Tribe Celebrates Legacy of Nanih Waiya

Tribal officials, members & guests gathered at the Nanih Waiya Ceremonial Mound in Winston County on Thursday, August 9 to commemorate the restoration of the revered Nanih Waiya Mound and Cave sites back into the possession of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

“For many centuries, the Nanih Waiya Mound has been a cherished symbol for our tribe. Generations of our people have visited throughout the years to honor and respect the legacy of this mound,” said Tribal Chief Phyliss J. Anderson.

“Today is about, for me, the importance of teaching and passing along the stories of Nanih Waiya to the next generation. As Native Americans, it’s important and essential that we preserve our cultural heritage through education. Not only do our young learn in the classroom, they also learn our

.....see LEGACY, pg. 6

Tribe Breaks Ground on PRES Upper Elementary Building

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Pearl River Elementary School (PRES) Upper Elementary Building on Tuesday, August 28 in Choctaw.

The $8.5 Million project, with completion expected to be during the summer of 2019, is expected to be ready for use for the 2019-2020 school year.

The building will be single floor with 25 classrooms, staff and student restrooms, two tutoring spaces, assistant principal office/meeting room, a teacher lounge and mechanical/electrical and IT spaces.

“This is a great day for our students at Pearl River Elementary and for our Choctaw community in general,” said Tribal Chief Phyliss J. Anderson. “With the

.............see BUILDING, pg. 8

Pearl River Resort Opens Sportsbook

Get ready to place your bets! Owned & operated by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pearl River Resort celebrated the opening of Sportsbook at Timeout Lounge with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, August 30th.

“We’re very excited to be one of the very first tribal gaming facilities to offer traditional sports wagering,” said Tribal Chief Phyliss J. Anderson.

“Our guests can now bet on all

.............see SPORTSBOOK, pg. 5

The Tribe held a groundbreaking ceremony for the PRES Upper Elementary Building on Aug. 28. Pictured above are Tribal Chief Phyliss J. Anderson, 2018-2019 Choctaw Indian Princess Sydni Tangle, PRES Principal Suzanne Hyatt & staff & students, along with Tribal Council members, Choctaw Tribal Schools officials, & individuals involved in the planning, design & construction process.
Halito!

Summer activities are coming to an end, and students are heading into a new school year. Football and softball seasons have gotten underway and are exciting times for families to watch their favorite player out on the field.

Here in the Office of the Chief, I am enthusiastic because we are working on many projects that will greatly benefit the needs of our Choctaw people. In the coming months, you will hear about ribbon cuttings and ground breakings taking place throughout the Reservation.

If you truly take a moment to think about it, it is amazing how much we have been able to accomplish, but that is due to the incredible progress we have made these last few years. I cannot thank you enough for your support and encouragement, and I look forward to continuing our efforts to improve the quality of life for our Tribal members.

NEW COACHES AT CCHS

I am very proud to welcome to the coaching staff at Choctaw Central High School Coaches James “Pepper” Posey, Mercedes Cotton, and Elyse Willis-Etheridge.

Coach Posey serves as the head football coach for the Warriors, Coach Cotton takes the reins as the head coach for Lady Warriors softball, and Coach Willis-Etheridge will take charge as the Lady Warriors golf coach. All three coaches have past ties to our wonderful athletic program.

Coach Posey previously served as an assistant football coach, Coach Cotton played softball for the Lady Warriors and served as a student coach last year, and Coach Willis-Etheridge has served as assistant basketball coach for the Lady Warriors.

I am confident they will continue to do well in their new positions and will build upon the winning tradition in Choctaw Central athletics. I encourage everyone to give these coaches your support and best wishes.

NANIH WAIYA DAY CELEBRATION

It was an honor and joy to once again host the Nanih Waiya Day Celebration at the Nanih Waiya Ceremonial Mound on Thursday, August 9th. Despite the extremely hot weather, I enjoyed seeing our Choctaw people from the different communities gather together to pay tribute to our rich cultural heritage and history.

Our incredible journey throughout the centuries has been filled with stories of fierce determination and perseverance against overwhelming odds. I am always very moved when I think about our ancestors who refused to leave our ancestral homelands and our Mother Mound, Nanih Waiya, even though it had been taken from us by treaty.

I am very proud that in April 2007, Chief Phillip Martin petitioned for the return of the Mother Mound to the Tribe, and that on August 8, 2008, that goal became a reality.

Every year, on the second Friday in August, we celebrate Nanih Waiya Day, designated as a Tribal holiday and to remind us that Nanih Waiya will never be sold, traded or negotiated with ever again.

We also hosted the 6th Annual Nanih Waiya Day All-Star Stickball Games at Warrior Stadium on Tuesday, August 7th. We began these games in 2013 to expand the celebrations for Nanih Waiya Day, but also to honor the best of the best players from the World Series Stickball tournament during the annual Choctaw Indian Fair.

In the Women’s Division, Fichik Cito Ohoyo defeated Fichik Malata Ohoyo 7-3, while in the Men’s Division, Fichik Cito triumphed over Fichik Malata 7-5. Candace Jefferson and Anselm Henry were the MVPs for their respective divisions.

Congratulations to the winners, and a big Yako to everyone who participated in these activities to celebrate Nanih Waiya Day!

...continued next page
ELDERLY BINGO

A bingo event for our Tribal Elders was held at the Choctaw Elderly Activity Center on Tuesday, August 21st in recognition of National Senior Citizens Day. I am always happy to host these bingo events to show my appreciation to these men and women who paved the way for us to get us where we are today.

I appreciate my administration and elderly center staff for supporting these activities and I greatly look forward to my next chance to visit with our cherished Tribal Elders!

GROUND BREAKING AT PRES

I was excited to break ground on Tuesday, August 28th for the new Upper Elementary building at Pearl River Elementary School. Our Tribal population continues to grow at a steady rate every year, and while that is a great thing, it does present some unique challenges.

Pearl River Elementary School has needed an expansion for many years, and I am proud that we are now able to fulfill that goal. It was great to see everyone who came out to celebrate this wonderful new chapter in the history of the school and the Tribe, especially the students.

This project is expected to be completed during the summer of 2019 and ready for use for the 2019-2020 school year. We want to give our Tribal students the best resources and environment for learning, and the new Upper Elementary building is most definitely a step in the right direction.

SPORTSBOOK RIBBON CUTTING

A ribbon cutting was held for Sportsbook at Timeout Lounge at Golden Moon Casino on Thursday, August 30th. With the opening of this new location, and with the kickoff of football season, Pearl River Resort (via Sportsbook) now offers traditional sports wagering in which guests can bet on all professional league sports and major collegiate sporting events.

I was proud to be present for this new venture as Choctaw Resort Development Enterprise Chairwoman, along with our 2018-2019 Choctaw Indian Princess Sydni Jade Tangle, Choctaw Tribal Council members and Pearl River Resort officials.

I am confident this new venture will ensure that we are effectively maximizing the resources we have available to us at Pearl River Resort to offer our guests the premier gaming experience in the Southeast.

DOI CONSULTATION AT GOLDEN MOON

Recently, I was honored to host distinguished USET Tribal leaders in Choctaw as we prepared for a Tribal Consultation with Department of the Interior (DOI) officials. The DOI consultation, held at our Golden Moon Hotel and Casino, was in response to President Trump’s Executive Order 13781 signed on March 13, 2017.

The order directed Federal agencies, including the Department of the Interior, to examine ways to reorganize to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

It is very important that tribes have a strong voice in the reorganiza-

language and share the same customs as our students. I firmly believe we can all work together to build a stronger school system for our youth by providing professional and educational program opportunities such as this.

Mrs. Isaac is doing a wonderful job as I observed her teaching and interacting with her students. Our students have bright and eager minds ready to learn and take hold of their future. Yakkik Mrs. Isaac for welcoming me into your classroom!

VISIT TO ASHTON ISAAC’S CLASSROOM

In August I also visited the Kindergarten classroom of Mrs. Ashton Isaac at Pearl River Elementary School. Mrs. Isaac is a first-year teacher and one of the very first graduates of my Teacher’s Initiative Program for Choctaw Tribal Members.

The program was designed to encourage Choctaw Tribal Members interested in earning a degree in education an opportunity to go to school tuition free, while still working a full-time job in a school. It is my sincere hope that we give more Tribal Members the opportunity to earn a professional degree and fill our classrooms with Choctaw teachers who speak our

Many Blessings,

Phyliss J. Anderson,
Tribal Chief
Notice From the Tribal Distribution Office

**DISTRIBUTION DATE IS**
**DECEMBER 4, 2018**

Important deadlines to remember:
- Tribal Court (Child Support) - Oct. 19, 2018, at 4:30 p.m.
- Direct Deposit - Nov. 5, 2018, at 4:30 p.m.
- Other Changes Listed Below - Nov. 5, 2018, at 4:30 p.m.

**TRIBAL DISTRIBUTION REMINDERS!**

Please help us make the process of receiving your check easier by having the following information current. All of the following needs to be done & turned in to the Tribal Distribution Office:
- * Over 18 years old - (Photo I.D. with birthdate);
- * Custody change - (Court Order) Parents need to fill out Changes to Tribal Distribution form & the W-4V tax forms if you wish to stop the taxes from being taken out once your child/children is released back to you;
- * Name change - (Marriage License/Divorce paper with new name on your Social Security card. List your dependants as well);
- * Address changes - It is very important that you do an address change with our office anytime you move. If you did a forwarding address with your local post office, you still need to submit an address change with our office. Forwarding time have expiration. Anytime you do an address change for yourself, always include all of your dependants;
- * Tax (W-4V) - It needs to be filled out by the individuals for themselves and/or their dependants if they wish to have taxes taken out or stopped.

**DIRECT DEPOSIT**
- * Keep in mind if your check was captured for anything from the previous distribution, you will have to submit a new application to do Direct Deposit again.
- * Only the individual/individuals listed as account holder should do Direct Deposit.
- * If your child/children is not listed as account holder on your account, please do not list them.
- * Do not use someone else’s account to setup Direct Deposit.
- * It is very important that you let our office know whenever you close your account.

**NEW ENROLLEES**

Contact the Enrollment Office at 601-656-5251, ext. 1542.

**UNCLAIMED CHECKS**

Tribal Distribution Office will only hold your check for 6 months. If you have not received your check, please contact Barbara Ben at 601-650-1522. The check will be returned to the General Revenue Fund after 6 months if not claimed.

The Tribal Distribution Office is located on the upper level of the Tribal Office building in the Finance Department. Forms are available in the lobby or in the Finance office & you can also visit www.choctaw.org.

For more information, contact Barbara Ben, Distribution Manager, at 601-650-1522.

The following ordinances & resolutions were submitted to the Choctaw Tribal Council for consideration. Listed is a brief summary & action taken.

**SPECIAL CALL MEETING,**
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2018**

**Resolution CHO 18-104,** approving Fiscal Year 2019 Budgets for Tribal Administration, Programs, Agencies & Operations, was ADOPTED - 14 YES (L. Ahshapanesek, T. Anderson, R. Bell, C. Eaves, R. Isaac, S. Johnson, D. Martin, B. McMillan, W. McMillan, H. Nickly, L. Parkerston, R. Sockey, B. Steve, K. Wallace, & D. Wilson); 0 NO; 0 ABSTAIN.

**SUMMARY:** The Resolution approves the budgets for Tribal Administration, Programs, Agencies & Operations for fiscal year 2019. For more information, please contact the Finance Office.

**Resolution CHO 18-105,** amending the Tribal Enterprise & Government Fringe Benefit Package for Eligible Employees to provide for $100,000 of term life insurance at no cost to the employee, was ADOPTED - 14 YES (L. Ahshapanesek, R. Bell, C. Eaves, R. Isaac, S. Johnson, D. Martin, B. McMillan, W. McMillan, H. Nickly, L. Parkerston, R. Sockey, B. Steve, K. Wallace, & D. Wilson); 0 NO; 0 ABSTAIN.

**SUMMARY:** The Resolution approves the amendment to Tribal Government Services & Ordinance 56 Enterprise employee fringe benefit packages for full time employees to provide for a single policy of $100,000 of term life insurance without regard to annual salary levels at no cost to the employee. For more information, please contact the Tribal Risk Management Office.

**Resolution CHO 18-106,** authorizing a Distribution of Tribal Funds, was ADOPTED - 15 YES (L. Ahshapanesek, T. Anderson, R. Bell, C. Eaves, R. Isaac, S. Johnson, D. Martin, B. McMillan, W. McMillan, H. Nickly, L. Parkerston, R. Sockey, B. Steve, K. Wallace, & D. Wilson); 0 NO; 0 ABSTAIN

**SUMMARY:** The Resolution approves Distribution in the amount of $600.00 per Tribal member scheduled for December 4, 2018. For more information, please contact the Office of Tribal Distribution.

**Resolution CHO 18-107,** approving the FY 2019 Head Start Continuation Application Request, was ADOPTED - 14 YES (L. Ahshapanesek, R. Bell, C. Eaves, R. Isaac, S. Johnson, D. Martin, B. McMillan, W. McMillan, H. Nickly, L. Parkerston, R. Sockey, B. Steve, K. Wallace, & D. Wilson); 0 NO; 0 ABSTAIN.

**SUMMARY:** The Resolution approves the Department of Early Childhood Education to submit a grant application to the Administration for Children & Families, Department of Health & Human Services to continue financial assistance without regard to annual salary levels at no cost to the employee. For more information, please contact the Tribal Risk Management Office.

**............continued next page**
Resort Receives ACF Honor

Pearl River Resort received the Achievement of Excellence Award for Phillip M’s Fine Dining from the American Culinary Federation (ACF). The award was presented to the Resort’s CJ Hencyk, Director of Food & Beverage, and Executive Chef Louis Chatham, at the ACF National Convention in New Orleans, LA.

SUMMARY: The Resolution approves the handbook for the Choctaw Virtual Learning Center for the 2018-2019 School Year. For more information, please contact the Choctaw Virtual Learning Center.

Resolution CHO 18-109

acquiring 1.412 acres of land, was ADOPTED - 14 YES; 0 NO; 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT.

SUMMARY: The Resolution approves the purchase of 1.412 acres of land for future development in the Pearl River Community. The 1.412 acres of land is located on the north side of Highway 16 & east side of Industrial Road adjacent to Tribal land held in trust. For more information, please contact the Tribal Realty Office.

Signed resolutions are available at www.choctaw.org. To request a copy of the attachment, please fill out a request for a Resolution/Ordinance Attachment Form & submit it to the Policy & Legislative Office at krystina.thompson@choctaw.org. Requests for attachments to Enrollment Resolutions will not be honored due to confidentiality rules.
ways of life at home. It is our duties as parents, guardians and elders to teach our children.”

Anderson added that it’s our responsibility to promote that knowledge and continue to share our stories and heritage with the next generation. It is truly a circle that cannot and must never be broken.

“May our children always realize and honor the strength and courage of our ancestors and may they pass these stories on to the next generation so that they will gather here, just as we have gathered here today, to celebrate our unique identity,” said Anderson.

Captain Harold “Doc” Comby of MBCI Department of Public Safety and respected Tribal leader recollected the migration and emersion stories associated with the Nanih Waiya legend to the audience, which included leaders from various Tribes and national organizations.

“It is told that we are the traditional people that failed to move because the Great Spirit told us that if we ever left the mound we would fail to exist as a people. So, in the year 2018, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians are still here,” said Comby.

Believed to have been built between 100 B.C. and 400 A.D., the Nanih Waiya Ceremonial Mound is 25 feet high, 218 feet long and 140 feet wide, suggesting it was originally a platform mound which eroded into the present form.

Anderson, along with Vice Chief Hilda Nickley and Tribal Council members in attendance Roderick Bell, Kendall Wallace, Chris Eaves, Deborah Martin, Barry McMillan, Sharon Johnson, Loriann Ahshapanek, Richard Sockey, and Wilma Simpson-McMillan, affixed colorful ribbons representing the eight tribal communities to the memorial wreath which was then placed at the base of the mound.

Led by chanter Ralph Isaac, members of the Choctaw Unity Social Dancers performed several social dances to entertain the audience.

Choctaw Indian Princess Sydni Tangle and Fred Willis of the Office of Public Information served as co-emcees as they offered a narrative of the legacy of Nanih Waiya, which means “leaning hill” in Choctaw.

The Choctaw people and their ancestors have revered Nanih Waiya for centuries as their Mother Mound and consider it the heart of the Choctaw people.

The darkest chapter of Choctaw history began in the late 18th century as the Choctaw gradually lost their ancestral homeland. Between 1786-1830, nine treaties were signed between the Choctaw and the United States.

In the final treaty, the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, signed on September 27, 1830, the Choctaw were forced to give up the remainder of their lands, 11 million acres of Mississippi territory, including Nanih Waiya.

A majority of Choctaws were removed to Oklahoma as a small minority that remained in Mississippi lived in isolation. The Mississippi Choctaw began their slow rise back from near extinction in the 20th century.

In 1945, Choctaws voted to adopt a constitution and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians was established. Over the next few decades, in keeping with the doctrine of Choctaw Self-Determination, the Tribe became a leader in economic development in east central Mississippi. The Tribe is currently one of the largest private employers in the state.

Nanih Waiya was designated a state park and was one of several parks that required substantial subsidies for maintenance from the state general fund.

In 2004, Nanih Waiya was placed on a list to dispose through closure, lease, sale, or transfer by the Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks.

The process of returning Nanih Waiya back to the Tribe began in April 2007 as Mississippi Senate Bill 2732 authorized the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks to transfer the mound to the Tribe.

In August 2008, Nanih Waiya was finally in the Tribe’s possession. A proclamation was signed that year celebrating the mound’s return and declaring that Nanih Waiya would never be sold, traded or negotiated with ever again.

Nanih Waiya Day was established as an official Tribal holiday and observed annually on the second Friday in August. Tribal officials

Entertaining the audience at the mound was the Choctaw Unity Social Dancers.

SPOrTSBOOK ........................................... continued from page five

as well as new Bettors, come out & wager on a wide variety of sporting events.”

The Sportsbook at Bok Homa features 13 TVs displaying a combination of odds/wagers & game content; access to feeds of most major sports networks; & one wager station to place in-person bets.

Hours of operation are as follows: Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.; Friday from 10:00 a.m.-Midnight; Saturday from 9:00 a.m.-Midnight; and Sunday from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

Bettors can visit Player Services to redeem winning tickets after hours. In the near future, Bok Homa Casino will offer kiosk & mobile wagering, where guests can place bets anywhere on casino grounds.

Guests must be 21 years of age or older to place bets. For more information on the Sportsbook at Bok Homa, call 1.866.447.3275 or visit www.bokhomacasino.com.
2018 ALL-STAR STICKBALL
WOMEN’S CHAMPION - FICHIK CITO OHYO

team members included Abigail Hickman, Ahinah Alex, Alana Hickman, Alexandria York, Ashley Stephens, Ashley Wesley, Bonnie Ben, Breanna Vaughn, Brittny Lewis, Brooklynn Bell, Cambree York, Candace Jefferson, Chelsey Bell, Christina Wilson, Christy Bounds, Crystal Roach, Darien Tubby, Darisa Tubby, Daysiannara Lewis, Decemina Hickman, DeShayna Hickman, Dianna Wesley, Dyrdana Jimmie, Elizabeth Robinson, Ella’Ga’Ne Sam, Elyse Etheridge, Evangeline King, Gabrielle Dixon, Gabrielle Wilson, Hannah Bell, Heather Tangle, Jasmine Hickman, Joni Bell, Johnita Conrad, Justina Dixon, Karla Joe, Katalina Morris, Kayla Willis, Kelley Sockey, LaCynthia Dixon, Lana Tubby, LaTonya Bell, Lattoriah Johnson, Lauren Ben, Lynora Willis, Maleighia Joe, Mariah Lewis, Mercedes Cotton, Meshay Jimmie, Molliekae Vaughn, Precious Jim, Raina King, Randi Williams, Relissia Ray, Shamira Dixon, Sheila Willis, Sonya Willis, Symone Williams, Tamela Solomon, Tiffani Riggen, Tiffany Thomas, & Zeasha Vaughn.

2018 ALL-STAR STICKBALL
WOMEN’S RUNNER-UP - FICHIK MALATA OHYO


2018 ALL-STAR STICKBALL
MEN’S CHAMPION - FICHIK CITO

team members included Alex McMillan, Andrew Sockey, Anselm Henry, Arnado Sam, Bobby Henry, Boris Isaac, Chanz Parkerson, Dalton Clegg, Dana Clemmons, Jr., Daniel Ben, Danny Anderson, Jr., Dayton Bell, Derald Ison, Derek Willis, Doug Samuel, Drew Tubby, Dy’Ni Morris, Frankie Farmer, Frankie Garcia, Gabriel Tubby, Galen John, Garrick Stobil, Hester Dixon, Jacob Bell, James Denson, Jamison Gibson, Jeremiah Robinson, Jerius Tubby, Josh Tubby, Justin Bell, Justin Peace Willis, Kanyon Jimmie, Kendall Wallace, Kendrick Bell, Kendrick Wesely, Lance Thomas, Lasha Alex, Lionel Bell, Marco Thomas, Jr., Melton Robinson, Nathaniel Amos, Neal Vaughn, Nikko King, Rickey Thompson, Jr., Robert Isaac, Jr., Roger Mayfield, Sagel Jimmie, Satchell Willis, Shaun Jimmie, Shawn Shoemake, Teddy Hickman, Tobiah Ben, Trey Lilly, Tushka Willis, Tyler Mitch, Warren Dixon, Wauseka York, Winter Solomon, & Zane Thompson.

2018 ALL-STAR STICKBALL
MEN’S RUNNER-UP - FICHIK MALATA

breaking of ground for the new Pearl River Upper Elementary building, we are taking great steps forward in providing the best possible learning environment for our Choctaw students.”

The project also includes an outdoor classroom, two new playgrounds and a sheltered outdoor recreation/learning space. The Upper Elementary Building will service grades third through sixth.

“I am so happy for this day to finally be here,” said PRES Principal Suzanne Hyatt. “After many years of hoping and months of planning, we are excited to start the process of getting our students out of trailers and in their very own building. I cannot thank Tribal Chief Anderson and the Choctaw Tribal Council enough for their support on making this project a reality.”

Opened in 1990, PRES currently houses 600 students. As of today, eight trailers with 16 classrooms, are being used for third through sixth grades which includes 200 students. This building will eliminate all the trailers used at PRES. Choctaw cultural aspects have been incorporated into the Upper Elementary Building design.

rescinded Columbus Day as a holiday to offer Choctaws an appropriate time to celebrate the return of lands considered sacred.

Another Nanih Waiya celebration activity included the 6th Annual Nanih Waiya Day All-Star Stickball Games that took place on Tuesday, August 7 at Warrior Stadium on the campus of Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw.

The games showcased the best men and women Choctaw stickball players recognized during the 69th Annual Choctaw Indian Fair’s World Series Stickball (WSS) championships.

In the women’s contest, Fichik Cito Ohoyo (Big Star) defeated Fichik Malata Ohoyo (Shining Star) 7-3. In the men’s contest, Fichik Cito defeated Fichik Malata 7-5.

Selected as this year’s MVP’s were Candace Jefferson of Fichik Cito Ohoyo and Anselm Henry of Fichik Cito.

The All-Star Games were WSS sanctioned and administered using the Choctaw Indian Fair’s WSS rules and regulations.

All-Star participants must be enrolled members of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and selected by a nominating committee of qualified WSS officials.

Qualifications included a player’s sportsmanship, skill & demonstration of spirit of the traditional game of Choctaw stickball.

Selected players and coaches must be in good standing with the CIF WSS Committee in accordance with rules and regulations with no history of penalties and must have been a registered player or coach on a qualified stickball team during the 2018 WSS tournament.
PFE Board Holds First Meeting of School Year

The Title I Parent & Family Engagement (PFE) Board met on August 28 at the Ayipa Café in the Career & Technical Education Center (formerly Occupational Training Center).

PFE Chair Diana Alex recognized Lavera Gibson as the Outstanding Choctaw Educator for the month of August. Lavera has worked for the Tribe for 29 years. For the past 20 years she has been teaching third grade at Pearl River Elementary School (PRES).

She has worked as a filing clerk & phlebotomist at Singing River Hospital in Pascagoula prior to working with the Tribe. She was with the Choctaw Adult Education Program, Special Education Program and Choctaw Tribal Schools’ Food Service Department before teaching at PRES.

Lavera attended Conehatta Elementary School and graduated from Choctaw Central High School. She holds a B.S. Degree from Mississippi State University. Lavera is the daughter of Frank and Meriva Williamson from the Conehatta Community. She is married to Eddie Lloyd Gibson and they have five children and 12 amazing grandchildren!

Lavera’s very special friend and former co-worker, Mary Gamblin Harrison, her principal, Suzanne Hyatt, and her sister, Verna, were in attendance to honor Lavera on this well-deserved recognition.

Alex also recognized three new Tribal School principals: Jammy Davis of Bogue Chitto Elementary School, Bruce Burns of Choctaw Central Middle School and Bobby Eiland of Red Water Elementary School. The principals spoke briefly about their educational experience and about their new schools.

Peggy Crowe, Curriculum Coordinator, and Nell Atkins, RTI Coordinator, presented important information about the upcoming Advanced Education Review. Team members will be at Choctaw from February 3-6, 2019.

Board members nominated Matthew Bell and Terry Kinsolving to fill the vacancies created by retiring board members from the Pearl River Community, Scottie Wallace and Felicia Sharp.

For further information, please contact Heather Adams at 601-663-7640 or Dianne Johnston at 601-656-5724.

CCHS Tutors Assisting Students

Choctaw Central High School tutors are off to a great school year so far.

Richard Rivers & Jan Thompson are working with students on an iReady plan to improve math & reading scores in the ninth grade. Amy Deen, Linda Tingle, & Brenda Nowell are working with sophomores, juniors, & seniors to improve their ACT scores utilizing Grade Results, March2Success & Star Testing. The TruTest has been given & the scores will determine what students will need specific help on the ACT. Tutors are located in the CCHS Library & are there to assist students with needs that go beyond the classroom schedule.

Lavera Gibson, third grade teacher at PRES, was named the Outstanding Choctaw Educator for the month of August.

Lavera Gibson, third grade teacher at PRES, was named the Outstanding Choctaw Educator for the month of August.

WNBA’s Vivians Visits SPES

Victoria Vivians, former Mississippi State University (MSU) Bulldog & current guard for the Indiana Fever of the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA), made a surprise visit to Standing Pine Elementary School on Thursday, August 30. Vivians, who graduated from nearby Scott Central High School in Forest, visited the students as she reflected on her basketball career & offered advice on overcoming obstacles & being successful in life. While at MSU, Vivians helped lead the Bulldogs to four appearances in the NCAA Tournament, including three Sweet Sixteens, & two appearances in the championship game in 2017 & 2018. She was chosen eighth overall by the Indiana Fever in the 2018 WNBA Draft on April 12.
New CCHS Coaches Announced

Choctaw Central High School announced the additions of three new head coaches to the athletic department during a press conference on Monday, August 6 at the CCHS library.

Elyse Etheridge will head the girl’s golf team, Mercedes Cotton takes the helm of the slow- and fast-pitch softball teams and Pepper Posey returns to lead the football squad.

In her 10th year with CCHS athletics, Etheridge led the Lady Warriors to their first cross country state championship in 2013 which garnered her Coach of the Year honors. She also coached slow- and fast-pitch softball & is currently an assistant basketball coach with the CCHS Lady Warriors and head basketball coach of the CCMS girls.

“I’m not experienced in golf, but I am willing to learn. We started winning ways here at Choctaw Central, and I like to continue that in golf. Maybe we’ll have a girl to win state, maybe our team will win state, but that’s one of our goals here,” said Etheridge.

“I’m willing to strive for excellence for our kids. Hopefully with my experiences working with other sports teams around here, I can build a program with a winning tradition in golf as well.”

A 2009 graduate of CCHS, Cotton had a standout softball career. After attending the University of Tennessee and East Mississippi Community College, she graduated from Mississippi State University this past year while serving as a student coach for the Lady Warriors softball program.

“I enjoy playing softball, and I always wanted to be a coach here. After I graduated from college, the door opened, and now I’m here. I hope to lead this team to a state championship,” said Cotton.

“A majority of the girls play travel ball so it’s not really hard for me to get them to learn the game of fast-pitch. I just help them with their mechanics.”

Six starters are returning as the Lady Warriors make it to the third round of the 2017 slow-pitch playoffs and a berth in the 2018 South State finals in fast-pitch.

Battle of the Nations XXII

The Cherokee (N.C.) Braves won their third consecutive win over the Choctaw Central Warriors to capture the 22nd Battle of the Nations rivalry game 27-6 on Aug. 24 at Ray Kinsland Stadium on the campus of Cherokee High School in Cherokee, NC. The Braves hold a 13-9 advantage in the series. TOP PHOTO. The Warrior defense wraps up a Braves running back. BOTTOM PHOTO. Choctaw Central’s Gerald Isom (left) & Andrew Sockey (right) elude the Cherokee defense.

Lady Warrior Signs Letter of Intent With EMCC

Former Choctaw Central Lady Warrior Candace Jefferson recently signed a letter of intent to play collegiate softball this season at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. A signing ceremony was held in the Choctaw Central library as family members, teammates, coaching staff, school officials, & friends were in attendance. Jefferson is a 2017 graduate of CCHS.

“The girls have really good talent, and I know they are capable of winning. With my assistant coaches (Renate Ben and Randi Williams), they are very supportive, and I’m pretty sure we can do it.”

“I feel very proud that I’m here teaching these kids the game of softball, something that I love. It’s a passion and I want to give that to them and let them have a love for the game,” added Cotton.

Posey makes his return to the Warriors sidelines in hopes of reviving a winning tradition back to the football program after winless seasons in 2016 and 2017.

“We’re looking to bring some of that winning attitude back. With hard work, you can accomplish anything and with hard work you have luck. You just don’t have a lot of luck when you are doing things average. You got to work very hard and make yourself your own...continued next page
Mississippi Museum of Art Presents
Gibson’s Like A Hammer Exhibit


Organized by and currently on view at the Denver Art Museum (DAM), Like A Hammer showcases Gibson’s acclaimed multi-disciplinary work from 2011 to the present. The exhibition will be presented with generous support from the Selby and Richard McRae Foundation.

Like A Hammer features approximately 65 objects, including large and mid-sized figurative works, text-based wall hangings, a significant selection of his illustrious Everlast punching bags, ironing boards, and looking glasses—and the incorporation of language drawn from popular song lyrics, poems, and the artist’s own writings.

“Like a Hammer features works from one of the most important periods of my career so far,” says Gibson. “The exhibition begins with artworks that I made just after nearly giving up making art altogether due to feeling misunderstood as an artist and struggling to establish a personal language that describes my experience without compromising it.”

“The objects, sculptures and paintings I’ve made since 2011 document this journey of establishing my own forward-looking voice influenced by all that has come before me.”

The exhibition explores universal themes of race, power, control, stereotypes, and colonialism, as well as love, community, strength, vulnerability, and survival through works created from an assortment of materials—from rawhide, tipi poles, sterling silver, wool blankets, metal cones, beads, fringe, and sinew to Everlast punching bags, ironing boards, and looking glasses—and the incorporation of language drawn from popular song lyrics, poems, and the artist’s own writings.

“The Museum aims to present exhibitions that resonate on many levels for many different viewers, and Jeffrey Gibson: Like A Hammer does just that,” says Betsy Bradley, Director of the Mississippi Museum of Art.

“Gibson’s inventive multimedia practice engages a past rooted in Mississippi experience, just as it proposes exciting visions for evolving contemporary American identities. The Museum is honored to be a part of the artist’s Mississippi homecoming and excited for the conversations his work will inspire.”

Gibson grew up in major urban centers in the U.S., Germany, Korea, England, and elsewhere. This unique combination of global cultural influences converge in his multi-disciplinary practice of more than a decade, since the completion of his Master of Arts degree in painting at The Royal College of Art, London, in 1998, and his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, in 1995.

Gibson’s artworks are in the permanent collections of many major art museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Smithsonian; the National Gallery of Canada; the Nasher; the Nerman; Crystal Bridges; and the Denver Art Museum.

Recent solo exhibitions include SCAD Museum of Art (Savannah and Atlanta); the National Academy Museum in New York; The Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston; and the Cornell Museum of Fine Art.

The Denver Art Museum mounted a traveling mid-career survey in the Spring of 2018, followed by a smaller solo exhibition at the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art in the Fall of 2018. He has participated in Greater New York, Prospect New Orleans, the Everson Biennale, and Site Santa Fe.

Gibson is a member of the faculty at Bard College and a past TED Foundation Fellow and Joan Mitchell Grant recipient.

............see EXHIBIT, pg. 16
Princess & Warrior Survival Week
The Cultural Affairs Program (CAP) sponsored the Princess & Warrior Survival Week cultural training for members of the Boys & Girls Club of the MBCI from June 6-15, 2018.

Sessions were held at units in Bogue Chitto, Standing Pine, Crystal Ridge, Conehatta, Pearl River, Red Water, Tuck- er, & the Pearl River Teen Center.

Girls activities included beading diamond-shaped necklaces & bracelets, sewing quilt blocks & making key chains with pony beads. Classes were conducted by CAP staff members Lorena Alex, May McGeisey, Trudy Jimmie, & consultant Rowena Willis. Teegan Clemmons from the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) assisted the staff with the activities.

Boys activities included making small replicas of Choctaw drums & learning how to beat drums in Choctaw chants, dances, & songs under instructions by consultants Garrison Joe & Ken Frazier, CAP staff member Casey Bigpond & Elias Jimmie from the YOP.

Funding for the sessions was provided by the 2018 Choctaw Community Fund.

The CAP staff appreciates Thomas Ben, Day Training Program Director, for assigning trainees to assist them with preparation for the events. It was very successful & all the boys & girls took their projects seriously & completed them all.

CAP Makes Crown, Sash
For the third consecutive year, the CAP honored a special request from the Social Services Program as they completed a sash & crown & presented it to Deontay Isaac for her 19th birthday.

CAP staff members Casey Bigpond, Wendy Thompson, Lorena Alex, & Teegan Clemmons worked on the sash as Teegan Clemmons of YOP worked on the crown. A presentation was made to Deontay on Thursday, June 21 at the Pearl River Baptist Church.

Drumming Class Held in Crystal Ridge
The boys of the Crystal Ridge Community received drumming lessons by CAP staff member Casey Bigpond & consultants Garrison Joe & Ken Frazier. Elias Jimmie of YOP assisted with the training on June 22.

Participants in the drumming class created miniature replicas of the drum & were taught how to beat the Choctaw drum.

While the boys were learning how to drum, the Crystal Ridge Community girls learned how to bead diamond-shaped necklaces, sew quilt blocks & make key chains. Instructors for the girls’ activities were Trudy Jimmie, May McGeisey, Lorena Alex, & Teegan Clemmons.

Final Workshops Held in September
The month of September featured Choctaw Shirt Making Workshops throughout the Tribal communities. These workshops were the final activities for Fiscal Year 2017-2018: Sept. 5 at the Bogue...continued next page

(LEFT) Bogue Chitto Boys & Girls Unit members pose for a photo after participating in a drum making class. (RIGHT) Teegan Clemmons from YOP wears a beautiful beaded crown of butterflies, mermaid & dolphins & a matching sash. Deontay’s name is beaded on the sash & crown with the edge beaded in an array of vibrant colors.
Una Mae Denson

Funeral service for Una Mae Denson, 84, was held on Saturday, August 4, 2018, from Hopewell Baptist Church in Standing Pine. Pastor Shelly Peoples officiated.

Burial was in the Standing Pine Community Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Denson passed away on August 1 at the Choctaw Residential Center in Choctaw.

She was a member of Hopewell Baptist Church. She was a cook at Standing Pine Elementary School & Standing Pine Childhood Center. She enjoyed cooking, beading, sewing, reading the Bible, listening to gospel music, & singing hymns.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willie Denson & Beatrice Anderson; sisters, Margaret Denson & Imogene Norma Long; & brother, Easlin Denson.

Survivors include daughters, Mary Billy & Regina Taylor; brothers, Hector Denson, Sr. & Edward Denson, Sr.; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

Laline Williams Farve

Funeral service for Laline Williams Farve, 84, was held on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, from Hopewell Baptist Church in Standing Pine. Bro. Shelly Peoples & Pastor Thomas Ben officiated.

Burial was in the Standing Pine Community Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Farve passed away on August 3 at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

She enjoyed attending the Choctaw Elderly Activity Center & was a housekeeper at Thaggard Hospital & a cook at Standing Pine Head Start, Childcare Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lewis & Mamie Williams; husband, Joseph Farve; daughter, Betty Ann Mingo; sister, Mary Ann Denson & Sarah Williams; brother, Carter Williams; step-daughters, Annie Mae Williams & Enicie Dixon; & stepson, Huey Farve.

Survivors include daughters, Esther Comby, Delilah Gibson, Jodie Farve, & Precious Farve; step-daughter, Essie Steve; sons, John Farve, Ben Farve & Alexander Farve; stepsons, Billy Farve & Richard Farve; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

Triscilla Gail Jefferson

Funeral service for Triscilla Gail Jefferson, 40, was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, from the Conehatta Community Gymnasium. Rev. Robert Patrick officiated.

Burial was in the Conehatta Community Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Jefferson passed away on August 8 at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville, GA.

She enjoyed sports & traveling.

She was preceded in death by her father, Charles Jefferson, Sr.; brother, Sidney Chapman; 5 aunts; & 6 uncles.

Survivors include her daughters, Kaylee Yescas & Emery Vardary; sons, Troy Yescas, Julian Yescus, Conny Yescas, Chasyn Yescas, & Josiah Croker; mother, Julie Jefferson; sisters, Natalie Jefferson & Cassie Jefferson; brother, Charles Jefferson, Jr.; 2 uncles; a great-aunt; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Office of Engineering Services

Notice is hereby given that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) has developed a Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP). The TTIP identifies proposed tribal transportation projects consistent with the Tribe’s adopted Long Range Transportation Plan & provides estimates of funding needs for those projects for a period of five years. Project prioritization & cost projections are based upon FY 2018 funding levels for the Tribal Transportation Program as allocated by Congress. These funding levels may change from year to year based upon a variety of factors. The public is entitled & encouraged to review MBCI’s draft TTIP. Copies of the draft TTIP are available to review upon request. To receive a copy of the draft TTIP or to submit questions, please contact Reggie Shumaker, Office of Engineering Services, at (601) 663-7546 or email address rshumaker@choctaw.org.

Welcome To

NANIH WIHAM INDIAN
Mennonite Church

Macedonia Baptist Church
130 Campus Drive
Conehatta, MS 38927

Sunday - 10:00 a.m.
10341 Road 789
Philadelphia, MS 39350
Pastor Patrick Evans

Come Join Us...

Spirit of Life Christian Center

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
278 Black Jack Road
Choctaw, MS 39320
601-389-5446
Pastor Thomas Ben

Come and Worship with us

Sunday, September 16, 2018
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
5:00 p.m. - Evening Service
1st Sunday Service 4:00 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Samuel Dixon

Wednesday, September 19, 2018
6:00 p.m. - Prayer Meeting
6:30 p.m. - Discipleship/Family Ministry Class

601-389-5446
Pastor Thomas Ben
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Anita Marie Bell Cotton

Funeral service for Anita Marie Bell Cotton, 58, was held on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, from the Bogue Chitto Community Gymnasium. Rev. George Dixon officiated.

Burial was in the Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Cotton passed away on August 11 at the Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw.

She enjoyed being with family & was a receptionist at Bogue Chitto Elementary School.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bob & Luceline Bell; daughter, Virginia Soleis Ray; sisters, Linda Christensen, Gina Nene & Evelyn Jefferson; brother, Robert Bell; & common-law husband, Stephen Spears.

Survivors include her sons, Shelby Cotton, Merrill Cotton, Nolan Bell, & Kyle Spears; sisters, Iva Lou Steve & Verna May Bell; 6 grandchildren; an aunt & uncle; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

Alma John Bell

Funeral service for Alma John Bell, 75, was held on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, from the Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. Deacon Kendall Wallace & Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiated.

Burial was in the Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Bell passed away on August 11 at the Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw.

She enjoyed being with family, doing puzzles & reading.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mary John & Gus Comby; husband, Royce Bell, Sr.; daughters, Mary Bell & Evalene Clemmons; son, Curtis Bell; sisters, Seleena John, Ramona Chickaway & Barbara Comby; brothers, Silmon John & Dennis Mingo; a grandchild; & 3 great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her companion, Johnie Dixon; daughters, Debra Bell & Evelyn Bell; son, Royce Bell, Jr.; sisters, Louisa Mingo & Roberta Tubby; brothers, Nelson John, David Mingo, & Charles Mingo; 17 grandchildren; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

Joe Elwood Shoemaker

Funeral service for Joe Elwood Shoemaker, 60, was held on Thursday, August 16, 2018, from the St. Catherine Catholic Church in Conehatta. Rev. Robert Patrick officiated.

Burial was in the church cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Shoemaker passed away on August 13 at the Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw.

He was employed with Choctaw Workforce Development & enjoyed being with family & friends, fishing, playing washers, making stickballs, & reading the Bible.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elton Shoemaker, Sr. & Elizabeth Solomon; sister, Dinah Shoemaker; & brothers, Elton Shoemaker, II & Joel Shoemaker, Sr.

Survivors include a daughter, Karedi Shoemaker; sons, Jeris Shoemaker, Jay Shoemaker, & Jerandon Frazier; sister, Loretta Shoemaker; 17 grandchildren; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

Curtis Mack Willis

Funeral service for Curtis Mack Willis, 59, was held on Sunday, August 19, 2018, from Hope Indian Baptist Church in Pearl River. Deacon Williamson...continued next page
Isaac & Rev. Mark Patrick officiated.

Burial was in the church cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Willis passed away on August 15 at his residence.

He enjoyed being with family & friends, playing stickball & softball & participating in the Day Training Program. He was preceded in death by his father, Theodore York; sister, Monica Sue Willis Hall; brother, Harold Brant Willis, Sr.; a niece & 2 nephews.

Survivors include his son, Lawrence Dewey; mother, Susie Willis; brothers, Kevin Willis, Sr.; Tyler Willis & Ronnie Willis; 2 uncles; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

**LYNDA FAYE KINSOLVING**

Memorial service for Lynda Faye Kinsolving, 51, was held on Friday, August 24, 2018, from the Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiated.

Burial was in the Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery.

Ms. Kinsolving passed away on August 3.

She enjoyed sports & was employed at a cotton gin mill in Missouri, nursing home & Siwell Star Casino.

Survivors include his wife, Regina Hickman; daughter, Emily Hickman; sons, Davian Hickman, Jr. & Christian Hickman; mother & step-father, Judith & Joseph Wesley; father, Harrison Hickman; brothers, Donovan Hickman, Dustin Hickman & Delanie Hickman; step-sisters, Shannon Wesley & Tashina Whitehead; 6 aunts; an uncle; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

**DAVIAN CHASE HICKMAN, SR.**

Funeral service for Davian Chase Hickman, Sr., 38, was held on Saturday, August 25, 2018, from Hope Indian Baptist Church in Pearl River. Deacon Williamson Isaac & Rev. Henderson Williams officiated.

Burial was in Phillips Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Hickman passed away on August 21 at his residence.

He was a dealer at Silver Star Hotel & Casino & enjoyed being with family & friends, playing sports & listening to music. He was employed at a cotton gin mill in Missouri, nursing home & Siwell Star Casino.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Hickman & Margaret Lewis Hickman; sisters, Joann Hickman, Joyce Collins & Joy Hickman; brothers, Bill Hickman, Sr., Freeman Hickman, David Hickman, Franklin Hickman, & Johnny Hickman; a granddaughter & a nephew.

Survivors include his son, Adam Neal & Douglas Hickman; 6 grandchildren; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

**JAMES CRAIG HICKMAN**

Funeral service for James Craig Hickman, 59, was held on Sunday, August 26, 2018, from the Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiated.

Burial was in the Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Hickman passed away on August 21 at Missouri Delta Medical Center in Sikeston, MO.

He enjoyed being with family & friends, playing cards & listening to music. He was employed at a cotton gin mill in Missouri, nursing home & Siwell Star Casino.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Hickman & Margarete Lewis Hickman; sisters, Joann Hickman, Joyce Collins & Joy Hickman; brothers, Bill Hickman, Sr., Freeman Hickman, David Hickman, Franklin Hickman, & Johnny Hickman; a granddaughter & a nephew.

Survivors include his sons, Adam Neal & Douglas Hickman; 6 grandchildren; & a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, & friends.

**SUSIE MAE BELL**

Funeral service for Susie Mae Bell, 76, was held on Monday, September 3, 2018, from 170 Rolling Hills Circle in Choctaw. Rev. Robert Paul Tubby, Sr. officiated.

Burial was in the Pearl River Mennonite Church Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Bell passed away on August 30 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian.

She was a homemaker & enjoyed cooking & being with family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Gibson Bell & Lucy Wallace; daughters, Mary Jane Bell & Nellie Bell; sister, Nellie Zoe Willis; brothers, Sterling Bell & Lynch Bell; & a great-granddaughter.

Survivors include her brother, Ralph Bell; 3 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; & a host of relatives & friends.
Happy Birthday to Riley Meely on Sept. 1. With lots of hugs & kisses from Mommie, Daddy, Pay-Pay, Cadence, & the rest of the family.

Look who turned 18 on Oct. 18, 2018. Our baby to a young man he became. We love you very much, son. Love from your family.

To my mom - I miss you & love you. To my brother Darris, my sister Martisha, my step-father Jun-Bug, Janice, my nieces & nephews, & the rest of my relatives - I miss yall folks & keep me in yall’s prayers. Don’t worry momma, I’ll be home soon. Love, your daughter, Amanda Tassie Isaac (Sista).

Happy Birthday to Horace Lewis, Jr., who will turn 62 years old, from your wife.

Happy 100th Birthday to Eleanor Spears Dove, Pretty Flower, on August 1. She is one of the oldest living members of the Narragansett Tribe. Eleanor started her career as a caterer serving the state’s dignitaries in Watch Hill & Charlestown, Rhode Island. Along with her husband, Ferris Dove, Chief Roaring Bull, they opened the award winning & world renowned DoveCrest Indian Restaurant in Arcadia Village, Exeter, RI. Eleanor opened a Native American gift shop in the 1960s in Arcadia Village, around this time she also supported the Tomaquaq Museum (National Medal for Museum & Libraries Awardee) by providing a much needed home to house priceless indigenous artifacts held in collections. Eleanor served on Tomaquaq’s Board of Directors & sits on the Honorary Board of Directors to this day. She is known throughout New England along the Powwow Trail where she traveled for decades selling traditional handcrafted Native American art & jewelry. This centenarian has lived a rich & vibrant life, leaving a lasting legacy not only within her tribal community, her hometown of Richmond, the greater state of Rhode Island & throughout much of New England. As she approaches her 100th birthday she continues to be active & is always eager to visit her loved ones. Eleanor is honored & revered as a traditional elder & matriarch of the Narragansett Tribal Nation, her generous spirit, & love for her people will carry forward in the stories & the hearts of all she has touched. Happy Birthday from grandson Ferris Babcock Dove Tubby of the Tucker Community & great-grandchildren Coby Shane Dove Tubby, Elijah Antonio Tubby, Sherente’ Cain Dove Tubby, Ferris Babcock Tubby, Kan- yon Ferris Tubby, Elliana Vivian Tubby, & Noah Dove Tubby.

EXHIBIT .................................. continued from page eleven

The Mississippi Museum of Art is the largest art museum in the state and features permanent collections of paintings, photography, multimedia works, and sculpture by Mississippi, American, and international artists.

The Museum and its programs are sponsored in part by the City of Jackson and Visit Jackson. Support is also provided in part by funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

The Museum is located at 380 South Lamar Street in Jackson. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m. The Museum is closed on Monday.

(ABOVE) Jeffrey Gibson (Mississippi Band Choctaw/Cherokee), THINKING OF YOU, 2015. Graphite & acrylic paint on rawhide over wood panel; 18 x 32 x 2.5 in. Private collection, courtesy of Marc Straus Gallery, New York. Image courtesy of Jeffrey Gibson Studio & Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA. Photograph by Peter Mauney.

(RIGHT) Jeffrey Gibson (Mississippi Band Choctaw/Cherokee), ONE BECOMES THE OTHER, 2015. Repurposed wool army blanket, re-purposed punching bag, glass beads, plastic beads, steel studs, artificial sinew, quartz crystals, copper cones, nylon fringe, steel, & acrylic paint; 73 × 16½ × 16½ in. Private collection, courtesy of Marc Straus Gallery, New York. Image courtesy of Jeffrey Gibson Studio & Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA. Photograph by Peter Mauney.