



Tribal membership,
family ties research

Page 2



CPN Health Services adds
Mammography Technologist

Page 6



Legislative update:
January 2015

Page 9



HOWNIIKAN

Kchemkogises / January 2015

People of the Fire

City must grant CPN hearing on detachment

A Pottawatomie County judge ruled Dec. 19, 2014 that the Shawnee City Commission must grant Citizen Potawatomi Nation a public hearing on its Sept. 10, 2014 detachment request. The Tribe requested formal detachment of Tribal land after city officials, in an attempt to collect a municipal sales tax, claimed CPN's properties lay inside its jurisdiction.

The petition for detachment filed by Citizen Potawatomi Nation was denied by the Shawnee City Clerk on Oct. 4, 2014. The city clerk claimed the Tribe was not the legal owner of the property because of its status as federal trust land.

A letter on Oct. 6, 2014 from Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn states that tribes are the owners of such land.

"Indian tribes are the beneficial owners of land held for them in trust by the United States. As such, tribes enjoy full and exclusive possession, use, and enjoyment of trust lands. Further, tribal governments exercise jurisdiction over trust lands, and trust lands are generally exempt from the jurisdiction of local and state governments, except where Congress has specifically authorized such jurisdiction," Washburn states in the letter.

The City of Shawnee claims it annexed Tribal lands in 1961 through City Ordinance 156NS. However, the 1961 city commission disregarded proper

annexation procedures set out by state law and ignored meeting guidelines for the city.

On December 12, 1961, the city commission rushed an emergency hearing to vote on the

binding legal requirement under state law.

The 1961 Oklahoma statutes on land annexation required that land either be annexed by petition, requested by land owners, or

their haste, they acted illegally to gain control of the land legally held for Native American tribes. The sole purpose of 1961 Shawnee City Commission's actions was to profit from any future development of the land.



A Pottawatomie County judge ruled that the City of Shawnee must grant CPN a public hearing on its detachment proposal.

annexation of lands around the Pottawatomie County Hospital. Commissioners were informed of the meeting, set for noon on December 13, 1961, between the hours of 4-5 p.m. the day before.

Though all such meetings require 48 hours public notice, the 1961 commission's actions gave only 19 hours' notice. According to the minutes of the proceedings, they made no attempt to post notice of the meeting publicly and made no effort to determine the rightful owners of the land and ask permission for the annexation, a

with written consent from three quarters of the land owners. They further stipulate that legal notice of the annexation must be published in local newspapers at least once for two successive weeks ahead of any meeting.

The 1961 Shawnee City Commission did not have written consent from either the Citizen Potawatomi Nation or the federal government, the two land owning parties. They only published one legal notice about the annexation, and it ran in the paper two days after they had already voted. In

One parcel, comprising 57.99 acres, which includes present-day Tribal businesses such as FireLake Discount Foods, was given to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation by the Secretary of the Interior in September 1960. The larger parcel of land supposedly annexed by the city's 1961 ordinance was the 194 acres that included the land and structures that were part of the Shawnee Indian Sanatorium. This larger parcel was controlled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs until it was divided between the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the

Absentee Shawnee Tribe in 1963.

Because the land was owned by the United States Government and the tribes, federal law required the signature and authority of the Secretary of Interior before it was sold. The City of Shawnee never determined who owned the land and never requested permission of the Secretary of the Interior before their rushed land grab.

The public hearing on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's detachment request will be held at the Jan. 19, 2015 city commission meeting. Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at Shawnee City Hall.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation request meeting to discuss state-tribal gaming compact

Citizen Potawatomi Nation officials have requested a meeting with Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin and Attorney General Scott Pruitt to clarify the interpretation of the State-Tribal Gaming Compact and request increased transparency of revenue generated by tribal gaming.

CPN has requested an interpretation of part 11, section D of the compact relating to exclusivity fees and part 5, section 1, which deals with the sale of alcoholic beverages by the Nation in its tribal gaming enterprises.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation believes that the State of Oklahoma, acting through the Oklahoma Tax Commission, has violated the terms of the compact. The Tribe believes the state agency has acted in excess of its authority by assessing a tax instead of the comprehensive fee schedule designated in the compact.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission administrative proceedings began when its compliance division filed a complaint in its Administrative



CPN enterprises with on-site gaming like the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort require a clarification of the state's stance on the gaming compact.

Proceedings Division on May 28, 2014. That complaint sought to revoke permits for sales tax, low point beer and mixed beverages from all CPN enterprises, including FireLake Entertainment Center, FireLake Corner Store, FireLake Discount Foods, FireLake Express Grocery and Grand Casino Hotel and Resort.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission justified the revocation request saying that all of the Nation's enterprises are required to have a sales tax permit and to collect, report and remit sales tax in order to obtain licensing for the sale of alcoholic beverages at gaming locations. However, the gaming compact specifically prohibits the

OTC from acting in a regulatory or oversight capacity with respect to any gaming or gaming-related activities. In 1991 the United States Supreme Court prohibited the OTC from forcing the tribe to act as its tax collector on sales of tobacco products.

Annual reports published

by Oklahoma's Office of Management and Enterprise Services list the types and amounts of revenue paid to the state by tribal entities but do not disclose where or how those funds are used. The state-tribal gaming compact mandates that 12 percent of those fees be deposited into the general fund and that 88 percent be deposited into the education reform revolving fund.

A demand for the accounting of fees received by the State of Oklahoma under the tribal-state gaming compact from Citizen Potawatomi Nation to Oklahoma State Treasurer Ken Miller was deferred to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.

Per the compact, state officials have 30 days to meet with Citizen Potawatomi Nation officials to discuss these issues of non-compliance. Oklahoma passed the State-Tribal Gaming Act in November 2004 and the State of Oklahoma and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation entered into the tribal model gaming compact on November 23, 2004.

Potawatomi Cornerstone - Tribal enrollment, research and eligibility

By Charles Clark,
Director Tribal Rolls

Enrollment in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is based on descendency only. A biological parent must be an enrolled member for the applicant to be eligible to become a Tribal citizen. The application process is very simple, but it must be filled out completely and a birth certificate is needed to confirm descendency. Copies are not acceptable; the birth certificate must be state issued or be a notarized copy.

If it is the father on the rolls and their name does not appear on the birth certificate, a court document listing the name of the biological father or a DNA test will suffice. However, additional documentation may be requested. If a DNA test is needed to confirm parentage, the test must be a legal DNA test. A legal DNA test confirms the identity of the people prior to being tested and a standard test does not.

Sometimes a grandparent will be on the rolls, but their children or grandchildren are not. It is very common and it is not an issue. Multiple generations can be enrolled, but must be done at the same time. As long as the proper paper work is sent in showing the biological connections, two and sometimes three generations can enroll together.

There are cases where a child of CPN descent is adopted by non-tribal parents and the adoptive parents' names are on the birth certificate. These types of enrollments are handled on a case-by-case basis because of the nature of the adoption and confidentiality involved.

If a CPN member adopts a child that has no biological connection to the Nation, that child is not eligible.

Like many other Indian nations, CPN prohibits dual enrollment. If the applicant is a member of another tribe and one of their biological parents is a member of the CPN and wishes to enroll in the CPN, they must first relinquish their membership with the other tribe. Most tribes will accept a conditional relinquishment, which means that if the applicant fails to enroll, they will remain

enrolled in their present tribe.

However, there are some tribes that do not recognize a conditional relinquishment, thereby forcing that individual to permanently relinquish their membership altogether. The problem here is that if they fail to get enrolled, they're left without a tribe. It is always best to understand the conditions of enrollment

The number of enrollments reviewed by the CPN Tribal Rolls Department is significant. During the enrollment process, every application is checked for authenticity, completeness and accuracy. Unfortunately a large number of applications are incomplete and therefore returned. Please double check that everything has been filled out correctly to avoid any delays

skip a generation. It's unfortunate that when a person realizes that they may have blood ties to the Tribe, or any tribe for that matter, that separation between generations offers no possibility for enrollment.

There is a provision in the tribal constitution that if a person applies for membership and their biological parent does not have a

Some states started voluntary birth registrations as early as 1867, but were nothing more than an entry in a book. Most people didn't do it because there was a 20 cent fee attached to the registration. Birth certificates proper weren't issued until the early 1900s, but didn't become mandatory until WWII. In the Southwest and Deep South chances of finding a birth certificate dated before 1935 is almost zero.

Researching names of American Indians going back to the late 1800s can be found in census lists if the situation presented itself. It was not always the case. Going back further, unless a particular individual stood out to be noticed by history, chances are that finding a name will be a difficult task. Local baptism records, family letters, diaries and military logs are the best resources, but you will have to visit the local historical societies to look at this material. Scanning this material to make it available to the public via Internet takes funding on part of the institution that houses this information. It's not always available to those who need it.

The reality is there are 566 federally recognized tribes in the United States, and this doesn't include the number of unofficial tribes or bands. We have a good library and plenty of research material for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, but like any other tribe or genealogy library, we do not possess all the information of all of the other tribes. Tracking down the past takes patience, motivation, the willingness to dig deep and the ability to connect the dots.

If you find that you do have a bloodline with an Indian tribe you will need to contact them concerning the requirements for citizenship. Every nation has its own procedures and conditions for enrollment.

At CPN, the Cultural Heritage Center's *Mezodan* Research Center and Library provides an abundance of historical, cultural and genealogical resources pertaining to the Tribe. The Tribal Archive and Research Division are available to assist any and all interested researchers.



Family History Specialist Czarina Thompson and Tribal Rolls Director Charles Clark examine the rolls.

completely before considering enrolling in another tribe.

The CPN also has a conditional relinquishment clause in its enrollment ordinance. We don't like to lose a member, but if it is their desire to join another tribe they may do so. They will need to fill out a form, give us the original and send a copy to the other tribe. A resolution is drawn up for a relinquishment just like an enrollment resolution. Once the resolution is passed a note is placed in the member's file showing that their membership will be relinquished upon their acceptance in the new tribe. If a minor is relinquished from our Nation, they may reestablish their membership once they turn eighteen. An adult who has completed the relinquishment process is no longer eligible to re-enroll. Please make sure you've considered your options before relinquishing your tribal membership.

in the enrollment process. About 95 percent of the forms are easily verified. The ones that take time involve adoption, verification of parentage if their name is not the child's birth certificate and DNA testing if required.

A small percentage of applications that prove most challenging can take a considerable amount of time to move through the process. These include applicants that are well into their senior years and do not have a biological parent on the rolls, those who lack a birth certificate or even individuals that only think they have blood ties to the Nation.

There was a time when people actually kept their Indian Heritage a secret from the community and even their own families for fear of racial reprisal. This was a sad situation because that denial would prevent future generations from being eligible for membership. Like the majority of other tribes, the CPN does not

roll number but was on the 1937 census they would be eligible for membership, provided they meet the other conditions for enrollment.

If, however, a parent was not on the 1937 census but would have been eligible, they can still be considered provided that they have the proper documentation showing descendency. In this case, the applications are on a case-by-case base because the documentation for verification can vary with each applicant.

Today there are many looking into their past to see if they are of Indian descent. The requests for that research are growing. The first rule of pursuing those investigations is to not be discouraged. There is enough information out there on the Internet to help point researchers in a general direction. You have to do the research, which begins in the area where your ancestors lived.

Language with Justin

By Justin Neely,
Director of the CPN
Language Department

It's been a busy year for the language department. Our three year grant that helps fund our development of self-paced language classes is coming along nicely. The classes will have four units with 10 topics in each unit. Each topic will be taught in five to eight lessons, depending on the subject. The classes are designed to be fun, interactive and most importantly, available to folks whenever they have the time or the desire to learn the language. To proceed through to the next lesson, students will have to pass quizzes on the subject they just mastered.

We also are including cultural teaching within the lessons on topics like the importance of the eagle in Tribal culture, the four main medicines of the Potawatomi Medicine Wheel, how to bead, and dance etiquette and styles. These are just a few of the numerous topics we will

cover while teaching students the language.

As a result of this endeavor, we have welcomed some new staff. Ted Isham, Michael Kelehar, and Enedina Banks are all working hard to help us create these stimulating, self-paced classes. *Kche migwetch* for all their hard work.

The first beginner series of courses should be available in the summer of 2015 with an intermediate and advanced version to follow. Our goal is to help people advance from limited understanding of Potawatomi to eventually be fluent in the language.

We had a great turnout for our second annual Potawatomi Language Bee with students from the Child Development Center. Lead teacher Randy Schlachtun did an excellent job getting the kids ready, and personally, the kids blew me away with their knowledge of our language.

In future news, keep on the lookout for our annual winter story telling event to be announced in the coming months. There are many stories, especially those which involve *Nanabozho* or *Wiske* the trickster, which can only be told in the winter time. During this time of year, our ancestors believed the earth and spirits are asleep. It's a great chance to learn some traditional Potawatomi stories that can be passed on to your own family. That gives us the opportunity during this time to tell our winter stories. It should happen sometime in February, but a confirmed date will be forthcoming.

Sometime in mid-January look for an announcement of new language classes that will start up in the evenings. We also plan on re-starting our online classes on Tuesday afternoons around 12 p.m. CST. Also we have an intermediate class Thursday afternoons from 3:30-5 p.m. All of the on site classes should be at the cultural heritage center.



The CPN Language Department will offer video instructions in Potawatomi in the class.

Check back with us at the first of the year or by emailing jneely@potawatomi.org.

Gde nenmego se Merry Christmas *mine mno wepongek*. (We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.)

Get the *Hownikan* via email!

If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.

Top 5 Resolutions for 2015

Every year thousands of Americans ring in the New Year with resolutions to improve their lives. According to statistics from www.usa.gov, some of the more common resolutions include saving money, finding a better job, quit smoking and losing weight. The Hownikan sampled some Tribal employees on their resolutions for the next year. While these goals are practically universal in the United States, there are also some Potawatomi-centric resolutions that Tribal members may be interested in pursuing in 2015 too.

Resolution 5: Save Money.
“I would say the best way to start saving money in the New Year is to have it taken directly from your paycheck and deposited into a savings account or better yet a 401(k),” said Chief Financial Officer for CPN Susan Blair. “If your employer matches a percent of your 401(k), then that is like free money. If you never get the money to begin with then you don’t have the opportunity to spend it on something else.”

Resolution 4: Get a Better Job.
“There are many different ways to improve your chances of being hired for a better job,” explained

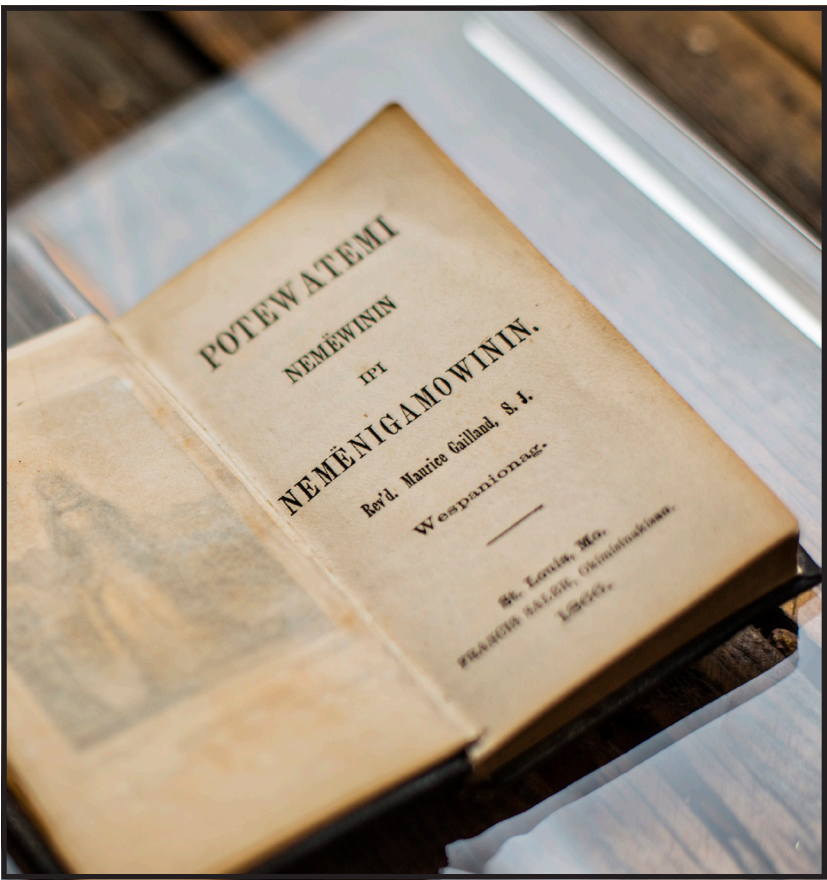
Hollie Garcie Senior Human Resource Generalist for CPN. “Continue to be a good employee at your current job. Word of mouth is one of the most successful ways to get your name and your work ethic out there. Don’t burn any bridges with your current employer or any other networking resource. You never know when you might need them. Utilize all job seeking resources. Network as much as possible. You never know who might know someone else that can get your foot in the door. One of the easiest ways to stay top of mind is by updating your status on social networks by keeping your updates friendly, yet professional. You never know who is looking. Last but not least never give up.”

Resolution 3: Quit Smoking.
“Clinical research indicates the best method to quit smoking is going cold turkey. The findings suggest that it can be the most difficult but people who use this method often stay quit for good,” explained Ray Tainpeah CPN Licensed Alcohol and Drug counselor. “Research also indicates that it takes an average of five to seven serious quit attempts before an individual is successful. Individuals with a

sincere and earnest desire seem to put forth the greatest effort and can quit. Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services offers an 8 week smoking cessation class using American Cancer Society’s Freedom from Smoking workbooks to help clinic patients stop smoking.”

Resolution 2: Lose Weight.
“When trying to lose weight the best thing to do is have portion control, eat in moderation and watch your calories,” said CPN’s Healthy Heart Coordinator and Dietitian, Torie Fuller MS RD/LD. “My recommendation to help you stick with losing weight is to make a lifestyle change and don’t call it a diet. A diet is something you do for only a short period of time and is not something you’re going to stick with. Try and make small lifestyle changes that build up to meet your goals that you want to achieve.”

Resolution 1: Learn the Potawatomi language.
“The Potawatomi language was given to us by the creator,” explained Language Director Justin Neely. “It holds our traditional Potawatomi ways together. We have our own dance, songs, stories, blood



By following resolution one, Tribal members can read Father Maurice Gailland's hymnal book written in Potawatomi.

and ceremonies. However the language is the thread which ties it all together. If you want to learn the language you can come to the Cultural Heritage Center on Monday evenings beginning

January 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., use some of our resources at www.potawatomi.org or try out our self-paced courses set to open summer 2015.”

CPN members have big impact at Seminole State College’s Native American Heritage day



The women’s drum group, Dewegen Kwek, performs at Seminole State.

Several Citizen Potawatomi Nation members gathered at Seminole State College to celebrate and share the Tribe’s traditions and culture at the college’s Native American Heritage Day.

Under the guidance of CPN member Shelly Watson, who is also the college’s Director of Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions, several Potawatomi participated in events throughout the day.

“One of the objectives is to infuse culture into the classrooms at Seminole State,” said Watson. “We also want to raise awareness of the different cultures and diversity we have on campus, because we have such a heavy population of Native Americans here.”

The day started out with Penny Coates instructing a class regarding the art of shawl making, followed by Native American Jeopardy, where three Seminole State employees answered trivia

questions about different Native American traditions where a large audience watched.

CPN’s ladies drum group also made an appearance, with Dewegen Kwek playing hand drums and singing traditional songs in an on stage performance in the college’s amphitheater.

Later in the day, Dewegen Kwek members Tesia Zientek, Penny Coates and Czarina Thompson showed off their unique regalia pieces in a Native American



Shelly Watson.

fashion show. Zientek and Stephanie Hawk conducted a class on bead working and regalia making.

“This event wouldn’t have been possible without the help and participation of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation,” Watson explained. “Everyone who came here to participate really helped out. It shows what kind of tribe CPN is.”

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Vietnam-era soldiers eligible for discharge upgrades

By Jim Tice,
Staff Writer for the Army Times

The article originally ran on www.ArmyTimes.com and has been reprinted with their permission.

Vietnam-era soldiers who faced punitive discharges because they suffered from post-traumatic stress are to be given liberal consideration to requests for discharge upgrades.

Secretary of the Army John McHugh issued this directive to the Army Review Boards Agency, the service's highest level of administrative review for personnel actions.

McHugh's Nov. 3 directive was prompted by an earlier order from Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel which acknowledged that thousands of soldiers may have been kicked out of service because of behavior problems related to post-traumatic stress.

Upgraded discharges for soldiers who received a less than honorable discharge could lead to the award of previously denied benefits, such as disability pay, separation pay and GI Bill eligibility.

The ARBA is comprised of several boards for considering the claims of soldiers and former soldiers who appeal the filing of unfavorable information in their personnel records.

PTSD was not recognized as a potential behavior altering

medical condition until 1980, which means that disability claims and discharge upgrades based on claims of the condition routinely were denied by government agencies, to include the Army review boards.

Hagel's September instruction to the services followed by several months a federal court class action suit filed by a group of veterans and the Vietnam Veterans of America that claims the military systematically denied discharge upgrade applications based on claims of PTSD.

The suit estimated that about one-third of the 250,000 other-than-honorable discharges issued to Vietnam era veterans may have been PTSD-related.

Components of the ARBA include:

Army Board for Correction of Military Records, a panel that can recommend, to the secretary of the Army, the removal of erroneous or unjust information in their military records after all lower level administrative remedies have been exhausted.

It also reviews the discharges of former soldiers that were granted more than 15 years ago, and those that were given as a sentence of a general court-martial.

Soldiers, veterans and their legal representatives can submit an appeal online or by mail, on a DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Records).



Sgt. 1st Class James K.F. Dung /Army - Photo courtesy Army Times.

Army Discharge Review Board, reviews the discharges of former soldiers who left service within the past 15 years, except soldiers who were discharged as a result of a general court-martial. The board determines if a discharge was proper and equitable.

Soldiers, veterans and their legal representatives can request a review online or by mail using

DD Form 293 (Application for Review of a Discharge or Dismissal from the Armed Forces of the U.S.).

Army Grade Determination Review Board, makes decisions on advancing retired enlisted soldiers and warrant officers to the highest grade held satisfactorily after a total of 30 years' time on

reviews will include "all materials and evidence provided by the petitioner."


Because Vietnam-era medical and personnel files will not refer to PTSD as a debilitating medical condition, McHugh has directed that the Office of the Army Surgeon General provide expert guidance to the review boards on the clinical manifestations of PTSD, and the behavior indicators that will help the boards assess the presence of PTSD and its mitigating effects.

Hagel also directed that when service records or any document from a veteran's period of service "substantiate the existence of one or more symptoms of what is now recognized as PTSD or a PTSD-related condition during the time of service, liberal consideration will be given to finding that PTSD existed at the time of service," and may have led to the misconduct that caused the other-than-honorable discharge.

The new guidance primarily focuses on administrative discharges for minor misconduct, not serious court-martial offenses that resulted in punitive bad conduct or dishonorable discharges.

Mail applications for the various boards of the Army Review Board Agency should be sent to 251 18th Street South, Suite 385, Arlington, VA 22202-3531.

For online applications, access <http://arba.army.pentagon.mil/>.



It has been another good year for us, but as we enter the New Year of 2015, we also remember those members of ours who have walked on.

We closed out our 2014 with the annual Veteran's Christmas Party at the North Reunion Hall. As with most of our meetings, conversation between friends and family over a hot meal was the focus. However, we were honored to have *Dewegen Kwek*, the women's drum group, play

a few Potawatomi songs with us too. Check out the photos from the party over on page 8.

Preparations for our 2015 Vietnam War Era Veterans Memorial Banquet continue. In one of the forthcoming 2015 tribal newspapers, we will publish a list of names from veterans of the Vietnam Era whose contact information we have. We will reach out to those of you who may want to attend this event. If you do not see your name but fit

that criteria, please get in touch with us.

It is to honor the Citizen Potawatomi Nation men and women who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam Era (5 August 1964 to 7 May 1975). Members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation who were in the military during that time and would like to attend this Memorial Banquet please contact:

CPN Veterans Organization
1601 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801-9002

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization meets every month on the fourth Tuesday at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome.

ATTENTION

CPN VIETNAM VETERANS

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The CPN Veterans Organization is seeking members of the armed forces who served from

August 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975

in preparation of organizing a Vietnam Era Veterans' Banquet.

In future editions of the *Hownikan*, a list of all members will be published. If you fit the criteria but do not see your name, please contact CPN Legislator David Barrett (dbarrett@potawatomi.org).

Please send inquiries to Commander Daryl Talbot (talbotok@sbcglobal.net) or CPN Legislator David Barrett.

Housing Department's One Time Grant Program going strong

By Sherry Byers,
CPN Housing Authority

By the end of 2015 the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Department will have achieved a 15-year milestone with its one-time grant program. Evolving over the course of that time, the one-time grant program has assisted many Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal members with funds for their down payment or closing costs that are associated with the purchase, construction or refinancing of a home.

In addition to assisting individual Tribal members with this program, CPN would also like to see the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's First National Bank and Trust Co., benefit by originating the mortgage loans. FNB is able to offer most loan programs, like other lending institutions, with the exception of loans that are affiliated with predatory lenders.



Mortgage refinancing and new home purchases are available through the Tribal Housing Department's flagship program.

Despite the program's success over its 15 years, there are still many CPN members out there uninformed about this program and the services of the Tribal-owned FNB. Our office receives calls daily from tribal members who never knew of this grant or

that the Tribe owns their own bank.

All Citizen Potawatomi Tribal members are eligible for this grant one time only. The maximum amount available is \$2,125, which does not have to be repaid. This

program cannot be used for any type of mobile home and the home being purchased must be the primary residence of the signer. It is not available to convicted felons or any household where felons reside. Finally, a Tribal member's name *must* be on the loan.

To apply, the following information is required:

- Copy of borrowers CPN membership card
- Copy of the "Good Faith Estimate" from lender
- Income verification for all household members (last 3 to 4 pay stubs or if same employer for years the last two years of tax returns)
- Name of the Closing Entity (Title Co., Escrow Co., Attorney, etc.)
- Completed W-9 form
- Copy of Appraisal when

available
The application and support information is required in the CPN Housing Department's office at least *three* weeks prior to the closing date. This gives our office enough time to get the paperwork processed and the check mailed back to the tribal member by the specified date.

To request the application and/or general information regarding the One Time Grant, please contact Sherry Byers, Homeownership Manager at (405) 273-2833 or at sbyers@potawatomi.org.

For information regarding loan products and lending requirements at First National Bank and Trust Co., please contact Jeff Scroggins, Mortgage Loan Officer at (405) 275-8830 or at 1-800-227-8362.

Oklahoma LSAMP Alliance promotes diversity in science, technology, engineering and math

Though generally muddled by talking points from both sides of the political spectrum, the focus on education in the U.S. continues to be both a vital political and economic issue impacting the country’s future. In one small corner of that milieu reside individuals like CPN member Kay Porter.

The Bertrand family member has spent the past seven years as program manager for the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, or OK-LSAMP, at Oklahoma State University. The program is housed within the Division of Institutional Diversity with Dr. Jason F. Kirksey, Vice President of Diversity serving as the Principal Investigator.

Consisting of eleven partner institutions in the state, OK-LSAMP focuses on developing programs that will increase the participation of students in the science, technology engineering and mathematics fields who are typically underrepresented in these disciplines.

Porter, who holds a BS in Trade and Industrial Education and an MS in Occupational and Adult Education from OSU, spoke with the *Hownikan* about her program’s work in the first of this series.

Why is something like LSAMP important in Oklahoma? What populations in this state specifically are being targeted for the program?

“We focus on raising the participation of Native American, African American, Hispanic and Pacific Islander students majoring in STEM programs.

“It is important to increase the diversity of the work force throughout the nation, increase the number of college faculty and recruit talented students from a pool of previously untapped populations. Not enough under-represented populations have been encouraged to pursue higher education degrees. In short, we need more mentors that students can identify with.”

How does the program go about this practically?

“OK-LSAMP helps to close this gap by making students more aware of opportunities in STEM degree programs and the STEM workforce. Students are paired with a faculty mentor, learn to conduct research during the academic year, participate in summer domestic and

seeing this, it encourages them along the same pathways.”

Are there parts of the program specifically geared towards Native Americans?

“One aspect of the OK-LSAMP program is the Scholars in Science: Native American Path Program, also known as SSNAP. This program, funded in part by

graduation rates among minorities in Oklahoma’s colleges and universities. In fact Oklahoma has a lower probability rate of students completing degrees in STEM programs.

“Native Americans are 8.6 percent less likely, while Hispanics and African Americans are 5.3 percent and 14.4 percent (respectively) less likely to complete a STEM

to continue the program until 2019.”

Have there been Tribal members that have been a part of the program?

“Laura Scott was an LSAMP scholar at OSU, completed her BS degree in 2011 and took a position at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City. She is leaving in January for Tulane University in New Orleans to start a Ph.D. program in Tropical Medicine and Epidemiology.

“Andrew Mock completed his BS degree from OSU in 2011, and is completing a Ph.D. at the University of Illinois and just received a grant from the National Science Foundation to study in France for a year. Andrew received grant funding that pays for three years of education costs, plus a monthly fellowship stipend, in the U.S. and for one year of study abroad in France.

“Zack Dunn completed BS degree requirements from OU in 2011 and is now working toward his Ph.D. at OU through the OK-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program.

“Jared Geim graduated from East Central University in 2013, and is now completing Ph.D. requirements at OU through the OK-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program. The Bridge program is the next phase of the OK-LSAMP program. In it, 12 scholars are selected nationwide to receive a two year stipend to attend graduate school. The Fellow is paid \$2,500 a month for 24 months and receives \$10,500 annually for two years for cost of education.”



international internships and prepare for graduate school.

“Students are considered scholars and are offered opportunities to present the research they have conducted at local, state, national and international conferences, usually without any expenses.

“By providing opportunities for students to interact with their peers, the program allows them to see firsthand what others are doing and how they are succeeding. In

the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Sciences, has taken 30 Native American students to three national conventions to present research posters and provide opportunities for networking among peers and faculty of like cultures.”

How successful has OK-LSAMP been?

“There is a tremendous gap between enrollment and

degree in four years than white students.

“Overall these underrepresented populations’ enrollment in STEM higher education in Oklahoma grew from 1,325 in 1995 to 5,960 in 2013, an increase of 350 percent. This is due in large part to the OK-LSAMP program, which has received funding through the National Science Foundation for the past 20 years. NSF recently awarded Oklahoma \$3.4 million

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Career counseling classes offered at CPN Employment and Training

Though Oklahoma’s 4.5 percent unemployment rate is below the national average, continued economic uncertainty can make finding work difficult, but help is available. CPN’s Employment and Training Program offers career counseling classes to assist participants in their job search.

“It is important to have these classes because there are so many people looking for employment. It may be something very simple that is keeping them from achieving their goal,” said CPN’s Social Services and Intensive Employment Counselor, Gina Bundy. The classes teach job seekers the basics of applying for work, like how best to fill out an application.

“Some people do not realize that certain things they put on or that are missing from an application that can lead to an interview or go straight to the “no” pile,” said Bundy.



Gina Bundy.

Employment counselors also create scenarios designed to allow students to practice the interview process. The classes also teach best practices when writing resumes, personal budgeting and even how to dress for success.



Officed in Tecumseh, E&T offers support of all kinds to the local community.

According to Bundy, the previous two classes have been successful. More than half of each class has found employment. “The most rewarding thing that I can see is when we see that light bulb that pops on in their head when they realize that

one thing that may change their situation,” said Bundy.

The career counseling classes are offered to eligible participants in the CPN Employment and Training Program. Classes are held every quarter of the year, one day a week for four hours for

a total of four weeks.

If you would like more information about these classes please call 405-598-0797 or visit Employment and Training located at 300 E. Walnut in Tecumseh, Oklahoma. Hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon. – Fri.

Mental and physical health outcomes often intertwined

When it comes to the leading causes of death for Americans, chronic diseases such as cancer, and heart and respiratory diseases come to mind. Annually though, one of the top-ten killers of Americans that remain treatable are mental health disorders. According to the latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control, in 2012 alone, suicide was the eighth leading cause of death for Oklahomans, a total of 670 individuals.

“One in five adults in Oklahoma have a mental health problem. But both chronic diseases and mental health disorders are preventable, treatable and manageable,” explained Coordinator of CPN Behavioral Health Services Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle. “Many chronic diseases and mental health disorders occur together. Also, many mental health disorders are also chronic disorders. To adequately manage both, you have to atreat both.”

The intertwined nature of both kinds of diseases can manifest themselves in loved ones. Patients suffering from what are commonly thought of as physical ailments, such as diabetes or heart disease, consequently have

higher rates of major depressive disorders. Conversely, mental health disorders like depression have been linked to heart disease, stroke and back pain.



Behavioral health professionals can guide patients towards better mental and physical health outcomes.

Though sometimes explained away by the rigors of daily life, there are concrete signs indicating a mental health disorder that people can watch for.

“Classic signs of a depressive disorder include a depressed mood nearly every day, a loss of interest in usual activities and even drastic body weight changes of

more than five percent,” explained Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle. “Sleep disturbances, fatigue and feelings of worthlessness are also indicators. In men especially, irritability is a classic sign of depression.”

Both mental health disorders and chronic diseases can result from stressful life conditions, traumatic experience or the use of illegal drugs. Other common behaviors like inactivity and smoking are associated with both mental and physical health problems.

Family histories also serve as a risk factor of those diseases in future generations. However, those genealogical ties can also make family members the first line of defense in recognizing the signs of a behavioral health disorders in loved ones. If an individual has suspicions that they are seeing signs of a mental health disorder, it is best to consult with a professional.

According to Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle, “Evidence-based treatments such as cognitive-behavioral therapy and culturally appropriate interventions are used to treat and manage mental health disorders often seen by tribal healthcare providers. We can help patients manage things like major depressive disorder, which is a very common mental health disorder.”

For members of a federally-recognized tribe in the jurisdiction of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, CPN’s Behavioral Health Department offers individual, couples, family and group therapy for those in need.

For those outside of the Tribe’s immediate jurisdiction, the

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services created the 2014 Oklahoma Tribal Behavioral Health Directory. The directory is available at http://www.ok.gov/odmhas/Additional_Information/Tribal_State_Relations/Oklahoma_Tribal_Behavioral_Health_Resource_Guide.html.

For Tribal members living outside of Oklahoma, the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, known as SAMHSA, has a similar online tool. SAMHSA’s Behavioral Help Treatment Locator, which searches for local treatment facilities according to a zip code search, can be found at <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>.

This tool is also vital to finding assistance for those who are not members of federally recognized tribes.

If you or a loved one would like more information about CPN Health Services’ Behavioral Health Department, please call 405-214-5101 or visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/health/clinics>.

Health Services welcomes Mammographic Technologist Alford



Heather Alford.

It seems that every few months, a new face or program emerges at CPN Health Services. This November was no different, as Mammography Technologist Heather Alford officially began seeing patients at the CPN Health Services’ East Clinic. Alford got her initial motivation to work in the healthcare sector as a child, as she watched her mother undergo treatment for a brain tumor.

“I’ve always wanted to do something in the medical field after watching my mom undergo treatment for a brain tumor,” explained Alford. “I remember

her going through that and seeing her lay down in these big tubes, which I now know she was getting CT scans and MRIs. Today I’m the one helping operate those same kinds of machines for our patients.”

Alford is a graduate of the Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City School of Radiology, where she completed an AAS in Radiology.

“OSU-OKC is a more clinical based program,” said Alford. “With the studies I took there, I received practical, in-office

training that has served me in my work at St. Anthony’s Shawnee hospital and now the CPN Health Services.”

Officially known as a Radiologic Technologist, Alford is trained to operate X-ray, CT scan and mammography machines.

“We all learn how to perform X-rays in school,” explained Alford. “CT scans and mammograms are what you learn on the job. The training for the mammogram machines is what I’ve been doing since I joined CPN as a full time employee.”

Alford came to CPN in May 2014 as a full time employee after two years of serving as a contractor when the previous X-ray technologist Sharon Gerards was out of the office. During that time, Alford worked full time at St. Anthony’s Hospital in Shawnee, Okla. as an X-ray technician. When Gerards told Alford of her intention to retire and of the subsequent opening at CPN Health Services, Alford jumped at the chance to join the Tribal health services.

"With support from Tribal administration, we were able to budget for and purchase a top

quality mammography machine,” said Director of CPN Health Services, Tim Tall Chief. “With this purchase, we are now able to keep our mammograms in-house to provide quality care and increase patient satisfaction, which in turn saves thousands of dollars through Contract Health that we can earmark for other services.”

Historically, CPN Health Services have had to send out patients to other facilities to have mammograms done. With Alford, the tests can be completed in house. Another benefit allows CPN Health Services to bill for the service as well.

“The addition of Heather Alford to this department has been the icing on the cake,” said Tall Chief. “Heather comes to us with contagious excitement and eagerness to build this service from the ground up.”

Since May 2014, Alford has undergone training and certification as a mammographic technologist while serving in an as-needed basis as an X-ray technologist. With her and the clinic’s final certification by the Food and Drug Administration completed, Alford began seeing

patients on Nov. 24.

“I don’t think people realize what all you have to do to get mammography up and running,” she explained. “It is so regulated by the FDA and American College of Radiology, and there are a lot of steps involved, so I’m happy to see light at the end of this tunnel. I love that the equipment helps and that patients like the fact that it is both brand new and can be used here at the clinic. It’s just a wonderful experience and I’m happy to be a part of it.”

The American Cancer Society and American College of Radiology recommend annual mammograms beginning at the age of 40, unless one’s mother or a first relative had a history of breast cancer. In that case, it is recommended patients start mammograms ten years before the age of that relative’s diagnosis.

If you would like to learn more about the new mammography clinic or about the other offerings of the CPN Health Services, please visit www.potawatomi.org/services/health/clinics or call (405)273-5236.

Iron Horse Industrial Park moves forward with grant funding assistance



Rail lines are planned for a spring 2015 installation.

Progress on the long-planned Iron Horse Industrial Park continues, as the second phase of the project moves forward thanks in part to federal grant funds.

The 2015 Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration grant will provide more than \$1.2 million in additional funding. Citizen Potawatomi Nation will pay for initial costs associated with phase two of the Iron Horse project and be reimbursed using the grant funds.

“Phase two consists of rail construction inside the park itself,” explained CPN Economic Development Director Dr. Jim Collard. “Right now we plan on purchasing roughly seven thousand linear feet of rail to run

inside the park for its tenants’ use. Without the grant support from the U.S. Department of Commerce, this would not have happened.”

The grant project, which runs from October 2014 to October 2019, is another example of federal and tribal cooperation in the realm of economic development. The industrial park is located on the national rail line network on 400 acres of Citizen Potawatomi Nation land held in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It’s location in the center of the United States allows access to the interstate highway system and is less than one hour’s drive from Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Wadase Update: January 2015

As the sun begins to peak over the horizon, the aviary pasture is already busy in the grey daylight. More than a dozen deer graze while the resident tom turkeys are busy courting several hens as the eagles begin calling. However, these were not a greeting for the morning sun but frenzied calls that usually signal other wild eagles passing through. Searching the sky, we spot *Wadasé Zhabwé* in the big pecan tree out back, but the commotion was not for her alone. There is an adult male bald eagle flying above her. He continues past her, landing in the big cottonwood tree out front.

Although neither stays for very long, they both continue northeast towards the spot where Squirrel Creek meets the North Canadian River. This time of year, several ducks and coots gather in the shelter of the wide bend in the river. The new telemetry information from *Wadasé* is a good indication that she knows too. Because we know she chased a previous suitor off many times here at the aviary, we are fairly certain that this interaction is merely a social one. But it is good to see her with other adults. These eagles have survived on their own with the benefit of learning from wild parents and they can teach her about local food sources in different seasons that she may not have discovered on her own.

Wadasé continues to follow the same routine since she returned from the Salt Fork River near Ponca City, Okla. Since Oct. 6, she has yet to fly more than 35 miles from the aviary. She spends most days along the North Canadian River when she isn't here. She stops by often, and on occasion she will spend the better part of the day

perched here as if watching over the aviary grounds. She has not eaten several of the days that we have offered her food when she visits. In fact, many mornings



After a brief stop this evening for a visit she takes off towards the river to roost.

she arrives with a full, bulging crop. That full crop, which is visible when filled unlike our stomach, tells us she has already had breakfast on her own. She is far from the days when she depended on us to supplement her food. However, we have noticed on days when we have significant weather moving into the area she is more inclined to stay and eat her fill here at the aviary. All of this is a positive sign of her good instincts in action. To weather any storm we all fair better if we are prepared. Filling up the day before the storm means that she can stay perched in the inclement weather conditions, conserve energy and hunt

again when the weather breaks or simply come back to the aviary. She has a wing up on wild eagles now.

from community members and we continue to encourage you to share those with us.

jennifer.randell@potawatomi.org.

For more information or to read previous updates please visit <http://www.potawatomi.org> and search the site for *Wadase* or visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/about-wadase>

To follow her movements with us you can visit www.arcgis.com/home and search for "Potawatomi eagle." Send your encounters with *Wadase* or any other eagles in the state or wherever you may be to



Sitting out front. Her eyes and beak continue to lighten. Next year we expect her head to be almost completely white.



It was exceptionally windy this day and hunting live prey elsewhere may have been a bit more challenging to catch than the food offered here.



Hovering as she comes in to check out food on the platform.

Grand Casino expecting new daycare center with housing grant

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Department received the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The \$800,000 grant will help fund the Grand Complex Child Daycare Center.

Children eligible for daycare services must be 13 years or younger. The parent of an eligible child must be living or working within the boundaries of the CPN Tribal service area and can qualify for services from the Secretary of Oklahoma or be a member of a federally recognized Tribe.

The Grand Complex Child Development Center will give priority to children of families with low to moderate income and children with special needs. Children from Child Protective Services cases, Indian Child Welfare cases, and physically and mentally disabled individuals will also be able to attend the daycare.

"This new daycare center for the Grand is long overdue," said CPN

Housing Director Scott George. "Employees have wanted and needed a daycare center out there for quite some time now. This will help out a lot of employees and tribal members by providing a safe and close daycare center."

Construction on the new facility is expected to begin in early 2015. Once construction has been completed, CPN will advertise its opening and share enrollment information with eligible families. The day care center will create 16 full time positions.

The Grand Complex Child Development Center will be open 12 hours a day and five days a week.

"We had Grand employees fill out a survey this summer to see if there was any interest of providing a daycare center there," said Grant Coordinator Tesia Zientek. "The results were overwhelmingly positive, and we know this facility will help out a lot of families."

For more information please contact Debra Wakole at dwakole@potawatomi.org.



The new daycare center will feature classrooms like this one at the CPN Child Development Center.

CPN Holiday Events



The CPN Employee silent auction raised more than \$1,750 for those in need.



These two secret Santas stopped for a photo at the Employee Christmas Party.



Santa made an appearance at the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort's Christmas toy drive.



Jerry Powell gets into the holiday spirit at the CHR-Senior Support Christmas Party.



The CPN Vets at their annual Christmas Party.



The District 2 Fall Feast.



Accounting's Julie Floyd does her best Rockette impersonation at the employee party.



The FireLake Arena staff stopped hosting the employee party long enough for this picture.



The Indian Child Welfare Department hosted their annual holiday party for the kids and family the department works with throughout the year.



GOVERNMENT

Kchemkogises / January 2015

People of the Fire

Legislative update: January 2015

On Dec. 4, 2014 the CPN Tribal Legislature met with all 13 members present.

The minutes from the body's last two meetings, a regular session on Sept. 16 and a special electronic meeting on Nov. 14, were approved with unanimous consent.

Several grant applications were approved, including for funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs for both the Endangered Wildlife Program and Invasive Wildlife Program.

Three resolutions of support by the Legislature passed with unanimous consent. The first supported the CPN Wildlife Warriors project application, while the second resolution requested

BIA support of an updated Tribal Long Range Transportation Plan. A final resolution supported the addition of new routes to the CPN's Road Inventory Field Data System.

CPN's Tribal Transportation Program was also updated by a unanimous vote of the legislators, while a separate resolution requested the BIA disburse funds currently being held on behalf of the Tribe.

In Tribal membership matters, legislators granted two individuals with conditional relinquishments of their citizenship. Tribal membership did increase however, with the body's approval for the enrollment of 157 new members into the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.



The 2014-15 CPN Legislature.

Federal grants to improve emergency communications in Pottawatomie County

First responders learned hard lessons in the aftermath of the May 19, 2013 tornado outbreak that damaged substantial portions of CPN's jurisdiction. In the early stages of the rescue and recovery efforts around Bethel Acres, Okla., radio communications across the county quickly were overwhelmed. Emergency responders working in the afflicted areas received busy signals when trying to communicate via the county's existing radio signal infrastructure.

CPN Tribal Police Dispatcher Brian Scott had a front row seat to the confusion.

"CPN had more personnel out in those areas in the immediate aftermath of the tornado than the Oklahoma Highway Patrol and the Pottawatomie County Sheriff, but we were only able to communicate with our officers by using an older system of 150MHz radios," said Scott.

Following those experiences, Scott, under the direction of Tribal Police Chief Dr. Jim Collard and

communications in large parts of the state during those days where Oklahoma was inundated



CPN first responders patrol a 900-square mile jurisdiction.

CPN Emergency Management Director Tim Zientek, explored options to avoid a repeat of that situation.

"This was a problem that took down emergency radio

by severe weather," said Zientek. "We had to find a better way of communicating during these situations, and through funding from the Department of Homeland Security, the entire county will be better prepared."

A \$230,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Strategies will meet the needs of a growing police force by streamlining interdepartmental communication as well as communication between officers and sister agencies. The grant funds will provide much needed equipment for dispatch as well as other radio equipment upgrades. Additionally, the grant provides for priority dispatch ProQA call-taking software, and emergency medical dispatch and emergency fire dispatch training.

In addition to the Department of Justice grant, funding was granted \$637,000 from the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (THSGP) through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). DHS's national preparedness system aims to organize communities across

the U.S. in case of all manner of emergencies.

The grant strengthens the Nation's communications capabilities by funding the installation of additional radio equipment. The equipment will assist in coordination with Pottawatomie County's other emergency responders. Once in operation, the four channel repeater will be capable of hosting eight different communications streams for police, fire and rescue personnel working across the county.

"This was a problem that took down emergency radio communications in large parts of the state during those days where Oklahoma was inundated by severe weather," said Zientek. "We had to find a better way of communicating during these situations, and through this funding from the Department of Homeland Security, the entire county is better prepared."

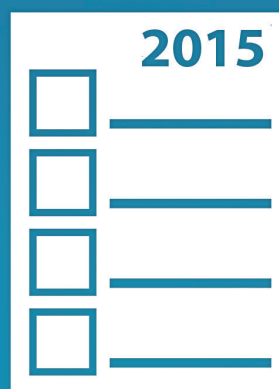
Tribal Election Information

WHO CAN VOTE



CPN MEMBERS 18 OR OLDER ON ELECTION DAY CAN VOTE IN TRIBAL ELECTIONS.

WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT FOR THIS YEAR'S ELECTION?



DISTRICT 10, 11 AND 13 LEGISLATIVE RACES AND THE ANNUAL TRIBAL BUDGET.

HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?



BALLOT REQUEST FORMS ARE MAILED OUT TO EACH ELIGIBLE VOTER AHEAD OF THE JUNE ELECTIONS. FILL OUT THE FORM AND RETURN IT BY THE VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE.

WHO CAN VOTE FOR DISTRICT 10, 11 AND 13 LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES?



ALL CPN MEMBERS RESIDING IN OKLAHOMA CAN VOTE FOR EACH LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE, AS OKLAHOMA'S LEGISLATORS ARE CHOSEN AT-LARGE.

HOW DO I KNOW WHO TO VOTE FOR?



THE HOWNIKAN WILL FEATURE CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN THE VIEWS OF POTENTIAL TRIBAL LEADERS.

WHEN DOES VOTING TAKE PLACE?

JUNE						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

VOTING TAKES PLACE SAT., JUNE 27, 2015 AT FAMILY FESTIVAL. ABSENTEE BALLOTS CAN BE CAST PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY.

CPN Administration silent auction raises \$1,750 after Angel Tree gift drive

Employees at the CPN Administration building hosted a silent auction in the first weeks of December to raise money for the CPN Angel Tree. However, by the time the donation period ended, the entire tree's angels had already been collected.

"The auction was originally to

benefit CPN's Angel Tree, but the overwhelming number of donations by Tribal employees quickly helped the entire tree's angels," explained CPN Administrative Assistant, Dennette Summerlin. "So the money from the auction went to families in need who have been brought to the attention of the

Tribal Administration instead."

Tribal employees donated 89 items for a silent auction, totaling \$1,498, while \$212 in additional cash donations brought the amount raised to \$1,750.

"The idea for the auction came about from the CPN Wellness Center's pumpkin auction that benefited an employee going through cancer treatment," said Summerlin. "We thought it would be a good idea to raise money for the children on the CPN Angel Tree. Of course our employees stepped up to donate and bid on auction items."

In an email following the silent auction's conclusion, Summerlin praised the giving spirit of Citizen Potawatomi Nation employees. "I am thankful for all of you as coworkers! I knew that together, we could make the world a little brighter and Christmas a little more special for those who often go without."



Resident CPN artist Penny Coates donated her talents by painting this canvas at short notice to raise funds for the silent auction.

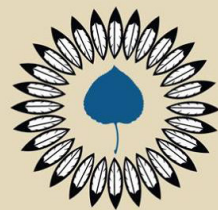
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH NATIVE YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Yannah Harjo, 15



**It is who I am.
It is who my family is and was.
It is who I want my future children, grandchildren, and so on to be.
If we do not hold on to our language, our history, our stories, our ceremonies, our traditions, then who are we?
We will be no more.**

Yannah is an excelling leader and writer from the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma studying at Tecumseh High School in Tecumseh, OK. Advancing the Seminole culture is dear to Ms. Harjo who finds determination in ceremonies, stompdancing, and the Seminole language. Yannah strengthens her community through her work at the Seminole Nation Language Immersion Program and Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Mentorship Program. The genuine and respectful nature of Yannah is helping to form a bright future for all Native Peoples.



CENTER FOR NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH
AT THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

Grand employees mark another year of giving to the Salvation Army

Since 2009 the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort has been collecting Christmas presents from employees for the Shawnee Salvation Army to distribute to children throughout the community. The toys donated by employees, worth at least \$10, qualify them for a raffle prize drawing at the Grand's annual Christmas event.

This incentive, coupled with the holiday's giving spirit, has

at the Grand's holiday festivities for employees.

"These toys will be given directly to children in our service area of Pottawatomie County as well as parts of Lincoln and Seminole counties," said Canning. "This year we will be serving many kids during Christmas and these toys are a great help."

According to Captain Canning, the toy donations from the Grand



Captain Philip Canning of the Shawnee Salvation Army (left) with Grand Casino Director Joe Garcia and several of Santa's helpers at the Grand's toy drive.

continually resulted in hundreds of toy donations each year, and 2014 was no exception.

will go toward the Salvation Army's service to approximately 888 kids this year alone.

"We can always count on the generosity of our employees, some of whom brought in multiple toys because it's going to a great cause," said Grand Casino General Manager Joe Garcia. "The Salvation Army is a good organization and this will benefit a lot of children and families in our communities."

Canning continued, "I just want to say thank you to CPN not only for their support at Christmas time but they're great supporters of the Salvation Army throughout the year. Without them we would only be able to do a fraction of what we do."

Captain Philip Canning of the Salvation Army's Shawnee, Okla. branch is a regular attendee

If you would like to learn more about the toy drive or other services offered by the Shawnee branch of the Salvation Army, call 405-254-1100.

Attention to all CPN members with a registered CPN tribal tag

If you have a tag that is faded or damaged, please contact the staff at the CPN Tag Agency. We will be happy to replace your tag and update your registration with a new tag. If your personalized tag is faded, we will need to order your replacement immediately. The month due will remain the same as your previous tag. If you need to renew your tag, please have your current insurance available. Please remember that all tags not in use must be returned to the CPN Tag Agency. We strongly encourage that you come to the Tag Agency to have the tags replaced. If you have any questions, please call the CPN Tag Agency at (405) 273-1009.



Tribal youth close out 2014 with holiday atmosphere and emphasis on STEM

By Darin Greene, Coordinator, FireLodge Youth Council

The winter sessions at the P.L.A.C.E. started off with a trip to the Oklahoma Historical Museum. We had around 30 youth attend. The visit was the collaboration between the mentorship program and The P.L.A.C.E., and our students and staff enjoyed learning more about Oklahoma and world history.

On December 8, the youth were honored to Skype with Astronaut Terry Hart from NASA, who gave us a brief history of the space program and his own mission. The Skype session was part of our effort to show the participants of FireLodge Youth Program the futures that are available to them in jobs focusing



Sea bot construction kits arrived at the P.L.A.C.E. and will be assembled by youth in the coming months.

on the science, technology, engineering and mathematics sectors. We can tell the youth about those fields, but speaking with a real, live astronaut really helps drive that point home.

Keeping with the spirit of the holiday season, the youth also went caroling to the elder center located at the CPN Wellness Center. Part of their visit also fulfilled the community service

requirements for the month when they helped the elders decorate Christmas trees. Not part of the requirements, but one of the more popular aspects of the visits came when youth played board and card games with the elders.

Speaking of games, our P.L.A.C.E. staff and youth went back to the future for some of our December activities. Instead of video games, staff and youth faced off in competitive games of Navajo Kickball. A few of our younger members even learned how to play four square.

The topping on the cake for the month was the arrival of the SeaPerch Robot kits.

Securing these robots stemmed from a collaboration between Tesia Zientek of our Self-

Governance Office, Margaret Zientek of the Employment and Training Program and Daniel Frank, an engineering PhD student at the University of Florida.

The schools involved in assisting our youth complete the seabots construction are Dale, Grove, Bethel Acres and Shawnee public schools. Our higher-education partners in the project are Gordon Cooper Technology Center, Oklahoma Baptist University and St. Gregory's University.

Like the conversation with Astronaut Hart from NASA, the seabot project will show our youth a practical and real example of the importance of STEM education and jobs.

District 1 – Roy Slavin



Bozho Nikanek,

I recently had the honor and pleasure of sponsoring a tour for District 1 members to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art exhibit “The Plains Indians: Artists of the Earth and Sky.”

The Nelson-Atkins Museum has an excellent and permanent American Indian collection. The Plains Indian exhibit is a collection of works found in European and North American collections from pre-contact to contemporary times. Exhibit items ranged from a 2,000 year old human effigy stone pipe to an eighteenth century painted robe to a 2011 beaded

adaptation of designer shoes.

I think most of the Plains Indian tribes were represented in the collection. The exhibit has traveled or will travel to France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Canada and the United States. The collection will be at the Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City, Mo. until Jan. 11, 2015. Our tour was limited to 35 people and included well-informed tour guides for groups of 10. We even received an excellent box lunch. All in all it was a very rewarding, fun day.

On another note, I want to talk about our CPN web site. I have mentioned it in previous *Hownikan* articles but still feel it is underutilized. There is a wealth of information to be found on this site, www.potawatomi.org.

The first article on the site today had the headline, “Tribal Judge Phil Lujan honored for time spent in the courtroom.” The subheader goes on to say that “Judge Lujan, referred to as the “Hammer of justice” was recently honored for his service to the law in Indian country.”

The article goes on to list many of Judge Lujan’s accomplishments. The

second article tells us that the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort has received a hospitality award.

Another article talks about Pottawatomi art, while a separate piece chronicles to Potawatomi Trail



Man’s shirt made by the Oglala Sioux (Teton Sioux) was part of the display.

of Death by reprinting daily journal entries of one of its participants.

The language department has its words of the week, commonly used phrases, online class schedules and a new dictionary with many more words.

All this and much more is on www.potawatomi.org, check it out, you won’t be disappointed.

I will close this article as always with a plea for your contact information. If you do not get email or regular mail from me occasionally it is because I do not have your contact information and due to privacy issues the Nation cannot provide me with it.

I have re-opened my office at 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, Mo. 64151. Office hours are 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, 9-11 a.m. Thursday and any time by appointment.

I can be reached at R. Slavin 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, Mo. 64151 or by calling 816-741-8480 or toll free 1-888-741-5767, rsllavin@potawatomi.org.

Migwetch,
Netagtege (Roy)

District 2 – Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikanek/Hello friends,

Greetings for the New Year! For the Fall Feast on November 22 we met at the CPN District 2 office and measured and cut elk hide for moccasins and started our sewing. Migwetch to Shaweno (Bob Richey) and Karen Richey of Virginia and Cindy Amdur-Clark of Maryland for their valuable assistance with instruction, and to my husband Alan Cohen for his hard work throughout the day. One of our youngest attendees, Kurt Korzeniewski, sewed like a champion and finished his moccasins in the few hours we had together – and in doing so he did not forego eating the delicious foods that

everyone contributed! Some of our members also made three-strand beaded chokers, along the lines of what is shown here: <http://ladyhawkesite.tripod.com/ChokerTwo.htm> (that is a helpful link, with photos, lists of materials and good instructions.). These events allow us to create something meaningful in a group setting and to strengthen bonds through social visiting and sharing ideas and techniques. I have asked folks to send me photos of their completed moccasins and am planning a Spring/ Summer follow-on event to start us on beadwork on the flaps. You can see some chokers and Kurt with his moccasins here, and more at <http://tinyurl.com/lbocbtq>.

Also in November, at the invitation of CPN member and employee Margaret Zientek, who co-chairs the national Working Group, I accompanied the national Working Group of tribal representatives to Capitol Hill to lobby U.S. Congressman Tom Cole, among others, for amendments to P.L. 102-477, a self-determination statute that allows tribes greater control over delivery of social-welfare and workforce-development services.

The amendments would make permanent and more effective the existing demonstration program that permits eligible tribes and Alaska Native organizations to consolidate into a single plan employment-and-training-related, formula-funded federal grant monies from ten different programs within the Department of Interior’s Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, and the Departments of Labor and Health. Margaret was a quite effective advocate, in my view, and Congressman Cole in particular was very supportive of the legislation, though the prospects for Congressional action on the bill are quite low as I write this. The Nation also was represented during these Hill visits by a CPN member who just passed the Alaska bar examination, Tanner Amdur-Clark, an associate with the Alaska-based Indian law firm that represents the Working Group. Numerous Potawatomi were, literally, in the House.

I also had the honor to represent you and other Citizen Potawatomis as the CPN representative to the White House Native Nations Conference in early December. I took a few photos,

posted here <http://tinyurl.com/pymwlyw>.

One focus of the conference was fostering tribal youth opportunities. I attended the breakout session on youth education and leadership, during which a number of young people spoke about their aspirations to step up to leadership roles within their tribal communities. I spoke a bit about our Potawatomi Leadership Program’s objectives and as a result was asked to follow up with more information about our program. If you don’t know about our program, you can learn more in the article printed in the December 2014 *Hownikan*, covering the program’s recognition at the NCAI annual conference in Atlanta. You can also visit plp.potawatomi.org, for all the details. If you will be between the ages of 18 and 20 by June 15, 2015, are an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, have a current GPA of 3.0 or better, and have completed no more than one year of college (college credit received while in high school does not apply toward this total) I urge you to look into this six-week program through which you would come to our Tribal headquarters in Shawnee, Okla. to learn how the

Nation operates, undergo extensive leadership training, and tackle complex issues such as the intricacies of cultural identity, the qualities of effective leadership and the promotion of tribal engagement.

Please send me your email address so I can send you email updates! Also, if you are in District 2 and want to receive a CPN-themed magnet as part of my holiday mailing I will need you to confirm your current mailing address (to avoid costly USPS returns of misdirected mail.). Please send me an email or leave a message with your current mailing address for this purpose. I will furnish one magnet per requestor so if your older children want magnets they should send me a request (that will get me their contact details!).

Migwetch/thank you for the honor of representing you,

Legislator Eva Marie Carney/
Ojindiskwe (Bluebirdwoman)
ecarney@potawatomi.org
CPN Legislative District #2
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Washington, D.C. 20001
toll free 1-866-961-6988
Visit my website: evamariecarney.com



Wisest, Suzette McEvers Wagner (Anderson family), with her Pendleton muffer.



Legislator Carney at the White House Tribal Nations Conference.



Farthest travelled, Amanda Funk (Penn., Tescier family) with her Pendleton messenger bag and her sweet daughter.

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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The *Hownikan* is published by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions for non-members are available for \$10/yr. in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries. The *Hownikan* is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the *Hownikan*. Editorials/letters are subject to editing and must contain traceable address.

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Address changes should be sent to: Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

LEGISLATIVE COLUMNS

District 3 – Bob Whistler



Bozho nikan (Hello friend)

Over the last holiday season I was on an American Airlines flight and found a nice article about Oklahoma City. Each year we come to Shawnee for Family Festival and fail to take into account that there is a major city less than an hour’s drive away that has many attractions for the whole family. I didn’t realize how cosmopolitan Oklahoma City has become and thought why not bring that information to you. So here is much of what was in that article. Many of you may already know that their professional basketball team "Thunder" has been a real challenge and league adversary to our Dallas Mavericks. Before the Thunder arrived, most people remembered Oklahoma City for the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building by Timothy McVeigh with the major loss of life and hundreds of injuries.

But there is more to OKC than just Thunder basketball and the tragic events of 1995. If you have time when coming to Family Festival or before you leave to go home, here are some great places you may want to check out:	
The Murrah Building National Memorial & Museum www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org	Remington Park www.remingtonpark.com
Oklahoma City Museum of Art www.okcmoa.com	Oklahoma City Zoo www.okczoo.com
Oklahoma State Fair Park www.okcstatefair.com	Myriad Botanical Gardens www.myriadgardens.org
The Stockyards www.stockyardscity.org	Science Museum Oklahoma www.sciencemuseumok.org
Civic Center Music Hall www.okcciviccenter.com	Frontier City www.frontiercity.com
Amateur Softball Association National Softball Hall of Fame and Museum www.asasoftball.com	National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum www.nationalcowboymuseum.org
SandRidge Sky Zip http://boathousedistrict.org/adventures/sky-zip/	Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library http://www.mls.lib.ok.us/downtown-library
If you're looking for some of their well known eateries, here are a few that the article mentioned:	
Toby Keith's I Love This Bar & Grill www.tobykeithsbar.com	Cattlemen's Steakhouse www.cattlemensrestaurant.com/
Mickey Mantle’s Steakhouse www.mickeymantlesteakhouse.com	S&B Burger Joint www.sandbburgers.com
KD's Southern Cuisine http://kdsbricktown.com/	

I hope you find this information useful and look forward to our annual 2015 Family Festival on June 26-28. I hope to see you there.

I have received a few more email addresses from additional members living in District 3. I am honored to serve you and from time to time send out information that might be helpful. If I don't have your email address it would be appreciated.

While I was away for the holidays, one of the Texas constituents had an urgent matter and called the office number after hours. I did not actually hear the call until after the issue had passed. Whenever you have a very pressing issue and need to speak with me quickly, please feel free to call me at home or on my cell phone. They are there for your use if needed.

Until next month, *bama pi* (later).

Bob Whistler/*Bmashi* (he soars)
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District 4 – Jon Boursaw



Peggy and I hope each of you had a joyful and safe Holiday Season.

Objectives for 2015: I’m not one for New Year’s resolutions, but there are a couple of things I would like to achieve during this coming year.

The first of these is to pursue the return of the 1863 Potawatomi Census book to the Nation. It is currently in the possession of the St Mary’s Historical Society Museum. A few years ago, the Nation attempted to obtain the census book to no avail. For your information, this census contains the names of those Potawatomi and their family members who accepted allotments on the Kansas Reservation as a result of the 1861 Treaty. This large group of Potawatomi became the foundation of what is today’s Tribe. We feel the rightful place for this treasured piece of our history is the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. I’ll keep you updated on my progress as it develops.

The second objective for this year is to host four district meetings. One will be a joint meeting in the Kansas

City area with District 1, a meeting in the Wichita area, one in Rossville and I would like to add one somewhere in western Kansas. I am open to suggestions for locations.

Senior Support Network Staff: Don’t forget the nurses continue to offer the Foot Care Clinic on the third Thursday of each month from 1-3 p.m. They are not making appointments, so it is a first come, first serve basis. I have heard nothing but positive comments about the service they are providing. Also they still have several items of medical equipment and supplies available to any CPN member and their family. If you want more information regarding their services and programs, don’t hesitate to contact Tracy or Pam at 785-584-6171.

Valentine’s Day Potluck: The Valentine’s Day Potluck Luncheon hosted by the Senior Support Network Staff will be held on Friday, Feb. 13 at 12 p.m. in the CPN Community Center in Rossville. Please RSVP to the nurses at 785-584-6171.

Finally I need to inform you that my office hours during January and February will be disrupted as I will have knee replacement surgery on Monday, Jan. 12. I expect to be hospitalized until Thursday, Jan. 15 when I will begin my recovery at home. I expect to have a rather intensive rehab therapy schedule for the following few weeks. As a result my availability in the District office will be minimal. If you need assistance I will be available by phone and e-mail, so please do not hesitate to contact me. Hopefully

by the time the February issue of the *Hownikan* is distributed I should be fully recovered. My goal is to be back playing golf by mid-April.

Migwetch,

Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*
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District 5 – Gene Lambert



I always say this. It just keeps getting shorter and moving faster, but this year is what I am talking about. Here we are and it is 2015.

This all started for me with the

Citizen Potawatomi Nation in 1999 as the Regional Director. You can think back and see what that time frame has been for you.

The wheels just keep on turning (Tina Turner style) and the days keep on burning faster than the year before.

As some of you may know, I represent Everest College Phoenix as the Tribal Liaison for Arizona and I find it helpful when working with our community.

Our issues are much the same, but the difference is the leadership we have to lead us.

We as Citizen Potawatomi would not be who we are if not for Chairman John Barrett, Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, Secretary-Treasurer D.

Wayne Trousdale and the many strong directors and the employees that serve under them.

I would like to make this article about the chain of personnel we have the honor of working with. They are awesome and above any other I can assure you.

I have heard it said many times by other successful people, “You can only be as successful as those you surround yourself with.”

That says it all.

It really is time to be grateful for all the wonderful people who make us who we are today.

It is wonderful just being a part of those who have come and walked on,

those who are here now, and those future leaders that will be brought in to continue the successful walk of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

It isn’t all about the money, land, or benefits. It is about the family we have as a support system to be there in time of need or just knowing there is someone out there who cares.

When you think about the centuries that have gone before, it is a miracle or the grace of God that we are still here.

You each play a part in our community and today I am grateful for each and every one of you who participate in the completion of our story. .

As I go to the three day meeting of the nineteen Arizona Tribes, I take

each of you with me and proudly say, “This is how we do it!”

You may or may not be aware of the many Native American communities that have mapped their future after our Tribe’s successes.

Know this, and walk proudly and openly as an intricate part of it all.

You belong to something bigger than you!

Thank you for all you do in 2015...I know it will be fabulous.

Gene Lambert
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glambert@potawatomi.org
euniceilambert@gmail.com

District 6 – Rande K. Payne



Ahau Jayek,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday season. As joyful as the holiday season can be, it can also be a tough time for those away

from loved ones or who have recently lost loved ones. So I want to be mindful that the holidays are not always a fun time for some. For those in that situation I wish peace, comfort and healing in the New Year.

As I look to the New Year I try to be optimistic. Admittedly, optimism can be elusive at times, especially during periods of difficulty, struggle or loss. I find this to be the case after recently learning that my cousin is fighting a losing battle with cancer. I’ve learned that the radiation treatments he’s undergone were to merely stop the bleeding of the tumor and ease his pain. Unbeknown to me, he was diagnosed as terminal when the tumor was first detected. He’s my age and we’re fairly close, so maybe that makes the impact on my spirit so

much more severe. I wish him courage in confronting the pain and misery of this dreadful disease.

I think we can all find ourselves in places where optimism and hope shine dimly. I also believe that it is in these times when our bravery and courage can help bring light to the darkness.

The teachings of the Seven Grandfathers underscore the significance and importance of the principle of bravery and courage in our early culture.

Wikipedia defines courage this way: “Courage is the ability and willingness to confront fear, pain, danger, uncertainty, or intimidation. Physical courage is courage in the

face of physical pain, hardship, death, or threat of death, while moral courage is the ability to act rightly in the face of popular opposition, shame, scandal, or discouragement.”

Grace, courage and wisdom to you in 2015!

God, give me grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,

Courage to change the things which should be changed, and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

Living one day at a time, Enjoying one moment at a time, Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, Taking, as Jesus did, This sinful world as it is, Not as I would have it, Trusting that You will make all things

right, If I surrender to Your will, So that I may be reasonably happy in this life, And supremely happy with You forever in the next.

Amen.

Migwetch!

Bama mine,

Rande K. Payne/Mnedo Gabo
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District 8 – Dave Carney



Happy New Year!

2015 starts as every New Year does, with great hopes and high expectations. For me, as that relates to being the representative for CPN’s District 8, that manifests itself in the plans for outreach. District 8 is vast. When the districts were created it was based on population. Therefore, in order to get roughly 2,500 members in a Northwest area, it had to encompass a land area from Alaska to Nebraska.

I’ve done my best to plan gatherings at locations that have a larger cluster

of CPN members. Inevitably, almost right after I wrap up an event, I get a request from someone who missed it to return to the area. As one can imagine, that isn’t always feasible. For 2015, I hope to make it back up to the Anchorage-Wasilla area where there is a good sized population of spirited Potawatomi. I also hope to make it back to Spokane or Missoula this summer, since last year was the Idaho panhandle.

The event that I am currently starting to figure out is a spring craft event in Olympia, Wash. Several years ago I held one of these and was overly ambitious. We had stations where CPN members instructed others in making medicine bags, beaded key chains, pine needle baskets and elk hide moccasins. People had a very good time and selected one or two things to start and finish at home. My hope this year is to focus on one craft and create a Potawatomi masterpiece at a slower pace with more social down time. Of course, that is the best time of all since members connect with family, make friends and build community. If you are a craft oriented person and would be willing to offer your time and talents to either plan or

assist others in making a Native American craft, please contact me. If your creative interests aren’t a match this time, they may well be in the future.

Besides planning gatherings, the job of legislator has two other primary components. One is more or less being a facilitator to help people access the services that are available through the Tribe. The other is the primary one we are elected to do, act by resolution in our legislative body in relation to the affairs of the Nation. The role of facilitator is sometimes as easy emailing a form to a constituent or answering a simple question. Often, I don’t have the answers to questions and need to reach out to members of the staff or executive branch at the Nation. Sometimes, it is a frustrating job, because the Tribe just can’t be the answer to every need. The most challenging situation is when a member is in dire financial need and there isn’t a program to assist.

As a member of the legislature, we are on committees such as Rules and Government, Judiciary and Public Safety, Health and Human Services,

Natural Resources, Education, Tribal Arts and Culture, Economic Development and the Appropriations and Budgets. I am on Public Safety, Education and Appropriations and Budgets committees. If you watch the recorded quarterly meeting on www.potawatomi.org you are seeing the legislature in action, however, of course you are not seeing when we go into executive session or any committee work.

At times, bills do not make it out of committee for a vote of the legislature. One of these, for example, was a bill for tutoring scholarships for members K-12 which had a cost associated to it of \$1 million. I did not support the bill because I felt that we are already investing a great deal of money on the education of our youth and I have never been asked by a member of District 8 if the Tribe has any kind of assistance for tutoring. If you are living in District 8 and have a strong opinion that I am wrong, please reach out to me.

One piece of legislation that went before the legislature recently and died was a proposed amendment to the Nation’s marriage ordinance –

defining marriage. Historically, the Nation’s marriage ordinance defined marriage as between one man and one woman and did not recognize same sex marriage (Title 13, Chapter 1, section 101 of the Tribal Code).

This proposed amendment changed the language and intent to recognize marriage as between two persons. While this amendment did not pass, members of the Judiciary and Public Safety committee have succeeded in moving the issue back out of committee to be considered by the full legislature again in 2015. This effort has been largely spearheaded by District 2 legislator (and my sister) Eva Marie Carney with my support and that of the Chairman. My position is grounded in this being a clear civil rights issue - plain and simple. That said, the government of our Tribe needs to pass this change.

Happy New Year and I hope to visit with you in 2015,

Dave Carney
CPN District 8 Legislator
dcarney@potawatomi.org
1-877-335-4395

District 9 - Paul Wesselhöft



The American eagle

As your Tribal representative, I was pleased to move Resolution (15-37-NR) for vote in our legislature concerning the Bald and Golden Eagle.

The American Bald Eagle and the Golden Eagle are sacred to the Citizen Potawatomi in our traditions and ceremonies. We have an obligation to protect them.

A few years ago I was honored to receive several Bald Eagle feathers in a beautiful ceremony from Tribal members when I visited them in Alaska. I will never forget that ceremony!

Chairman Barrett gave me a few eagle feathers when you elected me as your representative for District 9, and Vice-Chairwoman Linda Capps presented me some when she gave me my Indian name, *Naganet*, which means leader.

We voted unanimously to approve the resolution requesting a grant of \$150,000 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Endangered Species Program to conduct a survey and engineering study to determine the action required to remove the CPN Eagle Aviary property from the FEMA designated floodplain that it currently resides in.

As the resolution notes, “The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary houses eagles rescued from the wild that are injured and cannot be

rehabilitated. The eagles will be taken care of for the remainder of their lives at this facility.”

The aviary allows CPN access to naturally molted feathers, which will be distributed to Tribal members for cultural and religious purposes. In addition, the facility gives the CPN the means to save the Creator’s great messenger as well as the opportunity to reconnect our people to the living eagle.”

I am sad to inform you that our oldest eagle in our aviary has died at the grand old age of 50. His name was *Bmose-Gizek*, meaning “Sky Walker.”

Fortunately, we have other eagles, which will be in our care for decades to come. I love American eagles and appreciate all the work and care provided by Manager Jennifer Randell at our aviary. In honor of this great bird, I have written a sonnet in classical Italian form. I hope you like it:

Soaring Sonnet

*A high-posted nest is framed with
thorns and sticks,
Leaves and feathers lae the bed.
Eaglets are hatched, fed but
reluctantly lead.
All young must try to fly so mother
uses tricks.
Soft materials are removed so birds
feel the pricks.
But the young, no longer snug, still
feel the dread
Of leaving home to fly alone instead.
So on maternal wings, her eaglets, up
she picks.
The time comes for us to leave the
comforts of home,
But we too are reluctant to spread
wings.
So agitation fills our house, opens the
door.
It is hard to leave behind the life we
have known
Not knowing what is in store, nor the
meaning of things.
But on paternal wings God means for
us to soar.*



District 10 – David Barrett



Bozho,

After doing some research, I want to share some important historical dates and events to challenge each of us to research for ourselves our migration into the 21st century.

Let me say right at the beginning that I’m not writing this to be an authority, but to persuade each of you to seek out some facts on our ancestry.

- **1633** - First land allotment policy established by General Court of Massachusetts Colony to provide land allotments among Indians.
- **1763** - King George III of the U.K. issues proclamation setting aside “reserved lands” for Indians.
- **1789** - The U.S. Congress gives authority over American Indians to the War Department; passes first appropriations for Indian Affairs.
- **1803** - Louisiana Purchase from France (affected Indian people and vast Indian lands).

- **1830** - The U.S. begins policy of isolation and removal of Indian Tribes, confining them to specific locations in the West.

For Native peoples, the early decades of the nineteenth century became the period of “Indian Removal.” The U.S. government removed Eastern Indian tribes to Indian Territory (now known as Oklahoma). Did you realize that the removal of approximately 67 tribes took place during these years, yet all survive today despite several setbacks due to contact with non-Indians?

Along with other Native peoples, Potawatomi adapted to the environmental conditions and climate of their new homes. The Oklahoma-based Indians are unique because many emerged in a small land base and didn’t give up because of the collective experience of tragedy and triumph, defeat and survival, and destruction and rebirth. We overcame the setbacks of going thru obstacles numerous times.

As Potawatomi, we note the Trail of Death, but other tribes have similar stories about their removals also. A new federal Indian policy, much of which was aimed at destroying de facto tribal sovereignty by ending the traditional Indian system, intended to give individual land ownership and U.S. citizenship to American Indians. This officially became known as the Dawes Rolls of tribal memberships.

- **1885** - U.S. Supreme Court affirms tribal rights to self-government.
- **1887** - Congress passed the General Allotment Act, better known as the Dawes Act.

The allotment of tribal land stripped Oklahoma Indians nations of somewhere around 30 million acres. This available land resulted in the Land Run of 1889 into the open lands.

Oklahoma’s statehood in 1907 also caused many of these allotted recipients to lose their lands through fraud and deception from white opportunists. Many Native Americans left Oklahoma during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl of the 1920s and 1930s.

During these years we as a Nation struggled to have our own self-government. Tribal government remained under the firm control of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a department of the Federal Department of the Interior.

- **1924** - Congress passed the Citizen Act giving Indians citizenship and the right to vote.
- **1934** - Congress passed several acts including the Indian Reorganization Act which halted the allotment system, prohibited unrestricted sales of Indian land, and provided for acquisition of additional lands by tribes and individuals and while providing for self-government.
- **1946** - The Indian Claims Commission is created and permitted Indians to file suits against the U.S. Government.
- **1946** - The Bureau of Indian Affairs is officially established.
- **1954** - First of several acts calling for termination of federal trust status over Indian lands begins.

- **1964** - Congress passes the Economic Opportunity Act providing Indians opportunity to participate in and control tribal programs.

- **1975** - Congress passed the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act which supported and reinforced tribal governments.

American Indians in Oklahoma formed thirty-nine tribal governments at this time, all of which are federally recognized.

- **1984** - The CPN Business Committee passes legislation establishing tribal courts, codes, ordinances and taxing entities.

- **1984** - A Tribal Constitution is adopted, giving a vote to all tribal members, regardless of their residence.

- **1988** - Congress passes the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Firelake Casino and Bingo is opened for business. Revenue from new gaming operation is vital to the progress of the Nation.

- **1988** - New Tribal enrollments, stopped since 1961 except for those who had at least 1/8 degree of blood quantum, are begun again when the requirement is abolished. Tribal Rolls Department becomes inundated with enrollment activities.

- **1996** - In February, the Tribe officially changes its name to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

- **1997** - The Self-Governance Compact with Indian Health Services authorizes the Tribe to manage their

own health funds, a huge advantage for the Nation because funds could earn interest, be leveraged while removing the BIA from day-to-day oversight of all Tribal matters.

- **1998** - Self-governance for realty, Tribal Rolls, Tribal Courts, and Indian Reservation Roads are executed, going into effect in 1999.

- **2007** - CPN members overwhelmingly approve constitutional revision that historically altered the Nation’s form of government. A separation of powers is established, giving balance between three separate branches of government: executive, legislative, and judicial.

- **2008** - By February CPN members elected 11 new Tribal legislators.

Many tribes have annual festivals, opened museums and instituted preservation polices and activities, such as language classes and dictionary compilation projects. Native Americans are resilient people who have integrated a successful dichotomy as a part of their lives and prosperity.

It goes without saying that it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great Nation.

Migwetch,
David Barrett/*Mnedobe*
(Sits with the Spirit)
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Did you know the *Hownikan* comes in a digital format?

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LEGISLATORS ARE NOT ABLE TO RETRIEVE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION FROM TRIBAL ROLLS. Please contact your legislator so that you can receive important information.

District 11 - Lisa Kraft



Oklahoma Educational and Employment Needs

Most, if not all, of our Tribal Legislature has attended college and graduated with a degree. And, most of our CPN Legislature would agree that education opened doors for them in their chosen professions. Collectively, these experiences make our Tribal legislature strong, but do not always help to prioritize the needs of our Nation. What legislative actions may be good for the few may not be as high a priority as passage of a bill that would help the many. Here in Oklahoma, I am trying to help families get the assistance they need to get their children through school and prepared for college. My tutoring scholarship bill remains locked in the Tribal Education Committee despite having just held another quarterly legislative meeting. If our tribal youth do not get the needed tutoring or education in science, math, reading, and English, some will continue to struggle their way through school, and quite possibly never achieve the careers they dream of.

The chart in this column demonstrates that there are not enough qualified people in Oklahoma to fill all the available jobs through 2020, according to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

For every one job that requires only a high school education or less, Oklahoma has two people meeting this requirement. Oklahoma will need employment canadiates with some college, vocational or associate degrees to fill 49 percent of future jobs. As it currently stands, Oklahomans cannot fill all of these postions, so out-of-state employment recruitment will be necessary. Almost 24 percent of future jobs in Oklahoma

will require a college degree. Again, Oklahoma will not be able to meet this demand.

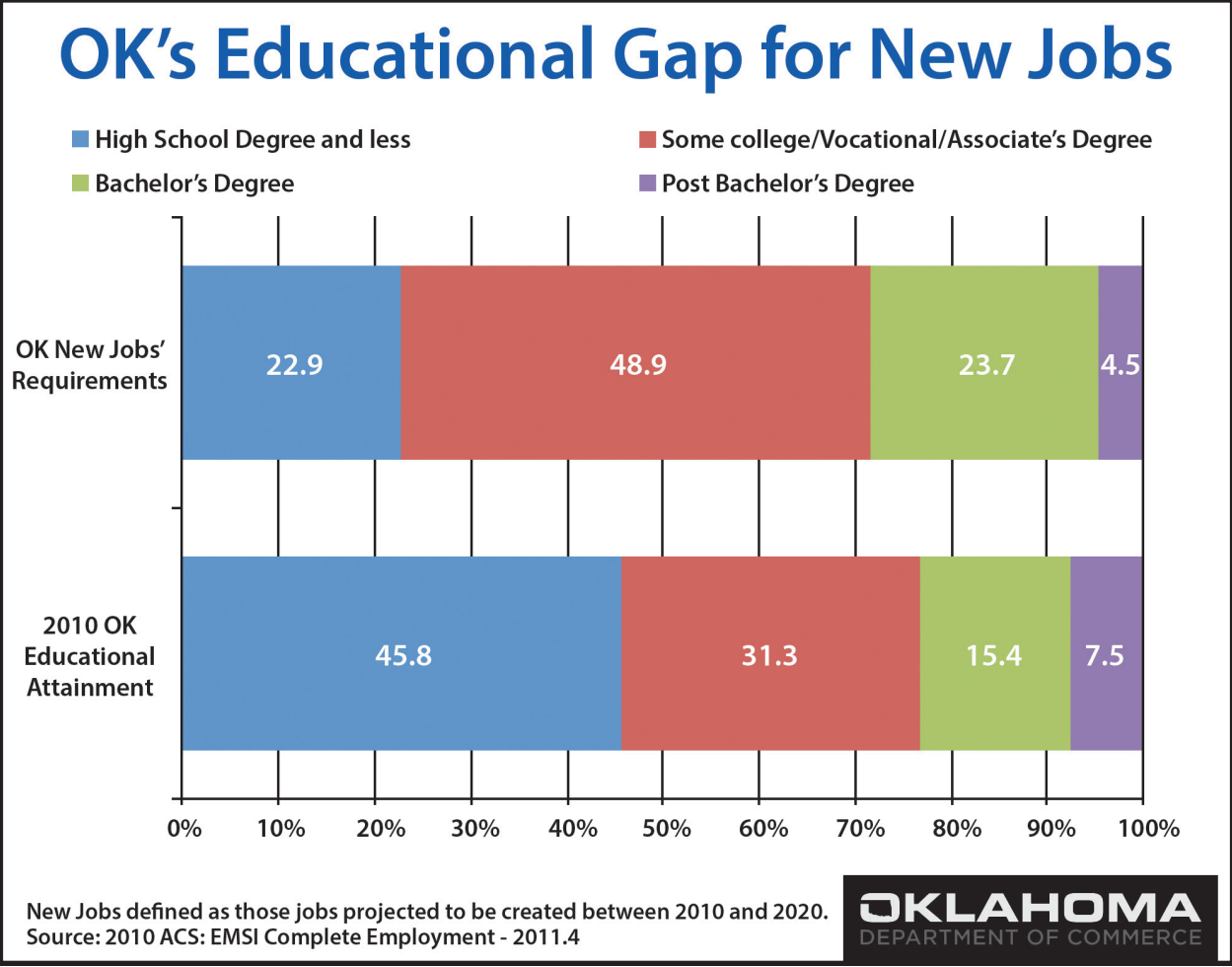
For those of us living in Oklahoma, we hear about the state of our education system and how broken it is. When the Oklahoma Department of Education releases the report cards for school districts (an A-F grade system available at www.afreportcards.ok.gov), parents cringe. I happen to live in a school district that

benchmarks, and baseline factors need to be overhauled, improved, and factored in. This will take time and the “catch-up” period is critical for each student that has fallen behind their peers. As an Oklahoma Tribal legislator, I feel that youth education is a critical need in our Tribe. I envision a Tribal program that allows families to apply annually for a tutoring scholarship for their child or children struggling to keep up to grade level. I had originally proposed this bill for

parent submit a request, on a first-come, first-served basis. This would be submitted as an email time-stamped application to the Tribal Education Committee only.

Because that would be a \$4.5 million dollar obligation, I am asking for only 25 percent of that amount, plus costs to administer the program at a total amount of \$1,250,000. This money would be requested from new Tribal revenue beginning in September 2015,

- Percentage of Indian Students (Shawnee District 18 percent compared to 16 percent Statewide Percentage)
- Percentage of Students Qualifying for Free or Reduced Meals at School (71.6 percent Shawnee District and 61.9 percent Oklahoma)
- Average Household Income (\$41,413 in Shawnee District versus \$60,788 in Oklahoma)
- Percentage of Families Living in Poverty (26 percent in Shawnee District compared to 17 percent in Oklahoma)
- Percentage of Single Parent Households (48 percent in Shawnee versus 33 percent in State)
- Adults 25 years and older with High School diplomas but without college degrees (68 percent in district v. 63 percent in the state)
- Four year dropout rate (eight percent in district and almost 10 percent in Oklahoma)
- Percentage of Oklahoma College Freshmen Taking Remedial Courses in Science, English, Math, and Reading (39.2 percent statewide)
- Percentage of children in kindergarten through third grade in reading remediation (46.5 percent in Shawnee District and 34.8 percent in Oklahoma)



has a C- grade depending on what particular school I am looking at.

Just a few miles to the north in Stillwater, schools make mostly As and Bs. Some would say that it is because Stillwater is home to Oklahoma State University with lots of college-educated people, whereas Guthrie is a farming community with a high poverty rate. I happen to have a Master's Degree and work a farm. Whatever the demographics, people tend to live where they plant roots and for many reasons - not just the “grade” of a school.

Oklahoma education standards,

Tribal member children and families living everywhere, but I have been unable to gain enough outside legislative support to move the bill for discussion.

Consequently, I am *now* rewriting my bill for an Oklahoma-only pilot initiative to demonstrate that there is in fact a real need. There are 9,144 tribal member children in Oklahoma between the ages of 5 and 18. Of course, not all of them need to catch up to grade level or require an annual K-12 tutoring scholarship of \$500. But if they do and they are receiving a grade of C-F in a core subject on their final report card, I am proposing that a

and without a decrease in the existing Tribal Higher Education Scholarship funding level. We funded 3,068 higher education scholarships in 2014 for a total of \$3,944,770.

To help justify my needs assessment, I am providing a snapshot of statistics from the Shawnee, Okla. School District. Data comes from the District Profile from the Shawnee Economic Development Foundation (SEDF.biz), Oklahoma Department of Education, and Census Bureau:

- 2012-2013 K-12 Student Enrollment in the Shawnee School District (Number = 4,037)

As a professional grant writer for a handful of small tribes here in Oklahoma, I see the employment and educational needs of Indian people in many settings and write about it in order to obtain federal assistance. It hits me very personally and gives me purpose to take my experiences back to my position on our Tribal Legislature. If we do not help our children be all that they are meant to be, we as parents and politicians are to blame. I will continue to push for this piece of legislation because education is a *need of the many, not just the few*.

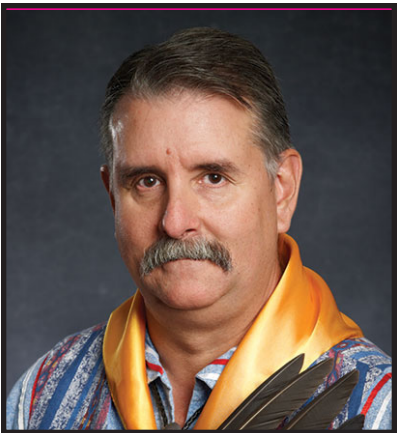
As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft (*Zibikwe*)

Oklahoma Tribal Legislator (District 11 - Statewide)

Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com

District 12 – Paul Schmidlkofer



Bozho Nikan,

I hope all of you had a pleasant and enjoyable holiday. It is the time of year where we all get very busy. But it is also the time of year we normally get to see all of our family, which is probably the best part. I enjoyed seeing mine and especially enjoy watching the grandkids surprise as the open the Christmas presents.

We have made it about half way through winter here in Oklahoma. I have always enjoyed the fact that

we live in a part of the country that normally has all four seasons. It is also nice that our winter doesn't consume half of our year as some of our northern brothers get to enjoy. I am happy if we get a couple decent snows that the kids can play in and usually not much more. When I was younger I would get out and play with them in it. Not so much anymore. I still cherish the memories though.

We have been busy at the Nation doing all the things you would expect, constantly looking for opportunity to

serve our fellow members.

Of course the ongoing struggle continues with those who would rather not see us succeed and help all our neighbors. It is really a strange situation we find ourselves in. We as a Tribe have helped the local economies on all sides, yet there are those who want us to fail. I suspect even these individuals have benefitted from our progress. That only leaves a couple reasons as to why they would do this.

I will leave that to you to decide. We will continue to try to find a solution and move forward with our work.

Anyway, with spring a couple months away I would like to encourage you all to spend time with your families. Help them where you can. Ensure they know you love them and enjoy the cold weather we have.

Bami pi,

Paul Schmidlkofer

Tribal election notice

Tribal election season is underway again as Citizen Potawatomi Nation voters get set to elect candidates for three legislative seats, all based in Oklahoma. Also on the ballot this year is the annual tribal budget, which can be voted on by all eligible CPN voters nationwide. Only CPN members who are 18 or older as of Election Day will be eligible to vote. All eligible CPN voters living in Oklahoma can vote for each individual candidate in legislative seats 10, 11 and 13.

Legislative seats in districts 10, 11 and 13 are all on the ballot on June 27, Election Day, which will take place at the Family Reunion Festival in Shawnee, Okla.

Those seeking legislative seats must live within Oklahoma. Legislative seats 10, 11 and 13 are all located in Oklahoma, but have no specific geographic limits inside the state. Therefore those wishing to contest a specific seat must indicate which legislative position that they are running for. At the time of press, a full list of candidates for the Sooner State's seats were not available. They will be announced in the February 2015 edition of this newspaper.

However, some incumbents have already declared their intention to run for reelection.

David Joe Barrett, a member of the CPN Veterans Organization and current District 10 legislator has announced his intention to run for re-election.

District 11 Legislator Lisa Kraft announced in her December 2014 *Hownikan* column that she would seek another term in her current seat.

Wrote Kraft, “Moving forward into 2015, I would be honored to continue serving our Nation as Oklahoma Representative 11 for another four-year term. I plan to file for re-election in January and continue supporting our Nation’s self-governance, development of tribal lands, tribal scholarships, transportation improvement, and expansion of health care coverage.”

District 13’s Bobbi Bowden also announced her re-election bid in the December 2014 *Hownikan*, telling readers that “2015 is a very important year for me as it is time for me to run for re-election as your Legislative Representative for District 13 in Oklahoma. I have served the Nation since 2006 and been part of the exciting growth and changes made to our government.”

Candidates for the legislative seats must be at least 18 years old by Election Day. Additionally, they must have resided in the district from which they are elected, for at least six months on Election Day. CPN members wanting to run for these offices had to register as candidates with the CPN Election Commission by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2015.



Chairman – John Barrett



Bozho Nikanek (Hello my friends)

In many ways, 2014 was an enlightening year for us at CPN. In part, I feel like I am writing my December 2012 *Hownikan* column again. In that edition, I described a 2012 meeting between the Tribal leadership and representatives of Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin. In that meeting, Governor Fallin’s representatives demanded a 50 percent cut of our Tribal tobacco revenue, without any investment by the state in the sales and advertisement of those proceeds. They also hinted that the state government might challenge the legality of Tribal automobile license plates and the cross-deputization of the CPN police force with our sister agencies in Pottawatomie County. It was also suggested that the state may

contest the Tribe’s ability to place *our* tribal lands into federal trust unless we met an unnamed set of preconditions set by the state government.

Two years on, the Tribal leadership is certain that those were not idle insinuations. Many of you know about our ongoing issues with certain members of the Shawnee City Commission, who in February 2014 threatened the tribe with a lawsuit for not paying city grocery sales taxes. Though the commission wisely chose to drop that lawsuit in October (in exchange for a separate lawsuit against a Tribal-owned water district), it appears that the Oklahoma Tax Commission, under the governor’s direction, will take up the fight on the city’s behalf. This impending fight comes on top of other attacks by state agencies on CPN-owned enterprises. The Oklahoma ABLE Commission, which governs the sales of alcohol in the state, fined CPN for not adhering to county laws banning liquor sales in Pottawatomie County on Sundays, a county law is not part of the gaming compact agreement signed by both CPN and the State of Oklahoma.

To enforce this law, in violation of

our negotiated compact with the state government, the OTC has threatened to revoke alcohol sales licenses from all tribal enterprises, including our travel stops, grocery stores and other locations. These all sit on tribal land held in trust by the United States Government.

In our most recent meeting with representatives from the state government on this matter in December 2014, the negotiators possessed a similar attitude as their predecessors in 2012. Even more incredible was their assertion that though they were sitting across the table from me in our Tribal headquarters, they were not authorized to negotiate anything. Negotiators who don’t negotiate!

Like in our dispute with the City of Shawnee, our contention is that tribal land throughout the United States is not governed by municipal, county or state law. Only federal law, as mandated by Congress, can dictate to tribal governments the laws governing their lands. Federal trust lands exist for this very reason, to keep local, non-tribal entities from taking advantage or infringing on the rights of sovereign tribal governments to administer what is legally theirs.

Governor Fallin’s government simply does not agree with the principle of tribal sovereignty. The tax cuts her government has given to some of our state’s biggest industries have to be made up somewhere, and it appears the source for that revenue will be Indian Country.

In 2013, 32 of Oklahoma’s 39 tribes remitted more than \$122 million in gaming revenue to the state’s coffers. It is little wonder then that state bureaucrats believe that tribal revenue, be it gaming or not, can be used to fill a \$300 million hole in the state budget created by a tax cut-happy legislature.

As some of the largest job creators in the state, tribes have an economic impact on expansive sections of rural Oklahoma. But this doesn’t tell the whole story. In addition to those jobs, tribes provide services to Native Americans and non-tribal members alike.

In our jurisdiction alone, CPN’s police force responds to calls all over Pottawatomie County, while our transit program provides rides to *all* Shawnee and Tecumseh-area residents free of charge, regardless of their ethnicity. These programs

are not outliers. Our fellow tribal governments provide similar services in their jurisdictions too. In almost every case, tribal jurisdictions encompass large swaths of rural Oklahoma, areas where local municipalities or the state government simply cannot provide service to its citizens. Tribes like CPN proudly make up for those shortfalls, because that is what good neighbors do.

The State of Oklahoma must acknowledge that the law of the United States is the law the state must obey in dealing with the Indian tribes. This has been true since 1907, when the State of Oklahoma was created by Congress under special conditions protecting tribal lands.

In that neighborly spirit, I promise we will continue to extend a hand to work with the state in our differences, though I will not do so by compromising our tribal sovereignty.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as Tribal Chairman of this great Nation.

Migwetch,
John Barrett (*Keweoge*)

Vice-Chairman – Linda Capps



Happy New Year to you all!

We have made it to 2015, a year I could not have foreseen when I first began serving in the Tribal government in 1987.

How things have changed since then. It’s a well tread story, but only because it shows how far we as a people have come. The photo accompanying this article is our early 1970s-era Tribal headquarters, an old Bureau of

Indian Affairs single wide trailer where our predecessors ran the services of what was then called the Citizen Band Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma.

Today, we’re the Pottawatomie County’s largest employer, have a \$558 million economic impact on the State of Oklahoma and provide services and programs to our Native and non-Native neighbors that the local city, county and state governments simply aren’t able to provide. It’s a proud legacy we have developed in the decades since we ran operations out of that trailer, and I can confidently say that the future looks to be more of the same.

Sure, there will be some bumps along the way...that’s a given. Just as we overcame adversity in the past, we will challenge difficult times ahead with the advanced expertise of a seasoned Tribal government. While some



in this community view our Tribe’s position and purpose as a negative, there are immeasurable people who appreciate the services and programs that the Nation provides.

I cannot count the number of times I was told during the

holiday season of how thankful our neighbors in and around the Tribal jurisdiction were to have us. It is those thoughts that I try to keep in mind each day as we go about our business.

Whether it’s our staff’s work in the Tribal administration building, our

police officers’ patrols in our 900-mile jurisdiction or our grocery store employees at FireLake Discount Foods and FireLake Express Grocery, we know what a positive the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is in the county that bears our name.

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WALKING ON



Bill Williams

Lifelong Purcell, Okla. resident, Bill Williams, age 101, passed away Tuesday, November 18, 2014. Bill was born April 26, 1913 in Purcell, the sixth of nine children born to George S. Williams and Bertie Gertrude (Newman) Williams. At an early age, Bill learned the value of hard work, and on any given day, one could find him sweeping the floors at his father’s hardware store. He also washed dishes and peeled potatoes at the Harvey House, sometimes feeding up to 100 railroad workers every day. By the time Bill was in high school, he and his brother Leon were business partners, together running Williams Produce. He also built and repaired radiators, as well as built stills.

While at Purcell High school, Bill was a standout athlete and especially excelled on the gridiron. He graduated with the class of 1934. Bill married Faye Cardwell the following year, and together they raised a son, Billie Gerald Williams. Bill joined the United States Army and served his country proudly during World War II. Bill was Honorably Discharged at the rank of S/SGT after tours in Africa, Northern France, the Rhineland as well as Central Europe. He returned home to Oklahoma and again joined his brother in the family business, a business they would own for more than 32 years.

Bill was known for his entrepreneurial spirit, and always had his finger in numerous career fields. Bill later worked at the prison in Lexington for more than eight years, where he ran the canteen and managed the inmates’ money in a bank there. On May 7, 1983, Bill married Arlene Cardwell, and they remained active in their community. Bill was always proud of Purcell and served his town in many ways, including two terms as Mayor and nine years on the city council. With the help of Jim Kinblade, Randall Brewer, Laurence Mantooth and Richard Gray, Bill worked tirelessly to provide Purcell with Purcell Municipal Hospital, which opened in 1970. He also boasted of new sewer facilities and water lines and many other infrastructure improvements for that time.

Bill enjoyed Rotary immensely, and was so very proud of his nearly 66 years of perfect attendance. Bill was also the head of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for many years. One of Bill’s greatest joys however was his church, the First Baptist Church of Purcell. For some time, Bill was the longest living active member and an active supporter in the building movement for their current building. He was also very proud of the fact that the note is paid in full. Bill will be forever known for his quick wit and his ornery sense of humor, his knowledge of all things Purcell and his devout friendship. He will be dearly missed!

He was preceded in death by: His wife, Faye Williams; His parents, George and Bertie Williams; His sisters, Rose Williams, Golda Gerhard, Peggie O’Bryant and Lucile Ray and his brothers, George, Leon, Sherman and

James Williams.

Bill leaves behind: His wife of more than 31 years, Arlene Williams of the home; His son, Bill Williams and wife Jennifer of Noble, Okla.; Four stepdaughters, Nancy Monday of Edmond, Okla., Kitty Casey and husband Richard of Norman, Okla., Joyce Vinita and husband Jim of Edinburg, Texas and Merry Parker and husband Mike of Mustang, Okla.; four grandchildren, Cristy Cannon of Norman, Billie Williams and wife Kim of Lindsay, Okla., Brian Williams and wife Teri of Newcasttle, Okla. and Kevin Williams of Noble, Okla.; two great-grandchildren, Taylor Miller and Clayton Cannon; Several nieces and nephews, and a host of other family and friends.

Funeral services were November 21, 2014, at the First Baptist Church in Purcell. Burial followed at the Hillside Cemetery under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the Purcell First Baptist Church. Send online condolences at wilsonlittle.com.



Dee Ann (Dixson) Fogle

Dee Ann (Dixson) Fogle, age 52, of Shawnee, Okla passed away on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 in Shawnee.

She was born August 24, 1962 in Shawnee to Marchal (Dick) and Norma Jean (O’bright) Dixon.

Dee Ann was raised in Shawnee and Oklahoma City where she attended the Baptist Children’s Home for a short time. She graduated with the class of 1980 from Northeast High School, attended OCU for a while and attended Seminole State. After school she returned to Shawnee and had lived there ever since.

Dee Ann married Richard Fogle in Shawnee on June 16, 1984.

She worked as a caregiver in nursing homes and daycares in the Shawnee area.

Dee Ann volunteered at the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Shawnee. She enjoyed fishing, swap meets, playing cards, concerts and traveling. Most of all, she loved family time.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Marshal Wayne Fogle; grandmother, Ila Dixon; stepmother, Inna Dixon; brother, Bill Loftis.

Dee Ann is survived by her loving

husband, Richard of the home; sisters, Wynona Richardson, Vicki Blount Scott, Janet Rucks, and Judy Spencer; brother, Ronnie Loftis; numerous nieces and nephews; and many extended family and friends.

The funeral service was Nov. 14, 2014 at Cooper Funeral Home Chapel with Dan Johnson of Refuge Worship Center officiating. Burial followed at Fairview Cemetery in Shawnee under the direction of Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh. To share memories, or to sign the guest book on-line, go to www.cooperfuneral.com.



Jesse Louis Nickell Jr.

On June 9, 2014 Jesse Louis Nickell lost his battle with CPOD.

He was 80 years old.

Funeral services were held June 20, 2014 at Cottonwood Cemetery. Military honors were provided by Retired Marine Corp Volunteer’s Red Bluff, Ca. Funeral arrangements where under the direction of Allen Dahl Funeral Chapel of Anderson, California.

Born February 16, 1933 in Erick, Okla., he was the son of Jesse L Nickell Sr. and Sibyl Nickell.

Jess grew up in Erick and Bakersfield, Calif. After graduation from high school Jess joined the United States Air Force stationed at Grandview Air Base in Belton, Mo. While attending a party at a friend’s house in Kansas City, Jess met Lorraine. It was love at first sight. They married and spend the next 59 and a half years together. After his discharge from the Air Force, Jess, Lorraine and their new daughter Janiece moved to Hawthorne, Calif. to continue his education.

Living southern California, Jess worked for Douglas Aircraft and later for Lockheed. Jess had an engineer’s mind. He could take apart and fix just about any mechanical or electrical equipment. While working in the research lab at Lockheed Palo Alto campus, Jess attained Engineer status.

Transferring to Sunnyvale, Calif. with Lockheed, the family settled in San Jose, Calif. and had grown to add another daughter Sheree and son Jesse.

Jess worked for Lockheed for a total of twenty years. He also owned and operated with his wife Lorraine, Nickell’s TV Service and later Nickell Cutting Quarter’s and various real estate ventures.

After Jess’s retirement from Lockheed, Jess and Lorraine moved to Cottonwood, Calif. and brought a ranch where they raised

and bred quarter horses and cattle.

Jess had many different hobbies including boating, motorcycles, classic cars, cutting horses, flying and scuba diving. After spending six months restoring a rare Velocette motorcycle, Jess rode it to work in heavy Bay Area traffic. After returning home in the evening he traded the motorcycle for a boat.

Jess was kind, generous and adventurous. A quiet man not loud or boastful, his family was the center of his world.

Jess was a member of the Potawatomi tribe in Shawnee, Okla., as a descendent of the Young family, one the founding families of the Tribe.

Jess will be missed his friends and especially by his family.

Jess is survived by his wife of 59 and a half years Lorraine Nickell, sister JoAnn Hopkins (Donald), Uncle Joe Nickell, Daughters: Janiece Lamascus(Marvin) Sheree Nickell Kouffeld, son, Jesse L. Nickell III (Christine). Grandchildren: Beth L. Svenson, Kimberly L. Lamascus, Jesse L. Nickell IIII, Oliver T. Nickell, Meadow Hanson, Maggi Kouffeld . Great grandchildren: Mabelle L. Svenson, Gwendolen F. Svenson, Heidi Jean Hanson.

Inlaws: Andrew and Loretta Orendac, George and Jackie Dutcher, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Proceeded in death by his parents and sister Joy Campbell Restene.



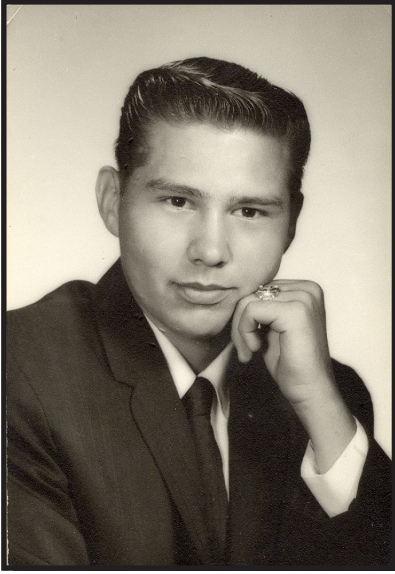
Marie A. Arredondo

Marie A. Arredondo, age 66, of Granite, Okla. passed away Friday, October 24, 2014, at Grace Living Center in Mangum, Okla.

Marie was born on May 10, 1948 in Granite to Kenneth and Lydia (Cooper) Nickell. Marie grew up and attended school in Granite but also lived in Altus, Kansas and Florida. She loved sky watching, making jewelry, doing crafts, scrapbooking, sewing and hunting for rocks, arrowheads and geodes. Marie was a proud member of the Potawatomi tribe and loved making Native American jewelry. She was always thinking of others; there were several times she took her rock and arrowhead collections to show to the kids at the Mangum Library. Another time she went there to teach them about the Potawatomi tribe and

give the kids gift bags with gifts and papers to color. She also made crafts and jewelry for Hospice patients and their families. Marie had multiple certifications in Reiki Energy Healing and volunteered many hours helping those who were less fortunate through SWODA, by doing taxes for people who otherwise couldn’t afford to hire someone and by being a key component in the Oklahoma Anti-Smoking Campaign. Her kind heart and caring soul will be greatly missed by her friends and family.

Preceded in death by her parents; one granddaughter, Aiyanna Barber and one sister, Judy Ramsey, Marie is survived by two daughters, Linda Arredondo and husband Red Sineath of Tallahassee, Fla. and Lisa Arredondo and Kevin Rich of Granite; one nephew, Jeremy Goodson of Oklahoma City; one niece, Jackie Savoie of Boston, Mass.; one sister, Delora (Dee) Wilkes of Oklahoma City and special cousins Margie Fox, Dean David wife Charlotte and children Hilary, Lexi, Shelby and Colton, Dwayne David wife Melissa and children Gage and Kalissa Creekmore and Chris and his daughter Madison, Darrell David and children Stephanie, Alyssa, Brittany and JD along with many other relatives and close friends.



James E. Clifford

James E. Clifford, age 70, died at his home surrounded by family. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. James was preceded in death by his father James Kenneth Clifford, mother Wanita Ruby Clifford, a former Tribal chairman, paternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. James E. Clifford, maternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Narcisse Pensoneau, and two brother-in-laws Jose “Gringo” Cervantes and John Fleeman Jr.

Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Chris Clifford, brother Kenneth N. Clifford, sister and brother-in-law Linda and Jose Limones, son and daughter-in-law James and Yvonne Clifford, daughter and son-in-law Laneta and Scott Blevins, sons Curtis and Jeremy Clifford, daughter and son-in-law Amanda and Gary Cozart, son and daughter-in-law Kris and Jennifer Gober, daughter and son-in-law Kelle and Marcos Sehuame, 15 grandkids, 10 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild as well as several nephews, nieces and cousins.

Services were held Nov. 14, 2014 at Harrah Church in Harrah, Okla. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery in Shawnee, Okla.



CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Kaleigh Coots at 405-878-5830 or email Kaleigh.coots@potawatomi.org.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document and a 300dpi photo to hownikan@potawatomi.org.