



## Chickasaw Country Celebrates Grand Opening of New Tourism Center

*Chickasaw Nation Information Center now open in Tishomingo*

**TISHOMINGO, Okla. (May 15, 2017)** – Chickasaw Country will be celebrating the grand opening of the Chickasaw Nation Information Center May 15-20 in Tishomingo. The grand opening festivities will highlight the new tourism facility while supporting the merchants of downtown Tishomingo and bringing awareness to the community.

Throughout the week of May 15-19 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., visitors will receive free popcorn, retail discounts and a chance to enter a Spa 211 massage giveaway.

On Saturday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the public is invited to partake in activities that include a food truck, face painting, free popcorn, photo booth activities, live radio remotes and live entertainment throughout the day.

“We are excited to be celebrating the grand opening of the Chickasaw Nation Information Center which will serve as a great addition to Chickasaw Country tourism efforts in Johnston County,” said Paige Williams Shepherd, director of corporate development and tourism for the Chickasaw Nation. “Our goal is to generate tourism to the Chickasaw Nation Information Center and throughout the city of Tishomingo as everyone comes together to join the festivities.”

A full list of activities on May 20 includes:

- Popcorn Giveaway (sponsored by US Foods)
- Artist Reception (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.) – Tanya Lowrance & Alan Burris
- Book Signing (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) – Carolee & Wayne Maxwell signing “Touched By Greatness”
- Retail Discount Promotion
- McGhee’s Honey Farms honey tastings
- Children’s activities which include bounce house and face painting
- Chickasaw Country photo booth
- Local band entertainment
  - Damon Lunsford (10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.)
  - Sammy Mitchell Band (11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)
  - Tyler Blanco (1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.)
  - The Hideouts (2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
- KYKC live radio remote
- T-shirt giveaway (sponsored by Traditions Spirits & Chickasaw Country)
- Tishomingo Main Street Retail Rewards Card Partner
- J’et Yet food truck
- Spa 211 Massage Giveaway Drawing

The new information center provides travel and tourism information about Chickasaw Country and the state of Oklahoma, and serves as a gateway for the many attractions in this historic area.

The Chickasaw Nation Information Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the center, visit Chickasaw Country's website at [www.chickasawcountry.com](http://www.chickasawcountry.com)

### **About Chickasaw Country**

Nestled in south-central Oklahoma, Chickasaw Country is a regional tourism organization representing 13 of Oklahoma's 77 counties. As the official destination tourism organization, Chickasaw Country includes 7,648 square miles, 11 percent of Oklahoma's total 68,597 square miles. Chickasaw Country, a division of the Chickasaw Nation, is a tourism source for visitors and communities within the region and promotes destinations, attractions and festivals. Chickasaw Country is a diverse and culturally-vested destination, with new adventures and experiences around every corner.

### **About Tishomingo**

Tishomingo is the historic capital of the Chickasaw Nation and the county seat of Johnston County. Thousands of people from across the U.S. flock to the community to attend the weeklong Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival. Nestled within Johnston County, Tishomingo has an endless variety of entertainment options. From downtown boutique and antique shopping to the great outdoors, there is something to suit everyone's taste. For more information about Tishomingo and Chickasaw Country, visit [www.chickasawcountry.com](http://www.chickasawcountry.com).