# PONCA TRIBE NEBRASKA Member News

Celebrating harvest, home, and Restoration

December 202

### Results of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Tribal Election, held November 5, 2024.

### **DISTRICT 1**

PATRICK LAMOUREUX	Winner
TONI JOAN SCHLOTMAN	26
BETH DECORY	30
PATRICK LAMOUREUX	90
SPOILED	0

### DISTRICT 2

SAMANTHA GALLAGHER	Winner
SAMANTHA GALLAGHER	48
CRYSTAL HOWELL	43
SPOILED	3

### **DISTRICT 3**

SUSAN BAKER	Winner
MAKALA LARAVIE	47
CHRISTY CONRAD	6
SUSAN BAKER	120
JAMES LAPOINTE	27
SPOILED	3

### **DISTRICT 4**

ALEX TAYLOR	Winner
ALEX TAYLOR	92
ANGELA BESSMER	52
FREDERICK JAMES BAKER	34
SPOILED	1

# 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@poncatribe-ne. gov or pate@poncatribe-ne.gov.

## Update on Elder payments

It has come to our attention that some Elders are having challenges cashing their checks. Here are some updates and additional information to assist you in the process of cashing your check:

• WalMart: Your Elder's check will be honored and cashed. We did have a case where the bottom white strip on the check needed to be cut down so the numbers could be scanned. If you have an issue at Walmart, you can ask them to look to see if that is an issue.

• Prairie Flower Casino: Your Elder's check will be honored and cashed. • Your Personal Bank: Your Elder's check should be cashed by your bank as you normally cash checks.

• F&M Niobrara Bank Branch: Your Elder's check will be honored with any official ID.

• Wells Fargo Bank. Wells Fargo has agreed to cash ANY checks issued by FSA at ANY branch across the United States, whether or not you bank with Wells Fargo, with a tribal ID.

For concerns or issues, contact our CFO Greg Gunderson at 816-695-0069 or ggunderson@ poncatribe-ne.gov



## Round Dance December 28, 2024 | 4:30 pm

Sioux City Convention Center 801 4th Street | Sioux City, IA

Relatives from all nations are invited to join us as we celebrate together in the depths of winter with a Round Dance. An evening meal will be provided, along with a snack, and a midnight meal. For more information, please contact Angie Starkel at astarkel@poncatribe-ne.gov.



On the cover: Ponca youth gather ears of corn by the armful at the Ponca Corn harvest, October 20, 2024. More on the traditional buffalo an corn harvests can be found on page 5.

## Chairwoman's Corner

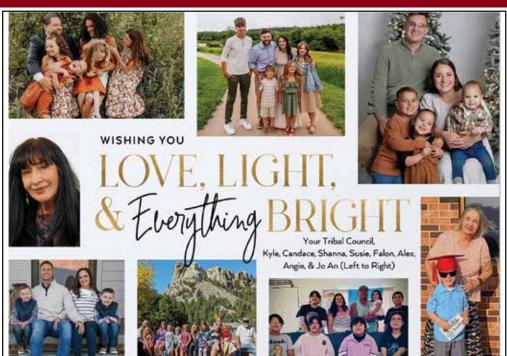
"Only in still water do we see the depth of our reflection."

Thati'a relatives,

As we come together at the table this season, let's take a moment to appreciate the gifts and lessons this year has brought us, giving thanks to the Creator for everything we hold dear. This past year has kept us busy, and with numerous projects on the horizon, there is much to anticipate in the coming year. In October, I had the honor of celebrating Judge Diane Humetewa at the Chief Standing Bear Prize for Courage Dinner. As the first Native American woman to serve as a federal judge, her commitment to justice and her advocacy for Indigenous rights have opened doors for future generations. A heartfelt thank you goes out to tribal members Katie Brossy, Judi gaiashkibos, and Jacqueline Schacht for their efforts in organizing this meaningful event for our community.

In November, I had the opportunity to attend the Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC) meetings in Washington D.C. These meetings addressed ten crucial topics for tribal nations, including Public Safety, Economic Development, Transportation, and Education. TIBC serves as a platform where federally recognized tribes collaborate with officials from the U.S. Department of the Interior to formulate annual budget requests for native programs, ensuring that tribes have a voice in the distribution of federal funds. Its history is deeply intertwined with the evolving relationship between the U.S. government and Native American tribes, particularly in the context of tribal self-determination and sovereignty.

The Tribal Council representatives in each district have been hard at



work organizing various holiday events, activities, and mailings. Special thank you goes out to our council members and staff who have contributed to making this holiday season memorable for everyone. I'm excited to see many of you at the upcoming festivities! Last year, I set up a hot cocoa bar that seemed to be a hit with the kids (sorry, parents :) ). This year, I'm planning to serve warm apple cider with all the delightful fixings. I warmly invite you to stop by and enjoy a special treat together.

Here are some additional highlights from the past couple of months to share with you. Until next time, take care!

- Tribal Council Health Subcommittee meetings
- Chief Standing Bear High School Dedication Ceremony
- Weekly Tribal Council meetings
- Meetings with U.S. Congressional officials
- Sioux City Unsheltered relatives discussions

- Nebraska Intertribal Coalition
   meeting
- Diaper Distributions at all office locations open to all tribal members
- Farmer's Market events at all office locations open to all tribal members
- Federal Consultations
- Chief Standing Bear Courage Award Presentation
- Joint Broadband Planning meetings
- Ag Tour and potential partnership discussions
- Restoration Powwow and activities
- Executive Team meetings
- Sioux City Development meetings
- Casino Development meetings
- Manufacturing and Workforce
   meetings
- Bi-weekly Federal calls
- PGE meeting
- General Membership Meeting

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### CONT: Chairwoman's Corner

continued from page 1

- Chief Standing Bear and Ponca Cultural Center Planning meetings
- Elder Committee meetings
- Housing Training and meetings
- Tribal Interior Budget Council meetings

#### wíbđahà (thank you),

Chairwoman Candace Schmidt candaces@poncatribe-ne.gov (402) 860-1497

#### Member Spotlight - Bob Taylor, Sr.



Bob with his mother Elizabeth Taylor

In November, we take a moment to honor all of our brothers and sisters who have served in the Armed Forces. Native Americans have a distinguished record of service, having served in the U.S. Armed Forces at a rate five times higher



than the national average. This month, we spotlight one of our dedicated Ponca Veterans, Robert (Bob) Taylor Sr. Bob served in the U.S. Army for four years and was honorably discharged in 1965.

Beyond his military service, Bob and his wife, Viola, were active contributors to the Ponca Tribe. Bob worked as a maintenance man for the Tribe. He helped construct the first arena and some of the offices in Niobrara alongside his fellow community members. Many of Bob's children also joined him on various projects throughout the Niobrara area. We take this opportunity to remember and salute all of our brave Veterans for their service and dedication.

> Submit a Ponca member to feature: memberspotlight@PoncaTribe-ne.gov

## Executive Team Meet & Greet

#### December 13, 2024 | 2:30 - 4:00 pm

Northern Ponca Housing Conference Room 1501 W Michigan Ave | Norfolk, NE

#### Meet the Exectutive Team!

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

Mai Le

Ponca Health Services Don Lee Rhiannon Pitzl

**Tribal Affairs** Courtney Chavez Penny Lingle Alexcia Boggs

Prairie Flower Casino Ernie Dellaverson

Information Technology David Threm

#### \*\*\*\*\*

## Tribal Home Visiting Now Enrolling!

The Tribal Home Vising 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@poncatribe-ne.gov Jessica Upton, 402.315.2760 jupton@poncatribe-ne.gov Candace Walahoski, 531.269.0932

cwalahoski@poncatribe-ne.gov



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## Ponca Tribe hosts meet & greet



Cami Schott, PTN member and school teacher; Courtney Chavez, PTN member and CEO of Tribal Affairs, Congresswoman Davids, and Becci Sullivan, PTN member and CEO of OSNI Ponca and PEDCO.

On Saturday, October 26th, the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska hosted a Meet and Greet with Congresswoman Sharice Davids and Senator Tony Vargas at our Ralston Transit Facility.

In 2018, Congresswoman Davids became one of the first two Native American women to serve in Congress. Representative Davids has centered her work in office on providing quality public schools and affordable higher education, fighting to limit the influence of special interests, and making health care more affordable and accessible to everyone.

Senator Vargas has served Nebraskans as an elected official for more than a decade. Vargas devoted his career to public service and has worked on legislation to strengthen our public schools, improve access to health care, and improve consumer protection. He was one of the first Hispanic leaders elected to the Nebraska legislature.



Congresswoman Davids



Senator Vargas

## Farmer's Market Food Distribution

#### December

Mon. December 16, 2024 | 4 – 6 pm Lincoln |1600 Windhoek Drive | North Lot

**Tues. December 17, 2024 | 4 – 6 pm** Omaha | 5815 South 86th Circle

Wed. December 18, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm Norfolk | 1800 Syracuse Avenue | North Gym Lot

Thurs. December 19, 2024 | 4 - 6 pm Niobrara | 2523 Woodbine Street

**Fri. December 20, 2024 | 4 – 6 pm** Sioux City | 125 6th Street

#### January

Mon. January 13, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm Niobrara | 2523 Woodbine Street

**Tues. January 13, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm** Norfolk | 1800 Syracuse Avenue | North Gym Lot

**Wed. January 13, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm** Sioux City | 125 6th Street

Thurs. January 13, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm Lincoln |1600 Windhoek Drive | North Lot

**Fri. January 13, 2025 4 - 6 pm** Omaha | 5815 South 86th Circle

#### February

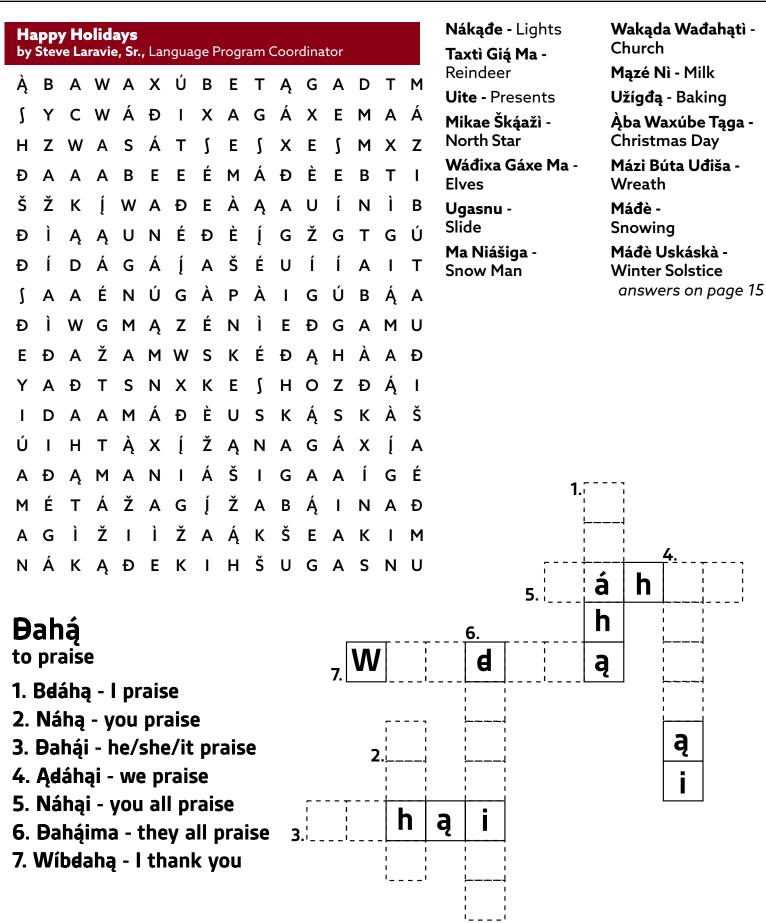
Mon. February 10, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm Sioux City | 125 6th Street Tues. February 11, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm Niobrara | 2523 Woodbine Street

Wed. February 12, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm Norfolk | 1800 Syracuse Avenue | North Gym Lot

**Thurs. February 13, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm** Omaha | 5815 South 86th Circle

Fri. February 14, 2025 | 4 - 6 pm Lincoln |1600 Windhoek Drive | North Lot

#### Language



## Traditional harvest event provides connection for members

Ponca members of all ages had the opportunity to connect with their culture and traditional foodways with a traditional corn and buffalo harvest, held in conjunction with a camp for Ponca youth, October 19-20 in Niobrara.

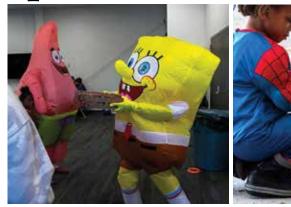
On Saturday, members learned about the traditional uses of the buffalo, and the ceremonial, cultural, and practical practices surrounding the buffalo harvest. Youth attending the Ponca Youth Camp participated in a variety of additional activities, including a scavenger hunt, archery, a tipi raising, and a reptile art contest.

On Sunday, members enjoyed a breakfast followed by Ponca language Bingo, before gathering to harvest the Ponca corn that was planted in June of this year. Despite the dry autumn, enough corn was harvested for both future seed stock, and seed and food use for members. Members and staff also worked to process meat from the buffalo harvest the day before. Thank you to all of the members and staff who came to learn and to help with this harvest and culture event, and thank you to Lisa and Arlo for the guidance, information, and support they provided. Thank you to The Nature Conservancy of Nebraska for their connections and support as well!



## Pumpkin run provides healthy family fun

The Mystery Machine was on the move, along with Spiderman and Sponge Bob at a Pumpkin Fun Run, October 20, 2024, hosted by Ponca Health Services, The Indian Center, and Bryan Health. Families were invited to wear their costumes during the run and participated in a costume contest.







# **be there** for the long haul.

For those struggling with substance use disorder, <u>being there</u> is everything.



## Family Movie Outing

Hosted by District 2 Tribal Council

### Sunday, December 29, 2024 Doors open - 9:30 am | Movie - 10:00 am

Majestic Theater 14304 West Maple Road | Omaha, NE

District 2 SDA Ponca tribal members and their immediate family members are invited to a morning showing of **Mufasa.** Small combos of popcorn and a drink will be provided for each attendee. First come, first served. Everyone must check in at the PTN table upon arrival. For more information, please contact Falon at 402.208.0297.



## **Restoration Powwow a time for celebration**



























**Looking for more photos?** All our official Ponca Tribe of Nebraska photos are available on Flickr @PoncaTribeofNE.

## Lincoln craft fair jump starts holiday shopping!



## Calling all Ponca Artists

it.

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://poncatribeofne.formstack. com/forms/ponca\_artists\_niobrara\_ market to sign up. For more information, contact Rebecca Sullivan at bsullivan@osniponca.com.



## SAVE THE DATE! Diaper Distribution

#### December 8, 2024 | 12 - 4 pm

Norfolk Gym 1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE

Lincoln Community Room 1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE

Sioux City Office 125 6th St | Sioux City, IA

Niobrara Headquarters 2523 Woodbine St | Niobrara, <mark>NE</mark>

Cabinet Building Garage 5813 S 86th Cir | Omaha, N<mark>E</mark>

## District 3 hosts Restoration Brunch

On Saturday, November 2, 2024, District 3 hosted a Restoration Brunch. Members enjoyed brunch from the Waffle Man and honored all those members who were integral in the federal Restoration of the Tribe.





















SAVE THE DATE!

## Annual Healthy Living Walk/Run & Powwow April 12, 2025

Walk/Run Location - Skyview Lake 1900 West Maple Ave | Norfolk, NE Powwow Location - Ponca Gym 1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE





## District Holiday Parties:

Ponca Tribe members and their families are invited to celebrate the holidays together with food, fun activities, family photos, Toys for Tots, and even visits from Santa! Contact your District Tribal Council Representative for more information!



## District 1

December 15, 2024 | 12-3 pm Wagner Theater 218 S. Main Ave.| Wagner, SD

December 15, 2024 | 4-7 pm Niobrara Headquarters 2523 Woodbine St. | Niobrara, NE

December 16, 2024 | 6-8 pm Stoney Creek Inn 300 3rd Street | Sioux City, IA

## <u>District 2</u>

December 7, 2024 | 12-3 pm Ralston Cabinet Building 5811 S. 86th Circle | Omaha, NE

### **District 3**

December 14, 2024 | 5-7 pm Lincoln Community Room (N. Entrance) 1600 Windhoek Dr. | Lincoln, NE

### <u>District 4</u>

December 19, 2024 | 5:30-7:30 pm Norfolk Gym Building 1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE



### **Child Care Development Fund**

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska uses the Federal government's Child Care and Development Fund to provide assistance to families who need child care due to work, work-related training and/or attending school.

#### In order to qualify for this benefit program:

- You must be a parent or primary caregiver responsible for children under the age of 13 years of age, or under 19 if incapable of self-care or under court supervision who needs assistance paying for daycare
- The children must be enrolled Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members or have their enrollment pending

Fred LeRoy-Jai Steadman

- · In order to qualify you must be either employed or enrolled in a training or education program
- · You must reside in one of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska's Service Delivery Areas
- Your daycare provider must have their business in one of the tribe's Service Delivery Areas
- Once you have confirmation from the State of Nebraska showing denial for their Child Care Subsidy Program, you are eligible to be considered for our Child Care and Development Fund program.

For more information or to see if you qualify for acceptance into the program, contact the program coordinator:

Stephanie Pospisil, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska 1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE 68512 531-248-3030 x 1108 | spospisil@poncatribe-ne.gov

## Cal Poly University vs. UNO Mavericks December 21, 2024 |7:00 pm

Baxter Arena | 2425 S 67th Street | Omaha, NE

Jai Steadman, proud Ponca Tribe of Nebraska member, and Head Men's Basketball Coach at Independence Community College in Kansas would like to invite Native American students and their families to come and watch as Cal Poly University takes on the UNO Mavericks.

- FREE Admission!
- FREE Food Voucher
- FREE Christmas Gift Bag!

For more information, or to RSVP, please call Nancie at 402.450.1095.



Honoring Fred LeRoy, Former Ponca Tribe Chairman

## THV and Behavioral Health cohost Halloween dance

Youth and their families gathered in Lincoln for a No Tricks, Just Treats Halloween dance, sponsored by Behavioral Health, and the Tribal Home Visiting program. The night was filled with treats, crafts, costumes, music, and fun for all ages!







\$400 per eligible\* Ponca youth, distributed once a year, to ensure ALL Ponca youth are receiving funding!



Watch your mail and email for information from FSA TPA on how to sign up for direct deposit!

Disbursements start December 15th.

For questions about the policy, reach out to **youthfund@poncatribe-ne.gov**.

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word search answers from page 4

### Domestic violence risk factors increase during the holiday season

**Heather Oberg** Domestic Violence Case Manager

The holiday season is generally regarded as a time where we strive for peace, joy, and goodwill for our neighbors, family togetherness, and sugar plums dancing in our heads. However, the holidays also bring with them anxiety, stress, busy days, and busy nights while we try to make a memorable holiday season for friends and family members.

While experiencing this year's holiday season, we should be aware of statistics which can also make this the most miserable time of year. During the time where we should be experiencing comfort and joy, some people will be part of the holiday increase in domestic violence incidents. The increase in domestic violence during the holidays is a serious problem. Below are some of the factors to watch out for so your prevention and/ or intervention efforts to avoid being part of this statistical increase can be most effective.

#### **Financial Stress**

Financial stress is one of the most significant reasons for the rise in domestic violence during the holiday season. Internal and external pressures to buy gifts, host family dinners and gatherings, and meet expectations imposed on us by society can all strain household budgets. The financial burden of the holidays can cause often results in an increase in existing tensions within relationships, which can make it a trigger for violent behavior by an intimate partner. One way to offset the cost of the holiday season is to attend the Tribe's food distribution events. The food distribution events for December are the week of December 16th through the 20th.

#### Emotional and Psychological Factors

The holiday season can also play on our emotions. The expectation to be full of smiles and holiday cheer coupled with the stress of constant interactions with people can lead to heightened emotions. If you are already in a relationship which can be volatile at times, the emotional triggers we encounter during the holidays can cause conflicts to escalate into verbal or physical violence.

#### Increased Alcohol Consumption

Alcohol consumption in and of itself is already a risk factor for domestic violence. Increased alcohol consumption can go hand-in-hand with the holiday season for some families, which increases the risk for violence. Alcohol impairs judgment and lowers inhibitions – both of these make it easier for underlying tension to rise to the surface resulting in larger or more frequent confrontations.

Limited Access to Support Services During the holiday season, support services such as domestic violence shelters, domestic violence hotlines, and domestic violence programs may have reduced hours or may be understaffed and unable to accommodate the increase in the use of these services. These factors are not only frustrating, but they also make it more of a challenge for victims to seek help and/ or escape the abusive situations they are living in during this time.

Family Dynamic Factors While often fun and fulfilling, family gatherings during the holiday season can sometimes act as a catalyst for domestic violence. The presence of extended and immediate family members at gatherings can either inhibit or provoke violent behaviors. In some cases, these extended and immediate family members may normalize or downplay the abuse they have witnessed. This behavior by family can make it more difficult for victims to be

willing to reach out or speak up about the abuse they are enduring during the holidays.

## Family Time and Togetherness

The societal emphasis on family and togetherness during the holidays can also be a contributing factor victims face. Victims of domestic violence during the holidays may be more reluctant to leave or report the abuse they are experiencing. An overwhelming reason for this is victims fear they will ruin the holidays for their children and their extended and immediate family members.

For those individuals who may be experiencing domestic violence, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233), a 24-hour nation-wide domestic violence hotline. You can also call the Strong Hearts Native Helpline at 1-844-7NA-TIVE (762-8483), a 24/7 helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence. Strong Hearts can also be reached online at strongheartshelpline.org. Additionally, the Tribal offices have domestic violence staff on site to help victims navigate the Tribe's Domestic Violence Program as well as other resources in your area.

## Staff put on their best purple for DV Awareness!

Staff helped raise awareness for domestic violence in the month of October with Purple Week, October 14-18. Staff and community members were invited to wear purple throughout the week, culminating in Purple Shirt Day October 18. Staff and community members signed a pledge to raise Domestic Violence Awareness











## Our website has moved!

You can now find the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska website at **www.poncatribe-ne.gov**.

## **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 postsecondary 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@poncatribe-ne.gov or aknudsen@poncatribe-ne.gov, or via mail:

> PONCA TRIBE of NEBRASKA

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

#### 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. **Spring 2025 deadline: December 15, 2024 Summer 2025 deadline: May 15, 2025 Fall 2025 deadline: August 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 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@poncatribe-ne.gov. \*Ponca tribal enrollment is required for ALL education programs\*

## 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 PEDCO at 402.499.1202.





## **COMING SOON!** PEDCO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

#### MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

The PEDCO Workforce Development program will provide our Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members access to services designed to help nurture individual self-sufficiency, assist in eliminating barriers to employment, and provide members a means to achieve professional success. This program will be available to all members 16+ wanting pre-employment assistance, to further their career, or to advance professional skills. We are planning to build this into a career center based on the needs of our People.



PEDCO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**CAREER EXPLORATION** 

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

CAREER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING

PEDCO 2756 O Street Lincoln, NE 68510 402.434.2127

PEDCO-NE.org Releasing in early 2025



#### **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

L IN CH

We offer ongoing training and support for Native American businesses, provided <u>FREE</u> of charge.

531-310-2494 e.org/pedco-native-apex-accelerator jniceswanger@pedcoapex.org a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense.





## AVAILABLE NOW! CYBERSECURITY IN AGRICULTURE TRAINING WITH PEDCO & UNO

Hackers are getting more sophisticated, and they strike randomly. This is true even in Agriculture. Understand your options and prepare for the possibility you could be the next victim of a cybercrime. PEDCO offers free Cybersecurity in Agriculture training in partnership with the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Training will be available online or in-person if requested, and training sites will be available in any of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska offices throughout the Service Area upon request.



----PRESENTED BY PEDCO & UNO ----IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL

**CYBERSECURITY IN** 

AGRICULTURE

TRAINING

FREE TWO-HOUR TRAINING

OPEN TO ALL PONCA TRIBE MEMBERS

INTERESTED? CONTACT

Tom McCauley Grants Manager PEDCO <u>tmccauley@pedco-ne.org</u> 402-499-1202

#### **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@poncatribe-ne.gov, or contact the Niobrara or Lincoln offices.

We appreciate your help!

Anthony, Jr., Steven Scott Arellano, Carlos Montana Bagent, Wayne Orval 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, Tyller 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 Boone, Lola Belle Boyd, Myron Ralph Boyer, Berlin N. Brooks, Angela Ellen Brown, Da`Trel Duvoni Brown, J. Wesley Brown, La`Trel Lucious Brownrigg, Steven Francis Buckley II, Sentwali Onyemachi Burston, Sandra Lee Carter, Amber Lynn Chwalowski, Kaitlin Martika Courtright, Michael Todd Cutshall, Katline James Da Moude, Deborah Kay Danielson, Daniel James Davis, Mary Frances Drapeaux, Juston Lee Droescher, Samantha Roma Rae Eckley, Lane Emory Eckley, Leigha Irene Evans, Kareem Antwon Fasthorse, Beverlee Ann Flagg, III., George Albert Flowers, Joseph Foley, Michael Joseph

#### **INACTIVE MEMBERS AS OF 12/1/2024**

Freeman, Xavier Lee Givens, V'Unna Anna Mae Glenn, John Allen Glisan, Cynthia Lynn Goss, Mamie L. Govia, Isaiah Lee Govia, Mc Kenzie Jo Grant, III., Jesse Clarence Green, Brooklyn Marie Greenwood IV, Ernest Sydney Leshaun Gutierrez, Vincent Clarence Haahr, Anneliese Teresa Hagler, Joshua James Hamilton, Bobbi-Jo Danielle Harlan, Kyzur James Harlan, Lavara Mina Harris, Paul Joseph Hart-La Londe, Kaedyn Mikael Hatfield, Kyleigh Rae Marie Hendren, Ádavia Gabrielle Hennek, Gail Howe Henritze, Joseph Dale Henritze, Karen June Hocking-Gosnell, Zalla C. Hope, Dorothea Jo Ann Horine, Ashley Danielle Howe, Richard H. Humphreys, Belinda Kay Jeppesen, Zachary Lee Johnson, Lukus Tyler Kelso, James Alan Kerrigan, Kathleen Ann King, Gavin Michael Krueger, Annette Marie Kyles, Jarred Joseph LaPointe, Alejandro Jauquine LaPointe, Robert James Latimer, LaRohn Lewis Leach, Isaiah Marcus Lerew Jr, Zachariah Ray Lieb, Donovan Joseph Lieb, Sylas Vittorio Little, Jeromy Todd Livermore, Lakin Mardell Lopez, Jr., Juan Francisco

Maben, Jessica Paige Mann II, Steven Michael Mann, Sydney Desiree` Mategko, Janet Louise Mategko, Lisa Louise Mategko, Michael Steven Matthews, Jett Haden Mc Cray, Johnny William Melvin McGrath, Bryan Thomas McGrath, Daniel Patrick Mercier, Jade Sharice Mullen, Michael Thomas Mullen, Owen Dean Muscutt, Elias Gordon O'Flynn, Shania Marie O'Meara, Joseph Christopher Parsley, Shanel Rose Peck, Brandalynn Peck, Tyler Duane Petersen, Kevin Lee Phillips, William Shawn 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, Marguitta Ruby Rowe, Crystle Anette Rulo, Byron Russell, Kristina Anne Sainz, Tritia Jeanene Sarton, Gwendolyn Lee Schmidt, Jaye Anthony Schmidt, Jr., Karl Michael Schmitz, Jennifer Joy 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 Simpkins, Sebastian Ray Smith, Ashley Nicole Smith, Danial Ray Smith, Stephanie Rae Standsblack, Marko Tulio Stastny, Rachel Colleen Stegman, Mi'a Miwasa Nevaeh Stuczynski, Drake Keegan Swinarski, Alicia Estrada Taylor, Ka`ili Brianna Taylor, Samantha Rose 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 Wilson, Samantha Tyre Wintermantel, Samuel Max Kawakami Wright, Alina Lee Wright, Cherita Alberta Wright, Cruz Montgomery York, Gregory Allen

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 HOUSEH	OLD:				
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 in with all PTON Departments as needed. Any service may be information is corrected and/or updated.					
SIGNATURE REQUIRED	DATE				

PONCATRIBE of NEBRASKA 21

T

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

#### 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. <u>Clear readable copies of the following must be submitted:</u>

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 <u>not</u> 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@poncatribe-ne.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.

### MEMBERS NEEDED

#### **ELECTION BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED**

The Tribal Council is accepting applications for District 1, 3, and At Large positions for the Election Board as their terms are expiring. Members are paid \$250 per meeting and mileage will be paid for a maximum of 410 miles round trip at the federal government approved rate. Most meetings are held in Niobrara, Nebraska.

To be qualified to be appointed to the Election Board, a person shall:

- 1. Be an enrolled member of the Tribe.
- 2. Be a resident of the voting district from which they are appointed.
- 3. Be eligible to vote in the election for which they will serve as Election Board Member; and
- 4.If convicted of a felony, have completed his sentence requirements, including any parole, at least two (2) years prior to appointment.

No individual shall be permitted to sit as an Election Board member who:

- 1. Has been convicted of a crime involving the theft of funds or property of the Tribe in any court of any jurisdiction regardless of any pardon or restoration of civil rights for said offense.
- 2. Currently holds elective office in the Tribe.
- 3. Is or plans to be a candidate in any election during his or her term.
- 4. Has an immediate family member who is currently a member of the Tribal Council, or who is or plans to be a candidate in any election during his or her term.
- 5. No Ponca Tribe of Nebraska employees may serve on the Election Board per the PTN Employee Handbook.

A criminal background check will be conducted.

Please submit a letter of interest and application form to Ponca Tribal Council, Attn: Candace Repenning, P.O. Box 288, Niobrara, NE 68760 or via e-mail to crepenning@poncatribe-ne.gov. Deadline is January 21, 2025.

#### LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

The Tribal Council is accepting applications for the Language & Culture Committee due to a resignation. Members must reside within the Service Delivery Area. Applications are now being accepted. This Committee focuses on the preservation and revitalization of the Ponca language.

The Committee consists of 7 representatives: a representative from each site within the Service Delivery Areas (SDAs) and a representative from outside of the SDAs. Committee members will be selected according to their knowledge of Ponca language, culture, and traditional ways. If a representative is not who meets the above qualification is not available from each site, any qualifying member may be appointed to the committee.

Members will be expected to attend all Committee meetings scheduled monthly and will be paid a stipend of \$250 per meeting and claim associated travel at the government rate, not to exceed a total of 410 total miles.

Some of the responsibilities of this committee are:

- To provide guidance to the Culture Department and Language Program with long-term planning, programming, and the use of traditional knowledge.
- To generate culturally-appropriate programming to increase tribal involvement on culture and language activities and create a sustainable culture and language program for tribal members inside and outside the SDAs.
- To act as a resource for Tribal departments to create culturally-based programming by providing guidance, knowledge, wisdom, and expertise on Ponca culture, traditions, history, and beliefs.
- To assist the Ponca Tribal government in the formulation of policies and procedures pertaining to the Ponca Language, culture, and history.
- To review and approve all Ponca culturally related educational material, such as instructional materials and modern communication media productions, to be used to provide instruction.
- To review and reserve approval on all other activities and tasks related to the Ponca language, history, and culture as may be referred the Committee.
- To periodically assess and review the Language Program and provide such assessments to the Tribal Council.

If you desire more information regarding this committee, please contact the Culture Director, Richard Wright Jr., at rwrightjr@ ponatribe-ne.gov or 402.371.8834. Please forward your letter of interest including your qualifications/resume for this Committee to Ponca Tribal Council, Attn: Candace Repenning, P.O. Box 288, Niobrara, NE 68760 or via e-mail to crepenning@ poncatribe-ne.gov. Deadline for Applications is December 15, 2024.

#### PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA TRIBAL COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION 24-7/

WHEREAS: The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is a federally recognized Indian Tribe (P.L. 101-484) whose business affairs are conducted by the Ponca Tribal Council as defined in the Constitution approved July 22, 1994, by the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to the Constitution of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, the Ponca Tribal Council exercises legislative powers to enact and promulgate resolutions and ordinances subject to all express restrictions upon such powers contained in the constitution; and

WHEREAS: The Ponca Tribal Council has reviewed the proposed amendments to the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Law & Order Code Title III – Children & Welfare; and

WHEREAS: The proposed amendments are being considered expand the Indian Child Welfare Advisory Board by changing the composition of the Board; and

WHEREAS: The proposed amendments to the Law & Order Code Title III – Children & Welfare was placed on the October 8, 2024, Tribal Council Agenda to allow comments from the public and on October 15, 2024 and October 22, 2024 for first and second readings respectively. A notice of intent to amend the Law & Order Code Title XII – Children & Welfare mailed to all heads of household at least 14 days prior to any final action satisfying the requirements for the adoption, amendment, or abolishment of Ordinances.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ponca Tribal Council does approve the amendments to the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Law & Order Code Title III- Children & Welfare.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these amendments shall take effect immediately.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY AND AFFIRM that the above and foregoing resolution was duly authorized and passed by the Tribal Council of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska at a duly called meeting held via Lifesize on the \_\_\_\_\_\_day of October, 2024 by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_\_Ayes; \_\_O\_\_\_\_Nays; \_O\_\_\_\_\_Abstained; \_\_\_\_\_\_Absent. Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_\_voting \_\_\_\_\_ not voting. A Quorum of \_\_\_\_\_\_ was present.

#### ATTEST

Cito Set

Candace Schmidt, Chairwoman Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Susan Baker, Secretary

Susan Baker, Secretary Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

#### **Congratulations!**



We are so proud of our grandson, Maeson Wakole-Knudsen. First semester honor roll at Central high school in Omaha, NE. Son of John and Starlene Knudsen. Grandson of Melvin and JoAnn Knudsen.

## VISIT THE WEBSITE BELOW FOR

INFO REGARDING DISCOUNTS ON YOUR INTERNET!

WWW.FCC.GOV/ACP

NEBRASK

#### THANK YOU!



On behalf of Donna Wendzillo's family, we would like to personally thank everyone involved with the honoring of the original Restoration

Committee at this year's Restoration Pow Wow. We know that many people's hard work were involved with getting the tribe reinstated but we can attest to the hard work and passion that our Mother and Grandmother had for our Tribe and Tribal Members. We were so honored to be there on her behalf. We know that she was smiling down on us and is so very proud of all the success and hard work that continues.

Elder's Committee Meetings **December 2 | 10 am** PTN Offices Lincoln, NE

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#### January 6 10 am PTN Offices Omaha, NE

Adopt-A-Buffalo Sponsors

These friends have helped our buffalo herd prosper by adopting herd members through our Adopt-A-Buffalo program! Thank you for your support and preservation of this majestic symbol of Native America.

Herd Group Supporters: James L. Schaffran - Elk River, MN

Our Adopt-A-Buffalo program is open to both Tribal members and Non-Tribal friends. You will receive a photo of your buffalo along with an official adoption certificate.

\$25 for the Yearling Group \$50 for the Buffalo Herd Group \$100 for the Head Herd Bull Group

Make Checks payable to: Northern Ponca Buffalo Program Mail to: Ponca Tribe of Nebraska P.O. Box 288 Niobrara, Nebraska 68760 ATTN: Northern Ponca Buffalo Progr<u>am</u>\_\_\_\_\_





## PONCATRIBE of NEBRASKA Office Locations

#### NIOBRARA 68760

<u>Headquarters</u> 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

#### <u>Cultural</u>

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

#### <u>Osni Ponca</u>

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

<u>Administration</u> 5805 South 86th Circle, 68127 Ph: (402) 315-2760

#### <u>Dental</u>

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**

<u>Administration</u> 125 6th Street Ph: (712) 258-0500 Fax: (402)939-0297

#### **OTHER RESOURCES**

<u>Child Abuse Hotline</u> 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@poncatribe-ne.gov. See or print the newsletter archives in full color on the web site at: www.poncatribe-ne.gov