

Osage News

Volume 10, Issue 12 • December 2014

The Official Newspaper of the Osage Nation



CHALENE TOEHAY/Osage News

Construction continues on Dec. 3. Pictured behind the turbine tower are other towers waiting for their blades, and two turbines completed.

Chief Standing Bear meets with President Obama

Osage News

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear met with President Barack Obama Dec. 2 at the White House, along with 11 other tribal leaders.

“The Osage people have so many subjects which need attention, but if I have just one brief moment with the President of the United States I will ask him to provide more federal assistance for the education, health, and opportunities for our young people,” Standing Bear said in a prepared release before he left for Washington, D.C.

For the past six years, the Obama administration has hosted the White House Tribal Nations Conference, a cabinet-level platform to discuss issues going on in Indian Country. Each year 12 tribal leaders are hand picked to attend a round-



Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear

table discussion with the president. Former Principal Chief John Red Eagle was asked to attend twice, the first time in 2010 and again in 2013.

Standing Bear said he was informed to be at the White House at 8:30 a.m. for the 11:15 a.m. meeting.

Later that day, he posted

this to the *Osage News* Facebook page:

“This morning I had a discussion with the President on issues of health and education of our youth. He was very attentive and responded to my points and to the issues brought up by the 11 other tribal leaders. U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell sat next to me at the table. I told her how serious the Osage Agency Inspector General Report was and that the BIA needed to take quick action on the problems. She had not heard of the IG Report but said she would read it. The President spent over an hour with us. Later I had lunch with Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs on the situation with the permits, NEPA and BIA. He said he

See OBAMA

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U.S. files for preliminary injunction to halt wind turbine construction

Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage News

The United States filed for a preliminary injunction to halt construction of Osage Wind, an 84-turbine industrial wind project north of Fairfax, along Highway 60.

Five turbines have been completed and about 10 more are near completion.

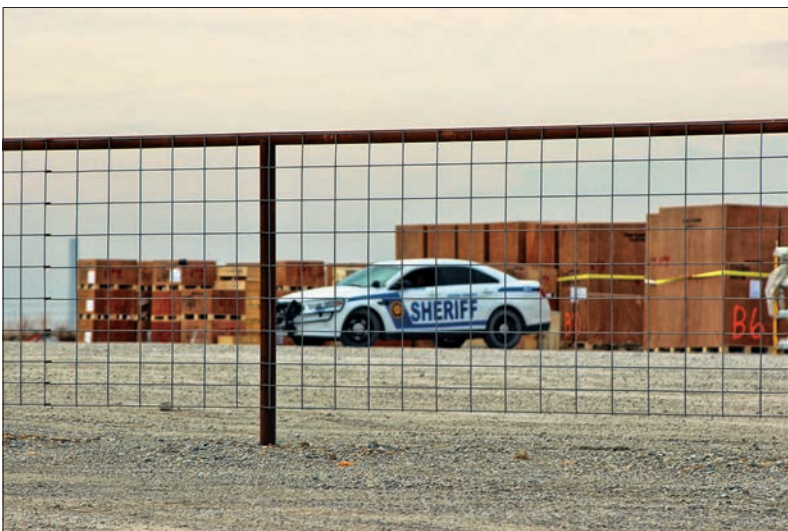
The motion, filed in the Northern Oklahoma District Court in Tulsa, asks the court to halt “all excavation, digging and earth-moving activities” in Osage County. It cites irreparable harm to the Osage Minerals Estate and notes the public interest involved in stopping the construction of the turbines favors an injunction to be granted.

The U.S. cites the 25 C.F.R.’s, the federal regulations governing the minerals estate.

The “mineral estate of that [Osage] reservation has remained held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Osage Nation to this very day.” The motion cites discovery of unpermitted excavation sites approximately 10 feet deep and between 50 and 60 feet in diameter.

See INJUNCTION

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TARA MADDEN/Osage News

An Osage County Sheriff's patrol car sits at one of the wind turbine sites on Dec. 3.

Congress votes to expand jurisdiction of ON Courts

Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage News

In a unanimous vote, the Fourth Osage Nation Congress expanded the civil jurisdiction of the Osage Nation Courts to allow court action against three industrial wind turbine companies.

ONCA 15-09, sponsored by Congresswoman Alice Buffalohead and co-sponsored by Congresswoman Angela Pratt, was passed on Nov. 24 and allows ON Courts to prosecute non-Osages who commit crimes against Osages, or break the law of the Nation, when it affects restricted land

or trust property of an Osage or the Nation.

In particular, the industrial wind turbine companies Osage Wind, LLC; Enel Kansas, LLC; and Enel Green Power North America, Inc.

“I appreciate the congress hearing us again. The next step is for our attorneys to coordinate a court action in the Osage Nation court,” said Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, who signed the bill into law a couple hours later. “Attorney Gene Dennison will be lead attorney for us. He is an Osage headright owner and

See JURISDICTION

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Class Action notification mailed in Fletcher Case

Osage News

Osages are receiving the notification in the mail of the Class Action status of the Fletcher Case and are being given the opportunity to opt out of the case if they wish.

In January of this year, federal judge Gregory Frizzell classified the Fletcher Case as a class action lawsuit and ordered the attorneys for the plaintiffs, William Fletcher and Charles Pratt, to send class action notice to all Native Americans enrolled in federally rec-

ognized tribes that receive distributions from the Osage trust, otherwise known as headright payments.

The case, which seeks an accounting from the United States, Department of the Interior, Secretary of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, asks how much money from the Osage trust has gone to non-Native Americans.

The notice explains the merits of the case, class counsel representing the class, and explains how

class members can opt out of the lawsuit.

What is the Fletcher lawsuit?

Attorneys for the plaintiffs in the Fletcher Case include Indian & Environmental Law Group, PLLC; Sneed Lang, PC; and Shield Law Group PLC. Amanda Proctor, owner of Shield Law Group and Osage tribal member, told the Osage Minerals Council in November that they were required

See FLETCHER

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SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

A birdhouse by Joe Don Brave for auction on Dec. 14, 2013, at the CASA Birdhouse and Apron auction at the Immaculate Conception Church in Pawhuska.

Annual CASA Birdhouse Auction scheduled for Dec. 14

Osage News

The annual Pawnee/Osage Court Appointed Special Advocates Birdhouse Auction is scheduled for Dec. 14 at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Pawhuska.

The annual fundraiser is a favorite of the year, with renowned artists decorating birdhouses that can go from \$20 to \$600.

“This is our largest and most popular fundraiser. Birdhouses of all shapes and sizes are given to local artists, students, and children,” said Helen Norris, Pawnee/Osage CASA director. “They are painted and signed by the artist and when completed they are true works of art. An auctioneer who donated his time then auctions them off. Winners keep them and display them or they are given as gifts. So much time, thought, and effort are given to each house.”

Proceeds from the auction help the CASA program recruit and train community volunteers to speak for abused

and neglected children in the courts.

The Pawnee/Osage CASA program is one of 946 community programs with volunteers serving at-risk children in court cases in both Pawnee and Osage counties. Started in 2009, the Pawnee/Osage CASA program takes on court cases in state and tribal courts with the CASA program now available in the Osage Nation Trial Court.

CASA volunteers are assigned to abused and neglected Native American children in the Osage County or Osage Tribal Court system and they monitor their living situation, school activity, and general well-being and report directly to the judge handling the child’s case.

According to Norris, 60 percent of cases heard in Osage County court involve Osages. To prepare for state and tribal cases, CASA volunteers not only complete 30 hours of required training, they also have 10 additional training hours on Osage and Pawnee history and cultural customs.

The Pawnee/Osage CASA office is one of four (CASA offices) in the United States that cross-trains CASA volunteers for both tribal and state cases, Norris said. If a case begins in state court but moves to tribal court, the CASA volunteer stays on the case and vice versa if a tribal case transfers to state court jurisdiction. The CASA volunteer would keep a constant presence in transferred cases because state social workers handling cases transferred to tribal courts cannot follow the cases once they leave the jurisdiction, Norris said.

For more information about the birdhouse auction, on becoming a CASA volunteer or to donate, contact Pawnee/Osage CASA at its Pawhuska office at (918) 287-4120. The Pawnee office can be reached at (918) 762-3776.

Donations can also be sent to:

Pawnee/Osage
CASA Program
100 W. Main St.
Suite # 206
Pawhuska, OK 74056

Two Osage Casino executives surrender their gaming licenses

Benny Polacca

Osage News

Two now-former Osage Casino executives voluntarily surrendered their gaming licenses to the Osage Nation Gaming Commission amid an investigation of allegations the men violated the Nation’s gaming law and regulations.

Chief Financial Officer Richard Lobdell and Executive Chef Jesus Lorenzo attended a Nov. 14 Gaming Commission meeting with their attorneys where compromises were reached resulting in both men surrendering their gaming licenses, which are mandated for individuals to hold Osage Casino management positions.

The Gaming Commission voted to suspend the gaming licenses for Lobdell, Lorenzo and former interim CEO Joe Olujic in early October after allegations were raised against the men. Olujic reached a compromise with the Commission on Oct. 29, which included voluntarily surrender of his gaming license and agreeing to pay \$20,000 regarding the allegations against him.

At its Nov. 14 meeting, the Gaming Commission voted to accept compromises reached

with Lorenzo, Lobdell and their attorneys.

According to the Oct. 7 meeting minutes, the commission voted unanimously to suspend Lorenzo’s gaming license “pending investigation of abuse of power, violations of the Gaming Code and Regulations and the Osage Nation’s Law and Order.”

Regarding the investigation of Lobdell, the Oct. 29 Gaming Commission meeting minutes state the complaint allegations include “falsifying, destroying erasing or altering books, computer data, records or other information relating to the gaming operation in ways other than is provided in approved internal controls as well as taking any action which interferes with or prevents the Commission or Congress from fulfilling its duties and responsibilities under the Osage Nation Gaming Law and the rules of the (Indian Gaming Regulatory Act).”

Lobdell was also accused of misstating financial information regarding casino operations with the intent to mislead the Gaming Commission and ON Congress in their decision regarding the Tulsa Osage Casino project. Earlier this year, former casino CEO

Neil Cornelius said casino expansion plans would next focus on a new Tulsa casino property, which is subject to consideration by the ON Congress as part of the gaming plan of operations. Also, the complaint allegations against Lobdell state he “knowingly used expense privileges to charge items that were not proper business expenses and accepted things of value from vendors in violation of the Osage Nation Ethics Law.”

On Oct. 7 immediately after suspending the three gaming licenses, the Gaming Commission voted unanimously to direct AG Jeff Jones “to issue the appropriate subpoenas to initiate the investigation into the suspensions of the gaming licenses,” of Olujic, Lobdell and Lorenzo, according to the minutes.

Compromises reached, licenses surrendered

During the Nov. 14 meeting, the following compromises were reached and read aloud by Norman-based attorney Eugene Bertman, who worked with the Gaming Commission regarding the license issues:

See GAMING

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TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Fitness Center patrons work out on new treadmills at the Pawhuska Fitness Center. ON Employees are allowed 45 minutes administrative leave a day to work out at the fitness centers.

ON Fitness Centers get new equipment

Tara Madden

Osage News

The Osage Nation Fitness Centers recently installed new fitness equipment that has clientele praising the purchases.

“They are awesome, I love how they are interactive,” said Amy Fields, after working out on one of the new treadmills and Facebooking at the same time at the Pawhuska fitness center.

“They are fantastic, the best treadmills I have ever ran on, they are so smooth,” said Elaine Hight, ON employee.

The recently installed machines include recumbent cycles, treadmills, elliptical machines, ascent trainers and climb-mill machines. All have Wi-Fi and interactive screens. The screens are LCD and touch screen so those working out can listen to music, Facebook or watch television. The interactive screens also have various scenes for those who want to walk on a trail or along the beach. The equipment also has fans that blow on the person to cool them down.

“The equipment is state-of-the-art and will be a great asset to the fitness center and the patrons who work out there,” said John Leland, fitness instructor.

There are new machines for weightlifting, including a leg extension machine, chest press, incline press, seated tricep press down, leg curl machine; most are handicap accessible.

For those who want to keep up their summertime tan, two new upright tanning beds were installed and a flatbed tanning bed was also installed.

Contact the fitness center for more information at (918) 287-1097. Fitness center hours are from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

New equipment at the ON Fitness Centers are interactive and include LCD touch screens. Patrons can Facebook, listen to music, watch music videos or choose was a variety of trails.

Osage News

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

WILLIAM S. FLETCHER, et al.,)
)
 Plaintiffs,)
)
 v.) CASE NO: 02-CV-427 GFK-PJC
)
) CLASS ACTION
 THE UNITED STATES OF)
 AMERICA, et al.,)
)
 Defendants,)

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION

You have been identified as someone who may be an enrolled tribal member of a federally recognized Native American Tribe and receive or received distributions from the Osage trust funds. If so, a class action lawsuit may affect your rights.

A court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- Native American persons have sued the United States of America, the Department of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs (“Defendants”) alleging that they have not been provided with an accounting of the Osage trust funds.
- The Court has allowed this lawsuit to be a class action on behalf of all Native American persons who receive or received headright distributions from the Osage trust funds.
- The Court has not decided whether the Defendants did anything wrong. However, your legal rights are affected and you have a choice to make now.
- Your options are explained in this notice. To ask to be excluded, you must act before **December 1, 2014**.
- Lawyers must prove the claims against the Defendants. A date for a final determination of this class action has not been set by the Court.

C. What is a class action and who is involved?

In a class action lawsuit, one or more people called “Class Representatives” (in this case, William Fletcher and Charles Pratt) sued the Defendants on behalf of other people who have similar claims. The people together are a “Class” or “Class Members.” The persons who sued the Defendants – and all the Class Members like them – are called the Plaintiffs. The governmental bodies and officers they sued (in this case the United States of America, the Department of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs) are called the Defendants. One court resolves the issues and legal claims for everyone who has not asked to be excluded from the Class.

D. Why is this lawsuit a class action?

The Court decided that this lawsuit can be a class action and move towards a final determination because it meets the requirement of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, which governs class actions in federal courts.

II. THE CLAIMS IN THE LAWSUIT

A. What are the claims in the lawsuit?

The Plaintiffs claim that the United States must account to the Plaintiffs and to the Class as required by applicable law. The Plaintiffs allege that if the Defendants cannot account then the Defendants should be required to restore the Osage trust funds “placed to the credit of the individual members of the [] Osage Tribe.” The Defendants contend that they have already accounted.

You may request a copy of at the Third Amended Complaint by contacting the Administrator at the address below.

B. How does the Defendant answer?

Defendants contend that they have indeed fulfilled all the requirements of any applicable law.

C. Has the Court decided who is right?

The Court has not yet decided whether the Plaintiffs or Defendants are correct. By establishing the Class and issuing this Notice, the Court is not suggesting that the Plaintiffs will win or lose this case. The Court still must render its decision on the facts that will be presented in this case.

this lawsuit even if the Plaintiffs obtain relief as a result of a judicial determination or from a settlement (that may or may not be reached) between the Defendants and the Plaintiffs. You may, however, be able to sue the Defendants yourself. If you exclude yourself, you will not be legally bound by the Court’s judgments in this class action. If you start your own lawsuit against the Defendants after you exclude yourself, you will have to hire and pay your own lawyer for that lawsuit, and you will have to prove your claims. If you do choose to exclude yourself, you should talk to your own lawyer soon because your claims may be subject to a statute of limitations – in other words, your claims may at some time in the future expire and may be barred if you do not bring them soon.

C. How do I ask the Court to exclude me from the Class?

To ask to be excluded, you must sign an “Exclusion Request” in the form of a letter sent by mail, stating that you want to be excluded from this Class Action. A sample Exclusion Request is attached to this Notice. Be sure to include your name and address, and to sign the letter. You must mail your Exclusion Request, postmarked by **December 1, 2014**, to:

Administrator Osage Headright Class Action
c/o Indian & Environmental Law Group
1723 E. 15th Street, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 347-6169

You may also call or write and ask that an exclusion form be sent to you.

V. THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

A. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

Yes. You have lawyers currently representing your interests in this case. The Court decided that the following law firms are qualified to represent you and all Class Members. Together the law firms are called “Class Counsel.”

Jason B. Aamodt
Krystina E. Phillips
Dallas L.D. Strimple
INDIAN & ENVIRONMENTAL LAW GROUP, PLLC
1723 E. 15th Street, Suite 100
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104
Telephone: (918) 347-6169

C. Will I get any money or other relief?

This is a claim for an accounting. If the Plaintiffs obtain any relief, you will be notified about how to participate. It is not presently known how long this will take, or whether the Court will order any remedy for the Plaintiffs.

VII. GETTING MORE INFORMATION

A. Are more details available?

For more information, you may contact the Administrator for a copy of the Court’s Orders, the Complaint, and the Defendants’ Answer, as well as other information. You may also speak with one of the lawyers for the Class by calling Class Administrator at 918-347-6169 or you may reach the Administrator by writing to:

Administrator Osage Headright Class Action
c/o Indian & Environmental Law Group
1723 E. 15th Street, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 347-6169

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS LAWSUIT

DO NOTHING

Stay in this lawsuit. Await the outcome. Give up certain rights.

By doing nothing, you keep the possibility of getting relief that may come from the resolution of this case. But, you give up any rights to sue the Defendants separately about the same legal claims in this lawsuit.

ASK TO BE EXCLUDED

Get out of this lawsuit. Keep rights.

If you ask to be excluded and relief is later awarded to the class members in a settlement or by judicial determination, you will not share in that. But, you keep any rights to sue the Defendants separately about the same legal claims in this lawsuit.

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Why did I get this Notice?

Class Representatives, who are all enrolled tribal members, have information showing that you may be an enrolled tribal member of a federally recognized tribe and that you may receive or have received quarterly headright distributions. This Notice explains that the Court has allowed, or “certified,” a class action lawsuit that may affect you. You have legal rights and options that you may exercise before the Court reaches a determination. This case is to decide whether the claims being made against the Defendants, on your behalf, are correct. Judge Gregory K. Frizzell, of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma, is overseeing this class action. This federal lawsuit is known as *Fletcher, et al. v. United States, et al.*, Case No. 02-CV-427.

B. What is this lawsuit about?

This lawsuit is about whether the Class members have received an accounting for the Osage trust funds pursuant to Section 4 of the Act for the division of the lands and funds of the Osage Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and for other purposes, 34 Stat. 539 (June 28, 1906) (hereinafter the “1906 Act”), and pursuant to other law.

D. Is any relief available now?

The Court has not yet decided the merits of this case and there has been no settlement. There is no guarantee that any relief ever will be obtained. If any relief is obtained on your behalf, you will be notified.

III. WHO IS IN THE CLASS

You need to decide whether you are affected by this lawsuit.

A. Am I part of this Class?

You must be an enrolled tribal member of any federally recognized Native American Tribe and receive or received distributions from the Osage trust funds (commonly referred to as “headright payments”) after May 30, 2002.

B. If you are still not sure whether you are included, you can get free assistance by calling or writing to the following:

Administrator Osage Headright Class Action
c/o Indian & Environmental Law Group
1723 E. 15th Street, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 347-6169

IV. YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

You must decide whether to stay in the Class (do nothing) or ask to be excluded before **December 1, 2014**.

A. What happens if I do nothing at all?

You don’t have to do anything now if you want to keep the possibility of getting relief through this lawsuit. By doing nothing you are staying in the Class. If you stay in and the Plaintiffs obtain any relief, either as a result of a judicial determination or a settlement, you will be notified. Keep in mind that if you do nothing now, regardless of whether the Plaintiffs win or lose, you will not be able to sue, or continue to sue, any of the Defendants about the same legal claims that are the subject of this lawsuit. You will also be legally bound by all of the Orders the Court issues and judgments the Court makes in this Class Action.

B. Why would I ask to be excluded?

If you exclude yourself from the Class, which means to remove yourself from the Class, and is sometimes called “opting-out” of the Class, you will not get any relief from

Facsimile: (918) 398-0514

and

G. Steven Stidham
SNEED LANG, PC
1700 Williams Center Tower I
One West Third Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103-3522
Telephone: (918) 583-3145
Facsimile: (918) 582-0410

and

Amanda S. Proctor
SHIELD LAW GROUP PLC
400 Riverwalk Terrace, Suite 240
Jenks, Oklahoma 74307
Telephone: (800) 655-4820
Facsimilie: (800) 619-2107

B. How will the lawyers be paid?

If the lawyers get relief for the Class, they may ask the Court for fees and expenses. You won’t have to pay these fees and expenses. If the Court grants the lawyers’ request, the fees and expenses would be paid by the Defendants.

VI. JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

A. How and when will the Court decide who is right?

As long as the case isn’t resolved by a settlement or otherwise, Class Counsel will have to prove the Plaintiffs’ claims. The Judge will reach a decision about whether the Plaintiffs or Defendants are right about the claims in the lawsuit. There is no guarantee that the Plaintiffs will win, or that they will get any relief for the Class.

B. Do I have to come to any court proceedings?

You do not need to attend any court proceedings. Class Counsel and Class Representatives will present their case for the entire class and the Defendants will present their defenses. You are, or your own lawyer is welcome to attend at your own expense.

EXCLUSION REQUEST FORM

I understand that by returning this form, I won’t be included in the Class Action Lawsuit and I won’t get any relief from this lawsuit even if the Plaintiffs obtain any as a result of a judicial determination or settlement (that may or may not be reached) between Plaintiffs and Defendants.

Please exclude me from the Class in *Fletcher, et al. v. United States, et al.*, Case No. 02-CV-427

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature _____

If you want to exclude yourself from this lawsuit you must sign and date this form, provide your address information and send it to the following address
No Later Than **December 1, 2014** to:

Administrator Osage Headright Class Action
c/o Indian & Environmental Law Group
1723 E. 15th Street, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 347-6169

INJUNCTION

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The Osage Minerals Council must first approve a lease for any excavation of mineral other than oil and gas to take place. The Osage Agency superintendent must then sign off on the lease.

According to the motion, materials excavated to fill the bases of the wind turbines include sand, soil of various types and a variety of native rocks, including limestone and other minerals reserved to the subsurface estate. An Oct. 9 letter, sent to Francesco Venturini, president of Enel Green Power North America, Inc., from BIA Superintendent Robin Phillips, notified him to acquire a sandy soil permit before continuing construction, the letter was ignored.

The eight-member Osage Minerals Council released a statement on the filing.

“The Osage Minerals Council applauds the United State for recognizing the need to stop construction immediately,” according to the release. “The Osage Minerals Estate has, and will continue to be, irreparably harmed by Defendants’ unauthorized excavation activities. We look forward to the Court granting the United States’ preliminary injunction motion.”

To download a copy of the motion, visit: http://static.osagenews.org.s3.amazonaws.com/cms_page_media/43/USvOsageWind_Injunction.pdf.

United States v. Osage Wind, LLC

The hearing for the preliminary injunction is set for Dec. 16 at 2:30 p.m. in District Judge James Payne’s court, room 411, in the Tulsa federal courthouse.



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Construction continues on Dec. 3. Pictured are workers preparing for a new turbine base.



CHALENE TOEHAY/Osage News

Construction continues on Dec. 3. Pictured are two wind turbines completed.

JURISDICTION

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understands Osage law. He also will be in contact with the U.S. Attorney so they will be able to coordinate between themselves any necessary actions.”

Cautious vote

The passage of the amendment, ONCA 15-09, did not come easily. A bill similar to it had failed just two weeks prior, with the majority of congress voicing worries over federal law and unintended consequences to the Osage Nation and Osage Minerals Estate.

The congress met with Chief Standing Bear and his attorneys in executive session for over an hour the day of the vote, hashing out scenarios where the Nation could wind up in federal court.

The bill states that the passage of the amendment does not diminish federal law.

In a vote 11-0 (Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent), many congress members said the passage of ONCA 15-09 would “harmonize” the Nation’s civil code to match

the Osage Constitution’s intent in protecting the Osage people and its resources.

Before the vote, Speaker of the Congress Maria Whitehorn said she still had a lot of questions and was not completely convinced that the expanded jurisdiction wouldn’t go to federal court, with a bad outcome for the Nation.

“I don’t think a negative judgment against the tribe is a good thing for us right now,” she said.

Congressman John Maker said after many conversations with his colleagues he had come to the conclusion the bill should be passed.

“We are elected to make decisions here for the future of our tribe, whether we have oil money or not,” he said. “I do support this legislation because it will strengthen our sovereignty.”

Congressman James Norris said the Osage Constitution states the Nation “has jurisdiction over our territories” and that if the congress didn’t pass the amendment, then the congress would be going against the Constitution.

Pratt became emotional after she revealed copies of letters sent to the Congress

alerting them to the fact that more wind companies were coming.

“I think we need to do everything possible to stop them,” she said. “I’m not taking this lying down, they’re not going to stop coming ... this is who I am, this is where I’m from.”

Congressman Kugee Supernaw said there wasn’t anyone on the congress who wanted wind farms in the Osage.

“We cannot ignore the unintended consequences. In executive session I was reassured ... so I’m going to vote for this,” Supernaw said. “I admire the Speaker, who isn’t sure of some of the consequences or outcomes. I hope she’s wrong, but if she’s right, we’re all gonna be sorry.”

Buffalohead said she did not have a hand in writing the legislation, but was a courtesy sponsor for the Executive Branch. However, she supported it and felt it was in alignment with the intent of the Constitution.

“We can’t afford to wait for the federal government to file something,” Buffalohead said. “When we signed on to be on the Congress, we all knew what our government and Constitution was founded on.

FLETCHER

—from Page 1

by the judge to send notice to all Native Americans that receive a headright payment.

Osage Minerals Councilman Talee Redcorn asked Proctor to explain the intent of the Fletcher suit.

“This case is different from the Highest Posted Price case, because the Highest Posted Price was about whether the right payment had been made,” she said. “The Fletcher case asks whether the right payment was made to the right people. Our position is that non-Indians and institutions, and the various entities receiving payments were never eligible to receive those payments. At this point, we’re entering into an accounting phase where we’ll determine the amount paid to non-Indians.”

She said there are non-Indians that receive headright payments by lawful means, such as spouses or adopted children, and they are excluded.

Redcorn wanted to know the remedy they were seeking.

Proctor said the remedy they are seeking at this point is the accounting of how much has been paid to non-Indians. But eventually, “Termination, extinguishment of those shares that are in non-Indian hands which would make the pot greater for Indian shareholders.”

“We want the [Mineral] council’s input and guidance and participation to the extent as maximum as possible.”

She did not know how long it would be until the judge ruled in the case.

The Fletcher case first began in 2002 but has morphed and changed focus many times and has seen seven dismissals,

three amended complaints, a first and second successful appeal to the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a district court ruling that sent the case to Frizzell.

Frizzell certified the case as a class-action lawsuit on Jan. 31.

Opting out as a class member

If a member decides to opt out, they must notify class counsel by March 2, 2015.

Those who opt out will not receive a monetary reward if the judge awards one to the plaintiffs. However, they will keep their right to sue the defendants. To opt out, an Exclusion Request Form must be submitted in writing to class counsel.

Staying a class member

If a Class member decides

If this bill can make it better then why not vote for it?”

Osage County Sheriff

On Dec. 2, the Osage County Sheriff Ty Koch sent a memorandum to the Osage Police Department that said:

“You are being served notice that effective immediately, you shall not take any law enforcement action in your capacity as a commissioned Osage County deputy to enforce Osage Nation Congress Bill Number ONCA 15-09. Any action taken by you with regard to this bill will be at the sole direction of the Osage Nation and not authorized by the Osage County Sheriff’s Office or the State of Oklahoma.”

As of Dec. 4, an order has not been issued to the Osage Nation Trial Court. The ONPD is cross deputized with Osage County and assists local and county law enforcement in keeping Osage County safe

to stay in the Class, they don’t have to do anything at all. If the plaintiffs win a monetary reward they will share in the reward. If the plaintiffs lose, the Class member cannot sue, continue to sue, any of the defendants in the case. Class members are not required to attend hearings but are welcome to do so. If a monetary reward is awarded to the plaintiffs, all class members will be notified.

Need more information or an Exclusion Request Form, contact:
Administrator Osage Headright Class Action
c/o Indian & Environmental Law Group
1723 E. 15th Street, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 347-6169

Osage County Board of Adjustment votes to appeal decision for Mustang Run

Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage News

The Osage County Board of Adjustment voted unanimously Dec. 2 to appeal the latest decision by District Judge Robert Haney to the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Haney’s decision forced the BOA to issue a conditional use permit to allow Mustang Run, a 110-turbine wind project, in the county. The second wind farm planned for the county. Two more wind companies have recently expressed interest in the area.

Around 8:30 p.m., after an hour-long executive session, the BOA voted to instruct District Attorney Rex Duncan to appeal the decision. The BOA is also requesting an immediate stay to the order, which would halt all construction on Mustang Run until the Supreme Court made its ruling.

Applause came from the attendees, handshakes and laughter as another step was taken to block the wind companies. Five turbines have been completed near highway 60 and more than 10 others are near completion.

The BOA’s vote to appeal Haney’s decision joins the efforts of the Osage Nation and the United States who is suing Osage Wind, LLC; Enel Kansas, LLC; and Enel Green Power North America, Inc., who are building 84 turbines near highway 60, north of Fairfax. The U.S. Attorney filed a preliminary injunction Dec. 2 to halt all construction.

According to *The Bigheart Times*, Osage Wind initially planned 94 turbines but scaled back to 84, Mustang Run had announced it would have about 68 turbines, but was permitted by the Federal Aviation Administration for 110. Osage Wind’s turbines are 432 feet tall, and Mustang Run’s planned turbines are 495 feet.

“This is an important victory for opponents of industrial wind in sensitive areas. It effectively keeps Mustang Run, the second project, from proceeding while the Board of Adjustment appeals the ruling,” wrote Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn on the Facebook page Osage Community for Responsible Citizenry. “Importantly, this is the third government entity, after the Osage Nation and the U.S. Attorney’s office, that is taking on Enel - the second largest utility in Europe - in State and Federal court.”

Osage tribal members and citizens from the community addressed the BOA before their vote, as well as proponents for the wind companies.

Aaron Weigel, director of project development for Trade Wind Energy, asked the BOA whether they were willing to spend county funds and time on an issue that had already been decided on.

Ford Drummond, an opponent of the wind farms, told the BOA that if they didn’t appeal they would be letting Haney set a dangerous precedent for local governments.

“If you don’t appeal this decision it will set a precedent that diminishes local control over local issues.”

Submitting Letters to the Editor

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, please mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 619 Kihekah, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or send email to sshaw@osagetribe.org. Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

As wind turbines go up, Nation vows to keep fighting

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

In a packed Constantine Theater in downtown Pawhuska, Osages, landowners and concerned citizens gathered to hear the latest news in a fight against the industrialized wind industry.

The update: the Nation is appealing the latest rulings from District Judge Robert Haney that forces the Osage County Board of Adjustment to approve conditional use permits for the Mustang Run industrial wind project. The company plans to build 68 turbines across 9,000 acres near the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve.

According to the Tulsa World, the wind farm developer, Lenexa, Kansas-based TradeWind Energy Inc., welcomed the ruling as “excellent news for Osage County residents and ratepayers across Oklahoma.”

“Why are we supporting an industry that has to have our tax dollars to pay for it? I didn’t come here for sympathy. I came here to inform. People need to know this, and it’s ugly.”

–Tammy Huffstutlar,
Canadian County Resident

But according to the Huffstutlars from Calumet, Okla., it’s not good news for the Osage. About five years ago, Canadian Hills Wind Farm was built near their property, with turbines as close as half a mile away. The effects on their health and lives has been devastating.

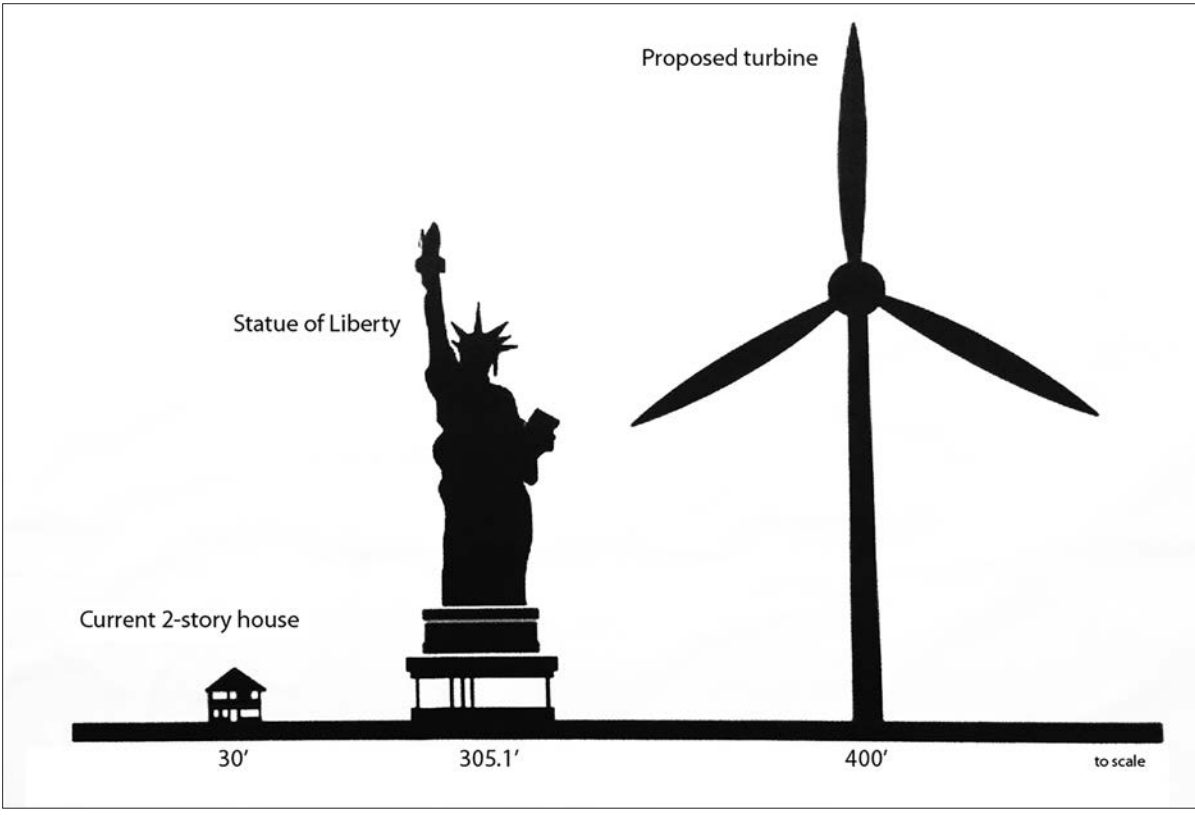
“My husband suffers from a rare heart condition,” said Tammy Huffstutlar, Canadian County resident. “The first night those turbines came on, off we went to the hospital.”

She described a constant hum, vibrations and “flicker” effect that has caused her to

feel nauseous, have migraines and vertigo. The “flicker” is the shadow of the propellers turning, causing a constant shadow to flicker across the walls in their home for seven months out of the year. She’s always mindful of the “ice throw” that are large shards of ice from propellers that can be thrown up to 10 miles, she said. The Huffstutlar’s live near wheat fields and if a turbine should catch fire, the wheat fields could go up in flames quickly. Not to mention, if a tornado should rip through the field, it could throw the propellers.

They have put their house up for sale, as have others in the area of the industrial turbines, but no one’s buying.

“Why are we supporting an industry that has to have our tax dollars to pay for it?” Huffstutlar said. “I didn’t come here for sympathy, I came here to inform. People need to know this, and it’s ugly.”



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

A poster at the Protect Osage Coalition meeting Nov. 17 shows the size of the wind turbines being built near Highway 60, west of Pawhuska.

Oklahoma go to other states, and the taxes paid to fund the projects go to foreign companies. Such as Enel Green Power North American, Inc., the Italian company that is currently building the Osage Wind project that will include 94 turbines off of Highway 60, spread across more than 8,000 acres. More than 10 towers are now visible.

“Oklahoma enjoys the greatest amount of tax credits than any other state,” Mosier said. “It’s a totally unregulated industry in Oklahoma ... there’s no cap, there’s no control, the sky’s the limit. Please contact your state senator and state representative and let them

know you don’t think Oklahoma can afford this.”

Videos were shown of broken turbines, turbines on fire, turbines where propellers had flown off, footage of birds being killed, eagles being killed, and turbines that were rusted and out of commission, sitting silent. According to Mosier, “decommission standards say they don’t have to remove [broken turbines] for 15 years, they don’t have to do anything.”

Wilson Pipestem, Osage attorney for the Nation, said the Nation has not exhausted all avenues and “the fight is far from over.”

Pipestem said the reaction from ENEL, after Bureau of Indian Affairs Superintendent

Robin Phillips sent a letter telling the company to cease and desist, was to redouble their efforts and work into the night.

“They’re trying to get done before anyone can do anything about it,” Pipestem said. “Now there’s more industrial wind facilities who are wanting to build here.”

The Nation plans to appeal both cases that allowed Osage Wind and Mustang Run to build what will be 162 wind turbines in the area.

“We have much at stake and a long way to go before this is over,” Pipestem said.

Vacancies filled on Gaming Commission and Gaming Board

Osage News

Michael Kidder, who is now serving an interim term, now occupies the vacant position on the Osage Nation Gaming Commission.

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear appointed Kidder (Hominy District) to the three-member Gaming Commission in October and he will now be subject to confirmation by the ON Congress for a full three-year term.

Kidder, who ran for the Fourth ON Congress earlier this year, works as a lubrication consultant for LE Lubrication Engineers in the Oklahoma City area, according to his LinkedIn profile. He also worked in sales for Quality Petroleum and has prior experience as a chemist and technical specialist where he worked in product research and development.

Kidder joined fellow Gaming Commissioners Marsha Harlan and Jeanine Logan for his first meeting on Nov. 14 – the same day he was sworn into office at the ON tribal courthouse in Pawhuska.

Standing Bear appointed Kidder after withdrawing a previous appointee from the position vacancy.

In October, Standing Bear appointed attorney and Kaw Nation citizen Ken Bellmard to the Gaming Commission, but Bellmard’s appointment was later withdrawn by Standing Bear. According to Osage law, all three Gaming Commissioners must be Osage Nation members.

Baconrind appointed to ON gaming board

On Dec. 4, Thomas Baconrind (Osage) took oath as an ON Gaming Enterprise Board member.

Standing Bear appointed Baconrind, of El Dorado, Kans., to the five-member gaming board after Henry Harjo resigned his seat. Harjo



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Trial Court Judge Lisa Otipoby swears in Michael Kidder to serve on the Gaming Commission Board.



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Trial Court Chief Judge Marvin Stepson swears in Thomas Baconrind for the Gaming Enterprise Board Dec. 4.

joined the gaming board in March after being appointed by then-Principal Chief Scott BigHorse.

Baconrind, a U.S. Air Force veteran, works as an independent professional insurance agent with 27 years experience, according to his resume. He also served as vice chairman on the former Osage gaming board when the Nation had three casinos. He served as ambassador for the Hays (Kans.) Chamber of Commerce for six years and as ambassador for Fort Hays State University during the opening of

Haskell Nations Indian University when it transitioned from a two-year college to a four-year university.

Baconrind’s earlier professional experience includes sales and marketing of funeral supplies for funeral homes, including caskets. He served on the Standing Bear Educational Committee for 14 years and holds certifications in estate planning for seniors.

The ON Congress will also consider Baconrind’s appointment for a three-year term.



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

Wilson Pipestem, Osage attorney for the Nation, speaks at the Protect Osage Coalition meeting Nov. 17.

GAMING

—from Page 2

- Lorenzo agreed to pay \$1,500 within 60 days to the Gaming Commission to resolve the breach allegations and he voluntarily surrendered his license in lieu of prosecution. Lorenzo will be eligible to reapply for his gaming license in two years with the Nation, Bertman said.
- Lobdell agreed to pay \$15,000 to the Gaming Commission with regard to the breach allegations against him with that amount due within 14 days. The commission also agreed to lift Lobdell’s suspension of his gaming license as part of the compromise, Bertman said.

The Gaming Commission voted unanimously to accept the compromise deals reached regarding Lorenzo and Lobdell. With Lobdell’s license suspension considered lifted, the commission then voted to accept Lobdell’s voluntary surrender of his gaming license. Lorenzo left the meeting without comment. Lobdell said “I would like to thank the Osage Nation and its tribal members for the opportunity to grow their business” before leaving. Gaming Commission Chairwoman Marsha Harlan said the commission will take no further action regarding the license matters involving Lobdell, Lorenzo and Olujic, but added, with

regard to any further investigation: “If there is wrongdoing or criminal activity (discovered), there will be a referral made to the appropriate authorities” for prosecution. Harlan and fellow Gaming Commissioners Jeanine Logan and Michael Kidder voted on the Nov. 14 license suspension matters. **Interim Osage Casino COO hired** In other casino news, the ON Gaming Enterprise Board named Joe Cooper as interim Osage Casino Chief Operating Officer, the former post Olujic held before he was named interim CEO following the departure of Cornelius. At a Nov. 19 gaming board meeting, member John (Trey) Goldesberry motioned to appoint Cooper as interim COO following an executive session regarding confidential, proprietary and personnel matters. Fellow board member Ralph Haymond seconded the motion with a unanimous “yes” vote with board members Dawn Pratt Harrington and Chairman Mark Simms also approving in a 4-0 vote. According to his LinkedIn profile, Cooper previously served as Osage Casino director of slot operations for six years. He also worked as director of regulatory compliance and as a shift manager for casino predecessor Osage Million Dollar Elm Casino.

COMMUNITY
BREAKING NEWS
OPINION

Osage News



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Letters to Osage Santa

Dear Santa
I am 8 years old. My birthday is March 6th.
I go to Frank Laden Elementary. I want
an Ipod and an American Girl doll.
Love, Alyssa (age 8, Pittsburg, KS)

Dear Santa,
I have been learning to read.
I am in the 100's club at school.
I love animals. How are the elves?
Say Hi to Mrs. Claus for me!
Love, Jeremiah Reagan (age 6, Pittsburg, KS)

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want good food and WWE Kane Toys.
Clifford (age 6, Los Angeles, CA)

Dear Santa,
I would like a new Batman game, dog
Lego Batman cave, and Lego Trains
Thank You, Daniel (age 9, Dewey, OK)

Dear Santa,
I want a new girl puppy that don't bite
and listens. Can I get a football game and a bike?
Thank You, Draedyn (age 7, Hominy, OK)

Dear Osage Santa,
Haweh! I have behaved this year.
I would like glass beads, a keen set
of pins and a back ribbon.
Sincerely, Gianna Sieke (age 9, Toms River, NJ)

Dear Santa,
I would like a trampoline, phone
and some new toys, a toy airplane
and a toy monster truck.
Love, Elijah Gilley (age 7, Hominy, OK)

Dear Santa,
My dad is not working and my mom's
paycheck is too small to get Christmas Gifts
for my sisters and me this year. So Santa can
you please help my family out this year? Please.
Thank you and I love you Santa
Cheyenne Jenkins (age 10, Winchester, VA)

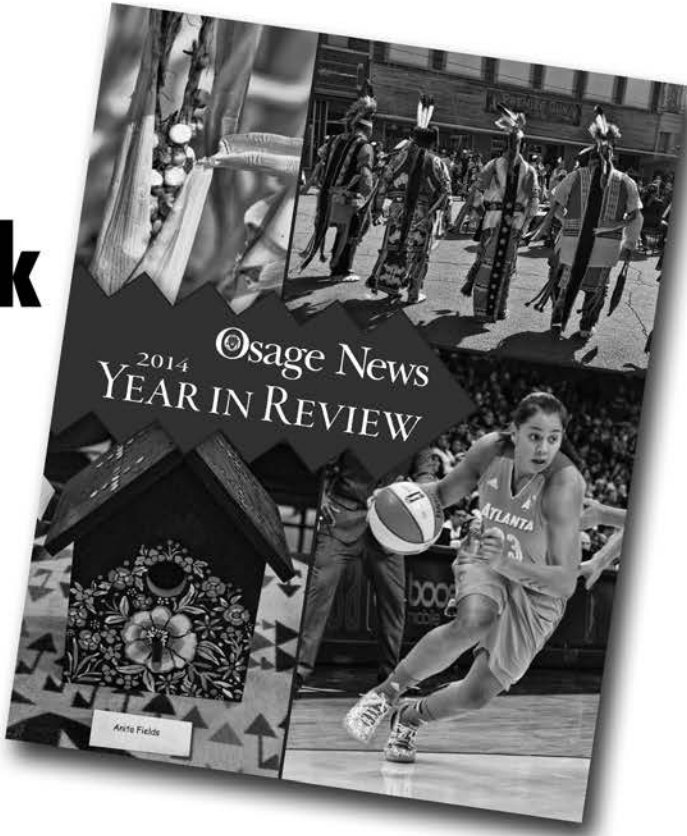
Dear Santa,
Have I been good or bad?
I really want a lalaloopsy Oven.
I tried being good.
When are you coming to the mall?
Karolina Cole (age 5, Bartlesville, OK)



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Two Osages named to AARP’s Indian Elder Honors this year

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

Osage elders Anita Fields and George Shannon were named to the AARP’s Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors this year. The event took place at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oct. 7.

“Since its inception, the Indian Elder Honors has grown to be the largest recognition program of its kind in this state and actually perhaps the entire country,” said Nancy Stockridge, AARP regional vice president. “This is an evening when we pause and venerate contributions of elders who have made a lasting impact on their families, their tribes, communities, state and on the nation.

“In this room tonight are hundreds of years of wisdom and life experience, just think about that.”

According to Fields information in the program, “A renowned clay sculpture artist whose work has been included in exhibits throughout the United States, at the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian Institution and in many prestigious public and private collections. Anita was artist in residence at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis and one of 47 Native American delegates participating in a cultural exchange in

See ELDERS
—Continued on Page 19

SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

TOP RIGHT: Osage elders Anita Fields and George Shannon were both selected as two of the 50 honorees of the 6th Annual Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors on Oct. 7 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

BOTTOM RIGHT: Thirty tribes were represented at the 6th Annual Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors on Oct. 7 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.



Osage Nation Quarterly Report

DRAFT-UNAUDITED

OSAGE NATION
Combining Balance Sheets
September 30, 2014

	General Fund	Dept of Housing and Urban Dev	Dept of Health and Human Services	Department of Interior	Dept of Transportation	Dept of Agriculture	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	27,361,051	379,072	586,033	2,375,452	10,322,548	100	36,260	41,060,515
Investments	39,582,622	-						39,582,622
Interest Receivable	154,474							154,474
Accounts receivable	336,193	-	-	775			282,230	619,199
Prepaid expenses	73,059	5,747	33,537	14,928	2,330	9,310	3,887	142,798
Due from other funds	29,385		119,777	18,880		1	100,872	268,915
Due from other governments	278,381	8,654,162	2,181,380	28,716	370,684	1,379,417	757,612	13,650,353
Total Assets	\$ 67,815,165	\$ 9,038,981	\$ 2,920,727	\$ 2,438,752	\$ 10,695,563	\$ 1,388,828	\$ 1,180,860	\$ 95,478,875
Liabilities and fund balances								
Liabilities								
Accounts payable	3,146,334	34,867	145,898	46,872	1,172,398	467,213	149,848	5,163,429
Due to other funds	-	88,538						88,538
Unearned grant revenue	522,707	8,522,652	2,476,927	2,332,879	8,624,076	844,871	871,698	24,195,810
Accrued payroll liabilities	432,908	8,900	59,120	9,893	5,407	13,244	14,764	544,235
Other accrued liabilities	169,645	288,969						458,614
Total liabilities	\$ 4,271,594	\$ 8,943,926	\$ 2,681,945	\$ 2,389,643	\$ 9,801,881	\$ 1,325,328	\$ 1,036,310	\$ 30,450,627
Fund balances								
Total fund balances	\$ 63,543,570	\$ 95,055	\$ 238,783	\$ 49,108	\$ 893,681	\$ 63,499	\$ 144,551	\$ 65,028,248
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 67,815,165	\$ 9,038,981	\$ 2,920,727	\$ 2,438,752	\$ 10,695,563	\$ 1,388,828	\$ 1,180,860	\$ 95,478,875

12/4/2014

OSAGE NATION
Combining Statements of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Year Ended September 30, 2014

	General Fund	Dept of Housing and Urban Dev	Dept of Health and Human Services	Department of Interior	Dept of Transportation	Dept of Agriculture	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues								
Intergovernmental	40,822	1,509,528	5,353,867	1,997,580	5,558,823	3,382,430	1,467,141	19,310,190
Tax revenue	2,144,389							
Program revenue	2,096,482	32,235	56,867	44,754	260	16,904	13,257	2,260,759
Indirect cost recoveries	5,187,753							5,187,753
Investment revenue	874,105	1,066			56,058			931,229
Other revenue	1,093,379							1,093,379
Total revenues	\$ 11,436,931	\$ 1,542,828	\$ 5,410,734	\$ 2,042,334	\$ 5,615,141	\$ 3,399,334	\$ 1,480,398	\$ 28,783,311
Expenditures								
General government	25,067,984			492,943				25,560,928
Education	9,734,943		2,067,538	377,688			270,752	12,450,920
Health & Human Services	6,540,209		3,909,487	529,067		3,496,465	858,824	15,334,052
Community services	701,233		48,667					749,900
Culture and language	2,412,101							2,412,101
Environment management	1,540,624			708			458,292	1,999,625
Housing services	175,372	1,516,352						1,691,725
Public safety	1,523,393			640,775				2,164,167
Public works	-				5,569,352			5,569,352
Capital outlay	8,069,163							8,069,163
Debt Service								
Principal	166,667							166,667
Interest	21,059							21,059
Total Expenditures	\$ 55,952,749	\$ 1,516,352	\$ 6,025,692	\$ 2,041,181	\$ 5,569,352	\$ 3,496,465	\$ 1,587,868	\$ 76,189,659
Revenues over (under) expenditures	\$ (44,515,819)	\$ 26,476	\$ (614,958)	\$ 1,154	\$ 45,789	\$ (97,131)	\$ (107,470)	\$ (47,406,347)
Other financing sources (uses)								
Transfers in			614,406	19,937		160,575	217,894	1,012,812
Transfers out	(2,309,064)							(2,309,064)
Issuance of debt	10,000,000							10,000,000
Transfers to ONES	(127,696)							(127,696)
Gaming distributions	40,466,070							40,466,070
Total other financing sources (uses)	\$ 48,029,310	\$ -	\$ 614,406	\$ 19,937	\$ -	\$ 160,575	\$ 217,894	\$ 49,042,122
Net change in fund balances	\$ 3,513,492	\$ 26,476	\$ (552)	\$ 21,091	\$ 45,789	\$ 63,444	\$ 110,424	3,780,164
Fund balances, beginning of year	60,030,079	68,579	239,335	28,018	847,892	55	34,127	61,248,084
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 63,543,570	\$ 95,055	\$ 238,783	\$ 49,108	\$ 893,681	\$ 63,499	\$ 144,551	\$ 65,028,248

12/4/2014

Honoring our Veterans



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

U.S. Veterans working on the Osage Nation Campus Master Plan gather for a photo. From L to R: Talee Redcorn, Bill Featherson, Jace Williamson, Christopher Copp, Joshua Ward and Shannon Terry. Redcorn served for three years in the U.S. Army Infantry as a Specialist but did not deploy. Featherson served in the U.S. Naval Marine Corps as a Specialist from 1995-1999 and was stationed in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He works for Penta and is from Las Vegas, NV. Williamson served for six years in the U.S. Army from 1995-2000. He is from Sperry. Copp served in the U.S. Navy from 1993-1998 aboard the U.S.S. Aubrey Fitch FFG34 in combat systems. From New York, he now lives in Hominy. Ward served in the U.S. Army for seven years and was deployed to Iraq for 13 months and fought in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Sergeant Ward is from Sand Springs. Terry is currently serving his third year in the U.S. Army Reserves as a Specialist. He is from Kellyville, Okla.



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

The Harold Bigheart Smalley American Legion Post 198 raises the United States flag at the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center to begin their Veterans Day festivities, which includes an all-day Veterans Day Dance.



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

U.S. Army Veteran Sgt. Rann R. Tingtella, who served as an Armor NCO (Tank Gunner), served as the Head Man Dancer for the Veterans Day Dance. He is pictured dancing in the United States flag during the flag song.

Osage Nation Quarterly Report

DRAFT - UNAUDITED

OSAGE NATION
Combining Statements of Net Position - Proprietary Funds
September 30, 2014

	Business-Type Activities				Governmental Activities
	Osage Properties	Revenue Tax	Nonmajor Proprietary Funds	Totals	Internal Service Fund
Assets					
Current assets					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	396,082	137,345	1,528,399	2,061,825	222,466
Investments				-	
Accounts receivable		76,967	101,601	178,568	161,033
Other receivables				-	
Prepaid expenses	73,600	1,730	16,670	91,999	
Inventory		14,098		14,098	
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	
Total current assets	469,682	230,140	1,646,669	2,346,491	383,499
Noncurrent assets					
Capital Assets					
Nondepreciable capital assets					-
Depreciable capital assets	15,361,436	45,659	2,436,530	17,843,625	-
Accumulated depreciation	(5,995,629)	(32,604)	(1,615,424)	(7,643,657)	-
Net capital assets	9,365,807	13,056	821,105	10,199,968	-
Total Assets	\$ 9,835,489	\$ 243,195	\$ 2,467,775	\$ 12,546,459	\$ 383,499
Deferred outflow of Resources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts payable	50,310	5,371	98,683	154,365	-
Compensated absences	9,685	2,326	23,677	35,687	-
Unearned revenue				-	-
Other accrued liabilities	8,985	15,195	21,888	46,069	745,357
Due to other funds	72,080	24,975	83,321	180,376	-
Total current liabilities	141,061	47,867	227,569	416,497	745,357
Total liabilities	141,061	47,867	227,569	416,497	745,357
Deferred inflow of Resources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net position					
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	9,365,807	13,056	821,105	10,199,968	-
Unrestricted	328,621	182,273	1,419,100	1,929,994	(361,858)
Total net position	\$ 9,694,428	\$ 195,329	\$ 2,240,205	\$ 12,129,962	\$ (361,858)

OSAGE NATION
Combining Statements of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
Year Ended September 30, 2014

	Business-Type Activities				Governmental Activities
	Osage Properties	Revenue Tax	Nonmajor Proprietary Funds	Totals	Internal Service Fund
Operating Revenues					
Intergovernmental			124,894	124,894	
Tax Revenue		1,563,361		1,563,361	
Other revenue	862,950	53,456	1,069,906	1,986,311	4,087,795
Total operating revenues	862,950	1,616,817	1,194,799	3,674,566	4,087,795
Operating Expenses					
Cost of merchandise sales		10,910	611,935	622,845	-
Salaries and fringe benefits	580,751	335,095	1,116,715	2,032,562	-
120,000 actual services	5,260	-	13,954	19,214	-
Travel and training	33,999	15,533	5,409	54,941	-
Expendable equipment	6,132	6,649	-	12,781	-
Repairs and maintenance/occupancy	645,551	40,399	265,837	951,787	-
Tribal member assistance		-	75,034	75,034	-
Claims incurred				-	3,914,614
Indirect cost	265,465	97,242	293,115	655,822	-
Other supplies and expenses	33,901	35,505	45,822	115,229	-
Depreciation				-	-
Total Operating expenses	1,571,060	541,333	2,427,821	4,540,215	3,914,614
Operating income (loss)	(708,111)	1,075,483	(1,233,022)	(865,649)	173,181
Non-operating revenues (expenses)					
Interest revenue		2,446	68,732	71,177	-
Other non operating revenue (expense)					
Total Non-operating revenues (expenses)	-	2,446	68,732	71,177	-
Income (loss) before transfers	(708,111)	1,077,929	(1,164,290)	(794,472)	173,181
Transfers in/(out)	814,352	(1,000,000)	1,481,901	1,296,253	
Change in net position	106,241	77,929	317,611	501,781	173,181
Total net position, beginning of year	9,588,187	117,400	1,922,594	11,628,181	(535,039)
Total net position, end of year	\$ 9,694,428	\$ 195,329	\$ 2,240,205	\$ 12,129,962	\$ (361,858)

OBAMA

-from Page 1

would get back with me soon. Tonight I had dinner with other tribal leaders. I found out from others more about our own gaming operations and some of the characters who have been involved with us in our gaming. I'm now more convinced than ever the Internet gaming project needs full investigation. A very interesting day. I am proud and honored to represent my Osage people."

Other tribal leaders in attendance:

- W. "Ron" Allen, Chairman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Phyliss Anderson, Chief, Mississippi Choctaw
- Lorenzo Bates, Speaker of the Senate, Navajo Nation
- Thomas Beauty, Chairman, Yavapai Apache Nation
- Joseph M. Chavarria, Governor, Santa Clara Pueblo
- Cristina Danforth, Chairwoman, Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
- Jeff Grubbe, Chairman, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Jerry Isaac, Alaska Federation of Natives Co-Chair, Tanacross Native Village
- Darrin Old Coyote, Chairman, Crow Nation
- Myra Pearson, Chairwoman, Spirit Lake Nation

The Tribal Nations Conference took place on Dec. 3 and featured comments from President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, Deputy Secretary of the Interior Mike Connor, Asst. Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn and Solicitor of the Interior Hilary Tompkins, according to a release.

Tribal leaders participated in panels on energy and climate change and supporting Indian youth. Leaders were also given the opportunity to interact with the president, ask his administration questions, and speak with the White House Council on Native American Affairs.

Submitting Letters to the Editor

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, please mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 619 Kihekah, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or send email to sshaw@osage-tribe.org. Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

Osage News

There were seven entries this year. The pieces of art were displayed on the 7th Street stairway and were there until the winners were announced on Dec. 6 at the Inaugural Wah-Zha-Zhi Christmas Extravaganza, after this



An Osage representation of Santa Claus, painted as a traditional Osage man and woman with their baby.

issue of the *Osage News* went to press. Branch with the winning team

The contest was judged by the Osage Nation Judicial

See ART

—Continued on Page 16

Pam Carter

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Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year



from the
Fourth Osage Nation Congress



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About the study

The University of Tulsa, Psychophysiology Laboratory for Affective Neuroscience is conducting an IRB-approved research study aimed at assessing pain processing in Native Americans. The goal of this study is to identify potential markers of risk for chronic pain in healthy (currently pain-free) Native American individuals.

Get in Touch Now!

(918) 631-2175 or (918) 631-3565 | <http://orgs.utulsa.edu/psychophys>
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oklahoma-Study-of-Native-Pain-Risk/465628426873916>

To Participate, You Must:

- **NOT** currently have chronic pain or take pain medications
- **NOT** have high blood pressure or take anti-hypertensive medications
- **NOT** take anti-depressant or anti-anxiety medications
- Additional eligibility criteria do apply

Healthy Research Participants Needed

This study is safe and non-invasive. Participants must be able to attend two testing sessions (approximately 4-5½ hours/sessions). **\$200 compensation (\$100/day)** is provided. Depending on distance to/from the University of Tulsa, you may be eligible for mileage reimbursement.



OSAGE CULTURE

The Holiday Season

Charles Red Corn
Osage News

Celebrating a Holiday Season is a pleasant thought. The Holiday Season I refer to is that period of time that begins in late November when we spend a day, or a weekend, expressing a special gratitude for all that is good. That, of course, is Thanksgiving Day.

As early as grade school we have been told that the celebration began with the Pilgrims and Indians getting together to give thanks for their survival of a particularly bitter winter that was spent in what the Pilgrims thought of as the New World. That is a totally thoughtful and human thing for which to be grateful, and it was the beginning of a holiday that has endured for almost four centuries, with the first decreed Thanksgiving Day being in the year 1621.

The idea was to set aside a day to celebrate a good growing season, followed by a bountiful harvest. Indians from the Wampanoag Federation of tribes brought venison, and turkey, and I am sure some dried corn and squash. Indians are a kind and hospitable people, and I can see Osages bringing buffalo meat, wild turkey, pumpkins, squash and corn to a gathering organized to help a people celebrate survival.

The truth of history is that the beautiful feelings of brotherhood and togetherness of the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Federation of Indians did not last.

Today that day of giving thanks is called Thanksgiving, and it is a time of gratitude and feasting. That time is followed by the Christmas Season, a time of gift giving. I can see Osages celebrating a time of giving. The In-Lon-Schka Dance, the most traditional event in the Osage Year that lasts for three days and closes with a final day of Gift Giving.

Christmas, like Thanksgiving, is also a time of giving, and a time for expressions of gratitude. A



Charles Red Corn

time of prayer, praying for Peace on Earth, and Good Will to all People everywhere.

Following Christmas, there is that period of celebrating the coming of a New Year: a time of anticipation of good things to come.

At this point in our history, when Osage People are celebrating the 2014 Holiday Season, we are faced with difficult challenges. Those challenges come from outside of our Nation.

At the same time we face those challenges we recognize intriguing opportunities before us. That is the nature of self-government.

We have had only eight years of working under a new Constitution. It is a government designed to meet such challenges, and we have elected good capable Osages to represent us.

We have the Osage Mineral Estate that has endured for over a century and has been a valuable basis of our economy. The Mineral Estate is being threatened and needs to be protected. It is protected because it is a part of the sovereign Osage Nation.

The challenges we face are complex and real, and Osage People are capable of working together and meeting those challenges.

About the author: Charles H. Red Corn, Osage, is the author of “A Pipe for February” and various other published works. Red Corn received his B.A. in Psychology and his Masters of Education Administration from Penn State. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army and resides with his wife Jeri in Norman, Okla. He is the *Osage News* culture columnist.



BENNY POLACCA/Osage News

Pawhuska village residents and Jon Red Corn (third from right) brainstorm ideas for a village master plan being created by Red Corn's planning/ architectural firm Blue Star Studios.

Master plan for Pawhuska Indian Village in the works

Osage News

Efforts are underway to create a master plan for the Pawhuska Indian Village thanks to input gathered by a Native American-owned consulting firm who met with village residents in November.

On Nov. 10, the Pawhuska village Five-Man Board hosted a resident meeting in the Wakon Iron Community Building where the 60-plus village households were encouraged to meet with planning/ architectural design firm Blue Star Studio.

Blue Star Studio, which has an office in the Pawhuska Business Development Center immediately west of the village, is working with the Five-Man Board on the village master plan. One of the first steps includes gathering input from the village residents,

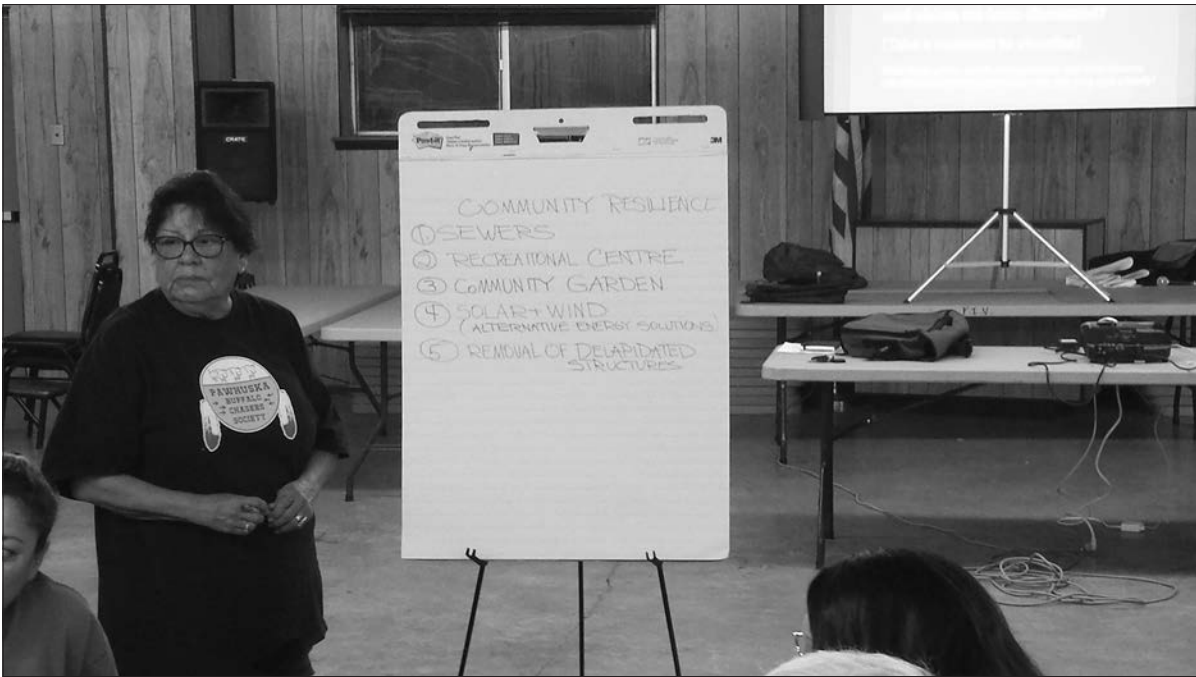
which was the purpose of the Nov. 10 meeting.

Blue Star CEO Jon Red Corn, co-founder and principal architect Scott Moore and their associates interacted with the village residents asking what they would like to see occur or be built in the village. The attending residents broke into groups where they held brainstorming sessions to answer the questions.

For example, the groups stated Osage culture is very important to the village community with the annual In-Lon-Schka ceremonial dances as an example. Other community values include youth, elders, education and families. Several residents stated the In-Lon-Schka is important because it's an event that many Osages attend for cultural obligations and to stay connected to home.

Other items hitting the wishlist during the meeting include: removal of dilapidated structures, using solar/ wind as alternative energy sources, creating/ maintaining a community garden, upgrading the sewage system, building a children's playground, building a new office for the Five-Man Board, as well as a recreation center.

During the meeting, Red Corn said the input gathered at the meeting will be used to develop the village master plan, which includes writing common goals and a vision for the community. He said a future meeting will be likely after the information is processed by Blue Star.



BENNY POLACCA/Osage News

Mary Jo Trumbly writes down Pawhuska village resident ideas shared during a Nov. 10 meeting regarding a village master plan in the works.

Osage Nation Welcome Center construction progressing

Osage News

The PENTA Building Group celebrated the Topping Out Ceremony for the Osage Nation Welcome Center on Nov. 5. The event was to mark a milestone in the construction progress as the last piece of steel was hung on the Welcome Center.

The ceremony is a common event for construction projects and is intended to be a moral boost and semi-celebration for the construction crews, according to a prepared release. They were allowed to sign their names to the last beam before it was raised and installed in place. The Osage News staff also signed the beam because their new office location will be inside the Welcome Center.

An American flag and the Osage Nation flag, along with a cedar tree, were sitting atop the beam as it was raised to its final location.

The workers watched the beam get placed at the top of the building and then they were served pizza and drinks for lunch.



PHOTOS BY CHALENE TOEHAY/Osage News

The Penta Building Group held a Topping Out Ceremony for the construction crews working on the Osage Nation Campus Master Plan on Nov. 5. The Osage News, Constituent Services, Tax Commission, Tribal Membership, Accounting and Human Resources will be located in the Welcome Center.

Demolition continues on the Pawhuska Arbor



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Demolition continued on the Pawhuska Arbor Nov. 14.



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Demolition continued on the Pawhuska Arbor Nov. 14.



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

Demolition of the Pawhuska Arbor was complete by Nov. 22. A view facing west shows the Indian Camp Chapel.

SPORTS UPDATE

Osage places second in her division at National Jiu-Jitsu Championship

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

Mvhayv Cunningham’s favorite submission is the Americana, aka the figure-four arm lock, a move she uses frequently to take down her opponents in Jiu-Jitsu competitions. Training since the age of 2,



Courtesy Photo

Mvhayv Cunningham holds her team’s third place trophy at the National Jiu-Jitsu Championships in Los Angeles, Oct. 18. She finished second in the Grey White Stripe Division.

Mvhayv, pronounced Muh-hiya, returned from Los Angeles victorious where she competed in the National Jiu-Jitsu Championships. At five years old, she placed second in the Grey White Stripe division and her team, Might Mites for Triton Fight Center, placed second in the tournament. Triton Fight Center is located in Bixby. Her parents train there as well.

“I wish I could have brought home the shiny gold medal, but I’m happy I won a big trophy for my team, because they’re all proud of me!” Mvhayv said of her win.

Just 43 inches tall, she trains two times a week and loves every minute of it, said her mother Brittney. Her father, Wes, introduced the family to Jiu-Jitsu.

In 2008, while training for a Mixed Martial Arts career, he picked up Jiu-Jitsu along the way. Now he studies only Jiu-Jitsu and recruited his wife and daughter to join him. Brittney has a competition this month.

Jiu-Jitsu is a martial art, combat sport, and a self-defense system that fo-



Courtesy Photo

Brittany, Mvhayv and Wes Cunningham take a selfie at the National Jiu-Jitsu Championships in Los Angeles, Oct. 18. The whole family competes in Jiu-Jitsu tournaments.

cuses on grappling and especially ground fighting and was formed in 1882, according to Wikipedia.org. The concept is that a smaller, weaker person can successfully defend against a bigger, stronger assailant by using proper technique, leverage and most notably, taking the fight to the ground, and then applying joint-locks and chokeholds to defeat their opponent.

“Her biggest inspiration is her daddy. She says she’s going to be as strong as her daddy and beat him when she gets bigger,” Brittney said in an email. “She can’t take him down, YET, but that doesn’t stop her from trying!”

She holds several first, second and third place medals

from various competitions, and she was awarded Female Kid Competitor of the Year by her coach Omar French in September. She usually trains twice a week, three times if her parents schedule allows it.

Mvhayv is Osage, Navajo and Creek and is of the Pawhuska In-Lon-Schka District. Her mother said she loves to dance and help the cooks at the camp set tables and whatever is needed of her. She is the only child to Wes and Brittney and the youngest of three grandchildren.

Her maternal grandparents are Eugene and Gloria Cunningham of Tulsa. Paternal Grandparents are Ronnie Cunningham of Wagoner, and Linda Bacon of Tulsa.

Medications and the effects they have on breastfeeding

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Native Health News Alliance

Despite evidence to the contrary, health care providers are still regularly getting questions and comments about prescription medication use being unsuitable for breastfeeding mothers.

“It’s a huge misperception,” said Dr. Jenny Thomas, breastfeeding coordinator of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. “I’ve seen everything from patients who just had a single x-ray to mothers who were prescribed an antibiotic who were all told by clinicians or other well-meaning people to ‘pump and dump’ just to play it safe. It runs the gamut but the overwhelming majority of prescriptions are compatible with breastfeeding.”

Most medications pass through breast milk to a certain extent, including both prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals. Not all are necessarily harmful to an infant, but given the size discrepancy between mother and child, it takes significantly less for a nursing infant to feel the pharmaceutical’s impact.

The American Academy of Pediatrics went so far as to release a report in August 2013, advising women that most medications are indeed safe for use while breastfeeding, but lactation consultants and other health professionals are still fielding questions tied to the persistent myth.

With an estimated 16 percent of all Native Americans living with diabetes,” Citizen Potawatomi Nation WIC lactation consultant Cheryl Richardson frequently fields questions about managing the disease while breastfeeding.

Not only is insulin safe to take while nursing, but according to a 2005 study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, the metabolic burden placed on exclusively breastfeeding mothers was enough to help lower the necessary dosage to keep their blood sugar levels in check.

“When a mom breastfeeds and is enjoying that lower glucose level, once she gets to the point where she’s weaning, she needs to be aware that once she starts weaning, she has to be watching her glucose levels,” Richardson said. “They’ll probably go back up since she’s changing things up. If she starts dropping feedings or weaning, especially if she is insulin dependent, she’ll have to make changes.”

Other chronic conditions require a closer review of the potential treatments before making a decision. Nationwide, an estimated one in four women suffer from depression, schizo-

See BREASTFEEDING
—Continued on Page 13

Office of the Solicitor General: ‘BIA Needs Sweeping Changes to Manage the Osage Nation’s Energy Resources’

Osage News

The Office of Inspector General recognizes changes need to be made at the Osage Agency in Pawhuska.

In the 70-page report, “BIA Needs Sweeping Changes to Manage the Osage Nation’s Energy Resources,” released in October, the Deputy Inspector General Mary Kendall sent a memorandum to Kevin Washburn, Asst. Secretary of Indian Affairs and Mike Black, BIA director. In the memorandum she writes the OIG found the Agency’s oil and gas management program to be “fundamentally flawed” and it prevented the Osage Agency from effectively managing the Osage Minerals Estate.

“Specifically, we found weaknesses in the Agency’s oil and gas policies and procedures that guide critical activities affecting royalty payments. In addition, we determined that the Agency’s system for accounting and leasing activities is inadequate and, as a result, Agency staff conducts many activities manually,” she wrote. “Finally, we identified many competing interests in the Agency’s oil and gas operations, including tribal beneficiaries, the Osage Nation Minerals Council, leaseholders and operators, and surface owners. These interests contribute to the complexity of managing the Osage Nation’s mineral estate and put significant pressures on Agency staff.”

The report provides 33 recommendations for the Agency, five of which have been resolved and implemented, 27 of which have been resolved but not implemented, according to Kendall.

“We will refer this recommendation to the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget for resolution. We are encouraged by early reports of agency action toward hiring key personnel and working with the Office of Natural Resource Revenue to explore implementing some of our recommendations,” she wrote in the memorandum. “We believe that if BIA implements all of our recommendations, the Agency’s management of the Osage Nation’s oil and gas program will become more effective.”

Kendall closes the memorandum by stating the OIG is required to report to the U.S. Congress semiannually on all audits, inspections and evaluation reports issued and all actions taken or not taken to implement recommendations.

Below are pages 32-42 of the 70-page report. They are the Conclusions and Recommendations given for the Osage Agency. To download the full report, visit www.doi.gov/oig/reports/upload/CR-EV-BIA-0002-2013Public1.pdf.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

The Osage Nation’s mineral estate has the potential to generate billions of dollars of oil and gas royalties and provides annuity payments to headright holders. As noted in this report, BIA faces challenges to correct the deficiencies of a fundamentally flawed program. These deficiencies include inadequate oil and gas policies and procedures, problems in environmental compliance, poor planning and mineral resource management, and inefficient data management. A strong management emphasis from the Agency is needed to bring program consistency and guidance over the Osage Nation’s oil and gas operations to ensure that headright holders receive the full royalties they are due.

Recommendations Summary

We recommend that BIA:

1. Use its authority to correct program deficiencies by modifying 25 C.F.R. part 226 to mirror other Indian Country oil and gas regulations.

BIA’s Response: BIA did not concur with this recommendation. As a result of the tribal trust settlement, BIA and other interested parties discussed mirroring other Indian Country oil and gas regulations to improve managing the minerals estate. The Council and other interested parties voiced concerns regarding making Osage mirror other Indian Country oil and gas regulations, and the Negotiated Rule Making Committee tried to balance these concerns with the need to improve the current regulations. The proposed rule, however, does include some regulations that would mirror BLM’s and ONRR’s regulations.

OIG’s Reply: The changes and improvements BIA is undertaking as well as the rulemaking will lead to greater accountability and oversight, which is the intent of this recommendation. We, therefore, consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to the Office of Policy, Management and Budget (PMB) to track implementation.

2. Enter into MOUs with BLM and ONRR so these agencies can perform essential oil and gas operations and accounting activities on BIA’s behalf.

BIA’s Response: BIA partially concurred with this recommendation. BIA is entering into an agreement with ONRR to perform the accounting activities on BIA’s behalf. BLM will provide field inspection training for the Agency’s PETs on properties within Osage County. In addition, four Agency PETs have completed BLM’s certification course and the remaining seven are scheduled to complete the certification course in FYs 2015 and 2016.

OIG’s Reply: BIA will be using ONRR’s and BLM’s technical expertise to improve the Agency’s oil and gas program, which is the intent of the recommendation. We, therefore, consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

3. Develop and implement official, comprehensive internal Agency policies and procedures that govern, guide, and regulate oil and gas activities.

BIA’s Response: BIA partially concurred with this recommendation. While BIA stated that the Agency already has some existing internal policies and procedures, they did acknowledge that additional improvements and updates are needed.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

4. Develop and implement internal policies and procedures directing the Agency to verify companies’ allowances for royalty calculations, or restrict or disallow such allowances.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation; however, BIA stated that it is premature to develop internal policies and procedures regarding verification of royalty allowances because the Department is currently considering a proposed rule that may address this recommendation.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented pending the results of the negotiated rule making. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

5. Develop and implement internal policies and procedures for the Agency to oversee, identify, and verify non-arm’s-length sales transactions.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation; however, BIA stated that it is premature to develop internal policies and procedures regarding non-arm’s-length sales transactions because the Department is currently considering a proposed rule that could address this recommendation.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented pending the results of the negotiated rule making. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

6. Develop and implement internal policies and procedures to enhance the Agency’s drilling permit review process in partnership with BLM.

BIA’s Response: BIA did not concur with this recommendation due to the original language of the recommendation which contained a reference to the Handbook. BIA clarified that the Handbook does not apply to the Agency. BIA is working, however, with BLM to identify processes and procedures that will improve the Agency’s permitting process.

OIG’s Reply: We consider this recommendation, as amended, resolved but not implemented. We agree that working in partnership with BLM will allow BIA to use BLM’s technical expertise to improve the permitting process. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

7. Develop and implement internal policies and procedures to require the Agency’s petroleum engineer to review and approve drilling permits.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has already implemented a policy requiring that all proposed APDs are reviewed by the petroleum engineer.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved and implemented.

8. Make certain that lessees pay oil and gas royalties based on market price according to the current regulation, 25 C.F.R. § 226.11.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has been working on back-audits and reconciliations to ensure that lessees are paying oil and gas royalties appropriately. In addition, once BIA has an agreement with ONRR in place to account for royalties, the system will be further improved.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

9. Develop and implement supplemental Agency guidance that includes how lessees should measure gas and subsequently calculate royalties based on energy quality.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation; however, BIA stated that it is premature to develop internal policies and procedures regarding gas measurement because the Department is currently considering a proposed rule that could address this recommendation.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented pending the results of the negotiated rule making. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

10. Develop and implement supplemental Agency guidance to 25 C.F.R. part 226 to help identify and verify companies’ allowances for royalty calculations.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation; however, BIA stated that it is premature to develop internal policies and procedures regarding allowances because the Department is currently considering a proposed rule that may address this recommendation.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented pending the results of the negotiated rule making. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

11. Identify all companies that flare gas and verify that each company that flares gas has documented approval.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency is reviewing lease files, performing site inspections, and has instituted a 24-hour public hotline for the public to use to report unapproved flaring, environmental concerns, or lease compliance issues. In addition, using ONRR’s system to perform auditing and accounting of oil and gas will flag any discrepancies in the use of gas.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

12. Develop and implement Agency policies and procedures to verify that companies properly report volumes on flared gas and pay appropriate royalties.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. BIA is working closely with ONRR in order to transition Osage’s producing leases over to ONRR’s automated reporting and verification system, which would address this issue.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

13. Follow existing regulations requiring corporate surety bonds. If the proposed regulations allow using CDs, regularly review all escrow CDs to verify their maturity and replace matured CDs.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Osage Agency is now following the current regulations and no longer accepts CDs. The Agency sent a memo on September 9, 2014, clarifying that it will no longer accept CDs, letters of credit, or cash bonds.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved and implemented.

14. Develop and implement oversight procedures to ensure compliance with the NEPA for all Osage Nation oil and gas activities.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. BIA stated that the Agency complies with NEPA with respect to oil and gas activities in Osage County and does carry out NEPA review with respect to current oil and gas activities. In addition, BIA is taking steps to strengthen oversight procedures with respect to environmental issues.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

15. Ensure that the Agency has permanent environmental staff to address the NEPA requirements.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. In addition to historical NEPA compliance, the Agency hired an environmental protection specialist December 29, 2013, and is in the process of advertising an additional environmental protection specialist. The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (OIEED) also provided the Agency with two environmental contractors.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved and implemented.

16. Realign emphasis on gauging to other, more effective, oversight activities such as inspections, and instead of gauging for production verification, only gauge during inspections and for purposes of determining possible instances of fraud.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has engaged with BLM in understanding risk factors for wells and leases and will develop a risk-based strategy for the Agency’s inspection and enforcement program. This strategy will deploy inspection and enforcement resources that will be considerably more effective.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

17. Reevaluate existing gauging practices and develop and implement a more efficient and effective gauging program if the Agency continues to emphasize gauging. This could include risk-based gauging.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has hired additional PETs to perform gauging in Osage County. In addition, with the assistance of BLM, desktop operating procedures are being reviewed and revised to discern best management practices to include risk-based gauging.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

18. Identify all high-risk leases, develop and implement a risk-based strategy to annually inspect all high-risk leases, and include a plan to inspect all leases over a specified time.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency is working on a strategy to identify all high-risk leases to ensure annual inspections are performed. This will include leases with re-occurring environmental issues, violations, spills, and other surface issues. The Agency is working in conjunction with BLM to identify the risk factors for the wells and leases and will develop a risk-based strategy for the inspection and enforcement program that will mirror BLM’s protocol.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

19. Upgrade the Agency’s inspection management system to include all leases inspected and the risks associated with the leases.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency issued a policy on September 16, 2014, whereby all lease inspections performed within Osage County will be encoded into the lease inspection tracker. The tracker was modified to include compliance and non-compliance lease inspections.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved and implemented.

20. Develop and implement guidance to ensure the Agency consistently applies and levies fines in a timely manner.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has implemented a policy to assess penalties and fines associated with noncompliance to the lessee after the original notification of violation.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved and implemented.

21. Develop and implement an Agency action plan to identify and track leases that it should terminate for nondevelopment, nonproduction, and noncompliance with lease terms.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency recently began generating periodic reports to identify leases that had no production for 6 consecutive months. The Agency provides notice to producers that have leases on this list. If there is no proof of production

producers that have leases on this list. If there is no proof of production provided and a site inspection confirms that there is no production, the Agency will terminate the lease. With regard to termination of leases for noncompliance with lease terms (other than primary term), the Agency is developing internal enforcement guidelines and policies that will describe circumstances such as "significant noncompliance" that would warrant lease termination.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented pending the development and implementation of internal guidelines and policies. We will refer this recommendation to PMB for implementation.

22. Develop and implement a strategy for the Agency to identify all wells to be plugged and abandoned, develop a prioritized list based on risk, and work with the Council to plug high-risk wells.

BIA’s Response: BIA did not concur with this recommendation. The Council currently operates a program to plug certain wells (purging, danger to environment or health and public safety). In addition, BIA has met with the Oklahoma Environmental Resource Board to help remediate abandoned wells. The board will make a presentation at the Osage Minerals Forum in September of 2014 outlining its site restoration program, and will solicit areas to be remediated.

OIG’s Reply: We consider this recommendation unresolved. While we acknowledge that the Council operates the program to plug and abandon the wells, the Agency provides the Council with the list of wells for plugging. Since the Agency’s employees are in the field on a regular basis and the Agency develops the plugging instructions, we believe it would be best equipped to prioritize the wells. Since the Council only plugs and abandons a limited number of wells a year, it is even more important to have a prioritized list. As stated in the body of this report, even though there may not be a legal or regulatory requirement to do so, plugging and abandoning nonproducing wells decreases the risk of damage to the environment or injury to people. Therefore, BIA can and should still identify and prioritize its abandoned wells. In addition, according to BIA and Oklahoma Environmental Resource Board officials, a presentation outlining the boards site restoration program was not provided at the September 2014 Osage Minerals Forum. We will refer this recommendation to PMB for resolution.

23. Work with USGS’s Energy Resources Program to request a mineral resource assessment of the Osage Nation’s mineral estate.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. In order to meet the intent of the recommendation, the Agency will be working with OIEED. Since OIEED has done preliminary work within Osage County and is configured to do countywide assessments, BIA stated that OIEED is better suited to provide the resource assessment in the shortest possible time.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

24. Reconcile oil and gas exceptions to independent or third-party sources of information, and follow up and resolve any identified differences in a timely manner.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The implementation of ONRR’s accounting system will address this recommendation. ONRR will address royalty and production reporting, data mining, and compliance functions including auditing.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

25. Enter into an MOU with ONRR to implement ONRR’s electronic data system.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. BIA and ONRR are presently working on an agreement to utilize and implement ONRR’s electronic data system, which will include automated production and accounting systems and compliance functions.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

26. Develop and implement Agency sampling thresholds and follow up on any identified discrepancies in a timely manner.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. Once the transition to ONRR is complete, ONRR will use its established materiality and threshold policies to identify and follow up on discrepancies in a timely manner.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

27. Reconsider its practice of entering oil lessee reports into the Osage Suite system.

BIA’s Response: While BIA concurred with this recommendation, BIA stated that the Agency must continue to utilize the Osage Suite in documenting those reports associated with reporting and accounting of royalties until such time that ONRR’s accounting system is implemented.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

28. Enter into an MOU with ONRR to implement ONRR’s system to address the Agency’s database deficiencies.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. BIA and ONRR are currently working to establish an agreement to implement ONRR’s production and accounting systems and related compliance functionality.

Fourth ON holds its fourth special session Nov. 3-5

Benny Polacca
Osage News

The Fourth Osage Nation Congress held its fourth special session Nov. 3-5 and passed seven pieces of legislation.

In all, five laws and two resolutions received unanimous or majority votes of approval including budget modifications and supplemental appropriations to already-passed budgets and amendments to current Osage laws. Those pieces of legislation passed are:

- ONCA 15-01: A supplemental appropriation for the ON Division of Land, Commerce and Public Safety 2015 fiscal year budget for \$1 million. According to a fiscal analysis of the bill, the original division budget bill (ONCA 14-77) was passed without including the budget for the ON Industrial Park in Hominy. ONCA 15-01 requests an additional \$77,050 in tribal funding and the remaining money coming from other funding sources, which totals over \$955,000. The bill passed unanimously 12-0. (Sponsored by Congressio-nal Speaker Maria Whitehorn)
- ONCA 15-02: A supplemental ap-propriation for the ON Division of Education and Early Childhood Ser-vices FY 2015 budget for \$156,302. According to the bill’s fiscal analy-sis, the requested amount will come from tribal funds and is intended to fund ON child care center workers in order for the facilities to retain state certification at the Pawhuska, Fairfax and Skiatook facilities.
- ONCA 15-04: A budget modification to the ON Congressional/ Legisla-tive Branch FY 2014 budget (ONCA 14-02) for \$100. According to a fiscal analysis of the bill, the FY 2014 legislative branch’s salaries/ wages line was found to have a \$68 deficit, prompting the need for budget action to close out the fiscal year in the black. To remedy the is-sue, ONCA 15-04 proposed shifting \$100 from the FY 2014 professional fees line to salaries/ wages. The bill passed 11-0 with one absence from Congressman John Maker on Nov. 4. (Sponsored by Congressional Second Speaker Alice Buffalohead)
- ONCA 15-05: A bill proposing to reduce the \$3.3 million earmarked for the proposed Fairfax senior/

child care center to fund an invest-ment toward a grocery store in the vacant Palace of the Osage Grocery Store on Fairfax’s Main Street. The bill proposed removing \$300,000 from the facility’s project costs and using it to invest in the building as part of a tentative deal reached by the Executive Branch and an interested grocer to bring a food store to town. The bill (sponsored by Congressman Archie Mason) passed with an 11-1 vote with one “no” from Congressman John Jech.

- ONCA 15-06: A bill that amends the Osage Nation’s preference in employment law to include select enterprises (sponsored by Congressman RJ Walker).
- The bill proposes to extend the Osage preference-hiring requirement to Nation-owned enterprises, includ-ing Osage Limited Liability Company subsidiaries like Osage Manhattan Builders, which issue work project contracts. The bill passed with an 11-1 vote with one “no” from Congresswom-an Shannon Edwards who expressed concern whether the law would be car-ried out fairly and stated she did not want to see one company or individual get every consecutive work contract for construction projects, as an example.
- ONCR 15-01: A resolution to authorize and approve the execu-tion of a contract for treatment services or other integrated services in the 2015 fiscal year with the State of Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; and to authorize a limited waiver of sovereign im-munity from suit and a consent to jurisdiction. (Buffalohead)
- The billed passed with an 11-1 vote with one “no” from Edwards, who said she did not agree with all contents of the contract in the resolution. Con-gressman Ron Shaw said the Nation has entered into a similar contract be-fore with the state with the contract bringing in revenue to offset operational costs to the Nation’s TASC program. He added the state paid approximately \$27,000 to the Nation last year for this same contract.
- ONCR 15-02: A resolution to affirm the consent of the Osage Nation Congress to the continuation of litigation in ONCR 14-22 (a resolu-tion passed in September authoriz-ing consent for continued litigation related to wind farms in Osage County) and to expand consent to matters related to wind farms in Osage County (Edwards). The resolution passed with a 12-0 vote.

REPORT

–from Page 17

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

29. Enter into an MOU with ONRR to conduct compliance reviews, audits, and data mining for royalty compliance and verification.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. As part of the transition to production and accounting with ONRR, the agreement will include the compliance function such as up-front editing of reporting data, data mining, compliance reviews, and audits.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

30. Work with the Division of Energy and Minerals Development to implement the NIOGEMS program for electronic lease file management, and Agency lease and well mapping.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has been working with OIEED, and OIEED is readying NIOGEMS for implementation at the Agency.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

31. Develop and implement a records management program for Agency lease files to comply with the IARMM to include using the NIOGEMS program for electronic lease file management.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency has been working with OIEED, and OIEED is readying NIOGEMS for implementation at the Agency.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

32. Work with the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development to implement the NIOGEMS program for the Agency’s tract management.

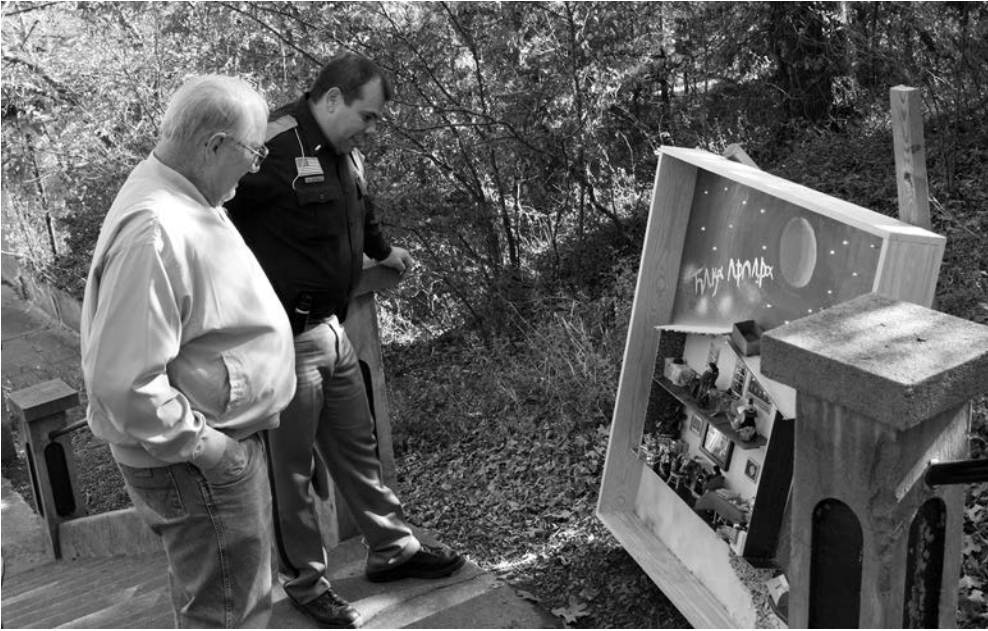
BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. BIA has been working with OIEED, and OIEED is readying NIOGEMS for implementation at the Agency.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.

33. Automate its lease acreage data to ensure accurate information is available to the Agency and Council.

BIA’s Response: BIA concurred with this recommendation. The Agency will ensure all mineral leases are encoded into Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS) and the information is up to date and correct. This will include the first and last production date of all producing or nonproducing wells. The system will then be capable of producing a report of available acreage. In addition, an Osage-specific TAAMS module is being prepared for the Agency that will address some of the unique needs associated with the mineral estate.

OIG’s Reply: Based on BIA’s response we consider this recommendation resolved but not implemented. We will refer this recommendation to PMB to track implementation.



ART

–from Page 17

receiving \$75 gift cards. The winners will also receive Wah-Zha-Zhi Christmas T-Shirts from the day’s events.

The art is to be maintained by the teams themselves to protect them from the elements. The pieces were displayed rain or shine.

The *Osage News* will post the winners of the contest once they are announced.

CHALENE TOEHAY/Osage News

TOP LEFT: Kelly Corbin and ONPD Lt. Marchmont “Marchy” Big Eagle look at an intricately designed doll house with Osage details in every room.

CHALENE TOEHAY/Osage News

BOTTOM LEFT: A scene from an intricately made four-foot dollhouse that was entered into the Employee “Art on the Stairs” inaugural contest.

OPINION

Osage News

CLASSIFIEDS



Leah Matin Waller



Gregg Hampton



Joseph Goodfox, Jr.



Juniper Bee Rollins-Hafer

Thank You!

Hun-Kah-Me (Sacred Eagle Women) Leah Matin Waller, O Pon (Elk Clan), Daughter of Me-Xo-Shee Jake Waller, Osage County; Christena Dilbeck, Pawnee, Okla. Granddaughter of George E. Waller and Mah-Kah-Che-Ke Marguerite Matin Waller, Thomas Dilbeck and Elizabeth Dilbeck, Hominy. Great-granddaughter

of the Ki-He-Kah Tun-Kah Walter Matin and Leh-Tah-Mit-ze-Xe Helen Matin, original Osage allottees. Leah was raised and resides on her family's Osage allotments of Osage County. Leah has danced in the In-Lon-Schka's her whole life, all three districts. She is a junior at Hominy, also Vo-Tech for her doctrine degree in the medical field. Leah would

like to thank everyone, God Bless.

Happy Birthday!

Gregg Hampton is turning 7 on Dec. 31! Happy 7th birthday to our boy who is growing and changing everyday! We love you so much, Mommy and Daddy.

Happy Birthday!

Special birthday wishes for Joseph Goodfox Jr. who turns 10 on Nov. 29. Joseph is in the 4th grade at Hominy and plays football for Pawhuska. He loves to dance at powwows, and be with family. Joseph is the son of Alice and Jerod Bufalohead and Joe Goodfox Sr.

We love you, son.

Congratulations!

Daniel Hafer and Amy Rollins, of Camarillo, Calif., welcomed their daughter, Juniper Bee Rollins-Hafer on Oct. 16. Proud grandparents include

Susan and Steven Hafer, Pat and Art Ecker, of Camarillo, Calif., and great-great-grandmother Mary Roach of Shidler, Okla. Juniper's great-great-great-grandfather was Wilfred D. Roach.

Happy Anniversary!

Lee and Kathleen Johnson celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary with many friends, relatives, neighbors, and Sunday school classmates.

Kathy was a babysitter and Sunday school teacher for many years.

Lee was a carpenter for a junior college. He was drafted into the U.S. Navy and sent to radio school in Texas.

Lee is part Osage and Cherokee. He has made many mission trips to Mexico, Spain, Venezuela, and Ecuador.

Lee and Kathy reside in Owasso. Happy Anniversary!

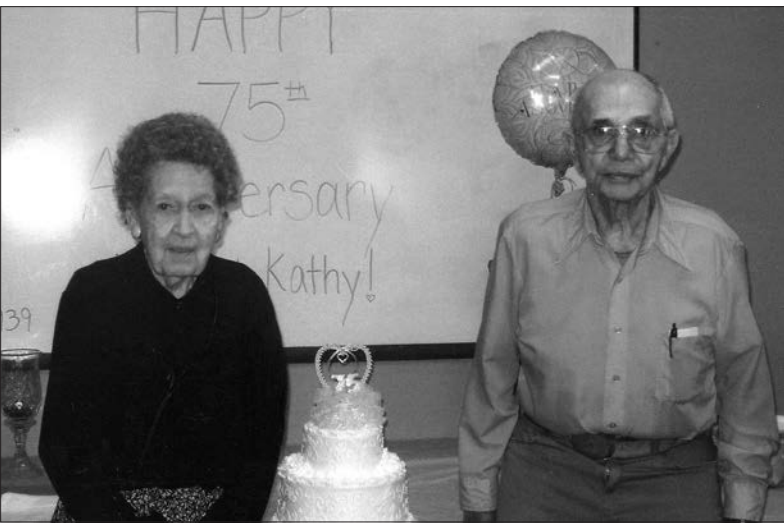
Osage Scholarship deadlines approach

The Osage Nation Education Department has a mission to provide services to enrolled Osage members to aid them in obtaining skills needed to become productive individuals and contributors to their community. This is achieved through tribal- and federally-funded educational and training programs.

So with the holidays quickly approaching, interested individuals or current students need to keep in mind the application deadlines for ON Higher Education Scholarships: Quarterly session is Dec. 15 and Semester session is Dec. 31.

Applications along with requirement and compliance information are available at the tribe's website www.osagenation-nsn.gov as well as other information regarding educational support. The Osage Nation assists with college fees, certifi-

See SCHOLARSHIPS
—Continued on Page 18



Kathleen and Lee Johnson

Osage Nation Burial Assistance Application Process



- Submit an application **within 30 days** of time of death
- Provide copy of Osage Membership Card for deceased individual
- Provide a copy of a death certificate for the deceased individual
- Provide a copy of an itemized Funeral Home statement of the deceased individual

The application is complete when all pertinent documentation is received by this office; once the application is complete a letter of approved funds and check will be mailed to the funeral home. Notice will also be sent to the applicant informing them of the amount being paid to the funeral home.

- Allow 10-14 working days for **completed** application to be processed and a check issued.

*For more information, questions, or concerns please contact the
Osage Nation Constituent Services Office*

Osage Nation Constituent Services Office
Attention: W. Jacque Jones, Administrator
621 Grandview • Pawhuska, OK 74056
Phone: (918) 287-5662
Fax: (918) 287-5221 • Fax: (918) 699-5221
Email: jjones@osagetribe.org



Courtesy Photo

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear (third from left), Cherokee Nation Chief Bill Baker (vest) and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief George Tiger (third from right) met Nov. 19 with the Tulsa Regional Chamber.

Chiefs hold joint meeting

For the first time a joint meeting between the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and the Osage Nation was held on Nov. 19.

"This meeting happens at a time when government funding is being withdrawn from the Indians, the states, and local governments," said Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear in a prepared release. "We can see that mutual cooperation between the Indian nations, the Tulsa Regional Chamber, and local governments can encourage private sector growth and sensible government regulation. The result should be well-paying jobs and reliable economic activity."

Although the tribal Nations have met individually over the years with the Tulsa Regional Chamber, this was the first time all three met to discuss job creation, politics and their tribal economies as a group, according to a prepared release. Standing Bear first suggested the meeting shortly after his election.

Indian gaming and the upcoming gaming compact negotiations with the State of Oklahoma were discussed. All agreed upon mutual support in the compact negotiations for the Tulsa region and the three Nations.

Post 198 to host Community Christmas Party Dec. 13

Attention all Pawhuska residents! Come one, come all to American Legion Post 198's Annual Community Christmas Party being held at the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center, 1449 W. Main St. (next door to Alco) at 6 p.m. on Dec. 13.

Treat your family to a free steak dinner with all the trimmings and let your kids pick up a stocking full of goodies to tide them over till Christmas. Leon Hawzipta will be on hand to tell some Native American stories.

Rumor has it that Santa Claus may also make an appearance! So mark the date on your calendars and we'll be looking for you there!



William Dale Trumbly

William Dale Trumbly

Husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, William Dale Trumbly passed from this world on Friday, October 31, 2014 in Norman, OK. Bill (aka ‘Dale’) lived most of his life in his beloved state of Oklahoma. Born on September 27, 1921 on a farm in Osage County, Bill was one of 11 children. He was a proud member of the Osage Tribe, having been given the name Ma-Za-No-Phe.

Bill graduated from Stillwater High School in 1939 and received a B.S. from Oklahoma A&M in 1943. He volunteered for the Army and landed in Normandy, France 10 days after D-Day. As a lieutenant in Company D, 38th Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Bill saw 234 days on the front line, including the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts and a battlefield promotion to 1st Lieutenant.

After the war, Bill married Earlene Elizabeth Cox in 1945, returned to college using the GI Bill and started a family. Together they had 5 children. After Earlene passed on, Bill married Ann Burham Trumbly on January 4, 1991. They were married for 23 happy and contented years.

With a B.S. in Geology from the University of Oklahoma, Bill worked in the oil industry for Republic Natural Gas, Mobil Oil, and later as an independent geologist in Dallas, Texas. He served as President

of both the Oklahoma City and Dallas Geological Societies.

He led a very active life, including being a Scout Master with the Boy Scouts of America. He participated in the founding of five churches, the last being St. Mark in Norman. With Ann’s support, Bill participated for many years in the Veteran’s Administration’s Golden Age Games, earning multiple medals and serving as an inspiration to all. He even retained his ability to fit smartly into his uniform. Over the years, he earned Bronze, Silver and Gold medals for a variety of events ranging from golf, bowling, discus, and shot put. He participated in this year’s games in July and earned 2 more Bronze Awards. In 2010, he was given the George Gangi Inspiration Award.

Bill enjoyed thinking up new inventions, telling family stories, bowling and golfing. He was an honorable man, full of faith in God and love of his country. He is survived by his wife Ann, his 5 children: Bill Trumbly, Jr., Mary Adair Les-

lie, Toya Paynter, Jim Trumbly and Nancy Benthien, Ann’s 2 children: Mark and Laura Woelflin, 9 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren as well as many nieces, nephews and countless friends including those at Village on the Park where he and Ann lived for 2 years. He will be missed by all.

Visitation is from 2-4 p.m., Sunday Nov. 2 at Havenbrook Funeral Home. A wake service will be 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 2 and a Mass will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 3 both at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church with interment to follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you donate to either to St. Vincent de Paul at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church or to a charity of your choice.

Friends may leave condolences at www.havenbrookfuneralhome.com.

SCHOLARSHIPS

—from Page 17

cation and licensing, tutoring, and internship/externship programs. Federal-funding aids the Johnson O’Malley program, classroom training, supportive and career services, and the summer youth work experience which are open to all eligible Native Americans residing within the Nation’s service area of Osage County.

The Osage Nation offers funding to help minimize or alleviate the financial responsibility of the student; however, seeking other financial support is encouraged. One may request information directly from the educational department by calling toll free 1-800-390-6724.

CLASSIFIEDS

Osage Nation Jobs: Applications may be downloaded at www.osagetribe.com/main_job-search.aspx or obtained at the Osage Nation Human Resources Department located at 621 Grandview in Pawhuska. Interested applicants can also call (918) 287-5445 or email HR at atrumbly@osagetribe.org. Applications must be received in Human Resources no later than 4 p.m. on the date of closing. Late applications will not be accepted.

Osage Casinos Careers. Various Osage Casino Locations. For more information contact www.osagecasinos.com/careers

Property Coordinator – Pawhuska TDLA. Bachelor’s Degree required in Business or any other Bachelor’s Degree relating to property management or real estate preferred. Education requirements may be satisfied with a minimum of four (4) years of closely related experience including at least (2) years of experience with federal realty program organization and administration. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$26.20/hr.

Case Manager II – Pawhuska. Bachelor’s degree in Substance Abuse, Social Work, Psychol-

ogy or Behavior Health field, required. Must have a Case Manager II certification. Must obtain a CDAC (Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor) license within one year. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$17.92/hr.

GIS/Computer Technician – Pawhuska Historic Preservation. Master’s degree in GIS, Archaeology, Anthropology, Geography, or related field required. Must have 2 years’ experience with geographic information systems, archaeological field work, Cultural Resource Management (CRM, or tribal – federal historic compliance review work. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$26.63/hr.

NAGPRA Assistant – Pawhuska Historic Preservation. Bachelor’s degree in Anthropology, Applied Indigenous Studies, Native American Studies, Museum Studies, required. At least two years’ experience in related field required. Must be knowledgeable in NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act). Regular Full Time. Salary: \$20.92/hr.

Registered Dietitian – Pawhuska Diabetes. Bachelor’s degree in Science and Nutrition required. Current, unrestricted, Registered Dietitian License. Basic Life Support Certification preferred; must obtain a Basic Life Support Certification within 90 days of hire. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$24.41/hr.

Assistant Election Supervisor – Pawhuska Election. Must have a High School Diploma or GED. Associate’s Degree in Business Administration or other closely related field preferred. Must have experience that provides applicant with desired skills, knowledge and ability to perform duties. Experience with working with tribal government is preferred. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$16.83/hr.

Archaeologist I – Pawhuska Historic Preservation. Master’s degree from an accredited university in Anthropology with a specialization in Archaeology required. Must have completed an archaeology field school. Must have 2 year’s experience with archaeological field work, geographic information systems, Cultural Resource Management (CRM) and/or tribal-federal historic compliance review work. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$26.63/hr.

Social Worker (Adult Protective

Services) – Pawhuska Social Services. Bachelor’s Degree required in Social Work or related field and two years of social work experience working with the elderly and vulnerable adults. Must be able to effectively assess, diagnose and apply intervention techniques when dealing with elderly and family related problems. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$23.61/hr.

CDIB/Membership Director – Pawhuska CDIB – Membership. Bachelor’s Degree in Management, Business Administration preferred or related field. At least two years’ experience in supervising at least five employees. Knowledge of Customer Resource Management (CRM) software preferred; must become proficient within 30 days. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$24.30/hr.

Safety/Maintenance Technician – Pawhuska Roads. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Associates Degree (in any course of study) preferred. Knowledge and experience of road and bridge construction and maintenance preferred. Must be physically able to perform assigned job duties in adverse weather conditions. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$16.34/hr.

Certification Specialist – Pawhuska Child Care. Associate’s degree in Early Childhood,

Business or Communications preferred. At least three year’s experience in related field. Requires a high level of personal integrity and ethics. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$16.07/hr.

Receptionist – Pawhuska WIC. High school diploma required with 2 to 4 years’ experience in an office environment. Requires excellent customer service skills. Requires good organizational skills. Requires a high level of personal integrity and ethics. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$11.50/hr.

Substance Abuse Counselor – Pawhuska Counseling Center. Bachelor’s degree in Counseling, Psychology, or Social Work preferred. Two (2) to four (4) years’ experience in related field. Must have a current LADC license. Must be familiar with domestic violence cases and provide counseling for clients. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$20.74/hr.

Child Care Provider – Pawhuska WELC. High school diploma or GED. One (1) year previous experience as a day care or child care provider in a licensed day care facility preferred but not required. Child Development Associate Certification preferred but not required; must obtain CDA Certification with 6 months of hire. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$11.50/hr.

Social Worker (Indian Child Welfare) – Pawhuska Social Services. Master’s Degree in Social Work or related field preferred. Bachelor’s Degree in Social work with three (3) years direct working experience in child welfare services may be substituted for Master’s Degree. Must be able to effectively assess, diagnose and apply intervention techniques when dealing with child and family related problems. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$23.67/hr.

Treasurer – Pawhuska Accounting. Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, Accounting, Finance, or related field with Certified Public Accountant’s license; Master’s Degree preferred. Must be at least twenty-five (25) years of age and have never been convicted of a felony. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$55.29/hr.

PRN, LPN and Home Health Aide, Osage Home Health. Apply at 128 E. 6th, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or call (918) 287-5645.



Do you describe yourself as possessing a passion and dedication for providing exceptional guest service? Does working for one of Oklahoma’s premier gaming and entertainment companies sound exciting to you? If so, Osage Casino would like you to apply online for an opportunity at joining our winning team.

Numerous career opportunities are available at one of our seven casino locations in Tulsa, Bartlesville, Ponca City, Pawhuska, Hominy, Skiatook and Sand Springs.

Employment Benefits include:

- Competitive Salaries
- Paid Holidays and Vacation*
- Health, Vision & Dental Insurance Plans*
- Employer Matched 401k*
- Tuition Assistance*
- Short Term Disability*
- Company Paid Long Term Disability*
- Company Paid Life Insurance*

*available after introduction period

A COMPLETE LIST OF CURRENT OPENINGS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE www.osagecasinos.com

The Osage Casinos are an Osage Tribe and Indian preference employer. Direct deposit is a required condition for employment with Osage Casinos.



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www.osagenews.org

Response to
political correctness

I would like to respond to those who attempt to justify prejudice and ignorance.

Why do you attack our Chief? Of course you were asked your opinion on all Osage matters. It was in the form of a vote! Now, if you didn't vote you can still have your opinion. Our chief is our representative on all Osage matters. Would you expect the chief of the great Osage Nation to have the opinion that it's okay to defame all Indians? I think not! Think back to the 60's, the federal government had to stop people like George Wallace who wanted the status quo. My way of thinking isn't too far from yours, but being mean spirited only inflames.

I have not yet met Chief Standing Bear, but I have talked to him on numerous occasions. First of all he loves the Osage people and truly wants to help. I find him to be honorable and sincere. I also consider him to be a friend. So, you can still have your opinion, but try being respectful. It will get you a lot farther in life.

—Roger Duffey
Salem, Ore.

Tribe is hurting
FedEx employees

I am upset and ashamed that the leadership of our great tribe took the position opposing the Washington football team using the name Redskins. I consider their use of "Redskins" to be an honor for us Indians. I think the leadership should have checked into why that name. They named their team in HONOR of an Indian in their organization. This action is political correctness run amok. I oppose political correctness and will vote against those who practice it. By the way, while we are being ridiculous why not object to the use of Indians, braves, Seminoles, etc? Maybe the people of India should be offended that we are called Indians. To compound the error of our leaders, they called for boycott of FedEx. The use of a boycott should be reserved for very serious offense; not for such frivolous things as a team name. The result of boycott is that innocent employees have their livelihood threatened. It is very likely that many FedEx employees are Indian and possible that some are Osage. I am calling on the leadership of the tribe to end their senseless attack and their harmful action against FedEx. An apology to the Washington Redskins is in order.

—Frank Sandford
Spokane, Wash.

What's in a name?

I appreciate Mr. Dale Kearney's comments in the Letters to the Editor of the Nov 2014 issue. Like me, he wonders what's wrong with the use of "Redskins" as a team name. Teams always pick strong, capable mascots for their name (e.g. Detroit Lions, New York Giants). If anything, we should be flattered our heritage is represented. Also like me, Mr. Kearney is an off-res

member proud to be on the Osage rolls. I enjoy my *Osage News* to keep in touch and always follow elections and other activities.

Mr. Kearney and I seem to differ, though, regarding our new Principal Chief. I'm thrilled he cares about waste, is actively engaged, and is doing his best! I can't accept Chief Standing Bear's challenge to boycott FedEx, though. The Redskins were named in 1932. That's 80 years of tribal members not being offended. Why are we choosing to suddenly be offended by a name, which actually reflects our strength and victories?

—Lori Anderson
Troy, Mo.

224 Concerned Citizens

Our community should be thankful for those 224 concerned citizens who allowed us to submit their signed letters of comment in person to the Oklahoma State Corporation Commission.

Beginning at the December 2nd hearing at 10 a.m. in the Oklahoma Corporation Commission courtroom 310, the efforts of these 224 citizens and their letters of comment will potentially help pave the way for Oklahoma state legislation disallowing future inappropriate building of wind farms in areas such as tribal, natural resource, scenic and ecologically sensitive areas.

The Oklahoma State Corporation Commission is a regulatory agency for the State of Oklahoma with emphasis on the Fuel, Oil and Gas, Public Utilities, and Transportation Industries, and currently the commission is identifying and resolving issues relating to the development and use of wind energy within Oklahoma. These 224 letters of comment will aid the Oklahoma Corporation Commissioners in identifying areas in the state (such as the Osage) where wind farms are inappropriate to site, and also help the commissioners resolve potential regulations enabling both community officials and wind farms to abide by up-and-coming state laws.

Ultimately, the input from these citizens will aid Oklahoma state legislators in forming the legislation desperately needed in this state to hopefully prevent a repeat of what has happened in the Osage Nation/ Osage County.

Letter contributors include both Osage and non-Osage; home owners, renters, merchants, farmers, mineral shareholders, elected officials, tribal employees, oil producers and more from every walk of life and from across the U.S. These 224 citizens are being mindful and dedicated enough to keep up with current issues of concern and to take action to provide a clear road for future generations.

—Scott Lohah
Hominy, Okla.

—Nanette Kelley
McKinleyville, Calif.

Without Reservations



Cartoon © Santo Domingo Pueblo Cartoon Artist, Ricardo Caté

BREASTFEEDING

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phrenia, anxiety or some other form of mental illness, but not all anti-depressants are created equal when it comes to breastfeeding.

"A lot of moms dealing with it (depression) are on something beforehand," Richardson said. "If you're on anti-depressants during pregnancy, the baby got a larger dose in utero than via breastfeeding. There are safer meds than others, but you've got to check the medication information closely."

At the end of the day, it is up to the mother to take the initiative and determine if and how her health needs can be safely managed while breastfeeding. To facilitate that research, the National Institutes of Health maintains LactMed, a regularly updated online database and mobile app of medications and their impact on breastfeeding, including a list of alternative compatible prescription drugs.

Regularly incompatible pharmaceuticals generally fall into three categories: chemotherapy drugs, medications that could be classified as controlled substances and nuclear medicines. However, depending on the child's age and whether the mother is exclusively breastfeeding or supplementing, other medications might not jive with nursing.

"The rest are on a case-by-case basis," Thomas said. "In general, if it's safe to give to a baby or a small child, it's generally compatible with breastfeeding."

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ELDERS

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South Africa. She says with each handful of moist earth she is given the opportunity to express herself in a manner that reflects what has been left for her – a way to look at the world and a way to think as an Osage woman."

Shannon's information in the program: "Given the Osage name Wah Kon Sea, meaning 'When the deer herd looks up,' has led Native programs that have helped to lay the foundation for a better and stronger tomorrow as a consultant to tribal nations including the Choctaw, Cherokee, Osage and Peoria tribes, as well as work nationally with the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. He has volunteered for the Sequoia Club (OU Indian student organization), the Board of Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Inc., the American Indian Alumni Society of the University of Oklahoma and the American Indian Chamber of Commerce. He is the son of the first full-blood Osage woman to graduate high school and has taught Native Americans to lead with compassion, to respect and embrace cultural identity and to never lose sight of history."

In six years, the Oklahoma AARP has honored 300 elders, representing 39 recognized tribes and nations.

December 18th is the
deadline for all submissions
for the **January** issue of the

 **Osage News**

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