

# PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA Member News

**Working for the people**  
New Tribal Council members installed



February 2023

# Newly elected Tribal Council installed

On Saturday, January 21, 2023, the newly elected Tribal Council members for the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska were installed at a ceremony held at Tribal Headquarters in Niobrara. Tribal Chairwoman Candace Schmidt, District 1 Representative Angie Starkel, District 2 Representative Falon McAlpin, District 3 Representative Shanna Carpenter, and District 4 Representative Kyle Taylor were all present to take their oath of office for the ensuing term.

Unity, positivity, and progress were common themes as the new Council members shared their thoughts on working together for the good of the Ponca people. Chairwoman Schmidt addressed those assembled in person and on Life-size, expressing a desire to work together in a spirit of cooperation and compromise to serve the Ponca people. The same sentiment was echoed by other Council members, who expressed excitement at the current growth of the Tribe and a desire to continue the good work begun by previous Councils.



Newly elected Tribal Council members take the oath of office. L-R: District 4 Representative Kyle Taylor, District 3 Representative Shanna Carpenter, District 2 Representative Falon McAlpin, District 1 Representative Angie Starkel, and Tribal Chairwoman Candace Schmidt.

The incoming Council members are a mix of Tribal citizens with previous experience on Council, along with some new faces. Tribal Chairwoman Candace Schmidt has served on Tribal Council before as District 4 Representative, as has current District 4 Representative Kyle Taylor. Angie Starkel is returning for a second term as Representative for District 1. New to Council are District 2 Representative Falon McAlpin, and District 3 Representative Shanna Carpenter, both of whom have spent several years working for the Tribal government in various roles.

With the continued growth and expansion of the Tribal organization, and the services they provide, the newly installed

Council will have many opportunities to work together in service of the citizens of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska.



Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council member Debbie Robinette shares words of wisdom with the newly installed Tribal Council.

*On the cover: Current members of Tribal Council at the Tribal Council Installation, held January 21 in Niobrara. Front, L-R: District 4 Representatives Kyle Taylor and Alex Taylor. Back, L-R: District 3 Representative Shanna Carpenter, District 1 Representative Angie Starkel, Tribal Chairwoman Candace Schmidt, and District 2 Representative Falon McAlpin. Not pictured: District 1 Representative JoAn Schlotman, District 2 Representative Becci Sullivan, and District 3 Representative Susie Baker.*

# Message from Chairwoman Schmidt:

Greetings relatives! I wanted to take a moment for those that were not able to be with us at the Oath of Office celebration to share a few words with you from that day.



*“I first would like to apologize for speaking in front of my elders. Thank you all for being here. I am humbled to be the next Chairperson of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska; it is a great responsibility and a great honor. Congratulations to the other newly and re-elected council reps. I look forward to witnessing all the great things you will do while serving alongside of you. The tribe has so many positive things on the horizon and for that we can thank all those that came before us. At this table we will face many challenges, potential hardships, and disagreements but let us never forget why we started and that at the end of the day we are here to serve our people. We do that best when we search for consensus and compromise, not division or turmoil. I’m certain when we find ways to work together, we can accomplish so much more for the future generations to come. Let’s get started!”*

By the time you see this message the new Tribal Council will have been sworn in and we will have already had our first meeting. Some immediate outcomes from our first time together include: Tribal Council Committee Appointments, scheduling a monthly council

meeting geared towards planning and members, initiating a tribal-wide needs assessment in coordination with a tribal-wide strategic planning session, creating a system to have more timely information and updates provided to the membership, and tentatively have identified standing general membership meetings for the months of May and November.

Spending time in the homelands with this new group (in-person) was refreshing. I felt a renewed sense of energy as we departed. My hope is that as we move forward the focus will remain where it should be, on our people.

I will be adding a “Member Comments” section to the top of our Saturday agendas. While our members should always feel invited to come speak to their government/ leadership—I want it to be clear that we always welcome you (planned or not) to come talk to us and that this process should be as easy as possible. I hope this message found you in a good way and look forward to sharing with you again soon. Take care.

Wi’ Btha’ Ha  
(Thank you).

## Artists Wanted

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members are invited to submit art for the Annual Northern Ponca Powwow poster and t-shirt, to be used for this year’s Powwow. The artist whose design is selected will be compensated \$300 for their art, and have their art credited on the t-shirt and poster. **Designs MUST be submitted NO LATER THAN 11:59 pm, April 30th, 2023.**

*Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members only. All artwork must be high resolution, scalable to poster and/or t-shirt size. For more information, or to submit designs, please email [rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org](mailto:rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org).*



**PONCA TRIBE  
OF NEBRASKA**



## Falon McAlpin District 2 Representative



our ancestor's vision for Our People.

As our Tribe continues to develop on our home lands and benefits continue to grow for out of service delivery areas, I will continue these initiatives to serve both local and out of service delivery area programs. Being involved with Prairie Flower Casino since opening, I am apprised of the current expansion plans and my extensive background in the Tribe spanning across Health and Tribal Affairs allows me to envision the endless opportunities that are available for our Tribe and our People.

I started working for the Ponca Tribe in 2008 when I was 21 years old, holding positions in both Health and Tribal Affairs. I left employment with the Ponca Tribe to pursue my master's degree at Bellevue University. During that time, I stayed engaged with the Tribe and served as the Chair of the Election Board from 2015 to 2018. In 2018 I was hired as the Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs and quickly promoted to the Executive Director of

Tribal Affairs (EDTA). I served in this capacity until October of 2021 when I stepped down to work for the Prairie Flower Casino as the Training and Recruitment Specialist. I wanted to be able to serve our Tribal Community by recruiting quality team members to be the face of our casino and contribute to the casino's success and prosperity.

During my time as Executive Director of Tribal Affairs, I sat on multiple boards and committees including, Law and Order Code, Law and Justice, Culture and Language, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), and was a Guest to the Elders Council. As one of the D2 representatives, I intend to be fully involved and invested in our tribe, including sitting on multiple boards and committees.

I oversaw the growth and development of the following programs and services: Buffalo Program, Education, Enrollment, Environment, Culture, Domestic Violence, Facilities, Grants Management, Land Management, Social Services, Ponca Express, Transportation, Land

Management, Tribal Court, Workforce Development, and our Sioux City and Lincoln office sites. I was a leading force for our Tribal Affairs division through two National Disasters; 2019 Flood and 2020 COVID Pandemic.

I was also involved with the purchase of 2,000 plus acres of our original home land near the Niobrara River, making us the largest land owner in Knox County. This allows for future plans of cabins and hunting for our Tribal Members. With our land expansion efforts, I partnered with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to create a Land Management Program that was added to our Tribal BIA Contract. The Buffalo program was also added to the BIA contract at the same time, which assists in contributing to the sustainability of our Buffalo Herd.

I look forward to continuing to grow our Tribe and moving us forward so we can continue to serve our Elders, Youth, and all members both inside and outside of the service delivery areas.

Greetings to all my relatives and fellow Ponca Members! My Name is Falon McAlpin. I am the Daughter of Becky Crase (Suverkrubbe), Granddaughter of Ronald Suverkrubbe, Great Granddaughter of Goldie Pappan, and Great Great Granddaughter of Linda Pappan. My family of four Ponca Tribal Members includes, my partner Jacob Olsufka who is the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), and our two boys Kolby and Kai.

My passion is for Our People and my drive is to continue to serve and grow all of our programs and services into sustainable initiatives, so our Tribe can continue to thrive in the richness of

**Interested in Ponca Language classes?** Classes stream live at <https://call.lifesizecloud.com/13507809>. Additionally, a playlist of previous language classes can be found on the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska YouTube channel. For more information, please contact Ricky Wright, Culture Director, at [rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org](mailto:rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org), or 402.371.8834, ext. 120.

## Shanna Carpenter

### District 3 Representative



work began as a Ponca student intern working in Health, Education, Social Services and finally Human Resources where I found a passion in helping employees grow and succeed. While in Human Resources, I worked as the Employee Development Specialist and Employee Benefits/Risk Coordinator. I took a one year break from Tribal work and worked for RMH Franchise Holdings Inc, as a Benefits Specialist, Where I helped manage the benefits for 131 Applebee's restaurants all throughout the United States.

My number one goal is to put the Ponca people first and serve you all to the best of my ability. I have a strong passion for our youth as they are the future of our Tribe. I hope to see our Youth and Cultural programming continue to grow and to see our Tribe as a whole be self-sustaining.

I look forward to meeting Tribal Members that I have not had the opportunity to meet yet and to continue to grow the relationships with members that I have already established both inside and outside the service delivery area.

My name is Shanna Carpenter. I am the daughter of Shannon and Shelia Wolff, granddaughter of the late Bruce and JoAnn Robertson and the great granddaughter of the late Ernest and Amelia (Babe) Ironthunder. I reside in Lincoln, NE with my wonderful Husband, Matt and our two beautiful children, Beckham (2) and Henley (1) who keep us pretty busy.

I have been actively involved in the Ponca Tribe since I was a youth in many different volunteer, committee and employee roles. I am now excited to serve as the District 3 Representative for Tribal Council.

Professionally, I have worked in Human Resources most of my professional career. I worked for the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska from 2013-2021. My tribal

## Free assistance to Ponca member owned businesses to help you compete for government contracts!

*Do you own a business?*

*Would you be interested in developing your business through government contracting?*

PEDCO PTAC can help—by offering completely free of charge procurement counseling that will help your business to succeed in the government marketplace! Our services include (and are not limited to):

- Assisting your business with all necessary registrations for government contracting
- Identifying and applying for special government contracting certification programs that leverage your business's minority owned status
- Marketing your business to government agencies and prime contractors
- Locating contract opportunities that are suited for your business
- Assisting you to write bid proposals
- And much, much more!

To learn more, visit our website at [www.pedcoptac.org](http://www.pedcoptac.org). Sign up at the website for client services, or contact Darren Osborne (Program Manager) for more information. Darren can be reached by phone at 712.308.1366 or by email at [dosborne@pedcoptac.org](mailto:dosborne@pedcoptac.org).



Dear Tribal Members:

As you may have heard, the former Director of the Tribe's Domestic Violence Department agreed to plead guilty to two counts of theft or embezzlement from an Indian tribal organization under 18 U.S.C. § 1163 in the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska. The charges were the result of a plea agreement the former Director reached with the U.S. Attorney's office for the District of Nebraska.

On December 16, 2022, the former Director was sentenced in a hearing before the federal District Court. The sentence imposed was four (4) years of probation, 194 hours of community service as approved and directed by the probation office, payment of \$19,431.57 in restitution, payment of \$10,000 in fines, and various other conditions. The Tribe has received information that the former Director has paid the restitution and it should be received by the Tribe shortly.

The incidents leading to the prosecution were initially discovered by Tribal staff and reported to federal law enforcement authorities. During the entire process, Tribal staff worked diligently to assist the United States Department of Justice with the investigation, actually reviewing files and providing the information necessary for the charges to be brought. Staff kept the Tribal Council apprised of the progress and provided Council with any information which was made available to the Tribe. Once the investigation was complete, the Department of Justice turned the matter over to the U.S. Attorney in Nebraska for action.

As the matter progressed, the Tribe attempted to obtain as much information as possible from the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney. Unfortunately, the U.S. Attorney's office never contacted or communicated with the Tribe. When the Tribe heard that a plea agreement had been made, it requested information on the details, but the Department of Justice informed the Tribe that the U.S. Attorney would not provide the Tribe with information until the plea agreement was approved by the judge. The only information the United States was willing to provide to the Tribe, and only after specific request, was a condition of the plea agreement stating the former Director "shall not be allowed to work, volunteer, or in any way participate in programs related to administration of tribal funds or benefits or any tribal social service-related programs." The Tribe did not see any other terms of the plea agreement or charges until they were approved by the judge and filed with the District Court, at which point the Tribe's legal counsel obtained the filings from court records.

When the Tribal Council saw in the news that the former Director pleaded guilty and the plea agreement was apparently approved, it promptly had a victim statement prepared to be provided to the judge for consideration with sentencing. The statement discussed the impacts of the acts of the former Director on the Domestic Violence Department, survivors, employees, the Tribe, and the community at large, informing the judge that the matter was not merely about money or the funds misappropriated.

While requesting information on submitting the victim statement, the Tribe finally received communication from a Victim Assistance Specialist in the U.S. Attorney's office – the first communication from the U.S. Attorney's office throughout the entire matter. The Tribe provided the victim statement to the Victim Assistance Specialist for the judge. The Victim Assistance Specialist has stated to the Tribe that the victim statement was provided to the judge and that the judge did review the statement for sentencing.

The Tribe has also taken actions to help prevent events like this in the future. While it is impossible to entirely prevent theft and embezzlement in any organization or government, the Tribe has added controls to help prevent and catch any such incidents in the future. For example, the Tribe has implemented a process of quarterly reviews of Domestic Violence Department expenditures by the Compliance Officer of Ponca Health Services, providing a check from an official in a separate Tribal agency. Domestic Violence Department staff also receive more extensive supervision, including individual meetings to review policies and protocols, helping to ensure compliance, proper documentation, and proper expenditures. Tribal officials are also currently working on a final revised Domestic Violence Department policy for Tribal Council review and approval to ensure it reflects appropriate handling of expenditures and other matters.

The Tribal Council hopes this information is helpful. If you have any specific questions, you may, of course, contact your Council representative.

Ponca Tribal Council

# Festive sweaters and cheer abound at Elders holiday meals



# February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

## Marian Harris

Domestic Violence Outreach Coordinator

*Trigger Warning: Article contains descriptions of abuse patterns, specifically related to teenagers.*

Teen Dating Violence (TDV) refers to a relationship where violence occurs between young people while they are dating. It is when one person uses patterns of abusive behavior over their partner to garner power and control. Some abuses look like the following:

**Physical:** pushes, shakes, slaps, kicks or spits on the victim, holds down the victim, or breaks personal belongings.

**Emotional:** insults the victim, calls them hurtful names, or accuses them of doing things that they are not doing.

**Sexual:** unwanted kissing, touching, pressure to engage in sexual activity, or making the victim feel guilty for not wanting to do so.

**Digital:** constant calls, texts or DMs to find out where the victim is or who they are with, dictating who the victim can be friends with on social media, or sending hurtful messages on social media either directly or anonymously.

## Cultural/Spiritual abuse:

Criticizing spiritual or tribal beliefs.

**Financial abuse:** Steals money from the victim or their friends and family.

TDV masks love with abuse in its many forms and creates a trauma bond. A trauma bond is when:

- An abuse victim covers up or makes excuses to others for an abuser's behavior.
- An abuse victim lies to friends or family about the abuse.
- A victim doesn't feel comfortable with or able to leave the abusive situation.
- An abuse victim thinks the abuse is their fault.

Trauma bonds make it extremely difficult to leave. TDV can also cause post traumatic disorder where you feel like you're being watched or when a sound or event triggers your anxieties such as a ring tone.

Here are a few questions for a young person who may be in the midst of TDV. Victims and survivors may often feel alone. Let them know they're not.

- What do you like about the partner who

harms you?

- Is that partner ok with you having friends?
- Does your partner give you praise when you accomplish something?
- Does your partner ask you a point of view on something or respect your opinion on a subject?
- Do they listen to you? For example do they stop a behavior if you ask them to?
- Does your partner have good friends and interests?
- Does the partner take accountability and responsibility for harm they've caused whether big or small
- Are you and your partner best friends?

Other ways to help our youth in dating violence and trauma:

- Create a safe space and tell them you're concerned about their safety.
- Be a good relative and listen to their story when they're ready to share.
- Ask how you can help them.
- Offer support and encourage the victim's

strength and courage.

- Never confront the abuser. It can escalate the situation and put your young relative in danger.

If you or your young relative need to talk, call PTN Domestic Violence Program

Lincoln: 402-438-9222  
Omaha: 402-734-5275  
Norfolk: 402-371-8834  
Niobrara: 402-857-3391  
Sioux City: 712-258-0500

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-SAFE(7233)

National Sexual Assault Hotline: 800-656-HOPE(4673)

StrongHearts Native Helpline at 1-844-762-8483 or chat at [strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org)

Native youth carry within them the hopes, visions, prayers, and songs of their ancestors.

We honor our Native youth, as the future leaders of our communities and of societies who already have challenges to face just being young. Let's give them the best possible vision of a healthy and safe future by also stating that we stand with them against Teen Dating Violence.



# Tribe hosts second craft and vendor show

On Saturday, January 7, 2023, the Ponca Tribe of NE D2 held a craft and vendor show from 10 am to 2 pm at the Ralston Transit Building. The show featured a few Ponca Tribe of NE artists and many Native crafters, as well as non-Native vendors, for a total of almost 40 vendors. The event was well attended and shoppers enjoyed the opportunity to purchase hand-made items, ranging from beaded jewelry and accessories to apparel to wall art to wood decor to health and beauty items. The Osni Ponka Youth

Council sold logoed t-shirts and hoodies. Healing Ribbons, a non-profit created by Native Tami Buffalohead-McGill, provided Indian tacos and snacks at a fee as a fund raiser to support the organization's mission. With the success of this event, many vendors and shoppers expressed interest in having another craft fair in the near future so the tribe is looking at having one in late spring or early summer; this would be an outdoor event. Thanks to all those that supported and assisted with this event.



## Head Cook & Cleaning Staff Needed

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is seeking letters of interest from Ponca members for Head Cook and cleaning staff for the 2023 Annual Northern Ponca Powwow in August. **Letters of intent MUST be submitted NO LATER THAN 11:59 pm, April 30th, 2023.**

*Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members only. For more information, or to submit your letter of intent, please email [rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org](mailto:rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org)*

**PONCA TRIBE  
OF NEBRASKA**



# Tips to safely navigate winter weather hazards

With winter in full swing, the Environmental Protection Department is here to provide winter safety tips for you and the environment. Winter weather conditions can cause hazardous situations for day to day life.

Power Equipment Safety (Snow blowers and other winter power equipment): Fuel and charge equipment prior to use. Refueling and charging in the middle of using the equipment is dangerous and can cause electrocution and engine hazards. Before refueling machinery, make sure you have

appropriate supplies to clean up a spill (gloves, disposable absorbent towels, trash bags/hazardous waste receptacle, etc.).

For general safety, be sure to clear snow and ice from walkways after storms and apply salt to minimize ice formation and provide traction for ice spots. Sand is a great environmental friendly alternative to road salt for providing traction on ice spots.

Walk like a penguin! Take short slow steps to react to any slippery spots.

Make sure to wear warm clothes (coat, gloves, hat, and scarf) and good snow boots with lots of traction, and try to keep dry because moisture on the body can increase heat loss.

Check local weather conditions before travelling and plan ahead for road delays to avoid unnecessary travel and hazards. For necessary travel, be sure to keep an emergency kit in your vehicle that has specific items for winter.

• Cellphone or two-way radio

- Windshield ice scraper
- Snow brush
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Shovel
- Tow chain
- Traction aids (bag of sand or cat litter)
- Emergency flares
- Jumper cables
- Snacks
- Water
- Road maps
- Blankets, change of clothes

**Are you a young adult 18-25 with experience in the Nebraska state/tribal child welfare system?**

→

**We want your voice to be heard!**

**Tribal youth are not accessing services to help in the transition to adulthood. We want to change that. YOU can help!**

Please contact us by emailing [kitty@nicwc.org](mailto:kitty@nicwc.org) or scan the QR code to get started.

**Incentives and travel reimbursements available**



**NICWC**  
NEBRASKA INDIAN CHILD WELFARE COALITION



## ACADEMIC BURNOUT

**What causes academic burnout?**

Burnout can be caused by an overwhelming amount of work, due to procrastination.

**How can I avoid academic burnout?**

Making time for friends, activities, and exercise are all great ways of staying balanced and avoiding academic burnout.

**Resources**

Stress management apps and activities can be a great way to take your mind off of the things that are causing stress.

**Tips for Time Management**

Time management plays a major role in becoming a good student. To improve your time management skills, you could do things such as making a plan, setting up deadlines, and breaking down tasks into chunks.

**What are the signs?**

If you notice that you're losing motivation to put effort towards academics, it may be due to academic burnout.

# Ponca Health Services takes delivery of new Mobile Medical Unit

Ponca Health Services is proud to announce the arrival of the new Mobile Medical unit! This customized RV contains mobile dental and medical clinic areas, along with a waiting area, and has a lift to be accessible for patients with mobility challenges. This unit will allow Ponca Health Services to provide medical services in areas not currently serviced by the three existing clinics in Omaha, Norfolk, and Lincoln.



## 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.

**Summer 2023 deadline: May 15, 2022**

**Fall 2023 deadline: August 15, 2022**

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 2021-2022 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 absenteeism), and \$25.00 (3.5-5.49 days of absenteeism).

**Deadline to apply for the 2022-2023 school year is July 31, 2023.**

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@poncatribene.org](mailto:aknudsen@poncatribene.org). *\*Ponca tribal enrollment is required for ALL education programs\**

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.org](mailto:enrollment@poncatribene.org), or contact the Niobrara or Lincoln offices.

We appreciate your help!

## INACTIVE MEMBERS AS OF 1/9/2023

Alexander, Tiannie Dawn	Flagg, I I., George Albert	Le Roy, Gisele Marie	Schmidt, Jr., Karl Michael
Anthony, Jr., Steven Scott	Flowers, Diamonds Ann	Le Roy, Sophia Storm	Scuderi, Jana Marie
Arrow, Robert Eugene	Flowers, Joseph	Leach, Dominic Charles	Scurlocke,
Bagent, Wayne Orval	Foley, Michael Joseph	Lerew Jr, Zachariah Ray	Athena Larissa Lucille
Baker, Dakota Dean	Franklin, Crystal Lee	Lieb, Donovan Joseph	Seaquist, Karli Jo
Baker, Jacob Jessie Bowen	Garcia, Cia Christine	Lieb, Sylas Vittorio	Sherman, Brian Nicholas
Banuelos, Christa Rose	Glenn, John Allen	Little, Jeromy Todd	Sherman, Cody Lee
Barber, Gabriela Marie	Glisan, Cynthia Lynn	Loftis, Timothy James	Sherman, Harold Dewayne
Bear, Joshua Gilbert	Glover, Nelson Ray	Lopez, Jr., Juan Francisco	Sherman, John Glenn
Beaver, Jason Chaska	Gortarez, Gina Marie	Maben, Jessica Paige	Sherman, Michael Ray
Becker, Jr., Anthony Arnold	Gortarez, Rachel	Maddox, Kaitlyn Renea	Sherman, Mitchell Everett
Becker, Sr., Anthony Arnold	Gortarez, Rudy John	Mann, Sydney Desiree`	Sherman, Robert Le Roy
Becker, Tyller Randell	Goss, Mamie L.	Marlow, Skyler Jade	Sherman, William Edward
Bell, Darian Patrick	Govia, Isaiah Lee	Martin, Andrea Lynn	Smith, Joni Sue
Bell, Shaune` Kay	Govia, Mc Kenzie Jo	Mategko, Lisa Louise	Smith, Linda Louise
Bennett, Erica Paige	Grant, I I., Jesse Clarence	McClure, Meaghan Marie	Smith, Matthew Shannon
Bergtold, Patricia Ann	Grubbs, Melody Jean	McGrath, Bryan Thomas	Standsblack, Marko Tulio
Blowe, Dominick Adams	Gutierrez, Rosaland Ann	McGrath, Daniel Patrick	Stuczynski, Drake Keegan
Blowe, Isaiah Fredrick	Haahr, Anneliese Teresa	McGraw, I I., Dormand Clare	Swinarski, Alicia Estrada
Blowe, Tyrone Richard	Hack, Tehya Marie	McGraw, Sheila Rae	Taylor, Russell Laverne
Boettger, Dakota Birdhead	Hall, III, Ralph	Mercier, Jade Sharice	Taylor, Wesley Moses
Boyer, Berlin N.	Halverson, Marvin Casper	Mielke, Brittany Nikole	Thomas, II,
Brownrigg, Steven Francis	Hamilton, Bobbi-Jo Danielle	Moniz, Cherish Toshia	Scott Richard Herbert
Buckley II,	Harris, Kenidy James	Morehouse, Lisa Lynne	Thomas, Jenny Anne
Sentwali Onyemachi	Hawk, Heather Nichole	O'Meara, Joseph Christopher	Thomas, Natana Lynn
Buckley, Maurice	Hennek, Gail Howe	O'Neill, Thomas Edward	Thomas, Robin Diane
Buckley, Sarai-Rachel Olivia	Hewitt, Mildred Barrel	Peck, Brandalynn	Treichler, Jasmine Dawn
Buffalo Chief, Martel	Hill, Mary Jane	Peck, Tyler Duane	Van Orden, Skyler Ray
Burns, Jr., George	Hocking-Gosnell, Zalla C.	Pedroza, Christian Joel	Vaughan, Linda Lou
Burston, Sandra Lee	Holiday, Vessa Cheriss	Petersen, Kevin Lee	Veals, Clifford James
Carter, Amber Lynn	Hope, Dorothea Jo Ann	Phillips, Noah Trench	Veals, Frances Lou
Cooks, Jeremy Jurai	Horine, Ashley Danielle	Pierce, Raychel Marie	Velder, Tristen Leo Spencer
Courtright, Michael Todd	Howard, Truman Ardell	Polly, Rachael Anne	Voss, Michael Roy
Crawford, Audrey Jean	Howe, Richard H.	Prichard, Joseph John	Waters, Deon Koleen
Crowder, Delorse Sue	Humphreys, Belinda Kay	Prunty, Austin Joe	Wayte, April May
Da Moude, Kyle Nash	Iron Thunder, Norman Noel	Quintana Jr, Arthur Jose	Wells, Isaiah David
Danielson, Daniel James	Jeppesen, Zachary Lee	Raymond, Joseph Allen	Wilcox, Christina Rae
Danner, Dante` Edward	Johnson, Daniel James	Reece, David Wayne	Wilson, Clarence Roy
Drapeaux, Jordan Charles	Johnson, Lukus Tyler	Reese, Lacey Lynne	Wright, Cherita Alberta
Drapeaux, Juston Lee	Kelso, James Alan	Richard, Robert Brandon	Wright, Jesse Dean
Eckley, Daniel Joseph	Kerrigan, Kathleen Ann	Roberts, Marquitta Ruby	Wright, Kiera Michelle
Eckley, Lane Emory	King, Gavin Michael	Rulo, Byron	Wright, Rita Marie
Evans, Kaci Antonette	Krueger, Annette Marie	Russell, Kristina Anne	Wright, Vincent Virgil
Evans, Matthew James	Kyles, Jarred Joseph	Sainz, Tritia Jeanene	Yarbrough, Jay Daniel
Faux, Jerod Michael	Latimer, LaRohn Lewis	Sarton, Gwendolyn Lee	

### 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

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

I \_\_\_\_\_ I

**TRIBAL MEMBERS**

(please print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU WANT YOUR SS NUMBER ON YOUR ID CARD? YES \_\_\_\_\_ OR NO \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please check one of the following: Full SS number \_\_\_\_\_ or Last 4 digits only \_\_\_\_\_

By marking **Yes** you understand it is your responsibility to keep your SSN confidential and acknowledge that the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is not responsible if the card is lost or stolen.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR BLOOD QUANTUM ON YOUR ID? YES \_\_\_\_\_ OR NO \_\_\_\_\_

**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 can email a current photo (without filters) to - enrollment@poncatribene.org

OR

You may mail documentation and your current photo to:

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska  
Enrollment Department  
PO Box 288  
Niobrara, NE 68760-0288



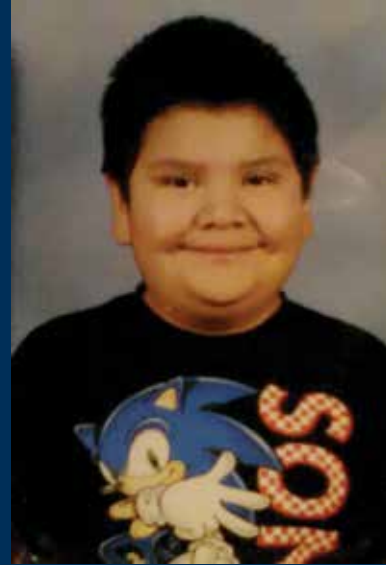
# Elder's Committee Meetings

**February 6 | 10 am**

Ponca Tribe Offices | Lincoln, NE

**March 6 | 10 am**

Ponca Tribe Offices | Norfolk, NE



Congratulations to Isaiah Lopez, for being named Wildcat of the Month! Isaiah is the son of Jennifer Knudsen and the grandson of Bertha Knudsen, and is a student at Laura Dodge Elementary in Omaha, NE. Way to go, Isaiah!

## Ponca Storyteller's Corner

Is there anyone out there who doesn't have a story, or a few, that means the world to them?

Stories contain worlds, convey knowledge, shape identity, live in the best parts of our hearts and memories. Without them, the world would be drab, colorless. Without them, we might wind up forgetting everything we most want to remember.

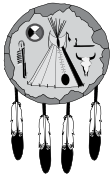
As Ponca People and as Natives, stories are particularly important to us. For thousands of years, we were an oral culture, meaning the spoken word and storytelling were among the primary ways we transmitted what we knew from generation to generation, how essential things and just lovely things moved through families, clans, and societies. Recently, as we all know, we Poncas have made our way through a kind of apocalypse. It has been difficult, tough, tragic. But we are still here and we are rebuilding, regenerating, and our story as a tribe continues. Guided by our ancestors, we persevere and go forward.

And we Ponca People still have plenty of stories—baskets, pickup trucks, and houses just full of them. They make us laugh, they make us cry, they make us who we are. We remember them from long ago when we were kids, and we remember them from yesterday. We tell them around the fire, and we tell shortened versions of them in our Facebook comments. They're treasures; sacred, precious family belongings. But they're also jokes, lessons, cultural history, and dreams. Aren't they the best? Isn't it awesome that as Ponca People we still have such a beautiful mountain of stories standing at the center of who we are as a people and as a tribe?

In this column, which I'm calling the Ponca Storytellers Corner, I'm aiming to create a place in our monthly newsletter where us Ponca can share our stories—any of them that come to mind—that are meaningful or educational to us, that need sharing or might be inspiring. My hope is that this column feeds our growth, feeds our journey, feeds our soul, because isn't that what a good story does anyway?

If you have a story you'd like to share in the Ponca Storytellers Corner, email it to [cliffponca@gmail.com](mailto:cliffponca@gmail.com) and [jhitchcock@poncatribene.org](mailto:jhitchcock@poncatribene.org). We are richer as individuals and as a people when we share the stories we have to tell. Let's make each other rich again as Poncas with the stories we carry.

Weblaho, Cliff Taylor



# PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

P.O. Box 288  
Niobrara, NE 68760

[www.poncatribene.org](http://www.poncatribene.org)

## 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: (712) 258-0762

### **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.org](mailto:jhitchcock@poncatribene.org). See or print the newsletter archives in full color on the web site at: [www.poncatribene.org](http://www.poncatribene.org)*