



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA Member News

Powwow Days

An in-depth look at all
the fun and activities at
the 2024 Ponca Tribe of
Nebraska Powwow



October 2024

Official Candidate List for 2024 Tribal Council Election

This is an official notice to inform the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members of the candidates running for the 2024 Tribal Council election. Below is the list of candidates for each district.

District 1

Toni JoAn Schlotman
Beth DeCory
Patrick Lamoureux

District 3

Makala Laravie
Christy Conrad
Susan Baker
James LaPointe

District 2

Samantha Gallagher
Crystal Howell

District 4

Alex Taylor
Angela Bessmer
Frederick Baker

HeartSaver Training

Saturday, October 12, 2024 | 10 am-4 pm

PTN Transit Building, Door C1
1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is offering HeartSaver (CPR/AED) courses for Ponca members. All participants will receive a \$25 gift card. A gas card will be provided for those traveling from Niobrara to attend the class.

To register, or for more information, please contact Hope Barnes at hbarnes@poncatrib-ne.gov, Nancie Velasquez at nvelasquez@poncatrib-ne.gov, or call 402.934.0712.



SAVE THE DATE!

Traditional Corn & Buffalo Harvest

October 19 – 20, 2024

Niobrara Agency Building
88915 521 Avenue | Niobrara, NE

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, in partnership with the Nature Conservancy, invites you to join us for a two day cultural harvest of corn and buffalo for all Ponca members and an overnight youth camp. More details are to come, so keep an eye out on our social media & website for more information!

The Nature Conservancy  **PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**

Member Card Design Contest

Ponca Tribe members are invited to submit their original designs for a chance to **win \$200**, and have their design featured on the front of the 2025 member birthday cards! Three winners will be chosen!

Must be a member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska to submit a design. Only one submission allowed per member. Designs must be submitted by 11:59 pm, October 13, 2024. The winners will be chosen at the October 15th Tribal Council meeting. Please include member name, age, and any additional notes about the design when submitting. All design submissions must be large, full color, high-resolution images to be considered (no cell phone photos, high-resolution scans are fine).

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**

To submit your design, email carddesign@poncatrib-ne.gov. For more information, please call Falon McAlpin at 402.208.0297



Chairwoman's Corner

"Carry the torch forward with passion and purpose."

Thati'a relatives,

I hope this message finds you well. It has been a very busy couple of months and the work continues. We had another record breaking attendance at our annual Powwow in August. Thank you again for all that attended and those that helped to make it another successful celebration for us. It is always a great feeling to be back in the homelands with so many relatives. In my last update I shared about the new arena and the tribal member that helped build it. For my member spotlight this month, I will be sharing the story of the tribal member that helped to build our very first powwow arena, Aljo Picotte. One thing I've enjoyed about being in this role is learning about all of the contributions many others that came before me have made and how it

still impacts us to this day. Thank you to Aljo's family for providing more details about his life with me and allowing me to share his legacy with others. Be sure to check it out under the Member Spotlight.

During the month of September, we had our annual D.C. fly-in, which allows us to participate in a highly productive series of meetings in Washington, DC with Members of Congress, United States Senators, and staff of key committees of jurisdiction. This year we were able to pack in 16 different meetings in a matter of 2 ½ days. It is always an honor to be able to showcase how much we have grown over the years and the many great things we are working on. It was another successful visit and we look forward to continuing to build relationships with our federal partners.

Coming up later this month we will be



celebrating the 34th year of restoration as a tribal nation at our restoration powwow. We have come a long way over the last 34 years and we owe a debt of gratitude to those that paved the way for progress and acknowledge our responsibility to continue their work in creating a better future for generations to come. The Restoration Powwow is set to take place on October 26th in the gym at our Norfolk location. I personally invite all members of the restoration committee or their next of kin to attend in order to be recognized. I hope to see you all there.

Below are some additional highlights to share from the last couple of months. Until next time, take care!

- Farmer's Market events at all office locations
- Powwow Committee meeting
- Talking Trails Debut
- Annual Powwow Celebration/TC Booth



- Meetings with U.S. Congressional officials
- Sioux City Unsheltered relatives discussions
- Great Plains Tribal Health Board meetings
- GPC Association meetings
- Tribal Health meetings
- Federal Consultations
- Standing Bear School Dedication planning meetings
- Executive Team meetings
- Weekly Tribal Council meetings
- Committee interviews
- Bi-weekly Federal calls
- PGE meeting
- Diaper Distributions
- Housing meeting and Elder's complex tour

WiBthaHa (Thank you),
Chairwoman
Candace Schmidt
candaces@
poncatribene.gov
(402) 860-1497



Member Spotlight - Aljo Picotte

Aljo Picotte (Mačú Nąži) worked for the Ponca Tribe from 1993 until his death in 2000. Aljo was a hard worker his entire life and a proud Ponca member. He graduated from Nebraska Indian Community College. Dr. Louis Headman named him Mačú Nąži at the 1st powwow, after his great-grandfather Chief Standing Bear. Many say that Aljo bore a striking resemblance to his grandfather.

While working for the Tribe, he worked with NAGPRA to bring several artifacts back to the Ponca Tribe and helped bury remains in our cemetery. Aljo was a dedicated caretaker for the cemetery and agency grounds. Aljo and a crew of four men helped to build some of

the first tribal offices in Niobrara in the original headquarters building. He served on the first Housing Board, helping to start NPHA (Northern Ponca Housing Authority). During his tenure he helped to identify and negotiate land for housing development in Niobrara.

Aljo was very proud of his Ponca heritage, which led him to travel to Oklahoma to learn about the Southern Heđúškà society, eventually helping to start a Heđúškà society back up north. He purchased a drum and met weekly to learn Ponca songs with hopes of it becoming the host drum. Aljo also had a vision of where to build our own Powwow grounds, which at the time was a

corn field. He was able to get telephone poles donated to build the arbor, and with his vision and help from family and friends, the first Northern Ponca Powwow Arena was built, in the same location as the present day arena.

At the very 1st Powwow, a lighting of the fire was

held with the Southern Ponca. Aljo, the great-grandson of Chief Standing Bear, was present, along with the great-grandson of Chief White Eagle. This is also when he was given his Ponca name, which is engraved on his gravestone.



Aljo (left) with Restoration Committee member Duane Bonge (right).



Aljo working on the first Powwow arbor for the arena.

Important Notice:
Families with Loved Ones
in the Ponca Cemetery

In an effort to honor and memorialize our ancestors and loved ones who rest in unmarked graves in our Ponca Cemetery, the Culture Department is requesting your assistance.

Our goal is to create a comprehensive record that pays tribute to the legacy of our relatives. Your participation will contribute to the preservation of our shared heritage, ensuring that each individual is remembered with the respect they deserve.

Your assistance will help us compile vital information, including location of the grave, and name, date of birth, and date of death of the relative buried there.

If you have family members laid to rest in unmarked graves, please reach out to **Theresa Foley** at tfoley@poncatrIBE-ne.gov.

Wibthaha



Executive Team
Meet & Greet Dates

October 18, 2024 | 2:30 – 4:00 pm
1600 Windhoek Drive | Lincoln, NE

November 8, 2024 | 2:30 – 4:00 pm
5805 South 86th Circle | Omaha, NE

Meet the Execetive Team!

NPHA
Joey Nathan
Justine Knapp
Finance
Greg Gunderson
HR
Johnathan Robinson
OSNI Ponca
Rebecca Sullivan
Ponca Gaming Commission
Mai Lee

Ponca Health Services
Rhiannon Pitzl
Tribal Affairs Courtney Chavez Penny Lingle
Alexcia Boggs
Prairie Flower Casino
Ernie Dellaverson
Information Technology
David Threm

Celebrating with our Southern Ponca relatives

Our Southern Ponca relatives extended great hospitality and generosity by inviting the Northern Ponca to the 148th Annual Southern Ponca Powwow in White Eagle, OK, in late August. Attendees included members of the Culture Team, Chairwoman Candace Schmidt, CEO of Tribal Affairs Courtney Chavez, Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs Alexia Boggs, all Northern Ponca Princesses, the



Restoration Princess, and several Ponca Elders. The four-day Powwow showcased rich Ponca culture, featuring songs dating back thousands of years and traditional dances, such as the Heđúškà (War Dance), performed by the Men's

Society, and the Scalp Dance (Women's Victory Dance), led by Casey Camp-Horinek of the P'a tha ta Society. The Ponca Heduska Society also led Tail Dancing, with invited Tribal Dance Societies from the Pawnee and Comanche War Dance Societies. Out of respect for the sacredness of these ceremonial dances, photography was prohibited during the day sessions.

continued on page 4

Restoration POWWOW

October 26, 2024

Grand Entries: 1 pm & 7 pm

Lunch provided at 12 pm

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Gym | 1800 Syracuse | Norfolk, NE

Hand Game

Friday, October 25 | 6 pm

Join us for a meal, followed by a hand game.

JOM Student Brunch Fundraiser

Saturday, October 26 | 10 am-Noon

Cornhole Tournament

Saturday, October 26 | 10 am

\$20 Entry fee per team, \$500 in prize money.

Chili & Frybread Contest

Saturday, October 26 | 5 pm

Powwow attendees are welcome to join us and help determine who has the very best chili & frybread!
1st Prize: \$300 | 2nd Prize: \$200 | 3rd Prize: \$100

All participants **MUST** enter both a chili and frybread. Limited amount of ground beef is available on a first-come, first-served basis. If participants wish to use beef, contact Culture Director Ricky Wright for more information.

For the most up-to-date information, follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/PTNPowwow, call: 402.371.8834 or email: rwright@poncatrib-ne.org

Head Man
Donnie Smith

Head Woman
Diana Walker

MCs
Eagle Rhoad
Lauri Robinson

Head Drum
Drowning Creek
No invited drum

Arena Directors
Sheldon Whiff
Tristan Lawchuck

Event will include the
crowning of a Restoration
Princess.

**PONCA TRIBE
of NEBRASKA**

NEW THIS YEAR!
Restoration Powwow T-Shirts
for sale, and day pay for
dancers!



Páka Ižáže te - Ponca Names
by Steve Laravie, Sr., Language Program Coordinator

Í À É T Á X Q M Á N A T E W Í G
Š Y C A Í Š N U D Á Á X A D Š A
É Z E W N A Ž Í G A X E Š M A M
G A W S A N A Ž Í T I Đ E B H Á
E N T K K A T I Š A S E Á È Í T
D Ì Q Q I À Á Đ X Ì Í I G T S I
M Í Đ Á G Đ Í A Š É Đ U D Ì A G
W A T É N Í X A Á P I Š Ú B D Đ
A Š Š G Í Á Š T I Á E N G A À È
E E U M I À A A N Á Í Ú Č X W Š
Y K A T S N X K E Š H A Z Đ Í N
I Í Í A A Ž Ú G A U Đ Í Š P È D
Ú Đ W T À X Í Ž A N A G Á X É H
A Í H M A Č Ú H Ž À X U N Á Š T
M Š K Á Ž E Á Đ G W Ì W I N A W
A G Í Ž I S Á M Š Á H Í S K A K
Í Š T Á P E D É H Á W Á Đ I Z E

For the next several months, this word search puzzle will explore historic personal names from each of the Ponca clans. Ponca names are formed from words in the language, and provide a unique way to study both the language and history of the Tribe.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Íye Skà - Interpreter | Nudá Áxa - Cries for War |
| Aniwì - Rain Upon | Héxága Nąží - Standing Elk |
| Điába - Lightning | Ištá Pedé - Fire Eyes |
| Mí Wasà - Cut Moon | Nąží Gaxe - Rain Maker |
| Đíti Áxa - Cries for Ribs | Gamátigđe - Sudden Downpour |
| Mąnate Wí - Kills the Arrow | Mási Žjga - Little Hail |
| Áhí Ska - White Wing | Hísadà Wí - Hísadà Clan Woman |
| Nąžítiđe - Sudden Rain | Té Níxa - Buffalo Belly |
| Mídagđj - Good Sun | Žúga Udíšpè - Cuts the Flesh |
| Há Wádize - Takes the Hide | answers on page 25 |
| Húčą - Sounds of Birds | |

SOUTHERN POWWOW: Celebrating shared heritage

continued from page 3
The Powwow held two daily sessions. The day session featured ceremonial dancing, while the evening session, though less formal, included contests and inter-tribal dancing. Ponca powwow etiquette remained a key aspect throughout. The final evening culminated

with the Men’s World Fancy Dancers Championship event.
A special moment during the Powwow was the induction of Charlie Iron Thunder into the Heđúškà Society, marking an important rite of passage and honor in Ponca culture.

As Powwow MC Oliver Littlecook stated, "This gathering was a celebration of coming together, practicing the old ways, and keeping them alive."
For some attendees, it was their first time witnessing how new dancers were introduced to the arena, with offerings of

gifts and tobacco placed on the drum.
We look forward to continuing the strong connection between the Northern and Southern Ponca, and further strengthening our shared cultural heritage.

Interested in the Ponca Language?
For more information, please contact Steve Laravie, Sr, Language Program Coordinator at slaraviesr@poncatribes-ne.gov or 402.438.9222.

District 4 enjoys Back to School picnic at FunPlex!



Join our District Facebook Groups!

All Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members are invited to join our official District Facebook groups! These groups have the most up-to-date information on services and events in the district and are open to all SDA and OSDA members.

Scan the QR code below with your smartphone, or visit our Linktree at <https://linktr.ee/poncatribeofne> for group links.

These groups are for PTN District members and parents/guardians of PTN youth only. Members will not be added to a district page for a district they do not live in.

Scan me!



Farmer's Market Food Distribution

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska will be having a monthly Farmer's Market open to members of all federally recognized tribes to receive FREE seasonal fruits, vegetables, and other goods. Please bring your tribal enrollment card for sign-up forms.

Monday, October 21, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm
Omaha | 5815 South 86th Circle

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm
Lincoln | 1600 Windhoek Drive | North Lot

Wednesday, October 23, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm
Niobrara | 2523 Woodbine Street

Thursday, October 24, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm
Sioux City | 125 6th Street

Friday, Niobrara 25, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm
Norfolk | 1800 Syracuse Avenue | North Gym Lot



District 1 SDA

Trunk or Treat

October 27, 2024 | 4 pm

 Niobrara Headquarters
 2523 Woodbine Street | Niobrara, NE

October 28, 2024 | 5:30 pm

 Sioux City Offices
 125 6th Street | Sioux City, IA

District 1 Ponca Tribal members and their families are invited to a Halloween Trunk or Treat event in the parking lot! Tribal Council will provide the candy and give out prizes for the best-decorated trunks.

For details, please contact Angie Starkel at 402.922.0436 or JoAn Schlotman at 712.276.7103.

District 2 SDA

Trunk or Treat

October 18, 2024 | 6 – 8 pm

 Ralston Transit Building Parking Lot
 5701 South 85th Circle | Omaha, NE

All District 2 Ponca Tribal members, D2 Staff members and their families are invited to dress up in your Halloween costumes for a spooky good time! Come and join us for a trunk or treating event in the parking lot. There will be a photo station, snacks, mini pumpkin decorating, and each child attending the event will be provided a Trick or Treat Bag.

For more information, please contact Tribal Council Representative Falon McAlpin at 402.208.0297.

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**

District 3 SDA

Trunk or Treat

October 10, 2024 | 6 pm

 Ponca Health Services – Lincoln
 1600 Windhoek Drive | Lincoln, NE

District 3 Ponca Tribal members and their families are invited to dress up in your best Halloween costumes, and join us for a trunk or treating event in the North parking lot! PTN staff will be decorating their trunks and handing out candy and treats. A dinner will be served in the Community Room.

For more information, please contact Tribal Council Representative Shanna Carpenter at shannac@poncatribes-ne.gov.

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**

District 4

Halloween Trunk or Treat

October 24, 2024 | 6-8 pm

 Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Transit Building
 1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE

District 4 Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members are invited to join us for a Halloween event, trick-or-treating in the Transit building. There will be a costume contest and other games and contests. A take-home meal will be provided.

For more information, please contact Kyle Taylor at 402.750.4299.

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**


Pumpkin Patch Fun!

Districts 2, 3, and 4 are offering **FREE** pumpkin patch tickets to their members to enjoy some fall fun!

- **District 2:** Vala's Pumpkin Patch
- **District 3:** Roca Berry Farm
- **District 4:** Vala's Pumpkin Patch AND Poppy's Pumpkin Patch



For more information on how to get your pumpkin patch tickets, please contact the Tribal Council Representative for your District!

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**

District 2

Virtual Halloween Costume Contest

Calling all District 2 ghosts & goblins! You are invited to join us for a virtual costume contest for Halloween! 1st and 2nd place winners will win an Amazon gift card!

The contest will run from October 7 – 31, 2024. All photos need to be submitted to our Formstack https://poncatrbeofne.formstack.com/forms/halloween_costume_submission by scanning our QR code by **no later than 11:59 pm on October 31**. The contestants **will be judged on November 1**.

Must be an active enrolled member when the lists are pulled. For more information, please contact Falon McAlpin at 402.208.0297.

All submissions will be featured on PTN social media, and winners will be featured in the December newsletter. By submitting your picture and information, you agree to allow us to post your photos.



District 3

Virtual Costume Contest

All District 3 Tribal members are welcome to submit a photo of their Halloween Costume to be a part of a virtual costume contest.

The costume contest will be open from October 15th–November 1st. We will have our staff vote and choose winners in every age category. We will post pictures of the winners and send gift cards out as prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in multiple age categories. To participate, follow the QR code, or visit https://poncatrbeofne.formstack.com/forms/d3_virtual_costume_contest.

For more information, please contact District 3 Tribal Council Representative Shanna Carpenter, 402.805.0883

All submissions will be featured on PTN social media, and winners will be featured in the December newsletter. By submitting your picture and information, you agree to allow us to post your pictures.

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**



District 4

Virtual Costume Contest

All District 4 Tribal members are welcome to submit a photo of their Halloween Costume **now through November 4, 2024**, for a virtual costume contest.

Winners in every age category (ages 0-3, 4-7, 8-11, 12-18, and 19+), with prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd!

To participate, follow the QR code, or visit https://poncatrbeofne.formstack.com/forms/d4halloween_costume_submission

For more information, please contact District 4 Tribal Council Representative Kyle Taylor at 402.750.4299.

All submissions will be featured on PTN social media, and winners will be featured in the December newsletter. By submitting your picture and information, you agree to allow us to post your pictures.

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**



Osni Ponka Youth Council host Elders' Breakfast & Bingo



Calling all Ponca Veterans!

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) is working to create a comprehensive list of all Ponca veterans for present and future recognition of service. As such, the THPO is respectfully requesting members who are veterans, or those who have family that have served, help provide information, including:

- Branch of service
- Dates served
- Details or a story from that service
- Wars served
- Photographs

This information will be featured on a veterans honor wall in the Ponca Tribe Museum, and will be used to honor veterans.

To submit veteran information, please contact Theresa Foley, THPO via email (tfoley@poncatrib-ne.gov) or via mail:

Theresa Foley, THPO
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
5805 S 86th Circle
Omaha, NE 68127



Archery hits the bullseye at Powwow for a second year!



Calling all Ponca Artists

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members are invited to sign up to sell their handmade items at the Niobrara Market.

Please scan our QR code or visit https://poncatrbeofne.formstack.com/forms/ponca_artists_niobrara_market to sign up. For more information, contact Rebecca Sullivan at bsullivan@osniponca.com.



Pumpkin Fun Walk / Run

October 20, 2024 | 12 – 2 pm
Ponca Health Services – Lincoln
1600 Windhoek Drive | Lincoln, NE

Ponca Health Services is putting on a 1-mile Pumpkin Fun Run in partnership with Bryan Health and the Indian Center! Families are invited to wear their costumes during the run and participate in costume contests. Winners will be named by age group.

Scan our QR code or visit https://poncatrbeofne.formstack.com/forms/pumpkin_run to register. For more information, please contact Sarah Lehl at slehl@poncatrbe-ne.gov.



Youth lacrosse makes a debut at Annual Powwow



Tribal Home Visiting Now Enrolling!

The Tribal Home Visiting Program (THV) will begin assisting families prenatal to kindergarten who are enrolled in any federally recognized Tribe and living in the Lincoln and Lancaster County areas. This resource is completely free of charge.

Our certified THV Visitors conduct the visits where they will implement high quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based visits in our community that will ensure our families have access to knowledge and resources. Number of visits and length of service will vary by family, but each visit will be 90 minutes minimum.

For more information on this program, please contact our team:

Abbi Miranda-Carreto, 402.670.7976
amiranda-carreto@poncatrib-ne.gov

Jessica Upton, 402.315.2760
jupton@poncatrib-ne.gov

UHAŪAGĪDAI
WE RAISE OUR OWN

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

be there

for small victories.

For those struggling with substance use disorder, being there is everything.

This ad is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1,000,000 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.

Princess contest showcases young Ponca women & girls

Under overcast skies, dancers competing for the Ponca Princess crowns shone brightly Saturday afternoon at the 30th Annual Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Powwow. Competitions were held for Little Miss Ponca Princess, Junior Miss Ponca Princess, and Senior Ponca Princess. The winners will represent the Tribe at Powwows and events until next Annual Powwow.



Congratulations to the 2024-2025 Ponca Princesses! L-R: Little Miss Ponca Princess Rowan Taylor, Junior Miss Ponca Princess Alizay Ironheart, and Senior Ponca Princess Destiny Rich!



Team Dance Contestants cooperate to compete



Contestants explore different dance steps with Switch Dance Contest





Hand Game brings members together

Members indulged in some friendly competition Thursday morning at Powwow with a Hand Game. Participants were divided into teams by District, giving members from inside and outside the Service Area a chance to meet and make memories. The title this year was taken by District 1.



No duds with these spuds: Potato Dance fun for all ages



Cornhole tournament a Powwow weekend tradition

The Tribe hosted its annual Cornhole Tournament on Saturday morning, with a sponsorship from Quality Clinical Research.

2024 winners:

1st Place: Robin Weddell & Korey Patterson (left, with tournament sponsors)

2nd Place: Gregg Fredrick & Daryl Arpan (far left)

3rd Place: Jalen & Jordayn (not pictured)

4th Place: Joe Moose & Stu Redwing (not pictured)


This year, the Tribe also hosted a novice tournament, won by Ana Lise Yunker & Orin Archambeau.




PHS Annual Health Fair

October 18, 2024 | 6 – 8 pm
Ralston Transit Building Parking Lot
5701 South 85th Circle | Omaha, NE

Ponca Health Services is holding its Annual Health Fair on Saturday, October 5 in Omaha. Learn more about achieving and maintaining a healthy lifestyle with the Ponca Tribe’s programs and services, along with booths from many community agencies we partner with. For more information, please contact Candy Schott at candys@poncatribes-ne.gov or at 402.315.2768.







WIOA Resume & Job Search Workshops

The WIOA Program will be hosting workshops on resume building and searching for jobs. If all workshops are attended, participants will be able to get an interview outfit.

Lincoln Learning Lab 5:30 – 7:00 pm 1600 Windhoek Drive Lincoln, NE		
September 10 Resume Workshop	September 17 Job Search & Interviewing Workshop	*September 24 Reviewing Resume with WIOA Staff
Ralston Transit Building 5:30 – 7:00 pm 5701 S 85th Circle Omaha, NE		
October 9 Resume Workshop	October 16 Job Search & Interviewing Workshop	*October 23 Reviewing Resume with WIOA Staff



*Optional class to take



Sunday morning a great time to pitch horseshoes at Powwow!

On Sunday morning of Powwow, the Ponca Tribe hosted its annual Horseshoe tournament; the cool morning weather encouraging some robust competition.

The 2024 Horseshoe Tournament winners were as follows:

1st Place: Cole Pearson & Neil Oleson (left)

2nd Place: Jeremy & Ocean (far left)

3rd Place: Delano & Jayden (not pictured)

4th Place: Jordan McBride & Todd Standing Cloud (not pictured)



Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair

November 10, 2024

11 am - 2 pm

Lincoln Community Room
1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska will host a Craft & Vendor show featuring Ponca and Native artists and business. Tables will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Each vendor will be only allowed one table. Vendor registration deadline is **November 3rd**.

For more information, please contact Tribal Council Representative Shanna Carpenter at shannac@poncatrib-ne.gov.

**PONCA TRIBE
of NEBRASKA**

SAVE THE DATE! Diaper Distribution

October 18, 2024 | 10 am - 6 pm

Participating Locations and contact information:

Norfolk Gym | 1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE
Robin Wright: robinwright@poncatrib-ne.gov

Lincoln Community Room - North Entrance
1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE
Tiffani Spencer: tspencer@poncatrib-ne.gov

Sioux City Office | 125 6th St | Sioux City, IA
Brad Johnson: bjohnson@poncatrib-ne.gov

Niobrara Headquarters | 2523 Woodbine St | Niobrara, NE
Kris Kotrous: kkotrous@poncatrib-ne.gov

Cabinet Building Garage | 5813 S 86th Cir | Omaha, NE
Skyelar Timm-Beavers: stimm-beavers@poncatrib-ne.gov

Cliff Taylor presents storytelling workshop

Ponca author and poet Cliff Taylor presented a storytelling workshop Thursday, August 8 at the Annual Powwow. Families and friends gathered in the historic Community building that has hosted so many Ponca gatherings and stories, with participants ranging in age from toddlers to

Red Branstiter, the oldest living Ponca member.

Cliff spoke about the importance of storytelling to Native people, and his personal experiences as an author and storyteller, before opening up the floor for other members to share stories.



Nature and creativity come together for crafting activity

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Environmental Program hosted a morning of environmental crafting

at this year's Powwow. Youth and adults alike had the opportunity to use natural materials to create

unique art and prints, while learning a bit more about nature and the environment.



October Health Awareness: Prioritizing our well-being

Dr. Jaqueline Bae,
CEO Ponca Health Services

As the seasons change and we head deeper into fall, October marks a significant time for raising awareness about key health concerns. This month, several important health campaigns are recognized nationwide, providing an opportunity to engage in preventive care and educate our communities. Let's take a moment to highlight a few:

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast Cancer Awareness is perhaps the most well-known health campaign in October. It serves as a reminder for women and men to perform regular self-examinations and schedule mammograms. Early detection is crucial for improving outcomes, so talk to your healthcare provider about screening recommendations and share resources with loved ones.

National Dental Hygiene Month

Good oral health is essential for overall wellness. October is the perfect time to reflect on your dental hygiene practices. Regular brushing, flossing, and dental check-ups can help prevent more serious issues such as gum disease

or cavities. Encourage your family to prioritize oral health this month and make it part of your everyday routine.

National Depression and Mental Health Screening Month

Mental health is just as important as physical health, yet often overlooked. This month brings attention to the importance of mental health screening and early intervention. Take time to check in on yourself and those around you. If you or someone you know is struggling, reaching out for professional support can make all the difference.

Healthy Habits for the Fall Season

As the weather cools, it's easy to slip into more sedentary routines. Consider incorporating outdoor activities, such as walking, hiking, or even gardening, to stay active. Balanced nutrition also plays a vital role in maintaining energy levels and boosting your immune system. Adding seasonal fruits and vegetables to your meals can help you stay healthy through the colder months.

Flu Shots and COVID-19 Vaccinations

With flu season on the horizon, October is an ideal time to get your flu shot.

It's also a great opportunity to stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters. These steps not only protect you but also help safeguard the community by reducing the spread of illness.

Ponca Health Services started offering flu vaccinations to patients in September, and will be offering vaccinations throughout October at these locations:
October 1 & 2: Norfolk
October 1 & 15: Fred LeRoy Health Center
October 2: Prairie Flower Casino
October 8 & 22: Lincoln
October 16: Niobrara

Closing Thoughts

We encourage everyone to take advantage of the awareness this month brings by scheduling necessary screenings, engaging in open conversations about mental health, and making lifestyle adjustments to stay active and well. By being proactive about our health, we can improve both our quality of life and the lives of those around us.

Stay healthy, stay informed, and let's support each other in this journey toward better health!

Call Now to Secure Your Place in the Circle!

Mondays | 10 am - 2 pm
Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center
2602 J St. | Omaha, NE

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Behavioral Health Department is offering group sessions for Relapse Prevention Therapy. The program will last 14 to 16 weeks.

For more information, please contact JoAnn O'Connell at 402.738.3170.



Ponca Health Services
Behavioral Health



Intertribal Youth Clubs offering opportunities for education, connection and fun!

The Intertribal Youth Club is a thriving program that combines fun activities, cultural education, and personal development to help Native youth build strong relationships and successful futures.

Through a blend of sports, academic support, and life skills training, the club empowers its members to grow into confident, culturally aware leaders who are ready to make a positive impact in the communities. Our Intertribal Youth Clubs meet in Lincoln (1600 Windhoek Drive) on Tuesdays, 5 pm -7 pm and in Ralston Transit Building (5701 S. 85th Circle)on Thursdays, 5 pm-7 pm.


For more information on the Lincoln and Omaha groups, please contact Joseph Bad Moccasin at 531.248.3030 or via cell, 531.739.2107.

For Norfolk, Sioux City, and Niobrara group dates, times, and contact information, please see below.

Positivity is "GROWING" with our youth!

Last year, the Intertribal Youth Club in Norfolk partnered with Center for Rural Affairs, who came and interacted with our youth and made some great healthy snacks. They were so kind and gifted us a Gardyn growing tower! We will produce fresh vegetables, fruits, and spices all year round to implement into our program. We would like to give a huge shout out to them, Thank you for your gift. It took us some trial and error to get seeds to sprout and take off, but we are happy to announce that it has started to produce!

For more information about how to get your child involved, see the information on this page!



Native Youth Clubs

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Behavioral Health Department is continuing with time changes for their Youth Clubs! This group is open to all youth from Kindergarten to 12th grade enrolled in a federally recognized tribe. Parents or Guardians are responsible for transportation to and from the club.

For more information, please contact Leah Franklin at 531.269.0276 or at lfranklin@poncatribene.gov.

Norfolk <i>Wednesdays</i> <i>Starting September 4, 2024</i>	Sioux City <i>Biweekly, Fridays</i> <i>Starting September 13, 2024</i>	Niobrara <i>Biweekly, Mondays</i> <i>Starting September 16, 2024</i>
Norfolk Gym 1800 Syracuse Ave Norfolk, NE	Sioux City Offices 125 6th St Sioux City, IA	Niobrara Agency Building 88915 521 Ave Niobrara, NE
K - 6th Grade 2:30 - 4:00 pm 7 - 12th Grade 4:30 - 6:00 pm	2:00 - 3:30 pm	5:00 - 7:00 pm



Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Behavioral Health



Did you know?

Our PTN Education programs are open to members nationwide!

- Need based funding in our Higher Education, Adult Vocational Training, and Graduate programs at the post-secondary level.
- K-12 Youth Incentive program
- GED Incentive Program and GED testing fee assistance

For more information on any of these programs, please contact the Education Department at 402.371.8834, via email at pate@poncatrbe-ne.gov or aknudsen@poncatrbe-ne.gov, or via mail:

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Department of Education
1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE 68701

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**



Attention All AVT/HIED Students Nationwide:

Please remember to submit your official transcripts after **EACH** term funded in order to be eligible to receive future funding. Students must apply each school year.

Winter 2024 deadline: November 15, 2024

Spring 2025 deadline: December 15, 2024

Summer 2025 deadline: May 15, 2025

The Ponca Educational Trust Fund is available nationwide to students who enroll at one of the University of Nebraska Campuses/Online Courses: Lincoln ~ Omaha ~ Kearney (Must be enrolled in 12 or more credit hours per semester to be eligible)

Attention All K-12 YIP Students Nationwide:

- High School Seniors for the 2024-2025 school year are eligible to receive a \$500.00 Graduation Incentive!
- Our department is accepting projects for incentives in the following areas: Art, Essay/Poetry, and Student of the Month. **Winners may receive \$100.00 for 1st place, \$50.00 for 2nd place, and \$25.00 for 3rd place. Grade divisions are as follows: Primary (K-2), Intermediate (3-5), Middle (6-8), and High School (9-12)*
- Perfect Attendance \$100.00 (0-.49 days of absenteeism), \$50.00 (.5-3.49 days of absenteeism), and \$25.00 (3.5-5.49 days of absenteeism).

Deadline to apply for the 2024-2025 school year is July 31, 2025.

All Education Department Applications and Program Information are available online on our tribal website. If you have any questions for the education department, please feel free to contact Aubrey Knudsen at: office (402)371-8834, work cell (402)844-0957, or aknudsen@poncatrbe-ne.gov. **Ponca tribal enrollment is required for ALL education programs**

Guest Essay: Residential Schools

By Destiny Rich

The following essay was submitted to the Domestic Violence program by Ponca member Destiny Rich, originally written for a high school English assignment. This essay is reprinted in its entirety, and contains descriptions of the physical, mental, emotional, sexual, and spiritual abuses suffered by the children who attended residential schools.

"We will instill in them a pronounced distaste for the native life so that they will be humiliated when reminded of their origin. When they graduate from our institutions the children will have lost everything Native except their blood." This Quote by Bishop Vital Garden is in reference to residential schools. A place where countless indigenous children were slaughtered. Residential Schools are one of the most horrendous events in history.

These residential schools had an ominous origin, they were created in 1869 by the Canadian government to kill all indigenous culture and customs. These were church run schools that abused indigenous children for speaking their native language or expressing any sign

of their culture. Nuns forbid them to have long hair, which has such cultural significance to native people because it connects them to their ancestors. Sexual assault was very common from nuns and priests at these schools. Stories of girls giving birth while in the schools by getting raped by priests has haunted them. Native people no longer felt like people but more like objects.

Children never returned home. All children were either mentally, physically or sexually abused. The abuse went to an extent that children were strapped to beds and needles were stabbed in the tongues, all because they spoke their native language. More than 40,000 children died while at these schools. Graves were found at every single school, all 150+ of them. The nuns hid their children's deaths from their families and left their families wondering and worrying about what happened to their children after being forcefully taken from them. Residential schools were slaughterhouses for indigenous children.

The aftermath of the schools is unutterable to imagine. It never leaves you. The feeling, the

memories, the trauma, it never leaves you. You could be a million miles away from the schools but still feel that pain, it's as if it's a part of you, permanently. According to Google, the most harmful impact of these schools was the poor education, that is wrong. Imagine going through the most excruciating pain at only five years old, just because you're Native American. Imagine losing everything you have ever known and if you expressed it, you were beaten, for some, beaten to death, and that past stays with you forever. Put yourself in their shoes. Not just the children but their families and their friends. The children yet to come will grow up knowing about this past that this could still happen to this day because after all, kill the Indian and save the man, right?

Residential Schools are one of the most horrendous events in history. "Their stolen children have been found, We hid them in unhallowed ground, Their cries rise up to heaven's skies, Against the hatred and the lies, That tore them from their loving arms, Exposing them to untold harms, For the

lost children weep, Who in the ground now sleep, That we their lesson reap, Their memory sacred keep, Their hearts with grief are overcome, This horror has struck us all dumb, We can but hang our heads in shame, At what was done in Heaven's name, The God of love most surely wept, When his compassion in us slept, What we stole we cannot repay, We must confess it all and say, That in the true North strong and free, We will all strive from sea to sea, To not forget our nation's wrong, Lest we its evils still prolong."

Works Cited:

Bearfoot, Cheyenne. "The Lasting Impact of Native American Residential Schools." KQED, 1 Dec. 2021

Chang, Jonathan, et al. "Stories From Canada's Indigenous Residential School Survivors." Wbur, 28 July 2021,

"Residential School History." The National Residential School Crisis Line

Reinhardt, Kurt, "Their Stolen Children Have Been Found."

Teen dating violence: A growing concern

Rosie Bear
Domestic Violence
Youth Specialist

As we observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month this October, it's crucial to shed light on a distressing issue that often goes unnoticed: teen domestic violence. This abuse can take many shapes, and it affects teenagers in significant and lasting ways.

Teen domestic violence often begins with subtle behaviors that escalate over time. It's important to recognize these red flags early and take action to prevent further abuse.

Education and awareness are key in combating teen domestic violence. By fostering open communication and promoting healthy relationship behaviors, we can help protect our youth and ensure they grow up in safe and nurturing environments.

Recognizing the signs of teen domestic violence is crucial for early intervention. Here are some common signs to look out for:

1. Physical Signs: Look for unexplained bruises, cuts, or other injuries. Teens might try to cover these up or make excuses for them.

2. Emotional Changes: Sudden changes in mood or behavior can be a red flag. This includes becoming withdrawn, anxious, or depressed.

3. Isolation: If the teen starts distancing themselves from friends and family, it can be a sign. Often, this happens because their partner insists on it.

4. Jealousy and Possessiveness: An excessively jealous or possessive partner is a warning sign. This can manifest as constant checking up on the teen or demanding to always know their whereabouts.

5. Decline in Academic Performance: A noticeable drop in grades or a lack of interest in school activities might indicate something is wrong.

6. Changes in Appearance: Dressing differently, perhaps more conservatively, to hide injuries or to meet their partner's demands can be a sign.

7. Constant Communication: The teen might feel pressured to be in constant contact with their partner, responding immediately to texts or calls.

8. Fear of Partner: If the teen shows signs of fear or anxiety when their partner is mentioned or when they are around, this is a significant red flag.

9. Loss of Interest in Activities: If the teen suddenly loses interest in activities they once enjoyed, it could be due to their partner's influence or control.

10. Substance Use: Turning to drugs or alcohol as a coping mechanism for the stress and trauma of the abusive relationship can also be a sign.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these signs, it's important to reach out to a trusted adult or one of the resources mentioned earlier for help.

There are several resources available for teens experiencing domestic violence:

1. Ponca Tribe of Nebraska's Domestic Violence Program: Teens can call any Ponca Tribal office and speak with a DV Program staff member.

2. StrongHearts Helpline: Teens can call 1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483). StrongHearts is a 24/7 safe, confidential and anonymous domes-

tic and sexual violence helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives

3. National Domestic Violence Hotline: Teens can call 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or text "START" to 88788 to get help and support from trained advocates.

4. Love is Respect: This organization offers 24/7 support via text, call, or online chat. Teens can text "LOVEIS" to 22522 or call 1-866-331-9474 for help.

5. Break the Cycle: This organization provides resources and support specifically for young people experiencing dating abuse.

6. RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network): They offer a 24/7 hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) and online chat services for those affected by sexual violence.

7. Local Shelters and Hotlines: Many communities have local shelters and hotlines that provide immediate assistance, counseling, and safe housing for those in need.

These resources can provide teens with the support and guidance they need.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Zach James

Domestic Violence Training
& Outreach Specialist

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Domestic Violence Program would like to acknowledge October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a national campaign that provides a pivotal time to reflect on and address the issue of domestic violence. Every October gives organizations across the country a chance to unite for a national effort to uplift the needs, voices, and experiences of survivors.

The theme for the 2024 National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is Heal, Hold, and Center. This theme emphasizes and embraces the many cultural ways we can heal from violence and oppression, commit to holding space for survivors, and center our relatives impacted in all our efforts to end domestic violence.

Understanding Domestic Violence

Domestic violence, also known as intimate partner violence, affects millions of individuals each year. It encompasses a range of behaviors used by

one partner to maintain power and control over another partner. These behaviors can be physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, or financial. Importantly, domestic violence can impact anyone, regardless of gender, age, race, or socioeconomic status.

The Scope of the Issue

The statistics surrounding domestic violence specific to Native Americans are staggering. According to the National Institute of Justice, Native American women & men have a significantly higher risk for domestic violence than any other race. More specifically, 84% of Native American women have experienced violence in their lifetime and 43.2% of Native American men have experienced physical violence by an intimate partner. Additionally, 56% of Native American women have experienced sexual abuse.

The Importance of Awareness

Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides a platform for raising awareness about the signs of domestic abuse and the resources available to those affected. It is also a crucial time to educate the public about

the impact of domestic violence on individuals and communities.

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Domestic Violence Program proudly provides an array of awareness activities during the month of October. This may include educational workshops, movie nights, awareness days, and more.

Supporting Survivors

Support for survivors of domestic violence is vital in their journey toward safety and recovery. There are numerous ways to provide support, including offering a listening ear, providing resources, and advocating for change.

How You Can Get Involved

There are many ways to contribute to the fight against domestic violence. This can include volunteering at your local organizations and shelters. Many of these places rely on volunteers to support their programs and services. Additionally, you can get involved by doing something as simple as educating yourself and others on the issue of domestic violence. Learning about domestic violence and sharing that

knowledge with friends, family, and colleagues helps to create a more informed and supportive community.

Moving Forward Together

As we observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month, let us remember that ending domestic violence requires collective action. By raising awareness, supporting survivors, and advocating for systemic change, we can make a meaningful impact!

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, help is available. Reach out to local support services, hotlines, or the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Domestic Violence Program to access the support or resources needed.

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is committed to supporting Domestic Violence Awareness Month and encouraging community involvement. Let's work together to make a difference.

StrongHearts Helpline: 1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483). StrongHearts is a 24/7 safe, confidential and anonymous domestic and sexual violence helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

Protecting our water: PTN Water Quality Program Introduction

In March 2024, the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska (PTN) Environmental Protection Department (EPD) welcomed Kayla Vondracek as the new Water Quality Coordinator (WQC). Since then, Kayla and the EPD team have launched the Water Quality Program, beginning water sampling in May on the buffalo pastures around the Agency and the East Pen near Niobrara, Nebraska. These sampling efforts aim to establish a baseline understanding of water quality in several ponds and streams. By testing surface water in these



Kayla Vondracek
Water Quality Coordinator

areas, the program can ensure that water remains safe for the herd, which relies on these resources for drinking.

Sampling started in May

and will run through October, allowing the program to collect six months of data and track any seasonal changes in water quality from spring through fall. Sampling is completed using specialized equipment with collected water samples sent off for laboratory analysis. Regular monitoring helps protect the herd and assess any potential impacts to water quality on nearby ecosystems and wetlands, which are vital to the Tribe. Some of the key water quality parameters being monitored are shown as follows:

- **pH Levels:** This measures how acidic or alkaline the water is. Healthy water for most aquatic life typically has a pH between 6.5 and 8.5. If the pH is too high or low, it can harm fish and other wildlife.
- **Dissolved Oxygen (DO):** This refers to the amount of oxygen available in the water for fish and other aquatic organisms to breathe. Lower oxygen levels can indicate pollution or overgrowth of algae, making it difficult for life to thrive.

continued on next page

Take a look, Check out a book!

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members and clients are welcome to utilize our library at any time. Please contact one of the following individuals to check out library materials:

- Ralston:** Colleen Plasek, 402.315.2765
cplasek@poncatribene.org
- Lincoln:** Lisa Agans, 402.438.9222 Ext. 1167
lagans@poncatribene.org
- Norfolk:** Aubrey Knudsen, 402.371.8834
akudsen@poncatribene.org
- Sioux City:** Cyndi Lingeback, 712.258.0500 Ext. 1000,
cynthial@poncatribene.org
- Niobrara:** Trini Key, 402.857.3519
kitrinak@poncatribene.org

PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA

Tee-Time for Members!

Tatanka Golf Club
53138 NE-12 | Niobrara, NE

Ponca Members can now request one tee-time per day for one foursome of golfers at the Tatanka Golf Club. ****Some exclusions apply.**

To book a tee-time, please book with the QR code For more information, please contact Kyle Taylor at ktaylor@poncatribene.org.

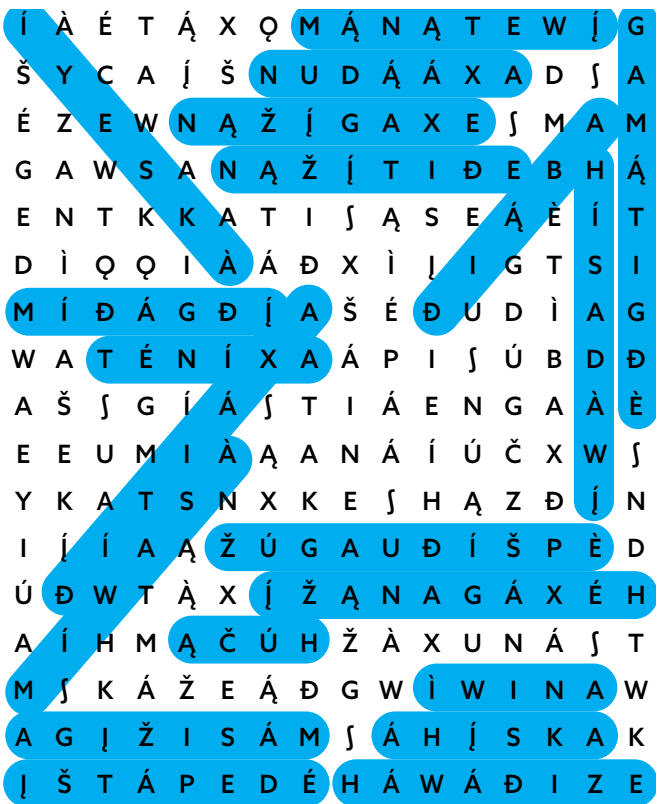
****The tee-times for these golfers may be booked 120 days in advance with a minimum 2 days to book. Holidays are excluded. Sunday through Thursday tee-times can be booked any time after 9:00 a.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays can be booked after 10:00 a.m. Exact tee off times are not are not guaranteed for date requested. There is a \$20 per person golf cart rental to be paid at the course when checking in at the clubhouse. Tee times may not be changed. Members must cancel their current request, and submit a new one.**



WATER: Many factors can affect water quality



- **Temperature:** Water temperature affects how much oxygen it can hold. Warmer water holds less oxygen, which can stress fish and other animals, while very cold water might be unsuitable for some species.
 - **Turbidity:** This is a measure of how clear or cloudy the water is. Cloudy water (high turbidity) can indicate pollution or runoff from soil, which may block sunlight and affect plant growth in the water.
 - **Nutrients (Nitrogen & Phosphorus):** These are essential for plant growth, but too much can lead to algae blooms, which deplete oxygen and harm aquatic life. Monitoring nutrient levels helps prevent harmful environmental impacts.
 - **Bacteria (E. coli):** In ponds and streams, the presence of bacteria like E. coli is tested to determine if the water is safe for drinking, swimming, or recreation. High levels may indicate contamination from human or animal waste.
- In addition to water sampling, the WQC started sending regular updates via email in May to PTN staff and members regarding the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) Beach Watch program. This program tracks recreational lakes across the state, monitoring for E. coli and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs). The emails offer timely information on which lakes may be affected and share safety tips for the public, such as practicing hygiene after swimming and recognizing warning signs of water contamination.
- Stay tuned for further updates from the Water Quality Program and feel free to contact Kayla Vondracek, Water Quality Coordinator, with any questions.

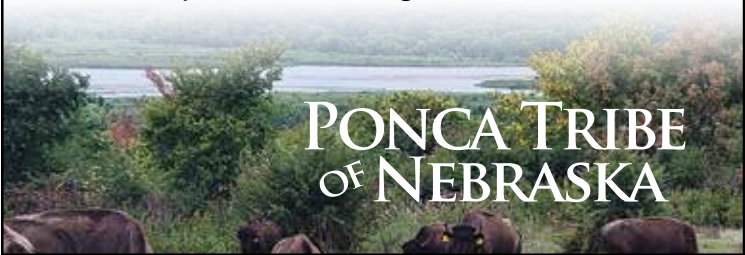


word search answers from page 4

Interested in working with the Ponca buffalo?

GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR PONCA YOUTH AGES 18-27!

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska has formed a partnership with The Nature Conservancy to give Ponca youth the rare opportunity to gain hands on experience working with buffalo by visiting a variety of different buffalo ranches and tribal herds. There is a potential for the experience gained from this program to provide a career path towards working full time with the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Buffalo herd. For more information, please contact Courtney Chavez at 402.500.9979 or cchavez@poncatribes-ne.gov.



Calling all Ponca Member Owned businesses:

If you are interested in receiving RFP/RFQs to be able to bid on Tribal projects, please use the form below to share or update your business information with Procurement.

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Bidders List Contact Information:

Full Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone Number: _____

Business Email address: _____

Business Fax: _____

☐ Ponca Owned ☐ Native Owned ☐ Women Owned ☐ Veteran Owned ☐ Other

*****Please provide a copy of Proof of Indian Ownership*****

GSA Contract #: _____

Duns #: _____ NAICS# _____ Fed ID _____

Social Security #: _____

Description of Business: _____

When completed please return to:
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Attn: Chris Minarik
2523 Woodbine Street
Niobrara, NE 68760

christinem@poncatribes-ne.gov
402-857-3391



PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA





PEDCO Native APEX Accelerator: GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING ASSISTANCE

GETTING STARTED IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING

MARKETING PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

FINDING CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES

BIDDING ON CONTRACTS

POST AWARD ASSISTANCE



We offer ongoing training and support for Native American businesses, provided **FREE** of charge.

531-310-2494
<https://pedco-ne.org/pedco-native-apex-accelerator/>
jniceswanger@pedcoapex.org

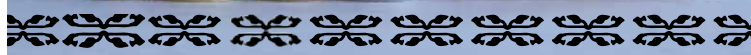
The APEX Accelerator is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense.

APEX
ACCELERATORS



PEDCO Small Business Funding

PEDCO now has Small Business funding available through the USDA. Finances are limited and are available to rural Nebraska only. We unable to assist anyone in the Omaha or Lincoln areas. You must reside in the State of Nebraska. If you have any interest in this program, please contact Managing Director PEDCO Larry Loucks at 402.499.1202 or at lloucks@pedco-ne.org.



FREE Online Cybersecurity in Agriculture Training!

Calling all Farmers, Ranchers, Rural Landowners, Farmers Markets, and related businesses who have an interest in bolstering your technology; Cyber Security and National Security interested people and businesses that want to learn more about how they can work within the \$1+ trillion-dollar agriculture industry. We have FREE cybersecurity in agriculture online training coming soon! More to come as we begin to create the modules/training. All training will be available virtually, so you may take it in the privacy of your home. In-person training will also be available as we work to set up locations if that is your preference.

- Do you have an on-line presence related to agriculture or cybersecurity products affecting accounting, feed, inventory, food, planting, land usage or other aspects of the agriculture industry?
- Do you feel the need to be more informed about Cybersecurity?
- How could Ransomware affect you and your business? How could it affect crops, produce, cattle, Buffalo, finances, inventory, and more?
- Are you Ponca, another tribe, or any agricultural producer located in Nebraska currently using some amount of tech for your agriculture? You may be eligible for an additional specific learning opportunity!

Please reach out to lloucks@pedco-ne.org for more information!

What ID can I use to vote?

ID must have your **name** and **photo**. It can be expired. Acceptable forms of photo IDs include:

- Nebraska driver's license/state ID
- U.S. passport, military ID, tribal ID
- Hospital, assisted-living facility or nursing home record
- Nebraska political subdivision ID (state, county, city, school, etc.)
- Nebraska college or university ID

What will NOT be accepted?

- Birth certificate
- Medicare/Medicaid card
- Out-of-state driver's license
- Out-of-state college ID
- Social Security card
- Store membership card
- Utility bill/bank statement
- Voter registration acknowledgement card

When does voter ID take effect?

The first Nebraska election requiring voter ID will be the statewide primary in 2024:

May 14, 2024

All elections in Nebraska after that will require voter ID.

In 2022, Nebraska voters approved a constitutional amendment requiring voter ID. In June 2023, the governor signed into law LB514, the bill putting voter ID into effect.



What if I forget my ID?

You will fill out a provisional ballot. For your ballot to count, you will need to present an acceptable form of photo ID to your county election office **on or before the Tuesday after the election.**

NEBRASKA'S NEW VOTER ID LAW

  
Contact Nebraska SOS
for more information on voter ID.
VoterID.Nebraska.gov
sos.elect@nebraska.gov
(402) 471-2555


Contact Nebraska DMV
for more information on a free state ID for voting purposes.
dmv.ne.gov



Contact Nebraska DHHS
for more information on a free certified copy of your Nebraska birth certificate to get a free state ID for voting purposes.
dhhs.ne.gov





Nebraska Secretary of State


Revised February 2024

How do I vote with voter ID?

 **IN PERSON**
Present an acceptable form of photo ID or vote provisionally.

 **EARLY IN OFFICE**
Present an acceptable form of photo ID or vote provisionally.

 **EARLY BY MAIL**
Write driver's license/state ID number on **early voting application** or enclose a copy of acceptable form of photo ID or reasonable impediment certification with application.

 **BY-MAIL PRECINCTS OR BY-MAIL SPECIAL ELECTIONS**
Write driver's license/state ID number on **ballot return envelope** or enclose a copy of acceptable form of photo ID or reasonable impediment certification in ballot return envelope.

What if I can't afford an ID?

You can get a **free state ID** for voting from the DMV. If you were born in Nebraska and need your birth certificate to get a free state ID, you can get a **free certified copy of your birth certificate** from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. A birth certificate is not an acceptable form of photo ID.

What if I can't get an ID?

If you have a reasonable impediment, you can complete a certification instead of presenting a photo ID. Reasonable impediments are:

- Inability to obtain a valid ID due to:
 - Disability or illness
 - Lack of birth certificate or other required documents
- Religious objection to being photographed

Contact your county election office or the Secretary of State's Office for more information.

(Please sign your name in the area below with a BLACK felt tip marker)

I _____ I

TRIBAL MEMBERS

(please print)

NAME: _____ DOB: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE: _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT THAN MAILING):

EMAIL: _____

VETERANS ONLY: MILITARY BRANCH: _____

*****Service papers must be submitted to the enrollment department if you are requesting a military seal.**

**FOR A PHOTO ID PLEASE SIGN AND FILL OUT THIS PAGE.
DON'T FORGET TO SEND (EMAIL) YOUR PICTURE AS WELL**

Photo ID Instructions

1. Signature

Please completely fill in the information on the bottom of the signature page. With a **black** felt tip marker please sign your name in the middle of the top of the signature page. **(Please note that children do not require a signature for theirs.)**

2. Clear readable copies of the following must be submitted:

a: State Driver's License, State ID Card or other valid Picture ID card
(It **must** have your picture and signature on it)

b: If you are **not** an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe, but your child is, you must still submit a copy of your State Driver's License, State ID Card or other valid Picture ID and a copy of your child(s) Social Security Card and Tribal Enrollment Card for proof of enrollment.

3. Photo Options:

You must submit a current photo without filters and a solid colored background. You can email it to enrollment@poncatribene.gov or you may mail documentation and current photo to:
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Enrollment Department, PO Box 288, Niobrara, NE 68760-0288

*****Please note that we can/will NOT use a photo from your state ID or driver's license.**

4. Military Seals:

Military branch seals are available for veterans. Military service papers must be submitted to the enrollment department to show proof of veteran status.

Change of Address Form

Mail to: PTN Enrollment Dept PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760 Fax: 402-857-3771

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD MUST BE AN ENROLLED PONCA TRIBE MEMBER

OTHER ENROLLED PONCA TRIBE MEMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD:

PREVIOUS ADDRESS: (Street/P.O. Box, Apt #, City, State, Zip, County)

NEW ADDRESS: (Street/P.O. Box, Apt #, City, State, Zip, County)

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ALTERNATE/CELL NUMBER: _____

E-mail: _____

DATE NEW ADDRESS IN EFFECT: _____

To provide better services to Ponca tribal members, this information will be shared with all PTON Departments as needed. Any service may be suspended until this information is corrected and/or updated.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

HELP US UPDATE OUR MEMBER INFORMATION!

Hello Members,

The Enrollment Department is doing their best to keep our members information current and up to date but we can't do it without your help. If you've moved or need to report a death please contact us to let us know.

Below is a list of members that are inactive. **This means that we do not have a current address for them on file or maybe a death was never reported or documents were never received.** If you see the name of someone you know who has moved please contact them and tell them to update their information with us. If there is the name of someone you know who has passed please contact us. We need a death certificate or document on file in order to change their status.

You may contact the Enrollment Department at enrollment@poncatribene.gov, or contact the Niobrara or Lincoln offices.

We appreciate your help!

INACTIVE MEMBERS AS OF 10/1/2024

Anthony, Jr., Steven Scott
 Arellano, Carlos Montana
 Bagent, Wayne Orval
 Baggett, Donovan Joseph
 Baker, Skylar Dominick
 Baker-Ferguson, Jared Riley
 Banuelos, Christa Rose
 Bear, Joshua Gilbert
 Beaver, Jason Chaska
 Becker, Jr., Anthony Arnold
 Becker, Sr., Anthony Arnold
 Becker, Tyler Randell
 Bell, Darian Patrick
 Bell, Shaune` Kay
 Birdhead, William Randolph
 Blair, Hunter Wo Day Leon
 Blowe, Dominick Adams
 Blowe, Isaiah Fredrick
 Blowe, Tyrone Richard
 Boettger, Dakota Birdhead
 Bonge, Todd Joseph
 Boyd, Myron Ralph
 Boyer, Berlin N.
 Brooks, Angela Ellen
 Brown, J. Wesley
 Brown, La`Trel Lucious
 Brownrigg, Steven Francis
 Buckley II, Sentwali Onyemachi
 Burston, Sandra Lee
 Cantu, Xavier Raul
 Carter, Amber Lynn
 Castro, Shylo Angel Marie
 Chwalowski, Kaitlin Martika
 Cooks, Nyeela Marshai
 Courtright, Michael Todd
 Cutshall, Katline James
 Da Moude, Deborah Kay
 Danielson, Daniel James
 Davis, Mary Frances
 Drapeaux, Juston Lee
 Eckley, Lane Emory
 Eckley, Leigha Irene
 Evans, Kaci Antonette
 Evans, Kareem Antwon
 Fasthorse, Beverlee Ann
 Flagg, III., George Albert
 Flowers, Joseph
 Foley, Michael Joseph
 Freeman, Xavier Lee
 Givens, V'Unna Anna Mae

Glenn, John Allen
 Glisan, Cynthia Lynn
 Gortarez, Rudy John
 Goss, Mamie L.
 Govia, Isaiah Lee
 Govia, Mc Kenzie Jo
 Grant, III., Jesse Clarence
 Green, Brooklyn Marie
 Greenwood IV,
 Ernest Sydney Leshawn
 Gutierrez, Vincent Clarence
 Haahr, Anneliese Teresa
 Hallowell Jr., Timothy Eugene
 Hamilton, Bobbi-Jo Danielle
 Hampshire, Austin Taylor
 Harlan, Kyzur James
 Harlan, Lavara Mina
 Harris, Paul Joseph
 Hart-La Londe, Kaedyn Mikael
 Hatfield, Kyleigh Rae Marie
 Hendren, Adavia Gabrielle
 Hennek, Gail Howe
 Henritze, Joseph Dale
 Henritze, Karen June
 Hocking-Gosnell, Zalla C.
 Hogie, Jamie Lyn
 Hope, Dorothea Jo Ann
 Horine, Ashley Danielle
 Howe, Richard H.
 Humphreys, Belinda Kay
 Jeppesen, Zachary Lee
 Johnson, Lukus Tyler
 Jones, Richard Franklin
 Kelso, James Alan
 Kerrigan, Kathleen Ann
 King, Gavin Michael
 Knudsen, Miles Henry
 Krueger, Annette Marie
 Kyles, Jarred Joseph
 LaPointe, Alejandro Jauquine
 LaPointe, Robert James
 Lasley, Christopher Levi
 Latimer, LaRohn Lewis
 Le Roy, Gisele Marie
 Leach, Isaiah Marcus
 Lerew Jr, Zachariah Ray
 Lieb, Donovan Joseph
 Lieb, Syllas Vittorio
 Little, Jeromy Todd
 Livermore, Lakin Mardell

Lopez, Jr., Juan Francisco
 Maben, Jessica Paige
 Mann II, Steven Michael
 Mann, Desiree` Leann
 Mann, Sydney Desiree`
 Mategko, Janet Louise
 Mategko, Lisa Louise
 Mategko, Michael Steven
 Matthews, Jett Haden
 McGrath, Bryan Thomas
 McGrath, Daniel Patrick
 Mercier, Jade Sharice
 Miodowski, Sean Matthew
 Morehouse, Lisa Lynne
 Mullen, Michael Thomas
 Mullen, Owen Dean
 Muscutt, Elias Gordon
 O'Flynn, Shania Marie
 O'Meara, Joseph Christopher
 O'Meara, Sheila Faye
 Peck, Brandalynn
 Peck, Tyler Duane
 Peniska, Robert Mc Daniel
 Petersen, Kevin Lee
 Picotte - Felde, Diamond Rose
 Pierce, Raychel Marie
 Pilcher Jones, Josi Marie
 Poafpybitty, Misty Brook
 Polly, Rachael Anne
 Prichard, Joseph John
 Prunty, Austin Joe
 Quintana Jr, Arthur Jose
 Raymond, Joseph Allen
 Remmenga, Daniel James
 Roberts, Marquitta Ruby
 Rowe, Crystle Anette
 Rulo, Byron
 Russell, Kristina Anne
 Sainz, Tritia Jeanene
 Sarton, Gwendolyn Lee
 Schmidt, Jaye Anthony
 Schmidt, Jr., Karl Michael
 Scuderi, Jana Marie
 Scurlocke, Athena Larissa Lucille
 Scurlocke, Jolene Ann
 Sherman, Britney Leslie May
 Sherman, Cody Lee
 Sherman, Harold Dewayne
 Sherman, John Glenn
 Sherman, Michael Ray

Sherman, Mitchell Everett
 Sherman, Robert Le Roy
 Sherman, Savannah
 Sherman, Tristan Ray
 Shiltz, Shirley Ann
 Simpkins, Sebastian Ray
 Skinner, Phillip David
 Smith, Ashley Nicole
 Smith, Daniel Ray
 Smith, Stephanie Rae
 Standsblack, Marko Tulio
 Stark, Brandy Nickole
 Stastny, Rachel Colleen
 Stegman, Mi'a Miwasa Nevaeh
 Stuczynski, Drake Keegan
 Swinarski, Alicia Estrada
 Taylor, Ka`ili Brianna
 Thomas, II,
 Scott Richard Herbert
 Thomas, Jenny Anne
 Thomas, Natana Lynn
 Thomas, Robin Diane
 Treichler, Jasmine Dawn
 Vaughan, Linda Lou
 Veals, Clifford James
 Veals, Sherry Ann
 Velder Jr., Jason Lee
 Voss, Joshua Le Roy
 Voss, Michael Roy
 Waters, Deon Koleen
 Wayte, April May
 Wells, Eric Damien
 White, Abrianna Aliya
 Williams, Andrea Michelle
 Wintermantel,
 Samuel Max Kawakami
 Wooten, Ezekial Dane
 Wooten, Kendra Jade
 Wright, Alina Lee
 Wright, Cherita Alberta
 Wright, Cruz Montgomery
 Wright, Lane Andrew
 Wright, Yesenia Carmen
 York, Gregory Allen
 Young, MaKenna Kay

MEMBERS NEEDED

GAMING COMMISSIONER VACANCY

The Tribal Council is accepting applications for Gaming Commissioners as there will be a term expiring. Commissioners are paid \$250 per meeting and \$100 for training work days, plus mileage reimbursement up to 410 miles round trip and applicable per diem is paid.

The Ponca Gaming Commission was established to regulate gaming on Ponca Indian Lands by enforcing the Ponca Gaming Ordinance.

This includes:

- Enforcing all NIGC and FBI requirements for Fingerprint background checks and approving all licenses for all KEY, PMO and Non-Gaming employees.
- Enforcing all NIGC and Gaming Commission Internal Controls for each department's policy and procedures.
- Approving all Department's Policies and Procedures to ensure compliance with the NIGC and state compact regulations.
- Granting the Facility license for any building that has gaming, ensuring that the Federal, State and Tribal building codes are enforced to protect the health and safety of the employees and the guests.

Qualifications:

- Must be at least 25 years of age and must not be a gaming-related employee, contractor of the Tribe or a member of the Tribal Council. Any appointment will be temporary, pending completion of a background investigation. No Commissioner may have committed a gambling or bribery offense, had a felony conviction, or have any financial interest in, or management responsibility for, any gaming activity governed by the Ordinance, including a Management Contract.
- Must complete all Levels of the NIGC Commissioner Training and Master Class within the first year.
- Must complete the FBI's Level III Security Awareness Training and obtain a certificate prior to accessing any FBI Criminal History Reports to make licensing decisions.

Please submit a letter of interest and resume to Ponca Tribal Council, Attn: Candace Repenning P.O. Box 288, Niobrara, NE 68760 or via e-mail to crepenning@poncatribes-ne.gov. Deadline is November 12, 2024.

Interested in obtaining your GED?

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska offers members a \$250 incentive upon successful completion of the program plus \$60 to be applied toward testing fees.

For any questions or to obtain an application, please contact Aubrey or Pat in Education at 402.371.8834 or you may email them at aknudsen@poncatribes-ne.gov or pate@poncatribes-ne.gov.



Four Generations of Robinette Royalty!



Left to Right:

GAYLEEN ROBINETTE DAVISON (daughter)
Verdigre Kolache Queen – 1989

KATERINA ROBINETTE (granddaughter)
Senior Ponca Princess – 2004/2005
Senior Ponca Princess – 2006/2007

DESTINY RICH (great granddaughter)
Little Miss Ponca Princess 2013/ 2014
Senior Ponca Princess – 2024/2025

DEBBIE ROBINETTE (Mom, Grandma, Great Grandma)
Tribal Council – 2006-2014
Ponca Elders Committee – Chairwoman

"Thank you for making me and Grandpa Gary Robinette so very proud!" - Great Grandma Debbie Robinette

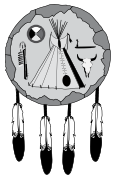
Ponca Employees Play Volleyball



Several Lincoln employees have been playing co-ed volleyball on Wednesdays. Starting the season with a 1-1 record these players are learning each other's playing style and just keep getting better with each game. Games are played on Wednesdays at Sun Valley Bowling Alley at 7:30 and could always use some cheerleaders, so if you are free come on down and support our team Many Nations. Players include left to right. Candace Walahoski- Tribal Home visitor, Joe Bad Moccasin- Integrated Health Youth Specialist, Zach James – DV Specialist, Wathina Porter- DV Court Advocate and Sarah Lehl- Community Health Advocate.

Language Instructor Charlie Iron Thunder competed in the World Straight Dance Championship in White Eagle, Oklahoma. While Charlie didn't come home with a trophy this year, he enjoyed dancing and having the opportunity to learn from some of the best in the world. "I wasn't scared, but I was scared to death," said Charlie. "I embraced it the best that I could. I'm gonna compete next year again! Wibdaho!"





PONCA TRIBE of NEBRASKA

P.O. Box 288
Niobrara, NE 68760

www.poncatribene.gov

PONCA TRIBE of NEBRASKA Office Locations

NIORRARA 68760

Headquarters

2523 Woodbine St., P.O. Box 288
Ph: (402) 857-3391
Fax: (402) 857-3736

Enrollment

2523 Woodbine St., P.O. Box 288
Ph: (402) 857-3391
Fax: (402) 857-3771

Cultural

P.O. Box 288
Ph: (402) 857-3519
Fax: (402) 857-3652

LINCOLN 68512

Administration

1600 Windhoek Dr.
Ph: (402) 438-9222
Fax: (402) 438-9226

Ponca Health Services-Lincoln

1600 Windhoek Dr
Ph: (531) 248-3030

Osni Ponca

2756 O Street
Ph: (402) 434-2127
Fax: (402) 434-2128

NORFOLK 68701

Administration Building

1800 Syracuse Ave.
Ph: (402) 371-8834
Fax: (402) 371-7564

Gym Building

1800 Syracuse Ave.
Ph: (402) 371-8834
Fax: (402) 379-0988

Ponca Hills Clinic

Ph: (402) 371-8780
(402) 371-5726
Fax: (402) 379-4291 - Pharmacy
(402) 379-4293 - Registration
(402) 371-4094 - Medical Lab

Ponca Express

Ph: 877-769-3111

Northern Ponca Housing Authority

1501 Michigan Ave.
Ph: (402) 379-8224
(800) 367-2320
Fax: (402) 379-8557

Purchased/Referred Care

Ph: (800) 405-0365
Fax: (402) 371-0176

OMAHA 68107

Fred LeRoy Health & Wellness Clinic

2602 "J" Street
Ph: (402) 733-3612
Fax: (402) 733-3487

Administration

5805 South 86th Circle, 68127
Ph: (402) 315-2760

Dental

2602 "J" Street
Ph: (402) 733-1325
Fax: (402) 733-3487

Northern Ponca Housing Authority

10635 Birch., 68134
Ph: (402) 505-3055
Fax: (402) 505-3066

SIOUX CITY 51103

Administration

125 6th Street
Ph: (712) 258-0500
Fax: (402) 939-0297

OTHER RESOURCES

Child Abuse Hotline

800-652-1999 (Nebraska)
800-362-2178 (Iowa)
877-244-0864 (South Dakota)

National Child Abuse Hotline

800-422-4453

National Suicide Hotline

800-273-8255

Domestic Violence Hotline

800-799-7233

National Human Trafficking Hotline

888-373-7888

National Problem Gambling Helpline

800-522-4700

Elder Abuse Hotline

800-252-8966

Boys Town Crisis Line

800-448-3000

Drug Treatment & Referral Hotline

877-726-4727

Nebraska Family Helpline

888-866-8660

Veterans Crisis Line

800-273-8255

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Newsletter is published monthly and printed by Printco Graphics, Omaha, Nebraska. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of each month. In the event the 1st falls on a weekend, submissions are due the Friday before. All submissions of a political nature are subject to Tribal Council approval. Send to Jessica Hitchcock, jhitchcock@poncatribene.gov. See or print the newsletter archives in full color on the web site at: www.poncatribene.gov