

### **Alcohol compliance checks conducted in Sallisaw**

The Cherokee Nation Regional Prevention Coordinator for Region 5, in partnership with the Sallisaw NOW Coalition, conducted Alcohol Compliance Checks (ACC) on Sept. 11 in Sallisaw.

The compliance checks were completed with the help of a decoy under the age of 21, the Sallisaw Policy Department and the Cherokee Marshal Service. The purpose of ACC is to ensure stores are following the law when they sale or serve alcohol.

When asked, decoys provide clerks with their actual identification, showing them to be underage. Of the 14 retailers checked, there were six sales to a minor, resulting in six citations. Stores selling alcohol to minors, said they did not know to "Check the Red Box" which shows the date when the customer will turn 21.

The Regional Prevention Coordinator delivered stern warnings and merchant education to retailers who sold to minors, and every store is encouraged to attend aa free class teaching responsible alcoholic beverage sale and service practices. To learn more about the free class, contact the Regional Prevention Coordinator office at 918-207-4977 ext. 719.

Retailers in Sallisaw that denied the sale of alcohol to a minor were: Best Mart, 1307 N. Maple, Dollar General No. 1 and 2; Diamond Express, 712 S. Kerr Blvd.; Sallisaw Travel Center; Walmart Supercenter; EZ Mart No. 338; and Mr. Jiff.

With support from the Sequoyah County Sheriff's office the Regional Prevention Coordinator has plans to expand ACC countywide into other cities such as Roland, Vian, Gore and Muldrow.