards will include criteria to protect Out-

standing Resource Waters and create a list of waters that are used for ceremonial and cultural purposes. This Water Quality Standard will be set to support cultural/ceremonial use, primary and secondary contact, as well as aquatic habitat. These Water Quality Standards must be set to protect the health of our reservation waters for present and future generations. Historically, water was used for many purposes within many tribes. Water was sufficient for life and all of life's creature's plants and animals. As with the Iowa culture water is served as a first drink. After a portion of water is drunk the remaining is then used to bless oneself. Today, water is being contaminated and its use in sweat lodges and these small blessings may pose a threat to participants of these ceremonies. We would like to provide non-polluted water so that many tribal members may continue with their ceremonies traditions without doubt or concerns. In the future OES will be contacting tribal members about concerns that they have regarding the quality of the water on their land. OES needs information on cultural practices using tribal water to compile water quality standards that will provide the best possible water quality to the community and its members.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns about our project and/or knowledge of cultural or ceremonial waters please feel free to contact Whitney Warrior, Water Pollution Control Manager at the Office of Environmental Services 405-547-5433 wwarrior@iowanation.org



PICTURE OF BEAR CREEK

