

aatotankiki myaamiaki

What the myaamiaki are talking about...



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2010 GRAMMY WINNER BILL MILLER TO PERFORM AT COLEMAN THEATRE, JUNE 3
CALL FOR TICKETS:
918-542-1445

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2010 Myaamia National Gathering Week Events Planned

The time of our annual summer gathering is close at hand and many events are scheduled for myaamia citizens planning to travel to myaamionki. It is our hope that in reading our plans you will make the decision to come home to enjoy this time with us.

Our National Gathering Week kicks off on Thursday, June 3 with a special free "Color Code" training especially for Tribal members at the Myaamia Community Center. Most myaamia citizens are familiar with this specialized "motive" training taught by Tribal member Tammy Cruzan Benson and her husband Van. Materials regarding the training have been distributed to each Tribal household and an article regarding the training is printed on page 7 of this publication. Myaamia people who wish to participate in this unique and highly useful training should contact the Social Services Office at 918-542-1445.

Thursday evening, June 3, at 7 p.m., we are pleased to bring three time grammy winner Bill Miller (Mohican) back to the Coleman Theatre stage for our community concert. Miller's performances include a broad repertoire ranging from traditional flute and original native american ballads to rock, blues and folk in a timeless concoction that leaves myaamia audiences wanting more! This concert is fully funded by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Substance Abuse Program and is therefore a free event, however a ticket is required. Please contact Tribal headquarters at 918-542-1445 to reserve tickets for pick up at headquarters Thursday before 5 or tickets may be acquired at the Coleman Theatre up to show time, if seating is still available.

Friday, June 4, our Family Day activities will take place at the new Myaamia Community Center located on E. 65 Road 1/2 mile west of the intersection of P Street and E. 65 Road. Lunch will be served at noon and cultural presentations will follow. An outdoor play area will be provided for children and overseen by the Tribes Social Services Department. See the agenda on page 8 of this publication for detailed information on presenters and topics.

The 11th Annual Miami Nation Pow Wow is scheduled to begin Friday evening, June 4, at the Ottawa Powwow Grounds located southeast of Miami.

The annual meeting of the Myaamia General Council is set to begin at 9 a.m., Saturday, June 5th at the new Myaamia Community Center located on E. 65 Road. Lunch will be provided.

Our Pow Wow concludes Friday evening at the Ottawa Powwow Grounds and we encourage all myaamia citizens to attend and participate.

Watch the community bulletin board on the Tribal web site for last minute changes or feel free to phone Tribal Headquarters at 918-542-1445 for information or directions to event locations.

Local hotels fill up quickly this time of year. For your convenience a list of hotels and contact numbers is provided on page 8.



VIRTUAL TOUR - Tribal member Andrew Strack will give a presentation titled "myaamiaki iši meehtoseeniwicki: How the Miami People Live - Update on the Myaamia Exhibit media project" during Family Day activities on June 4, at the Myaamia Community Center. The presentation was originally given by Andrew during the 2010 Myaamiaki Conference at Miami University and details the extensive exhibit of myaamia cultural and historic objects and items that were on exhibit at the Miami University Art Museum in the fall of 2008.

aacimwita akima: The Chief Reports

aya ceeki eeweemakiki

It is my honor to welcome all myaamia citizens home for the 2010 annual meeting of our general council. It is my great hope that you have enjoyed the events of the week and that our gathering here this day will be to the good of our Nation.

After the disappointment of having to report the loss of the Stables Casino gaming joint venture with the Modoc Tribe, the dust has settled some around that horrific announcement. We have had time to catch our breath, review budgets, and make adjustments and plans for how to navigate the coming months. It is my understanding that Secretary-Treasurer Witcraft and our Tribal accounting office, headed by CFO Bill Chase, have the National budgets secured and that our current revenue streams are ample to support our responsibilities at this time. However, this is no time for complacency. As Chief of our Nation, and a concerned citizen in my own right, I have taken the burdens brought by the recent financial crisis quite personally and have taken responsibility for restoring gaming and other economic development.

The loss of the Stables Casino revenue, is what has brought as much massive change to our Tribe and Tribal structure as the beginning of casino gaming did in the first place. In talking with managers of Tribal programs and other employees, cultural leaders, and business leaders and concerned citizens of our community I have come to the conclusion that the answer to building the insurance plan to protect our Nation from such devastating situations is a long term strategic plan. Adding to the existing long term plan to make appropriate modifications will bring immeasurable benefits to our effort. It ensures contingency.

The Tribe and our people find ourselves today in an economy rocked by severe recession. Though President Obama has stated that the worst of the storm has passed its affects for this country remain and are felt yet today. Amidst the economic turmoil affecting our country today, the Miami suffered a setback in funding that was vital to the tribal government and its programs. As many of you know, the Joint Venture Agreement with the Modoc Tribe for the Stables Casino, executed in 1996 between Chief Leonard and Chief Follis, ended in October of 2009 pursuant to the terms of the Agreement. Many questions have arisen as a result of the

termination of this agreement, such as, could we have bought the Modoc's interest in the Stables and owned the casino ourselves? Could we have renewed the contract? Did the Tribe know that the Modoc's would opt not to renew the contract? I would like to take this opportunity to respond to some of these questions. First of all, the Miami could not have bought the Modoc's interest and operated the casino ourselves for the sole reason that the casino lies on Modoc trust land, within the jurisdiction of the Modoc tribe. Under established Indian Law, a casino must be operated on Indian lands within the Tribe's jurisdiction – thus the Modoc's are required to either own or be a part of an agreement for gaming on their lands. Secondly, could we have renewed the contract? Yes, as you will see in the copy of the joint venture agreement in your packet there was a provision to renew the agreement. Common sense however dictates that it was not in the best interest for the Modoc to renew this agreement. Initially the Modoc needed the Miami as partners when the casino was first built and opened to the public. The Modoc wanted to offer Off Track Betting but did not have an approved Compact for this whereas we did. Among other things, it was because of our Off Track Betting Compact that the Modoc's invited us to join in the joint venture agreement. As time passed the Modoc obtained their own Off Track Betting Compact but continued to honor the agreement splitting profits with the Miami when essentially they no longer needed the Miami as partners. Finally, I would like to address the question of whether or not the Miami knew that the joint venture agreement was coming to an end. Two years previous to the termination date of the joint venture agreement, the management contract with Butler National expired. The Modoc and Miami opted to renew the management agreement continuing operations as they always had run. No indication was given by the Modoc prior to October 2009 that anything would change between the two tribes. (Refer to Attachments: Agreement that extends the Stables Management Agreement) I attended monthly meetings held by management and nothing was said to indicate the joint venture would terminate. It was not until a formal letter was received in my office in October 2009 that the Miami were formally notified that the Modoc intended to sever the relationship.

Like every other industry, gaming has taken a slight set back with the economy, but gaming continues to provide a huge economic boost for tribal governments and the surrounding



Chief Tom Gamble

three other gaming ventures. As tribal leaders of this government, we too plan to continue to participate in gaming. The Miami Tribe has opportunities for additional casino sites here in Miami, as well as on our tribal land in Kansas. We are carefully considering these opportunities and strategically planning for this expansion to revitalize our governmental funds.

Specifically, the tribe has strong and profitable opportunities outside of gaming in the following areas:

- Energy
- Water
- Manufacturing
- Technical Services

And these opportunities don't come to the tribe by accident. The Miami have an outstanding relationship with county, state and federal personnel. It is through these strong relationships that community ties are strengthened and opportunities arise. The tribe has always strongly supported our state representatives and continue to foster a close relationship with our congressmen. We meet regularly with Congressmen Boron and Congressman Cole

aacimwita akima: The Chief Reports, cont.

and our economic initiatives are flowed closely not only by these representatives but other offices in Washington, D.C. Strong supporters of the Miami Tribe include the Office of the Secretary, US Department of Commerce and the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development for the Bureau Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior. Individuals from these departments are key in supporting and promoting some of the projects mentioned above. In addition, I have testified to our sovereign right to conduct business on our behalf on our tribal lands and within our jurisdictional boundaries.

I would also like to mention a great honor in Washington DC being bestowed upon the Miami Tribe as we speak. The National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) is a non-profit organization, officed in Washington DC, whose mission is the protection and preservation of the general welfare of tribes striving for self-sufficiency through gaming enterprises in Indian Country. To fulfill its mission, NIGA works with the Federal government and Congress to develop sound policies and practices and to provide technical assistance and advocacy on gaming-related issues. In addition, NIGA seeks to maintain and protect Indian sovereign governmental authority in Indian Country. At this time, NIGA is in the process of completing construction for their new offices in Washington, DC. One of the meeting rooms in this new facility, to be use by NIGA staff, tribes, congressmen, and other officials, is being named "The Miami Room" and will bear the tribal seal of the Miami Nation.. This honor came at no cost to the Tribe.

It is news like this that in these difficult times reminds us that the hard work performed on a daily basis for the benefit of this tribe and its members is truly evident. We are a small tribe amongst the many sovereign tribes in this great nation, yet we do stand tall among the rest of Indian Country. With that said, it is as important now as ever that the leadership of this great nation put as we implement the modifications of the long term plan to guide not only this business committee, but future leadership so that the tribe maintains the primary goals of focus for the benefit of its members. These areas of primary importance are as follows:

1. Economic Development
2. Health and Welfare of the People
3. Education of our Tribal Youth
4. Cultural Awareness and Preservation of the Miami

It is this last point I would like to touch on next, the cultural preservation of our people. The tribe

has been blessed by the proliferation and growth of the Myammia Project – our project for language revitalization and growth in awareness of our tribal identity for our youth. This is a program that has flourished with the help of the valuable tribal members and staff associated with Miami University in Ohio. The Myaamia Project is a nationally known program that is a tribal initiative located within an academic environment to advance the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma's language and cultural revitalization efforts. To know who we are today we must know where we come from. The Myaamia Project not only helps maintain but proliferates our knowledge of our language for tribal members and others who respect who we are as a people.

I am nearing the end of my second year as Chief of our Nation. My eight years of service as Second Chief have proven priceless to the preparation needed to fill this office. I have increased my experience in this role through negotiations with other Nations, the Department of Interior, potential business partners and in building relationships within State, County and Local Governments. Through my participation with the National Congress of American Indians and the Tribal Budgetary Advisory Committee, I have worked to ensure that budget levels for all tribes are appropriate. However, the most valuable experience I have received was through the many lengthy discussions with Chief Leonard as he was mentoring me for this position. It was through these discussions that I learned some of his valuable knowledge that proves necessary to be Chief of this great Nation. But ultimately, I have learned that serving as Chief of a Tribal Nation is a multi-faceted responsibility.

eeweemakiki, springtime has come again. Let us view this time in our Nation's history as a time of renewal as well. Lets plant some new seeds and learn how to tend our garden together for the good of each and every one who identifies as myaamia. In the coming days and weeks new ideas will be brought to the table. New initiatives will be presented. Support us, encourage us, and pray for us as we work for the well being of our Nation. Let's work together for the good of our Nation.

nipwaahkaalo (Be well)

Chief Tom Gamble

Miami Tribe Member, Staff Sgt. Jeremy King Receives Three Medals Serving In Afghanistan

A combat controller assigned to the 320th Special Tactics Squadron was presented three medals he earned while supporting operations in Afghanistan during a ceremony on April 16.

Staff Sgt. Jeremy King, who was a senior airman during the deployment, was presented with the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Air Force Combat Action medals by Col. Robert Toth, the 353rd Special Operations Group Commander.

Sgt. King's actions truly exemplify the courage and commitment of the Air Commandos," Colonel Toth said. "I'm deeply honored to bestow these medals to a true hero."

During his deployment, Sgt. King enabled 65 successful combat missions, including nine direct-action missions and two major operations into known enemy safe havens resulting in the capture of two high-valued targets and the destruction of a weapons cache. He also controlled air support for 30 missions including five firefights involving coalition soldiers directing four 500 pound bombs and six rockets.

"I am proud, but not surprised of Sgt. King's actions during his most recent deployment," said Major Jason Self, the 320th STS Commander. "His accomplishments downrange exemplify the technical skill, courage and fortitude that all of Special Tactics represents."

He was also awarded the Purple Heart for being injured when an improvised explosive device destroyed the vehicle he was in. The blast ejected him more than 40 feet in the air and 100 feet away from the vehicle. He landed on his head and was knocked unconscious until he was treated at the scene and didn't regain full consciousness until he was treated at the medical center at Bagram Air Base by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Cram, 353rd Special Operations Group.

Jeremy is the son of Scott and Brenda Bekemeier of Mt. Vernon, Mo., and grandson of Darlene Downing and the late Norman Downing of Chetopa. Past Business Committee member, and veteran, J.O. Downing is his Great Uncle.

“We Are A Living People With A History, Not A People From History”

By George Strack, THPO

This quote comes from the “myaamiaki iiši meehtohseeniwiciki” exhibit at the Miami University Art Museum that opened in September of 2008. The exhibit featured historical and contemporary artwork, objects, archival records and pictures of myaamia (Miami) people and places that touched the hearts of all who visited it. I say mihšineewe (thanks very much) to Daryl Baldwin, Director of the Myaamia Project, for his contributions to both the exhibit and the opening quote of this article. I also say mihšineewe to everyone who helped put this exhibit together especially Dr. Robert Wicks, Miami University Art Museum Art Director. Dr. Wicks is a great friend and supporter of the Miami Tribe and the Miami people.

The exhibit is an inspiring place for me to begin my work as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami Tribe and our people. In January of 2010 the Tribe received notification from the National Park Service that we were approved as a designated Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program and I am honored to serve in that capacity for the Nation and our people.

Our history is rich in stories, places and people that define us as myaamia. Oral history and written documentation acknowledge our historical presence throughout the vast landscape of the Lower Great Lakes region. Throughout this area there remain many known and unknown village sites, graves, camps and gathering places of our people. The daily lives of our ancestors were, in many ways, much like our own. They raised their children, provided for their subsistence and enjoyed the company of family and friends.

Along the way many children were born and people passed away. These sites and what was left behind are threatened today by looting, expanding urban development, and infrastructure expansion and highway improvements. Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Programs were established to assist tribes, like our own, by giving us the ability to protect the places that we determine are important to us.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program reinforces our status as a sovereign tribal nation. Federal agencies throughout the Great Lakes region, as well as in Oklahoma and Kansas, are required to consult with us on projects that may have an impact on historical and cultural sites that are significant to the Miami people. As the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami Tribe it is my responsibility to respond to these consultation requests and to reach out to other agencies, museums and historical organizations whose work impacts in areas that are relevant to our people.

As our program is getting off the ground we are, first and foremost, guided by the requirements of National Park Service. That said each and every Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program is unique and guided by the needs of its tribal community. To be successful our Program needs your assistance and guidance. Within our community there exists a wealth of knowledge and experience of what it means to be Myaamia and the various places we have called home. At annual meeting this year I will be making a brief presentation to ask for your help in shaping the direction and development of our Program.

MHMA Project Update

By Meghan Dorey, MHMA Archivist

The Myaamia Heritage Museum & Archive (MHMA) is in the process of concluding two grants from the Institute of Library and Museum Services. These two grants will culminate in the dissemination of two publications distributed to each tribal household. The first book relates to the “myaamiaki iiši meehtohseeniwiciki: How the Miami People Live” exhibition held at Miami University Art Museum in 2008. The book includes photographs of items displayed,

and will also contain a DVD containing video from exhibition opening events. The second book relates to a project encouraging tribal members to collect their own family’s stories and cultural objects and preserve them. The book includes guides to interviewing family members as well as methods of preserving different types of objects. Both publications are nearing completion, and pending printing, should arrive in tribal households late this summer.

Miami Tribe Awarded Historic Preservation Fund Grant To Document Removal Route

By George Strack, THPO

The National Park Service recently awarded our tribe a FY2009 Grant titled “Cultural Exploration of the Myaamia Removal Route.” The purpose of this grant is to research historical documents and inventory significant places along the Removal Route of the Myaamia to, hopefully, reconnect our people with this historical event and to help preserve sites along the route.

Many books, documents and government records refer to the removal of our people from our ancestral homelands in Northern Indiana as an “emigration.” This terminology is hardly adequate to describe a forced removal and arduous boat trip of nearly one month from the homes, villages and resting places of ancestors that were inhabited for countless generations to a new homeland in Kansas. A short twenty years later we would once more be uprooted and relocated to our present home in Northeast Oklahoma.

The archival records cited above present a documentary overview of this event but provide little, if any, personal information about this experience. This grant gives us the opportunity to review these resources, find and explore new information, visit stops along the route and reach out to our own community for their insight into these events. Once the research and information collection process for this grant is completed a full color poster-sized “Myaamia Removal Map” will be distributed to the tribal community. Provided with this map will be a bibliography of research sources, archive or library locations and internet links for tribal members to utilize. The timeline for completing this project is approximately 18 months. We are hopeful that we fulfill the grant requirements and have a finished map and bibliography ready for tribal members at the 2011 Annual Meeting.

NOTICE: The annual meeting of the Myaamia General Council will be held Saturday, June 5, 2010 at 9 a.m. in the new Myaamia Community Center located on E. 65 Road.

2010 Myaamiaki Conference

Technology: Evolving Tools That Connect Our Lives

March 20, 2010

This March it was time once again for tribal citizens and our friends at Miami University to gather for the 4th Biannual Myaamiaki Conference. The theme for this year's conference was Technology: Evolving Tools that Connect our Lives. The presentations focused on a series of projects that use technology to help teach Myaamia language and culture. Over 75 people came to the Shriver Center on Miami University's campus to watch the presentations. This group included many Miami tribe members as well as representatives of tribal leadership: Chief Thomas Gamble, Second Chief Doug Lankford, and First Council Person James Battese. In addition, many faculty and students from Miami University and faculty from other universities joined the group to learn about the six intriguing projects that will soon be available to Myaamia families.

The day began with a general welcome and introduction by the Director of the Myaamia Project, Daryl Baldwin. In his opening remarks Daryl emphasized the central importance of language in maintaining a unique culture and stressed the challenges facing all tribal groups. Daryl's welcome as well as all of the presentations described below can be viewed at: http://www.myaamiaproject.org/conference_2010.html

Following Daryl's welcome, there were two presentations about the use of Smart Pen Technology in language revitalization. In addition to writing just like any ink pen, the Smart Pen contains a miniature computer, camera, and speaker. This combination of technology allows the pen to complete a number of intriguing tasks too many to list here. In his presentation, Victor showed how the Smart Pen could be used to teach the Myaamia language. The Smart Pen uses specially printed paper that allows it to recall and play sounds files associated with a particular image or text on a particular part of a page. So if a child touches the tip of the pen next to the image of a red-tailed fox, the pen would say the Myaamia word "paapankamwa." Victor built and programmed two phrase books with the pen and sent trial packages to 8 Miami Tribe families. His research found that the pen allowed a Myaamia family to learn and practice their heritage language as a family group. The test families reported that the small size of the pen made it more useful and flexible than larger technology in certain circumstances like while eating dinner together. Victor completed this work while earning his Master's degree in Computer Science at Miami University in 2009.

Next, the team of James Kelly, Kyle Swaffar, and Ben Warman presented on their work building a larger home learning kit that would build on the lessons learned through Victor's research. The goal of this team was to produce materials for each of the rooms of the house. Once this work is finished a family could use the Smart Pen and the kit to practice and learn the Myaamia vocabulary connected to each room of their home.

The next presentation, by software engineering students Nick Hample and Tom Campbell, demonstrated the features of a new program designed to teach tribal youth how to count from 1-99 in Myaamia. The program, titled Myaamia Akincikonki (learning to count) was the end result of 3 semesters of work stretching back to the winter of 2009. The near final product that Nick and Tom presented makes it possible for someone to learn to count to 99 in the Myaamia language without using English in the instruction process. Since the conference, Nick and Tom have been hard at work and the entire project is available to try out at www.myaamiaproject.org.

Another project that will soon be available in tribal homes is the work

surrounding the 2008 art exhibition: myaamiaki iši meehtohseeniwiaanki: How the Myaamia People Live. The exhibition, originally held at the Miami University Art Museum in the fall of 2008, is in the final stages of digital and print reproduction. At the conference, Meghan Dorey, Archivist for the Myaamia Heritage Museum & Archive, and Andrew Strack, Media Specialist for the Myaamia Project, co-presented drafts of the print booklet and DVD program that will bring the exhibition into the homes of thousands of Myaamia families, many of whom were unable to visit Miami University while the exhibition was on display. The final piece of this project is a web version of the exhibition that attempts to give users a chance to feel, as much as possible, what it was like to walk through the museum in person. Chris Edester, Chris Mazzocco, Phil Osment, and Miami Tribe member Brent Mowery are the team responsible for this wonderful webpage. It is also available for visiting at <http://www...>

The final presentation of this great day was on ašikiwi neehi kiišiwki: Earth & Sky curriculum by tribal member Dr. Timothy McCoy and Miami University graduate student Lisette Torres. Tim and Lisette walked the audience through the four-year process of creating a home curriculum for teaching Myaamia perspectives of the earth and sky. Tim is the Chair of the Department of Mineral Sciences at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. Together with tribal member Scott Doudrick, Tim applied for and received a grant from NASA to produce a program and curriculum to teach Myaamia conceptions of geology and astronomy. Lisette presented on her experiences assisting Tim on the final edits of the home curriculum.



Tribal Member Tim McCoy is shown presenting at the 2010 Myaamiaki Conference held at Miami University March 20th. To view video of each presentation given, visit the Myaamia Project website at www.myaamiaproject.org.

Free “Color Code” Training Set For Thursday, June 3

Tribal households should have received a package from the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma’s Administration for Native Americans grant titled “Marriage Matters” that contained a DVD and brochure regarding the COLOR CODE. We hope that you have had a chance to watch the DVD and that you are anxious to attend the upcoming workshop being held specifically for Miami Tribal members and your families.

To help answer some of your questions about what this “color code” is and to prepare you for attending a workshop that will provide you with a personal tool to better yourself and therefore better your life in countless ways, we offer the following information.

WHAT IS THE “COLOR CODE”?

Relationship training, based on the concept of MOTIVE, developed by Dr. Taylor Hartman, Ph.D., called The Color Code/People Code, is a simple, easy to apply, and accurate tool for developing positive relationships. Through these workshops, one begins to learn how they can develop and maintain successful, effective relationships with people in their life.

Many relationships are based on behavior. People already know what they do, plus, we all know that behavior can be learned, faked and altered depending upon the circumstances. Motive training teaches why people act, and react, the way they do. With the depth you gain from understanding the whys behind the behaviors, you will never see yourself or anyone else the same way again.

Motive training gives participants insight into their innate driving core motive, i.e. their gifts, strengths, and limitations.

COLOR CODE DEFINITIONS

REDS are motivated by **POWER**. These are the bridge builders of our society. They are natural born leaders, the people who know how to get from point A to point B. They move forcefully through life. Reds are gifted with leadership and vision.

BLUES are motivated by **INTIMACY**. They are good-hearted, of good conscience, and good citizens. They thrive on companionships and willingly sacrifice personal gain in order to nurture intimate relationships. Blues are gifted with quality and service.

WHITES are motivated by **PEACE**. They offer us all a model for gentle human dignity. They are kind, quiet, and patient. They hate conflict and are quite content being by

themselves. Whites are gifted with clarity and peace.

YELLOWS are motivated by **FUN**. They love to live life in the moment. They are spirited, exciting, and have an innate ability to be happy. They find it easy to relate to people of all ages and they bring their joyful, optimistic nature with them to brighten the disposition of everyone they meet. Yellows are gifted with enthusiasm and optimism.

WORKSHOP

The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma’s Social Services Department is excited to host an opportunity for Tribal members and their families to attend a Color Code workshop as one of the many events offered during the week of Annual Meeting. This workshop will be held on Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 10am to 4pm at the Myaamia Center in Miami, Oklahoma. This workshop is free of cost and includes all needed materials, as well as lunch and snacks.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, please contact Felicia Chuckluck @ (918) 541-1387 to reserve a seat. To find out your color, please go to www.motivematters.com and click on the free personality test link.

Please read the following quotes from Tribal employees and friends who have participated in workshops held over the past year.

QUOTES

“I am a ‘white.’ I have always known that I am a person who does not want to be a part of conflict. From the color code, I understand that whites do not like conflict and I definitely know this about myself. However, what I have learned from the Color Code is that conflict is not a bad thing. Other colors participate in conflict for both positive and negative purposes and this is something that whites have to deal with. The patience and understanding of whites allows me to see that even through conflict there will be an end result and I can work through the conflict to make the end result positive because whites see with clarity.”- Tom Gamble, Chief, **WHITE**

“Color Code has made me understand myself better and has helped me understand why others might feel and think the way they do!”- Donya Williams, Council Person and Tribal Member, **BLUE**

“The Color Code training has helped me tremendously with my relationship with my son. In the short amount of time since the class I can

already see a better relationship. I am a blue and he is a white and as you know that can be a very tough combination. I have learned that his quietness and often times lack of emotion is not him being rude or disrespectful. I treat him in a completely different way now and I can already see him opening up to me more. Thanks Color Code!”- Adam Penner, Government Sales Manager for MNE, **BLUE**

“Having been to several similar workshops I went Monday prepared to be unimpressed. I was dead wrong. It was very good. Thanks.”- Harold Price, LADC, LCSW, **BLUE**

“I loved attending the color code training. I have taken different personality tests over the years but none compare to motive matters. I was amazed how a few simple questions was 100% correct in defining my personality. Van and Tammy present all the information in such an enjoyable manner that you will wish the training lasted more than one day. Everyone becomes involved in the discussions. It has helped me to identify my strengths and weaknesses and also how others may perceive my actions. It also opened my eyes to the reasoning behind other colors and what their actions or lack of actions is truly saying. At MNE we are constantly referring back to the color code in communication with each other. Everything we do whether in our work, church, home, etc. is based on our motives. I feel truly blessed to have been a part of this program. There is no way that you can attend and walk away the same person. I would sign up again in a second if another training is offered.”- Christie Douglas, Senior Accountant for MNE, **BLUE**

“I thought my wife (Julie Olds, **YELLOW**) was weird, and now I know why.”- Dustin Olds, Land Management and Tribal Member, **BLUE**

“After taking the color code class, I now step back and look at my children and husband, and I realize they don’t need the things I need or react the same as me. So, I changed the way I approach each one of them and it is amazing how much smoother daily activities have gone. That alone has strengthened my relationship with my husband and children, for that I will always be thankful!”- Tiffany Millhollin, Child Care Development Funding Intake Clerk, **BLUE**

“I learned that it’s okay to have fun!”- Aubrey Lankford, Whiteloon Employee and Tribal Member, **YELLOW**

“The Color Code has helped open my eyes to so many different aspects of my life. I have learned that being a red and living and breathing for action, accomplishment and power, does not

Free “Color Code” Training, cont.

give me the opportunity to ignore the feelings and needs of the others around me that do not have the same innate needs as me. I have learned that in the workplace there is a purpose and a need for each employee and that if you pay attention to their color and motive you can essentially find a job that makes everyone content in the work they do. I have found that I appreciate qualities in my friends and family that I would have previously found to be annoying or unnecessary. I have accepted that my husband and my children are unique in their own ways and that I should cherish and nurture who they are as individuals without imposing my expectations on them to be more like me. Most of all, I have accepted me for who I am and have learned to acknowledge both my strengths and limitations so that I can strive to be the best Christian, Wife, Daughter, Mother, Friend and Co-Worker that I can possibly be.”- Callie Lankford, Social Services Department Manager, RED

“The Color Code has made me appreciate the fact that me wanting to have a happy personality the majority of the time is okay. I have learned that it’s okay for me to not get emotional just because everyone else is. I have learned that it’s okay for me to laugh and smile. I have learned that my strengths make me who I am and that I should not feel that I have to conform to everyone else’s idea of what I should be. I have learned to be happy with me.”- Tracy Rogers, Child Care Services Manager, YELLOW

“I admit I was sceptical at first. But now, after attending the workshop I am not only a firm believer in the accuracy of this concept but moreso in the incredible personal tool it has come to be in my life. I understand my husband and child better, and this makes our daily interactions even better than they were. I understand myself, finally, and why I have the strengths and weaknesses I do. Finally, understanding the character of the “other colors” motivates me to develop positive traits that I currently lack. I will ever be indebted to the training Tammy and Van Benson have brought to us in this wonderful communication/relationship tool!”- Julie Olds, Cultural Resources Officer, YELLOW

“Since the Color Code came into my life, I’ve learned to appreciate the gifts I was given, like compassion, intuition, and even unrealistic expectations. And now I don’t feel like a nerd for making lists. I’m a BLUE!” - Tami Lowery, Tribal Grant Writer, BLUE

Tribal Member Mia Loring Selected For “Upward Bound Program” At NEO

Myaamia citizen Mia Loring was one of twenty students among 75 applicants to be selected to become a part of the “Upward Bound Program” at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, in Miami. Upward Bound is a federally funded program by the U.S. Department of Education. This program is geared towards helping and motivating low-income and/or first generation students through high school and undertake and complete a post-secondary education program.

Mia has demonstrated her educational persistence through her dedication in after school tutoring. She also attends several Upward Bound workshops and will be attending our rigorous summer academy for five weeks at NEO. During this time, Mia will live in the dorms at NEO while taking four core courses of Math, Science, English and Spanish.

Mia has already demonstrated her strong leadership skills and her ability of making friends. It is apparent that she enjoys life, learning and people. Mia is a compassionate and intelligent young lady and has the potential to achieve her career goals of becoming a Social Worker.

Mia has attended the eewansaapita Summer Youth Experience (language camp) for the past 3 years and has been a student of myaamia language & culture since 2005.



Mia Loring is shown escorting our late elder Pauline Brown during the Elders Dinner held during the 2007 Eewansaapita Summer Youth Experience.

Interested in the “Color Code” but won’t be able to attend the workshop? Just go online to www.motivematters.com and take the “Color Code Personality Test” and begin learning more about yourself so you can build stronger relationships in your life!

Tribal Road Project Nears Completion

The major project to redesign and pave a 1.3 mile section of 65 road (Newman) located within the Tribe’s jurisdiction area west of Miami, begun in August 2009, is finally near completion. The project area begins at the west side intersection of P Street and 65/Newman and extends west 1.3 miles to the bridge spanning Elm Creek. The new road design removed two dangerous 90 degree curve/turns with a much safer, elongated s-curve. This is the road that runs by the new Myaamia Community Center, replacing the terrible dirt road that was so often impassable.

The project falls under the Miami Tribal Roads Administration Program and has been achieved with Federal Funds allocated to the Tribe under the Indian Reservation Roads Program. Total budget for the project is set at 1.6 million and the project is on budget, according to James Battese, Tribal Roads Administrator.

General Council Meeting Agenda

The agenda has been created for the 2010 meeting of the Myaamia General Council set for Saturday, June 5, beginning at 9 a.m. The meeting will be held at the new Myaamia Community Center located on E. 65 Road, west of North Miami, OK, in the Tribal jurisdiction area.

AGENDA

- I Call To Order
- II Invocation and Time of Respect
- III Prayer in sign language
- IV Establish Quorum
- V Approval of Minutes - 2009
- VI Chief's Report
- VII Power Point Presentations
- VIII Secretary-Treasurer Report
- IX Legal Address
- X New Business
 - Elections
 - a. Office of Chief
 - b. Office of Second Councilperson
 - c. Grievance Committee - 2 year term
 - d. Grievance Committee - 3 year term
 - e. Grievance Committee - 3 year term
 - f. Tribal Princess/Ambassador - 1 year term
- XI Special Presentation
- XII Old Business
- XIII Open Forum
- XIV Adjournment

Family Day Activities

Our Myaamia Family Day activities became a custom some 8 years ago and actually emerged from activities hosted by the Tribes Social Services Department during a Tribal event. We saw the opportunity to set aside the day before our annual general council meeting to host a day of social and educational activities designed to strengthen community and increase cultural knowledge. This day has come to be a day we all look forward to and we hope this year is no different.

This year our Family Day will be held on Friday, June 4th beginning with lunch at noon, followed by four educational presentations. The presenters and their topics are listed here. Please plan to attend. These presentations are sure to interest you and will share valuable cultural knowledge to take home to teach to your children and other family members.

Speakers:

- George Strack: Tribal Historic Preservation Program
- Daryl Baldwin: Upcoming Publication of Myaamia Stories
- Andrew Strack: "myaamiaki iši meehtoseeniwiciki: How the Miami People Live - Update on the Myaamia Exhibit media project"
- George Ironstrack: "Myaamia Akincikonki: Learning to count in Myaamia"

11th Annual Miami Nation Pow Wow Set For June 4 & 5 At Ottawa Pow Wow Grounds

Final preparations are underway for the 11th Annual Miami Nation Pow Wow. Our dance this year will be held at the Ottawa Tribe's Pow Wow grounds located 2 miles south of the intersection of County Road 137 and Highway 10. (A map is available at www.miamination.com.)

The head staff and dance times are shown below. Please plan to attend!

2010 Head Staff:

- Head Man Dancer: Andrew Dreadfulwater, Osage, Pawnee
- Head Lady Dancer: Kimberly Daylight, Miami, Shawnee, Meskwaki
- Head Singer: Henry Collins, Ponca
- Emcee: Steve Kinder, Peoria, Wea
- Elder Princess: Peggy McCord, Miami
- Pow Wow Princess: Jessica Williams, Miami
- Arena Directors: Clayton Daylight, Miami
Doug Lankford, Miami
Dude Blalock, Shawnee, Peoria
- Host Gourd Society: Quapaw Inter-Tribal Gourd Dance Society
- Color Guard: Wyandotte Nation Color Guard
- Pow Wow Chairmen: Steve Lankford, Miami
Larry Daylight, Miami

Arena Schedule

- Friday, June 4th: Gourd Dancing, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Grand Entry, 8:30 p.m.
Shell Shaker Contest will follow evening program.
- Saturday, June 5th: Gourd Dancing, 4 p.m.
Dinner Break
Grand Entry, 8:30 p.m.
Senior Contest Dancing
Stomp Dance Leader Contest will follow evening program.

MIAMI, OKLAHOMA HOTEL INFORMATION

Best Western	542-6681
Buffalo Run Hotel	542-7140 Ext 1
Holiday Inn Express	542-7424
Microtel Inn & Suites	540-3333
Super 8	542-3382

Cemetery Update

The Myaamia Heritage Cemetery will soon have the long planned permanent arbor, located in the center of the 5 acre burial area. According to Cemetery Manager James Battese, the new arbor will allow Tribal members a covered area for on site memorial services or family visits to the burial grounds. According to Mr. Battese, construction is expected to be complete in late June, 2010.

The contemporary cemetery property measures 8 acres and is located adjacent to 30 Road. Within the square 5 acre plotted area of the cemetery there are some 3,000+ graves. Many Tribal members have secured individual plots or family lots since the opening of the cemetery in 2005.

A private lane divided the Tribal cemetery from private property to the east until 2009 when the Tribe was allowed to purchase 20 acres of that land to expand the cemetery boundary to approximately 28 acres. Within the 20 acres purchased is an old burial ground where a number of myaamia graves are marked and possibly just as many exist there for which there is no marker. According to Mr. Battese, plans are underway with the Cultural Resources Office to survey the area with non-invasive measures to determine if there are unmarked graves and if any such graves may lie outside the current fenced area. If unmarked graves are discovered the Cemetery Committee will set a plan for the creation of appropriate markers to be set at a later date.



Myaamia Heritage Cemetery Manager James Battese inspects construction of the new arbor located in the center of the cemetery.

HUGE SALE MIAMI TRIBAL MEMBERS ONLY

*Friday, June 4th
8:00 am ~ 4:00 pm
1601 North Main (Miami Designs Building)*

cash or check only

Computers ~ Printers

*To be sold via
Silent Auction*

Shelves

Work Benches

Clothing Racks

T~shirts

Misc. Office Supplies

*~Paper
~Pens/Pencils/Markers
~Envelopes
~File Folders
~Gift Packaging
~Much, Much More*

Office Furniture

*~Desks
~Chairs
~Filing Cabinets*

*Items are priced to
SELL!!!*

Miami Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), George Strack will be the featured speaker at the Miami Public Library at 6 p.m. on June 3. George's presentation will include the extensive work of the THPO program under the National Historic Preservation Act, and how that work is so vital to the overall work of the Miami Nation's Cultural Resources Office and especially to our Tribal community. The event is open to the public and all Miami people are encouraged to attend.

Five Graduate From Miami University In 2010 By Julie Olds, Cultural Resources Officer

Five Miami Tribal members completed their studies and received degrees at Miami University this year. This is a wonderful accomplishment, for each in their respective fields of study, that will serve them well as they enter the job market and move on to raise families. But there is something unique and special about these five students. Indeed, this "something" was true of only 10 other past graduates from Miami University.

In 2003, Miami University allowed for the creation of a four-year independent study program taught by and through the Myaamia Project located on campus. The courses were specially designed by Myaamia Project Director Daryl Baldwin, along with other Tribal and University input, to convey myaamia knowledge in three specific areas of thought; Language & Culture, Ecological Perspectives & History, and Contemporary Issues. Miami Tribe students who benefit from the Heritage Award study one topic per year for three years and in their final year design a self-directed independent study. This final project is usually connected to the individual student's family history or is on a topic connected to their field of study. In 2008, the course series shifted from an independent study to a fully credited course within the Department of Education Leadership (EDL). Under this current system, Tribal students receive 1 credit hour per semester for their work in these courses.

As I write this article I find myself almost jealous at what our relatives are being allowed to participate in at Miami University. They are gaining tribal knowledge I would love to have gained when in college so many years ago. Such an opportunity is priceless. While their formal degrees will allow them to pursue job opportunities almost anywhere in this world, the myaamia knowledge they gain shapes them in different, and perhaps more meaningful, ways. With new knowledge and experience their worldview changes. The image in the mirror

changes. They steadily become knowledge bearers as they take on the responsibility of sharing what they learn at home with their siblings, parents, and extended family. I am confident it will show up in every aspect of their lives from the point of their graduation forward. What an honor. What a gift. What a challenge.

I smile as I think what a horror such knowledge would bring to the government leaders, agents and boarding school administrators of so many years ago. Their job was to stop this kind of learning, as they believed it hindered their efforts to assimilate our people, to "kill the Indian and save the man." Why, boarding schools often punished Native children for merely speaking their language. How wonderful to realize we have come full circle from that awful time. The great-grandparents of these graduates, many of whom attended boarding schools, would stand in awe at what their descendents have learned in their myaamia studies.

The Cultural Resources Office, and therefore our Tribal community, enjoys the direct benefit of the knowledge these our relatives gain during their time at Miami University with Daryl and the Myaamia Project team. These students often serve as summer program counselors to our young people and therefore become role models to that tender and important generation that represents, together with these recent graduates, the Myaamia Nation of tomorrow.

This year, the Myaamia Project team decided to honor the five myaamia students graduating from Miami with a very special gift. A special sash was designed to be gifted to those completing the four-year myaamia studies program. The culturally specific design includes the use of specific colors, ribbonwork, and silver brooches so often seen in myaamia clothing for the past 220 years. The Tribal seal was embroidered over the left chest and

the myaamia name for Miami University was embroidered over the right. Below on the left is the word "toopeeliaani," which means, "I have accomplished it." On the lower right appear the words "niila myaamia," which means, "I am myaamia/Miami." A unique gift designed to convey honor to myaamia people who have committed four years to learning of their people, culture and history. I am so proud of them.



GRADUATES - Miami members graduating from Miami University this year are pictured wearing their sashes gifted to them by the Myaamia Project. From left to right: Lance Theobald (Accounting), Karise Okuly (Secondary Ed/Social Studies), and Brent Mowery, (Mass Communications). Not pictured are Mary Tippmann, shown in photo at right, and Kevin Godfroy, (Physical Education) was not present.

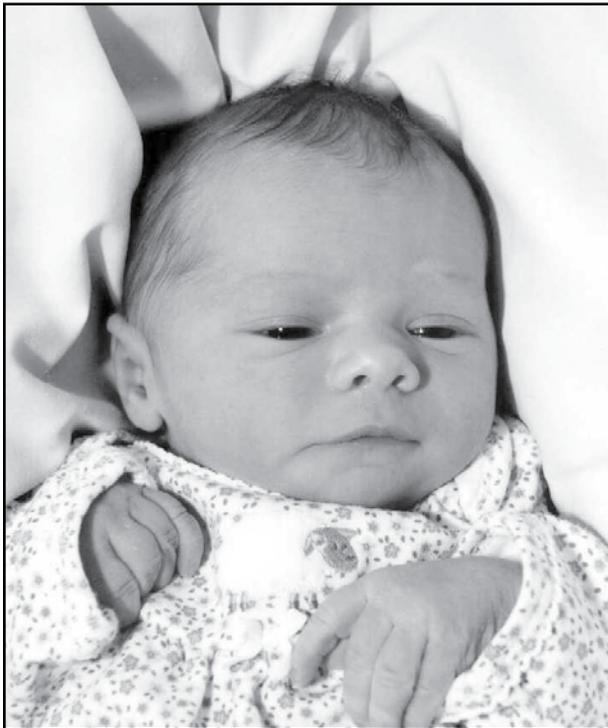


Miami University graduate Mary Tippmann posed with the Myaamia Project Team. Pictured from left to right are; George Ironstrack (Asst. Dir., of the Myaamia Project), Mary Tippmann, (Dietetics), Daryl Baldwin (Dir., Myaamia Project) and Andrew Strack (Media Specialist, Myaamia Project).

Interested in attending Miami University? Contact our liaison on campus, Bobbe Burke, at 513-529-2268 or by email at burkebi@muohio.edu. You may also request information through Tribal liaison Gloria Steed at 918-541-1366 or by email at gsteed@miamination.com.

peenaalinta...*One Who Is Born*

Georgia Grace VonFeldt was born August 11, 2009 the first child of happy parents Mark (Tribal member) and Kristin VonFeldt of Oklahoma City. Georgia weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz, and measured 20" in length. Her grandparents are Dwight and Debbie (Tribal member) VonFeldt of Oklahoma City and her great grandparents are J.O. (Tribal member) and Maxine Downing of Chetopa, Kansas. Her great grandfather J.O. served on the Tribal business committee for a number of years. Said the family, "We are so thankful to God for bringing this precious angel into our lives."



Georgia Grace VonFeldt

PARENTS Be sure to apply for enrollment for your Miami children. Contact Charla Gibson in the Office of Vital Records at 918-542-1445 for assistance. Visit the Nation's website at www.miamination.com and click on the link for enrollment for the application and other information.

Maxwell James Dougherty was born November 13, 2009 in Westfield, NJ. His parents are Tribal member Rachel and husband Ryan, and he has a big sister named Caroline age 2.5 years. His grandmother is Tribal member Carolyne Lankford Niles of Overland Park, KS, and his great grandmother is the late elder Julia Gamble Lankford.



waanantakh\$inka... *Lying Quietly*

Kirk Allen Seward, of Davenport passed from this life on May 1, 2010. He was 26 years old. He was born January 26, 1984 in Stroud, to Richard and Penny (Smith) Seward. Kirk graduated from Davenport High School in 2002 and was a member of the First Baptist Church. He worked for Davenport Roustabout Services. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Bill and Vera Smith and James and Birdie Lee Seward. Survivors include one son, Kiefer Seward, of the home; one brother and sister-in-law, Richard Wayne and Michael Seward of Perkins; one sister Rachel Seward of Prague; two nephews, Tray Allen Seward of Yale and Sam Seward of Perkins; one niece, Marley Seward of Perkins; other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held Friday, May 7th, 2010 at Davenport High School. Rev. Mike Mitchell officiated. Burial followed in Davenport Cemetery.

TRIBAL MEMBER DEATH BENEFIT: Tribal members should contact Charla Gibson in the Office of Vital Records in the event of the death of a family member who is an enrolled member of the Tribe. The Benefit allows a one time payment of \$1,000 to the next of kin, estate, funeral home, etc. A certified death certificate is required and will be kept permanently on file with the Tribe not to be returned to the family. Contact Mrs. Gibson at 918-542-1445.

Submitting Information For Publication In Aatotankiki Myaamiaki

It is the practice of this publication to print submissions of Tribal members regarding births, deaths, marriages, anniversaries, graduations, and related family information. When submitting information please supply details as to names and relatives, places, information from birth announcements, etc. When submitting a photo with your text/article, please scan the photo as an rgb color image measuring 3"x3" or greater at resolution 250dpi or higher.

We also welcome articles, stories, or poems by Tribal members. Please contact Editors Julie Olds or Gloria Steed as we do request information submitted be pertinent to our community. Send info via email to gsteed@miamination.com or by mail to:

Aatotankiki Myaamiaki
C/O Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
202 S. Eight Tribes Trail
Miami, OK 74354

We may be reached by phone at 918-541-1366.

This paper is currently mailed free of charge to Tribal members and is distributed one copy per Tribal household. If you know a Tribal member who does not receive this publication the reason is likely that their home address is not current in the database. Please keep you personal address information current with Charla Gibson in the Tribe's records office. Reach her at 918-542-1445.

myaamionkiši aapwe kati pyaata
Three Time Grammy Winner
Mohican Singer-Songwriter

Bill Miller

IN CONCERT
At the beautiful
COLEMAN THEATRE
Downtown Miami, OK
Thursday Evening
JUNE 3rd
7:00 p.m

Tickets available at the
Coleman Box Office and
Miami Nation Headquarters

**FREE
CONCERT**

Sponsored by the
Miami Tribe Of Oklahoma
Substance Abuse Program

A
MIAMI NATION
NATIONAL GATHERING WEEK
EVENT



Grammy Winner Bill Miller To Perform At Coleman Theatre

Three time grammy winner Bill Miller (Mohican) returns to the Coleman Stage as part of the 2010 Miami Nation National Gathering Week events. The concert is fully funded by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Substance Abuse Program.

Born in 1955 on Wisconsin's Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation, Bill Birdsong Miller began playing the guitar at age 12. For the past 35 years his music has moved audiences around the world. He is an icon of the Native American music community, and an accomplished artist whose paintings are exhibited nationwide. Yet, in the view of this multi award winning singer, composer, flutist, painter and storyteller he's just getting started.

Although most of Bill's music is inspired by his heritage - winning multiple Native American Music Awards, including a 2007 Lifetime Achievement honor - he has never let himself be confined to a certain genre. He has co-written songs with Nanci Griffith, Kim Carnes and Michael Martin Murphy, and he has toured with Eddie Vedder, Arlo Guthrie and Richie Havens, to name a few.

His passion for music has resulted in tremendous critical acclaim. Bill's 2005 instrumental album, "Cedar Dream Songs," won a Grammy Award. The following year, he shared Grammy honors for the collaborative album, "Sacred Ground - A Tribute to Mother Earth." And in May 2009, Bill joined other music legends in paying tribute to Pete Seeger's 90th birthday at Madison Square Garden.

In 2010, Bill won his third Grammy in the Native American Music category for "Spirit Wind North." Said Miller, "My vision for "Spirit Wind North", the first in a series of four recordings honoring the Tribes of North America, is to lift our collective Native American voice through song and prayer, bringing a message of hope and reconciliation to all."

The Miami Tribe is honored to welcome Bill Miller back to myaamionki (myaamia country). The concert, set for 7 p.m., Thursday, June 3, 2010 at the Coleman Theatre marks the third performance by Bill and his band during Myaamia National Gathering Week events in the past decade.

The concert is free, thanks again to the funding provided by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Substance Abuse Program, however, a ticket is required to enter the Theatre. Contact Miami Nation Headquarters to secure tickets at 918-542-1445 (select "0" for the receptionist when prompted).

aatotankiki myaamiaki is a quarterly newspaper published by the Sovereign Miami Tribe of Oklahoma. Requests for special articles or family news inserts are welcome. Please contact us.

MIAMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

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