



HOWNIKAN

Kchemkogises / January 2016

Woody Crumbo and the Bacone Style



In addition to his own legacy, Crumbo's impact on the art scene continues.

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CHC reaches tenth anniversary



The cultural heritage center marks ten years of chronicling Citizen Potawatomi history.

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Tribal gaming has \$6.9 billion impact in Oklahoma

Don't let anyone tell you that Oklahoma's tribal nations aren't paying their fair share of fees and taxes to the state government. According to a report released by the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association, tribes have paid \$980 million in gaming fees to the State of Oklahoma, while their gaming operations have a \$6.9 billion impact throughout the state. The report only includes the impact of tribal gaming operations and not the impact of other tribal businesses, meaning the total impact in Oklahoma is likely much higher.

There are 30 tribes with gaming operations in Oklahoma, who have a total of 124 tribal casinos. Of those, 19 tribal gaming operations have hotels and resorts in the state. These gaming facilities have created a multitude of entertainment options for Oklahomans and those who visit. In 2014, gaming operations had 38.2 million visits, including more than 14.6 million visits from out-of-state travelers.

Tribal gaming operations must be located on tribal land, which means

most of the jobs created are in rural and underserved parts of the state. Tribal jobs are often a primary source of income and benefits for many Oklahoma families. According to the report, tribal gaming in Oklahoma would rank as the nineteenth largest industry in terms of employers in the State of Oklahoma, with one in every 55 jobs directly related to tribal gaming. These employees spent \$1.09 billion in Oklahoma derived from their employment earnings.

In rural areas that number is especially significant. For example, CPN alone has created 70 percent of new jobs in Pottawatomie County, where its Tribal gaming operations are located, in the last decade.

Exclusivity fees received by the state government go to the Education Reform Revolving Fund, the General Revenue Fund and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Of those funds, ODMH-SAS receives about \$250,000 per year, while 88 percent goes to the education fund and 12 percent goes to the general fund. The money derived

from these revenues goes to the use of all of the state's citizens.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation opened FireLake Bingo in 1988, shortly after the Indian Gaming Reorganization Act was passed. That location, near CPN Tribal headquarters, offered one game of bingo and one game of pull tabs each night. In 1995, the Tribe renovated the center and added a bowling alley. The bowling alley has since been removed to a separate location and that gaming location is known today as FireLake Casino.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation opened Grand Casino in 2005 and rebranded the property and completed a hotel and event center in 2013.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation had a \$540 million impact in Oklahoma for 2014. CPN directly supported 2,100 jobs and paid \$78.6 million in wages and benefits. CPN indirectly supported thousands more jobs and boosted local economies by making purchases of more than \$212 million on goods and services.

TRIBAL GAMING IN OKLAHOMA

	TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF \$6.9 BILLION		425,000 SQUARE FEET OF MEETING, FUNCTION, AND ENTERTAINMENT SPACE
	\$979 MILLION IN EXCLUSIVITY FEES TO THE STATE		200 RESTAURANTS AND BARS
	30 TRIBES IN OKLAHOMA		8 GOLF COURSES WITH A TOTAL OF 108 HOLES
	124 INDIAN GAMING OPERATIONS		4 SPAS
	71,750 ELECTRONIC GAMES		7 RV PARKS WITH ALMOST 375 SITES
	4,600 BINGO SEATS		50 GAS STATION/ CONVENIENCE STORES
	19 TRIBAL HOTELS/RESORTS		19TH LARGEST INDUSTRY EMPLOYER IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
	4,700 ROOMS		1 IN EVERY 55 JOBS

CPN’s Lawerance, Pollard and Garcia offer tips on popular New Year’s resolutions

The holiday season has ended, and for many that means making New Year’s resolutions. Some of those might include losing weight, saving money or starting a new job.

The *Hownikan* spoke with Sarah Lawerance of the FireLake Wellness Center, Tina Pollard a consumer lending manager at the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation and Human Resources Generalist Hollie Garcia for tips on how to achieve these goals.

Lawerance: “If one of your News Year’s resolutions is to lose weight, I would recommend beginning to exercise. Start with two to three times a week and then in a few months you can increase to three to four times a week. Have long term and short term goals. A short term goal could be to walk a mile by the end of the month and a long term goal could be to walk a 5k in three months.

“Another suggestion would be to have an accountability partner. This will help keep you on track. Using an activity tracker is a great idea. You could compete against your friends or just compete against your numbers from the day before.”

If you would like to learn more about the healthy living and fitness options available at the FireLake Wellness Center, please call 405-395-9304.



Grand Casino employee Steven Jones works out at the Wellness Center before his shift.

Pollard: “Some tips I would recommend for saving money is to set clear goals, spend less than you make and owe less than you can afford. You do this by saving for a rainy day and reducing your debt with the snowball method. You should also examine your insurance and taxes regularly or even open an inconvenient savings account and pay yourself.

“I love helping people with their finances. We currently have three certified credit counselors in our office that are here to help whether you need to develop a budget or learn to pay off debt more quickly. Confidential budgeting or debt counseling can ensure that you are on track for a bright financial future.

“Also, CPN Tribal members, employees and their families are eligible for free credit counseling and budget help.”

To take advantage of the free credit counseling and budget help at the CPN Community Development Corporation, please call 405-878-4697 or visit www.cpcdc.org.

Garcia: “If you are beginning a new job, workplace etiquette is an important contributing factor to a productive, efficient and welcoming environment. Learning about and practicing workplace manners puts you in a better position to increase your productivity and job satisfaction.

“Here are a couple of guidelines to follow in the workplace.”

1. Treat your colleagues with respect and dignity
2. Common courtesy - being attentive in a meeting, putting your phone on silent during a meeting
3. Acknowledge and appreciate a colleague’s work
4. Say “please”, “thank you” and “You’re welcome” as part of your everyday courtesy
5. Don’t gossip about any co-worker’s private life
6. Take responsibility for your mistakes, apologize and go about correcting the mistakes
7. Never blame someone else if it is your mistake
8. Make new employees feel welcome
9. Do not interrupt when someone else is speaking
10. Treat others as you want to be treated

To learn more about employment opportunities with the Tribe, please visit www.FireLakeJobs.com.

House of Hope utilizes grant funding to create safe space

When home is no longer safe, where can families in need turn?

This is a question faced far too often by staff members at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation House of Hope, who while able to offer support services to victims fleeing domestic violence, do not have a physical shelter to host those same individuals.

It’s a common misunderstanding that oftentimes does more harm than good, providing those having their worst days a sense of hope before it’s dashed away.

“When that issue arises, we will assist the client in locating shelter,” explained Amanda Chapman of the House of Hope. “It has been frustrating at times, because typically local shelters are full.”

Through the use of a grant funding opportunity from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Indian Health Service, the absence of such a shelter may be a thing of the past. As part of its five year long implementation of



Everyone has the right to feel safe in a relationship. Learn the warning signs of domestic violence and don’t be afraid to speak out.

its domestic violence prevention initiative, the House of Hope will soon have a fully staffed shelter for victims fleeing domestic violence.

Construction of a shelter under the direction of the House of Hope will move forward. In addition, there

will be two full time prevention specialists and one part time shelter staff member. The funds will be used to provide assistance to women who are the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.

Staff will partner with the Potawatomi County Coordinated Community Response team to establish policies and procedures to further these goals. Women at the shelter will also be able to participate in exercises and courses designed to help heal the wounds, both mental and physical, that they have sustained, including monthly visits to the One Day Ranch in Bethel Acres, Oklahoma.

For more information on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation House of Hope, please visit cpn.news/hope or call 405-878-HOPE.

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CPN HOWNIKAN

Wadasé update: January 2016

By Bree Dunham,
CPN Eagle Aviary

Nov. 10 was the last morning that Wadasé Zhabwé visited the aviary. She arrived early from her roost in the east pasture and spent the better part of the morning out front, perched high in the pecan tree where she could catch the warm rays of the morning sun. By mid-day she had headed towards the river and out of sight. Checking telemetry we know she followed the river to the northwest and eventually stopped just outside Harrah, Oklahoma to roost along the North Canadian River. After spending a week in the area, moving up and down the river between Harrah and McLoud, she set out on a wide loop around the central portion of the state. Wadasé followed the river north through Jones and on to Lake Arcadia before turning south. When she reached Spencer she headed southwest through Forrest Park and then flew towards Oklahoma City. Her path took her directly over St. Anthony Hospital at approximately 1,500 feet in the air. She continued on to Mustang before turning again to head south-

east. Over the next several days she made her way through Newcastle, Blanchard, Cole, Payne and Lindsay. Then early on Nov. 22, she headed directly for the aviary at sunup, passing through Rosedale, Tribbey, Macomb, Tecumseh and right over us before stopping north of Prague. Even if we had known to look for her, we may never have spotted her because she was cruising 2,000 feet above us.

After a short layover she headed west on Nov. 24 towards Davenport, passing just south of Chandler and Weston before turning once again on a course south to return to nearly the exact location from where she had originally left near Harrah. Since her return she seems content sticking to a 5-mile stretch of the river there. During her seven day fly about, we calculated that she flew no less than 250 miles. So, perhaps she is resting up for her next trip.

This December, well before the first official day of winter, we have already had several days with temperatures below freezing and even had our first ice storm. We were on the eastern edge of the front and fortu-



Wadase going in for a landing during her last trip to the aviary in early November.

nately we did not have any damage from the ice, unlike our neighbors to the northwest. While we were hopeful we might see Wadasé return before the storm as she has in the past, we did not see her.

After studying her telemetry, we know that during the inclement weather in the worst of the storm she sat nearly two days with little movement along the river conserving energy. Midmorning after the storm passed, when the temperatures rose above freezing, telemetry shows increased activity low along the river as she was most likely hunting to make up for the past few days.

We will continue making regular trips out to the areas she frequents as we monitor her telemetry closely this time of year, looking for signs of other eagles nesting in the area and seeing if she shows any interest in a potential mate and nesting herself. There is a possibility that we could see that happen this year. The area she returned to from her trip would be a suitable area for her to nest and raise young. There is an abundant supply of waterfowl and fish and other eagles in the area. But we are still hopeful she will come closer to home

to nest. If we had a say in the decision we would choose the pecan tree right out front. In any case, we are thankful for her telemetry and the amount of data we are able to collect and blessed to have the opportunity to continue sharing her story with everyone. As always we encourage you to keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. To follow her movements with us you can visit www.arcgis.com/home and search for "Potawatomi eagle." Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to the CPN Aviary at aviary@potawatomi.org.



About to take off to find a place to roost for the evening.



Scan this QR code to learn more about Wadasé.

**OKLAHOMA
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2015-2016
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OKLAHOMA INDIAN NATIONS DIRECTORY

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Tribal healthcare professionals encourage vaccinations, hand washing to prevent bad flu season

Cold temperatures push everyone inside this time of year, with the opportunity to be amongst friends and family becoming more of a mandatory, rather than a voluntary endeavor. This close proximity to one another during the winter months also has an unfortunate byproduct; illness. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the 2014-15 flu seasons reached epidemic proportions at a far earlier time than it normally does. We spoke with Lisa Vernon, Public Health Nurse at CPN Health Services, about how Tribal members and employees can stay healthy and safe in the winter months.

Why is there a prevalence of influenza during the winter months?

“The flu is more prevalent during cold months because the flu virus is able to live longer - almost 24 hours - with the low temperatures and low humidity of winter, as opposed to approximately an hour with the high temperatures and high humidity found in the summer. With the longer life of the virus, the possibility of transmission to another person is much increased. Other factors may be poorly circulating indoor air causing higher probability of viral transmission through coughing or sneezing, and reduced sunlight leading to lower Vitamin D levels which can reduce immunity.”

What are some ways to prevent getting the flu?

“The best ways to avoid catching the flu are to wash your hands and get the flu vaccine each year. Viruses can live for a short period of time on

FLU SHOT MYTHS vs FACTS

MYTH

The flu shot can give me the flu.

MYTH

I should wait to get vaccinated so that I'm covered through the end of the season.

MYTH

Vaccines are not proven to prevent the flu.

FACT

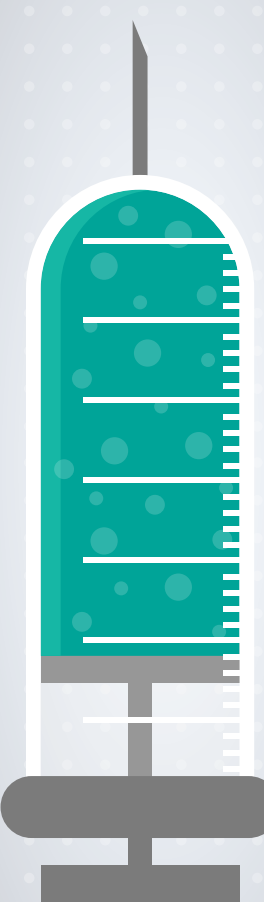
Flu viruses used in flu shots are inactivated, so they cannot cause infection.

FACT

People should get a flu shot as soon as they are available because it takes about two weeks to develop antibodies.

FACT

If you get the flu vaccine, you are about 60% less likely to need treatment for the flu.



Information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/quadrivalent.htm

hard surfaces and are expelled with every cough or sneeze of an infected person. Touching these surfaces then touching your face will transmit these viruses to you.

“The flu vaccine is adapted each year to fit the most likely forms of the flu virus for that year. Some years this

works, some it does not. Last year the H3N2 flu virus changed slightly in December to another form that was not present in the vaccine. This caused an unexpected increase in flu cases in January and February. This past winter the CDC was determining the forms of the flu virus to include in this year's vaccine. This

new influenza A form was added in addition to a new form of influenza B. Hopefully this year's vaccine will be a good match for the circulating viruses.

“Obviously, one of the main ways we spread the flu is person-to-person when we are sick. The amount of time a person remains quarantined, or not at work, needs to be for the full time that the virus is alive. The CDC reports that the flu virus is alive and transmittable to another person from one day prior to illness to five to seven days later. That's why we keep getting it.”

So how do you know you have the flu? What is the difference between it and a cold?

“I always say that when you get the flu, you know it. It has a rapid onset with fever, body aches, exhaustion, and possibly nausea and diarrhea. These are in addition to the normal cold symptoms of stuffy nose, sore throat and cough. The flu is not improved with an antibiotic. The trouble with diagnosing the flu in a clinic setting is that the laboratory nasal swab can accurately detect a case of the flu only 50 percent of the time. With this kind of accuracy, the test cannot be the basis for determining if someone has the flu or needs to stay home with the flu. As I said, when you get the flu, you know it, positive lab test or not.”

If you would like more information on the Tribal health services, please visit cpn.news/flu or call 405-273-5236.

Getting to know the CPN Child Development Center's Megan Walker

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Child Development Center began educating children 18 years ago and has become one of the largest children's learning centers in the state of Oklahoma. The center uses a state-certified curriculum taught by teachers and master teachers in each classroom.

Longtime employee Megan Walker, a master teacher in the toddler room, sat down with the *Hownikan* to discuss her history with the center and tell us a little bit about herself.

For those of us who do not know you, could you tell us a little bit about yourself?

“I grew up in Prague, but now live south of Tecumseh with my husband, Dusty and children, Zak, 13 and Zoie, 8. Although I am not a tribal member, I am one fourth Japanese and most people don't believe me when I tell them that.

“My husband and I own a dozer

business that we run together. That may not sound like much to the average person, but my husband is paralyzed from mid-chest down. He had a terrible 4-wheeler accident seven years ago. For our business to succeed, we had to install a lift on our dozer which allows him to get on and off of the equipment.”

How long have you worked for CPN?

“I have been with CPN and worked at the Child Development Center under Donnette Littlehead for 12 years.”

What made you want to work for CPN?

“I was a stay-at-home mom and needed to find employment with benefits so that bills could be paid and my little family could have insurance. A friend of mine was leaving the Tribe and told me to apply. She told me about all the great opportunities there were at the Tribe, so I gave it a whirl and here I am years later.”



Megan Walker

Did you always want to be a teacher?

“I have wanted to be a teacher since I was a very young. Public school

teaching was my ultimate dream, but high insurance costs have prevented that from happening. Teaching for CPN is the next closest thing. The only difference is I'm teaching a lot younger children and that's just as fulfilling as a public school teaching position.”

What are some of your day-to-day duties?

“They include teaching a state certified High Reach Curriculum to my toddlers along with colors, shapes, ABCs, and 123s. I do a lot of hands on learning experiences and provide a safe and loving learning environment to my little ones to grow and learn in.”

If you would like to learn more about the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Child Development Center, please visit cpn.news/cdc. To learn more about employment opportunities with the Tribe, please visit www.FireLakeJobs.com.

Tribe adds Energy Sustainability Specialist Tara Hammer to bolster greener enterprises

For many years, CPN has been known as trailblazer in innovation in Indian Country. Comparing photos of the secondhand BIA trailer that served as the Tribal headquarters in the early 1970s to the FireLake complex today, it's easy to see why the Citizen Potawatomi have earned such a reputation. Energy Sustainability Specialist Tara Hammer recently joined the department of environmental protection to enhance the Tribe's green footprint and help recoup costs associated with sustainable development.

Though born in Arkansas, Hammer grew up in Lawrence, Kansas. She finished high school and undergraduate studies in her hometown before moving on to Kansas City for graduate school. A Cherokee Nation citizen with Creek ancestors, Hammer attended Haskell Indian Nations University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in environmental science, ecology and evolutionary biology.

Hammer says that an internship in Costa Rica just prior to her graduation from Haskell was integral to her decision to pursue a career in an environmental health sector. She tested water in a river that supplied a local town, but found the ban on interactions with the local populace somewhat restricting. After completing the internship, Hammer, still unsure of what lay ahead for her career-wise, presented the study's findings at the national SACNAS conference, or the Society for Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science.

"I spoke at the SACNAS conference, and one of the judges asked me if I had plans to go to grad school," Hammer recalled. "I told her that I did, but that I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I explained that I didn't feel like I was helping anybody because while I was doing the legwork, I wasn't out there with the people like I wanted to be."

The judge suggested a public health program at the University of Kansas, which had recently expanded to include a focus on environmental health sciences.

She went on to pursue a master's degree in public health from the University of Kansas Medical Center, finishing as the school's first female graduate of that program with an environmental health sciences concentration.

Her graduate school project focused on testing the water quality of the resources on the Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas' reservation. She explained that she enjoyed being out amongst the people who lived and worked on the tribe's land and properties.

"You get to meet so many people, and you hear so many stories, it was just a great experience."

Seeking a move back to Oklahoma where she has family, Hammer took a job working on a healthcare grant funded by the National Institute of Health at the Cherokee Nation W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah. Seeking to reproduce her experience working with a tribal environmental health sector, Hammer applied for an environmental specialist vacancy with CPN. Though that particular position was filled by another candidate, Hammer was selected for the position of energy sustainability specialist.

CPN Department of Environmental Protection Assistant Director Shawn Howard, who was helping oversee the hiring process, offered the position of energy sustainability specialist to Hammer.

"Although we interviewed Tara for the environmental specialist position, because of her experience and qualifications she was more suited to fill another Tribal need focusing on environmental sustainability and

assessing climate change impacts," explained Howard. "After discussing the goals and responsibilities of the job, she accepted and she has been with us since July 2015."

Like many at CPN, Hammer's new position isn't strictly relegated to one specific task. She is working on two grant projects related to climate change. One project is to identify vulnerabilities to climate change potentially affecting tribal lands, and the other is to develop a plan to adapt to vulnerabilities identified. She is also working with the Office of Self-Governance on a proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy which focuses on energy generation through clean energy technology. She and her colleagues are exploring a partnership with the CPN Cultural Heritage Center to work with middle and high school students to expose them to tribal department career positions.

Hammer is also helping revive the CPN Green Team, an employee-led effort to recycle products used during the Tribe's day-to-day business.

According to the latest figures from FireLake Discount Foods, the Tribal-owned enterprises brought in approximately \$43,000 and \$36,000 from revenues associated with recycling cardboard.

Said Hammer, "We're thinking that if we can get a bunch of the depart-



Tara Hammer

ments that aren't recycling to do so, as well as those currently making the effort, Tribal recycling could end up being sustainable."

Hammer's expertise will feed into CPN's mission of cementing its sovereignty in terms of protecting its natural resources. To do this, Hammer believes that tribal departments of environmental quality are best placed to protect Native American lands, resources and sacred sites.

"It seems like if you want to be sovereign, you should have your own departments and make your own choices," she concluded. "People can't be here every day to do what we do."

CPN Veterans report: January 2016



By Daryl Talbot, Commander

I had a pleasant experience the other day while shopping at Atwoods. An elderly gentleman saw my Vietnam CPN Veteran cap and approached me and said, "Vietnam, I see, well I was a little

bit ahead of you. I was with UDT at Normandy in 1944, and there was nobody there, but us. We cleared the way for the main group coming in after us. I was wounded twice, but survived. How old are you?"

I told him 71.

He said, "I could be your daddy," and then proceeded to tell me in detail about what he and his team did on D-Day back in 1944. I never tire of hearing the stories from fellow veterans about their adventures in the military. The cap I wear tells them that I'm willing to listen if you want to talk. No one understands like a fellow veteran. We are all brothers regardless which branch you served in.

I received information that some of you may or may not know about. The Department of Veterans Affairs and the YMCA are expanding their partnership to work together to improve the health and services to veterans and their families. The YMCA has provided services to military personnel and veterans ever

since the Civil War. They were the forerunners of the G.I. Bill. Now they have expanded to help the VA in the area of employment, homelessness, healthy lifestyle programming and reentering civilian life.

We are starting a new year with great expectations. Our active membership is growing and promises to be an even better year. All CPN veterans and their families are invited to join us each month on the fourth Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the North Reunion Hall on the CPN Powwow Grounds. A meal is provided.

Migwetch.

BIA's Kevin Washburn resigns after three years of service to Indian Country

The Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Kevin Washburn, has resigned his post as of January 1, 2016 and will return to teaching at the University of New Mexico. A Chickasaw Nation citizen and expert in Indian Country jurisprudence, Washburn's tenure has been, in large part, a success for tribes across the U.S.

"I have seen a level of trust develop with tribes in the nation-to-nation relationship under President Obama that has not existed in more than 200 years of federal-tribal policy," said Washburn in a release announcing his resignation. "It has been a very special time. I appreciate Secretary Jewell for leading with her heart and conscience on Native issues and encouraging the entire federal government to live up to its trust responsibility to tribes."

He also worked to implement the HEARTH Act, which allows private firms to invest and do business on federal trust land without the interference of state and federal officials. For Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Washburn's championing of the HEARTH Act has been especially impactful. Along with Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, Washburn

travelled to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Nov. 2013 to sign the official HEARTH Act agreement between the CPN and the U.S. Government. Its full impact will be felt for years to come as the Tribe develops commercial partnerships with private companies wanting to do business on federal trust land.

Washburn has also played a leading role in protecting the sovereign rights of tribal nations at the federal, state and local levels. In a May 2015 House subcommittee hearing in which congressional members questioned the legitimacy of tribes recognized by the BIA, Washburn replied that "It's on your conscience and it's on mine if this attack on Indian Country is allowed to succeed. I don't intend to stand idly by and let it happen on my watch and I ask the same of you."

In July 2015, Washburn sent a letter to CPN Tribal Chairman John Barrett reaffirming the federal government's position that businesses operating on tribal trust land were exempt from state and local taxes, a clear rebuke of the recent actions of the City of Shawnee and State of Oklahoma to collect sales tax revenues from com-



Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn speaks during the CPN HEARTH Act signing in 2013.

mercial activities taking place on Tribal lands.

During his tenure – the second longest for a BIA head – Washburn advanced the administration's commitment to tribal self-determination, including addressing past disputes through the Ramah Settlement, improving the federal acknowledgment process, updating right-of-way regulations and the land-into-trust process. In returns to the tribes themselves, Washburn has been a vocal

advocate at the congressional level for mandatory funding for self-determination contract support costs, which impact tribal healthcare facilities across the U.S.

Working with Indian Country and the U.S. Department of Justice, Washburn also helped implement the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization of 2013 and helped implement the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010, which he had helped write as a law professor.

CPN contributes to OSU powwow in more ways than one

The Oklahoma State University Powwow is a student-run public event hosted annually by the OSU Native American Student Association at the Payne County Expo Center in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Tribes from the entire nation are represented in the diverse inter-tribal powwow. This year, Citizen Potawatomi Nation donated \$2,000 to help fund the event and the CPN Veterans Color Guard carried the flags during Grand Entry. We asked the president of the OSU Native American Student Association, Ashley Hunnicut, about the powwow and what goes into making the event a success.

What does the Oklahoma State University powwow mean to the community?

"This event helps us celebrate Native American culture and it's a time for fellowship. It's also time to dance, eat and educate the com-



CPN Veteran Color Guard at the OSU powwow.

munity about what being Native American means. The powwow has been going on for years. It's a tradition and our biggest event of the year. We put a lot of work into it and it keeps growing year after year. Eventually I think it will get too big for the expo center and we will have to find a bigger venue."

What goes into putting on this type of event?

"We start working on this powwow in the spring. We pick out all of the head male and female dancers, singers and staff. Each year we have to get sponsorships to help pay for the event. Thankfully we have quite a

few established sponsors from many different local businesses and the surrounding tribes. Our general members plus the community involvement make this event is what it is. There is a lot of work that goes into but we all work well together and it's always a great time."

How will the donation from CPN help?

"We are so grateful for the donation from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. The donation went to help many different things. The powwow has always been known for its big cash prizes so the donation went to that and it also went to help rent the venue. We also honored all of our head staff with the donations we received."

For more information on the OSU Native American Student Association please visit their website at cpn.news/nasa1601.

CPN Legislative update: January 2016

The CPN Legislature met on Dec. 3, 2015 for its final meeting of the calendar year with all representatives present.

Legislators approved a resolution supporting the Tribe's grant funding application for a U.S. Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Justice program that develops comprehensive approaches to public safety and criminal justice. They also passed a

resolution supporting CPN's application for funding through an Institute of Museum and Library Services Program. Several other grant applications were also approved, including a Tribal youth resource management project, a clean and energy efficient project on Indian Lands program and a preventative invasive species initiative program.

A funding change request for a U.S.

Department of the Interior's mineral development grant was approved.

Legislators also discussed several different issues during the meeting, including economic development, current litigation involving the Tribe, the methods by which legislative meetings will be conducted and the potential revision of honored family groupings at the annual Family Reunion Festival.

Three fee-to-trust applications were approved for non-gaming use on the Rangeline, DanRan and Rangle properties.

In membership, a resolution passed acknowledging the voluntary relinquishment of Jo Ellen Young's Tribal citizenship, while 150 applicants for new membership were officially enrolled by the Legislators.

Lizard Light Productions blends traditional art with contemporary methods

Famed Potawatomi artist Woody Crumbo made his name in the art world with his Southwest inspired paintings. Crumbo lived in Taos, New Mexico throughout the majority of his professional career. He, like many other artists, captured what was around him. For the past ten years, a Potawatomi mother and son have been following a similar path as Crumbo with their own art in the Southwest desert in Phoenix, Arizona.

Chris and Cathy Short are Lizard Light Productions, a small Native American contract photography and multimedia company. The business started with Chris when he needed a name for his videography business in the early 2000s. He teamed up with his mother Cathy and the two started out doing contract, event and landscape photography together under the Lizard Light Production name. Today photography and videography have been joined by the different mediums they have each been pursuing, including laser and textile art but they still do event and exhibit photography.

“Our biggest client for the last 10 years has been the Heard Museum,” said Cathy. “We have also done photography and produced videos for IHS, The Phoenix Indian Center and many other Native American enterprises.”

Most of their inspiration for their work comes from their own cultural background and the world that surrounds them in the Southwest. One of their goals is to expand traditional Native American culture as well as push the boundaries of Native American art. Cathy makes contemporary clothing and accessories using traditional and cultural inspiration. For instance, instead of using Seminole patchwork on a traditional blouse and dress, Cathy will use it on a men’s vest or t-shirt.



Cathy and Chris wearing clothing they made.

Cathy said that what she is doing with fabric art, Chris is doing with laser art.

“We don’t want to step away from our connection to traditional Native American art, we want to marry it with what’s contemporary and even futuristic,” said Cathy.

During the day Chris is a System Administrator for IBM in Phoenix, but when not at work he makes experimental dreamscape photographs by recreating petroglyphs using laser projection on sandstone. Chris photographs traditional petroglyphs in native environments. He then takes the photographs and converts them into digital data sets that can be projected through laser equipment that he has designed and constructed. The laser petroglyphs are projected onto rocks, which he gathers in the desert, to make what he calls “dreamscapes.” He also etches his petroglyph designs onto slate and wood, framed as wall art by his father Hank.

Chris explains that this method of work is specifically unique to him. “My interest in this certain type of medium comes from trying to preserve the history of rock art. Peo-

ple will vandalize and steal petroglyphs and I have made laser printing my tool of preserving these old drawings.”

Three years ago Chris started submitting his laser projects into competitions to the International Laser Display Association. The group is a worldwide non-profit trade association dedicated to advancing the use of laser displays in art, entertainment and education. Chris’ projects fall under the category of abstract laser shows for ILDA. In 2013 he won third place and in 2014 and 2015 he swept the entire category for first, second and third place. The first and second time anyone had ever swept the abstract category.

Cathy is known for her textiles, which often include deerskin, century-old shell buttons, and hand embroidery. She is known for her unique designs and professional finish work and for making clothing and accessories that have a traditional touch in a fun and contemporary way. Much of what she makes are for custom orders, working with clients from around the country. Her work will be featured in a special fashion show at the Jan-

uary, 2016, Litchfield Park Native American Arts Festival.

Having their opposite styles of work, Cathy and Chris manage to use their talents in a collaborative process. For example, when Cathy make a deerskin vest or tipi cape, Chris will use his laser program to etch Native inspired designs directly into them. For Cathy’s folded ribbon work, Chris cuts out designs in fabric using his lasers.

“Part of what we also try to do is give back to the Native American Community because we have been fortunate to be where we’re at,” said Cathy. “We have a handful of Native artists who we take pictures for.”

The artists they photograph need help marketing their work so they trade their talent for some of the artist’s work.

“Good photos can help them enter competitions or submit their art for gallery showings,” said Cathy.

Since Chris moved to Arizona Cathy explained that they were able to implement dream to work together using their artistic talents.

“Our art is a way of teaching people and other Natives about the Potawatomi,” said Cathy. “What we do is make everything we do a piece of art. It means everything to me to be a Native American artist. It’s a way of expressing culture, a way of keeping the Tribe alive and working with my son is an inter-generational transfer that keeps the culture going.”

The two share an art booth where they sell their work at many different Indian art markets in the Southwest. For more information please visit www.lizardlight.com and like their page on Facebook and YouTube, Lizard Light Productions.

CPN TAG AGENCY POLICY NOTICE

Beginning January 4, 2016, the CPN Tag Agency will be issuing two new decals:

Off Road Use (for ATV’s, Off-Road Motorcycles)
Non-Use (also known as ‘black tag’)
(Boats not included)



Tribal members using CPN tags must be in compliance with the new policies and procedures. The full policies can be found at potawatomi.org/services/tag-office or by calling the CPN Tag Agency at 1-800-880-9880. Please call before you register your tags so that all documents needed for your registration are met.

Woody Crumbo and the Bacone Style

Amidst the economic and agricultural slump that hit the Great Plains in the 1920s - long preceding the Great Depression to follow the 1929 stock market crash - a new school of art was forming at the Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma. The institution, formed to educate Native Americans from across the country in the place once known as Indian Territory, became world famous for its Bacone School of Art.

Bacone was Oklahoma’s first college. In what was then-called the Indian College, classes began in February 1880 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. In 1910, the college received its contemporary name in honor of Almon C. Bacone, its first president and a longtime, vocal opponent of the U.S. government’s Indian Removal policies. Its current location in Muskogee, Oklahoma sits on land donated by the Muscogee-Creek Nation. In the interest of increasing enrollment in the years after WWI, university President B.D. Weeks promoted Bacone as a learning institution exclusively aimed at Native American students. Weeks recruited Native American faculty, one of which was world-renowned Potawatomi artist Woody Crumbo, who led the Bacone School of Art from 1938-1941.

Upon his return to Norman, Oklahoma for his senior year at the University of Oklahoma in 1938, Crumbo received an invitation to interview for a teaching position at Bacone. Crumbo was recommended for the position by the equally famous Acee Blue Eagle, the department’s first director and the man who is widely credited with helping shape what be-



“Sign of Spring” by Woody Crumbo.

came known as the Bacone Style.

In Robert Perry’s biography of Crumbo, “Uprising!: Woody Crumbo’s Indian Art,” the Potawatomi artist described how he instilled a disciplined approach to the school of art’s training by demanding that attendees be full time students. He also broke a previous precedent of retaining the right to purchase his best student’s paintings, instead choosing to instruct them on how to market their art to potential customers. In addition to the school’s focus on painting, Crumbo also formatted a curriculum that expanded artistic endeavors to sectors that would produce an income, like silver work, jewelry making and weaving.

As noted in Lisa K. Neuman’s “Indian Play: Indigenous Identities at Bacone College”, Crumbo explained that “what we want to do at Bacone eventually is to establish an art de-

partment that will be a cultural center for Indian arts and crafts.”

Though tied to the University of Oklahoma through Crumbo’s relationship with its prestigious art department which produced the well-known Kiowa Five artists, the Bacone Style became known for bold colors and figures in motion. According to a 2014 James McGirk article on the school’s influence in *This Land Press*, the early products, especially pieces produced by those taught under Crumbo and Blue Eagle, had Art Deco influences. Also known as the “traditional Oklahoma style”, the artistry portrays an idealized version of Indian life with stylized use of form, color and outline. Though the style is now known as traditional Native American art, and went out of style for a time, its influence is prominent.

Crumbo left Bacone as the American entrance into WWII approached, but

not because of the war. His longtime supporter and friend, President B.D. Weeks, had been accused of slander and resigned from the college he had helped grow. Crumbo and several staff members who had come into the college under his tenure resigned as well. Though the Bacone School continued to produce artists in the years following the war, the impact of the first two department heads in Blue Eagle and Crumbo was a defining point in its development.

In addition to his own legacy, Crumbo’s impact on the art scene continued on through his daughter, Minisa Crumbo Halsey, and son, Woody Max Crumbo. Halsey is a talented artist whose work has been shown throughout Europe and the Russian Federation while Woody Max Crumbo is a gifted silversmith. The elder Crumbo’s career spanned nearly 60 years and included major advancements in oil, silkscreen, tempera, pencil and watercolor. His work is in numerous museums and private collections around the world, including that of the Queen of England.



To learn more about the life of Woody Crumbo, order Robert Perry’s biography here.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation BY THE NUMBERS

Age Groups

90-99	11
80-89	43
70-79	122
60-69	266
50-59	387
40-49	367
30-39	433
20-29	512
0-20	574

The oldest member of the tribe in District 1 who turned 100 in August is Ms. Anna May Comadoll.

Information provided by Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Rolls

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 1

2,716 Tribal Members

Kansas City, MO	106
Springfield, MO	61
Chicago, IL	46
Liberty, MO	26
Columbia, MO	25
Nevada, MO	24
Joplin, MO	23
Indianapolis, IN	21
Adrian, MI	23
Moberly, MO	17
New York, NY	17
Belton, MO	16
Bolingbrook, IL	16
Deerfield, MI	16

FireLodge Tribal youth update: January 2016

By Darin Greene,
FireLodge Tribal Youth Coordinator

2016 has come to The P.L.A.C.E. and with it, each of our Tribal youth members have set goals for the coming year. They varied, with some setting very ambitious goals while others have set out to achieve goals that will help them become better people and get in better shape.

Our “Get Native” program is getting the New Year started off right with their activities for this month including:

- Potawatomi language instruction and a talking circle where the Tribal youth discuss things that can help them grow in the community.
- We continued our lessons on other tribal nations, with the youth learning about the northern plains tribes, southwestern tribes and the plateau nations.

The Tribal youth also have the entire month of January to complete their team building exercises. In week one they will participate in a fort construction project with our Kaboom! Imagination Playground equipment.



Oscar Lewis takes advantage of the study time and help from tutors The P.L.A.C.E. provides.

In week two they’ll get a little more active in team building by a week’s worth of dodgeball. In the third week, they’ll take part in our “Sweep your Teepee” Program, which teaches the youth how to break down barriers and live in a diverse society. To close out the month we’ll work on the Birth-day Game which teaches them how

to use non – verbal communication. The P.L.A.C.E. may never be quieter than this final week of January!

With New Year’s resolutions fresh in our minds, we’ll also be cranking up a new “Lose it with a Deck of Cards” Fitness Program. It consists of the following challenges:

- **Upper Body Build:** Any time a youth picks a card with a heart, they’ll do the number of pushups (or any upper body movement) that is on the card.
- **Core Strength:** Anyone who picks a card with a spade will do sit ups.
- **Lower Body Build:** Any diamond card sends the youth on a set of squats (or any lower movement).
- **Cardio Endurance:** Clubs mean jumping jacks at the P.L.A.C.E.!
- **Jokers are the worst:** A one mile run around the gym floor is required when you draw the joker!

Amongst all that we’ve got an ongoing Jenga Tournament as well as our world famous karaoke contest from studio K-P.L.A.C.E. taking place on Jan. 15, 2016.

If you would like to learn more about FireLodge Tribal Youth Program or the P.L.A.C.E., please contact me at dgreene@potawatomi.org.

Language with Justin: January 2016

By Justin Neely, Director of the
CPN Language Department

Weather Terms: Traditionally when a storm approaches, we take a pinch of tobacco in our left hand and say a prayer asking the Creator to watch over us. We then place that tobacco on the north side of a tree, or, if we are near water, we might place it in the water. They say not to put your tobacco down somewhere someone might walk on it. Whatever thoughts and feelings you are contemplating, they go into that tobacco. You don’t want someone walking all over your prayers.

We will be announcing our Winter Story Telling event next month so check your paper and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Facebook page for information. There are certain traditional stories which we are only supposed to tell in the winter time. We will have an evening of sharing some of some of these tales in February.

Ni je ngom zagech?
How is the weather?
(Nee juh nGome Zah getch)

Jigwék bmosewat
The thunders are walking.
(jeeg wack buhmosay what)

Gmowen
It’s raining. Or Gméya mget.
(Gmoe win or gmay yahm get)



As the cold winter weather forces you indoors, take time to tell winter stories and learn Potawatomi language.

Menwaté - It’s a bright sunny day.
(men wahtay)

Jigwékya - It’s thundering.
(Jeeg wack yah)

Ksenya mget - It’s cold.
(Kuh sin yahm get)

Mno gishget - It’s a nice/good/beautiful day. (Minoh geesh get)

Bkwe ne - It’s hazy/smokey
(Bkway nay)

Zidekiwen - The ground is frozen.
(Zee duc kee win)

- Boni mget - It’s snowing.
(Bone eem get)
- Pamponget - Its flurrying/lightly snowing. (Pahm pone get)
- Noden - It’s windy.
(No din)
- Neawen - Warm weather/ mild weather. (Nay ah win)
- Wensiwen - It’s foggy.
(Win see win)
- Bidankwet
Clouds are approaching.
(Beed an kwet)
- Tké yamget - It’s cool.
(Tkay yahm get)
- Zigbisa - It’s a downpour.
(Zeeg bee sah)
- Wawyasto - Tornado!
(Wow yahs toe)
- Jigwe meyew - Rainbow or mдем-ose ngwagen. (Jeegway me yow, mdumb osay ngwah gin)
- Myash gishget - Bad weather.
(Myash geesh get)
- Gwankwet- It’s cloudy.
(Gwahn kwet)

Tribal Legislature to be upgraded with latest meeting technology

Citizen Potawatomi Nation boasts the country’s only digital tribal governments, allowing representatives from across the U.S. to meet via teleconference and conduct legislative meetings in real time. As with all things technological, the time has come for the video and teleconference technology to be upgraded.

The *Hownikan* talked tech with Tribal member and longtime CPN Information and Technology Systems Manager Christopher Abel about the planned upgrades.

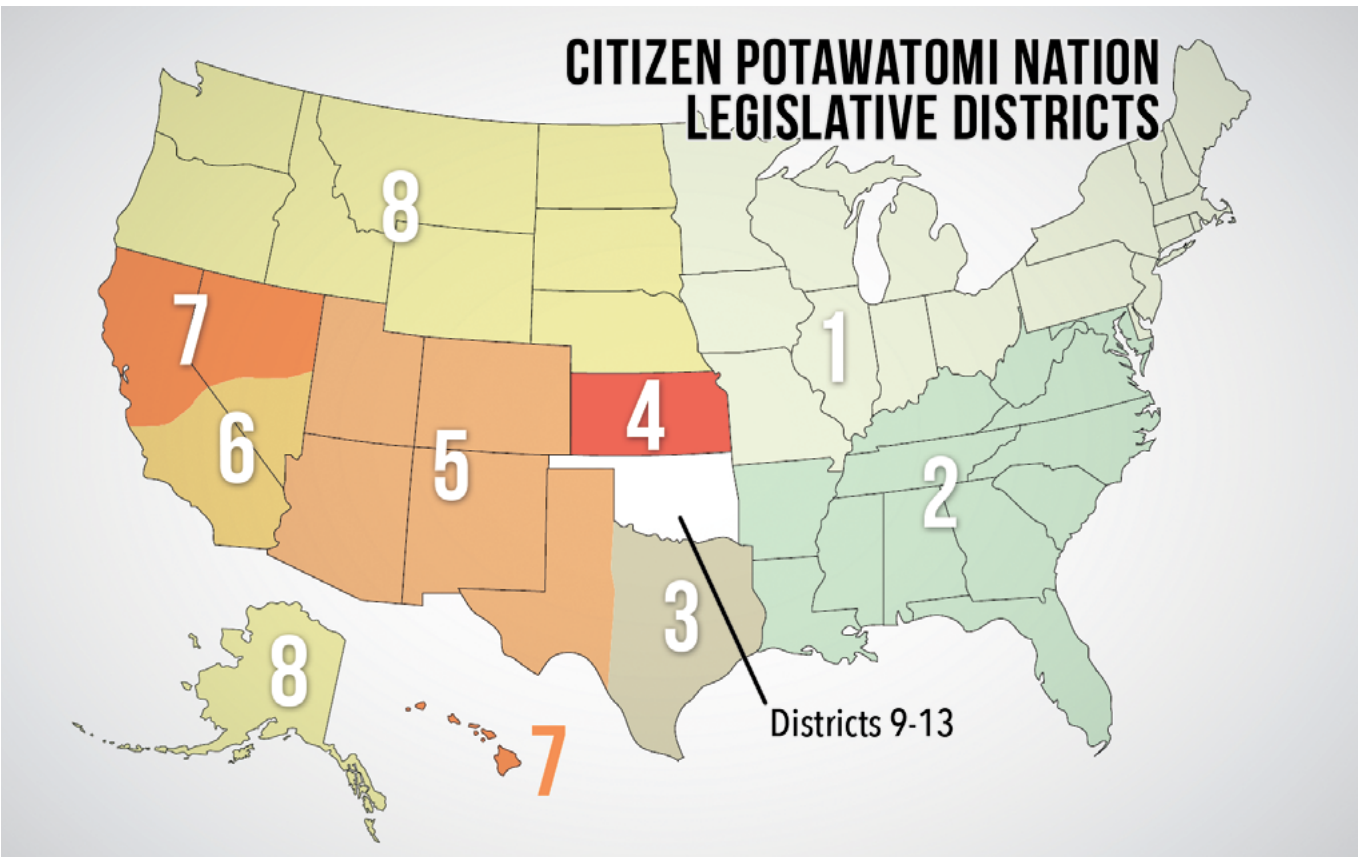
What kind of system do we currently have for the CPN legislative meetings?

“The current system we have been using is a Tandberg Teleconferencing unit with the central system residing here at the Tribal headquarters. Essentially, you’re having a 16-person video conference with eight people in Oklahoma and eight more spread around the country so they can represent the Potawatomi living outside the state.”

Why upgrade the system as it works now?

“The purpose of upgrading our system is to create an easier way to plan and conduct the Tribe’s legislative meetings.

“Currently, if a member of the leg-



islature cannot attend, the meeting moves on without them. With the new system being entirely web based, if a Legislator is unable to attend the meeting or unable to get to their district office, they will be able to attend through the use of a wireless Verizon device and their laptop.”

You’re a longtime employee and Tribal member. Why do you think it’s important to have a digital

meeting place that this kind of system provides?

“I see the use of digital meeting places to have immeasurable value. For the business, it gives parties involved a way to communicate over great distances if required. This increases the ability to collaborate and plan.

“For the Legislature, it allows the Citizen Potawatomi Nation a way to give true representation from each

of our eight districts in our legislative process without the need to spend valuable funds on transportation to and from the home of the tribe in Shawnee, Oklahoma. It gives our Legislators a way to conduct the business of the Tribe without having to take them away from their families. Because our Tribe is a family in itself, this ideal of keeping our Legislators close to their families is something we embody ourselves.”

FireLake Discount Foods committed to retail excellence one customer at a time

Since opening in 2001, FireLake Discount Foods has developed a reputation for being committed to low prices. Although this commitment has served the store well, management believed it was time to build on this strength and provide a better overall experience for staff, vendors and most importantly, customers, by achieving retail excellence in all areas of the business.

“We took a look at everything we do. From the way we treat our staff, vendors and customers, to making sure we look professional,” said FireLake Discount Foods Store Manager, Mike Lester. “We evaluated all categories throughout the store and made sure that we were up to date with new product offerings and well represented with the staple items that have contributed to so much of our success.”

This evaluation prompted FDF to make changes. From remodeling the cash register areas, product rearrangement on the aisles, adherence to employee uniform standards, the store and its staff have made improvements in a number

of areas. FDF has added more than 1,200 new items to meet the needs of customers shopping for gluten free, natural and organic products.

“We redefined our purpose and developed a vision that would help us achieve it,” added Lester. “Our purpose is to serve our community and provide customers an exceptional shopping experience with superior service, quality products and value prices with a commitment to excellence. In order to achieve this we realized that every employee has to share the same vision. Our vision statement is ‘passionately committed to retail excellence one customer at a time’.”

Along with the physical changes and adopting a mission statement, FDF hopes to become known for having low prices and the cleanest, friendliest store offering the highest quality products.

“We will be the employer that strives to create a fun work environment while expecting excellence out of one another. We will be partners in the community and provide services that other retailers won’t,” said Les-



FDF employees are seen here in their new uniforms with the newly upgraded checkout stations.

ter. “We can make a difference not only inside the walls of our stores but in the homes and lives of each and every one of our employees and customers.”

Besides FDF, stores that have been included in these changes thus far are FireLake Discount Foods, FireLake Express Grocery and FireLake

Corner Store. The changes will be rolled out at the Travel Plaza in January 2016.

If you would like to be a part of FDF’s vision or any of the other entities, please visit www.FireLakeJobs.com for employment opportunities.

FireLake-PBA Tournament of Champions finishes up on Super Bowl Sunday

After hosting two successful Summer Swing events, the Professional Bowlers Association is once again headed to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. On Feb. 7, Super Bowl Sunday, ESPN will broadcast the finals of the FireLake-PBA Tournament of Champions live from FireLake Arena.

“FireLake is without question one of the PBA’s best hosts,” said PBA Commissioner Tom Clark. “The staffs at both the bowling center and Grand Casino are welcoming and supportive. The facilities are top notch.”

In 2014 and 2015, CPN facilities hosted the PBA-Grand Casino Summer Swing tournaments. With the recent opening of the 5,000 seat FireLake Arena complex, it will host the finals of a week-long tournament.



FireLake Bowling Center will host the opening rounds of the FireLake-PBA Tournament of Champions.

Preliminary rounds will be held at FireLake Bowling Center starting with a practice round on Monday, Feb. 1. Qualifying for Sunday’s Top 5 Stepladder Final on ESPN will complete on Friday, Feb. 5 before a pro-am on Saturday.

“The FireLake PBA Tournament of Champions is the signature event of our season. The TOC has the most history of any PBA event in our 58 years and some of the greatest moments in our sport have happened in this event. It has been held in very select few locations around the country, and we know a new chapter to the event’s lore will be added when the finals air live on ESPN from FireLake Arena,” said Clark.

A field of 96 bowlers, including 72 PBA Tour title holders based on the number of titles each player has won, will hit the lanes with another 24 PBA champions qualifying regional

event preceding the tournament.

“For the tournament of champions, we’ll host the finals inside FireLake Arena with plans to have access to the Super Bowl on TV after the bowling for paying attendees,” said FireLake Bowling Center Director Chris Skillings. “This is a huge event, so it only makes sense to hold it in the area’s biggest venue, FireLake Arena.”

A PBA Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremonies will take place Feb. 1 at the Grand Casino Hotel Resort. On February 6, FireLake Bowling Center will hold a pro-am tournament with Oklahoma grassroots league bowlers and PBA members teaming up to compete.

“Our players and staff enjoy all the amenities of the casino, hotel and bowling center every time we are there,” commented PBA Commissioner Clark. “It all starts with Chris

Skillings, the director at FireLake Bowling Center, who is a competitive bowler himself with a great understanding of the PBA and its players and is devoted to making any PBA event in Shawnee a special one. There also are a lot of our best fans in the area that make trips to be a part of the event.”

Tickets are on sale now at www.grandboxoffice.com for the Super Bowl Sunday event, while tickets to the weekday competitions at FireLake Bowling Center will be sold at the door for \$10 per day, or \$30 for a weeklong pass. The weeklong pass does not include tickets to the Sunday FireLake-PBA Tournament of Champions final at FireLake Arena. To learn more, call FireLake Bowling Center at 405-275-0404.

Tribe donates generators, saving City of Maud an estimated \$60k

Tribal Housekeeping and Emergency Management Director Tim Zientek gets a regular stream of requests for donations from fellow first responders and city officials from communities across the Tribal jurisdiction in Pottawatomie County. Cash and resource strapped municipal governments across the county rely on partnerships with fellow agencies to help provide basic services that state and federal agencies are unable to. One recent call came in from the town of Maud, with Zientek fielding a request from the city’s emergency manager concerning the availability of surplus generators.

The small community of just more than 1,000 located on the border of Pottawatomie and Seminole counties was looking to mitigate the impact of Oklahoma’s most onerous winter weather phenomena; ice storms.

“We need to be able to run our water wells and sewer lift stations in the event of a power outage,” explained Maud Emergency Manager David Zeller. “Our major con-

cerns are winter storms, where we could potentially lose power for an extended period of time of more than two or three days.”

Zeller estimates that the city would otherwise have had to spend around \$60,000 to purchase the generators that the small Pottawatomie County community just wouldn’t be able to afford.

“We would have had a hard time with our budgets to be able to afford these without the help from CPN. These generators, if we had to go buy them on the commercial market, they would be \$15,000 a piece,” said Zeller.

“Because of the number of Tribal members that live in the Maud area, I made the request on behalf of the City of Maud to Vice-Chairman Linda Capps and received the go ahead to pursue the request,” explained Zientek. “The Nation was able to acquire the needed generators for the city. I am thankful that we were able to acquire the resources to ensure the critical needs will be met for the citizens of Maud.”



CPN's Tim Zientek (right) and Maud Emergency Manager David Zeller (left) look on as workers inspect the donated generators.

For his part, Zeller, who serves as emergency manager and city clerk, is happy that should this winter’s storms prove harmful to the city’s electrical infrastructure, the tools are there to keep the water flowing.

“I just want to thank the CPN for doing it for us,” concluded Zeller.

CPN and Maud have partnered together in the past, with the Tribe donating \$8,000 in January 2015 to the city’s emergency management department that was used to upgrade its radio equipment.

FireLake provides 175 free Thanksgiving turkeys, hundreds more at discount to Shawnee Rescue Mission

Hundreds lined up along Gordon Cooper Drive to collect free turkeys and meals from the Shawnee Rescue Mission just days before Thanksgiving. Looking out at the long line of patrons waiting patiently to collect groceries, Shawnee Rescue Mission Director Glenn Blankenship explained that with Thanksgiving falling at end of the month, many of those in line have already used their food stamp allotment for the month.

“The majority of the people that come here are not what you would expect,” said Blankenship. “It is senior citizens, people on fixed or reduced incomes, it’s the working poor, families with children who are working but just don’t make enough to make ends meet.”

Shannon Rivard, a Shawnee resident, said that the Shawnee Rescue Mission’s Thanksgiving turkey donation was the difference between having a holiday meal and not.

“Considering that I live on a limited monthly income, I’m very grateful. They’ve helped me out a lot in the past year,” she said.



FireLake Discount Food's Jason Boyce and Shawnee Rescue Mission's Sarah Inselman begin unloading the turkeys.

“Because of the help of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and FireLake, we are able to partner and help these families in need,” said Blankenship. “We’re very grateful that, again this year, the tribe has helped out with the impoverished in the community.”

Sarah Inselman, who is the food pantry coordinator for the Shawnee

Rescue Mission, noted that FireLake Discount Foods donated 175 Thanksgiving turkeys free of charge while offering a discounted rate on the others purchased by the Rescue Mission.

“The people using the mission, many of them are hardworking people with families and friends just like the rest

of us. They’re just trying to put food on the table. We at CPN and FireLake are just happy we can help do that in this season of giving,” said FireLake Discount Foods Director Richard Driskell.

“We’re expecting more than 800-1,000 people out here, so without their help and assistance, we would not be able to provide turkeys to the people in the community who so desperately need them,” explained Inselman.

The Shawnee Rescue Mission and its food pantry service are a non-profit organization serving anyone in the community that needs help in affording groceries.

“I think it means the world to them,” said Inselman of the turkey donations. “A lot of these people would not be able to go home and prepare a meal with their family without the support of the free grocery store. To be able to take a turkey out of the oven, it’s just the icing on the cake.”

2015 HOLIDAY DONATIONS

FROM CPN EMPLOYEES AND CPN EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM



DONATION TOTALS

TOTAL FOOD DONATED 2,329.4 LBS
TOTAL FAMILIES SERVED 350


FireLake Discount Foods donated 175 turkeys and 432 grocery bags filled with a ham, eggs, milk, butter and fruit to needy families

Administration silent auction raised \$1,301
(Bought flour, sugar and oil)


Okiebagos RV Group donated \$300
(Bought green beans and corn)

39 angels received gifts from CPN employees

WINTER SAFETY




Make a plan for winter weather. Stock up on essential supplies you need to survive for at least 72 hours.



Bring your pets inside or have a warm place for them when below freezing temperatures are forecasted.



If you must travel, check the road conditions to where you are going. Make sure you clear all the windows on your vehicle. Do not clear just enough to see out the front. Many accidents occur due to restricted visibility from frosted windows.



Have a “go kit” in your vehicle. The kit should have water, food, blankets, medicines and a flash light with extra batteries. If you get stranded, turn your hazard lights on and stay in your car.

On average, weather-related vehicle crashes kill 6,253 people and injure more than 480,000 each year, according to the Department of Transportation.

The CPN Family Preservation Program under Desiree Coffey

The Citizen Potawatomi Indian Child Welfare Department has one of the toughest challenges in Indian Country, providing services and interventions on behalf of some of the Tribe's most in-need citizens. The department's trials are outmatched by the determination of the staff, a core group of individuals who deal with families and Tribal citizens on some of their worst days. Heading up the Family Preservation Program is Desiree Coffey, whose dedication to others stems back to her formative years.

Coffey's own mother was adopted, having six brothers and sisters separated and processed through the foster care system.

"Her family and siblings were negatively impacted by the lack of counseling services that just weren't available back then," explained Coffey. "I have always felt that if I could learn how to provide those kinds of services for someone else, to help them overcome what they've been through in order to help themselves, they'd turn out much better and be self-sustaining individuals."

Originally from California, Coffey moved to Red Oak, Oklahoma at the age of 14. She graduated from Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, Oklahoma in 2004 with an AA in Criminal Justice and a BA in Criminal Justice from East Central University in 2011.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do, going back and forth between social work and criminal justice," Coffey admitted. "I wanted to be a crime scene investigator, work for the FBI, but by the time I got to East Central I realized I didn't think I'd make a great cop."

With a minor in psychology and a concentration in juvenile justice, Coffey found herself doing an internship at Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Child Welfare Department. Coffey spent her internship on the front lines of the department's work with ICW Supervisor Laurie Clark, shadowing her on day-to-day tasks



Desiree Coffey

like intakes, meeting with families, court cases and home visits.

"It was really hard for me, because even though I thought I had seen a lot, going into this kind of work, it's a whole different world. I'm a firm believer in going to college, but everything I have learned in this job has come from my time in our office," said Coffey.

Coffey's approach to her work in her former position as a case manager and currently as the head of the Family Preservation Program comes from a point of understanding. While the decisions that lead many of her clients to require the supervision of the ICW Department aren't ones that would be considered "normal," Coffey keeps a perspective that not everyone had the benefit of the same upbringing.

"A lot of people weren't taught how to clean a house, how to pay a bill with a check or how to call and make a doctor's appointment. You have to approach those situations with empathy because they just don't know and having someone show them how to do it, it's a big deal to them."

The scourge of methamphetamine

use is a common theme with many of the cases that come across Coffey's desk. In her time with CPN, Coffey notes an uptick in families impacted by mental health issues, specifically with non-Indian fathers becoming involved with Potawatomi mothers who are disabled and receiving governmental housing and income assistance.

Coffey now oversees the Family Preservation Program after taking over from longtime employee Jackie Davis after she retired.

"Having an employee like Desiree means a lot to the success of this department," said FireLodge Children and Family Services Director Janet Draper. "She assists with clients who have lost custody of their children or are in the process of having the children placed back into the home. Family preservation is as simple as the title. Having the right person in this position assures the ICW staff that our clients will be on the right road to become and stay successful parents."

Throwing a large binder titled 'Partners in Parenting' with an audible thud, Coffey aims to make her clients self-sufficient by providing as much

advice as possible in a wide range of areas, from mock job interviews, parenting classes or family planning.

"Once the parents go from that addict stage, where they were their kids' buddy instead of their parent, it's a difficult transition. We work with them to help them see the ways they can correct that perspective. It's definitely hard, but I tell the families that come in here that I'm a mom too and I'll give them examples in my own life that work and didn't."

While the point of her program is to give back to those who need it, Coffey is emphatic that she and her fellow ICW staff don't give handouts.

"That's one thing that is hard for me, trying to weed out who is honest and sincere and those who know how to run a system. You've given them all the tools, we've given them all the things they can do to help themselves and they just don't want to. You can't help them until they're ready to do it for themselves."

Now a few years in to her work with CPN, she notes that while the work is challenging and often times frustrating, she has no plans giving up on the causes she's worked on in recent years.

"It's hard to watch, because we see a lot of the same families that I started with four years ago or even those who Janet (Draper) worked with more than a decade ago," said Coffey. "You come into it because you want to make a difference and hope that you are. As a team, it's hard to see these people struggle. I wouldn't work for any other ICW department though. Hands down I work with the best ladies and gentleman. We're like family, and we don't always agree, but we always have each other's backs and help one another and our families."

If you would like to learn more about the services of the CPN Indian Child Welfare Department, please visit cpn.news/ICW1512.

ATTENTION TO ALL CPN MEMBERS WITH A REGISTERED CPN AUTOMOBILE TAG



If you have any questions, please call the CPN Tag Agency at 405-273-1009

If you have a tag that is faded or damaged, please contact the staff at the tag agency. We will be happy to replace your tag and update your registration with a new tag or replace your faded CPN seal. 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 tag replaced.

Heritage Center stands tall on tenth anniversary

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor a direct hit from a tornado or a multi-million dollar, man-made flood could stop the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center from reaching its tenth anniversary.

“It’s been an incredibly difficult past couple of years following the flood of 2014, but as we begin to undertake the rebuild of museum exhibits, I think the CHC will be better than it ever was,” said Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D.

For many years the Tribe’s cultural resources and historical items were spread amongst museums in Oklahoma and Kansas as well family collections. With the Tribe’s membership and services growing though, the government moved towards creating a permanent home to preserve and showcase all things Citizen Potawatomi.

In October 2005, that process began as collections and archived items were cataloged for the move. Construction began the following month, and by January 2006 the Tribe hosted the grand opening for the newly christened Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center.

In late 2005, current Tribal Legislative Representative Jon Boursaw had just retired as the tribal administrator for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe when he met with CPN Tribal Chairman John Barrett at a CPN regional meeting in Rossville. The chairman told Boursaw that he was needed in Oklahoma to oversee the new facility and staff, a mission the retired Air Force officer readily admitted he had little experience with.

“His response was that it didn’t matter,” recalled Boursaw. “He said that there was a very competent staff in place and all I needed to do was simply manage them. Then the real reason came out - he wanted a wall dedicated to honor the Tribal veterans, past and present, and he felt I was the guy to get it done. How could I turn that down?”

Less than a year into his tenure, Boursaw was on hand to see the Nov. 2006 unveiling of the CPN Veteran’s Wall of Honor.

“I frequently tell people that during my life I have held various positions where I felt that I had achieved



The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center.

some degree of accomplishment, but nothing compares to what we accomplished in creating the CPN Tribal Veteran’s Wall of Honor. Each time I enter the Long Room I have a thought come over me that says ‘I had a part in this,’” said Boursaw.

While reaching the 10 year milestone is impressive – especially when looking back at many of the awards, new exhibits and services offered inside the mammoth 40,000 square foot building – it hasn’t all been smooth sailing.

In May of 2007, the Cultural Heritage Center sustained a direct hit from a late spring tornado, causing extensive roof damage. If that wasn’t enough, in March 2014, an uncapped City of Shawnee water main caused an extensive flood inside the museum. The repercussions from that incident continue today, though Mosteller is hopeful that the museum, its exhibits and services should be back to full operation in the near future.

“We have set out a timeline of eighteen to twenty four months to complete the redesign,” wrote Mosteller in an Oct. 2015 op-ed in the *Hownikan*, “but we will work furiously to have as many of the new exhibits completed as we can by the time we host Festival and Gathering in 2016. The CPN Veteran’s Wall of Honor is already in progress, and we will start construction on the main exhibit hall soon.”

Museums like the Heritage Center are a hive of ongoing work, including the planning, construction and deconstruction of exhibits. Amidst the natural and man-made disasters

that have buffeted the museum and its staff, the exhibition work is never finished. In June 2008 the well-known Lifeways Exhibit opened, followed by the Aug. 2010 Peace Medal Exhibit. By Jan. 2011 , new construction was underway for the main hall of the museum, the full breadth of which had neared completion when the March 2014 flood struck.

It’s not simply exhibits though. Thanks in large part to a donation of 2,500 books from Tribal member Jerry Lewis, the Heritage Center’s *Mezodan* Research Library opened in Nov. 2008. The public library is open to anyone visiting the CHC, and a search of its catalogue can be done online through the CuadraStar software system.

While the building and its items are vital pieces of preserving the history of the Potawatomi in Oklahoma, the staff of the Cultural Heritage Center, both past and present, has been central in its mission as far back as the initial 2005 construction. Legislator Boursaw is effusive of their work, calling the museum’s award winning

exhibits and archives a testament to the quality of the staff, some of whom have been with the museum prior to the groundbreaking.

“One of the major contributing factors in the improvements in these areas is the staff,” said Boursaw. “They have continued to broaden their knowledge through experience, conferences and formal education. The single shining light in the overall improvement of the CHC has to be Dr. Kelli Mosteller. When I first met Kelli she was still a student at the University of Texas and the interest and enthusiasm she demonstrated regarding the Nation’s history even then was beyond impressive.”

As the physical portions of the Cultural Heritage Center were rebuilt, so was the museum’s digital infrastructure. In June 2015, www.PotawatomiHeritage.org went live and is updated weekly with new features and content for online viewing. Though a brick and mortar location is excellent, with more than 30,000 members nationwide and growing, an online portal for those not within driving distance is important.

Even throwing in a new logo, which was unveiled in March 2015, the CPN Cultural Heritage Center in many ways has a familiar feel for those who initially walked inside its doors in January a decade ago.

“What we do at the CHC is important,” remarked Mosteller. “There are many institutions across the country that are dedicated to the history and culture of Native Americans. We as Citizen Potawatomi, like every tribe, have a unique story that is all our own. It is important for Tribal members and the general public to have a place to visit that exposes them to the material culture, history, culture, and language of our Tribe.”



ATTENTION OKLAHOMA RESIDENTS!

Please help the CPN Housing Authority by completing a survey! The information from this survey will help the CPN Housing Authority determine what housing services to continue or develop for Oklahoma residents. If you’re a CPN tribal member and an Oklahoma resident, visit cpn.news/HousingQ2016 to take the survey online. If you would like to have the survey mailed to your home please call (800) 880-9880 and ask for either Sherry Byers or Tia Stewart.

CHC AWARDS

March 2006 - CHC receives the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board: Models of Archival Administration Program Award

June 2013 - CHC receives the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums: Archives Institutional Excellence Award

September 2013 - CHC receives the Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust: Cultural Heritage Stewardship Award



Tribal Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett

Bozho, Nikanek
(Hello, My Friends)

When we amended our Tribal Constitution in 2007, our people decided to elect representation in our Tribal Legislature for eight areas ("districts") outside of Oklahoma which had more than 2,000 members each. We did that because we faced a dilemma: more of our people lived away from our Oklahoma lands than near them, but the only land on which the federal laws allowed to operate our government was in Oklahoma.

To balance that, our people also decided to elect eight members of the Tribal Legislature who must reside in Oklahoma. Our Constitution is the only one of its kind among all Indian tribes to reconcile the competing interests of a majority population which lives off tribal land, and the congressional mandate that our tribe conduct its revenue generating physical business on tribal trust land or be subject to the

laws, regulations and taxes of a state.

Our 16-member legislative body, with two different natures, is intended to represent the two necessary qualities our people believe the government of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation must have:

1. A physical "territory" to govern in that place where the federal government originally reserved a body of land in 1867 and sold it to us for a new homeland when we were being persecuted in Kansas;

2. An "in persona jurisdiction" which requires each citizen of our Tribe, on or off of Tribal land, to be subject to the authority and laws of the Tribal government by consent. This agreement is the condition under which we all enjoy the benefits of Tribal citizenship and accept and exercise the responsibilities of that citizenship. It is also the oldest way we govern. For centuries, if you were of Potawatomi blood, no matter where you were, you were subject to the influence of the Potawatomi chiefs and council through your family.

New times required new ways to do old things. We came up with a novel system to accommodate the distance between our Tribal Legisla-



The 2015-16 Citizen Potawatomi Nation Legislature.

tors to allow them to meet and conduct business without costly and time consuming travel through a "virtual" legislature that meets electronically with teleconferencing equipment. For these past eight years, this system has allowed us to operate the only Tribal government of its kind. Eight years, however, is a very long time for technology and computer equipment.

What was once "state of the art" teleconferencing equipment is now an expensive to operate, clunky and unreliable antique. More than half of the time, one or more of our out-of-state legislators has to communicate by phone and cannot see the other elected officials in session. Last week, four of our district office systems were not functional. In addition to being old, the systems must

be located in expensive rental office facilities with high speed hard-wired Internet and phone connections. Last week we decided to fix all that.

Beginning in 2016, our Tribal Legislators will be able to "carry their office" with them virtually. Each Legislator will be equipped with a WiFi "hotspot" that will enable them to attend the meetings of the Tribal legislature anywhere they choose to be. The money they will save in office rental and the old teleconferencing system will be used to conduct district meetings and provide additional services if they choose. The new system will allow one district to communicate with another, if the Legislator chooses to travel within his or her district. The Internet signal can be projected up on a screen for an audience

to see. As long as a quorum is present and the presiding officer is located here at the Tribal headquarters, any or all of the Legislators, including those in Oklahoma, may meet with their laptop computers and WiFi connection. The meetings will still be recorded and viewable over the tribal website. The software for this system is made by Adobe, an old and reliable software provider. You can read more about the technical details in an article on page 10.

So, great new things are about to be possible! We believe they will lead to greater participation by all of you in the Tribal government process. We know for sure it will lead to a more efficient means of conducting Tribal business. We are still an Indian Tribe, meeting in "council" with elected leadership, just as we have been doing for a thousand years. We are now able to do it and include more Potawatomi than can sit in one "long house."

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Tribal Chairman.

Migwetch,

John Barrett
Keweoge
"He leads Them Home"
Tribal Chairman



Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

On Nov. 17, 2015 a memorial service was held at Praise Assembly Church of Shawnee for our long-time friend and valued employee, Kenneth "Butch" Taylor. Butch was the housing inspector for Scott George, Director of CPN Housing Authority.

He passed away on Nov. 10 from pancreatic cancer. When I arrived at Butch Taylor's memorial service, Scott George, was sitting at the front of the church. He had been chosen by the family to give the main eulogy for our friend and co-worker.

Scott is a member of the Osage Tribe. He is a drummer and singer in his tribe, and is widely known in In-

dian Country as a spiritual leader. I lack the expression to convey the effectiveness of Scott George's eulogy message. As Scott spoke to the audience, the memory of Butch Taylor vividly appeared before us...as glowing as the sunshine outside of the church that day. Scott told of Butch's work ethic, his talent as a carpenter and his positive relationship with his co-workers. He told of his loyalty to CPN and the pride that Butch took in his inspection duties. Butch was so much more than an inspector...he was a hands-on carpenter who made sure that the elder tenants were well served. He often was a mechanic and he even had to demonstrate electrical skill from time to time. All of the CPN housing tenants knew Butch Taylor was the "go to" person when they had housing repair or replacement needs. They knew they could count on Butch with his pleasant demeanor and willingness to help.

Scott George made us laugh by telling about Butch's antics that were so much a part

of his philosophy to mix humor and work. Scott also revealed how Butch gave his time, his energy, and frequently part of his evenings and weekends to make sure that housing needs were met for the residents. He told of Butch's devotion to his co-workers and how he showed concern for their welfare. At the conclusion of the service, Scott George sang an Osage language prayer song and then lifted up a prayer...partially in Osage, but mainly in English. Scott and Butch had spent many years together...not just at the CPN Housing Authority, but they also worked together in other housing projects throughout the years. Scott honored his non-Native friend, Butch Taylor, in a manner that made us all proud...proud to be part of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation family; proud to have respect for other tribal people; proud to have known our friend Butch Taylor.

As the holiday season approaches, I extend my deepest sympathy to those who have lost loved ones. It



Scott George and Kenneth "Butch" Taylor

seems that this particular year there have been many Tribal members and other loved ones who have walked on. May the Lord provide you with the peace and hope to help recover from the burden of a heavy heart.

Linda Capps
Vice Chairman
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District 1 - Roy Slavin

Bozho Nikan,

District 1 and 2 held a joint meeting in Washington D.C. on Nov. 14. The meeting was well attended by both District 1 and 2 members. These district meetings are

designed to answer questions you may have about your Tribe and Tribal benefits such as health, housing, scholarships, etc.

Not only are they informative, you also get to meet lots of great folks just like yourself. My district covers a very large area. District 1 is Missouri, everything north of Missouri and east of Iowa. (Or just the northeast quarter of the U.S.)

I hope to hold a meeting sometime in the near future in the very northeast area. So

you folks in New York, Massachusetts and Maine be on the lookout for an invitation. We always honor our youngest, wisest and furthest traveled members at the meetings.

If you can't make it to our district meeting, then schedule your vacation for the last week in June for our Family Reunion Festival in Shawnee, Oklahoma. At that time you northern folks can enjoy some truly "warm" weather.

On Dec. 5, my wife Julia and I drove to the northwest cor-

ner of Missouri to the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. Squaw Creek was established in 1935 by executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt as a refuge, feeding and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. The refuge includes 7,415 acres of wetlands, grasslands and forest on the eastern edge of the Missouri River Flood Plain.

Fall and spring migrations can bring millions of snow geese to the refuge, turning the wetlands into a sea of white. (They have guided bus

tours through the refuge). At about this same time, in the late fall or early winter, as many as 300 immature and adult bald eagles and an occasional golden eagle may be seen during the migration peak.

All this is well worth the 80-mile drive to see.

As always thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your representative.

Igwien (Heartfelt Thanks)
Netagtege (Always Planting)
Roy



District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

Bozho/Hello,

This column is hard to write. When I sketched it out in my head a week ago it was to be a celebratory piece about my excitement over the "vibe" of our District 2 community and how the Fall Feast that we shared in mid-December was a smashing success. But a good portion of the energy and a significant factor in the success of the event stemmed from the spark that Ross Korzeniewski, "our" (District 2's) Class of 2015 Potawatomi Leadership Program student from Boyds, Maryland, provided. And, unbelievably and so sadly, Ross walked on two weeks after the Feast, on Nov. 30, 2015.

As part of my planning for the Feast I turned to Ross for help. Ross, mind you, was a 19-year old college student with plenty on his plate. But he had proved helpful on craft instruction in the past, both at the Family Festival and at prior District 2 gatherings. His keen interest in his Potawatomi heritage, wide smile and generosity of spirit have been an infectious mix though, drawing folks in to participate when they might otherwise be inclined to hold back. So I asked this busy young man for his help. And Ross came through.

Ross put together a PowerPoint presentation and provided us all with some basic Potawatomi language instruction. He proved himself a "natural" teacher and he had everyone's active attention and interest. It was particularly exciting for me to hear Ross interacting respectfully and with obvious interest with some of the elders in attendance who offered their own input into the instruction, and to hear the



Ross and Emily at the CPN Family Festival 2014.

"under 10 crowd" (of which there were quite a few) repeat excitedly into Ross' roving microphone, without any concern for making a mistake, the Potawatomi words Ross taught us that day. The multi-generational work going on to reclaim a critical part of our identity through language learning was thrilling. And beyond these efforts, Ross provided an overview of the PLP program and otherwise spent his time at the Feast either helping the youngest kids with craft projects or distracting some of the rowdier kids. Several of the kids in attendance were heard to say "That guy is awesome." And he was.

Ross' untimely death has left a hole in our District 2 family and in my life personally. I loved Ross. He had asked me to name him and we were actively planning for that, fixing on a date at the end of December, when his sister Emily, a graduate student, could be with us from the west coast. The name I had chosen for him was Wis-

gak - our name for the black ash tree. I wanted a name that conveyed strength, creativity, usefulness. I viewed it as a leader name and am confident that Ross would have led us down good roads as a people. I am so sad that I won't be able to give him that name.

I've included a photo of Ross, taken during his PLP summer, and also a group Fall Feast photo. Ross is at the far right of the photo. More Fall Feast photos are on my Facebook page at [cpn.news/eva1601](https://www.facebook.com/cpn.news/eva1601).

In the words of a dear, wise

relative of mine: "Whatever your beliefs, this is a good time to embrace what many years have taught us to be true: despair can give birth to hope; suffering contains the seeds of healing; in the deepest darkness the smallest flame can light the way; the heart that breaks open rather than shuts down can be a source of compassion and love; our lives are brief and death inevitable but we can, as flawed as we are, leave behind us a story of having brought more light than darkness to the world."

I wish all the best to you and your family in the coming year, treasure the opportunity to serve you and the Nation, and thank you for the honor of representing you in the Nation's Legislature. Call on me as you need or wish to, and let's all keep working to bring the light.

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Ross Korzeniewski



Fall Feast 2015 Group.

GATHERING OF POTAWATOMI NATIONS

HOSTED BY CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION IN SHAWNEE, OK - JULY 2016



District 3 - Bob Whistler

Bozho Nikan (Hello friend):

Since my article last month, not much has taken place with the exception of our second area meeting for District 3.

Our eldest and wisest in attendance was Bill Powell. We presented him with a Pendleton blanket. The youngest in attendance was Mark Barshaw and he was given a Pendleton saddle blanket. Ironically he is bear clan and the blanket chosen had a bear and part of the Big Dipper constellation. Our furthest person came from 60 miles away was Adele Turley Giles and we presented her a Pendleton travel pouch.

The turnout this year for both meetings was rather small and at the November legislative meeting the chairman agreed we need to look

at finding what our membership seeks and mold our meeting to fit that template. So in 2016, we may make a few changes in how we setup and hold these functions in various districts. If you have any suggestions on what you would like them to incorporate, please let me know and I will pass that information on to the chairman.

proud and honored to represent you and am here to help you on any Tribal matters where you feel I can assist.

Until next month,
bama pi (later)

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (he soars)

Citizen Potawatomi Nation
District 3 Representative
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817-545-1507 Home



Adele Turley Giles travelled farthest.



Mark Barshaw was the youngest in attendance.



Bill Powell was the eldest and wisest in attendance.



District 4 - Jon Boursaw

western Kansas. For those of you in that area you are not forgotten and I will try my upmost to host a 2016 meeting in a convenient location.

Tribal enrollment criteria: I recently had a conversation with a young CPN member who expressed concern that her children would be the last of her family to be enrolled in the Tribe as any future grandchildren would not be eligible. When I asked her to explain this she responded by saying that it was because her future descendants would not have sufficient Indian blood quantum to be eligible. Obviously I explained to her that she was totally incorrect and that blood quantum did not apply in the criteria for enrollment in the CPN. What concerned me about this conversation was how many other members have this same misconception about our enrollment criteria. The criteria

for enrollment can be found in the CPN Constitution. If you have any question regarding enrollment eligibility don't hesitate to contact the Tribal Rolls Office in Shawnee, Oklahoma. More information can be found at <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/citizenship> or by calling (800) 880-9880.

Class 3A state champions!: CPN member Tucker Horak led the Rossville High School football team to its second consecutive state championship by scoring all three touchdowns in their final 20-19 victory. Tucker ran for a touchdown, passed for another, and stripped the ball from an opposing player and returned it for the winning touchdown. Congratulations to Tucker and the 14-0 Rossville Dawgs. It was announced on Dec. 6 that Tucker was named to the Topeka Capital-Journal's list

of top 11 players in the state.

Another Tribal member earns recognition: CPN member Sara Boyden was recently featured on KSNT TV's Scholar Athlete of the Week. Sara is a member of the National Honor Society and Kansas Honors Program with a 4.21 GPA. Sara is a member of her school's volleyball and track teams where she has lettered in volleyball three years and two years in track. She was selected to the Big Seven League first team in volleyball and the Lawrence Journal World All Area Volleyball Team. She earned her Certified Nurse Aides (CNA) certificate last summer and plans to attend Washburn University to study nursing. Congratulations to Sara.

Graduation announcement:
Each December and June,

the *Hownikan* honors those Potawatomi who've completed their education at the high school, vocational and university levels. In that spirit, I'd like to mention one member, Garrett Delong of Topeka, who as a member of the Ogee and Bourassa families, recently completed his nursing degree from Baker University. Congratulations to Garrett and all the graduates in the past year.

Migwetch,

Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*
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Thursday 3-5 p.m.
Other times - Please call

Peg and I hope each of you had a joyful and safe holiday season.

Objectives for 2016: One of my unfilled 2015 objectives, which I will continue to pursue, is the return of the 1863 Potawatomi Census book to the Nation. It remains in the possession of the St Mary's Historical Society Museum. We feel the rightful place for this treasured piece of our history is the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. The second unfulfilled objective is to host a district meeting in



NATIVE ART SALE

FIRELAKE GIFT SHOP

GIFTSHOP.POTAWATOMI.ORG | LOCATED INSIDE THE CPN CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER



District 5 - Gene Lambert

Time goes by so quickly. We now find ourselves in 2016.

Have you made your New Year's Resolutions yet? Maybe you are still considering what you would like to change about yourself or habits you would rather not have.

I do this every year and we laugh about it because old habits are difficult to break. I am not always successful.

Try setting just one goal for yourself this year in terms of changing. When you try to set too many it makes those goals more difficult to accomplish. Once you have reached your goal you can always set another. Mind muscle.

This year I am not thinking about weight or the gym. Well at least it isn't a major goal.

I have three or four unfinished projects and two garages full of things I do not need. This is my goal!

I always wondered why, in our mature years, we seem to accumulate so much. Now I know!

There are the treasures from great-grandma, grandma, grandfathers, fathers, mother and let's not forget the gifts from our children.

Over the years we keep these things because it is a reminder of beautiful and thoughtful moments of the past. We can look at them and it is a physical representation of our lives. It isn't just about us but the chain of generations we carry forward.

Let's consider sharing those things not in use. You know if you look back, it is what they would want.

Talk to other family members and see what is important to them. Some things you will always keep. There is an aquamarine ring that has been in my family for five

generations and I promised to hand it down and never alter it. Keep that kind of inheritance. Give the things that would be useful to someone in need. I'm just sharing my plan.

My mother gave away her jewelry at 60 years old. She said she wanted the pleasure of giving the gift and not knowing what might happen to it after she walked on. She wanted to enjoy the giving part.

Me? I haven't been quite so gracious. I am working on letting go. That's a part of my New Year's resolutions, probably the most important for me. I keep everything with gratitude. Now I need to give with thanks that I have it to give.

I am giving thanks for all of you and the times we have been able to share in 2015. It was a wonderful year with many blessings.

Now, I welcome the year coming with open arms and if it holds half the blessings of last year I am very fortunate indeed.

Here is wishing you all the things you dream of for 2016.

Your Legislator and friend,
Gene

Eunice Imogene Lambert
District 5



District 6 - Rande K. Payne

Bozho Nikanek,

With the holidays behind us I would like to welcome in 2016! The holidays can be a time of great joy for many and they can be difficult for some. I just want to be sensitive to that fact and wish everyone well in the coming year.

Indian gaming has long been steeped in controversy and for those of us in California,

controversy that may be decided by voters once again. The Tejon Tribe near Bakersfield is attempting to move forward with a casino at the Grapevine along Interstate 5. The plans call for a 250,000 square foot casino and possibly a 300 room hotel and restaurants. The tribe is currently attempting to put the 300+ acres of land the project would be built on into federal trust.

The controversy is whether or not the tribe should be permitted to build the casino. If you recall in the Nov. 2014 elections there was a referendum called Proposition 48. AB277 was a bill signed into law by Governor Brown giving the North Fork Rancheria the ability to build a casino "off reservation." California tribes had originally maintained that casinos would only be built on original reservation land. As you know, Proposition 48 passed, overturning AB277 and at least temporarily squashed the North Fork Rancheria's bid to build an off reservation casino. A federal judge has ruled that Governor Brown must reenter negotiations on a new compact with the North Fork Rancheria.

But the situation with the Tejon Tribe is somewhat different. Having been federally recognized in 2012 and with no reservation land of their own, the argument could be made that off reservation is their only option. The Tejon Tribe is the only federally recognized tribe in Kern County which might

also mean less opposition by other tribes. Table Mountain Rancheria pumped \$12.2 million into the fight against AB277. And the Tejon Tribe's land is located away from urban areas which was one of the big arguments against AB277. The fear was that ratification of AB277 would create an avalanche of off reservation casinos near urban areas.

I have mixed emotions about Indian gaming in general. I've seen tribes use the revenue stream wisely for education, housing, medical aid etc. and I've seen tribes squander the money. But at the end of the day, every tribe has the right to use their revenue as they see fit. I can see both sides of the off reservation argument as well.

What are your thoughts? I would love to hear from you. You can email me at rande.payne@potawatomi.org.

Wisdom from the Word: "Wealth from gambling quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows." Proverbs 13:11

Migwetch!

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Mnedo Gabo
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District 7 - Mark Johnson

Bozho nikanek
Hello Friends,

2016 has arrived with all the pomp and circumstance that we reserve for such occasions. Another year in the rear view mirror, and I for one, am glad to see it there.

From my wife's broken ankle to the 150,000+ acre fire in the hills not far from our house and the fourth year of a devastating drought, yes, I'm glad to see it all go.

Not that 2015 didn't have its share of good, dancing with our Nation at the Family Festival, sitting with the eagles at the aviary, standing on the hill next to the house on a cold winter morning watching your breath in the frozen air, or watching the fire in the late summer sunset and paying respects to the elders who have passed on. Yes, I am glad to see those in the mirror also, but only so I can experience them all over again in 2016.

If you're like me, the New Year is a time of renewal and to dust off those resolutions and maybe make some new ones. I have made plenty of resolutions in the past like to get into better shape or to eat better, but I think that this year I will just work on reinforcing the ones that have worked for me over the years. For one, being a better listener or to always get all sides of the story before making a decision. To always pay respect to our Creator and to al-

ways show kindness to those whose paths will cross with mine this year. Yes, 2016 is here and I like the smell of this New Year.

I would also encourage you to make a resolution this year, a great big one that involves traveling to the Family Festival in Shawnee in June and to also attend the Gathering of Nations in July at the CPN Festival Grounds with all of our relations from the other Potawatomi nations.

Once again I would like to say what an honor and privilege it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to.

Migwetch / Thank You,

Mark Johnson / *Wisk Mtek*
(Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
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District 8 - Dave Carney

Bozho, friends

Wow - it's hard to believe that it's 2016! It seems like 2015 went by in a blink. It was a great year of visiting with Potawatomi in various locations around the district and in Oklahoma. It's my pleasure to serve you both by representing you in the Legislature, and by acting as a conduit for information regarding benefits and things happening at the Nation. Occasionally, I am asked about cultural and traditional Potawatomi ways and I usually seek information from the staff members at the Cultural Heritage Center - not my

specialty, but I am always happy to try to get to a good resource for you.

I believe that culture is a continually changing and growing thing as evidenced by pieces of Potawatomi art, both old and new. One of the Portland area members, Steve Lynch, suggested a few years back that we have a Native American Art contest at area gatherings. I've incorporated this as a regular feature and we have some meetings where there were only a few submissions and some events where we've had several members competing in each category. That was the case in our Fall Feast in Seattle mid-November. Jan Nestler, the winner of the "craft" competition was surprised by the announcement that she had won with the submission of a delicate pine needle basket. Interestingly, Jan had learned to make this project at a Fall Feast three years earlier.

Pam Hodam, of Oregon, had painstakingly made baggies with washed pine needles and typed out meticulously detailed instructions. At that event, she provided guidance, however, only a few members had *started* making baskets - this is by no means a 20 minute project. Jan put the time and patience into her basket - with great results. Since the Fall Feast, I have shipped no less than 15 "kits" to members requesting them. I hope to see these baskets, with their own unique artistic flair at future events.

To close the record books on 2015, I'd like to thank the women who made the Fall Feast a great success. Lydia Davison gave a very nice talk about the Potawatomi Leadership Program. Since she was a participant a few years prior, she gave a fresh perspective on the program through her experiences. Sandi Burke gave a very

nice presentation on the Ogee family and their CPN roots and Jan Nestler and her niece Ginger Blackmon represented the Bourassa family.

I'm looking forward to visiting with you in 2016 at a regional or district gathering.

Happy New Year!
Bama pi,
Dave Carney
dcarney@potawatomi.org
www.dave-carney.com
360.259.4027



Jan's award winning basket.



District 11 - Lisa Kraft

Watch What You Think

On New Year's Day, I have a ritual of adding my yearly goals and monthly objectives to a large chalkboard in my office. My New Year's plan goes up next to the previous year, so I can see every day what is necessary to follow up on, what needs to be adjusted, what deadlines need to be added, and quite honestly, what dead-ends need to be marked through for now or erased entirely.

I am a planner by nature and constantly thinking, researching and questioning. One of my favorite sayings hangs above my computer. It reads, "Ask me what I am thinking, not how I feel. We are governed by too many people who feel rather than think...watch your thoughts before they become words. Watch your words before they become actions. Watch your actions before they become habits. Watch your habits before they become your character. And, watch your character before it becomes your destiny."

When Margaret Thatcher said these words, she was saying that we become what we think.

In politics, national as well as Tribal, feeling strongly

about something may be a first reaction, but the true strength of leadership is in strategically planning, listening to all elected legislators, keeping everyone equally informed and implementing accountable action. As Tribal leaders, we have to think about what we need our great Nation to become for all 33,000 members and our resident Indian population.

According to our latest comprehensive annual financial report (year ending 2014), our Nation directly served 295,000 Indian people through health, employment and training, child-care, and social services. The largest segment of people (191,000) received pharmacy prescriptions; up from 114,000 people

in 2005. Our employment went from 1,430 in 2005 to 2,086 in 2014 and our Tribe's net position tripled from 2005 to 2014. Another indicator that our Nation is rising to a very competitive level in Oklahoma with the services we provide and the customer satisfaction we attract with our businesses is our approval of expected expenditures for approximately \$365 million in 2016.

With the passage of these expenditures, our Legislature has a plan of action to increase our enterprise revenue, our social services, our infrastructure, and our operations and employment. Thanks in large part to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, we have

been able to exercise our Tribal sovereignty and have been successful applying for, receiving, and managing large federal grants and compacts. Tribal financial capacity and employment capabilities have enabled us to launch and grow successful businesses. Today, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is becoming a powerhouse in Indian Country and empowering our people throughout America and the world, proving that what we think, we can become.

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft (*Zibikwe*)
Oklahoma Tribal Legislator
(District 11 - Statewide)
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Hownikan

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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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1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

Herbert Gene Whitlow



Herb didn't just live his life, he embraced it. He was born in Tecumseh, Kansas and was a descendant of Potawatomi Indian, Louis Vieux. His Indian name was Pee Paw.

He was raised on a Guernsey dairy farm, E.H. Whitlow and Sons, Dairy. He milked the cows and began delivering milk at age 14. They participated in a Kaw Valley Breeding Association program affiliated with Kansas State University, to attempt in-vitro fertilization on one of their dairy cows. Dairymen from across the country and many foreign nations visited their farm to see the "artificial" heifer that was the daughter of one of America's outstanding proved dairy sires.

Upon graduating from Highland Park High School, he was drafted into the U.S. Army artillery and entered radio school. He served in Germany at the Nuremburg War Crimes Trials where he maintained the equipment and recorded the trials. He came home with many pictures and stories. He spent his weekends and days off (R&R) at Berchtesgaden, Germany, one of Hitler's many Hide-a-Ways.

When he came home he married his high school sweetheart, Barbara Shackle on October 29, 1949. They had two daughters, Christine and Lucinda.

With a partner he started Latta-Whitlow Plumbing Company in 1956. He taught trade school two nights a week for 13 years. He gave many young men, and one woman, a good start in life at a good trade. In 1986, he was named plumbing contractor of the year by Delta Faucet Company and the National Association of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors.

He learned to fly gliders and then light aircraft. His passion was "old tail-draggers" of which he restored two: a Piper PA-12 and a Stinson Voyager. When his heart doctor said he had to stop flying, he joined the Topeka Region Antique Automobile Club of America. He restored a 1929 Model-A Ford Tudor, a 1930 Model-A Ford Coupe and a 1949 Plymouth. He served as a judge of early model Fords at numerous national AACA meets for many years.

He gave of his time and presence to Tecumseh United Methodist Church, the Tecumseh Kiwanis Club, the Topeka Rescue Mission and the Com-

munity Emergency Response Team.

He is survived by his loving wife of 66 years Barbara, daughters Christine and Lucinda, nieces Karen and Elizanne, and nephews Stanley, Herb, Mike and Ron. While he will be sorely missed by his family and friends, we know that he is now embracing his new life in heaven.

Glen Doris Wolfe



Glen Doris Wolfe, 76, of Bella Vista, Arkansas passed away Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at Mercy Hospital in Rogers. He was born June 24, 1939 in Konawa, Oklahoma to Doris William Wolfe and Elsie Mae Clark Wolfe.

Glen was the winningest college football coach of the decade in the 80s. However, his greatest accomplishment was the impact that he made on so many young lives.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers: Larry and Steve. Glen is survived by his wife of 55 years, Elaine Baker Wolfe; two sons: Gregory Wolfe and wife Shannon, Michael Wolfe and wife Tammy; four grandsons: Brenner, Ketcher, Strael, Tyler; three granddaughters: Bailee, Mackey, Taylor; four brothers; two sisters and many lives he touched during the years he coached.

Glen graduated from Murray State Junior College and East Central State University, with a bachelor's and master's degree in education. He began his coaching career immediately following. His first stop, of many in Oklahoma, was in Pawnee. From there they went to Lindsey, Holdenville, Moore, Northwestern

Oklahoma State University and ending at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Junior College in Miami. There, he led the Norsemen to two National Championships.

Before retiring in 1990, Glen re-established the football program at Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Georgia, which eventually went on to win a National Championship. Later, Glen was inducted into the Football Hall of Fame at Guthrie High School, Murray State Junior College, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Junior College and the National Junior College Hall of Fame.

After 31 years of coaching football, Glen returned to Oklahoma City where he owned and operated an insurance and financial services business for 19 years.

In October 2010, Glen was diagnosed with multiple myeloma. He sold his business in 2011, then he and his wife, Elaine, moved to Bella Vista, Arkansas to be near their children and grandchildren. There was no greater pleasure for Glen than to be surrounded by his family.

Glen had a very full, happy life. Nothing could keep him down; not even cancer. He was proud of his heritage; proud to call himself a Potawatomi.

Darrel Dean Wilson



Darrel Dean Wilson, 71, of Olney, died Friday, October 30, 2015, at his home.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, November 3 at Summers-Kistler Funeral Home in Olney. The Burial followed the services in Crest Haven Memorial Park in rural Claremont with full military rites accorded at graveside.

Darrel was born December 25, 1943, in Salem, the son of Buford O'Dell and Lucille (Taylor) Wilson. He married Dana Goodman July 2, 1988, in West Salem.

At 17 years of age, after graduating from Lawrenceville High School, he entered the U.S. Navy aboard the aircraft carrier USS Lake Champlain and became an aircraft mechanic on F11F-1 fighter jets. After being in the Navy from 1961-1964, he worked as a Class 1 Journeyman mechanic on Phantom jet aircraft at McDonnell Aircraft. From 1970-1973, he worked at Airtex in Fairfield as a Bullard press operator. He then began work at Caterpillar Tractor Co. in Morton, where he was promoted to supervisor. He was there for 10 years and worked at Champion Labs from 1983-1999, where he became plant superintendent.

Darrel loved poker and shooting pool. He also loved the water and enjoyed swimming, diving, and boating. He especially loved Kentucky Lake. He loved spending time with family and friends. He was a member of Calhoun Christian Church.

Darrel is survived by his wife: Dana (Goodman) Wilson of Olney; three daughters: Darla Elizabeth (Mac) White, Jody Lynn (Greg) Scott, and Dana Danielle (Tim) Miles; grandchildren: Jayna and Joe White, Devan Atkinson, and Kyra and Chayse Miles; brother: Kenneth (Sandy) Wilson, mother-and father-in-law: Danny and Sandra Goodman; sister-in-law: Nicole (Mike) Dutton; brother-in-law: Ryan Goodman; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Richard and Walter "Jake" Wilson.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Southeastern Illinois or to the family.

Online condolences may be left at www.summers-kistler.com.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with no more than 300 words, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

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 Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email CClark@Potawatomi.org.