

**HowNiKan March (Nmebne Gises) 2009, vol. 30 issue 2 - page 21**

Bozho,

I hope this edition finds you and your family well. It is the time of year as we prepare for our tribal election. This election is especially important because the office of our Chairman is up for election. I am asking you to join me in supporting our Chairman Rocky Barrett. Chairman Barrett's leadership, dedication, and vision have made our tribe as successful as it is and will continue to make us more successful and allow our tribal members even more benefits in the future.

I am planning to host a meet-and-greet for Chairman Barrett in Choctaw and will get the details to you as soon as they are available. This will give you a great opportunity to ask our Chairman any questions and give him the opportunity to share his vision for our tribe with you.

If you do not plan on attending the festival this year and voting in person, please take the time to complete the request for an absentee ballot and return it right away.

Once you receive your ballot, follow all instructions carefully and return the ballot ASAP. Your vote is imperative for the future of our tribe.

As a member of the former business committee, although a member for a short time, before history was made, under the leadership of Chairman Barrett, by forming our new legislature, I would like to assure you we did not always agree. Each resolution that was passed was the result of long discussions and revisions in order to make certain each of us felt positive about the resolution and that it was in the best interest of our tribe and our tribe's future.

On a completely different topic, in my household we have just finished basketball season, and please excuse me while I brag a bit. My son's team took first place for the third consecutive season. His team is coached by the spouse of CPN member Michelle Vernon. I would like to take this moment to thank Tory and Michelle for their dedication to the team and the kids. You guys are wonderful!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I will do my very best to serve you well.

Megwetch,  
Bobbie Bowden  
Representative, District #13