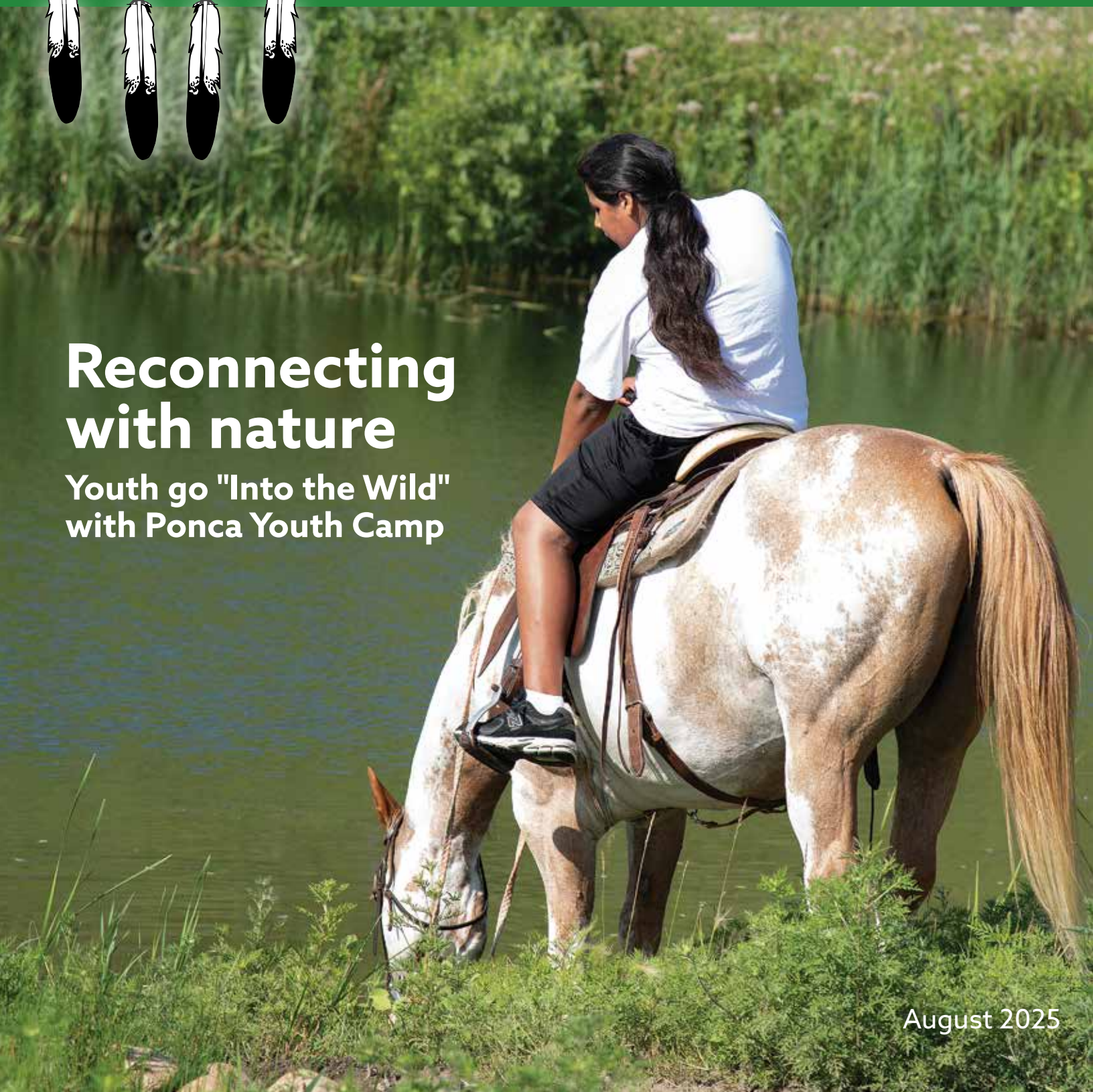
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Member News



Reconnecting with nature

Youth go "Into the Wild" with Ponca Youth Camp

August 2025

31ST ANNUAL
PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
POWWOW
August 7-10, 2025

Grand Entries: Thurs- 7 pm
Fri & Sat - 1 pm & 7 pm | Sun - 1 pm
Meals provided 1 hour before each Grand Entry
All Dancers and Spectators Welcome.
Drums by invite only!

Head Man
Tristan Legate-Lewchuk

Head Woman
Rebecca Wright

Head Boy
Braxton Bear

Head Girl
Ella Smith

Arena Director
Stan Smith

MC
Shannon Leroy

Head Drum
Drowning Creek

Invited Drums
Red Creek
Omaha White Tail
Lightning Horse
Elk Soldiers

Senior Princess
Destiny Rich

Junior Princess
Alizay Ironheart

Little Miss
Rowan Taylor



Hand Game
August 7 | 10 am

Diabetes Fun Run
August 8 | 5 pm

Cornhole Tournament
August 9 | 10 am

Horseshoe Tournament
August 10 | 10 am

Team Dance Contest

Golden Age Special

Archery Range

Security and First Aid Provided. Restrooms, Running Water, and Limited Camping on Site.

Elders receive priority parking, additional parking provided near grounds, with shuttle.

PTN POWWOW GROUNDS DIRECTIONS:

One mile West of Niobrara on Highway 12. Turn left at the Ponca Sign, located across from the Niobrara State Park. Follow the pavement to the Powwow Grounds.

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA ARTS COUNCIL
With the support of the Nebraska Arts Council.

For the most up-to-date information, follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/PTNPowwow, call: 712.258.0500 or email: aboggs@poncatribe-ne.gov.

Chairwoman's Corner

"In the vast night sky, the stars shine brighter when they cluster together; let us be like them, supporting one another to illuminate the night."

Thati'a relatives,

As I write to you this month, I want to send heartfelt prayers to all those impacted by the devastating flooding occurring across the country. Our thoughts are with those families and communities facing such tragedy.

In much more positive news, I am happy to share that our tribe has been the recipient of land in Antelope County, Nebraska; donated by Karen Berry. We recently held a beautiful ceremony to honor Karen and her family for their significant contribution to our tribe. This land provides 79 acres and will allow us to further explore various food sovereignty initiatives and strengthens our connection to the area, reminding us of our historical roots. During the ceremony we presented Karen with an honorary membership certificate and other gifts to celebrate her impact on our community.

I had the privilege of attending the



Chairwoman Schmidt with fellow Nebraska Tribal Leaders



Karen Berry (right) and her husband hold up their "Go Big Red" Ponca t-shirts after the land donation ceremony.

Ponca Youth Camp in Niobrara and am delighted to report that it was an overwhelming success! The smiles and laughter from the children at the conclusion of camp were truly heartwarming and it was evident that our staff felt rejuvenated from their time spent in the homelands. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who played a role in reviving this cherished experience for our young ones. I still remember attending this camp as a young Ponca youth, so it warms my heart to see it thrive again at this level. Thank you to the staff, funding supporters, and parents/guardians for sharing your children with us. Witnessing timid young members blossom and form new friendships reaffirms my belief in our future—filled with brilliant minds and kind hearts.

As we look ahead, it's a busy time of



Willa Cather Statue unveiling

year with our 31st Annual Powwow right around the corner. I hope to see many of you in Niobrara as we gather to celebrate our culture and community. For those making the journey, I wish you safe travels and look forward to seeing you soon!

Below are some additional highlights from the past couple of months. Until next time, take care.

- Weekly Tribal Council meetings
- Meetings with local, state, and tribal officials
- Federal briefings and consultations
- Chief Standing Bear Museum and Cultural Center planning meetings
- Great Plains meetings
- NCAI Tribal Training Program
- Willa Cather Conference & Statue Unveiling
- EPA/National Tribal Toxins Council Meeting
- Strategic Planning

continued on page 2

Chairwoman's Corner (cont.)

continued from page 1

· Berry Land Donation Ceremony

· Tribal Leader Academy

· Infrastructure Planning meetings

· Nebraska Intertribal Coalition Meeting

· Ponca Youth Camp

wíbđahà (thank you),
Chairwoman
Candace Schmidt
candaces@poncatribe-ne.gov (402) 860-1497



ATTENTION RELATIVES!
Tribal Council will be offering head shots for Ponca Elders at this year's Annual Powwow in Niobrara. The photos will be taken on Friday by Tribal Member, Josh Carlson, who owns his own photography/film business. Each Elder will be provided a copy of their professional photo following the powwow.

Stop by the Tribal Council/Welcome booth for more details on Thursday night, Friday morning, or watch for the information to be shared on social media and in the Whova App.

Member Spotlight: Talia Jennings



Hello! My name is Talia, I'm honored to serve as the new Chair of the JOM Parent Committee. I'm truly excited to be part of this group and have already enjoyed the work we've done together so far.

Over the past 13 years, I've had the privilege of working in several roles within our tribe—from starting as an Intern with the Education Department, to serving as a Domestic Violence Support Specialist, and for nearly 8 years I've been in the Transportation Department, more recently serving as the Transit Manager.

Outside of work, I've been a dancer since I could walk—starting as a tiny jingle dress dancer and growing into women's traditional. One of my proudest moments was being selected as the Head Woman Dancer at our 30th Anniversary Powwow—an honor I carry with deep gratitude.

At home, it's just my daughter Lia and me but there's never a dull moment! We have a dog, two cats, a bird, a bunny, and a frog! They add extra love, noise and character to our everyday routine. Between work, school, sports, and our animal crew, we stay busy—but always centered around family. We especially love time spent with my parents, siblings, and niece.

I look forward to continuing this meaningful work with all of you and supporting our students in every way we can.



Members of the JOM Committee and Education Department.

Ponca Tribe celebrates the return of land in Antelope County

On Wednesday, July 9, 2025, the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska celebrated the return of 79 acres of land in Antelope County with a small ceremony near Orchard, Nebraska. Tribal Chairwoman Candace Schmidt opened the ceremony with gratitude, saying, "Today, we come together to honor our relative, Karen Berry, for returning land to the Ponca Nation—an act worthy of our recognition. This land holds deep significance for us, as it is intertwined with our history and our Trail of Tears…We have made a promise to Karen to be conscientious stewards of these lands, ensuring they remain vibrant and sustainable for future generations."



A brief ceremony of gratitude for the land was held, and those in attendance were invited to offer tobacco, and share any remarks they had on the return of this land to the Tribe.

The land was donated by Karen Berry, now of Omaha, NE. The land had been in Karen's family for as long as she could remember, with Karen's mother calling it, "a lucky piece of land." In deciding the future of the property, Karen was inspired by her friends Helen and Art Tanderup, who returned several acres of land near Neligh to the Ponca Tribe in 2018, and began to investigate the land back movement. "Once I got the idea, it felt so right," said Karen. In gratitude for her gift, Tribal Council made Ms. Berry an honorary member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska.

"Karen's gesture empowers the Tribe to develop programs that educate the younger generation about traditional farming methods, nutrition, and the significance of local food systems. The financial and economic implications of such donations are significant, as they can boost local employment opportunities, create educational programs, and support community initiatives" said Chairwoman Candace Schmidt.













ỊĄČÍGAXÈ - Dance

by Steve Laravie, Sr., Language Program Coordinator

W X Į Š Á Ķ A X É M I G Đ Ą M
P Á A H Į S K A Đ G P H Į B E
À Z K W A G Š E M A N O K M E
Į A W U A Ǫ O T A B É G A S Ì
M N E K Ž Á Ḥ I N Ǫ S E Š È È
S G J Á I Į X H T Ì X H Á T X
É M A G T H G E Į W Á K U Á Á
H G Đ N E U B A X P I E Ą B G
A Š Á G Í U Á D X Á K N G A Í
Ž Č Ú K X A U H É Á G Ú A W Č
K A A W G N X K P N G Ą Z Đ A
Ú K O Į Į C W W X U N W A S W
G Ú Ž E F X Á O Į T Á B Š W Á
E X H M Ą Č H E H À X U N Á T
T Ą I Z H Y Á Đ G A W Í H A T

It's Powwow time, so we're revisiting some words associated with Powwow dance, regalia, and regalia making.

HỊXPÈ - Eagle Plume

HÍBE - Moccasins

GANÍ - Eagle Fan

TAHÍWAGĐÁ - Head Roach

WAĄGÁXE - Song Composer

WAĮ - Blanket

HÁUTÀ - Leggings

WABÁTÈ - Sewing

WÁKU - Awl, Sharp, Pointed Tools

XÚKA - Drum and Sing

WÁKUŽĮGA - Needle

WAHÁ - Thread, String, Cord

HĮSKA - Bead

ÚWÌ - Earrings

KÚGE - Drum

KÀXEMIGĐĄ - Páka Crow Belt

TABÉGASÌ - Shinny Game

WAČÍGAXÈ - Dance, General Term

WAÁ - Song

Answers on page 24

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.



Weekly Ponca Language Classes!

5:30-7:00 pm each week!

Norfolk | Mondays
Omaha | Tuesdays
Lincoln | Wednesdays
Sioux City | Wednesdays
Niobrara | Thursdays

Or join us online in real time via Lifesize!

This is a great opportunity to connect with our Ponca language and culture. For more information, or the virtual class link, contact your area instructor.

Sioux City: Deion Miller
402.929.1908
deionm@poncatribe-ne.gov

Omaha: Ruby Wright
402.860.6604
rubyw@poncatribe-ne.gov

Niobrara: Britnie O'Keefe
402.860.3787
bokeefe@poncatribe-ne.gov

Lincoln: Steve Laravie, Sr.
402.405.3875
slaraviesr@poncatribe-ne.gov

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

Language & Culture Committee host fashion show

The Norfolk gym came alive on June 21 with 1st Annual Ponca Fashion Show, hosted by the Language & Culture Committee. The show was a vibrant celebration of Indigenous creativity and style. Ponca designers and community members took to the runway alongside Indigenous Inspired, showcasing a stunning blend of traditional regalia and modern Native-inspired fashion. From intricate beadwork to contemporary twists on classic patterns, each look highlighted the beauty and talent within the community. It was an exciting and empowering afternoon that brought culture, art, and confidence to the spotlight—proving that Native fashion is as bold and beautiful as ever.






Culture Teachers Wanted!

Are you in the Omaha and Lincoln area? Are you interested in sharing Ponca culture and knowledge with others? The Culture Department is seeking Ponca members interested in teaching various aspects of Ponca culture (regalia, beading, singing, dancing, food, etc.) and offering classes throughout the coming year.

To be considered, please send a sample of your work (video, picture, etc.) to Culture Director, Patience Teboe at pteboe@poncatribe-ne.gov or 531.301.4655.



INVITATION TO OUR ELDERS

Share Your Stories –
Keep Our Traditions Alive

The Ponca Culture Department invites you to share your stories, wisdom, and history through Oral Storytelling.

Interested?

Schedule a time and place that works for you!

Contact Patience Teboe at pteboe@poncatribe-ne.gov or 531.301.4655.

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA



Youth Camp brings youth closer to nature and culture















CAMP: Mąt'ánąhà Đéwadè camp takes youth "Into the Wild"

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska hosted the Mąt'ánąhà Đéwadè (Into the Wild) Youth Camp July 13th to 17th in Niobrara. The camp presented a multitude of great opportunities for youth to explore the natural world around them, connect with their culture, and learn more about environmental careers. Participants got to build beaver dams, ride horses, shoot a bow, catch fish, take photos, and so much more! Thank you to everyone who made this camp a success!















District 3 members have a night at the ball game

District 3 members were treated to a night out at the ball park at the Lincoln Saltdogs game on July 11. District 3 Tribal Council provided tickets to the ball game and dinner. Members watched the Saltdogs take on the Chicago Dogs, and enjoyed the fireworks after the game.



























Fun and fireworks for the Fourth in District 4!

District 4 families gathered on July 3rd for a Fourth of July celebration, hosted by District 4 Tribal Council. Members enjoyed a meal and music from Ponca member Dennis Lewchuck. The kids got to make a splash with water slides, and the night ended with a fantastic fireworks show!
















Staff enjoy appreciation event

On June 26th, Tribal Council hosted an event to appreciate employees of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska. Entertainment was provided by comedian Jim Reul, and employees were recognized for their service. Diane Wagner and Pat Eichberger were honored for 30 years of service, and Larry Wright Sr. was honored for 25 years serving the Tribe.











Join Us for Lunch!

Members are invited to come and share lunch with the Executive Team at our monthly meet and greet! We look forward to sharing a meal, and hearing member input on projects and prospects facing our Tribal nation. Please be sure to RSVP, so we can save you a spot at the table!

August 15 | 12 – 1 pm
Ralston Transit Building
5701 South 85th Circle

September 19 | 12 – 1 pm
Sioux City Offices
125 6th Street

October 17 | 12 – 1 pm
Lincoln Community Room
1600 Windhoek Drive

November 21 | 12 – 1 pm
Norfolk Housing Authority
1501 W Michigan Ave

December 19 | 12 – 1 pm
Virtual Meeting
Link sent out before meeting

To RSVP, please scan our QR code or visit our link: **https://poncatribeofne.formstack.com/forms/meet_and_greet**. For more information, questions, or to request a link to join virtually, please contact LaTia Young at lyoung@poncatribe-ne.gov.



Circle of Health event focuses on traditional medicines







THV families learn how to play safe in the summer sun









Mobile Mammograms and mini health fair leave patients in the pink

On June 25, the Mobile Mammogram Unit from Methodist Hospital set up in Ralston to provide mammogram services for Ponca Health Services clients. Several Ponca Health Services programs were also present, setting up a mini health fair to provide valuable health information to patients and clients.

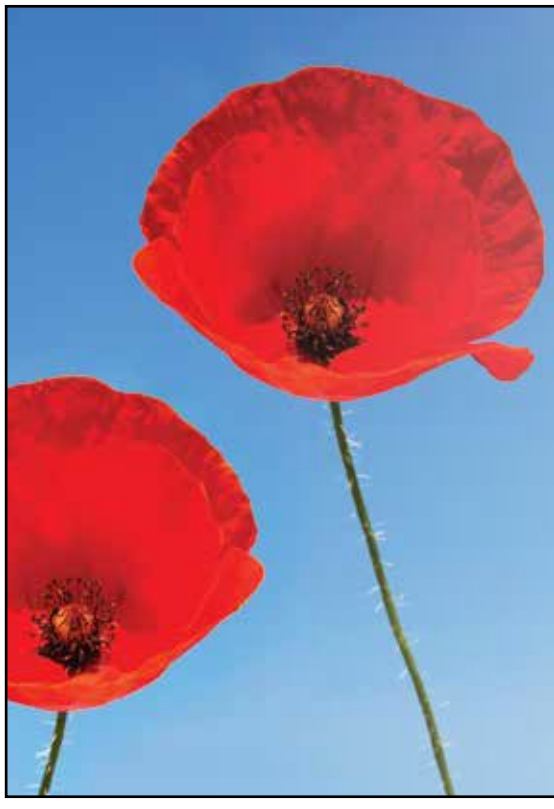












Calling all Ponca Veterans!

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@poncatribe-ne.gov) or via mail:

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

Creator's Game Camp offers culture and activity

On May 19 & 20, the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, in conjunction with the Indian Center, Inc., hosted the 3rd Annual Creator's Game camp. On May 19, Bryan Health's Chef Nazim gave a presentation on healthy meals and Ponca Member Charlie Iron Thunder gave a presentation on the Shinny Game, the Ponca version of modern Lacrosse. Players shared a meal together and played games in the Lincoln Community Room.

On May 20, Edison Red Nest III from Native Future's Youth gave a speech about the importance of Lacrosse. Everyone played games afterwards.

Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors for a wonderful event!



















Strangulation and domestic violence

by Nikki Daigre
Domestic Violence Case Manager

Did you know that 68% of survivors of intimate partner violence report having been strangled at least once by their partner? Even more alarming, over half of fatal strangulation cases leave no visible signs of injury. Domestic violence is a serious issue, and many victims remain in abusive relationships out of fear, often fearing for their lives. Tragically, some who stay are eventually killed by their partner through strangulation.

Strangulation is often not the first form of abuse. Abusers may start with other controlling or violent behaviors such as slapping, hitting, or pulling hair. As the relationship continues, they often escalate to more severe violence, including punching or strangulation, to exert control. Strangulation can be deadly in a very short time. It only takes 5 to 10 seconds to lose consciousness, 15 seconds to lose bladder control, 30 seconds to lose bowel control, and 1 to 3 minutes to die. In some cases, death occurs days or even weeks later due to complications like carotid artery dissection, blood clots, or stroke.

If someone has been strangled, they should seek immediate medical attention or call 911, especially if they experience any of the following symptoms: difficulty breathing, trouble swallowing, neck swelling, throat pain, hoarseness or voice changes, blurred vision, severe or ongoing headaches, seizures, vomiting, or persistent cough.

What can you do? If you know someone in an abusive relationship, you can help by listening without judgment and reassuring them that the abuse is not their fault, connect them with resources, such as crisis hotlines, local shelters, domestic violence agencies, or mental health services. See below for important resource information.

Reach out for help. Call the 24-hour domestic violence hotline: 1.877.863.6338 or 847.221.5680. If it is immediate, call 911.

Source: https://wingsprogram.com/domestic-violence-and-strangulation4-facts-and-4-myths/

Planning Your Future:

Wills & Power of Attorney Clinic

Do you need help creating a will, living will, or power of attorney document? Join the Community Health Workers and Legal Aid - Native American Program for a free legal clinic. Attorneys will be available to assist eligible individuals with important life planning documents. For more information, contact your local CHW.

August 11, 2025 | 11 am – 3 pm
Lincoln Community Room
1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE

August 20, 2025 | 11 am – 3 pm
Niobrara Headquarters
5701 S 85th Cir | Omaha, NE

August 28, 2025 | 11 am – 3 pm
Norfolk Administration
1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE



Legal Aid of Nebraska | Native American Program
Native American AccessLine 800-729-9908

Community Health Worker Program
Ponca Health Services

Ponca Tribal Code Series

The Ponca Tribal Court and the Domestic Violence Program are working together to host the Ponca Code Series. This series is a training being held to assist tribal members, staff, legal professionals, human service professionals, and members of the indigenous community to better understand the Ponca Tribal Code.

Tribal Court 101
August 14, 2025 | 11 am – 1 pm
Lincoln Community Room
1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE

Protection Orders
September 11, 2025 | 11 am – 1 pm
Sioux City Offices
125 6th St | Sioux City, IA

The series will go over one section of the code per event and is taught by the Honorable Patrick Runge. Lunch will be provided.

This flyer was produced by the Ponca Tribe of NE under two grants: Grant # 90CS2045 TCIP, and grant #15POVC-21-GG-00928-TVAG, awarded by the Office of Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Program, and U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this flyer are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Domestic Violence Program

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Tribal Court

Grant program offers access to clean water for families

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska has received one-time funding from the BIA that ensures access to clean, potable water for Ponca families.

This funding provides financial assistance for members within the Service Delivery Area who have received shut-off or disconnect notices regarding their water bill.

• Water service must be pending disconnection.

• Funding will be provided to the amount needed to prevent disconnection, but may not cover the entire bill.



Need help with keeping your water service connected? Members in the Service Area can apply by **September 30, 2025** for assistance in maintaining a supply of clean water for their families.

• Members will be responsible for any remaining outstanding bill after the funding is distributed to prevent disconnection.

Human Services staff also have water tablets and clean water filters for personal drinking water in the event a family's water source is unsafe or uncertain if it is safe.

This funding ENDS September 30, 2025!

Please contact your local Case Manager for assistance or more information regarding the program.

Niobrara: Jamie Novacek
Norfolk & Sioux City: Robin Wright
Lincoln: Bonnie Marchese
Ralston: Ebony Weaver

SAVE THE DATE! Diaper Distribution

August 13, 2025 | 10 am – 6 pm

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

August 20, 2025 | 10 am – 6 pm

Norfolk Gym
1800 Syracuse Ave | Norfolk, NE

Lincoln Community Room – North Entrance
1600 Windhoek Dr | Lincoln, NE

Niobrara Headquarters
2523 Woodbine St | Niobrara, NE

Cabinet Building Garage
5813 S 86th Cir | Omaha, NE

Please bring Tribal ID or proof of enrollment for you or the child in need to participate.

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://poncatribeofne.formstack.com/forms/ponca_artists_niobrara_market** to sign up. For more information, contact Rebecca Sullivan at bsullivan@osniponca.com.

NIOBRARA MARKET

Building for the Future

Ponca students nationwide are invited to apply by August 15, 2025 for this need-based scholarship focusing on career development.

Eligibility:

- The student must be enrolled in some type of Adult Vocational Training Program or working toward a bachelor's degree.
- The student must provide proof of enrollment in the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- The student must provide proof of graduation from high school or completion of their GED.
- The student must complete and submit the following forms: Application, Contract, and Financial Need Form by the August 15 deadline.

Requirements:

- The student must maintain satisfactory academic progress with an accumulative GPA of 2.5 or better for the term funded.
- If the student does not maintain the required 2.5 GPA, they must refund the scholarship.
- The student must also submit an official transcript to the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Department of Education for the term funded.

Scholarship amount is $1,000.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.

For more information, please contact the Education Department at 402.371.8834, or via email at pate@poncatribe-ne.gov or aknudsen@poncatribe-ne.gov.

Education Deadlines:

HIED- Fall: August 15th, 2025
Building for the Future & White Buffalo Girl Scholarships: August 15, 2025

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.
Fall 2025 deadline: August 15, 2025
Winter 2025 deadline: November 15, 2025
Spring 2026 deadline: December 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 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 school year is July 31, 2026.

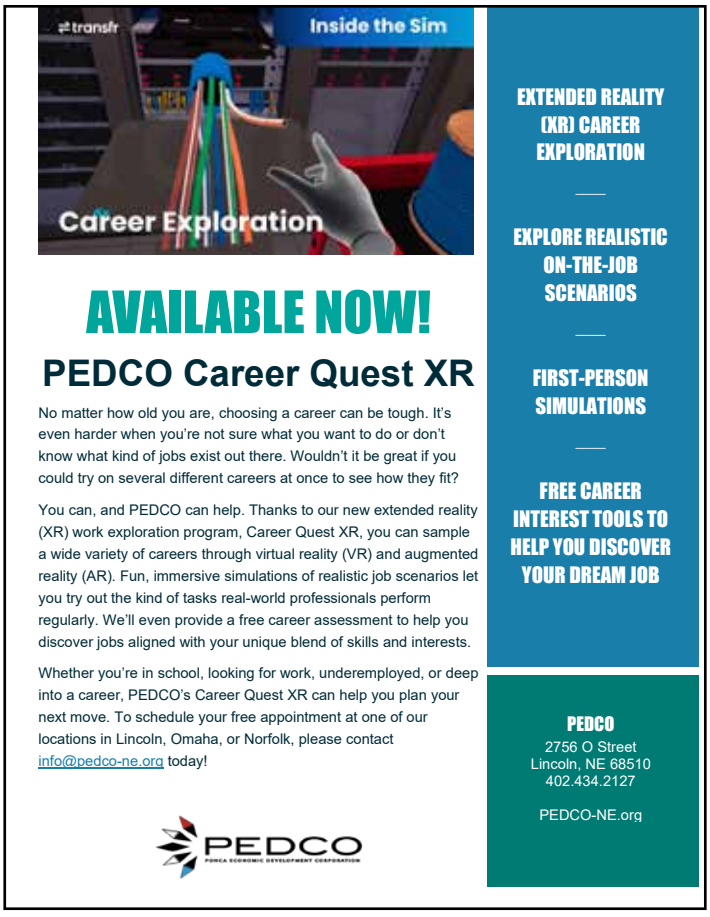
All Education Department Applications and Program Information are available online on our tribal website. If you have any questions for the education department, please feel free to contact Aubrey Knudsen at: office (402)371-8834, work cell (402)844-0957, or aknudsen@poncatribe-ne.gov. **Ponca tribal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

New scholarship available for Ponca students!

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska has recently received funding from a private donor to establish a need-based scholarship for Ponca post-secondary students nationwide. This scholarship is available to our Ponca members. Students may seek either two-year or four-year degrees. The amount to be allocated per student is $5,000.00 per school year or $2,500.00 per semester and is need-based.

While the original deadline to apply is August 15th, we are extending the deadline to September 1st in order to honor the wishes of the donor to have the scholarship available for the coming school year.

Please contact Pat or Aubrey in the Education Department to learn more about this scholarship. You can email them at pate@poncatribe-ne.gov or aknudsen@poncatribe-ne.gov. They can also be reached at (402) 371-8834 ext. 2034 or ext. 2026.



you're invited

Native Youth ages 13-18 who would like a better understanding of Native culture are invited to sign up for the NAYEP program!

5 UNITS OF STUDY

- Self-Esteem
- Native American History
- Native American Contributions
- Cultural Traditions
- Native American Role Models: Past & Present

And the best part, we pay you *to spend time exploring the beautful Native American culture!

**Incentives rewarded to students completing units of study*

ADMIT ONE!

In-Person & Virtual Options!
(Classroom includes a virtual library with reading and viewing options)

Contact Project Coordinator, Amber Appling
1800 Syracuse Ave Norfolk, NE
68701402.371.8834 ext. 2037
aappling@poncatribe-ne.gov

PONCA YOUTH AGES 14-24:

Complete PEDCO's needs assessment survey for a chance to win a $50 Visa gift card!



Share your needs in the areas of education, job training, and career exploration and help us develop our Workforce program to better serve Ponca youth!

Scan the QR code and take the survey for your chance to win a $50 Visa gift card!
Contact: Greg Moser, PEDCO Director at 402-434-2127 Ext. 7.

NOW AVAILABLE!

PEDCO
PONCA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SC Training Online Learning Platform

FEATURES

- Mobile-friendly training anytime, anywhere
- 1000+ free training courses in various in-demand industries
- Microlearning lessons can be completed in as little as 3-7 minutes
- Skills-based training and job readiness content available



For free access, please contact info@pedco-ne.org

NOW OPEN: Our new Ponca apparel website!

We're thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new website, your official source for Ponca apparel and merch! From bold graphics that celebrate our culture to everyday wear that shows your tribal pride, the site features a variety of items for all ages.

Whether you're looking for a t-shirt that speaks to your spirit, a hoodie to rep the tribe, or a gift that honors your heritage—this is the place you will be able to find it. The site only has 2 designs so far but more are coming!!

Visit us now at https://osniponca.itemorder.com/shop/home/ and be among the first to explore the collection!

We'll be adding more styles and special designs throughout the year, so check back often. Every purchase supports tribal programs and helps share the Ponca story with the world.

Shop Native. Wear Ponca. Be Proud.

PEDCO
PONCA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

NOW AVAILABLE!
FREE SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM

Have you ever wanted to start your own business? Anyone can do it—but there are certain things you need to know first. Fortunately, you can now access a free entrepreneurship program geared specifically for Native Americans, thanks to our partnership with the Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC). NICC's Indianpreneurship curriculum provides comprehensive information on the most important aspects of starting a business, including planning, accessing capital, bookkeeping, human resources, problem-solving, and marketing. Equip yourself with the skills you need to take your business idea from daydream to launch. To learn more and enroll, please visit https://www.thenicc.edu/career-services/TCSBA-Indianpreneurship.php.

Nebraska Indian Community College
TCSBA
Indianpreneurship

INDIANPRENEURSHIP®

FREE SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM

OPEN TO ALL PONCA TRIBE MEMBERS

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE

FACILITATED BY THE NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INTERESTED? CONTACT
Anthony Warrior
sanawarrior@thenicc.edu
402-241-5943



COMING THIS FALL!
FREE FINANCIAL EDUCATION CLASSES

Ever feel overwhelmed trying to make ends meet? You are not alone. Millions of Americans report feeling stressed by money. In fact, MarketWatch estimates 57% of households live paycheck-to-paycheck. Millennials and Gen Zers in particular face greater financial barriers than previous generations. Fortunately, help is available. Starting in September 2025, the Ponca Economic Development Corporation (PEDCO) will offer **Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families**, a culturally relevant financial literacy curriculum developed by Oweesta Corporation specifically for Natives.

Delivered in partnership with the Ponca Education Department and Northern Ponca Housing Authority, **Building Native Communities** empowers tribe members to adapt traditional skills to financial management. Learn about budgeting, developing a spending plan, managing checking and savings accounts, accessing credit, and being a smart consumer. Reach out to PEDCO today to reserve your free spot!

PEDCO
PONCA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BUILDING NATIVE COMMUNITIES

FREE FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING

OPEN TO ALL PONCA TRIBE MEMBERS

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE

FACILITATED BY PEDCO

INTERESTED? CONTACT
PEDCO
Info@pedco-ne.org
402-434-2127



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 office. We appreciate your help!

INACTIVE MEMBERS AS OF 8/1/2025

Anthony, Jr., Steven Scott
Aschinger, Shelby Nicole
Bagent, Wayne Orval
Bair, Wesley David
Baker, Skylar Dominick
Baker-Ferguson, Jared Riley
Banuelos, Christa Rose
Bear, Joshua Gilbert
Bear, Max Starr
Beaver, Jason Chaska
Beaver, Jason Eugene
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, Stevie Lorene
Bonge, Todd Joseph
Boone, Lola Belle
Boyd, Myron Ralph
Boyer, Berlin N.
Brooks, Angela Ellen
Brown, J. Wesley
Brownrigg, Steven Francis
Buffalo Chief, Uriah Jordan
Burgon, Jeremy Edward
Burston, Sandra Lee
Carter, Amber Lynn
Castulo,
Cheryl Francisca Katherine
Chwalowski, Kaitlin Martika
Courtright, Michael Todd
Crouse, David Lee
Cutshall, Katline James
Da Moude, Deborah Kay
Danielson, Daniel James
Davis, Mary Frances
Drapeaux, Juston Lee
Droescher, Samantha Roma Rae
Droescher, Savannah Jo Anne
Eckley, Lane Emory
Eckley, Leigha Irene
Engles, Donna Antonette
Evans, Kareem Antwon
Fegan, Maria Christina
Feldhaus, Christopher Joseph
Fierro, Brandon Michael
Flagg, I I I., George Albert
Flowers, Joseph
Flyinghawk, Landon Alan
Foley, Michael Joseph
Freeman, Xavier Lee
Glenn, John Allen
Glisan, Cynthia Lynn
Goss, Mamie L.
Govia, Isaiah Lee
Govia, Mc Kenzie Jo
Grant, I I I., Jesse Clarence
Green, Brooklyn Marie
Gutierrez, Vincent Clarence
Haahr, Anneliese Teresa
Hagler, Joshua James
Harris, Paul Joseph
Hart-La Londe, Kaedyn Mikael
Hendren, Adavia Gabrielle
Hennek, Gail Howe
Henritze, Karen June
Hocking-Gosnell, Zalla C.
Hope, Dorothea Jo Ann
Horine, Ashley Danielle
Howard, Truman Ardell
Howe, Richard H.
Huber, Christopher Lee
Humphreys, Belinda Kay
Jeppesen, Zachary Lee
Johnson, Lukus Tyler
Juarez, Theresa Rose
Keeling, Lamont Terrill
Kellogg, Mardale Eddie Wayne
Kelso, James Alan
Kettula, Ruby Jean
King, Gavin Michael
Knudsen, Crystal Mae
Krueger, Annette Marie
Kyles, Jarred Joseph
LaPointe, Alejandro Jauquine
LaPointe, Robert James
Laravie, Jr., Steve Alan
Larson, Scott Andrew
Latimer, LaRohn Lewis
Leach, Isaiah Marcus
Lerew Jr, Zachariah Ray
LeRoy, Gisele Marie
LeRoy, Sophia Storm
Lieb, Donovan Joseph
Lieb, Sylas Vittorio
Lindenberg, David Charles
Little, Jeromy Todd
Loftis, Timothy Duane
Loftis, Timothy James
Lopez, Jr., Juan Francisco
Maben, Jessica Paige
Mann II, Steven Michael
Mann, Desiree` Leann
Mann, Sydney Desiree`
Marlow Anderson, Saidra Lea
Mategko, Janet Louise
Mategko, Lisa Louise
Mategko, Michael Steven
Matthews, Jett Haden
McGrath, Bryan Thomas
McGrath, Daniel Patrick
McGraw, Rowan Bay Leigh
McKeen, Juanita Rose
Mercier, Jade Sharice
Miodowski, Jesse Thomas
Mullen, Deven Miles
Mullins, John Frederick
Muscutt, Elias Gordon
Muscutt, Jr., Gordon Dean
Olmer, Dakota Michael
O'Meara, David Joseph
O'Rear, Makenna Shay
Peck, Brandalynn
Peck, Tyler Duane
Petersen, Kevin Lee
Picotte - Felde, Diamond Rose
Pierce, Raychel Marie
Poafpybitty, Misty Brook
Polly, Rachael Anne
Prichard, Joseph John
Prunty, Austin Joe
Quintana Jr, Arthur Jose
Raymond, Joseph Allen
Rich, Mitch Andrew
Roberts, Marquitta Ruby
Rodas, Christian Jayce
Rulo, Byron
Russell, Kristina Anne
Sainz, Tritia Jeanene
Sarton, Gwendolyn Lee
Schmidt, Dylan Andrew- Philip
Schmidt, John Thomas Carl
Schmitz, Jennifer Joy
Scuderi, Jana Marie
Scurlocke, Athena Larissa Lucille
Sherman, Cody Lee
Sherman, David Alan
Sherman, Harold Dewayne
Sherman, John Glenn
Sherman, Michael Ray
Sherman, Mitchell Everett
Sherman, Robert Le Roy
Sherman, Sage Mae
Sherman, Savannah
Sherman, Tristan Ray
Smith, Danial Ray
Smith, Stephanie Rae
Smith, Vi, William Thomas
Snoozy, Ben Michael
Spencer, Peyton Thunder
Standsblack, Daniel Skye
Standsblack, Marko Tulio
Stastny, Rachel Colleen
Stegman, Mi'a Miwasa Nevaeh
Stuczynski, Drake Keegan
Suverkrubbe, Colt Everett
Suverkrubbe, Nathan Fernando
Swinarski, Alicia Estrada
Taylor, Ka`ili Brianna
Taylor, Samantha Rose
Teboe, Temperance Tayen
Thomas, II,
Scott Richard Herbert
Thomas, Jenny Anne
Thomas, Natana Lynn
Thomas, Robin Diane
Torrez, Jr., Lawrence DeWayne
Treichler, Jasmine Dawn
Vaughan, Linda Lou
Veals, Clifford James
Velder Jr., Jason Lee
Velder, Tristen Leo Spencer
Voss, Joshua Le Roy
Voss, Michael Roy
Waters, Deon Koleen
White, Abrianna Aliya
Williams, Andrea Michelle
Wilson, Samantha Tyre
Wright, Alina Lee
Wright, Asheena Lee
Wright, Cherita Alberta
Wright, Cruz Montgomery
Wright, Eric David
Wright, Howard Floyd
Wright, Jacob Martin
York, Gregory Allen

(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@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.

Change of Address Form

Mail to: PTN Enrollment Dept PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760
Fax: 402-857-3771 or enrollment@poncatribe-ne.gov

ENROLLED PONCA TRIBE MEMBER REQUESTING ADDRESS CHANGE:

_____

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

COMMITTEE/BOARD
APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ DOB (date of birth) _____

Are you a Ponca Tribal Member _____ District # where you reside _____

Email Address _____

Committee/Board applying for _____

Current Committee/Board(s) serving on _____

_____

Committee/Board(s) you have served on in the past _____

_____

Have you ever been removed from a Committee or Board(s)? Yes or No. If yes, please explain

_____

_____

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor (other than minor traffic violations)? Yes or No. If yes, please explain _____

_____

_____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes or No. If yes, please explain _____

_____

_____

Please fill out, sign, and date the required form. Please submit with your letter of interest or resume. Email to Candace Repenning Administrative Assistant crepenning@poncatribe-ne.gov or mail to PO BOX 288, Niobrara, NE 68760.

_____ _____

Signature Date

Traveling Alice painting in Ralston in August!



Ponca members and descendents of Grandma Alice will be able to view the painting at each office location at the following dates, and have an opportunity to write a story or memory they have of Grandma Alice. A memory notebook will be set up next to the artwork.

Traveling Alice Tour Dates:
August - Ralston Admin

Congratulations, Graduate!

Alysa Ann Salas Baker

Chico State University



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@poncatribe-ne.gov

Elder's Committee Meetings

August 8 | 10 am
PTN Headquarters | Niobrara, NE

September 8 | 10 am
PTN Offices | Lincoln, NE

MEMBERS NEEDED

POWWOW COMMITTEE

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Powwow Committee is in place to plan, organize, prepare for, facilitate, and host the Annual Ponca Powwow.

Tribal Council is accepting letters of interest and resumes for the Powwow Committee. Committee members are paid a $250 stipend per meeting plus mileage reimbursement up to 410 miles round trip.

Applicants must submit letter of interest, resume, and application form to the Tribal Council, Attn: Candace Repenning, P.O. Box 288, Niobrara, NE 68760 or by e-mail crepenning@poncatribe-ne.gov. A background check is required. Deadline for applications is September 1, 2025.

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word search answers from page 4

Elder's Lunch Gift Card Drawing

The Ponca Elders Committee is excited to offer a new way to make our weekly Elders meals even more rewarding. Ponca Elders who attend the weekly meals at each Ponca office will be entered into a drawing for a Visa gift card.

Each office will give away **one gift card twice a month** during the meal. **Elders can only win once per month.**

Join us for good food, great company, and your chance to win. We are excited to see you there!



Ponca member Warren Dunham recently had the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. with his school and visit the National Statuary Hall Collection in the U.S. Capitol Building. Warren, a descendent of Standing Bear, was able to take his picture with the statue of Standing Bear and visit with Statuary Hall staff about Standing Bear's legacy.



Congratulations, Ponca Softball Team!

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Co-Ed softball team took 3rd place in the Lincoln City Tournament! The team consists of Ponca Employees Candace Walahoski, Makayla Laravie (not pictured), Ponca members Hunter Oestreich and Charlie Iron Thunder (Hunter Oestreich not pictured), along with family and friends that participated in the league. A huge thank you to the Donation Committee for making this season happen and to the participants that helped us get 3rd place in the tournament!



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
P.O. Box 288
Niobrara, NE 68760

www.poncatribe-ne.gov

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA Office Locations

NIOBRARA 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@poncatribe-ne.gov.
See or print the newsletter archives in full color on the web site at: www.poncatribe-ne.gov