

# Santa Fe Indian Market PAGE 1, 10







Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear speaks at the Aug. 24 celebration of the Bluestem Ranch acquisition. The event took place in a covered tent on the ranch property northwest of Hominy with tribal and federal government officials in attendance along with the Osage public and representatives of media mogul Ted Turner, who previously owned the 43,000-acre ranch.

# Osage Nation celebrates purchase of Bluestem Ranch

**Benny Polacca** Osage News

NORTHWEST OF HOMI-NY, Okla. – A white covered, air-conditioned tent with a stage, chandelier lighting and hundreds of chairs stood on the rolling hills of the Bluestem Ranch to serve as the venue where the Osage Nation celebrated the 43,000-acre

ranch purchase on a breezy and toasty summer day.

On Aug. 24, tribal and federal government officials along with the Osage public and fellow community members filled the tent to commemorate the Nation's historic land acquisition of the ranch. Now the Nation will be one of the largest landowners in Osage County once again, thanks to winning

the bid on the ranch previously owned by media mogul Ted Turner.

The Nation is scheduled to take possession of the ranch on Nov. 1, per the agreement. The Nation also secured the water rights to the property as part of the agreement. Turner, chairman of Turner

> See CELEBRATION —Continued on Page 4



Courtesy Photo/Ashley Crawford

Wilhelm Murg, Jr.'s former estate he sold to a Pawhuska resident. He is alleging a Minerals Councilwoman conspired with a BIA employee to buy the house at a low price.

# Man files ethics complaint on Osage official for harassment and misconduct

**Shannon Shaw Duty** 

Osage News

After his father's death in November of last year, Wilhelm Murg, Jr. became the sole heir to his Osage mother's estate.

Located southeast of Pawhuska off of Highway 99 on 12.6 acres of restricted Indian land, sits a large two-story house, "the first home to have a swimming pool in Osage

See MURG

—Continued on Page 8







All Photos SHANNON SHAW DUTY / Osage News

LEFT: Work by Dante Biss-Grayson for the 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market. Part of his "Blue Series." CENTER: Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptures. Her work is displayed throughout the world. RIGHT: Blair Robbins, Osage artist, showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. A portrait of Osage ballerina Maria Tallchief and an aluminum steel wire sculpture.

# Osages display at 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market, largest Native art market in the world

**Shannon Shaw Duty** 

Osage News

SANTA FE, N.M. – In booth No. 508 on Old Santa Fe Trail in downtown historic Santa Fe plaza is Addie Roanhorse and her brother Dante Biss-Grayson. Their bright and colorful paintings stand out in the sea of pottery, sculpture and jewelry. They are a second generation of Osage artists that have made it a tradition to show at the Santa Fe Indian Market.

Founded in 1922, the San-

ta Fe Indian Market is the Legacies world's largest juried Native art show that awards a total of \$90,000 annually in prize money to artists, artist fellowships, youth and professional mentoring workshops, according to a news release. It's one of New Mexico's largest attractions with over 120,000 people visiting each year. Artists can make up to half of their yearly income during Indian Market weekend, which took place this year Aug. 20-21.

Standing in their booth, comfortable and laid back, Roanhorse and Biss-Grayson talked about their artwork, their inspirations, and growing up the children of the late famed Osage artist Gina Gray who died in 2014.

Biss-Grayson, 39, said he feels no pressure showing and selling his work for market. He said it's a great and positive atmosphere where he gets

See SFIM

—Continued on Page 7



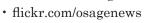
Acrylic and mixed media works by Addie Roanhorse, who showed her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Left is the portrait of an Osage man. Right is the portrait of Henry Roan who was killed during the Osage Reign of Terror.

# **INSIDE THE OSAGE NEWS**

Rally Held in Support of Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	Elder Series: Frank Oberly
Var Memorial Commission Members take Oaths3	Energy Column1
Bluestem Ranch Board Seeks Lease5	Culture Column16
Nation Donates \$10K for Ambulance Living Quarters 6	Classifieds / Obituaries18

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# Wahzhazhe Youth Council held rally in support of Standing **Rock Sioux Tribe**

Congresswoman Angela Pratt sponsors resolution in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

**Shannon Shaw Duty** Osage News

NativeTheOklahomaStands with Standing Rock Rally took place after this edition of the Osage News went to press. Check for coverage online at www.osagenews.org and in next month's edition.

Wahzhazhe Youth Council held a rally Saturday in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's fight against the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline through their reservation. The rally was held at Ben Johnson Cultural Park in Pawhuska.

The event, Native Oklahoma Stands with Standing Rock Rally, was an effort to raise donations and awareness of the DAPL and the potential harmful effects it could have for those living on the Standing Rock reservation, located in North Dakota. It was also a way for the Osage youth to show their support for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's sovereignty and water rights, said Wahzhazhe Youth Council (WYC) President Alaina Maker.

Construction of the DAPL has been temporarily halted by the protest that has drawn over a thousand protesters from Native American tribes across Indian Country, and

garnered national media attention.

"I felt compelled to do this because I felt as a youth I needed to do something to show I support all Natives in their fight to be sovereign and choose things for their own reservations," Maker said. "I know we do have oil on our own reservation and we have accepted royalties, but just because we made that choice doesn't mean we can't support other tribes and be there to support them in whatever decisions they make."

The WYC consists of 13 members and met Aug. 30 at the Executive Branch offices in Pawhuska. Present at the meeting were WYC Vice President Noah Shadlow, Treasurer Eli Red Eagle, and members Truman and Parrish Pipestem. The WYC finalized the agenda as follows:

- 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Accepting donations at Ben Johnson Cultural Park (6th Street and Lynn)
- 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Speakers from the Osage Nation and community
- 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Dinner served of Corn Soup, green beans, salad and drinks
- 6:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. Last speaker

Ericka Iron, Osage tribal member, also accepted donations at the event. Her "Fill Up the Trunk" event coincided with the rally. She took the donations to the Standing Rock



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

Wahzhazhe Youth Council members listen to their advisor Cherise Lookout as they discuss set up of the Native Oklahoma Stands with Standing Rock Rally on Aug. 30.

reservation in North Dakota that day.

Maker, 22 and who currently works for the Wah-Zha-Zhi Early Learning Academy developing cultural curriculum, said they were working on renting a U-Haul truck to take any additional items donated.

The WYC meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Executive Branch offices in Pawhuska. Members must be 14-24 years old, Osage tribal members and be willing to organize, plan and participate in community projects.

### **Osage Congressional** Resolution

Osage Nation Congresswoman Angela Pratt sponsored ONCR 16-36, a resolution in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in defense of their sovereign rights. The Fifth Osage Nation Congress will consider ONCR 16-36 during the Tzi-Zho Session.

"The Standing Rock Sioux called upon other Nations to support them in their opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline because it is an encroachment on their tribal sovereignty and poses a serious threat to their only water source on the reservation and the health and welfare of their people," Pratt said. "As an Osage, I believe that the Osage Nation should answer that call, along with approximately 90 other tribes who have done so. Like the Osage, the Standing Rock Sioux Council has the responsibility to protect their people, land and resources, exercise their sovereignty and preserve the integrity of the environment for future generations and I support them in their efforts."

According to the resolution, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is opposing the construction of approximately 1,100 miles of pipeline that has the capacity to carry 570,000 barrels of crude oil per day. It will cross the Missouri River, above the mouth of the Cannonball River on the reservation, the tribe's main water source. A 2013 oil spill released some 840,000 gallons of oil upstream near Tioga, N.D. and a 2015 oil spill released 51,000 gallons of oil

into the Yellowstone River upstream from Glendive, Mont., resulting in the shutdown of the community water system for 6,000 residents, according to the resolution.

"The Osage have a historical connection to the Missouri River as it was a source of life for us and allowed us to continue to exist, which is what the Standing Rock Sioux have a right to. Indian people are too often disregarded as if they are saying 'I dare them to say or do something,' such as when the pipeline was rerouted from Bismarck, N.D. to a half mile from the reservation," Pratt said. "So just as movements like Idle No More call upon us as Indigenous people to do - we need to say and do something to support one another in holding agencies accountable and protecting the inherent authority of Tribes, sacred lands and natural resources. Seventh Generation and the National Congress of American Indians policy agenda, First Kids 1st, both summon us to live and work for the benefit of future generations. That's what this is about."

# Chief Standing Bear visits with Rep. Frank Lucas about the Native American Languages Reauthorization Act

**Benny Polacca** Osage News

U.S. Congressman Frank Lucas visited with Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear and his administration during an Aug. 9 visit to Pawhuska.

At the start of the meeting, a group of Osage language immersion school students came to the Chief's office and sang a song in the Osage language for Lucas (R-Okla.), with his staff members and ON officials present. Everyone applauded the students who then shook hands with Lucas before leaving with their teachers.

Afterward, Standing Bear, along with other Executive Branch officials including Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn, discussed a few topics with Lucas, including reauthorizing the Native American Languages Act. Lucas was visiting several regional cities that day to hold town hall meetings with constituents.

Standing Bear said the Nation is interested in seeking other funding sources to fund the Nation's immersion school program to help offset tribal revenue spending for government operations, which comes from the seven-Osage Casino Gaming Enterprise.

Also joining the conversation was Cameron Pratt, who has worked as an Osage language instructor and on other language preservation efforts

over the years. "Currently, funding to get this immersion school going is very crucial, we need to get the infrastructure going as far as personnel and staff and give them training in the language," Pratt said.

"I assume there's a strong interest among (Osage) members that this be available," Lucas asked the group. The group said yes and Standing Bear spoke about challenges in funding the immersion program, including hiring qualified teachers who would commit to relocation to the Nation for the jobs.

Standing Bear said the immersion school started its second year with a kindergarten class. Enrollment is up to 28 students this year from 18 in 2015, he said.

"We need teachers, we have the students, we have the need



CHALENE TOEHAY-TARTSAH/Osage News

Students from the Osage Language Immersion class sing for Congressman Frank Lucas during his visit to the Osage Nation on August 9.

... anything we can get would help," Standing Bear said, who also asked Lucas if there's any help the Nation could offer to help reauthorize the Native American Languages Act.

See LANGUAGE —Continued on Page 5



CHALENE TOEHAY-TARTSAH/Osage News

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear visits with Congressman Frank Lucas and his staff on Aug. 9.

Osage News

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September 2016 3 Osage News • osagenews.org

# 'Wahzhazhe: An Osage Ballet' awes crowd in Santa Fe, N.M.

Tara Madden

Osage News

The Osage Ballet performed "Wahzhazhe" twice on Aug. 6 at the Lensic Performing Arts Center in Santa Fe, N.M.

"It was a successful trip, the crowds were really receptive, I got a lot of emails and calls asking when we're coming back," said Randy Tinker-Smith, the ballet's director. "It was an especially off-the-charts opportunity for our children to be able to perform alongside such huge talent. Principal Dancer Miki Kawamura from the Oklahoma City Ballet was exquisite. Our male dancers seemed to fly across the stage, their jumps were so powerful!"

The ballet contains scenes about Osage customs, social interactions, Indian boarding schools, as well as the lucrative oil years. They tell the story of the Osage murders also referred to as the "Reign of Terror" – as well as honoring military veterans and the Osage adapting and walking in two worlds.

Tinker-Smith said five members of the Oklahoma City Ballet joined the performance, including their director Shane Jewell. She said Jewell is a former mentor and has helped guide her as the ballet evolved.

"The pro-dancers mentored our children and showed them the discipline required to dance ballet," Tinker-Smith said. "One child had intended to quit ballet after the performances. After working with the pro-dancers, she was inspired to continue studying ballet."

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear introduced both performances to the crowd in Santa Fe and showed his support to the ballet and Osage arts, she said. The audience members were deeply touched



Courtesy Photo/Osage Ballet

The Osage Ballet performed in Santa Fe, N.M.

by the performance and by the Osage story it told. Approximately 200 children from different Pueblos and southwest tribes were in attendance and most had never seen a ballet,

The Ballet has hopes to perform in Rolla, Mo., in 2017 when they unveil the Osage Trail Legacy statue in nearby Cuba. The Springfield, Mo., orchestra has said they would like to play the music for the ballet, she said.

"Our story touches people's hearts and gives an understanding of what we as Osage have endured and the victories we have had. We are a strong Nation and the ballet has given us an artistic platform to define ourselves," Tinker-Smith said.

In August 2012, the ballet debuted at Holland Hall in Tulsa and at the Bartlesville Community Center. The ballet performed in March 2013 at the Rasmuson Theater at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. In September 2015, the ballet traveled to Philadelphia to perform at the International Festival of Families where His Holiness Pope Francis was also in attendance.

Smith owns and operates the Dance Maker Academy, a performing arts academy in Pawhuska where she teaches classes for future generations of Osages in ballet.

The academy opened in 2014 with Smith instructing and Randy Tinker-Smith as director. The academy performs a ballet recital each spring to showcase their young ballet students.

The Dance Maker academy is a non-profit organization and donations from the Osage Nation and Osage Nation Foundation and private donors help to keep the ballet traveling to share the story of the Osage people on stage.

"Chief Standing Bear is a wonderful supporter of Osage art. We are so thankful to him, the Osage Nation Foundation, and Nancy Pillsbury Shirley for their continued support," said Jenna Smith.

For more information about the Dance Maker academy and the Osage Ballet visit www. osageballet.com or follow them on Facebook. You may also contact them at (918) 704-4668

# Osage War Memorial Commission members take their oaths

Five Osages appointed to the Osage War Memorial Commission took oaths for their service in pursuing a memorial project in Pawhuska.

Appointed by Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, those taking their oaths at the ON tribal courthouse on Aug. 4 were Richard Luttrell, Frances West, John Henry Mashunkashey, Franklin McKinley and Richard Perrier. ON Trial Court Chief Judge Marvin Stepson (also an Army veteran) administered the oaths for the appointees.

The appointees will also be subject to confirmation by the Fifth ON Congress, which convenes for the 2016 Tzi-Zho Session starting Sept. 6.

According to a news release. the War Memorial Commission will engage in fundraising for the memorial and inform the public concerning the progress and needs of the project. The commission is also charged with oversight and control of the Osage War Memorial.

The commission was established by Osage law in 2011 (ONCA 11-86 sponsored by then-Congressman Standing Bear) after approval by the Third ON Congress. After that time, no commission members were appointed and the war memorial revolving fund established in the law remains with the appropriated funds unspent.

When ONCA 11-86 was

See MEMORIAL —Continued on Page 8



The Osage War Memorial Commission was sworn in on Aug. 4 by ON Trial Court Judge Marvin Stepson. From left: Chief Master Sargent Richard Perrier, Frances Williams, Stepson, John Henry Mashunkashey and Franklin McKinley.

# Surveillance of Osage Casino employees could change hands

**Benny Polacca** Osage News

Plans are underway to transfer the Osage Casino surveillance functions from the Osage Nation Gaming Commission back to the Osage Casinos, according to an executive order from Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear.

On Aug. 19, Standing Bear issued a written executive order stating: "After consultation with the (ON) Gaming Commission, Osage Casinos and (ON) Gaming Enterprise Board, and review of the documentation, it is the finding of the Principal Chief that security and efficiency of Osage gaming will be enhanced by transfer of surveillance functions from the (ON) Gaming Commission to the Osage Casinos."

See SURVEILLANCE

—Continued on Page 5



Richard Luttrell, Sr. (middle) was sworn in on Aug. 11 to serve on the Osage War Memorial Commission. He stands with Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear (left), and ON Trial Court Judge Marvin Stepson.

4 September 2016 ⊅O.ÞΛ Osage News • osagenews.org

# **CELEBRATION**

\_from Page

Enterprises Inc. and one of the largest individual landowners in North America, owned the ranch for 15 years.

As many as 300 people were in attendance to hear from government officials and a Turner Enterprises representative speak about the land purchase that started with a simple word-of-mouth tip in December 2015.

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear said he learned of the ranch sale opportunity during a meeting with Tim Tall Chief, the event's emcee, and Osage rancher Mark Freeman IV who told Standing Bear: "Chief, Ted Turner is talking about selling the Bluestem Ranch and the Osage Nation needs to buy it."

Timing became crucial once Standing Bear obtained a copy of the ranch bid package because the Nation had 30 days to make an offer with cash. Discussions involving parties including the Gaming Enterprise Board, the ON Congress, Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn and Bank of Oklahoma officials quickly started to obtain the money needed to secure the purchase.

The ranch purchase discussions included the gaming board in order to get their approval for the plan, which in-

cluded paying for the ranch with gaming revenue.

"Between Christmas and New Year's, (gaming board Chairman) Mark Simms told me the only way Osage Casinos would support the plan is if the plan included the expansion of the Osage Casino in Tulsa to increase the number of gaming machines, card tables and phase I of a hotel," Standing Bear said. "On Jan. 11, the (gaming board) approved the plan. We then took this plan to our Osage Congress who set the limits for the low amount authorized for the opening bid and the maximum amount for the purchase. After weeks of bids and counterbids - an intrigue fit for a small movie the Osage Nation emerged as the successful bidder."

The sale and purchase agreement of the ranch was executed on Feb. 28. On June 8, the closing transaction date, the ranch purchase price revealed was \$74 million.

"The owners of this land are now 20,190 Osage people," Standing Bear said. "This is the same land our ancestors walked over 100 years ago. We are working with the federal government to expedite a process, which will return this land to federal Indian reservation status. This means this land will be held in federal trust for us, the Osage living



More than 300 Osages and community members were in attendance at the Bluestem Ranch Acquisition Celebration on Aug. 24.

today and for the generations to come ... We cannot ever again be separated from this land and our heritage."

The Osages arrived in present-day Osage County from their former lands in Missouri and Kansas in 1871 with the Oklahoma lands comprising nearly 1.5 million acres. The U.S. Congress later divided those lands into individual parcels with the passage of the 1906 Osage Allotment Act.

Osage Minerals Council Chairman Everett Waller (Hominy District) spoke passionately about the land from a historical perspective, noting: "We've been here 300 years, I'm a direct descendent of Claremore and Black Dog, I want them to know today is a purchase of a property that all of our warriors died for, all of your grandparents were killed here, your children were killed down here, and we still called it home. Never forget what they did to get us here. When we got here in the 1870s, it was our last move."

ON Congressman and Second Speaker Otto Hamilton thanked everyone who had a role in the ranch purchase and said the Nation "used its sovereign right to increase our natural resource land base." He also referred to the ongoing protests in North Dakota against the Dakota Access Pipeline being constructed north of the Standing Rock Sioux reservation and the nearby Missouri River. Protestors argue the oil pipeline is a cultural and environmental threat, especially for drinking

water should a pipe leak occur. Hamilton noted the Standing Rock Sioux are also using their sovereign rights "to protect their natural resources, speaking for myself, I would like to tell them my thoughts and prayers are with them and I'd like to tell them 'wash-kon' – do your best for your people."

Osage Casinos CEO Byron Bighorse said the seven-casino enterprise recently finished its best year financially "and this purchase shows what great possibilities we have for the future of the Osage Nation ... My family, both the Bighorses and the Lesserts, grew up in this area, and I'm proud to be a part of bringing the land back to the Osage Nation."

Turner was unable to attend the celebration for health reasons and stayed behind at his ranch in Bozeman, Mont. Attending on his behalf was Taylor Glover, president and CEO of Turner Enterprises, Inc.

"Our primary reason for selling? Bluestem is far away from where our ranching operations are and our bison ranching operations have gotten to be a significant part of our overall enterprises and most of them are located in Montana, Nebraska and South Dakota, so I guess you can say we're consolidating," Glover said. "Ted was committed to finding an owner who would appreciate and manage the land the way he had," and Turner was

pleased to hear of the Nation's intentions to also preserve the land, he added.

Also attending was Vince Logan (Osage), who is the Special Trustee for American Indians in the U.S. Department of Interior. Logan (also Hominy District) expressed greetings on behalf of Secretary of Interior Sally Jewel. Logan said he was humbled to attend due to the importance of the milestone for Osages, especially those unable to attend or who have passed.

Justin Wilson (Choctaw Nation), a political appointee also in the OST like Logan, sent greetings on behalf of President Barack Obama and read a letter sent from the White House wishing the Nation the best. He then presented the letter to Standing Bear.

Going forward, Standing Bear said: "the use of this land will be determined by generation after generation of Osage. Those of us today have a duty to make sure the land is not destroyed. That is why among all the dozens of proposals we have received for use of this land, some proposals cannot be allowed to occur. A good example of such a proposal, which has been brought to us, is to bring in 7,000 wild mustang horses. This use might bring in more money than other uses, but the effect on the land would be significant."

"I hope one year from now we see this land as a refuge for our sacred bison, a classroom for our people, especially our young, a place where Osage companies and individuals will conduct profitable cattle operations and a place for well-regulated hunting and fishing recreation," Standing Bear said. "We must be careful not to stray too far away from the value of something good. Our traditions, our language, our land, all mean something put together - that alone has a value which is priceless."

# Osage Nation releases results of inaugural disability assistance program

Osage News

The Osage Nation's inaugural disability assistance program helped 50 constituents before the program funding was depleted earlier this summer.

The ON Financial Assistance Department administered the disability assistance program, which is the result of a \$50,000 appropriation bill (ONCA 15-107 sponsored by Congresswoman Alice Buffalohead) that was passed by the Fourth ON Congress during its Hun-Kah Session in April. After the bill's passage, the Executive Branch was charged with establishing criteria and procedures for accepting and reviewing applications and awarding approved applicants, which were announced in June.

By July 13, Jodie Revard, Financial Assistance Department director, said the program funds were depleted, so no more applications would be accepted for remainder of the fiscal year. According to the department, a total of 50 Osages received the disability assistance within 17 business days.

A news release reported the following results of the disability assistance program:

- Four Osages ages 1-21 received the assistance
- Twenty Osages ages 22-54
- Twenty-six elders ages 55 and greater

Of those 50:

- Thirteen reside outside of the Osage Nation/county boundaries
- Thirty-seven reside within the Nation
- Nine are military veterans

The disability assistance program is 100 percent funded by tribal funds and further funding approval is subject to consideration and action by the Fifth ON Congress, which meets for its fall Tzi-Zho Session starting Sept. 6. At that time, the Congress will consider the 2017 fiscal year budgets and funding requests for FY 2017 starting Oct. 1.

Like Disability Assistance, ON Crisis Assistance will begin a new year of supportive service on Oct. 1.

"We have assisted 231 constituents, 59 were within Osage County boundaries and 172 were outside of Osage County," Cherokee Cheshewalla, a financial assistance case manager, said in the release.

For more information about the Osage Nation Financial Assistance Department, contact Cheshewalla at (918) 287-5326, email financial-assist@osagenation-nsn.gov or visit the department online at *www.osagenation-nsn.gov* to learn more and download an application.



August 24, 2016

Principal Chief Geoffrey M. Standing Bear Osage Nation 627 Grandview P.O. Box 779 Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056

Dear Chief Standing Bear,

I want to express my sincere apologies for missing today's festivities, as this marks a very big occasion for me, Turner Enterprises and the Osage Nation; however, I can assure you that I'm there in spirit!

Bluestem Ranch, like all of my properties, has been very special to me. And although it was time to let it go, it was my responsibility to find an owner who not only realized how special the Ranch is, but who would treat it with care. As I often say, "land is the only thing that lasts," so we've got to treat it well. I know that I'm leaving Bluestem in the right hands, and I am grateful for the relationship we've been able to build with the Osago Nation.

Thank you to all in attendance, and I wish the Osage Nation the best of luck with its wonderful new property, Bluestem Ranch!



Courtesy Photo

A letter from media mogul Ted Turner to Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear on the purchase of the Bluestem Ranch.

THE WHITE HOUSE

August 22, 2016

It is my honor to extend my warmest regards as you gather to reflect on and celebrate the proud heritage of the Osage Nation.

The United States is a stronger country because of the extraordinary contributions made by generations of Native Americans despite painful chapters of broken promises in our shared history. By carrying forward the unique traditions of the Osage Nation in all of their enduring vibrancy, you are demonstrating that, while we cannot undo the past, we can work together to bring about a better future.

Over the course of my Presidency, including through seven White House Tribal Nations Conferences, my Administration has striven to strengthen and build trust in our nation-to-nation relationships. We have taken action to expand possibility across Indian Country—from helping to consolidate and restore tribal homelands and protect Native languages and practices, to advancing an agenda focused on increasing opportunity for all young people in tribal communities. This spirit of collaboration has helped deliver vital progress, and as long as we remain driven in ever greater dedication to the work that remains, I know we can shape a more just, more sustainable,

The notion that we can find hope and shared purpose as we endeavor alongside one another is at the core of the aspirations that bind us. As you come together to write new chapters in the story of the Osage Nation, you have my very best.



Courtosy Photo

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BENNY POLACCA/ Osage Ne

The Bluestem Ranch LLC Board meets on July 21 in Pawhuska. Seated at end of table are board members Faren Anderson, Francis Murphy, Jackie Badley and James Perrier. Attendees at opposite end are Cecelia Tallchief and Congress members Joe Tillman and Archie Mason.

# Bluestem Ranch, LLC board seeks management lease for 43,000-acre ranch

**Shannon Shaw Duty**Osage News

The Bluestem Ranch, LLC board of directors asked Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear for a lease agreement to manage the 43,000-acre ranch. The Nation will officially take over ranch operations from Ted Turner Enterprises on Nov. 1.

In a two-page letter sent on July 27, the board outlined their proposal. Appointed in April, the board consists of Faren Anderson, Francis Murphy, Teresa Meade, Jim Perrier and Jackie Badley.

The board requested the following:

- A \$1 management lease of 43,000 acres from the Osage Nation, known as the Bluestem Ranch. A long term agreement so the board can pursue opportunities that could exceed a 3 or 5-year lease, such as bank loans, wild horse contracts, etc.
- A waiver from the Nation regarding the bond requirement, if possible, since the Nation is leasing the property to an entity wholly owned by the Nation.
- The rights to the hunting on the 43,000 acres, with the ability to pursue different methods of management of such rights, as a source of income. For example: Lease to outfitters, third parties, etc.
- The Bluestem Ranch LLC will pursue owning a cattle herd and a bison herd.
- The board is asking for the Nation's assistance in acquiring approval for third party leases.
- The board is asking for the Nation's assistance in acquiring prior approval for a lease with the government, in the case of pursuing a government contract solicitation for grazing of wild horses.

The board added the timeframe to prepare and organize the ranch's assets before Nov. 1. They said without the lease agreement they would not be able to move forward with any plans they have for the ranch, including hiring personnel.

Standing Bear sent the board an Executive Memorandum on Aug. 16 that included

the Tallgrass Economic Development, LLC board, the Osage Nation Gaming Enterprise board and the ON Attorney General.

He said after consulting with his general counsel Terry Mason Moore and policy advisors, they believe the board should "reassess their position with regard to use of property of the Osage Nation."

"As one advisor clearly stated to me, the Osage Nation has a duty to its members to maximize the use of the ranch, and \$1 per year revenue from a remote entity does not contribute to the prosperity and security of the Osage Nation," Standing Bear said in the memorandum. "This advisor points out the sole owner of Bluestem Ranch, LLC is Tallgrass Economic Development, LLC."

The Bluestem Ranch, LLC is a subsidiary of Tallgrass.

He added that police protection, governmental oversight from damage or misuse, enforcement of environmental laws, and other associated

costs would take more than \$1. He said the appraisals for lease values are still ongoing and he would share those appraisals with the board when they are complete. And, since the Nation is going through the complicated fee-to-trust application process, leases will have to wait until that process is complete. He said he would update the board on the status of the application at their request.

The Congress approved a resolution (ONCR 16-32) to put the ranch into federal trust on July 19 during its second special session.

"I will not waive any bond by any entity or person who seeks to lease the land, nor will I waive any other requirement required by Osage law or federal regulation. The bond will be posted for the amount of a lease for the term of a lease," he said. "The term of a lease for grazing purposes at the Osage Nation has been three to five years. Hunting and fishing rights have enormous value over and above any grazing lease. Furthermore, no overgrazing by any livestock will be permitted."

# Intertribal Buffalo Council

The board met on July 21, and extensively discussed the Intertribal Buffalo Council (ITBC).

They sent in their applica-

tion to become members with the ITBC in July. The ITBC meets in September and will review applications and determine who will receive bison, Anderson said.

She and Perrier visited the Cherokee Nation and Quapaw Nation's bison operations. She said both operations run as government programs within their tribes, unlike like the Bluestem Ranch, LLC, which is set up as a business entity. Running as government programs, they have employees who check on the bison every day.

She said the Cherokee got their start with the ITBC and is in their second year of their bison operation. They currently manage about 100-110 bison and have 10-foot high fencing. They currently do not process meat for tribal members. They received a \$70,000 grant from the ITBC to set up their operation during their first year, she said.

Perrier said the Quapaw have 8-foot high fencing that cost about \$100,000. They have roughly 100-120 bison. In total they've spent around \$300,000 on their operation, which is evidenced by the raised catwalks they've built so workers don't have to interact too much with the buffalo. They also have a meat-processing operation which they built with money from an Indian Community Block Grant.

Anderson said the Quapaws have had their bison operation longer than the Cherokee and the meat goes to their Title VI program, day cares, restaurants and casino steakhouse. She said they save around \$6,000 in costs to their Title VI by using their own bison meat.

Both the Cherokee and Quapaw said if the Osage receive buffalo in September from the ITBC they could house them with either the Cherokee or Quapaw until the Osage is ready for a buffalo operation of their own.

"I can't stress enough how both tribes said ITBC was the way to go. They help you, provide information, services, provide some training if you need it, they couldn't go on any more about it," Anderson said. "They thought we were right on track and that it was a good idea to use ITBC."

Anderson said the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe also have bison operations. The Cheyenne and Arapaho have about 300 bison.

# **LANGUAGE**

-from Page 2

Lucas represents Oklahoma Congressional District No. 3, which covers the western portions of the state, including Osage County. He told Standing Bear that he would visit with fellow Oklahoma Congressman Tom Cole when he returns to Washington, D.C. after Labor Day regarding plans for reauthorizing the bill. Cole (Chickasaw Nation), who represents Oklahoma's Fourth Congressional district, is a co-sponsor for the bill. Lucas also applauded the Nation's language preservation efforts.

Standing Bear expressed thanks for Lucas's plans. Afterward, Lucas was presented with an Osage Nation Code Talker commemoration coin that is a replica of a gold-plated original. Special Advisor to the Chief, Johnny Williams, presented the coin. Williams is a Vietnam combat veteran who was a medic with the U.S. Army Special Forces (Green Berets).

According to the U.S. Congressional website, a Native American Languages Reauthorization Act, if passed, would amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to reauthorize funding opportunities to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

# **SURVEILLANCE**

-from Page 3

The casinos' surveillance operations are housed in the Gaming Commission office and are overseen by the threeperson Gaming Commission board, which is appointed by the Principal Chief and all board members are confirmed by ON Congress. The surveillance officers and supervisors who monitor the seven-casino security camera systems are ON government employees under this arrangement, but the planned transfer of the surveillance functions to the casino would put those surveillance employees under casino management.

Standing Bear's executive order then references a November 2007 executive order issued by then-Principal Chief Jim Gray that transferred the surveillance function to the gaming commission, which was originally under casino management when the gaming enterprise was known as Osage Million Dollar Elm Casino. Standing Bear then stated his executive order "repealed in its entirety" Grav's executive order and noted the transfer shall be completed within 90 days.

"Nothing in this executive order diminishes or otherwise affects the authority and responsibility of the Osage Nation Gaming Commission," Standing Bear said. The move of surveillance functions to the casino would mean a savings of about \$4 million for the government operations budget with the casino budgets taking

on the surveillance costs.

Standing Bear said the proposal to move the surveillance functions came as his office reviewed 2017 fiscal year government operations budgets, which are subject to consideration and action by the Fifth ON Congress when it convenes for the fall Tzi-Zho Session on

Sept. 6.

The Gaming Commission board, including Chairwoman Marsha Harlan, Larraine Wilcox and Michael Kidder, voted to support a modification plan to consider the restructure of surveillance during their Aug. 15 meeting.

Harlan, who met with the ON Congressional Commerce and Economic Development Committee on Aug. 24, said "the Chief's executive order simply recalled the executive order that Jim Gray, when he was Chief, issued. The move has not happened, there are many things that have to occur first, there's certain laws that need to be looked at first."

The Gaming Commission, with advice of their legal counsel Eugene Bertman, developed proposed changes to the casinos' Tribal Internal Control Standards (TICS), which deal with casino surveillance functions. During an Aug. 30 special meeting, the Gaming Commission voted to post the

proposed changes to the Nation's website for public inspection and feedback for 30 days. Osage Casinos officials said they would view the proposed changes and respond with any needed feedback during that time.

Harlan said the 30-day posting is necessary as part of the rulemaking process and also part of the plans to transfer the surveillance functions to the casino by Oct. 1, which is the start of the 2017 fiscal year.

Bertman described the proposed changes as necessary protections "to make sure that we're watching and doing what we need to do to make sure the casinos are doing their obligations."

Standing Bear proposed the surveillance function transfer during the Aug. 17 Gaming Enterprise Board meeting in Tulsa and said the transfer would be a cost savings on the tribal government budget side, which equals about \$4 million in employee payroll and other associated costs. He then asked the gaming board for a resolution of support for the proposed transfer of surveillance functions. In his research of the surveillance operations, Standing Bear noted there are 101 surveillance employees and 19 of them are Osage.

ON Congressman William "Kugee" Supernaw said the Congress would need to vote on a change to the Gaming Enterprise's plan of operations, which includes the surveillance transfer functions.

Bertman told the Congressional commerce committee the Gaming Commission board also looked at the surveillance functions transfer as a cost savings considering the gaming commission budget is on track to comprise one-third of the Nation's government operations spending costs. The surveillance employee count will rise again when the proposed Tulsa Osage Casino expansion project is completed.

Harlan told the Congressional committee certain provisions must be in place to ensure the casino is not regulating itself and the Gaming Commission maintains its regulatory authority. She said the commission would reapproach Congress with necessary changes that need to be made to the law "for this to effectively happen."

The Gaming Commission website, including the proposed TICS changes may be viewed online at: www. osagenation-nsn.gov/who-we-are/gaming-commission.

6 September 2016 SA . Þ ◯ Osage News • osagenews.org

# Osage Nation donates \$10K for Barnsdall ambulance living quarters

**Benny Polacca** 

Osage News

BARNSDALL, Okla. – A \$10,000 donation from the Osage Nation helped purchase a used mobile home to house paramedics who will be servicing the Barnsdall-Avant area for medical emergency calls.

The Osage County Commission recently hired a Tulsa-based emergency medical services provider to provide 911 ambulance services for the city and nearby Avant with the on-duty paramedics needing a place to stay. City officials then approached the Nation for a donation to provide living quarters for Samaritan Ambulance, which won the contract with the county in July.

Barnsdall Mayor Brock Moore (Osage) said the city found a furnished two-bedroom used mobile home for sale and used the donation money to make the purchase. The white building, previously used as a guesthouse, was transported from its rural location into town where it was placed on a vacant spot next to the fire department.

The donation money came from the ON Executive Branch and the city hosted an open



The city of Barnsdall received a \$10,000 donation from the Osage Nation in early August, which was used to purchase a used two-bedroom mobile home that will be used to house on-duty ambulance workers covering the Barnsdall-Avant area.

house on Aug. 12 for the community to view the building and to meet the new ambulance service.

Moore thanked the Nation for the money and acknowledged prior situations where the Nation donated to help the community in an Aug. 17

The Nation previously do-

nated \$2,500 and a used ambulance vehicle to Barnsdall in November. At the time, the city contracted with another ambulance company, Eagle Medical Transport, but the company left the area in the spring, leaving the rural area residents to rely on ambulance service from nearby communities including Bartlesville and Hominy during 911 emergencies, according to Fox23.

The prior \$2,500 donation was also intended to help renovate the fire station to provide living quarters for the ambulance crews, but the renovation costs would run over \$25,000, according to Fox23.

Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn said the

Nation is pleased to help the Barnsdall area, especially considering the closer ambulance service will bring prompt 911 call response times.

"When it comes to emergency medical services, the Barnsdall and Avant communities have been underserved for years. We know that some calls for service, including multi-person auto accidents in the recent past, have experienced wait times measured in hours," Red Corn said.

"This assistance from the Osage Nation fills an obvious need – a place for the new EMS service to house their onduty staff."

Red Corn also noted, "We are pleased the city could find such a nice mobile structure for an affordable price. There are 179 Osages that live in the Barnsdall and Avant communities, and this facility will help ensure those families and all other families in the area have access to timely emergency medical services from providers stationed nearby. On behalf of the Osage Nation, we are happy to help, and congratulate the City of Barnsdall for this new and much needed improvement."

# Osage Nation awarded \$55,000 for Tulsa airpark feasibility study

**Benny Polacca** 

Osage News

The Osage Nation is receiving a \$55,000 tribal economic development feasibility study grant from the federal Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development Office to explore potential uses for the Nationowned Tulsa airpark property.

Located in the Department of Interior, the IEED announced \$947,000 in grants will be awarded to 20 federally recognized tribes and one Alaskan Native corporation on Aug. 2. These awards from the IEED's Native American Business Development Institute Feasibility Study Program will enable tribal leaders to better evaluate and identify viable economic opportunities for their communities, according to a news release.

The Nation plans to use its \$55,000 grant to study the feasibility of operating the Tulsa Airpark property, the announcement said. In 2008, the Nation purchased the 100acre former airpark property along West 36th Street, which is eight minutes north of downtown Tulsa.

The airpark - located just inside the eastern Osage County line – is also part of the original allotment of Osage Chief Peter Bigheart.

Candy Thomas, director for the Nation's Strategic Planning and Self Governance Office, said the Nation is seeking a feasibility study on the property "to determine the best economic potential for the Airpark that will create both revenue and jobs for the Osage people."

Currently, Osage Casinos management houses its Central Services Offices at the airpark, which is next to the Tulsa Osage Casino. The Gaming Enterprise Board office is also at the property with other

unused buildings and aircraft hanger spacing.

Thomas said "the grant application will fund the retention of a consulting firm (yet to be procured) to provide accurate and sufficient data related to which, aviation or aviationrelated industries are potentially viable and what regional and tribal economic benefits could be realized by the development of the Airpark. The study will help the Osage Nation to explore economic diversification and opportunities coupled with job creation for tribal members."

When performed by a reputable third party, an economic development feasibility study also can be used to help persuade lenders and investors to provide financial backing, the IEED release said.



An aerial photo of the Tulsa Airpark in 2005.

# Osage 11 year old wins 'County Born and Raised' at Cattleman Hall of Fame Luncheon

Tara Madden

Osage News

Annabelle Yates is an 11-year-old fifth grader at Pawhuska Elementary School. She is in her third year showing her cattle at the annual Osage County Livestock Show.

At this year's show she was awarded Reserve Champion and placed third overall. The other two winners' cattle were not Osage County born and raised and that bumped her steer up to Grand Champion, Overall Steer, and also earned

her the coveted "County Born and Raised" award.

For the honor she was awarded \$500 to go toward her next show project and she also received a plaque. She accepted the award at the 2016 Cattleman's Hall of Fame Luncheon at the county fairgrounds on June 17.

"I was very excited to get the award for 'County Born and Raised,' myself and a lot of other kids worked hard on our 4-H calves and I feel fortunate to win," Annabelle said. "I would like to thank Ernie Bar-



Courtesy Photo/Kaci Jo Bute Photography

Annabelle Yates accepts her "Osage County Born and Raised" award for her Simmental Steer. She received \$500 and a plaque for the award.

nett and the Fryin Pan Ranch for my steer."

For the past couple of years Yates has showed her own stock of cattle but this year her steer came from rancher Ernie Barnett of Osage County. The Simmental Steer, a breed of

cattle originating from western Switzerland, weighed 1,415 pounds and its carcass weight was 862 pounds. Her steer had the highest points

> See CATTLEMAN —Continued on Page 7

Osage News • osagenews.org September 2016 7

# Fifth ON Congress meets for 2016 Tzi-Zho Session starting Sept. 6

**Benny Polacca** 

Osage News

The Fifth Osage Nation will meet for its first Tzi-Zho Session starting Sept. 6 in the Congressional Chambers building in Pawhuska.

The 24-day fall Congressional sessions are used to consider and approve the ON government operations budgets for the next fiscal year. The Nation operates on an October-September fiscal year cycle.

Also the Congress will consider other bills, resolutions and other matters brought to the 12-member Legislative Branch's attention.

In July, the Executive Branch submitted the FY 2017 government operations budgets to the Congress and those will be up for consideration and action throughout the Tzi-Zho Session. Other bills filed by sponsoring Congress members will also be up for consideration during the session.

As of Aug. 31, the following bills and resolutions are filed in the Congressional Office for consideration:

- ONCA 16-76: (sponsored by Congresswoman Alice Buffalohead) An act to amend the Nation's election code to require candidates requesting an election recount to be present during the recount conducted by the Nation's Election Office and board.
- · ONCA 16-77: (Buffalohead) An act to change the definition of marriage in Osage law. According to the filed bill, the law (if passed) would be amended to state: Marriage is a personal relation between two persons arising out of a civil contract to which the consent of parties legally competent of contracting and of entering into it is necessary, and the marriage relation shall only be entered into, maintained or abrogated as provided by law."
- · ONCA 16-78: (Congresswoman Angela Pratt) An act to prohibit burning without a permit; to prohibit burning on designated fire days; and to establish penalties for violation. This act (if passed) would amend Osage law to insert new sections into the criminal code to prohibit burning without a permit. The proposed law charges the Nation's Wildland Fire Department to prepare the burning permits and to have rules/ regulations for the permits.
- · The law also states the penalty for unlawful burning without a permit is punishable by jail imprisonment of up to three years or a civil fine of up to \$250 for the first offense and up to \$1,000 for each subsequent offense.
- ONCA 16-35: (Buffalohead) A resolution request for museum and research institutions to require proof of tribal enrollment for artisans who claim Osage affiliation. The resolution states: "It is important to protect the interests of the Osage Nation and our individual members in the artistic, historical, literary and anthropological communities by preventing others from appropriating our unique tribal identity.

If passed, this resolution "respectfully requests that museums and research institutions promoting the history, art, language and culture of the Osage Nation require proof of tribal enrollment of individuals who hold themselves out as affiliated with the (Nation) as a condition of acceptance to any professional alliance with said museums or research institutions and prior to any public listing of tribal affiliation with the (Nation)."

The Congress will also hold select and standing committees as needed during the 24-day session to initially consider the budgets, bills, resolutions and other matters. Filed legislation documents and recorded sessions and committee meetings are available on the Congressional website at www.osagenation-nsn.gov/who-we-are/legislative-branch



Courtesy Photo

Jeremy and Tyler Reece, the brothers charged with the murder of Pawhuska resident Rick Holt.

# Judge continues Reece brothers hearing to Sept. 29

Osage News

Jeremy and Tyler Reece were arraigned by telephone this morning in the Osage Nation Trial Court chambers.

Originally scheduled for July 28, the hearing was brief and the judge pushed the arraignment back to Sept. 29 at 10 a.m.

Assistant Attorney Gen-

eral Jeff Jones told the Tulsa World they wanted to push the arraignment back to see what the state court decides in the case. The brothers will go before Osage County Associate District Judge Stuart Tate on Sept. 23 at 1 p.m.

The brothers are charged by

See REECE —Continued on Page 8

# **SFIM**

-from Page 1

to see many old friends and family from his youth. He's been around the market since he was eight years old, helping his mother and stepdad, famed Absaroke (Crow) artist Earl Biss who died in 1998. He said he's seen many of their friends during the week and had a chance to reconnect to his art family.

"It's a whole network and all that. I went to the Institute of American Indian Art as well. So I grew up around that and we all know each other. So it's always nice to go out and see each other," he said. "We all went to a bunch of receptions last night and it's always nice to see the old gang, and the new gang, and then the new, new gang. That's how the generations work I guess."

He said he was the youngest to win first place in oil painting when he was 18 years old, a prestigious feat. After, he took some time off from his artwork and joined the U.S. Air Force in which he served for 15 years. He did seven tours of duty in the countries of Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Italy and Germany. He served in Combat, Search and Rescue, Hazmat and Fire. When asked if he infused his experiences at war with his paintings, he said no. He uses art as a kind of therapy and it makes him feel happiness.

Biss-Grayson currently lives in Farmington, N.M., with his wife Yanti and son. He works for the Shiprock Indian Health Service, developing policy for Emergency Management. He does his artwork on the side.

Over the course of the weekend he sold all his paintings, including one large painting for \$8,000. Most of his paintings he called the "Blue Series" which featured Osage warriors on horseback with a heavy backdrop in colors of blue and black. His other featured works were in shades of gold with black ethereal figures that appeared to be dancing. It was the gold painting that caught the eye of a Pendleton Woolen Mills representative.

"The 'Blue Series' is more traditional ... Osages in the early morning, the mist and the hunting," he said. "But this one (pointing to the gold painting) is more like ancient tribes, like the Anasazi. There were tribes all over the world at that time, doing cave paintings, and they study them and they

were all similar in imagery. So I took that idea, and the cave paintings and modernized it a little bit. Gave it a little more rhythm, some light."

Shortly after his interview with the Osage News, the Pendleton representative told Biss-Grayson he would like to make the gold painting into a Pendleton blanket.

### Roanhorse

Her acrylic paintings were diverse, some were portraits of Henry Roan, an Osage who was murdered during the Osage Reign of Terror. Others were paintings and representations of beadwork from Chief Bacon Rind's pipe bag and beadwork from Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear's red and blue Osage blanket.

"I have this Native art book and it's got each tribe, and it opens up and it's got all of his [Bacon Rind's] regalia, his moccasins, everything he owned and it all matches and it's totally keen. The pipe bag kind of stood out and that's the actual design," she said.

Roanhorse, 41, currently lives in Pawhuska and works for the Osage Nation as its main graphic designer. Her work can be seen for every major Osage event and on the Osage Nation's website. She also has her own Facebook page, Addie Roanhorse Artist. She has her Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in graphic design from Rogers State University.

However, the Santa Fe Indian Market is her first time to show her work at an art market, but not her first time to help at one. She said she was around 9 years old when she was helping her mother sell her artwork. Her own 9-yearold daughter Anya, was helping her in the booth over the weekend, smiling at customers and shaking hands. She said her daughter is already drawing, painting and excelling in photography and she hopes to get her into the youth categories next year.

"It's surreal, that's for sure. I'm really humbled by the whole thing. We were talking in the truck and how proud our mom would be. She would still be bossing us around, but proud," she said with a laugh. "I remember doing this when I was Anya's age. This is exactly what I used to do. Wake up, pack up the art, go with my mom to market, man the booth, sell the art.

"It definitely feels weird

coming to Santa Fe as an artist and not a helper."

### **Osages**

Another newcomer to Indian Market was Blair Robbins. Her grandmother, who was born on Osage land and after college moved to the "the northeast," her artwork is largely inspired by her lifelong interest in nature, especially dragonflies, which was incorporated into a few of her paintings.

Having been a cinematographer for 18 years, working on independent documentaries on nature, some of her paintings show the technical aspects of filmmaking, such as a dissolve. Her other works involve Osages, Chief Bacon Rind, Chief White Hair, Saucy Chief and Maria Tallchief.

"I really enjoyed doing research on Osage history and looking at archival photos, drawings of the chiefs," Robbins said. "Just wonderful originality and uniqueness they carry in their personal image, their clothing and especially their hair. So amazing, so contemporary, even in the 1800s."

Anita Fields, who currently lives in Stillwater and is an alternate for the Osage Nation Election Board, is a renowned clay sculpture artist whose work is displayed in museums throughout the United States and the world. She was also the recipient of AARP's Indian Elder Honors in 2014.

She has been displaying her work at Indian Market for 27 years, she said. She attended the Institute of American Indian Art and has made lifelong friends from the Pueblo communities surrounding Santa Fe, "I just enjoy seeing everybody and being together again."

Known for her contemporary work, her clay sculptures displayed at Indian Market were unlike any other booth.

"I work in a contemporary manner with clay, but one that is rooted in my Osage sensibility," she said. "So I want to make an expression that is contemporary, because that's what I enjoy doing most."

For additional information on the Santa Fe Indian Market visit: www.swaia.org. To view photos of the Santa Fe Indian Market, visit: https://www. flickr.com/photos/osagenews/ albums/72157671651966250.

See more photos from the Santa Fe Indian Market on page 10.

# **CATTLEMAN**

in Osage County in 2016.

-from Page 6

rating, based on those raised

"As parents of Annabelle, we are extremely proud of the hard work and effort she puts into her 4-H projects. Belle puts 100 percent commitment toward everything she gets involved in, whether it be sports or helping with chores around the ranch," said her parents Andrew and Shelly Yates. They also said, "Belle is also active with the In-Lon-Schka dances each June."

To win the born and raised contest, the steer must have been bred in Osage County and points are won for sale order and the carcass weight contest. This is a highly sought out award for those participating in 4-H and FFA.

"The County Born and Raised Contest has deep roots in Osage County. The ranchers in Osage County started the contest so that young people, like Annabelle, can see what kind of beef they are putting in the market," said Jessica Jantzen, 4-H & Youth Development Educator.

The Osage County Cattleman's Association gives prize money for hard work associated with raising a market steer

from Osage County. They recognize five places and pay out in three places.

Annabelle is the daughter of Andrew Yates and Shelly Yates. She is the granddaughter of the late Don Caldwell. Callie Caldwell and Papa O.J. Sweeden and Paul and Eva Coshehe Yates. Bell has two sisters, Katie and Josie Yates.

# N2N University enrolling for Fall Semester

**Osage News** 

In Big Cabin, Okla., directly southwest of Vinita, is the N2N University.

The vocational school is owned and operated by the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and they are currently enrolling for their fall semester. Classes start Sept. 19.

The school specializes in training technicians for the automotive service industry and students will learn the necessary skills for a career in automotive maintenance and repair positions, according to a prepared release. Concepts include light engine repair, heating and air conditioning, suspension and steering, brakes, CNG automotive technology, specialized tire training for automotive, commercial and farm vehicles.

Students will receive classroom training and hands-on work experience during their certification program, according to the release. The eight bay shops are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, lifts, diagnostic computers and programs. The training facility was constructed in 2014 with funding from the Federal Transit Administration.

'We're excited for the fall semester. We're working with Tulsa Transit, Pelivan Transit, and other companies to offer our students a job after graduation," said University Director Bobbie Wolf in the release. "In addition to job placement,

See ENROLLMENT

—Continued on Page 19

# **MURG**

-from Page 1

County," he said. His mother, Virginia Ruth Wolfe Murg who died in 2001, had inherited the home from her mother who had bought it in 1934. She left it to her only child, Wilhelm.

He currently lives in Tulsa where he has written for Indian Country Today Media Network, Native American Times, and the Oklahoma Gazette, among many other publications and is preparing to launch his own Native Multi-Media Network this fall. He rarely visits Pawhuska and does not have plans to move back. He found out his father died after a friend texted him, "Dude, I'm sorry I didn't know your father died."

"I typed back, 'I didn't either.' I was kind of shocked so I started calling up the Osage Agency, and as I was calling the Agency I got a call from the Realty department by a woman named Oobie Winlock. I asked if this was about my father's death?" he said. "She said your cousin Cynthia has put a bid on the house."

Murg's first cousin is Osage Minerals Councilwoman Cynthia Boone. Their mothers were sisters. He said they do not have a relationship and he hasn't spoken to her for over 20 years.

"I explained that as Cynthia has been mean to me my whole life, and has attempted to backstab me a few times ... I would never do a business deal with her, period," he said. "I was not selling the house to her regardless of what she offered."

### **Theft**

Murg and his father did not have a good relationship. Before his mother's death she had dementia and wasn't being taken care of properly, he said. He and his father fought bitterly about it. His father placed a protective order against him, claiming he beat his mother. However, he said the court threw out his father's attempt to file a protective order on behalf of his mother without her knowledge of it.

He found his mother wandering on the highway shortly after and he took her to the hospital. She died not too long after in a nursing home in Barnsdall where she had "bed sores, dehydration and malnutrition." He later successfully sued the nursing home and took the case all the way to the Oklahoma Supreme Court and won. The nursing home quickly settled with him.

Years passed and there was communication between father and son. So it was a shock to him when he finally returned to the family home to find it practically in ruins and most of his family belongings gone.

Before he died, his father had named Michelle RedCorn as his Power of Attorney. RedCorn is Wilhelm's second cousin, her mother Margaret RedCorn is Boone's sister. He said he and RedCorn spoke at length about his father's last years and she told him that Cynthia Boone and her family had been taking items out of the house for years.

Missing were furniture, Woody Crumbo prints, a Jim Redcorn sketch, a John Free sketch, his father's beadwork, Kachina Dolls, a baby grand piano. All gone.

While in town he visited his longtime friend Sean Standing Bear at his house. While visiting with him he saw something familiar. It was his Velvet Underground poster from his youth. He could tell it was his because he had made the frame himself. Standing Bear said he had bought it at the local pawnshop in town.

Murg called the police.

"It started with the poster. I figured whatever had been stolen from the house was a loss.



Courtesy Photo/Ashley Crawford

A photo of the back of the house Wilhelm Murg, Jr. sold in July. He alleges Osage Minerals Councilwoman Cynthia Boone violated the Ethics Law by allegedly interfering with the sale of the house and property.

The guy at the pawnshop said I could look through his stuff," Murg said. "My mother had an enormous diamond ring, I don't know where it is ... everybody knew about it. My mother really did have some nice jewelry."

Time went by and the Agency offered the estate to the Osage Nation but they declined. They then appraised the house, standard procedure, said Osage Agency Superintendent Robin Phillips.

He said an appraisal put the worth of the house at \$40,000. Eight months passed since the starting process, and no buyers. Tired of waiting for the Agency to sell the property, he hired a realtor by the name of Ashley Crawford who worked for Keller Williams. She got to work.

Crawford said the house was worth more than \$25,000. She said when she first saw the property the back door had been kicked in. She said they fixed the back door, secured the property, locked the front door and placed a locked box for authorized agents to show the home. Three days later the back door had been kicked in again and more items had been stolen. Murg suspected Boone's family. He called the Osage Nation Police Department.

Crawford confronted Boone about the break-ins and Boone said it was most likely Michelle RedCorn not her Murg said he had given RedCorn a

"It's heartbreaking to see the property in its current state and know that Wilhelm tried to fight for the property but lost, and now that he finally does have the property, family members (Osages) are wreaking havoc on it," she said. "I had an investor who had come back for a third showing, and once they saw the home had been broken into and sensed there was some sort of drama surrounding the property, they decided not to submit an offer."

Crawford put a For Sale sign on the property. Lynn Holloway, an Osage Agency employee in the Realty department called Murg, he said.

"I get a call from Holloway and she's demanding, insulting, I have no right to do this, and I have no right to do that and I can't get a realtor because the land is in restriction, it's just insanity. I got tired of her abusing me and I said she didn't do anything, lied to me, was totally ineffectual, and yes I desperately needed a realtor and I should add that anyone else in this situation trying to sell Indian property, they need a realtor. Don't trust the tribe," he said. "My house would have sold to Cynthia for \$25,000 if that had been the case."

Murg called Phillips and wanted corrective action done on Holloway and he thought Boone and Holloway were acting in concert together. He said Phillips told him that Boone had mentioned the For Sale sign in the yard of the home to her at a Minerals Council meeting.

"It wasn't actually in the meeting itself, but while she

was attending a meeting she said there was a sign out there on the property now," she said. "People have the right to put up a sign, so I didn't act on that and we didn't do anything when she said that to me."

Murg said her statement confuses him because if she didn't care about the For Sale sign in the yard then why did Holloway call him about it and why was she agitated when she called him?

Phillips said she and Holloway both informed Murg that if he gets a realtor then the realtor needed to work with the Agency because there were certain steps in order to take the land out of restriction. Crawford had worked with the bureau before and she knew what to do. She said it was all standard procedure.

"I don't know what's going on with Mr. Murg but he's upset with everybody. But that's it for Mr. Murg and we want everything to go smoothly for the sale," she said. "He's been ugly to the Agency and to the people."

The good news is Crawford sold the property to a Pawhuska resident in July.

When asked how much the house sold for Murg said he would rather not say but it was considerably more than what the federal government had it appraised for.

# **Police Reports**

The Osage News filed an open records request with the Osage Nation Police Department, requesting all police reports and information pertaining to Wilhelm Murg, Jr. More than 50 pages police reports, court records and descriptions were contained within. The reports about theft of the estate began on Oct. 22, 2015, before Wilhelm Murg,

Tonya RedCorn called the police on Oct. 17, 2015, requesting a police officer come to the Murg property and act as a civil standby while she took furniture and other items out of the home. She said the elder Murg was her uncle and he said it was okay for her to take the property. He was in an assisted living facility in Bartlesville at the time and Officer Holleman instructed her to call a lawyer to assist him with the situation.

On Nov. 19, 2015, Michelle RedCorn called the police and said she had missed a meeting with the younger Murg at the estate because she fell asleep, according to the police report. She said his truck was "heard" at the property and she was unsure of whether he took a truckload of items out of the house (Murg said he has never owned a truck). She said she was the elder Murg's Power of Attorney and brought the documents to the police station. Officer Holleman informed RedCorn that her Power of Attorney was void upon his death and that the younger Murg was the owner of the estate.

On July 23, 2016, Michelle RedCorn called the police to ask if they would act as a civil standby as she removed property from the home. Officer Dan Hively said they had a report of a blue compact car and red pickup truck removing furniture from the estate and she concurred that she drove the blue car and her sister Tonya drove the red pickup. Murg called the officer and told him it was fine for the two sisters to be removing furniture from the home. The house was sold and the papers were to be signed on July 25. Officer Hively met with the new homeowner on July 25 and they instructed him that no one is to be removing furniture from the estate because it was no longer Murg's property.

### **Ethics Complaint**

Murg filed an ethics complaint on Boone to the Osage Nation Attorney General's office on July 28, alleging she abused her status as a councilwoman by instructing Holloway to harass him and "for taking a bid from Boone on my father's house before he was dead. She (Holloway) kept insisting that I did not need a realtor, while never doing anything to sell it to anyone aside from Cynthia: obviously, I needed a realtor."

The AG's office sent a letter to Murg on Aug. 1 that said due to the pending ethics court case against Boone and other OMC members in the Osage Nation Supreme Court he would have to wait before court action could be taken. The letter said an investigator

was assigned to the case and found "that an investigation was warranted" into Boone's alleged misconduct.

Boone said she had no idea Murg had filed an ethics complaint on her and no one from the AG's office or police department has contacted her about it. She said she never put in a bid for the house and she didn't know the house was appraised at \$40,000. She said her family would never break into a house. She said she didn't want anything of Murg's.

She said she did email Phillips about the process of taking land like Murg's out of restriction and what that takes, she said she only inquired because a situation like Murg's could come up again in the future and she would need to know how the process worked. She said Phillips was leaving for a few days and gave her email to Richard Winlock, Oobie Winlock's husband. She said she was preparing a complaint on Richard Winlock because he told Crawford that Boone was trying to cause trouble with the sale of the property.

"I don't know why but this has really gotten out of hand," Boone said. "I did not put a bid on the Murg property for \$25,000 ... I don't want anything of theirs. He's just trying to pin the rap on somebody and it might as well be me."

# REECE

-from Page 7

the Osage Nation with first-degree homicide for the slaying of Pawhuska resident Rick Holt.

Jeremy Reece, 31, and Tyler Reece, 19, are members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Since they are Native American and Holt's death allegedly occurred on restricted Indian land, the brothers fall under the Nation's jurisdiction, according to the Major Crimes Act.

Federal law prohibits tribes from imprisoning individuals for more than three years, according to the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2013, and limits tribal courts to misdemeanor charges in criminal cases. Osage Nation law permits up to one year of jail time.

If convicted in ON trial court, the brothers could face up to a year in jail, a \$5,000 fine or 20 years' banishment from Osage Nation tribal lands.

The \$1 million cash bond remains in effect for each of the brothers.

# **MEMORIAL**

-from Page 3

passed, a \$500,000 revolving fund was created for constructing, maintaining and administering the war memorial. Two years later, the fund was reduced by \$350,000 to \$150,000 during the 2013 Tzi-Zho Session after Congress passed ONCA 13-99 proposing the re-

duction due to budget concerns at that time.

According to ONCA 11-86. the bill's intention is "to follow the Osage Nation tradition of honoring Osage Veterans" and "to provide a physical reminder to the present and future generations of the contributions and sacrifices of the Osage veterans and their families by building the Osage War Memorial at the Osage Agency Campus."



Courtesv Photo/ON Communications

An Osage elder from the Osage Grayhorse/Fairfax community receives groceries from the Osage Nation Title VI Elder Nutrition Program

# ON Title VI Elder Nutrition Program provides food kits for elders during boil order

Osage News

The Osage Nation Title VI Elder Nutrition Program provided food kits to elders after E.coli was discovered in the Pawhuska water supply Aug.

12. A boil order was issued for city residents, which lasted five days.

Elders received meal kits for See KITS

—Continued on Page 15

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ranklin Louis Oberly born March 22, 1943 in Lawton, Okla., to Acey Oberly and Eva Oberly. He was one of nine children; he had four brothers and four sisters. Yvonne, Jacqueline, Acey Jr., John Tissoyo, Margaret, Marin, Gary and Sara. He is the grandson of past Osage Chief John Oberly and Sara Petsemoie Oberly. He has three children Sean, Jennifer and Frank Jr. He is Osage and Comanche. He grew up in Walters, Okla., and attended the University of Oklahoma to obtain a bachelors degree in Business administration and accounting in 1955. He worked for a national firm for 10 years as a Certified Public Accountant. He opened his own practice and ran it for 35 years before retiring and selling it.

Osage News: What are some of the most important lessons you have learned in your life?

Frank Oberly: Make goals and objectives and achieve them. Stick to your goals and ideas.

**ON:** What would you say are the major values or principles that you live by?

**FO:** Honesty and respect your elders and ancestors.

**ON:** How has the Osage Nation evolved in your lifetime?

FO: I didn't grow up in Osage County but when I first got involved in the Osage Nation I was 35 years old and it was because of my aunt Francis, she is the one who got me involved. Once I got involved that was when some of the biggest changes occurred. That was when the government evolved. I was the treasurer for the Osage Nation. I was also chairman of the Gaming Enterprise. Since then there has been quite a bit of change. I don't see much change in the In-Lon-Schka, just change in the government.

**ON:** Do you like the new government? What do you think the Osages of your youth would think about the new government?

**FO:** I think it is good, I think having a three part government is a good thing.

**ON:** What are the differences in the In-Lon-Schka today from when you were young? Do you like the changes?

FO: I became involved in 1988 and have been on the Hominy committee since 1990. There have not been any major changes, which I think is good.

**ON:** What District are you from, what is your Osage name and when did you start dancing at In-Lon-Schka?

FO: Zon-Zo-Li District-Hominy. My Osage name is Kihekah-Steh, means principal Chief. I have been dancing since I was young but I just started dancing at the In-Lon-Schka about 30 years ago.

**ON:** Who roached you for the In-Lon-Schka?

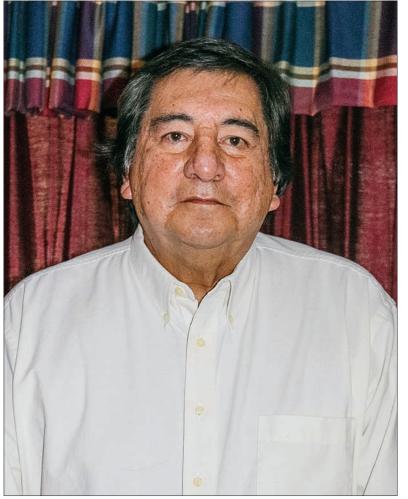
**FO:** I believe it was Harry Red Eagle Jr.

ON: What is your favorite



Courtesy Photo

Grade school photo of Frank Oberly, age unknown.



TARA MADDEN/Osage News

Frank Oberly at his home in Norman, Okla. on Aug. 18.



Courtesy Photo

Frank Oberly with his father Acey and one of his older brothers.

# Osage Elders S E R I E S

6

TARA MADDEN / OSAGE NEWS





Courtesy Pho

ABOVE: Frank with son Sean and daughter Jennifer in New York and two church friends.

Courtesy Photo

LEFT: Frank Oberly with son Frank Jr. at the Osage In- Lon-Schka.

thing about the In-Lon-Schka and why?

**FO:** Family reunion at the Oberly Camp in Hominy and the fellowship of being around family and friends.

ON: What is your favorite Osage food?

**FO:** Chicken and Dumplings and Frybread

ON: Who are your heroes?

**FO:** Harry Red Eagle Jr. He would spend hours at our camp and talk for hours.

**ON:** What was the happiest moment of your life?

**FO:** Having my children, raising my children. I enjoyed

watching them participate in sports.

**ON:** What are you most proud of?

FO: My children and the In-Lon-Schka; our family reunions, getting all three families together, all descendants from John Oberly. The head of the families would get it organized.

**ON:** What is your earliest memory?

**FO:** I think we were always outside unless we were sleeping. Playing with my brothers and sisters.

**ON:** Who or what did you love the most?

FO: Sports, mainly OU football or anything OU with a ball in it, I go to all of those. Even when I didn't live here in Norman I would make the trip to the games.

**ON:** What was your favorite thing to do for fun when you were a child?

**FO:** Being an athlete, anything that had to do with sports; football, basketball.

sports; football, basketball.

ON: What was your favorite

year and why?

FO: 1965 when I graduated from college, had kids and a family. August of 1965 was a very important time in my life.

**ON:** What world events had the most impact on you?

**FO:** Changes in Indian Affairs and National Sports with Native Americans in them. Tribal changes and how they have evolved.

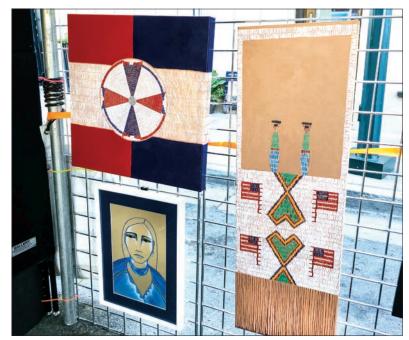
**ON:** How would you like to be remembered?

**FO:** I would say being an Indian and having a deep respect for my elders and ancestors, and being a CPA.

**ON:** What would you tell your 20-year-old self?

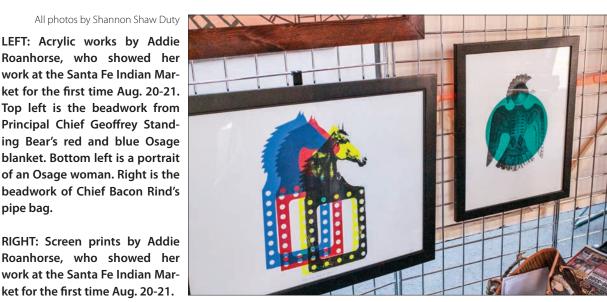
**FO:** I don't think I would change things; I would strive to accomplish what I have accomplished.

10 September 2016 CO.Rλ Osage News • osagenews.org



LEFT: Acrylic works by Addie Roanhorse, who showed her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Top left is the beadwork from Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear's red and blue Osage blanket. Bottom left is a portrait of an Osage woman. Right is the

RIGHT: Screen prints by Addie Roanhorse, who showed her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21.





pipe bag.

# Santa Fe Indian Market

SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION FOR INDIAN ARTS



Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptures. Her work is displayed throughout the world.



Blair Robbins, Osage artist, showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Aluminum steel wire sculpture of Chief Bacon Rind.



Osage artist Addie Roanhorse and her daughter Anya. Roanhorse showed

her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptures. Her work is displayed throughout the world.

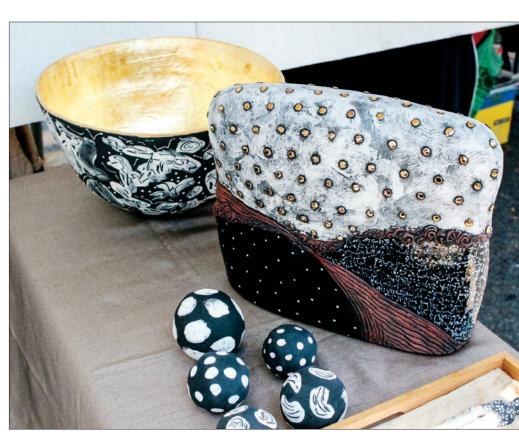
Blair Robbins, Osage artist, showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Acrylic, "Thunder of the Flower-fed Buffalo."

Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptures. Her work is displayed throughout the world.

Work by Dante Biss-Grayson for the 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market. Pendleton Woolen Mills is interested in making this into a Pendleton blanket.









Osage artist Dante Biss-Grayson and his wife Yanti speak to a potential customer Aug. 20 at the Santa Fe Indian Market.



Blair Robbins and her father Frank Kimball at her booth on Sheridan street in downtown Santa Fe on Aug. 20.



Work by Dante Biss-Grayson for the 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market. Part of his "Blue Series."

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# **YOUR GATEWAY** TO THE PERFECT MORTGAGE Section 184 **Native American** Loan Guarantee **Program**



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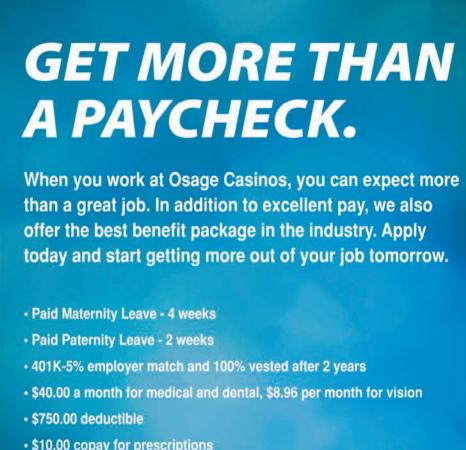








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# About the study

University of Tulsa, Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service, and Cherokee Nation 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.

# To Participate, You Must:

- NOT currently have chronic pain or take pain medications
- NOT have high bood 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 4-51/2 hours/sessions). \$200 compensation (\$100/day) is provided. Depending on distance to/from the University of Tulsa, you may be eligible for mileage reimbursement.

# **Get in Touch Now!**

(918) 631-2175 or (918) 631-3565 | http://orgs.utulsa.edu/psychophys



# 2016 Congressional Inauguration Photos















All photos by Tara Madden

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Osage Nation Congressman James Norris poses with his family at the 2016 Osage Congress Inauguration at the Skiatook Osage Casinos on July 6.

Osage Nation Congressman John Maker poses with his family.

Osage Nation Congresswoman Maria Whitehorn poses with her family, including her father Dudley Whitehorn, past Osage Tribal Councilman and Osage Minerals Councilman.

Princesses of the Osage Nation at the 2016 Osage Congress Inauguration at the Skiatook Osage Casinos on July 6.

Osage Nation Congresswoman Angela Pratt and her husband, Skiatook Osage Casinos General Manager Edward Gray.

Osage Nation Congressman Joe Tillman poses with his family, including his father, past Principal Chief Charles Tillman

Osage Nation Congressman Shannon Edwards and longtime partner James Lambertus.

Osage Nation Congressman RJ Walker poses with his family.



September 2016 13 Osage News • osagenews.org

# Prioritizing physical activity for Native American students

**Mallory Black** 

Native Health News Alliance

Health advocates and educators have long heralded the benefits of physical education for children. Even the First Lady's Let's Move initiative has challenged schools to rethink physical activity and nutrition as part of their students' everyday lives.

But with tightened budgets and rigorous assessment standards, some schools have nearly phased out physical education and recess entirely. For schools serving primarily Native American students, the stakes are even higher with childhood obesity and diabetes at nearly epidemic levels in many tribal communities, and yet playgrounds and parks can be hard to come by if not at school.

In a report titled, "Shape of the Nation 2016," released earlier this year by SHAPE America and Voices for Healthy Kids — an initiative of the American Heart Association and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation — it found that most states are failing to provide students with a quality physical education (PE) pro-

Trisha Moquino (Cochiti Pueblo/Ohkay Owingeh/Santo Domingo Pueblo) is the cofounder of the Keres Children's Learning Center, a Montessori Cochiti Keres language immersion preschool near Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Moquino, who has taught in various public, private and Bureau of Indian Education schools, said that when school priorities overlook PE, it creates a troubling situation for Native American families and communities.

"Even if the tribe values physical fitness, children can still be in schools that value testing and grades," Moquino said. "This is really a fundamental issue because how can our children learn, read or write to their potential if they are not feeling good inside?'

Research shows that active kids perform better academically than their nonactive peers. Studies show that when kids participate in physical activity daily, there are immediate benefits to student behavior in the classroom, such as improved focus, cooperation

and learning retention. "The likelihood for learning to happen is better when children are receiving oxygen to their brain and there's flow in their bodies," Moquino said. "Not only is it easier for children to learn, but it's also easier for teachers to guide their learning because they're just happier."

At Keres, students walk up to a mile and a half every day to the local playground for recess. Teachers also incorporate opportunities for student movement in lesson plans throughout the day.

In another part of New Mexico, Shauna Branch is the principal at Bernalillo Public Schools, which serves a high population of Native students in an area north of Albuquerque. Elementary students engage in one hour of PE weekly and 45 minutes of recess each day. Middle school students participate in a 50-minute PE class daily throughout the academic year.

Branch said Bernalillo students receive more PE time compared to other schools across the state. But she also estimates that roughly 20 percent of her students would be considered overweight or

Nationally, nearly half of American Indian children are overweight or obese, a rate almost double that of their white peers, according to the 2015 "State of Obesity" report from Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Branch added that while the state does encourage PE programs, schools are not required to provide them, and the funding available is inadequate at best.

"I know for a lot of schools around the state, they're lucky if they even have a PE teacher," Branch said. "If there's one frustration we have, it's renewing our old PE equipment. I always struggle every year to get what we need."

Meanwhile in Minnesota, the Nawayee Center School an alternative charter school in Minneapolis that serves about 60 Native American middle and high school students each year — lacks gym facilities and a full-time PE teacher.

The state doesn't perform an annual assessment of equipment or facilities for students to engage in physical education in schools.

To fulfill the need at Center School, school administrators are exploring a possible partnership with the Minnesota American Indian Center (MAIC), which serves the city's urban Indian community and is only a few blocks down the road.

"What we're hoping for is a way to provide physical education opportunities for kids, not only just for school credit, but also to keep them more active,"



Children at the Keres Children's Learning Center practice yoga as part of the school's approach to integrate physical education into the daily curriculum.

said Joseph Rice (Choctaw), the school's executive director. "There's an epidemic nationwide of diabetes in the Native American community, and the two modifiable risk factors for diabetes are activity level and

Similar to Keres, the Center School takes a holistic approach to physical education by weaving nutrition, exercise

and health education throughout the students' day.

While still in the early stages, Rice said collaborating with the MAIC could offer students a culturally relevant exercise space to play sports, learn traditional Native American dances, and participates in fitness courses.

"A good PE program isn't presented as just physical education, like your pushups or running so many miles," Rice said. "It's carefully integrated with diet and mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health."

This story was published in partnership with Voices for Healthy Kids.

# Osage News wins 11 NAJA media awards for 2015 coverage

Osage News

The Native American Journalists Association announced its 2016 Media Award winners and the Osage News received 11 awards for their coverage in 2015.

NAJA partnered with the Society of Professional Journalists this year to host Excellence in Journalism 2016 in New Orleans, Sept. 18-20. The news staff plans to attend EIJ where they will pick up their awards. The conference also provides the news staff with skills training and networking opportunities.

The Osage News circulation is 7,400 and they compete in the Professional Division II. which is the 5,000-10,000 circulation category.

The Osage News won for the following:

### Print / Online - Best Feature Story

First Place

Shannon Shaw-Duty

Osage News

Committee to consider repatriation of Osage man buried in infamous Hiawatha Asylum for Insane Indians cemetery

# Print / Online - Best

**News Story** First Place

Shannon Shaw-Duty

Osage News

Osage Congress to consider legislation to allow same-sex marriage

### **Professional Division II -**Online

Online - Best Digital Publication First Place Osage News

# **Print - Best Environmental**

Story First Place

Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage News

Bird Creek Farms provides community gardens and organic produce

# **Print - Best Sports Photo**

Second Place

Tara Madden Osage News

J.K. Hadlock hugged by



Osage News File Photo

The Osage News is located at 604 Kihekah in downtown Pawhuska, capital of the Osage Nation.

Benny Polacca

Third Place

Osage News

# **Print - Best Sports Story**

Third Place

Tara Madden

Osage News

Basketball is mainstay in soldier's life

# **Print - Best Feature Photo**

Second Place

Shannon Shaw-Duty Osage News

Boy leaves Osage roundhouse

**Print - Best News Photo** 

Wah-Seep-Kah cries out for

Xavier Toehay, dancing for the

Third Place

first time

Chalene Toehay-Tartsah Osage News

A red dress to remember the murdered and the missing

# Print - General Excellence

Third Place

Osage News

### Print - Excellence in **Beat Reporting**

First Place

Benny Polacca

Osage News

Coverage of Pawhuska Vil-

lage ON case

# 2016 Osage **Nation Cultural** Walk scheduled Oct. 22-23

The Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center will hold its eighth annual Osage Nation Cultural Walk on Oct. 22-23, which includes an overnight camping stay at the Kansas border and three-mile hike south. According to the WCC,

See WALK

—Continued on Page 19



A man holds his son's hand on the 2013 Cultural Walk.

### **OTEC Member Needed**

The Osage Tribal Education Committee(OTEC) is asking for applications for an "At Large" member to serve on the committee. The position will be filled after a 30 day application period.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, and an allottee, or a descendant of an allottee. A photocopy of a Tribal Membership Card must be included with a resume, and a brief statement of interest and qualifications for serving on the committee. These documents must be mailed to:

> OTEC, c/o Bureau of Indian Education 200 NW 4<sup>th</sup> St., #4049 Oklahoma City, OK 73102

These documents must be in the Oklahoma City office no later than 30 days after publication date.

Quarterly meetings are held with a \$100.00 stipend and mileage to the meetings being paid. Phone conferences are sometimes held.

# How to submit a Letter 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.



# Osage Nation Energy Assistance (Formerly LIHEAP)

Currently assisting eligible households with the following:

- · Energy aid applied to Electric bills
- (NEW INCREASED BENEFIT AMOUNTS)
- Distributing window Air Conditioning units & fans, while supplies last

# Eligibility factors include:

- · Resident of Osage County/ Osage Reservation
- · Native American of a federally recognized tribe
- Household member is a TANF, SSI, SNAP or General Assistance recipient or meet 60% State Median Income guidelines for Oklahoma

# (Net income for households, previous 30 days)

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual Net Income	\$20,251	\$26,482	\$32,713	\$38,944	\$45,175	\$51,406	\$52,574	\$53,743
Monthly Net Income	\$1,688	\$2,207	\$2,726	\$3,245	\$3,765	\$4,284	\$4,381	\$4,479

- Income deductions for enrolled Osages
- Applications must be received 5 days prior to utility due date
- Deposits, disconnect, reconnect or late fees are **NOT** eligible

# To apply contact

Osage Nation Financial Assistance Welcome Center 239 W. 12th St. Pawhuska, OK 74056 Toll Free 1-888- 822-1248

Phone: (918) 287-5325 website: www.osagenation-nsn.gov/financial-assistance Pawnee/ Osage CASA



Birdhouse and Apron Auction

September 10, 2016

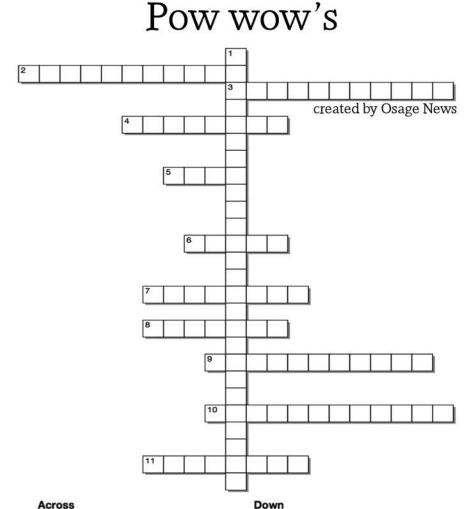
6-8PM

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Parish Hall, Pawhuska

"Help us give a voice to abused and neglected children"

**Door Prizes** Dinner Provided Meet the artists

For more information contact (918) 762-3776



# Across

- 2. The Forest County Potawatomi puts on this pow wow down town Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- 3. This a a three day pow wow that takes place in Colorado and is packed with singing, dancing, storytelling, food and
- 4. The Shoshone Bannock Indian Festival has around 900 dancers each year in Idaho.
- 5. This pow wow is hosted by this small tribe of 918 members and located in northern San Diego County California. 6. Ponca Pow Wow is known for their World Champion Competition.
- 7. Created in 1904 by an Indian government to bring Indians into modern society, it is still celebrated today. 8. Thunder and Lightning Pow Wow is hosted by the Sovereign Nation of the Band of Mission Indians in
- California. This pow wow kicks off the California's fall pow wow season. 9. Gathering of Nations is the largest pow wow in North America and it is held in New Mexico.
- 10. This is the largest event for this tribal nation and features a pow wow, parade, free concert, games and an art show. 11. This tribe has their own national holiday during Labor Day weekend when the whole town of Tahlequah is busy with different events and activities including a two-day pow wow.

1. This pow wow will be a first annual event held in Las Vegas where the best of the best dancers will compete for the title of World Champion and big prize money.

September 2016 15 Osage News • osagenews.org

# **OSAGE ENERGY**

# Wah-Tiah-Kah Scholarship: An Osage Mineral Council **Educational Program**

**Rosemary Wood** 

Osage News

Wah-Tiah-Kah was a great warrior, profit and visionary. When he spoke he was wise, and the people listened. It seems fitting that the Minerals Council memorializes him in this.

The introduction of the scholarship application reminds us that in 1871, the Osage moved to what is now known as the Osage Reservation of Oklahoma. "Prior to that move ... Wah-Tiah-Kah traveled south from our Kansas lands to determine for our people if this was wise and the boundaries of which it would encompass. Wah-Tiah-Kah walked the land; as he did so, he envisioned his grandchildren prospering. He knew this was good and that Wah-Kon-Tah had blessed the land for the Wah-Zha-Zhi."

The purpose of the scholarship program is to provide incentive, encouragement and financial assistance to Osage applicants pursuing higher education in oil and gas related fields.

scholarship application "We honor Wah-Tiah-Kah, for without his wisdom, we would not have the oil that has sustained the Osage for over 100 years." By these scholarships, the Minerals Council hopes to help maintain and promote good stewardship over this great gift from Wah-Kon-Tah.

Eligibility requirements include proof of Osage membership, CDIB or Membership Card, completed application, enrollment in an accredited program leading to an academic degree, and certification or licensure in oil and/or gas related fields.

The scholarship program was initiated on Oct. 20, 2010 by resolution, introduced by then-Councilman Melvin Core and passed unanimously with a vote of 8-0. The initial resolve reads "funding for two scholarships for two students at \$1,000 each semester for a total of \$4,000 per year ..." Funding comes from the S-510 account, a PL75-638 contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. No minerals money is used in this endeavor.

The first year was very successful with a full panel of highly qualified eligible applicants. So much so, the following year two

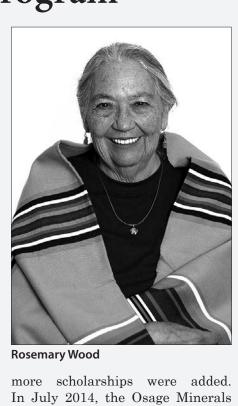
Council reviewed and assessed the program. It was judged successful in number and quality of applicants and in academic achievement. The scholarship program was continued by resolution, again unanimously.

Since the program began in 2010, 26 scholarships were awarded for a total of \$26,000. Studies vary from petroleum engineering, environmental management, process technology, energy management and other courses preparing graduates for the industry. Members of the Osage Minerals Council facilitate summer internships whereby scholarship recipients work for and with Oil producers within the Osage.

These scholarships are of great help to the individual recipients, and no doubt to their families and future families. But the Wah-Tiah-Kah Scholarship Program also helps our people as a whole, as a Tribe, as a Nation, as owners of these resources. As a people, the more we learn about our resources the better we will be able to manage and develop them.

Wah-Tiah-Kah told us this is our last reservation. This is our inheritance, and we must be good stewards going forward.

About the author: Rosemary Wood is a former two-time Osage Tribal Councilwoman and graduated from St. John Hospital School of Nursing in 1963, the University of Oklahoma in 1965, and from Rutgers University in 1971 with a Master of Science in Psychiatric Nursing.



The Osage Nation's Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center opening has been delayed until the

new opening date is determined by the State Fire Marshal.

# Opening of Osage Nation's Fairfax child and senior center delayed for safety reasons

**Osage News** 

The Osage Nation's new dual-use Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center is rescheduling its opening date to complete building modifications for improved fire safety.

The new child care and senior center is fully funded by the Osage Nation and the new opening date will be determined after approval by the State Fire

According to the Osage Nation Tribal Development and Land Acquisition Department, the delay is due to needed building designer modifications that must be compliant with Oklahoma State Fire Marshal codes, and to ensure, "adequate fire protection for future occupants."

The new address for the building and location of ongoing construction is 401 S. 8th Street in Fairfax.

The Nation broke ground on constructing the new facility in September 2015. Plans for the dual-use building call for six classrooms and a commons area in the child care center; the senior center side contains a commons area, an enclosed playground and two FEMA storm safe rooms. Both facilities will share a commercial-size kitchen in the center of the building to serve meals for both child care and senior programs



The Pioneer Woman Mercantile, located on the corner of Kihekah and Main Street in Pawhuska, is set to open in the fall.

# Pioneer Woman Mercantile hosted job fairs in Pawhuska, Bartlesville and Tulsa

**Osage News** 

The Pioneer Woman Mercantile is set to open this fall and there will be plenty of jobs at the destination bakery, deli and general store in Pawhuska.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be opening The Mercantile in our hometown of Pawhuska," said Ree Drummond, also known as The Pioneer Woman, in an Aug. 19 news release. "We have worked hard to create a warm, welcoming, and truly unique place for both locals and visitors from other areas. From unique goods in the general store to scrumptious dishes in the deli to pies, sweet rolls, croissants and cakes made fresh daily in the bakery, there is sure to be something for everyone. We can't wait to open our doors!"

Job fairs were hosted in Pawhuska, Bartlesville and Tulsa, Aug. 27-31. Job opportunities included deli staff, bakery staff, servers, baristas, retail staff, warehouse positions and more.

According to the release: "The Pioneer Woman Mercantile is a place of hospitality, generosity, and joy, where every customer makes themselves at home and where team members thrive in a fun and positive environment. We are looking for team members who are flexible with working hours, positive, and enjoy a fastpaced environment."

Follow The Pioneer Woman at www.ThePioneerWoman.com for ongoing updates on The Mercantile.

**KITS** 

12 meals, plus a case of water. Title VI was not able to prepare their regular lunch menu due to the lack of clean water. Osage Casinos also delivered water for elders at the Title VI in Pawhuska after the boil order was issued.



Denver Wahwassuck was crowned the 2016-2017 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Princess on Aug. 12 at the ORU Mabee Center. Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn spoke for her after her coronation.

# **OSAGE CULTURE**

# Getting ready for the dance

**Charles Red Corn** 

Osage News

I remember clearly watching those older Osage men and women dressed in their traditional Osage clothing. There were not very many of the People who dressed that way at that time. They were exciting to watch, getting in or out of their cars at an Osage gathering or walking down the street and going into a store in Fairfax, Hominy or Pawhuska. They moved with such dignity.

I was just a child and I think that is a good time in life to remember things like watching those elderly Indians move, walk and knowing not to stare.

My parents taught us early in life not to stare at people and I am glad that they taught us that. It is one of those useful things parents do.

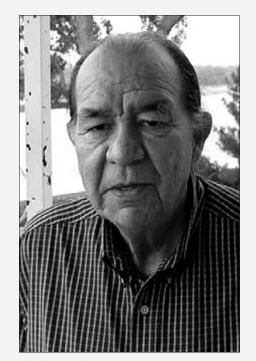
Thinking about those Osages of at least two, or three, or even four generations earlier than mine led me to remembering the first time my mother prepared my brother C.R. and I to dance.

The first thing she did was to drive out east of Pawhuska to the home my mother had inherited from her mother. There was a small one room house behind the main house. She opened the door to the little house and there were three large trunks. I do not remember any furniture other than that.

My mother opened one of the trunks. It was full of Indian clothes. Broad cloth and shirts and blankets. Beaded belts and hand woven belts. Just about everything one would need to dance.

She opened the other two trunks and both of the trunks were full of Osage clothing. She seemed to know where to look because we were not there for very long. At least that is the way I remember it these many years later.

Mom dug into one of the trunks and took some things out and set them aside and would return to look for some other items. It seemed that she would look at something and hold it for a moment and move on to another item.



**Charles Red Corn** 

We returned to the house in Indian Camp and she had my brother and I stand in front of her and she held the pieces of dance clothing up next to us. She told us the she had time to make us some new things that would not be too big for us.

So, during the week that followed mom studied the ribbon work that was attached to the broadcloth leggings, and the size of the shirts and we went to town and purchased the necessary material needed and years later when I asked her about that time period of getting us ready for the Dances she said that she knew she could do it.

I learned that my mother, Emma Louise Gray Redcorn was an accomplished ribbon work artist. I always admired and respected many things about her and Osage Ribbon Work was certainly one of those things.

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.

Lane Berrey is crowned the 2016-2017 Kihekah-Steh Powwow Princess on July 29 at the event north of Skiatook.

# Berrey crowned 2016-2017 Kihekah-Steh Powwow Princess

Osage News

Lane Elizabeth Berrey is the 2016-2017 Kihekah-Steh Powwow Princess and received her crown on July 29 at the three-day Skiatook event.

Berrey comes from the Osage and Quapaw nations and recently graduated from Bishop Kelly High School in Tulsa. According to her biography, Berrey will attend the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville starting this

Berrey belongs to the Eagle clan and her Osage name is Kgiatdoin given to her by the late Harry Red Eagle. On her Osage family's side, Berrey is the great-granddaughter of original allottee Bessie Lane Berrey and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lane

Berrey. She is the daughter of Kim Berrey and John Berrey, who is currently Chairman of the Quapaw Tribal Business Committee.

Outgoing Kihekah-Steh Princess Dresdyn Hinman (2015-2016) crowned Berrey on the first night of the powwow. She then danced around the powwow arena with family members and greeted well-wishers.

Also according to her bio, Berrey is interested in civic and political activities and spent her summer working in the Hillary Clinton for President campaign office in Brooklyn, N.Y. She's also interned at the Bill Clinton Presidential Library and foundation in Little Rock, Ark. Her future plans include running for the U.S. Senate.

# Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center 2016 Fall Class Schedule

# Sewing 101 (Classroom limit 8 students)

Wah- Zha-Zhi Cultural Center Tuesdays 6-8 p.m. 6, 13, 20, 27 September November

1, 15, 29

Hominy Osage Education Center Thursdays 11 a.m.-1 p.m. September 29 October 6, 13, 20

# Shawl Class (Classroom limit 10 students)

Pawhuska

December

Wah- Zha-Zhi Cultural Center Thursdays 11am-2 p.m. Mondays 6-9 p.m. September 15,19, 22, 26

Osage Education Center Thursdays 6-9 p.m. December

Fairfax

Fairfax Language Center 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays October 11,18

Pawhuska

Wah- Zha-Zhi Cultural Center Thursdays 11 a.m-2 p.m. Mondays 6-9 p.m. September 15,19, 22, 26

Hominy

Osage Education Center 6-9 p.m. Thursdays Dismember 8,15

# Shirts (Classroom limit 10 students)

Pawhuska Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center Tuesdays 6-8 p.m. October 4,11,18, 25

Hominy Osage Education Center Thursdays 11 a.m.-1 p.m. October 27 November 3,10,17

# Roach Headdress (Classroom limit 12 students)

This class will continue into Spring 2017

Fairfax

Fairfax Language Center Wednesdays 6-8 p.m. 5, 12, 19, 26 October November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

For more information call Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center (918) 287-5580

# **Attention!**

The Osage Nation Tax Commission has **moved** to the Welcome Center on the Osage Nation Campus



For more information call Constituent Services (918) 287-5662

# How to submit a Letter 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.

# **COMMUNITY**

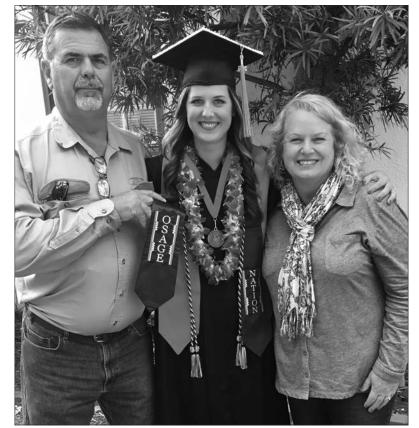


**Katherine Bell** 

### Thank You!

It is with gratitude and that Katherthankfulness ine Bell acknowledges the Osage Nation Higher Education Scholarship Program and Scholarship America for their help in pursuing the degrees of Master of Music from Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland and Bachelor of Music from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of Gregory F. Bell, granddaughter of Nancy Musgrove Bell, great granddaughter of Sudie (Rose Agnes) Shaw Musgrove Clevenger, and great great granddaughter of Franklin Shaw and Rose Plomondon Shaw.

She received her degrees in Vocal Performance with a concentration in Voice Pedagogy and is currently teaching and performing in the Philadelphia and greater Pennsylvania Areas. Thank you, again, for your kindness and generosity in helping to fund her college education. This education would not have been possible without the support of the Osage Nation.



Congratulations!

Nicole Alice Marie Mass graduated with honors from Chico State University, CA, with a Criminal Justice degree on May 21, 2016. She is starting the police academy and was hired by Pleasant Hill PD. Her grandfather, Joe Revelette, started the original education scholarship!



Osage News File Photo

**Osage Nation Museum** 

# ON Museum completes assessment program

# Osage News

The Osage Nation Museum completed its assessment program through the American Alliance of Museums this summer, which will empower the museum to meet and exceed the highest professional standards in the museum field.

According to an ON Communications news release, the ONM was accepted into the AAM's Museum Assessment Program in January 2016. Over the course of four months, staff at the museum worked with members of other ON departments and Osage constituents to complete a self-study workbook.

On June 9, a peer-reviewer visited the ONM for an intensive tour and full day of meetings with the ONM staff and MAP team. Dr. Neal Hitch, the selected peer-reviewer, is the director at the Imperial Valley Desert Museum in Ocotillo, Calif. Hitch provided the ONM with a wealth of feedback in all aspects of the museum. The ONM received the final MAP report on July 30 and the report includes a critical analysis of Dr. Hitch's findings along with a suggested list of priorities and tasks designed to implement improvements at the museum.

The MAP report included statements praising the ONM for the quality of its exhibits, graphics and promotional material, public programs, and future vision, according to the release. About the recent renovations, Hitch said, "I had a hard time believing the building improvements were new when I saw them, as they create functional and professional spaces that seem perfect for the facility."

The MAP report also brought some issues to light and provided guidance on how to improve upon certain aspects of the museum including prioritizing cataloging the museum's collection, expediting the creation of specific policies and their relevant procedures, and diversifying the museum's budget through fundraising and grants.

Out of these MAP recommendations, the museum is already drafting a Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP) program grant application and finalizing drafts of certain policies and procedures, the release said.

August 2016 marks the ONM's second round of completion with this program. The ONM, formerly the Osage Tribal Museum, participated in the MAP program in 1994 under the direction of then-curator E. Sean Standingbear. "Even though the ONM has completed this program before, going through the program now has been crucial in understanding how far we've progressed since January and served to better guide us moving forward," said ONM Curator Hallie Winter. "We have a firmer grasp on our goals supported by Dr. Hitch's commentary and suggestions. We can use this assessment in applying for grants, seeking additional outside funding, and eventually for seeking accreditation by the AAM, which can help us receive loans from other institutions. Being accredited also means we are operating at the highest standards set by museum professionals, and that ultimately means our collections, the material we're here to care for, will be around for generations to come."

# Save the Date!

# -Local Events Calendar

### **SEPTEMBER**

September 5 -**Observed Holiday** 

Labor Day Offices Closed

# September 8

Autumn Chair Exercise Class Class will continue on Thursdays through November 17 Osage Nation Senior Center 350 Senior Drive Pawhuska, Oklahoma For more information contact (918) 287-5482

# September 10

13th Annual Honor Dance Celebrating the Feast Day of David Pendleton Oakerhater Native American Ministries in the Episcopal Church Watonga, Oklahoma For more information contact (580) 614-1660

# September 16

Osage Book Club Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office 100 W. Main, Suite 211 Pawhuska, Oklahoma 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. For more information contact (918) 287-5328

# September 17

Honor Powwow for 2015-2016 Comanche Nation Princess Shelby Mata Watchetaker Hall Lawton, Oklahoma 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contest Powwow For more information contact (580) 351-8377

### September 30 – October 2 25th Annual Comanche Nation Fair

Comanche Nation Complex

Lawton, Oklahoma Contest Powwow

# **OCTOBER**

# October 1

12th Annual National Indian Taco ChampionshipPawhuska, Oklahoma 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information contact (918) 287-1208

# October 8

OSU Powwow Payne County Expo Center Stillwater, Oklahoma Contest Powwow For more information contact (405) 744-5328

### October 10 -**Observed Holiday**

Osage Day Offices Closed

# October 22

8th Annual Osage Nation Cultural Walk Registration will be open from August 20 - September 20 For more information contact (918) 287-5538

# October 28-30

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma Reunion 2016 The Tower Hotel 3233 Northwest Expressway Oklahoma City, Oklahoma For more information contact (918) 403-9605

# **NOVEMBER**

# November 5

United Osages of Southern California Fall Gathering 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008

For lodging information: www.visitcarlsbad.com For more information call Greg Clavier (760) 802-7591

# November 19

10th Annual OKCPS Powwow US Grant High School 5016 S. Penn Ave. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Contest Powwow For more information contact (405) 587-0355

### November 11 -Observed Holiday Veterans Day

Offices Closed

**November 24-25** – **Observed Holiday** Thanksgiving Holiday Offices Closed

# **DECEMBER**

**December 23-26 – Observed Holiday** Christmas Holiday

Offices Closed

# December 30

New Year's Eve Offices Close at Noon

# December 31

16th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow Bacone College 2412 East Shawnee Rd. Muskogee, Oklahoma Contest Powwow For more information contact (918) 639-7999

Have an event? Send event information to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 619 Kihekah, Pawhuska, OK 74056; sshaw@osagenews.org, email or fax to (918) 287-5563. Make sure to include event date, location, email and Web address (if applicable) and a phone number where someone can be contacted for validation if necessary. Deadline for the October 2016 issue is September 18, 2016.



Michael Canville Bennett

### Michael Canville Bennett

Michael Canville Bennett, age 75, passed away on July 29, 2016, at his residence.

Born in Fairfax, Okla., on September 17, 1940, and reared in Ellensburg, Wa., he was the son of the late Oliver Joseph Bennett and the late Anne Laura Aker Bennett. He was a member of the Osage Nation. He was a graduate of Gonzaga University and attended Law School at George Washington University.

Mick was commissioned in the U.S. Navy where he worked in highly classified intelligence. During two tours in Vietnam, he earned eighteen awards, including two Bronze Stars with combat "V", two Air Medals with combat "V", the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

He then moved to Washington, D.C., and worked on both sides of the aisle—initially, as a Legislative Assistant to Senator Henry M. Jackson (D-WA) and U.S. Congresswoman Julia Butler Hanson (D-WA), and later for Congressman Jim Longley (R-ME), and others.

Mick was born on the Osage reservation in Oklahoma during the time that his father, Oliver Bennett, was develop-



Norman Ray BigEagle

ing the official membership role of the Osage Nation. While on Capitol Hill, Mick served as staff member to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, chaired by Congresswoman Hanson, which handled appropriations and related matters for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

During the next 30 years he worked in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and, briefly, the Virginia Senate in legislation, media relations, and staff management, and managed several Republican legislative campaigns.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kathleen McManus (Kate) Bennett; his children, Michael Canville Bennett, II, of Anderson, S.C., Kevin Aker Bennett, of St. Louis, Mo., and Keenan Bennett Hall and her husband Bill Hall, of Alexandria, Va.; a sister, Billie Jo Sorenson and her husband Joe, of Palm Desert, Calif.; two grandchildren, Emily Anne and Alexander William Hall; and several special nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Barbara Madzuma, in addition to his parents.

The funeral service were held on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. at St. Agnes



**Frances Christine Brown** 

Catholic Church in Arlington, Va. Interment with military honors followed at Columbia Gardens in Arlington, Va. A memorial in Anderson, S.C., was held at the home on August 14.

The family requests that any memorial contributions be made to The Pulmonary Paper, PO Box 877, Ormond Beach, FL 32175 (www.pulmonarypaper.org), or to the Civil Air Patrol, 5735 Airport Rd. Anderson, SC 2962.

A message of condolence may be sent by visiting www. mcdougald funeral home.com.The McDougald Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Anderson, SC.

### Norman Ray BigEagle

Norman R. BigEagle, 95, of Grove, OK, passed on to the spirit world on Aug. 2, 2016. He was Hominy District Osage of the Honga Eagle Clan. He was born in Hominy on Oct. 4, 1920. His father was Harry BigEagle (Xutha Tonga) and his mother was Myrtle Goad, both deceased.

He was raised in Hominy, enjoyed hunting as a youth, and played high school football for the Hominy Bucks. He married Dorcas McCuistian of



Joseph Leonard Cox, Sr.

Claremore, OK, in 1945 and their marriage lasted 70 years until her passing in 2015. After high school he continued his education in Wichita, Kans., and returned to Oklahoma to work for American Airlines for 32 years. After retirement he lived in California for a while and helped start the Northern California Osage group in the mid 1990s.

He is survived by a son, Norman Duane and grandson, Valeriano Albert, living in Petaluma, CA, and by his daughter, Peggy S. Blair and her husband George of Grove, OK, and by grandkids, George W. "Stache" Blair and wife Tonya, Cassie M. Blair, and a great-grandson, Chace Kinondon Blair, all of Tulsa.

Norman BigEagle had a generous and positive spirit and people who knew him, even for a short time, often remarked that he changed their lives for the better. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation in his memory to the Osage Language Program, 222 W. Main Street, Pawhuska, OK, 74056.

### Frances Christine Brown

Frances Christine Brown, lifelong resident of Fairfax, passed peacefully at her home on Monday, August 8, 2016 surrounded by her children and family. She was 67 years of age.

Christine was born September 20, 1948 in Pawhuska, the daughter of Theodore E. Hazelbaker and Mary J. (Black) Hazelbaker. Lovingly known as "Chris", she was a Fairfax "Red Devil" graduating with the class of 1966.

Chris loved spending time with her family, crossword puzzles and reading. She worked as a Secretary in the Administration Office at OSU for years. For the last several years, she taught finger weaving at the Osage Language Center in Fairfax. She was a longtime, faithful member of the Sacred Heart

Catholic Church. Survivors include her two children, son Hank Johnston and wife Shana and daughter Mary Louise Jordan and husband Greg of Fairfax. Six grandchildren, Taylor Johnston, Samantha Johnston, Brenton Jordan, Hallie Barr, Katie Barnhart and Jamie Jordan. Two great-grandchildren, Briar Barr and Jenna Jordan. An aunt, Dr. Kathleen Black of Oklahoma City. Four siblings, Sisters: Judy Johnson and husband Leo, Davy Watts, Theresa Hutcheson and husband Dennis; Brother Theodore Hazelbaker Jr., all of Fairfax. Chris also has numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother-inlaw, Curtis Watts.

The family is honoring her wish to be cremated at this time. Memorial Services will be held in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hunsaker-Wooten Funeral Home.

A rosary will be held at 6 p.m. on Aug. 19 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and a mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Aug. 20.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church,



Josephine Brave Montgomery

333 S Eighth St, Fairfax OK 74637 or Woodland Public Schools, 100 N Sixth St, Fairfax OK 74637.

Online condolences may be done at www.hunsakerwootenfuneral home.com.

### Joseph Leonard Cox, Sr.

Joseph Leonard Cox, Sr. passed away Monday, August 29, 2016 at the Oklahoma Heart Hospital North in Oklahoma City, OK surrounded by his loving wife and family. "Leonard," as he was known, obtained the age of 75.

Born March 9, 1941 in Shawnee, Oklahoma, his parents were Thomas Arthur Cox Sr. and Waunita "Dink" Kays Cox. He attended Fairfax High School and went on to college at Independence Community College and then to Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas, where he earned a Bachelor, Master, and Specialist degrees. He later completed his doctoral work at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS.

Leonard and Bonnie Blattbyrd (Black) were married on March 8, 1968 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma and shared 48 years of marriage before his passing. Their family included four children: Joseph Cox JR, Cecil Cox, Sonya Cox and Cheryl Potter.

Working as a Grant and proposal writer for the tribe, he also enjoyed spending time with Family and always had a Good Story to tell. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping in the R.V., playing guitar and was an active member of the Native American Church. He attended many cultural events and particularly enjoyed dancing. He was a tail dancer for many years and loved to hear the beat of the dance drums. His real joy was making people laugh and bringing joy to their lives through his stories and laughter.

Survivors other than his wife, Bonnie and children include 15 grandchildren: Lacy Cox, Catie Cox, Willow High, Aurora Cox, Mia Cox, Camille Cox, Valley Cox, Clara Cox, Secile Baughman, Sheyenne Reynae, Sierra Sky, Jessica Long, Heather Potter, Sarah Potter and John "Lyle" Potter. Numerous great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces and other family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother Thomas "Arthur" Cox, Jr. and two grandsons: Jesse Wayne Cox and Joseph Leonard Cox III.

Services were held Sept. 1 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Fairfax, OK under the direction of Hunsaker-Wooten Funeral Home. Interment followed at the Fairfax City Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Billy Cox, Jeff Lohah, John Lyle Potter, Jordan Cox, Bob Palmour, and Henry Ben Harrison. Honorary Bearers were Tristen Baughman and Taylor Baughman.

Online condolences memories may be done at www.hunsaker-wootenfuneralhome.com.

# **CLASSIFIEDS**

OSAGE NATION JOBS: To Apply please for a position with the Osage Nation go to https:// www.osagenation-nsn.gov/opportunities/job-listings/application-form. You are welcome to attach a resume and/or cover letter in addition. Please note that all applicants tentatively selected for employment with the Osage Nation will be required to submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use. Employment will be contingent upon said drug test results. OSAGE / VETER-AN /INDIAN PREFERENCE IS CONSIDERED. Verification of preference must be included with application. For questions please contact Taryn Crawford, Osage Nation Employee Recruitment Specialist, at (918) 287-5445 or tcrawford@osagenationnsn.gov.

Case Specialist - Pawhuska Child Support Services Bachelor's Degree in a Criminal Science, Public Administration, Political Science or Sociology related program required; and knowledge of child support program rules and regulations preferred. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$17.00/hr.

**Background Investigator and** Licensing Agent - Pawhuska Gaming Commission Associate's Degree or equivalent experience. Requires ability to use Microsoft Office Suite Programs. A minimum of 1-2 years of experience in law enforcement or in a related field in which investigations are conducted and prosecuted/tried in a quasi-judicial system. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$15.95/hr.

Regulator Compliance Agent - Pawhuska Gaming Commission Associate's degree or equivalent regulatory experience in gaming. Compliance, inspection, or investigation background preferred (Criminal Justice training preferred). National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS) training preferred. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$16.50/hr.

Administrative Assistant -Pawhuska Communities of Excellence High school graduate or GED equivalency, Associates preferred. Must have general administrative and clerical skills. Must possess excellent customer service skills. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$11.50/hr.

Surveillance Officer - Sand **Springs Gaming Commission** High school diploma or GED. Must have the ability to obtain and maintain Gaming License in accordance with Trial and Federal Gaming Regulations. Must have reliable transportation to work sites. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$13.30/hr.

Surveillance Officer (2) - Skiatook Gaming Commission High school diploma or GED. Must have the ability to obtain and maintain Gaming License in accordance with Trial and Federal Gaming Regulations. Must have reliable transportation to work sites. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$13.30/hr.

Surveillance Officer (2) - Tulsa Gaming Commission High school diploma or GED. Must have the ability to obtain and maintain Gaming License in accordance with Trial and Federal Gaming Regulations. Must have reliable transportation to work sites. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$13.30/hr.

Teacher Assistant - Skiatook Head Start Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Development or related field preferred or actively working toward this degree. Child Development Associate (CDA) certification or related field preferred or working toward completion within eight (8) months. High school diploma or GED required. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$13.00/hr.

Teacher Assistant **(2)** Pawhuska Head Start Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Development or related field preferred or actively working toward this degree. Child Development Associate (CDA) certification or related field preferred or working toward completion within eight (8) months. High school diploma or GED required. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$13.00/hr.

Dentist - Pawhuska and Fairfax Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center Degree in Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) or Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) from a school approved by the Council on Dental Education, American Dental Association (ADA) or other dental school provided the education and knowledge acquired was substantially equivalent to that of graduates from an ADA approved school. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$128,775 - \$142,700

CDA (4) - Multiple Locations WELA Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Development or related field preferred or actively working toward this degree. Child Development Associate (CDA) certification or related field preferred or working toward completion within eight (8) months. High school diploma or GED required. Regular Full

Time. Salary: \$13.00/hr. Center Manager - Hominy WELA Associates degree in Early Childhood Education, Child Development, Social Service or related field; Bachelor's preferred. At least one (1) year of experience working in a Head Start Program or similar pre-school educational institutions. Childhood Development Associate certification (CDA) Regular Full Time. Salary: \$17.80/hr.

Certified Kindergarten Teacher -Pawhuska Immersion Bachelor's degree in the field of Education required. Teaching certification in Elementary Education required. Candidate must have or complete an accredited Montessori training program within 2 years of hire. Working knowledge of the Osage language required. Proficiency preferred. Regular Full Time. Salary: \$25.00/hr.

Temp Work HR Temp If interested in temp work, please submit an online application at https://www.osagenation-nsn. gov/opportunities/job-listings/application-form. Submitting your application to the temp pool will place you in the skill set category. Temporary work will be available as needed. Regular Temporary Time. Salary: \$13.00/hr.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to

See OBITUARIES

—Continued on Page 19

# Letters to the Editor

### Thank You, Osage Nation

The City of Barnsdall would like to thank Chief Standing Bear, Assistant Chief Red Corn, and the Osage Nation Congress for their generous donations the past year.

In October of 2015, the Osage Nation donated \$2,500 and an ambulance to help the city of Barnsdall and Eagle Medical Transport in providing EMS Service to Barnsdall and Osage County.

In May of 2016, the Osage Nation donated \$75,000 to help the City of Barnsdall with the costs for the addition of a filter unit at the water treatment plant. Also, in August of 2016, the Osage Nation donated \$10,000 to help the City of Barnsdall purchase a used mobile home to house our newest EMS provider Samaritan's paramedics and staff.

These donations have been very generous and are greatly appreciated. Thank you again.

-Brock Moore, Mayor of Barnsdall, Okla.

# **Without Reservations**



Cartoon © Santo Domingo Pueblo Cartoon Artist, Ricardo Caté

# **OBITUARIES**

-from Page 18

### Josephine Brave Montgomery

Josephine Brave Montgomery was born in Hulbert, Oklahoma on Nov. 22, 1929, to Charles Brave and Maggie Lena (Woodall) Jackson. She passed away at Go Ye Village in Tahlequah, Okla., on Aug. 11, 2016.

Jo was raised in Cherokee County, south of Hulbert. She moved to Tahlequah in the early 1970's. She was employed by WW Hastings Indian Health Service as a Nurse Assistant.

In her spare time she enjoyed working crosswords, quilting, reading, watching television and shopping. She loved to travel with her daughter Sue.

Shewas baptized into the family of God in 1979 at the First Baptist Church of Tahlequah.

Jo has been preceded in death by her parents, Maggie Jackson and Charles Brave; a brother, Andrew Jackson; and sister, Naomi Davis.

She is survived by her daughter, Sue Champlain and husband Charlie of Tahlequah; a granddaughter, Jennifer Champlain-Coley and husband Adam of Tahlequah; two brothers, Levi Jackson and Charles Brave, both of Hulbert; a sister-in law, Linda Jackson and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and close friends.

# Byron "Kent" Radcliff

Byron "Kent" Radcliff, 78, of Dexter, Kans., passed away Sunday morning, July 24 at William Newton Hospital.

Born December 21, 1937 in Wichita, Kans., he was the son of Byron M. and Beatrice (Heenan) Radcliff. He was raised in Wichita, receiving his early education at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School. He then attended and graduated from Western Military Academy in Alton, Illinois. After high school, Kent attended Oklahoma State University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Animal Husbandry in 1959. He was an active member in Lamdi Chi Alpha and continued to support his chapter. Kent joined his father in the family owned businesses of Valentine Manufacturing, Interlocking Stave and Silo and Radcliff Ranch. His passion for ranching led him to manage the family ranch in Dexter, Kans. He was instrumental in the development of range management and burning in the Flint Hills during the mid 1970's.

He was united in marriage to Paula McMillon on January 19, 1974 in Wichita, Kans. The couple made their home in Dexter, where he continued to manage the family ranch. Kent was involved with the Cowley County Sheriff's Department, where he was on active duty from August 1985 until 1991. He remained as a Firearm's Instructor with the Cowley County Sheriff's Department until 2015. In 1991, Kent and Paula started Powder Valley Services, a reloading components distributor. Kent was a very dedicated and active member of his community. He served as Dexter Fire Chief and was instrumental in organizing the Cowley County Fire Districts. He was also on the Dexter Township Board for more than 40 years and served as President of Grouse-Silver Creek Watershed for 35 years. He served on the board of Monarch Cement of Humbolt, Kans., for over 56 years, making him the longest serving board member. Kent served on the Snyder Foundation Board, was a member of the Kansas Masonic Lodge for over 50 years, a legacy member and contributor to the Kansas State and Oklahoma State Rifle Association and a member of the Osage Nation.

His family includes: His wife, Paula Radcliff of Dexter; his sons, Byron James Radcliff and wife, Cynthia of Steamboat, Colo.; Robert Kent Radcliff and wife, Amanda of Chicago, Ill.; Ryan Travis Radcliff and wife, Deb of Santa

Cruz, Calif.; his daughter Noel Richardson and husband Bryan of Winfield; and his grandchildren, Byron William, Trevor, Paige and Jenna.

Kent was preceded in death by his

Funeral services were held on July 29 at the First Church of the Nazarene in Winfield. Interment was held at the Dexter Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you donate to your favorite charity in Kent's name or to the Kansas State Rifle Association, Sporting Friends of Cowley County or the Cowley County

# **WALK**

-from Page 13

registration applications will be accepted through Sept. 20 from enrolled Osages and their families. Attendees and their families are expected to bring camping gear, walking shoes and jackets/ hoodies for the cool overnight stay.

"Our mission in offering this event to the Osage people is to bring insight and knowledge of our Osage ancestors as descendants and survivors," according to a Cultural Walk cover letter by WCC Director Vann Bighorse. "Over several generations, our people walked from the Ohio basin to what is now the Osage Nation Reservation in Oklahoma. We want you to experience a symbolic taste of what those journeys might have been like for our ancestors. We will not endure the hardship they experienced, but we will hold their strong and noble spirits in our

The walk event will include discussions by ON historians and cultural staff regarding the Osage movement from Kansas to Oklahoma. During the walk, there will be displays for attendees to read regarding the historic events of the move to Oklahoma

For more information and for registration information, the WCC can be reached at (918) 287-5538 or visit the WCC website at: www.osagenation-nsn.gov/who-we-are/cultural-center.

# How to submit a Letter 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.

# **ENROLLMENT**

-from Page 7

we're are also providing tuition assistance and transportation to students who qualify."

N2N University is located in Pelivan Transit's Flexible Fuel Vehicle Maintenance Facility at the Grand Gateway EDA campus in Big Cabin.

N2N University is a subsidiary of Native2Native Solutions, a tribally owned holding company of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. Current partnerships include Grand Gateway EDA, Pelivan Transit, Northeast Technology Center, Workforce Oklahoma, Northeast Workforce Investment Board, and Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, among other organizations and funding agencies.

For enrollment or more information, email Bobbie Wolf at bwolf@n2nu.org or call (800) 482-4594. Visit the university's website at www.n2nu.org.

# **September 18th** is the deadline for all submissions for the **October** issue of the



Mark it on your calendars!

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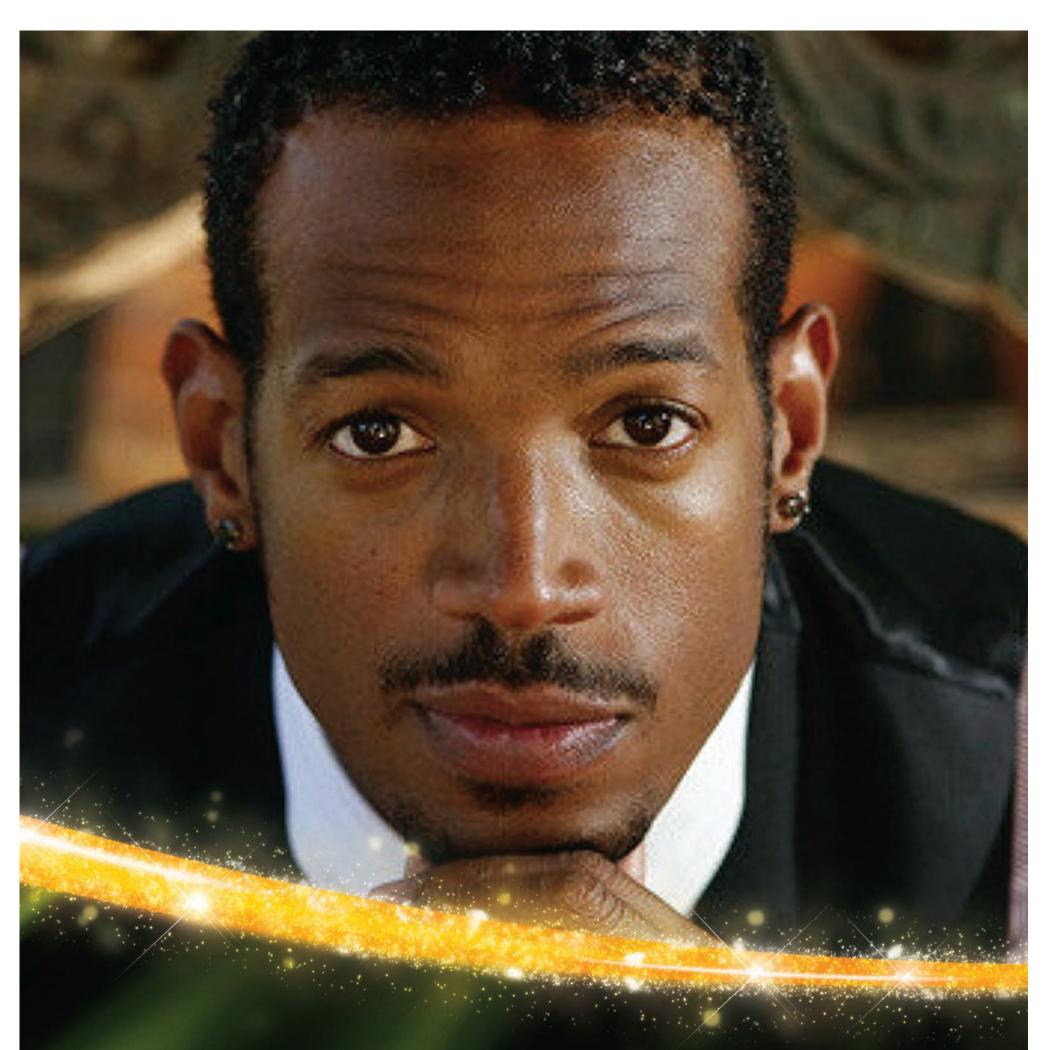
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