

Osage News

Volume 6, Issue 6 • June 2010

The Official Newspaper of the Osage Nation

Results are in: Runoff elections for chief and assistant chief scheduled for July 19

Six elected congresspersons to be sworn in July 7 on Osage campus

*By Benny Polacca
Osage News*

Election officials certified the 2010 election results June 9, guaranteeing a runoff election July 19 for the offices of Principal Chief and Assistant Principal Chief. Results in the 2010 Minerals Council were also certified with shareholders voting to retain Cynthia Boone and electing seven new council members, including one out-of-state candidate.

The Nation's Election Board certified the election results at 3:35 p.m. June 9 after 21 provisional ballots were counted and the board



Photo by Chalene Toehay/Osage News

Lawn chairs are set out during the June 7 election as the polls come to a close in Pawhuska.

met with TrueBallot, the company hired to run the election.

Current Assistant Principal Chief John Red

See Election Results

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Two incumbents and four new Osages elected to the Osage Nation Congress

*By Shannon Shaw
Osage News*

The Osage people have chosen the six members of Congress they wish to serve for the next four years.

Those six are Geoffrey Standing Bear, incumbent Raymond Red Corn, incumbent William “Kugee” Supernaw, Alice Goodfox, Daniel Boone and John Free Jr. More than 2,500 Osages voted in the June 7 election.

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Election Results

Eagle was the top vote-getter with 1,101 votes followed by Tim Tall Chief who got 744 votes – both will face a runoff election July 19. Incumbent Principal Chief Jim Gray won 633 votes; Roy St. John, 79 votes; and Carl “Chico Sellers, 55 votes.

In the Assistant Principal Chief race Scott BigHorse won 628 votes and will compete in the runoff election with Amanda Proctor, who won 485 votes. Everett Waller came in third with 468 votes followed by Cecelia Tallchief, 417; Anthony Shackelford, 386; and Jeff Irons, 198. The results were not announced until 1 a.m. on June 8.

Geoffrey Standing Bear won the most votes in the Osage Nation Congress race with 1,494 votes, followed by incumbents Raymond Red Corn (1,299) and William “Kugee” Supernaw (1,258) who both won second terms. Alice Goodfox (926); Daniel Boone (892); and John Free Jr. (822) were also elected and will serve their first four-year terms as Congress members.

Final Results Page 4

A total of 2,628 people voted in the June 7 election, according to the election board, which is about 27 percent of the Nation’s 9,849 members who are at least 18 years old and eligible to vote.

Of the 2,628 people who voted on June 7, 1,349 in-person ballots were cast and 1,279 absentee ballots were mailed in.

The 21 provisional ballots counted by the Election Board did little to change the voting results, but Election Supervisor Lisa Otipoby said those votes could have impacted the second highest vote-getter in the Assistant Principal Chief race. In initial voting results, Amanda Proctor received 480 votes and Everett Waller trailed by 14 with 466 votes.

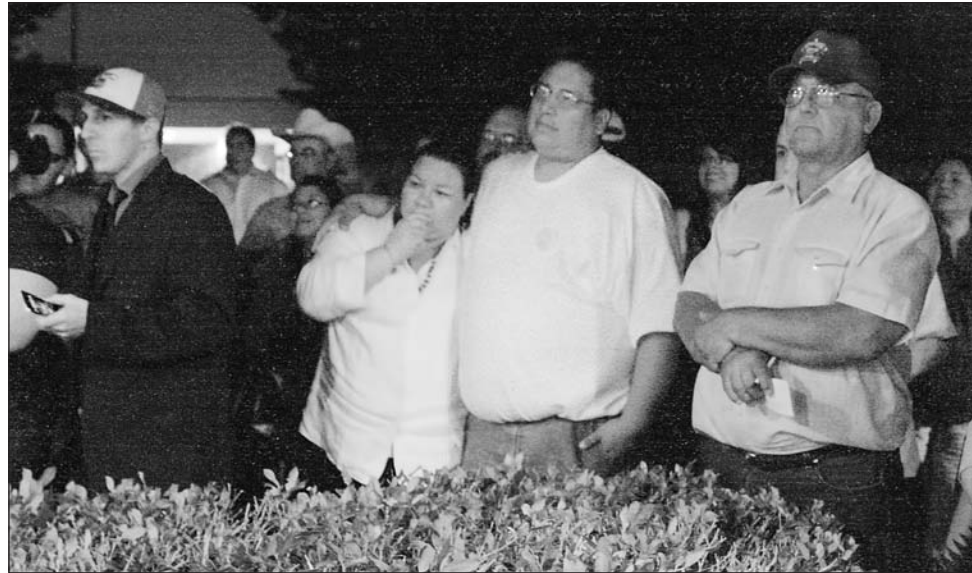


Photo by Chalene Toehay/Osage News

Congressional candidate Alice Goodfox (center) waits for the June 7 election results to be announced while standing by her husband Joe Goodfox.

“It opened up the margin by 17 votes instead of 14,” Otipoby said of the provisional ballot count which gave Proctor five more votes and Waller two additional votes.

A minimum of 14 provisional ballots were needed in order for the provisional ballots to be counted, so the 21 provisional ballot votes were added to the initial voting results before they were certified. Two provisional ballots were disqualified because they were not postmarked by June 7 as required, said Otipoby, who also noted there were no spoiled ballots that were disqualified in the election.

Election Board member Shannon Lockett said she was pleased with the June 7 voter turnout because the national voter turnout is

lower and averaged between 15 to 20 percent.

Absentee ballot request deadline for runoff election is June 29

The July 19 runoff election will be similar to this month’s in which the voting poll will be at the Tribal Administration Building on the Government Campus and will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The deadline for absentee ballot requests is June 29 for those who did not request an absentee ballot in the June 7 election. If people requested and voted via absentee ballot in this week’s election, they will automatically get an absentee ballot for the July 19 election, Otipoby said.

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Those who voted in-person June 7 but will not be able to return to Pawhuska for the July 19 runoff election will need to request an absentee ballot by June 29, Otipoby said.

“If you’re an Osage Nation member who did not vote June 7, you can vote in the runoff election,” Otipoby said. “I just hope there is as much hoopla as the other day.”

Minerals Council election results also certified June 9

Incumbent Minerals Councilwoman Cynthia Boone was elected to a second term with 312.8 shareholder votes with seven other candidates who will serve their first terms on the OMC.

Winning their initial four-year OMC terms were: Dudley Whitehorn (300.3 votes); Melvin Core (295); Curtis Bear (251.3); Andrew Yates (227); Galen Crum (215); Joseph “Sonny” Abbott (207); and Myron Red Eagle (199).

The results for the OMC election were not announced until 5:30 a.m. on June 8.

Osage News

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Candidates for the July 19th run-off election are (from L to R) John Red Eagle and Tim Tall Chief for Principal Chief and Scott BigHorse and Amanda Proctor for Assistant Principal Chief.

Morning rain fails to deter early voter turnout

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

A morning thunderstorm passing through the Osage Nation on June 7 did little to deter early voters and candidates from traveling to Pawhuska to cast their ballots and set up the campaign camps to visit with fellow voters.

Thunder echoed overhead while rain fell at 7:30 a.m. – a half-hour before the voting poll opened at the Tribal Administration Building – making for slippery and muddy driving conditions across Osage County. The rain started to let up shortly after 9 a.m. with cloudy skies predicted through the afternoon, according to the National Weather Service.

“I didn’t let it stop me,” said Sandy Johnson who braved the rain while driving from his Kansas home. “It was raining hard coming from Coffeyville.”

Matthew Wyrick voted around 9 a.m. and said the wait line “wasn’t too bad” to vote, which had about 10 people in it at the time.

“It didn’t take long,” Wyrick said of the voting process which took



Photo by Chalene Toehay / Osage News

Charles Red Corn and Osage Minerals Council Candidate Kathryn Red Corn walk into the candidate campsites during the June 7 election in Pawhuska.

10-15 minutes for him, which he described as a steady flow.

Wyrick, whose father is Osage Nation Congressional candidate Vance Wyrick, helped set up his father’s campaign camp alongside the other candidates amid the muddy ground which caused their vehicle to get stuck while unloading the canopy and supplies.

“If that’s the only thing that happens today, I’ll be happy with that,” Matthew Wyrick said with a laugh.

“This weather threw everything off,” Vance Wyrick said while at his campsite. He said his Yukon got

stuck in the mud while backing it up to his campsite, but was able to move it when the rain stopped.

Campsite volunteers also worked to help an ice truck stuck in the mud at the campsites nearby while Congressional candidate Jake Hefflin fixed campaign signs to hang from the canopy at his campsite.

“It’s a great day to visit with all the Osages... It’s a blessing,” Hefflin said of the weather. “When it rains, it’s a new beginning.”



Photo by Chalene Toehay / Osage News

Part of a canopy for candidate Cecelia Tallchief’s camp is mangled at the campsite following an early morning thunderstorm on June 7 in Pawhuska.

Letters to the Editor Submissions

If you’d like to submit a letter to the editor, mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 627 Grandview, Pawhuska, OK 74056; email sshaw@osagenews.org, or fax to (918) 287-5563. Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

2010 Osage elections final voting results

Principal Chief race:

1) John Red Eagle.....	1,101 votes.....	42.2 percent
2) Tim Tall Chief.....	744 votes.....	28.5 percent
3) Jim Gray	633 votes.....	24.2 percent
4) Roy St. John.....	79 votes.....	3.0 percent
5) Carl Sellers	55 votes.....	2.1 percent

Assistant Principal Chief race:

1) Scott BigHorse	628 votes.....	24.3 percent
2) Amanda Proctor.....	485 votes.....	18.8 percent
3) Everett Waller	468 votes.....	18.1 percent
4) Cecelia Tallchief	417 votes.....	16.2 percent
5) Anthony Shackelford.....	386 votes.....	14.9 percent
6) Jeff Irons	198 votes.....	7.7 percent

Congressional race:

1) Geoffrey Standing Bear.....	1,487.....	10.4 percent
2) Raymond Red Corn.....	1,294.....	9.1 percent
3) William Supernaw	1,252.....	8.8 percent
4) Alice Goodfox	920.....	6.5 percent
5) Daniel Boone.....	888.....	6.2 percent
6) John Free Jr.....	815.....	5.7 percent
7) John Williams.....	768.....	5.4 percent
8 John Maker	764.....	5.4 percent
9) John Jech	678.....	4.8 percent
10) Danette Daniels.....	668.....	4.8 percent
11) Jake Heflin.....	634.....	4.5 percent
12) Joe Shunkamolah.....	605.....	4.2 percent
13) Jenny Miller	598.....	4.2 percent
14) Louis Gray	575.....	4.1 percent
15) Margo Gray-Proctor	545.....	3.9 percent
16) David Conrad.....	461.....	3.3 percent
17) Anthony Webb	405.....	2.8 percent
18) James Elsberry.....	404.....	2.8 percent
19) Randolph Crawford	288.....	2.0 percent
20) Vance Wyrick.....	146.....	1.0 percent

Judges Retained

Charles H. Lohah	yes 1,775.....	75.5 percent
	no 578.....	24.5 percent
Jeanine Logan.....	yes 1,803.....	78.1 percent
	no 509.....	21.9 percent

Meredith Descygnès Drent	yes 1,609.....	66.4 percent
	no 564.....	25.8 percent
Marvin Stepson.....	yes 1,570.....	66.4 percent
	no 797.....	33.6 percent

Constitutional Amendment Question:

Yes	1,466.....	59.3 percent
No	1,088	40.7 percent
The Amendment failed. In order to pass, 65 percent of the votes need- ed to be in favor.		

General Election voter tally:

Voting Absentee.....	1,279
Voting In-Person.....	1,349
Total Voters:	2,628

Minerals Council race:

1) Cynthia J. Boone	312
2) Dudley Whitehorn	300
3) Melvin Core.....	295
4) Curtis O. Bear.....	251
5) Andrew Yates.....	227
6) Galen Crum	215
7) Joseph B. “Sonny” Abbott, Jr.	207
8) Myron F. Red Eagle.....	199
9) Talee Redcorn	196.6
10) Kathryn Red Corn	196.3
11) John H. Mashunkashey	189.9
12) Jim Schooling	185.6
13) Jewell Purcell	177.9
14) Kenneth Bighorse.....	162.6
15) John J. Hall	157.2
16) Charles Pratt.....	156
17) Linda Heskett.....	152.8
18) Richard W. Luttrell.....	147.5
19) James M. Revard.....	142.9
20) Robert E. Martin	133.9
21) Rauk Friend.....	127.8
22) John Pangburn	85.8
23) Kyle Logan.....	62.4
24) Gregory Woodell	33.6

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Courtesy Photo/Jeffrey Newbury

A photo of Matthew Littleton in his Osage clothes is just one of the many photos in the exhibit "Homecoming" by Jeffrey Newbury that opened June 7 at the Lloyd Gallery in downtown Pawhuska. The exhibit runs through July.

Photographer tries to capture essence of Osage Nation

By Ruby Murray
Osage News

The Osage elections weren't the only thing going on in Pawhuska June 7.

Photographer Jeffrey Newbury opened his photo exhibit titled, "Homecoming," at the Lloyd Gallery located at 107 east 6th street on Election Day in downtown Pawhuska. The exhibit will run through July.

"What I learned doing this project is that Pawhuska and the Osage Nation is a community," Newbury said. "They have all the aspects of a community – of a family – all the complications and the one-ness. I could see people respected each other."

Newbury, who is based in San Francisco, spent five to eight days

shooting Osages and terrain in 2007. "Homecoming" is a selection of images from hundreds he took while working on the Osage Nation's 2008 tribal calendar. He feels that the current exhibit opening tonight is a powerful statement of the essence of modern Osages.

"This is a very limited number of images," Newbury said of the selection. "I don't want people to wonder why they aren't in the show. I chose these as the strongest images from an artistic point of view." Newbury, who has three degrees in photography, specializes in environmental portraits, but this is

The OSAGE Nation presents

Small-Business Boot Camp:
 calling all Osage
 entrepreneurs!!



Are you an Osage who is serious about starting your own business or already has a small business and looking to increase profits?

The Administration for Native Americans (ANA) is sponsoring a **free** five day intense "boot camp" for Osage Members to get a jump-start on making your company a reality, or improving your company's already existing operations.

The training will focus on the entrepreneur/owner's identified needs. Specific topics will include marketing, positioning, next steps and one-on-one consulting.

Prior to enrollment, Osage applicants must complete an application as space is limited!!

Make your dream a reality – application deadline is July 2nd.
 To apply, download an application at www.tctc.org
 or contact Elaine Dettle at edettle@tctc.org - 918-331-3257

When: Five Evenings - July 12, 19 & August 9, 16, 23
Where: Osage Nation Department of Education, Hominy, OK

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ANA
 ADMINISTRATION FOR
 NATIVE AMERICANS

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Candidates wasted no expense on camps

Team Osage camp dwarfs competition

Osage News

The candidates were out in full force June 7 and their camps were swarmed by Osage voters and their families.

One of the most popular camps was that of Team Osage, which is made up of six general election candidates (John Red Eagle, Everett Waller, Geoffrey Standing Bear, William “Kugee” Supernaw, Daniel Boone and Alice Goodfox) and seven Minerals Council candidates (John H. Mashunkashey, Curtis Bear, Cynthia Boone, Myron Red Eagle, John J. Hall, Melvin Core and Joseph “Sonny” Abbott). Team Osage joined two large circus-type tents together, complete with walls, to entice their voters and blocked the view of any camps behind it (such as the camp of current Principal Chief Jim Gray).

Another popular camp was the conjoined camp of Geoffrey Standing Bear and Tim Tall Chief, whose camp had Osages leaving with meat pies in hand. Another popular camp was that of congressional candidate Jake Heflin, whose rented smoker enticed Osages with the smell of barbecue.

Most of the candidate's camps had family members and friends, visitors from out-of-state and curious voters-to-be. Many candidates camped together, with many intermixing with Minerals Council candidates.

Expenses for camps unknown

The candidate's campaign finance reports were due May 23 at 11:59 p.m., requiring all candi-



Photo by Shannon Shaw/Osage News

Team Osage draws Osages to their camp.

dates to turn in their expenditures and donation reports for their campaigns, including proof of separate bank accounts for their campaign expenses as required by Osage law. Out of the 31 candidates 17 were found compliant with the law and 14 were found to be non-compliant. Letters were sent to all the candidates that were found non-compliant concerning campaign rules, according to the election board.

The *Osage News* obtained the campaign finance reports that were turned in May 23. Eight candidates raised more than \$5,000, three candidates raised less than \$100 and some candidates didn't turn in a report at all.

In the \$5,000 and up category were chief candidates Jim Gray, who raised a total of \$6,527; John

Red Eagle, who raised \$13,558; Roy St. John, who raised \$5,666 and Tim Tall Chief, who raised \$9,320. No assistant chief candidates raised more than \$5,000 but four congressional candidates did. Danette Daniels raised \$8,095, Jake Heflin raised \$5,364, Raymond Red Corn raised \$7,330 and Anthony Webb raised \$5,016.

In the \$100 and lower category were congressional candidates James Elsberry, who raised \$100, Jenny Miller, who reported zero donations and expenditures and Joseph Shunkamolah who reported zero donations and expenditures.

The following list of candidates was those who the election board ruled compliant and non-compliant with campaign rules concern-

ing their campaign finance reports on May 23.

Compliant in Principal Chief race:

- John Red Eagle
- Tim Tall Chief
- Roy St. John
- Carl “Chico” Sellers

Compliant in Assistant Principal Chief race:

- Amanda Proctor

Compliant in the Congressional race:

- Anthony Webb
- Geoffrey Standing Bear

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Out-of-state Osage voters say election is important

Alaska resident among those who traveled farthest for this year's election, dances

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

Georgann Tall Chief says it can take 10 to 12 hours to fly to Oklahoma from Alaska where she's lived since 1984 – if all travel arrangements go as planned. She usually makes the voyage back to the Osage Nation each June for the In-Lon-Schka dances, but this month's trip home takes on a special significance with today's election.

"I got here on Sunday, caught the dances and now I vote," Tall Chief said as she sat at the campaign campsite of her brother Principal Chief candidate Tim Tall Chief. "They have a great meaning for all of us," she said of the tribal elections.

This election year, Georgann Tall Chief is among Osage voters who traveled the farthest for the annual Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka dances as well as today's election. There is nearly 4,000 miles between Pawhuska and Alaska where she worked with several Alaska Native communities as a school/career counselor for 30-plus years before recently retiring.

During her career, Tall Chief has worked with as many as 14 Alaska Native communities as a counselor "helping students figure out what they want to do" in a state with bitter-cold winter temperatures that can reach 70-below zero with wind chills. Her work has taken her as far away as Barrow, which



Photo by Chalene Toehay/Osage News

Georgann Tall Chief sits and visits with family and friends during the June 7 election in Pawhuska.

sits on Alaska's northern-most tip – less than 400 miles from the Arctic Circle.

This year's election is groundbreaking with the election being run by an election board, supervisor and rules specified in the election code passed by the First Osage Nation Congress. Events taking place over the past four years since the Nation's reformed government started have also prompted a voter turnout that's expected to exceed that from the 2006 election.

Vehicles from out-of-state lined the streets around the government campus most of the day because parking spots were scarce. Several of those vehicles had license plates from states including Texas, Kansas, Minnesota, California and even Florida.

Los Angeles resident Danielle Glenn-Rivera said she voted via absentee ballot but still came to help at the campaign campsite of Congressional candidate Randolph Crawford – one day after the Grayhorse dances ended – amid the morning thunderstorms which left

the picnic area muddy where the campaign campsites were erected.

"I woke up and said 'oh my God!'" Glenn-Rivera said when she saw the TV morning news reporting the thunderstorms, but became more at ease when learning the storms would pass later in the day. She said this election is more different than prior ones because of more information disseminated about the candidates and their campaigns.

"There were a lot of people I didn't know who were running," Glenn-Rivera said. "I looked at all the campaign stuff and news sto-

ries. It helped me more," she said of deciding who to vote for.

"I still think we need to go forward," Glenn-Rivera said of the government's progress. "The griping back-and-forth is not doing good," she said of the tensions between the executive and legislative branches.

"I think people need to put griping aside and worry about the elders and students to make sure they're OK," Glenn-Rivera said adding she enjoys coming back to

See Out-of-State Voters

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Photo by Chalene Toehay/Osage News

Barbecue brisket is one of many foods offered to voters and spectators during the June 7 election in Pawhuska.

Candidates woo voters with food

By Ruby Murray
Osage News

On Election Day congressional candidate Daniel Boone fulfilled his campaign promise "to put a meat pie in your mouth, strawberry pop in your hand, and a smile on your face."

Other candidates for Osage government had varied strategies for

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Out-of-State Voters

Oklahoma for the dances which are important “because that’s what I was taught, but so are elections. And our people.”

Georgann Tall Chief also agrees that returning to the Osage Nation to vote and catch the dances

is important – especially with this year’s election because her younger brother is seeking the Principal Chief’s office, she said with a smile. She recently joked with her father, former Principal Chief George Tall Chief, about her retirement this year.

She told her father “just think, Dad: now I can come home anytime.” Georgeann Tall Chief also travels between Washington state and Alaska where she has three grown children working and living in both states.

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Camp Cuisine

feeding voters on Election Day. Some considered voter preference for traditional Osage food, others considered the need for diabetic dessert choices and some went with a more contemporary flare.

The weather played havoc with congressional candidate Anthony Webb’s plans. Wind blew away supplies at Webb’s Grayhorse camp requiring a last minute shopping trip for Webb and his wife. Anticipating high temperatures, congressional candidate Randolph Crawford brought thirty bags of ice and lots of water as well as a barbecue lunch.

Candidates provide choices for lunch and dinner

Voters had choices of barbecue, fruit, vegetables, frybread at lunch and more choices for dinner. Minerals Council candidate Joseph “Sonny” Abbott Jr. served a cake topped with the Osage Nation seal and cookies with a Team Osage logo.

Assistant Chief candidate Amanda Proctor was serving steam fry, corn soup and frybread from the White Eagle community for the evening meal. A group of candidates including congressional candidate Danette Daniels and minerals council candidates Talee Redcorn, Jewell Purcell, Gregory Woodell, Robert Martin and

Kathryn Red Corn planned a dinner including ham and a specially decorated “ballot cake.”

Congressional candidate Johnny Williams planned to serve Indian hotdogs in the afternoon, which is a hotdog inside of a piece of frybread topped with a choice of veggies and sauce.

Vance Wyrick, a congressional candidate from Florida, set up with boxes of donuts.

Jake Heflin, a congressional candidate from California, enlisted Ben Conley of Barnsdall to prepare lunch. While the slow cooker – big enough for fifty turkeys, according to Conley – slow cooked 50 pounds of brisket and pork for voters.

Dudley Whitehorn enlisted Hominy committee cook Suzi Hamilton to cook fry bread at his camp on Election Day. Robby Corcoran barbecued pulled pork and chopped brisket for his uncle Raymond Red Corn, running for re-election to the ON Congress.

Jeff Irons said that since so many candidates were feeding people lunch, he brought vegetable relish trays. Chico Sellers provided desserts, including sugar free pie and fruit. Sellers said he was concerned about cooks having to prepare frybread in the expected high temperatures. John Free Jr.’s wife

Cindy served grape lemonade and fresh fruit salad and decorated her table with calla lilies.

Candidates and voters reminisce

As they visited, candidates and voters reminisced about past elections. Mineral council candidate Cynthia Boone remembered when people spread blankets all over the grounds. “We played Indian dice until the wee hours. You had to count the ballots by hand,” she said.

Leonard Maker remembered when there was a traditional Osage feast. Robin Maker said he remembered when there was one tent on Election Day and buffalo meat pies.

This year candidate’s tents spread to the north side of the Osage Tribal Museum. Abbot remembered attending the elections in 1961, when he was first old enough to vote. “It was crowded into the evening and we had Indian dancing,” he said.

As candidates accepted well wishes from supporters, some voters struggled to make last minute decisions. While it’s unsure whether a good meal can sway a voter, it’s sure that voters can eat to their heart’s content.

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Camp Spending

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- Jenny Miller
- Raymond Red Corn
- Daniel Boone
- Danette Daniels
- James Elsberry
- Margo Gray-Proctor
- John Maker
- Vance Wyrick
- Jake Heflin
- Louis Gray

Non-compliant in Principal Chief race:

- Jim Gray (became compliant June 1)

Non-compliant in Assistant Principal Chief race:

- Scott BigHorse (became compliant May 27)
- Cecelia Tallchief (became compliant June 3)
- Jeff Irons (became compliant June 7)
- Anthony Shackelford (became compliant June 4)
- Everett Waller (became compliant June 2)

Non-compliant in Congressional race:

- Randolph Crawford (became compliant June 3)
- Joseph Shunkamolah (became compliant June 2)
- John Williams (became compliant June 3)
- William “Kugee” Supernaw (became compliant May 24)
- John Jech (became compliant May 24)
- David Conrad (became compliant June 6)
- John Free Jr. (became compliant May 27)
- Alice Goodfox (became compliant May 25)

New Osage Nation Congress

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Geoffrey Standing Bear



Raymond Red Corn



William "Kugee" Supernaw



Alice Goodfox



Daniel Boone



John Free, Jr.

Standing Bear, who received the most votes, said he wasn't surprised by the results because he knew that the Osage people wanted a change, a different direction and transparency in their government.

"I want to thank all those who showed me that by their vote I have a job to do for our people," said the long-time attorney and past Assistant Principal Chief who served from 1990-1994. "We need to get to work immediately in changing the structure and processes in this government which has led to so much distrust and disagreement."

According to Standing Bear's Web site, standingbearosagecongress.com, he will first focus on protecting the Mineral Estate and second he will work on creating a tribal economy to "keep the Osage people together, connected and economically prosperous."

Red Corn, who will be serving his second term, said that he wanted to thank the Election Board and its staff for all the hard work they did under the time constraints and stressful situation.

"I just want to thank all of those who offered their support and their votes during the election process," Red Corn said. "We have much work to do, and the challenges before us will test both veterans and newcomers. The election process obviously needs fine-tuning, but

that's what amendments are for - there is always room for improvement."

Red Corn, who is the author of the Nation's election law and the Osage Limited Liability Corporation, is the author of 49 pieces of legislation during his first term on the Osage congress. Out of those 49 pieces of legislation 25 have been enrolled (delivered to the chief for signature), according to a preliminary report compiled by Osage Congress Communications on April 23 of this year.

Supernaw, who will be serving his second term, said he wanted to thank everyone who participated in the election process.

"The new officers face some of the most challenging problems the Osage Nation has ever encountered," Supernaw said. "We will all have to work together to resolve them. I am hoping the new administration work to reduce the size of the bureaucracy and focus our attention on the people we should serve."

He also added that he's been so busy that he and another recently elected official were going to have a celebration dinner and that everyone's invited. Supernaw also sponsored the first amendment to be considered by the Osage people June 7 but the amendment failed to get the required 65 percent of the vote.

Supernaw, who is known for his Notes to the Nation e-mail newsletter and the development of the Office of Fiscal Performance Review, authored 26 pieces of legislation during his first term on the Osage congress. Out of those 26 pieces of legislation 10 have been enrolled (delivered to the chief for signature), according to a preliminary report compiled by Osage Congress Communications on April 23 of this year.

Goodfox, who is currently employed as the Human Resources Supervisor with the Million Dollar Elm Casino and lives in Hominy with her husband and son, was also "pleased" that a large number of Osages came out to vote on Election Day.

"There were several candidates that I did not know before the campaign started and over the last few months it has been wonderful to make new friendships," Goodfox said. "I am looking forward to working with the six year congress members as well as the newly elected congress members. There is a lot of work to do, and I am ready to get started."

According to Goodfox's campaign Web site, she has her Bachelor's in Family Studies from the University of Maryland and her Master's in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma. Goodfox is also a certified focus group moderator

and has worked with tribes across the country on issues involving alcohol and substance abuse prevention and treatment, mental health, and education "doing both quantitative and qualitative research." To learn more about Goodfox visit alicegoodfox.com.

Boone, who is the son of re-elect Minerals Councilwoman Cynthia Boone, had only this to say, "On behalf of 'Boone in June' my family and I would like to thank everyone who voted for us, donated to us, and those who came by for a meat pie and pop!"

Boone, who lives in Pawhuska and owns his own landscaping company, said that his main areas of focus once taking the oath of office will be to support cultural perpetuation and accountability in government.

Free could not be reached for comment by the time this article was published. Free is the owner of the successful bronze studio called The Bronze Horse in Pawhuska. A known artist and sculptor, his works can be seen around Oklahoma. He said his main areas of focus upon taking the oath of office will be to protect the operations of our casinos and promote an open and honest government.

Osages young and old experience a new election

By Shannon Shaw
Osage News

Charles Red Corn, 73, can remember playing with his brothers and sisters at the Osage elections when he was a young boy. He says the atmosphere has not changed.

"It's still a pretty festive atmosphere and people look forward to the [candidate's] camps," Red Corn said. "Makes being an Osage a good feeling, not that it was ever a bad feeling, but it's just really a fun time."

Until four years ago only Osage shareholders got to choose the Nation's leaders and there were only 10 positions to choose. Red Corn says that with the new Osage government in place, giving every Osage over the age of 18 a chance to vote is the biggest change of all throughout the years.

"It's a genuine election now and we're going to elect people that are elected by everyone and not just the headright holders," Red Corn said. "There's been a lot of contention on how people view things, but today has been a good day."

A right to vote for every Osage that is over the age of 18 is a good idea in Emma Red Corn's opinion. Emma, who just graduated from Pawhuska High School is voting for her first time, something that might not have been a possibility, if not for the new government.

"I actually have a say now," she said. "I might have had thoughts about who I would have voted for when I was younger but I actually get to do it now."

Red Corn, who will be attending Haskell Indian Nations University in the fall said she especially enjoyed the camps and the atmosphere, but above all seeing all the many different Osages she doesn't normally see.

"I think what's most cool is that there's a lot of people here and it's



Photo by Shannon Shaw/Osage News

Young Osages listen to Osage singers at the 2010 Osage Elections.

not just people from Hominy, Fairfax and Pawhuska," she said. "It's all different."

According to seven-year-old Eugene Cunningham Jr., who was grabbing a cookie when the Osage News asked to interview him, one

of his favorite things about the day was playing and "eating everything and stuff." When asked if he'll vote when he gets older he said, "Yeah, I'll vote for important stuff."

Charles Red Corn said it's good to see so many Osages voting in

their new government and it's a long tradition he hopes that will keep going.

"The election, it brings out hope and anticipation for what's around the corner."

Photographer

the first time he attempted to represent a community.

Most of the images are portraits and Newbury feels they reveal a cross section of Osages such as Osage sculptor John Free, members of the Osage Nation's government, and such images of Osages like Jessica Moore who was Miss Indian Oklahoma at the time. "You can see she cares about how she

represents her people," Newbury said.

One of Newbury's favorite images was shot five days before Louis Daley left to serve in Iraq with the US Air Force. Newbury photographed Daley standing in front of the mounted Osage warrior mural in Hominy.

"I love that portrait," Newbury said. "You have a new Osage war-

rior — going to Iraq — standing in front of an old Osage warrior going up against the Whites to defend his land. And now the warrior is fighting for the United States... you have all these levels. These are heart-felt things."

Gallery hours are weekends and by appointment at (405) 850-6377.

—Continued from Page 5

Osage voters sound off on their election experience

Votingosage.org will remain online after election

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

Vanessa Moore voted for the first time in this year's tribal election, which she calls "pretty exciting" while waiting for the election results to be announced.

"Every vote matters, even if it comes down to a tie," Moore said while waiting in front of the Tribal Administration building while her mother voted inside.

"I wasn't really knowing what to expect," she said of the voting process. She described the process as steady and said the poll workers helped guide her through the process so she could cast her ballot.

A crowd of tribal members, their family members and election spectators started to congregate around the Tribal Administration building at dusk and more people set up their lawn chairs to wait at 8 p.m. when the voting polls for the tribal and Minerals Council June 7 elections closed.

Brooke Cunningham voted in her second election which she sees as "very important because if we get someone in (office) who shares same values as me" her voice will be represented. The Tulsa resident was joined by her sister Brittany Cunningham, also of Tulsa, and voted in her first tribal election this year.

"I felt very privileged to vote," said Brittany Cunningham who echoes her sister's thoughts on voting for someone representing her views and said she looked at campaign materials and Web site



Photo by Chalene Toehay/Osage News

Voters and spectators stand around after voting during the June 7 election in Pawhuska.

information which influenced her votes. "Next time I'll be ready," she said of researching more about the candidates in the next tribal election.

Both sisters said they read campaign literature, news stories about the election and candidates and Web site discussions as well. One Osage who helped start one of the election-related Web sites also turned up to vote during the Nation's June 7 election.

Ryan Red Corn, with the help of other Osages, established votingosage.org as a non-partisan Web site devoted to informing voters about the candidates and news stories and commentaries related to the election and campaign trails earlier this year. Red Corn, son of Congressman Raymond Red Corn who successfully sought a second term this year, showed up at the election poll and candidate campsites Monday dressed in dark blue jeans, a red button-up dress shirt, a black tie, and a black blazer with matching vest.

"I made sure I was appropriately dressed," Red Corn said recalling the 2006 election when he showed up to vote in torn pants which angered a tribal elder who said Red Corn's attire was an embarrassment to his father's successful campaign for the First Osage Nation Congress. "I love my elders, I listen to them."

The sun came out during the afternoon hours following a morning thunderstorm which soaked the Osage Nation but did not stop voters and candidates from showing up for the poll and campsite camaraderie with others. The June 7 election started less than 24 hours after this year's In-Lon-Schka dances as Grayhorse ended.

When asked if he was hot after wearing the blazer all day, Red Corn replied: "After dancing in broadcloth for four days, this is cake!"

Red Corn said it was too early to say if votingosage.org had an impact on this year's election. "I won't know until I see the results.

There's a strong possibility it might or might not have any impact."

Votingosage.org attracted "300 to 600 unique visitors a day," Red Corn said adding he's received several messages from tribal members "telling me they were really thankful to be able to have an arena to share their thoughts" about the election.

After this year's election ends, Red Corn said he will keep votingosage.org online and will use it to inform voters again during the November election in which tribal member Jeff Jones is running for District Attorney of Oklahoma's District 10. Red Corn said the district attorney chosen later this year could impact the Nation, pending an outcome of the 10th Circuit Court case over the Nation's reservation status.

Non-Osage candidate Rex Duncan, an Oklahoma State Representative, is challenging Jones for the District 10 DA position which covers Osage and Pawnee counties.

Delay in election results had some Osages angry

By Shannon Shaw
Osage News

The Osage Nation Election results were announced later than expected on election night, with the results announced at 1 a.m. instead of around 10 p.m. June 7 as projected by the ON Election Board. The Osage Minerals Council election results weren't announced until around 5:30 a.m. June 8.

As 10 p.m. came and went Osages began to get antsy, disappointed, some were angry and some were going as far as to peek in the windows of the tribal administration building where the ballots were being counted by workers from True-Ballot, the election company hired to run the Osage elections.

"I'm disappointed, I think they should've come out and let us know what the problems were," said Andrew Yates, who was running for the OMC and was elected. "There's a lot of people upset, it's almost 1 a.m."

Shortly before the general election results were announced the crowd had withered from around 400 people to about 100 people.

"All I'm gonna say is this is ridiculous," said Osage voter Sonya Holloway, who was sitting with friends and family in front of the tribal administration building covered in blankets as the night began to cool. "They need to create a better system for next time."

Reassembly of scanning systems caused delay in general election results

Election Board Supervisor Lisa Otipoby said that the "perceived delay" in the results was due in part to "having to disassemble the majority of the computer and scanning systems which were stationed in the lobby area of the Congressional Chambers and move them into the congressional office area where the ballots were counted."



Photo by Shannon Shaw/Osage News

Osage voters look into the windows of the Tribal Administration Building where True-Ballot workers and election staff were counting ballots June 7.

According to a prepared release, the computers and scanners were re-assembled in the congressional office area and were then reset to read ballots rather than issue ballots. The computers were then synced with each other, together with the scanners. They were tested and reset and tested and reset to insure the accuracy of the ballot readers, Otipoby said.

One other issue that may have contributed to the perceived delay in the announcement of Election results were the people gathered outside of the Congressional Office windows trying to peek at the election workers.

"The board and staff attempted to visually review the ballots during the count by projecting the ballot readings on a wall of the office," Otipoby said. "That practice had to be discontinued because of persons peeking in the windows of the Congressional offices."

"Election staff attempted to wave people away from the windows and finally had to request that the Osage Nation Police ask

those persons to cease peeking in the windows during the count.

"Had the Election Board and Staff been able to perform the task of review on the projected image rather than having to review the ballot counts on small screens, the results may have been made earlier," Otipoby said.

The cardboard box

Another facet of the general election process that had some Osages uneasy was that after a person filled out their ballot, instead of feeding it into a machine the person simply dropped it into a cardboard box with a slit on the top.

"The fact that the counting machine was not being fed right in front of us and being done in another room was not comforting," said Ryan Red Corn on votingosage.org, a non-partisan Web site he helped start. "Almost every time I have voted in my lifetime this was done in front of you to assure the voter that their vote was counted."

"However, all of the other steps involved in the process would re-

quire a coordinated effort to produce fraudulent results that might work through the first run but would have a difficult time standing up against a forensic look at the voter data.

"The timeliness of the results being delivered not only calls into question the validity of the election but also the quality of performance by the company administrating the election," he wrote.

Otipoby disagrees and said that the box was a good voting mechanism. She said she knew that the box looked "primitive" but the fact that a person could drop their ballot into the box and know that it could be opened up and looked into and be seen all the way through was comforting.

Machine failure delays OMC election results

Everything was running smoothly with the ballot counting in the OMC election up until around 8 p.m. when John Bodin, from Election Trust, the company hired to do the OMC election, "started putting the ballots in the scanner and it would not scan the absentee ballot envelopes that had been folded," said Billie Ponca, OMC election board supervisor.

"It took hours and hours to fix the scanner, and when the problem was finally corrected on the ballots his computer was trying to crash on him," Ponca said. "But the way I understood it was that, if he did not take his time, go through his procedures, we would have been in a lot of serious trouble."

Bodin said that the tabulation and reporting is a five step process. The first is the matching of absentee ballots with the list of voters who had requested absentee ballots and those voters who had registered to cast a ballot at the polls.

See Delayed Results

—Continued on Page 23

Business etiquette instructor teaches Osage summer youth workforce lessons in formal dining

About 75 Native American youth are working through the Summer Youth Program

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. – Business etiquette expert Jana Christian grew up with a rural Oklahoma upbringing and believes it is important to help give young people from similar backgrounds, including those who grew up in the Osage Nation, the skills to survive while on the work force.

This year, the Osage Nation Education Department enlisted Christian's expertise for its annual Summer Youth Program which

kicked off June 2 with career/ social etiquette training for about 75 Native Americans who will hold jobs through the work program this summer. The June 2-4 training seminar, called "Power Up," wrapped at the Hillcrest Country Club in Bartlesville with a business etiquette skills presentation led by Christian.

"We want to help rural Oklahomans to gain the confidence, skills and tools that will help them to be successful," Christian at the luncheon while she explained the table settings during the formal dining exercise. "Dining is a very important part of our life."

Folded napkins, glasses and silverware lay in a pile on each table

in the country club's dining hall at the start of the luncheon. Christian then asked the attendees to follow along with her as she instructed them on how to set the table for a formal function.

For example, Christian advised the diners a formal place setting has two knives with one reserved for dinner and the smaller one is referred to as a butter knife. She also advises that beverage cups should always be on the right side of each place setting so "no more will anyone ever steal your coffee cup because you now know which direction it is."

"On the left is interesting: the word 'left' has how many letters? Four, as well as the word 'fork' and that's where we find our forks," Christian said of the dinner and salad forks. "In a formal-style setting, every fork on the left is going

to be married to a knife on the right or even just to make it convenient for you – that's what it's all about."

Also during the luncheon the attendees were asked to sit at the round dining tables in a male-female-male-female order with the cloth napkins folded in their laps. "You always seat the lady to your right," Christian told the male diners. "That may not be the lady that you brought and that's OK, but you always assist the lady to your right with her chair."

Several area residents and tribal members who are working professionals joined the students for the luncheon where they spoke about their occupations and real world experiences. Principal Chief Jim Gray attended the luncheon and

see **Business Etiquette**
—Continued on Page 25

TEAM OSAGE

*would like to thank all of our supporters!
Your voice was heard and we appreciate you!*

*Don't forget to vote in the upcoming Principal Chief and
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(absentee ballots must be requested no later than June 29th)*

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and Joseph B. (Sonny) Abbott

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Thank you for standing with us!



Photo by Benny Polacca / Osage News

Business etiquette expert, Jana Christian, demonstrates proper dining etiquette.



(L to R) Head taidancer Randy Moore, Ted Moore Jr., Taidancers Dillon Moore and Ralston Moore wait for the Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka to begin on June 3.



Men from the Grayhorse District line up for the afternoon dances June 3 at the Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.

Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka 2010

Photos by Chalene Toehay
Osage News



Above: Town Crier Ceasar Williams leads in the Grayhorse District on June 4 at Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.

At right: Grayhorse Drumkeeper Joel Wynn walks toward the arbor with Congressman Archie Mason on June 4 at the Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.



Straight dancers from the Grayhorse district line up before heading into the arbor on June 4 of Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.



At right: John Henry Mashunkashey leads in a small group of straight dancers Friday afternoon of Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.



More photos on page 19

PFC Chris Turley injured in Afghanistan

[Editor's Note: The *Osage News* thought it would be more poignant to let PFC Turley tell his own story.]

By PFC Chris Turley

5 June10 22:00 Hrs The Scout Sniper/Scout Recon platoon call sign Hades Element. Conducted Disruption Missions in the Zerok Provenance of Eastern Paktika in Afghanistan. Our mission was to locate and kill or capture any known insurgents or Military Aged Males within our battle space; this was to be a 48-hour mission, this area of interest was deemed completely hostile. This was the second phase of a three-part mission named Hades Mardom.

After an 8-Click (1 Click = 1,000 meters) and seven hours later, we reached our MSS (mission support site) located on top of a hilltop, from there we pushed out our Hades 1 and Hades 2 elements which was 1st and 2nd squad. Any military operation conducted within the country of Afghanistan to be allowed, your unit has to have an Afghan Face along with it. So each mission we took a platoon of ANA (Afghan National Army). At the current hour the time was around 0530 hours, myself and my platoon sergeant, along with our platoon medic went to the southern part of the hilltop we were located on to pull security. Once we got there my PSG told me and Doc to get some sleep and he would wake one of us up an hour later to relieve him. Not soon after I feel asleep I was awoken by a couple of rocks to the face. After making eye contact with my PSG I noticed he was trying to tell me something. After I was awake he crawled over to me and started to whisper in my ear, "Hey listen, I can hear some voices down in the Wadi (a dried up creek bed, known throughout Afghanistan as a form of travel, pathway, etc.), watch down that direction and see if you



PFC Chris Turley

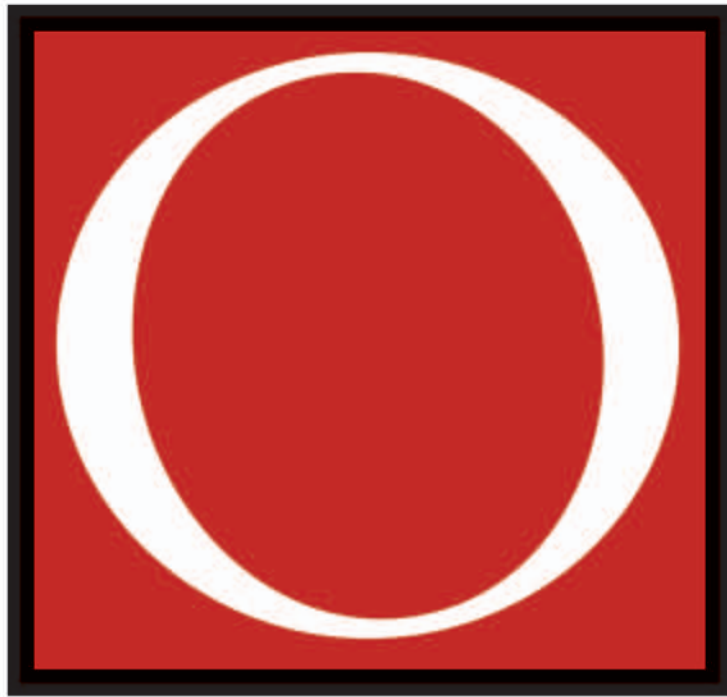
can see anything, I'll be back I'm going to inform the PL (Platoon Leader)." Once he left I began to observe the area as directed. Not long after he left, I was watching a Wadi through my Acog scope mounted on my M4 assault rifle. While scanning the area one MAM (military aged male), with a visible weapon had what appeared to be a AK-47 assault rifle, walked into my sector. I quickly informed Doc that he needed to wake up and we're about to get into some action. I continued to watch the area when all of a sudden five more MAMs came into view; three of them were carrying AK-47 assault rifles and the other two were carrying a RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade, sort of a missile launcher). I then told Doc that I was going to inform the PSG and the PL. On my way back up the top of the hilltop my PSG met me halfway, I told him what I saw and he told me to return to my spot and he'd be there in a minute along with some more men. The

six MAM's we were tracking were walking directly into our Hades1 element, not long after informing them on the radio that they were in contact with the small Taliban element. So thinking they would break contact and head back through the Wadi system which they came through we set up a ambush line and were waiting to engage them, they never came through that system, instead they somehow made their way up the southern ridge line of our hilltop and was heading our direction. At this time neither they nor our element knew of each others positions. So me, along with six other members of our scout platoon, were sitting at the southern part of the hilltop when we started hearing voices coming from our 3 o'clock. So we turned toward the voices and prepared for an attack. The enemy as well caught on to our position. So once they were within our sights no more than 20 meters we engaged the enemy. During the firefight we were under constant fire and multiple explosions from RPG's. During which I was injured by shrapnel from an RPG that landed really close to my position. We soon broke contact to our main element located on top of the hilltop and took cover as the RPG and Small Arms fire continued. And the medic soon performed first aid to me. I was 1 of 3 casualties we took that day, but mine was the more severe injury. About an hour later, the medic bird arrived and transported me back to the forward operating base or FOB I was stationed at. There I underwent immediate surgery to repair my knee where the shrapnel destroyed my tendon. Later that day I was flown to a larger base where I was in the hospital awaiting my flight to Germany, during my stay there I was awarded the Purple Heart along with my CIB (combat infantry badge) along with several achievement medallions. From

there, I was flown to Germany and then on back to the states, where I'm currently stationed with my unit. At Fort Campbell with the 101st Airborne Division in Kentucky, I'm currently waiting on the results of a MRI scan. To determine whether or not I can redeploy and meet back up with my platoon in Afghanistan or whether or not I'll need another surgery. The doctor said it would be a minimum of six weeks before I can start to bend my knee again and probably a year and a half before I could play basketball again. I don't feel bad for what happened to me. I sometimes consider myself lucky and fortunate to just be injured and not had to make the ultimate sacrifice like the 4500+ brother and sisters who've lost their lives in these two current wars the United States are in. Everything happens for a reason and it's beyond our control. I hope with this debrief I've provided for you, you find the story you're looking for. It's been an honor and a dream to defend my nation but more importantly defending my Osage People. And I'd do it all again in a moment's notice. I didn't know what to write so I just wrote my experience with what happened that day, this was just one small of many engagements I've faced while in Afghanistan. So as I said before I hope you get the story you're wanting and thank you for this opportunity to express the first hand insights of what it was like for one of the young warriors of the Osage Nation and just one of many stories that could be told.

Enclosed is my current address as well as picture. Thank you again.

PFC. Turley
UNITED STATES ARMY
Chris Brandon Turley
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Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka 2010



Sharon Damron scoops out the inside of a cantaloupe Frida afternoon of Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.

Photos by Chalene Toehay
Osage News



Straight dancers from the Hominy District get ready to head into the arbor on June 3 of Grayhorse In-Lon-Schka.

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And
William (Kugee) Supernaw
Present member and re-elect of the Osage Nation Congress

OSAGES, STAND WITH US IN THIS EFFORT!

Osage News

Run-off Election Debate

Join us June 23, 6 p.m. at the Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center
for the 2010 Run-off Election Debates for the offices of
Principal Chief and Assistant Principal Chief.

Principal Chief Debate

John Red Eagle and Tim Tallchief

Assistant Principal Chief Debate

Scott BigHorse and Amanda Proctor

Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center
Pawhuska, OK

Moderator Bryan Pollard

Editor of the Cherokee Phoenix,
the Cherokee Nation's tribal newspaper

Emcee Susan Shannon

Host of KGOU-KROU's "Indian Times"

Rules for the debate and other information will be posted to osagenews.org
in coming weeks and are in this edition of the Osage News

Watch the Osage News debates live via the Osage Nation Web site on
www.osagetribe.com

Refreshments will be provided

Fletcher case moving forward

The Bigheart Times

As the Osage Nation's massive trust case against the U.S. government winds slowly toward conclusion, two Hominy men are pushing ahead with another case, trying to recapture Osage headrights that fell into the hands of non-Osages.

William Sam Fletcher and Charles Pratt are the only plaintiffs left in the case thanks to the death of two others and the decision by a fifth plaintiff to drop out of the case.

On the other side: 821 defendants who have been served, 195 of whom have lawyered up to fight, 231 defendants who have not been found, and another 603 whose only address is care of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

One defendant, a church that has not been named, has capitulated, settling the claim against it by simply returning its headright and renouncing its ownership.

Bravo, said both Fletcher and Pratt: That is all they are seeking.

"In the name of justice, simply return these headrights to the

Osages," said Fletcher. "We never received any justice for those horrible injustices of the past, but we're not concerned with money in the past."

But Fletcher and Pratt say there's an issue there: The Osage Nation has set up no mechanism to repossess the headright and redistribute income from it to Osage shareholders, so the money from the returned headright is now accumulating in an escrow account.

Fletcher and Pratt said that they have asked the Osage Minerals Council to figure out a system to accept the headrights, as well as for a statement of support from the tribal body that oversees the minerals estate but have not received an answer they find satisfactory.

Minerals Chairman John Henry Mashunkashey said that the reason for that is simple: The tribe's lawyers have advised the Minerals Council not to take any action, however benign it might seem, on any litigation for fear that it could jeopardize the tribal trust case that recently yielded a \$250 million summary judgment against



Photo by Shannon Shaw / Osage News

William Sam Fletcher and Charles Pratt stand in front of the Osage Original Allottees exhibit in the Osage Tribal Museum.

the federal government in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. That judgment is subject to appeal, and a trial is scheduled at the end of June regarding another \$60 million claimed in the case first filed in 1999. The trust case is expected to be completed in the next two years.

"We've been instructed by our legal counsel to stay as far away as we can from the other two litigations by Bill Sam and Cora Jean Jech in the event that this might be a problem with our own litigation," Mashunkashey said. "We don't want to jeopardize payout in the spring of 2012. We've got to think of the 4,242 Osage annuitants.

"Personally, I am in total support of (the Fletcher) litigation, but when our attorney tells me to stay out of it, I'm going to."

The Fletcher case, which for the first time publicly revealed the names of non-Osages who owned headrights, has turned up some hitherto unknown transactions involving headrights, Fletcher said, including that some of them have been traded by stock brokers.

The case has also failed to answer some large questions: Hundreds of entities are apparently receiving headrights despite the fact that there is no record of them having a business license or paying taxes. "They're non-existent," Pratt said. "The Hissom Center

Defendant in Fletcher case gives back shares of Mineral Estate

Osage News

The St. Lukes United Church of Christ in St. Louis is giving back their royalty payment of the Osage Minerals Estate in a step forward in Fletcher v. United States.

The church entered into an agreement with the Fletcher plaintiffs, William Fletcher and Charles Pratt, on March 26 to ensure that all their Section 4 Royalty Payments that are made to the church will instead be sent to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma in downtown Tulsa.

Currently the judge in the Fletcher case has barred the plaintiffs from giving out any details about the case. Fletcher and Pratt were asked about other defendants possibly giving back their shares and they had no comment.

However, they did comment on their disappointment that the Nation has not given any support for their case.

According to the settlement agreement, the royalty payment that was to go to the St. Louis church will go to the district court in Tulsa to be held in an

account made by the court. According to Pratt, if the Nation had supported the Fletcher case the shares could have immediately gone to the Nation.

"Had [the Nation] cooperated four years ago, we could have had an account in place for the money returned," Pratt said.

Both Fletcher and Pratt say the case is simply "in the name of justice" and they have no personal aspirations for any money for themselves. They just want the shares of the Mineral Estate that is going to non-Osage shareholders to be returned.

See Fletcher Case

—Continued on Page 29



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Osage Nation
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on
Wednesday, July 7th
at
10 o'clock a.m.
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Reception to follow*

*In the case of rain this event will be moved to the
Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center
1449 W. Main, Pawhuska, Ok*

*.....
Ceremonies for Principal Chief
and Assistant Principal Chief will be held August 4, 2010*

Small-business boot camp course to be offered to Osages

The free seven-week course starts July 12 in Hominy

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

Osages interested in being entrepreneurs or improving their current business operations are invited to apply for a free seven-week intensive training course starting July 12 at the Osage Nation Education Department in Hominy.

Tri County Technology Center in Bartlesville is offering the Osage Nation Small-Business Boot Camp which is open to tribal members interested in pursuing small-business ventures. This intensive training course will be offered five times during the seven-week run at the Education Department building in Hominy with student homework assignments planned, which includes creating a simulated business operations plan.

"This is the start-up program" for future Osage entrepreneurs, said tribal member Vince Logan who has been working in association with TCTC on the boot camp course. "This is for someone who is beginning. Logan owns a New York-based investment company which works with tribes nationwide.

The first class of the intensive training "boot camp" will be July 12 with students also expected to attend classes on July 19, Aug. 9, Aug. 16, and Aug. 23 with classes scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. those nights. Course enrollment will be limited to about 15 students and those who successfully com-

plete the course will earn credit hours from TCTC.

"It's really a 30-hour course," said Elaine Dettle who is senior director of economic and community development at TCTC which has offered the small-business boot camp courses for years. "There will be homework during the break time and if the students are serious then it's no problem."

Those who are also interested in forming a non-profit organization may also apply and be considered for the course, said Dettle adding that several portions of non-profit work involve using entrepreneur skills as well.

The Administration for Native Americans is sponsoring the free boot camp-style course which will be taught by Darek Jarmola, an Oklahoma Wesleyan University professor. The course is geared at giving students "a jump-start on making business ideas a reality or helps existing business owners" improve their fiscal positions and marketing strategies, according to the course description.

The ANA is under the federal Department of Health and Human Services and Administration for Children and Families. It is responsible for promoting self-sufficiency and cultural preservation for Native Americans by providing social and economic development opportunities to eligible tribes and Native communities, according to its Web site.

The small-business boot camp course encourages students to conduct a considerable amount of research and work on their own business plans which will be reviewed by the instructor and a working business professional,

which would be either Logan or his business partner at The Nations Group LLC based in New York.

Logan said the course gives the prospective entrepreneur students the opportunity to experience what it's like "to be reviewed by a potential investor."

Dettle said the small-business course will ask students to complete a business plan outlining their entity's operations for at least a year with several details to consider in competing with other businesses and organizations.

Dettle said the business plan will be critiqued with several questions in mind including: "How unique is it? What's your niche? Have you looked at your competitors? Have you done creative marketing?"

The business plan in the course

also needs to detail one year's worth of estimated revenue and potential revenue ideas and staffing needed for the business.

"We're asking (the students) to really think it through before starting a company," Dettle said. "We ask them to go out and find ideas."

To enroll in the small-business boot camp program, download and complete an application available online at www.tctc.org or contact Elaine Dettle. She can be reached at (918) 331-3257 or e-mail at edettle@tctc.org.

Those interested in enrolling in the small-business boot camp will be asked to provide tribal membership proof. The deadline for enrollment is July 2.

Delayed Results

—Continued from Page 12

Second, was the opening, separating and batching by the OMC election board of absentee ballots for counting.

The third step was the observable opening of the poll-site ballot box by Election Trust and the observable hand batching of the ballot box ballots by members of the OMC board. The fourth step was the actual tabulation of ballots by Election Trust.

"This process starts with the optical scanning of all ballot batches," Bodin said. "Because 119 of these ballots were not able to be successfully read by the scanner - primarily because they had been folded and/or otherwise handled as part of the absentee balloting process - two Election Trust tellers were required to hand count these ballots under the observation of the on-

site observers and Osage Mineral Council Election Board staff."

Once the scanning process and hand count process were completed, the scanner-generated results data file and the hand-count results data file was produced and the final results were delivered to Ponca for a final certified election report, he said.

"So he took his time, he did what he had to do, he told us the truth and told us there was a problem with the computer, the scanner, but when he was done he guaranteed every fraction on that count," Ponca said. "I would use him again, if it was my call, and I trusted him completely."

Planning and Grants Office attends National Grants Management Training Conference

By Jennifer Tiger, Strategic Planning and Grants Director

The National Grants Management Association (NGMA) held its annual training conference in Rockville MD on April 26-28, 2010. Attendees this year from the Planning & Grants office were Jeff Irons and Jennifer Tiger, who are also members of NGMA. Over 400 participants from across the country representing local, state, tribal and federal governments attended the conference. The conference is a great learning opportunity because the presenters are practicing grant professionals themselves, some with over 20 years of grants management experience and include grant program officers from federal agencies. Topics cover the latest

regulations and updates on monitoring your recovery act funds, fraud prevention, how to deal with site visits, complying with post award agreements, to audits and legal issues. The goal is to ensure that grant professionals have the most up-to-date knowledge to manage and be responsible stewards of billions of taxpayer dollars in the ever changing grants landscape.

The highlight event was the announcement of the Certified Grants Management Specialist Certification Program (CGMS). This program is not a professional certification or certificate of completion that several grant training organizations offer. This is a few notches above that. The development of the credential was a few years in

the making and sought input from several grant professionals as well as the Government Accountability Office (GAO) on how to design a certification program around a specific body of grants knowledge. The goal is to bring the management of grants into a recognized profession, similar to project management, and the credential ensures that professionals maintain a specialized set of skills to effectively manage the lifecycle of grants.

This year also included a tribal government panel presentation. The Kaw and Navajo Nations were represented by Cynthia Grounds, Director of Grants and Gwen Williams, Program Specialist, Office of the Prosecutor, respectively. Sheila Tillery from the State of

Oklahoma's Department of Mental Health and Michelle Bulls, Chief Grants Management Officer, Indian Health Service also presented material. They discussed the many challenges in managing the lifecycle of grants in their respective organizations and best practices they implement. The grants management process is more than writing a proposal and spending the money. Some of the challenges tribal governments face is the failure to realize the management and compliance aspects of grants. Additionally, tribal government grant offices are unique because the range of grants they manage

See **Planning and Grants**

—Continued on Page 25

F&M Mortgage Native American 184 Loan Guarantee Program benefits include:

- Low down-payment 2.25% of sales price (Gift allowed)
- Tribal grants acceptable as source of down payment
- Seller can contribute 6% of sales price to transaction
- No monthly mortgage insurance
- Available exclusively to Native American tribal members
- Loan amounts up to \$300,240
- Existing, new construction and refinance options
- F&M Mortgage proudly supports this program and is one of a handful of lenders nationwide authorized to underwrite this program in-house.

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Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program



F&M MORTGAGE
The extra effort is on the house.



Office of Public & Indian Housing

Business Etiquette

—Continued from Page 13

praised the training efforts for the summer program participants who are between the ages of 16 to 24.

“It’s always good to be able to maintain a certain amount of etiquette and professionalism” Gray said. “You’d be surprised how much that matters when you get older and start entering into the workplace because we have a very professional organization at the Osage Nation. We do a lot of interaction with other government agencies, other companies, corporations and businesses with the tribe... these are the kind of technical things that aren’t written on a resume.”

Christian and Ginger Reimer who is a coordinator/ founder of the Power Up trainings, also

offered the Summer Youth Program participants June 2-4 seminars on technology etiquette, business networking, resume building and job interviews. The Power Up trainings have also been offered to students of other schools and entities in Northeast Oklahoma by Christian and Reimer.

Avis Ballard, JOM coordinator for the ON Education Department and overseer of the Summer Youth Program, said approximately 75 students are participating in this years program. She said the students are working at over 30 different job sites around Osage County and their first day at work was June 7.

ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦᎦ?
Do you speak Osage?

ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦᎦ	Vote (command)
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ	Chief
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ	Assistant Chief
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦᎦ	Mineral Council
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦᎦ	Congress
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩ	we won
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦᎦ	I won
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩ	the chief said that
Ꭰ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ	Constituent Services; to look over; concern yourself with
ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ ᎠᎩᎦᎩᎦ	Executive Branch; resides around chief

Osage Nation Language Program
222 West Main • Pawhuska, OK 74056
Recruiter 918.287.5683 Main 918.287.5505
www.osagetribe.com/language
Fall Course Schedule Forthcoming!

Planning and Grants

—Continued from Page 24

is extensive; they apply for and receive funding from several federal agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, Health & Human Services, Department of Justice and Education; all with different terms and conditions. As a follow up, Jeff Irons spoke with Merrill Oliver, NGMA President, and the panel about outreach efforts for targeting more tribal government participation in the association. Ms. Merrill offered to meet with the NGMA members from tribal governments to discuss how best to increase tribal participation in the association.

For further NGMA information contact Jeff Irons or Jennifer Tiger at the Office of Strategic Planning and Grants or go to <http://www.ngma.org>.

Southwest region of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society seeking application from youth

By Brad Stumph, Osage Nation Environment Natural Resource Specialist

The Southwest region of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is seeking applications from incoming 10th, 11th, and 12th graders to participate in their annual natural resources youth practicum. The youth practicum will be held from June 21-25 at the Ladder Ranch in the mountains of New Mexico. The only expense for selected individuals will be transportation to/ from Albuquerque, N.M. Preference is usually given to students from the southwestern states, but very few applications have been received. NAFWS is now allowing students from Oklahoma to apply. If you are interested in a career in natural resources (wildlife and fisheries ecology, forestry, hydrology, range management), don’t miss out on this opportunity to spend a week at the beautiful Ladder Ranch!

For more information, please go to: http://www.nafws.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=94&Itemid=93

July 5th is the deadline for all submissions for the July issue of the

 **Osage News**

Mark it on your calendars!

News in Brief



Sydna Yellowfish

Yellowfish named Oklahoma Native American Woman of the Year

Sydna Yellowfish, the American Indian Education coordinator for the Edmond School district was named the Oklahoma Native American Woman of the Year by the Changing Winds Cultural Society earlier this year. In 2008, she was named the Indian Educator of the Year by the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education. In April, 2010 she was invited to Washington D.C. to share ideas with American Indian educators from other states.

Yellowfish has dedicated much of her life to American Indian Education. She has worked for the Edmond School District for 25 years. She was instrumental in getting the Osage Language classes to the Edmond site for the past three years.

"This goes back to my parents, my grandparents and the elders of our tribe, teaching me those traditions that our tribes do, and wanting to educate the next generation and the general public about Na-

tive American people and our culture," she said.

Sydna is the daughter of the late Thomasine and Ted Moore. She is the granddaughter of the late Mary Osage Green. She comes from the Eagle clan of the Grayhorse district.

Looking for work?

The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring workers to complete the 2010 Census between now and July on the Osage Reservation. If you are interested in:

- Good pay
- Temporary, part-time jobs
- Flexible hours, up to 40 per week
- Mileage reimbursement (for field jobs)

Apply now to be a census taker. Testing at the Pawhuska Library. Call 1-866-861-2010, or go to www.2010censusjobs.gov.

Concerned Osages plan three debates

A group of Concerned Osages will be sponsoring a series of candidate debates for the upcoming runoff elections. The debates are scheduled for June 21 at the Wakon Iron hall in Pawhuska, June 22 at the Education Center in Hominy, and July 7 at the Catholic Church in Fairfax. All the debates are scheduled to start at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Preserving Grayhorse

The Grayhorse five-man board is requesting that all candidates please remove their campaign signs from Hwy. 60 to preserve the beauty of the area. Thank you.



Courtesy Photo/Ross Mashunkashey

Front Row (L to R): Corena Tiller, Mia Mashunkashey, Isabella Curtis-Standing Bear, and Athen Cheatham. Second Row (L to R): Brent Maker, John Maker, Harry Red Eagle Jr., Roman Hutchens and Joe Freeman. Top Row (L to R): Christina Mashunkashey, Whitney Freeman, Tamara Curtis, Kiara Booth, Ann Freeman, Denver Wahwassuck, Aliyah Wahwassuck, Robert Tiller, and Walkeen Wahwassuck.

Hominy Student Appreciation Dinner

Hominy Osage Language students gathered for the last time this spring as classes ended for semester

By John Maker, Hominy Language Site Coordinator

On April 20 the Hominy Osage Language students gathered for the last time this spring as classes ended for the semester. The students were treated to a variety of pot luck dishes. The student appreciation dinner has been a tradition of the Osage language program since its beginning. It is a way to show the students how much they are appreciated for spending their time learning the Osage language. The students who range in age from kindergarten to elder all need to be commended for their dedication, devotion and loyalty to the preservation of our Osage language. Most of our students come to the evening classes out of their own love of the Osage language; they come to learn after a full day of their own busy schedule. The Director of the language program Mogri Lookout has always been appreciative of the efforts of the students to learn the Osage language and has always wanted to reward the students in some way. John Maker, Osage language teacher and Hominy site coordinator along with Mr. Harry Red Eagle Jr. have been teaching the evening classes in Hominy. It takes a lot of work and time to learn any language and Osage is not different. So we all need to give the students encouragement and a big thank you for being a big part in preserving the Osage language. So hats off to all Osage language students at all locations.

Save the Date!

JUNE

June 17-20

Hominy In-Lon-Schka Dances

June 23

Osage News Political Debates for Runoff Candidates

6 p.m., WahZhaZhi Cultural Center, Pawhuska

For more information please contact Chalene Toehay (918) 287-5668

June 24-27

Pawhuska In-Lon-Schka Dances

June 30

Absentee Ballot request deadline
For more information, please contact Osage Election Office at (918) 287-5289

JULY

July 4

Independence Day
Observed Holiday-Offices Closed

July 7

Inauguration for newly-elected Congressional members
Details to follow. This event will be held on the Osage Nation campus. For more information,

please contact the Osage Election Office at (918) 287-5289

July 16-18

58th Tulsa Powwow

Location Spirit Bank Event Center, Tulsa, Ok.

Contact Robert Anquoe (918) 671-2417

July 19

Run Off Election for Osage Nation Principal Chief and Assistant Principal Chief

For more information, please contact the Osage Election Office at (918) 287-5289

July 19

Absentee Ballots are due
Details to follow. For more information, please contact Osage Election Office at (918) 287-5289

AUGUST

August 4

Inauguration for Osage Nation Principal Chief and Assistant Principal Chief

For more information, please contact the Osage Election Office at (918) 287-5289



Photo by Chalene Toehay/Osage News

Osage Nation Principal Chief Jim Gray cuts the ribbon to officially open the new WIC clinic in North Tulsa.

Women, Infants and Children program opens Tulsa location

The Bigheart Times

Osage Nation WIC has more than one thing to celebrate: A new location in North Tulsa and an award for best improvement in breastfeeding rates.

WIC Director Renee Harris said that when she took over she asked her staff for a wish list and a Tulsa clinic was at the top of everyone's list.

The clinic, on the north end of the tribally owned Tulsa Air Park, will be open Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cheryl Nelson, the offsite clinic director, said the Tulsa clinic started out of a van, which was serving 300-500 people in two hours.

"We were basically just handing out formula and that's not what WIC does," Harris said.

They started educating participants in the benefits of breast milk and it paid off – the program was awarded \$5,059 from the USDA for the greatest improvement in breastfeeding rates in the nation for a small state agency.

To help keep the momentum going, Harris said they hired Gina Collins as a lactation consultant.

Collins said one of the biggest problems in Oklahoma is the premature births, and feeding prob-

lems are the No. 1 reason for preterm infants being readmitted to hospitals. Breastfeeding dramatically reduces readmittance rates.

Shannon Cass has worked with the WIC program for five years and she said she gets a lot of complaints about state-run WIC locations, but the Osage Nation locations get positive feedback.

"You see a lot of people come in here with nothing and you broaden their horizon," Cass said.

The clinic doesn't make appointments; it's walk-in only, which Nelson said helps single parents because their plans are always changing.

The WIC program is also the only one in the state to direct distribute two formulas: Similac and Enfamil.

There are more than 2,700 participants in the Osage Nation's WIC program, which serves all of Osage County, regardless of race or ethnicity.

In the fall, they hope to start lead-based screenings at the North Tulsa clinic.

[Editor's note: This story was originally published in The Bigheart Times and is used with permission.]



LET'S GET COOKING!

Send us your favorite Osage dish recipe, along with a photo, and we'll publish it in our **Osage Recipes** section. You can email or mail your entries.

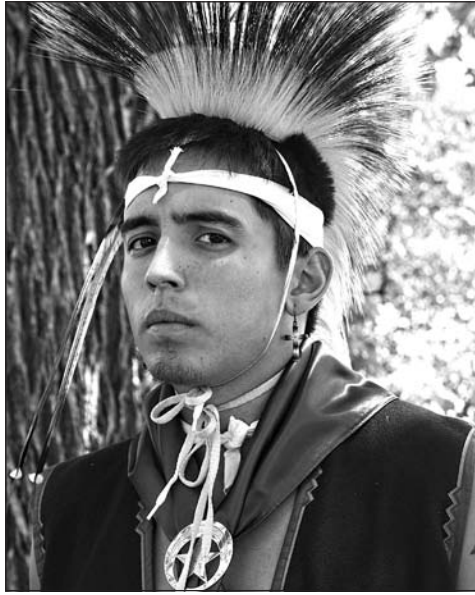
TO SEND VIA EMAIL:

Send to Chalene Toehay at ctoehay@osagepeople.org

TO SEND VIA MAIL:

Osage News
Attn.: Chalene Toehay
627 Grandview
Pawhuska, OK 74056

Birthdays and Celebrations



Ralston Moore

Moore selected for All-State game

The Oklahoma Coaches Association All State game selected Ralston Moore, Osage, Caddo, Cheyenne, Otoe, Pawnee and Sauk and Fox to play at Oral Roberts University on July 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the west vs. east. Moore has accomplished three time state champion titles in 2008, 2009 and 2010 Class 2A Basketball for the Pawnee Black Bears. Moore was named MVP for the state tournament in 2009, 2010 and Stillwater News Press Player of the year by area coaches. On June 5, Moore played on Oklahoma Basketball Coaches Association selections in Shawnee, Oklahoma at Baptist University. Moore has currently been a tail dancer for the Grayhorse committee. He is the son of Randy and Melissa Moore, Grandson of the late Ted and Thomasine Moore and great grandson of the late Mary Osage Green. He is a 2010 graduate and qualified for State in the 2010 track relay events. Moore's leadership, talent and quickness have established himself as a role model and represent his Indian people proud

with his achievements. We would like to wish Ralston the best in his future endeavors and good luck in the all state game.



Amos Shadlow poses with his awards.

Satepauhoodles receive various honors

Cherylyn Oberly Satepauhoodle 15, of Hominy was named '2010 All Conference' in basketball for the Northern Oklahoma Conference and was awarded the 2010 Offensive Player of the Year for the Hominy Lady Bucks. She was also awarded the 2010 Outstanding Field Event for High-Jump in track and she took 2nd place at the Regional Meet which qualified her for the Class 2A State Meet.

Talon Ray Satepauhoodle, 16, of Hominy received the Most Improved in Basketball for the Hominy Bucks for the 2010 season.

Amos Satepauhoodle, 8, was named to the Principals Honor Roll for the Spring 2010 Semester. They are Osage and Kiowa and are the children of Lynette Satepauhoodle of Hominy.



Cherylyn, their mother Lynette Satepauhoodle and Talon

Extended June birthday wishes

Family and friends would like to send out extended birthday wishes to the following individuals for celebrating in the month of June: Debbie Davis and Mike Jones on June 1, Davis Landree Hinman on June 2, Louella Hopkins on June 3, Mary Bearden on June 9, Jim Gray on June 11, Alexandria Toineeta and Carson Keene on June 15, Paul Stabler on June 17, Davyn Hinman and Mark Hendricks on June 29. Happy Birthday everyone!

More June birthdays

Extended birthday wishes from friends and family go out to the following people for the month of June. Louis Gray, Jr. on June 1, Dana Daylight on June 4, Chief Gray on June 11 and Jade Jones on June 23. Happy birthday to everyone!

Happy birthday, Trey!

On June 1 Robert Rulo III, turned 15. Love Mom, Dad and Rachel, Doug, Katelynn, John, Hunter and Roper.

Happy birthday, Lady Bug!

On May 7th Katelynn Rulo turned 19. Love Mom, Dad, Ra-



Robert Rulo



Katelynn Rulo

chel, Doug, John, Hunter, Trey and Roper.

Happy birthday!

Maddux Standingbear, born on May 31, 2005, celebrated his fifth birthday this year. He is the son of Alexis Rencountre and Joseph Standingbear. His maternal grandparents are Ira Rencountre and Connie Rencountre, and his

See Birthdays

—Continued on Page 29

Birthdays



Maddux Standingbear

paternal grandparents are Geofrey and Julie Standing Bear, all of Pawhuska. Hope you have the best birthday ever Maddux! Love you the mostest, Momma, Daddy, Papa Beau, Nonnie, Grandpa, Grandma, Aunties and Uncles.

Happy birthday!

Happy birthday Gabriel Pelayo and Terrance Buffalomeat! Terrance was six on May 13th and Gabriel turned 13 on May 27th. Gabriel is the son of Angela Pratt of Skiatook and Jesse Pelayo of



Gabriel Pelayo



Terrance Buffalomeat

Sand Springs. Terrance is the son of Wylan and Courtney Buffalomeat of Seiling, OK. Both are the maternal grandsons of the late Michael Pratt Sr. of Pawhuska and Patricia Pratt of Pawhuska. Great-grandparents are the late Jerome and Angie Barnes of Hominy & the late Lottie Shunkamolah Pratt of Hominy and the late Charles Pratt Sr. of Norman, OK. We love you boys very much!

Happy birthday!

The family of George Shaw would like to wish him a happy birthday! George turned three-years-old on May 9. George is the son of Shannon Shaw and the grandson of Ed and Ruth Shaw of Pawhuska. He is the great grandson of Jerry and Beth Shaw of Wichita, Kans., and the great grandson of George Shannon of Skiatook and the late Mary (Wagoshe) Shannon. We love you very much.

Happy birthday!

The family of Stephen Sisk would like to wish him a happy birthday! Stephen turned 15 on May 24. Stephen is a freshman at Collinsville High School where he is active in football, basketball and track. He is the son of Robert and Margaret Sisk of Collinsville and the grand-

—Continued from Page 28



George Shaw

son of Mary and the late Steve Sisk of Sperry and the grandson of George Shannon of Skiatook and the late Mary (Wagoshe) Shannon. We love you very much.



Stephen Sisk

Happy birthday!

Happy fifth birthday to Carson Keene! Carson just completed Pre-Kindergarten and will enter Kindergarten in the Fall. He attends Hominy Public Schools. Carson played on the "Young Bucks" t-ball team this summer.

Fletcher Case

—Continued from Page 21

(a state run mental hospital in Sand Springs) closed in 1993 but is receiving a headright interest. Where is the money going? It's going somewhere, but we can't find out where.

It's like a big cloud has been pulled over it."

Responses to the Fletcher suit have been trickling in since the defendants were named and some were served. For the most part, the answers have been dry, simply denying that the plaintiffs have any right to the headrights in question and affirming that the defendants obtained the headrights legally, through inheritance or other means. One family, the Gardners, denied "they can be compelled to distribute trust property only to Osage Indians and their heirs" and said that the plaintiff's claims are barred by the statute of limitations and other legal doctrines.

Osage Indian Baptist Church in Pawhuska, represented by former BIA solicitor Cecil Wood, replied that the 1906 Act upon which the case is built, does not bar Osages from willing headrights to whom they please. The church says it has .11395 of a headright, left to it in 1921 by Wy-e-nah-she, allottee No. 598, who had inherited that portion of a headright from his deceased wife, Mo-se-che-he, allottee No. 320.

The next step in the Fletcher case, Pratt said, is to start taking depositions: He is hoping to quiz non-Osage locals who own large numbers of headrights about how they obtained them.

The two plaintiffs are also actively seeking Osages and descendants of Osages who lost headrights or money that accrued in trust accounts during probate, whether they know how that happened or not.

[Editor's Note: This story was originally published by The Bigheart Times and is used with permission.]

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Thank You Osage Citizens

I sincerely appreciate all of the Osage who encouraged me and voted for me in the election. Although I did not win, it was my honor and privilege to have met and visited with so many fine Osage citizens throughout the country and to have been able to discuss the future of our Nation with them. I will be forever grateful for your support.

I will continue to work for the betterment of the Osage people, as I have done in the past, in all fields, particularly the health services. It is my hope that we can continue to build our new government so that we will have the infrastructure that will permit us to provide better and increased services to our people.

I congratulate those who won in the election and wish the best to those now in the run-off elections. The challenges facing our people in the next four years are daunting and complex and will require their best effort to meet them successfully. I urge our people to unite behind the new leadership so that we can face the issues as a strong and united Nation.

My experience in our government has led me to see several matters that should be on the agenda for the new government. First, we must have a time of healing and reconciliation among our people and governmental entities to overcome the problems we have experienced so far in the building of our new government and in the campaign.

Second, we must continue to build the infrastructure of our new government in order to function effectively and efficiently to provide our people with the services and assistance they need.

Third, economic, and business developments are keystones of building our future as Nation and individual citizens. We have started this process with the creation of our Osage, LLC, but we need to do more within our government to take advantage of every opportunity available to us.

Fourth, the new government and even incumbents will need extensive orientation, training, and planning in order to set the agenda for the next four years and to be able to implement successfully those plans.

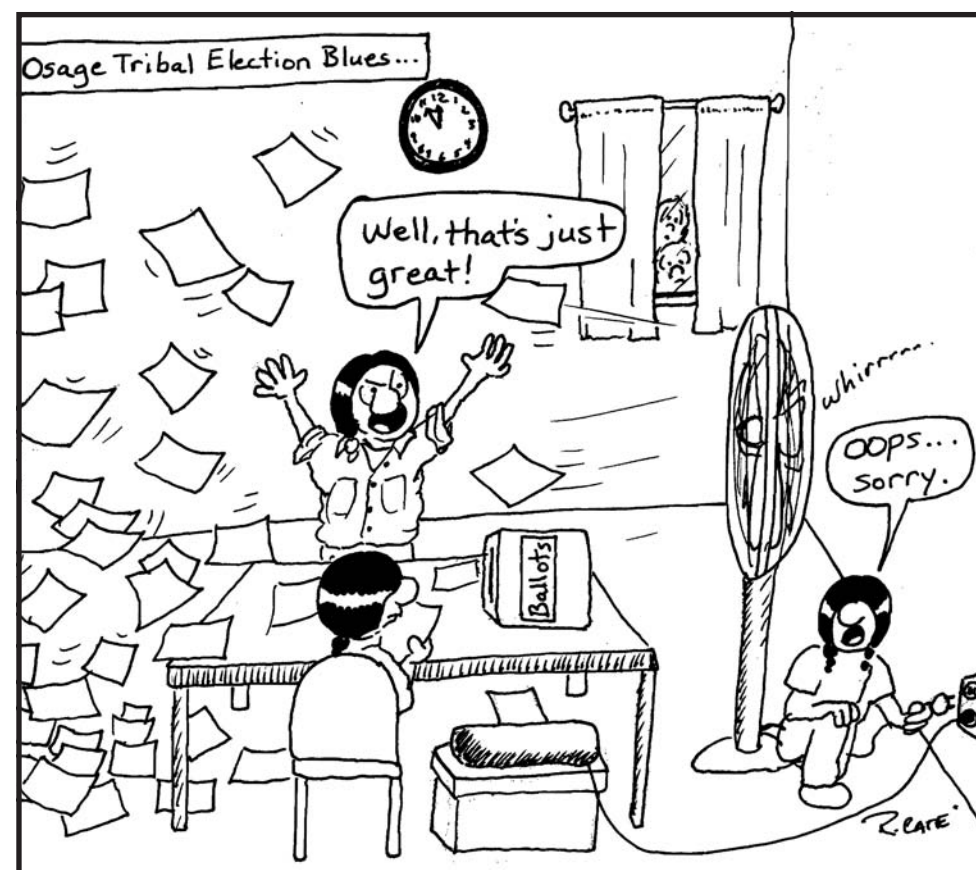
If the new leadership will invite and employ the best and brightest from among our people to become part of the next four years I believe our future will be bright, and that is my hope and best wish for our new leaders.

–*Cecelia Tallchief*
Fairfax, OK

Division is not protection of Osage Mineral Estate

For a number of years, and increasingly during the election season, I have heard a few Osage headright holders express concern that the Osage Constitution may allow the tribal government or its officials to take some action that will jeopardize ownership of their headright interest. I believe those fears are based on a misunderstanding of ownership of the Osage mineral estate. According to the United States Supreme Court, the minerals in and under Osage County are owned by the United States. In *West v. Oklahoma Tax Commission*, 68 S.Ct. 1223 (1948), Justice Murphy writing for the Court stated:

Without Reservations



Cartoon © Santo Domingo Pueblo Cartoon Artist, Ricardo Caté

“In 1866, the United States and the Cherokee Nation of Indians executed a comprehensive treaty covering their relationships. 14 Stat. 799, 804. It was there agreed that the United States might settle friendly Indians in certain areas of Cherokee territory, including what is now Osage County;

“The Osage Indians subsequently moved to the Indian Territory and settled in what is now Osage County. In 1883, pursuant to the 1866 treaty, the Cherokee conveyed this area to the United States ‘in trust nevertheless and for the use and benefit of the said Osage and Kansas Indians.’ It is significant that fee simple title to the land was not conveyed at this time to the Osages; instead, the United States received that title as trustee for the Osages. Nor was any distinction here made between the land and the minerals thereunder, legal title to both being transferred to the United States.

“Legal title to the mineral interests, the funds and the securities constituting the corpus of the trust estate is in the United States as trustee. The United States received legal title to the mineral interests in 1883, when it took what is now Osage County from the Cherokees in trust for the Osages; and that title has not subsequently been transferred.”

The 1906 Act allows the Osage Tribe of Indians to lease the minerals subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. Proceeds from the

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OPINION

Letters to the Editor

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leases and on occasion other revenues flow into the trust and are paid out to the beneficial owners- i.e. the headright owners.

To me, the real focus of shareholder concern should not be what the Osage Nation Chief, headright holder or not, the Osage Congress or even the Nation's Judiciary might or might not do with respect to the mineral estate, but what the United States Congress might do if it perceives the Mineral's Council as ineffective and the headright holders as too fractured and too litigious. If the burden of managing the trust property becomes too heavy, the U.S. Congress might well re-think the time limits of the trust. Legislation that extended the trust period "in perpetuity" in 1978 can easily be superceded or repealed. In the meantime, the idea that conduct by any branch of our Nation's government or language of the Osage Constitution is going to change what the U.S. Congress has done with respect to ownership of the mineral trust is misguided.

—John T. Edwards
Oklahoma City

Congratulations Candidates

To all the candidates. It is hard to lose. Especially about something you feel passionate about. That "fire in the belly" is hard to distinguish. Having been there myself, in Wasilla of all places, it is really not how many times you fail but how many times you get up on your feet again. It is a difficult process and new to so many of the candidates. I have the upmost respect for anyone who goes through the process no matter the outcome.

All politics are local. And I have no idea how that translates to the votes, but it is a challenge to bring all members to the table. We are scattered to all the four corners of the world. To lose an election is a deep and personal experience, for a while. We know that a ship in the harbor is safe but that's not why ships are built. I congratulate everyone who had the courage to step up to the challenge. We need all your resources to succeed. There will be more opportunities to serve and I hope you will stand up again.

To all the candidates who win. It is even harder to win. Now you must bring everyone together around a constructive agenda. Personal agendas and prior issues are to be set aside. We, as Osage, must rise to the stature of a Nation and insure the success of all our citizens. Not just the ones who helped us win. Not just the ones who are close by. There has to be a place at the table for all. All the talents of the Osage, no matter where they live, are critical to the success of the next generations.

Elections are expensive. Elections are personal for the candidates. Elections can set up obstacles to progress or can bring about needed change. We can do great things in small ways. Now the burden of that responsibility is yours.

Call on your opponents for their ideas and reach out to everyone. Conflict cannot survive without you.

I send my respect and admiration for all who participated.

—Kay Elsberry Bills
Oklahoma City, OK

June 2010 Candidate Messages

In accordance with the *Osage News* Election policy, the *Osage News* allowed each candidate 200 words in this issue leading up to the July 19 run-off elections for Principal Chief and Assistant Principal Chief.

SCOTT BIGHORSE Run-off Candidate for Assistant Principal Chief

I am honored to be in the run-off election for Assistant Principle Chief. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your votes and your support in the June 7th election. I am respectfully asking for your support and vote once more in the July 19th run-off. If elected as I have said before, I will support the following:



Scott BigHorse

- As a Shareholder, the Protection of the Minerals Estate and Amendments to the Constitution as to the Minerals Estate;
- Internal/external audits, investigations and prosecution if necessary, concerning fraudulent activities within the Osage Nation;
- Programs for our Elderly, our children and our Veterans;
- Economic development, housing, health, education and the preservation of our Osage language and culture.

If you have any questions regarding my position, please contact me at (918) 287-7281; email: scottbighorse@sbcglobal.net or by regular mail. I am looking forward to serving you and the Osage Tribe and would greatly appreciate your vote on July 19, 2010.

—By Scott BigHorse

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