Top Photo: American White Pelicans and Gulls at Keystone Dam eagle nest site west of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Teresa Zientek provides an update on the CPN-SGU scholarship one year into its implementation.

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CPN-SGU Tribal Scholarship update

Ofﬁces of chairman, districts 1–4 and annual tribal budget set for June 24 vote.

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Tribal car tag fee donations add $1.7 million for Oklahoma schools

A severe budget shortfall that is impacting classrooms around the state means that dollars going directly into the classroom are even more important. Programs like the Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal car tags give schools a reliable boost in funding. Since CPN first began issuing car tags in 2005, $1.7 million in funds has been sent to Oklahoma schools. Collected from fees on sales and registrations of tribal automobile vehicle license plates, CPN allows tag holders to designate a specific school in Oklahoma that their fees will be donated to each year. In the most recent ﬁscal year, the tribe’s donations of car tag fees to Oklahoma schools exceeded $272,000.

“People just love this program,” said CPN Tribal Tag Agency Director Cheryl Tainpeah. “They like how they can send it not to just schools where they live, but to any one they choose.”

All Oklahoma schools, whether private or public, are eligible for the donations collected from tribal tag fees between May through April each year. Only donations to higher education institutions are not allowed under the program guidelines.

When tribal members ﬁrst come to register their license plates at the tag agency, one option in the paperwork they ﬁll out allows for them to choose a school that will receive the donation. Each time their tag is renewed, that school receives a portion of the fees that are donated on an annual basis. Tribal members can change their desired school by ﬁlling out new registration paperwork at the CPN Tribal Tag Agency.

Though the funds go to individual schools, the top recipients in terms of school districts in the past year were:

- Shawnee: $17,811
- Moore: $13,684
- Tecumseh: $11,648
- Norman: $10,811
- Edmond: $10,268

To register a vehicle you must be an Oklahoma resident and a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member. In order to register a vehicle, appointments are mandatory, and can be made by calling the CPN Tag Agency at 1-800-880-9880. No appointments are required to renew your CPN Tag. Renewals can be done by mail or in person but owners must provide their CPN tag number and current Oklahoma insurance veriﬁcation with payment.

Tribal tags are offered for automobiles, motorcycles, farm vehicles, RVs, travel and utility trailers, ATVs and off-road motorcycles as well as black tags that have a non-use decal.

For veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, there is a special CPN Veteran Tag available.

To learn more, visit http://cpn.news/tagoffice or call 1-800-880-9880.

CPN member Baylee Ogle crowned Miss Oklahoma Teen USA

On December 18, 2016 tribal member Baylee Ogle was crowned Miss Oklahoma Teen USA 2017 at the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort. Ogle topped 46 competitors from across the state and will go on to compete at the national Miss Teen USA 2017 in the summer.

Ogle is a freshman at the University of Oklahoma and is a sorority member of Alpha Chi Omega. Additionally she serves as a member of the university’s Disability Inclusion and Awareness Group, which she attributes to her passion for helping others. She enjoys volunteering at Make Promises Happen, a camp for individuals with special needs, as well as the charitable movement Warriors for Ross and other volunteer organizations in her communities.

During Baylee’s year as Miss Oklahoma Teen USA, she plans to bring awareness to disability accessibility and the daily struggles faced by the disabled and their families. Her late father, Eddie Ogle, battled ALS – or Lou Gehrig’s Disease - until his death in January 2016. She and her family experienced firsthand the trials and tribulations of disease and disability such as not being able to sit together as a family at sporting events, movies or travel when hotels, restaurants and restaurants claimed to be handicap accessible when they truly were not.

Ogle assisted her mother in helping feed, bathe, change and lift her 45-year-old father and military veteran in and out of bed. Because of these experiences, she said she has become extremely passionate about teaching others to have compassion for the disabled. She hopes to bring light to the situation through a program she developed called “Where There’s a Wheel, There’s a Way”.

To follow more about Ogle’s year as Miss Oklahoma Teen USA you can follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MissOKlahomaTeenUSA or on Instagram and Twitter: @MissOKTeenUSA.
Tribal election candidates certified

Each year the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s tribal legislature holds elections for seats in the tribal legislature. Legislative terms are staggered, meaning a certain number of seats are always on the ballot while a wholesale turnover of elected representatives is impossible, keeping continuity and institutional knowledge in the tribe’s elected government body.

This year, the offices of chairman and legislative districts 1-4 are on the ballot. Incumbent John “Rocky” Barrett will face challenger Steve Castaneda for the tribe’s highest executive office. The offices of vice-chairman and secretary-treasurer along with the position of the chairman have seats in the 16-person legislative body.

District 1 consists of the northeast sections of the United States, where incumbent Roy Slavin looks to be reelected to another four year term after no opposition registered to run.

In District 2, incumbent Eva Marie Carney also will serve another four year term in office where she oversees the activities and interests of Citizen Potawatomi living in the southeast United States. No opponents registered for the District 2 race.

District 3, which encompasses eastern Texas and the major metropolitan areas of Dallas-Ft. Worth, Houston, Austin and San Antonio will have a competitive race this year. Incumbent Robert Whistler will seek another four year term in a race against John Eric Humphreys.

For all Kansans in the Citizen Potawatomi nation, District 4 will also feature a competitive race as incumbent Jon Boursaw seeks to retain his seat against former tribal legislator Theresa Adame. Boursaw narrowly defeated Adame in the 2013 election.

The tribal Election Day will take place June 24, 2017 at Family Festival.

Oklahoma Potawatomi can’t rely on Tribal ID cards after state-issued IDs fall out of compliance

The Real ID is a coordinated effort between state and federal governments to provide reliable state-issued identification documents that will curb the use of fraudulent IDs by terrorists. The law, passed by the U.S. Congress in 2005, was drafted in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

In 2007, Oklahoma passed a law that said the state would not comply with the federal statute. Critics cited concerns about how information would be stored, fearing data collected by federal authorities.

Though Oklahoma ID holders have had time to apply for passports, which are an acceptable form of ID for federal authorities, time was set to run out on January 29, 2017.

Federal agencies, including those overseeing security at airports and military bases and federal courthouses, were prohibited from accepting Oklahoma-issued IDs starting on that date until a last minute extension was given by federal authorities. Oklahoma has until June 2017 to come into compliance with federal statutes.

Though entering those specific locations may not be relevant to everyone, the next step in the deadline is set to fall in January 2018, when Oklahoma state-issued IDs will no longer be accepted for those seeking to board a commercial aircraft inside the United States.

While successive Oklahoma legislatures since 2007 have attempted to rectify the issue, they have successfully failed to reach a compromise. In the 2016 legislative session, both chambers of the Oklahoma legislature passed bills that would have brought the state’s IDs into compliance with federal law. Yet in inter-chamber negotiations, the wording of the two separate bills could not be agreed upon and the measures failed.

In some cases, tribal nations’ IDs are accepted as valid forms of identification for the purposes of entering federal buildings or boarding an aircraft. However, for Oklahoma-based Potawatomi, this isn’t the case. Though there are plans in the future to secure them, enhanced tribal identification cards are not used by Citizen Potawatomi Nation, which would make them compliant with federal standards.

CPN Tribal Rolls Director Charles Clark encourages tribal members to secure a U.S. passport if they need to board a plane or enter a federal facility.

“Any airport, even Will Rogers in Oklahoma City, will not accept a tribal ID card. Everyone is clamping down,” he said.

There is another reason for Citizen Potawatomi Nation members to secure a valid U.S. passport: travel. For those travelling by land, a passport card or a passport are both valid. Passport applications can be made at most county courthouses in Oklahoma.

The U.S.-Canadian border by air, one must have a valid U.S. passport. For those travelling by land, a passport card or passport are both valid.

To cross

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If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.
Two CPN members working amidst challenging budget shortfall at Oklahoma state capitol in 2017

With longtime Moore, Oklahoma State Representative Paul Weselhoff stepping down due to term limits, Senator Jason Smalley (R-Stroud) and Representative Mark McBride (R-Moore) are the only Citizen Potawatomi serving in the current legislature.

Similar to the past two sessions focusing on the global energy price crash, of which Oklahoma’s economy is so vulnerable to, this legislative session will feature another budget shortfall estimated to be around $692 million. Yet, as Oklahoma Secretary of Finance Preston Doerrflinger noted in mid-December, if the legislators follow the executive branch’s suggestion to not tap into one-time funding options, the actual shortfall is likely to be $868 million.

Smalley and McBride are not new hands in the statehouse, both having served previous terms where legislators had to balance a budget with similarly large shortfalls. Senator Smalley will be in the thick of Oklahoma’s economy’s recovery and downturns that have prevailed towards economic growth. The actual shortfall is likely to be $868 million.

McBride, who represents communities in south Oklahoma City, Moore and portions of Norman, is from the Bourassa family. He is the vice-chair of the Oklahoma House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which is likely to be busy as well given the recent spate of earthquakes.

Legislators overseeing jurisdictions that overlap with those of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will also be at the statehouse, including Representative Josh Cockroft (R-Wanette), whose district includes the communities of Tecumseh and most of southern Pottawatomie County. Representative Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) is set to take up his freshman term in the house, filling the seat formerly held by Justin Wood. A special election for Oklahoma House District 28 has been called after incumbent Tom Newell of Seminole abruptly resigned following his re-election on November 8. The district includes communities inside the tribe’s jurisdiction including Maud, McLoud and portions of Shawnee and Oklahoma City, and will be largely unrepresented during the upcoming legislative session because the special election isn’t until May 9, 2017.

Greg McCartney is a freshman member of the Oklahoma Senate, whose district overlaps into the CPN’s jurisdictions, including the communities of Asher, St. Louis and Wanette.

Two years at new location, BDC Gun Room has become a staple of local community

Like many enterprises that make up the ever growing FireLake complex at Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the tribal member-owned BDC Gun Room stands in stark contrast to what stood in its location just a few years ago. Sitting in what was once a wheat field off Hardesty Road three quarters of a mile east of State Highway 177, the 39,000 square foot indoor range and firearms sales floor has become a gathering point for shooting sports, personal safety education and law enforcement training in Pottawatomie County.

“Like I said after our first year, all new businesses face a tough road when starting out. Though we’ve been here for longer, opening this big of an operation was like starting over,” said owner Jack Barrett. A former Pottawatomie County Sheriff’s deputy, Barrett and his staff host numerous firearm safety training courses each month. The extensive space and two shooting ranges also provide a safe, indoor location for local law enforcement agencies to train and qualify on their service weapons.

“BDC has been great for local agencies like the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Department,” said Tribal Chief of Police James C. Collard, Ph.D. “We, and many of our sister agencies in the community, have a safe, warm and nearby place to train and recertify on our service weapons, which is a benefit to our officers and those we protect and serve.”

Those who don’t carry a badge also have opportunities to learn how to safely and responsibly operate and shoot a firearm. BDC offers carry and conceal training classes, league shooting competitions for all skill levels from expert to first time shooters, and even provides instructions to local boy and girl scout troops.

“We’ve hosted over 4000 people in our first 2 years, and that’s approximately 10,000 more with our follow up courses,” noted Barrett. “It is a class on how to legally carry and when you are allowed to use one in self-defense. We see people taking our ‘Defensive Handgun 1’ class as well as taking hourly individual instruction, so they can learn how to shoot well and gain the ability to effectively use their handgun to not just survive a lethal encounter, but to win.”

Unlike many of the other businesses at FireLake, BDC Gun Room is a privately-owned commercial enterprise. While Barrett is a tribal member, he is owner and operator of the business. The tribe owns the property and leases it under the HEARTH Act, which allows tribal nations to determine and control leasing options on land held in trust by the United States. Because it is on trust land, BDC Gun Room pays CPN’s tribal sales tax, which funds government services like road maintenance, public works and police protection operated by the tribe. To date it has paid more than $300,000 in tribal sales tax.

Looking ahead to his third year, Barrett says that he’s hoping to bring a restaurant or food service enterprise in to provide a place for patrons to grab a bite to eat before or after they shoot. Financing for a food service enterprise may be available through the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation, and those interested are encouraged to contact Barrett directly.

To learn more about BDC Gun Room, visit their location at 40960 Hardesty Rd, Shawnee, OK 74801 or visit them at www.bdcgunroom.com or at facebook.com/BDCGunRoom.
For four decades, the Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa has provided quality, comprehensive health care to the city’s Native American people in a culturally sensitive manner. Born out of a need to serve an urban Indian population underserved by the city’s existing healthcare facilities, the IHCRC has worked to eliminate health disparities and strengthen the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being of those it serves. With the organization since its inception has been Carmelita Wamego Skeeter, who currently serves as chief executive officer and is a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member. Skeeter was recently honored by the IHCRC for her four decades of service in building the organization into what it is today.

Born in Tulsa, Skeeter was a volunteer in her church’s social action group through a program called “Neighbor to Neighbor.” Her participation in the program, based in north Tulsa, helped residents in need gain access to public assistance, housing and other social welfare programs. This, combined with her active participation in her two children’s school activities, left little time for additional work, but Skeeter made it work. She attributes her ability to multitask to her role as the eldest of 13 siblings, a management background unto itself.

“I’m high energy,” Skeeter said with a laugh. Some of those siblings were active with a program called Indian Pupil Education, whose counselors knew of Skeeter’s volunteering and organizing with the Democratic Party. They approached her about working for the Indian Health Care Resource Center to conduct a needs assessment, which would be funded by the Indian Health Service.

Harking back to her role as eldest sibling, Skeeter said the focus of healthcare issues was ingrained from a young age.

“When you’re the oldest of 13 children, something’s always going on. They need healthcare,” she explained. “And when you’re working with the poor, there’s always the need for health, because if you’re not healthy you can’t work, you can’t be mobile, you can’t do anything.”

Healthcare services at tribal clinics, while often free to the tribal citizen, are paid for out of allotted federal funds from the Indian Health Service, third-party billing from Medicare and private insurance plans or even by revenues from the tribal nation itself. Restrictions on funding from federal sources tied to jurisdictions mean patients seeking treatment at a tribal clinic must get to the clinic. Many of these facilities are in rural areas, far from major metropolitan areas. Skeeter’s 1976 needs assessment studied this very issue. Along with her executive director at the time, Skeeter investigated why Native Americans were not using existing healthcare facilities in Tulsa, and why Native children were missing so many days of school due to illness.

After personally visiting many of these facilities to understand the reception given to Native Americans seeking care, Skeeter noticed a startlingly trendy. When checking in for service, she was questioned about how the medical bills would be paid. Intake personnel would ask a barrage of questions concerning her insurance status or whether either the Indian Health Service or individual tribes would foot the bill. When Skeeter responded that she would pay for the costs of treatment, almost universally the response was for her to go to the Claremore Indian Hospital, approximately 30 miles away.

“Indians in Tulsa were either going to Claremore or Tahlequah or to Creek Nation facilities, meaning the mothers and fathers were missing days of work and kids were missing days out of school. It wasn’t just a trip down there and right back. That’s how we determined that Tulsa needed a clinic for Indian people.”

The IHCRC hired a grant writer to help find funding resources while soliciting the federal government for money specifically for Tulsa’s Indian population. Eventually they secured the volunteer services of a doctor in Tulsa and opened a small office for half a day a week. The organization grew from there, with healthcare equipment donated from military surpluses and World Medical Relief and through contracts with the Women, Infant and Children Program at Cherokee Nation. By 1978, after years of scraping together funding and resources, the IHCRC hired a full-time physician.

The organization is not funded by any one tribe, but is sustained by its own fundraising and and monies from the Indian Health Service. In 1976 the budget was $76,000, while in 2016 that figure was approximately $20 million. From an initial count of four personnel, today’s roster of staff and health providers stands at 140.

Looking back at the challenges that the IHCRC encountered over the years, the Reagan Administration’s attempt to eliminate funding for urban Indian populations stands out as a seminal moment for Skeeter. As part of President Reagan’s efforts at eliminating the federal budget deficit, his administration cut funding for urban Indians. Yet area directors of the Indian Health Service realized the gap that the IHCRC and its Oklahoma City counterpart filled in the state’s healthcare system, and worked with Skeeter and fellow officials there to compromise with Congress in order to save the funding. The compromise, which began as an effort to stave off a worse case scenario, developed into a significant victory for the IHCRC.

“We would be part of Indian Health Service, a non-profit and still be able to seek private funding sources,” she recalled. “This was presented to Congress at the Indian Affairs Com-
On January 11, 2017 two employees at the Grand Casino were involved in an incident which left both dead. The incident occurred in a non-public area of the casino administrative offices. Most employees had not yet arrived for their shift and no casino guests or other employees were endangered.

“It’s important to understand that at no time during this event were any patrons of the casino or other employees at risk,” said Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Chief Jim Collard.

The FBI is now leading the investigation and will have the full cooperation of casino security and tribal police. CPN Tribal Police Chief Jim Collard called the response a textbook example of interagency cooperation.

“Being there for our partners and the community when the going is tough-est is our most important mission and I am glad we were able to do our part in the aftermath of such an awful tragedy,” stated FBI special agent Kathryn Peterson. “Our hearts go out to the families, friends, and coworkers of both young men as well as all the employees of the casino and the community it serves.”

The United States Department of Labor reports that nearly 2 million American workers report having been victims of workplace violence each year. This is the only instance of workplace violence at a CPN enterprise.

“This is a wonderful work environment, very mutually supportive employees. And, there is a solid contingent of counselors on board visiting with employees who need assistance in that regard,” Collard said.

Other agencies involved in the response or investigation include the McLoud Police Department, Potawatomi County Sheriff, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Absentee Shawnee Police, Potawatomi County Drug Task Force, and the Pottawatomie County District Attorney.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation cut the ribbon for its first cultural heritage center in January 2006 and it has been growing, changing and adapting to challenges ever since. Before the current structure was built 11 years ago, there was a museum and gift shop at the CHC’s present location, but tribal members and staff have spent years planning and learning what people want in a cultural heritage center.

“There is a difference between a museum and a cultural heritage center,” CHC Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., said. “We are a museum in the sense that we are here to protect, preserve and display our cultural artifacts for the public and for tribal members, but we are a cultural heritage center because of everything else that goes along with it. We are here to, not only preserve the objects themselves, but the histories, stories and family lineage behind these objects.”

The heritage center is a place for people to learn about their culture and lineage, but also leave a little bit of their culture and history. A program called the Tribal Heritage Project is designed to allow people to tell stories on camera about their grandparents and the stories passed down through family histories, but also about themselves. One day, they are likely to have children and grandchildren who will be interested in learning more about what was important to them.

The cultural resources team is made up of the gift shop, banquet facility and museum staff, including the 3D collections manager, curator, digitizing and 2D archives staff.

There are several departments and programs that make up the CHC, including the Potawatomi language department, tribal enrollment, Tribal Heritage Productions, grants, the Tribal Historic Preservation Office and Rekindling 7 Generations, which is an after school program for Native youth in south Pottawatomie County. The cultural resources team is made up of the gift shop, banquet facility and museum staff, including the 3D collections manager, curator, digitizing and 2D archives staff.

Mosteller told the Hownikan that a cultural heritage center is not only concerned with preserving things from the past, but also perpetuating the history and the story of the Potawatomi people as they move into the future.

“As a Native American tribe, without a distinct culture and our history, we lose the essence of who we are as a people,” said Mosteller. “Having the CHC here to preserve and protect our history that makes us uniquely Potawatomi is important. Allowing members to have a home base where they can come back and get to know other tribal members gives them the opportunity to feel more connected to their tribe and its culture and carry it on to the next generation. We are proud of the strides that we’ve made at the CHC.”

Looking toward the future, 2017 will be a big year for the heritage center staff. They have been working diligently to reimagine and reconfigure the museum floor to tell the story of the Potawatomi people.

“With hard work, community input and a few grants, we were able to put together a new exhibit that I think people are going to love,” Mosteller said. “In 2017, there is going to be a mad rush of activity. Right now we are finishing two of our 11 exhibits and all exhibits will be complete by our anniversary next year – January 6, 2018.”

Tribal members will be able to see the progress being made during Family Reunion Festival 2017 in June. At this time, heritage center staff will facilitate tours and visitors will be able to view a traveling exhibit featuring Native American veterans from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian. For more information, please visit www.potawatomeritage.org.
Aviary welcomes fastest bird on the planet

The thunder is talking at the CPN Eagle Aviary, which is now home to a peregrine falcon. Tomo Yake which means “thunder” in Comanche, is an adult, female peregrine falcon, a species that is the fastest bird in the world and can fly more than 200 miles per hour. She has a wonderfully loud voice, hence her name which is directly translated as “Heaven is talking.”

“All of the kids in school know about the falcon and specifically the peregrine because it’s the fastest bird on the planet,” CPN Eagle Aviary Manager Jennifer Randell said. “It never fails. Kids think the eagles are really cool but they always ask if we have a peregrine. It’s something the kids learn about in science class.”

Tomo Yake came from Sia: The Comanche Nation Ethno-Omnithological Initiative, where Randell and Aviary Assistant Manager Bree Dunham spent most of their time training. She was one of the first birds they worked with when they got to Sia in 2008. She is a fully flighted adult and the staff would like to get her to the point where they can call her to the glove and do indoor flight presentations.

Tomo was bred to be an education bird, so she has never lived in the wild. She spent much of her life being glove trained and traveling to educational andconservational opportunities around the country with trainers at Sia.

“It’s nice to have a smaller bird of prey for people to see,” Dunham said. “One thing we have learned is that people are afraid of birds. You go into a classroom setting and the golden eagle scares some of the kids because it’s so large. The peregrine is vocal and a little more keyed up. That’s just how she’s wired.”

The falcon’s speed is what sets her apart from other birds of prey. Tomo Yake doesn’t do anything slowly. “When we feed her, she catches food mid-air. She also out-thinks us,” Randell said. “By the time I have one thought, she is already ten steps ahead of me.”

As the weather begins to cool off, avairy employees will begin glove-training birds more often. When the temperature exceeds 80 degrees it is best not to train birds on the glove because it’s stressful for them to learn new things and may cause them to overheat. The avairy staff does not think it will take long for Tomo Yake to be comfortable enough to do public educational presentations again, since she has been trained for most of her life.

Randell and Dunham talk about the importance of culture and conservation when they take birds for presentations. They deem it important to talk to young people about how to treat these beautiful creatures.

“She’s already on an education permit, but we want to make sure she’s comfortable,” Randell said. “There’s no danger to take her in public, but we just want to make sure she doesn’t get stressed out.”

For more information about the aviary, please visit www.potawatomi-heritage.org/#aviary.

CPCDC’s Oklahoma Indian Nations directory on sale in February

The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation has a number of missions. Whether its staff is promoting small business development in Indian Country, financing community infrastructure development in rural Oklahoma or providing credit and financial management counseling to those in need, the organization takes on a wide array of challenges.

One such mission is now in its third installment, as the 2017 Oklahoma Indian Nations directory is now on sale.

The 2017 Oklahoma Indian Nation’s Directory contains information on all 38 of the state’s tribal leaders, jurisdictions, contact numbers and websites. There is a foldout state map indicating each tribal government’s jurisdiction as well as contact information for Oklahoma’s U.S. Congressional delegation, Oklahoma state legislators, members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, officials from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, First Nations Development Institute and other groups relevant to tribes and their members.

The booklet was originally conceived by CPCDC Director Shane Jett as a replacement of a similar directory once produced by the State of Oklahoma’s now defunct Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission. From 1967-2011, the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, as part of its mission to facilitate dialogue between the state government and tribal governments, compiled up to date information on the state’s tribes, their leaders and jurisdictions.

“We decided to produce our own because I remembered what a tool it was for my work in the legislature,” said Jett, who served as the Oklahoma House District 27 legislator from 2004-10. “If there is legislation or issues impacting tribes and you want their input or expertise, then all you need is this book to know who to speak to.”

The directories are available through the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Community Development Corporation for seven dollars, and can be ordered by visiting giftshop.potawatomi.org or by calling 405-878-4697. Each of Oklahoma’s state and national legislative offices have been sent one, free of charge, in hopes of facilitating a better dialogue between the state’s elected representatives and tribal governments.

College-age Potawatomi, this is the program for you!

Apply by April 15

The six-week Potawatomi Leadership Program brings a group of young tribal members from around the world to Shawnee, Oklahoma to learn about the government, culture, and economic development of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

For more information, please contact CPN Education Director Tesia Zientek at tesia.zientek@potawatomi.org

To read student perspectives and apply, visit plp.potawatomi.org
After three moves in the last four years, the Citizen Potawatomi Na-
tion Community Garden has found a new home for the 2017 season. 
Assistant Tribal Historic Preserva-
tion Officer Andrew Gourd and other 
CPN staff members have done the 
bulk of the work, moving the gar-
den from the CPN Eagle Aviary to 
the Sharp House this fall. With this 
change comes great opportunity, 
but also another year of getting to know 
the personality of the space.

“Our new community garden is steps 
away from a prayer circle and small 
pond, which is a significant cultural 
space. It is just as important to me to 
manage the area outside of the gar-
den as the area inside of the garden,” 
Gourd said.

Along with Gourd, the maintenance, 
routes and housekeeping departments 
have played a large role in making this 
a viable space for the garden. 
They’ve tilled the soil, created gravel 
spaces for the greenhouse and con-
structed several buildings, shaped the 
grounds and collected leaves from 
CPN grounds to put more organic 
components back into the soil.

“Not only do we want to create a com-
unity garden for people to enjoy, 
but we also want to create a beautiful 
and functional space,” Gourd said. “I 
want to rehabilitate this piece of land 
and make a peaceful retreat.”

Gourd created the layout of this 
year’s garden to implement a variety 
of projects for all volunteers, includ-
ing elders and youth.

“To a lot of thought goes into making it 
efficient, offering specific activi-
ties besides planting, harvesting and 
watering, like working in the green-
house or raised beds,” said Gourd. 
“We needed to break up the large 
plot of land with raised beds and 
walkways, giving volunteers a more 
manageable space for the tasks they 
enjoy.”

He also consulted with several de-
partments – like tribal youth, the Re-
kindling 7 Generations tribal mon-
ument program and the staff from 
FireLake Wellness Center – to deter-
mine the best fruits and vegetables 
to grow in the 2017 garden. There will 
be the addition of fruit trees and a 
hoop house, which will grow native 
plants that will encourage pollinators 
and butterflies to thrive in the space.

“The monarchical initiative we did with 
Monarch Watch, Euchee Butterfly 
Farm and six other tribes in Oklaho-
ma was the most successful program 
we did in 2016,” said Gourd. “It in-
cluded bands-on-learning, planting 
milkwheat and educational events. At 
the end of January, we planted more 
milkwheat in the hoop house and are 
looking for more grants to expand 
this program. It’s a great platform to 
talk about the impact that we have on 
the environment around us.”

In February, there is still construction 
to be done to get ready for planting 
in April. Buildings like the green-
house, shed, and hoop house need to 
be erected and raised beds need to 
be built. After the buildings are com-
pleted, faucets with running water 
and electricity will be installed. Deer 
in the area have created a nice walk-
 ing path through the woods, so redi-
recting that to keep them from eating 
the garden’s produce is on the to-do 
list for the first season.

March will be the month that vol-
unteers begin seedling in the green-
house, which allows community 
members to plant and harvest pro-
duce regardless of the season, so 
there aren’t several hundred pieces of 
okra ready for harvest in a two week 
window. There will be a rotation of 
crops and that will create a variety of 
projects for volunteers to help with.

“Organic gardening is always a work 
in progress,” Gourd said. “We will 
continue to grow what works for us, 
but we’re always trying new things, 
especially in our new space. Since it 
is a community garden, we want 
to give people the tools to shape the 
land into what they want it to be; 
that’s what makes it a community 
garden.”

If you are interested in getting in-
volved with the 2017 communi-
ty garden, please contact Gourd at 
(405) 878-5830.

Community garden update: February 2017

Seven Grandfathers Teachings
Wisdom Love Respect Bravery Honesty Humility Truth

It’s the season for giving, hosting and spending time with family. In 
Potawatomi culture, this is also the time of the year where 
family and community gather with children and teach about how to protect creation using 
stories. One of these stories was about the seven grandfathers who 
gave the Potawatomi people seven gifts. You may find that the gifts 
can be used while tribal members are hosting guests from other 
tribes and families as well.

Wisdom [mubakawen] was the first gift and allows people to not 
only obtain knowledge, but also cherish it. With an open mind, 
people are seeking more knowledge.

The second gift was love [debaawen]. Knowing love is knowing 
peace.

Respect [mnaadenawen] was given so that the people would honor all 
creation.

Bravery [wesawen] was the next gift, which allowed people to be 
fearless in face of their enemies.

Honesty [pwaawadenawen] was given to the people so they could face 
difficult situations with pride.

Humility [desowadenawen] came next so the people would understand their place in the midst of creation. Humans are not the 
center of the universe, but simply part of it.

Lastly, the gift of truth [dewawen] allowed the people to know and understand all the things that were told to them.

Along with this story, there was a warning about using these seven 
gifts poorly. For every characteristic listed above, there is an 
opposite, like selfishness or disrespect. The people were entrusted 
with these gifts and were urged to teach the children how to use 
them correctly from a very young age. As Potawatomi people, these 
seven characteristics should influence daily life.

CPN Veterans report: February 2017

By Daryl Talbot, Commander 
Bozho,

A new year is well underway and the CPN Veterans Organization has 
lots of expectations for this year. I think I’m ready for the changes to 
cope, but only time will tell.

One of the things that interest vet-
trains, and the CPN Veterans Or-
munity, is the big question: “Why did 
you join?”

I remember in boot camp, my bud-
dies and I would get together and 
talk about why we joined. Some 
said it was a family tradition. Their 
father, grandfather, uncles and even 
big brother joined, so naturally 
they did too. In my platform, we had 
some who were given the choice of 
going to prison or joining the 
armed forces, some joined while drunk with some buddies, some 
were looking for travel and adventure or just change. During 
wartime, some felt it was their
Rising drug costs have often been cited as a major hurdle to affordable healthcare options for Americans. The impact can be more severe than consumers simply trying to save money for when they’re ill. According to a recent article by U.S. News and World Report, “medications costs and out-of-pocket expenses result in high rates of bankruptcies, and 10-25 percent of patients either delay, abandon or compromise treatments because of financial constraints.”

At Citizen Potawatomi Nation, leaders in the tribal government, CPN Health Services and the office of self-governance have developed a program that offers some assistance in the face of these rising costs. Often, rising drug costs are borne more heavily by elders, who often live on fixed incomes and are either retired or unable to work.

For CPN tribal members 63 years of age or older as well as CPN members on Social Security disability, the tribe’s efforts to extend health-related services such as Medicare, Medicaid and Chronic care for Native Americans, tribal employees and non-Native spouses to look ahead to our needs and stay within our yearly budgets.”

While the mail order pharmacy is restricted to only Citizen Potawatomi above the age of 63 or on Social Security disability, the main pharmacies inside the health clinics serve tribal members, employees and members of federally recognized tribes receiving treatment at CPN clinics.

To learn more about the services available at the CPN Health Services Pharmacies or CPN Mail Order Pharmacy Program, visit www.potawatomi.org/services/healthClinic or call 866-900-5236.

Along with expanding services for Native Americans, tribal employees and non-Native spouses of CPN tribal members, the staff at CPN Health Services seems to be in a continuing state of expansion just to keep up with demand. Amongst the newest health providers to join the ranks at the clinics is Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Destiny R. Mitchell, descendant of the Bruno family and nurse practitioner.

Where is your hometown?

“I was born and raised in Shawnee and attended Shawnee High School. I currently reside in Tecumseh.”

Where did you go to college and nursing school?

“I attended Seminole State College for my ADN, Oklahoma Wesleyan for my BSN and Graceland University out of Lamoni, Iowa for my Master of Science in Nursing.”

What made you want to go into the medical profession?

“It was one of those situations where things just fell into place and I was urged to go into nursing by my father. When I was a senior in high school, my father had a heart attack and the nurse that took care of him made such an impression on him that he urged me to look into nursing.”

“A couple of years later I began to date a man who is now my husband. It just so happened he turned out to be the son of the nurse who took care of my father when I was in high school.”

What did you do before you came to CPN Health Services?

“Since 2003 I worked in Shawnee and Midwest City as an RN in various departments, my favorite being OR and ICU. I also taught and supervised clinical rotations for nursing students at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. As a nurse practitioner I started out working at Mercy Primary Care Clinic in Stratford, Oklahoma. I worked at Mercy before coming here.”

How did you end up here?

“I have been a patient with CPNHS and Chronic care for as long as I can remember and live locally so I had always kept an eye out for an opening here…again, things just fell into place and an opportunity became available for me to become part of the team at CPNHS as a float provider. I feel blessed to be here.”

What’s an average day like for you at the clinic in terms of seeing patients?

“I see patients for a variety of acute and chronic reasons. I am the float provider for both east and west clinics, depending on where I am needed on my schedule is subject to change, but I am happy to see any patient that comes my way. I have enjoyed the patients and my co-workers, they make it easy to do my job no matter where I am scheduled that day.”

Q&A with CPN Health Services’ Destiny R. Mitchell
Thomas’ PLP experience follows her around the globe

Megan Thomas – a member of the Melott family – was a participant of the Potawatomi Leadership Program in 2006 and returned as an intern for the public information department in 2007. In 2010, Thomas received her bachelor’s degrees in English literature and journalism and mass communications from Arizona State University and went on to complete a Master’s of Arts in global business journalism in 2013 from Tsinghua University in China.

Thomas spoke with the Hownikan about how the PLP and the subsequent experiences with Citizen Potawatomi Nation impacted her life and career in journalism.

What made you want to participate in the PLP?

“Growing up in Arizona, I was always proud of my heritage but wished I knew more about my history and culture. We lived far from Shawnee, Oklahoma, so I did not have as many opportunities to participate in tribal ceremonies or events. I wanted to better understand the tribe and give back to it however I could. I knew the professional experience early on in my college career would be beneficial for my development and help me be more competitive for other professional opportunities in the future.”

How did the PLP make you see the tribe differently?

“I came to better understand the daily operations of the tribe. I came to see how the economic operations of the tribe allow for its greater sustainability while helping provide housing, medical and educational support for tribal members, as well as professional opportunities for tribal members and non-tribal members alike. I learned how the tribal values were represented in the tribe’s judicial system.”

“I also learned more about our cultural practices and participated in traditional ceremonies including several sweats. What I had previously read and imagined about the ceremonies drastically paled in comparison to actually experiencing them.”

“And, I also learned more about our cultural practices and participated in traditional ceremonies including several sweats. What I had previously read and imagined about the ceremonies drastically paled in comparison to actually experiencing them.”

“All in all I came to better understand the tribe’s emphasis on balance between the benefit of the individual and the benefit of the tribe, between the tribe and the outside world. My time in Oklahoma also helped me grow as a person. It more deeply embedded in me the importance of considering the greater whole in relation to myself and to always make sure my actions were serving others. It also taught me the vital importance of first listening and understanding. It taught me to always carry a spirit of kindness, humor, humility and gratitude.”

What have you been doing since the PLP?

“After the PLP, I took the knowledge I gained to help spread understanding of Native concerns and issues. I reported on Native issues that were carried in publications throughout Arizona and participated in discussions of Native American representation and coverage in journalism. The skills and experience I gained in my internships with the tribe gave me an early edge that helped me win scholarships and internships. I worked for organizations including the Associated Press, The Arizona Republic and MSNBC. I won a Hearst Journalism Award for my reporting on the Fort Defiance Navajo Veteran’s Cemetery, which was the proudest accomplishment of my college career. I graduated as the Outstanding Undergraduate from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism in 2010.”

“After graduating from Arizona State University, I received a full scholarship to pursue an M.A. in global business journalism at Tsinghua University in Beijing. I participated in local internships and was awarded Excellent Student Thesis, graduating in 2013.”

“I then went on to work for the non-profit that provided me my graduate scholarship in the Philippines for nearly three years, overseeing an editorial team covering news on developing industries in Southeast Asian countries. The team also provided support and training to small and medium producers in the countries to help them grow their businesses so they could hire more local people and contribute to their local economies.”

“I recently took a new position as a content manager in Shenzhen, China, writing about local hardware technology startups and providing support for them.”

Are you still involved in the tribe?

“Being involved in the tribe is not the easiest thing to do on a different continent, but I try to live by tribal values each day. I work to stay aware of developments with the tribe and other Native nations in the U.S. I also try to spread awareness and understanding of Native American issues whenever I can.”

How did the PLP help you succeed?

“The tribe helped me develop personally, culturally, and professionally. It gave me a better understanding of the past while spurring me to shape a better future and help others. It is the foundation upon which all my other professional achievements have been built.”

“I will always be grateful to my first journalism mentor Michael Dodson for all his warm encouragement, training and understanding. He was a great, kind man to whom I’ll always be indebted. He changed my life and is deeply missed. I am also grateful to our Chairman John Barlow, Vice-Chairman Linda Capps and Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale for providing the incredible PLP opportunity to me. I also give thanks to Margaret Zientek, Teesia Zientek, Justin Neely, Donald Perrot, Sam Navarre, Josh Frost and the Clay family for making it the amazing experience that it was and for the knowledge they imparted to me.”

To learn more about the Potawatomi Leadership Program and to apply for the 2017 program, please visit plp.potawotomi.org.

College leadership program applications open February 1

By Tesia Zientek, Director, CPN Department of Education

The 2017 Potawatomi Leadership Program application will be open from February 1 - April 15. Every summer, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation brings 8-10 tribal members ages 18-20 to learn about the tribe’s government, economic development and culture as part of the PLP.

In 2003, the program began as a way to address a need to prepare future leaders for the Nation. Tribal leaders understood that a critical aspect of leadership involves understanding the inner workings of the tribe, so they invited students to spend six weeks in Shawnee, Oklahoma to participate in cultural events, meet directors of government programs and commercial enterprises while taking an active part in their Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s government processes. Since then, over a hundred students from all over the world have participated in the Potawatomi Honoring Nations Award-winning program.

For many, the experience has been life-changing. After her participation, Ivory Hanson, a 2015 PLP from Urbandale, Iowa stated, “I will take with me a better understanding of our history and all that has shaped me. I learned from different people in the tribe, and understanding of how accomplished CPN is as a nation with all of its different businesses and ventures, and how passionate people are about the tribe.”

Like many PLP students, Ivory has maintained her engagement after the program ended. In the summer of 2016, she returned as an economic development intern and plans to continue her involvement with tribal affairs into her career.

This year’s program will take place from Friday, June 16 – Saturday, July 29. To be eligible for the PLP, students must have at least a 3.0 GPA, be 18-20 years old by the program’s start date, and have not completed more than one year of college. Travel expenses, housing, food and a weekly stipend are all provided. In addition, students can opt to receive three credits from St. Gregory’s University for completing the program. Students can learn more and apply online at plp.potawotomi.org.
Wadasé update: February 2017

By Bree Dunham, Assistant Director, CPN Eagle Aviary

Winter has already given us record setting low temperatures in many areas of the state and all-time record highs for the season, all in the same week. A reminder that the old Will Rogers quip, “If you don’t like the weather in Oklahoma, wait a minute and it’ll change,” still holds true as we prepare for the next round of winter weather on a beautiful sunny, 70 degree day in shorts and t-shirts.

The aviary sits near the edge of what many forecasters are calling the freezing boundary as a rain moves into the area over the weekend. Rain, sleet, ice or snow the eagles are prepared and while our weather may be unpredictable, Wadasé Zhabwé has not been. She continues to return to the area in and around the aviary every two to three weeks. She has established several 40-50 mile routes that she follows as she makes her way from one familiar hunting ground to the next. She stays at these locations for several days before making the trip back towards home. Although, the last time she was at the aviary was the first week in December, she has been within a few miles of the aviary and that timing is right on schedule with her previous visits.

We are seeing more wintering bald eagles in the state and we have seen several pairs already at many of the nest sites we monitor. But Wadasé continues to roam. She frequents her favorite places along the river but never remains in one area for too long, all indications that she will not nest this season. Bald eagles reach maturity at four to five years of age but not all nest immediately. Even though Wadasé is five this year, she was injured and spent nearly a year at the aviary before she was released, and her experience in the wild was delayed slightly. However, it is possible that she could still find a potential mate this season. We will still keep an eye out for her potential plus one.

Wadasé’s telemetry backpack continues to give us consistent data and although she was not expected to still be wearing the unit we are hoping for many more seasons of telemetry. One of our long term goals, if we are fortunate enough to know the location she chooses, is to install a nest camera that would allow us to continue sharing her story for many years even without telemetry. The idea of watching one of our own Bodéwadmi (Potawatomi) nest is exciting. Until then there are many active nest cameras across the country with thousands of people watching daily. Because of the different weather patterns across the U.S. nesting times for bald eagles vary greatly depending on location. Northern bald eagles typically nest in February or April while those in the south begin to nest in December and January. Wadasé was found in central Florida and there are two great nest cameras there that have already hatched young this season. If you would like to watch an eagle hatch there are a couple of nest cameras in Iowa where the eagles are just beginning to work on the nest for the season and those eggs are typically laid the second week in February. But we must caution readers up front, viewing can be highly addictive.

North Florida Nest Cams
www.nefl eaglescam.org
www.dickpritchettrealestate.com/eagle-feed.html

As always we encourage you to keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. For more information about the CPN Eagle Aviary or to read previous updates visit www.potawatomiheritage.org. Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to us at aviary@potawatomi.org. Those reports have been a valuable tool in tracking her progress and locating nest sites around the state.

Heritage center requests tribal member participation in moccasin project

In 1838, 859 pairs of feet were forced to march 660 miles from their home in Indiana to Kansas on what is known: their homeland, their way of life and the place the Creator led them to.”

Each participant will be given the supplies and instructions needed to complete a pair of moccasin soles. The moccasin wall will be complete by Family Reunion Festival in June.

For local tribal members, there will be moccasin making workshops at the Cultural Heritage Center on February 25, 1-3 p.m. and March 25, 1-3 p.m.

For out-of-state tribal members, contact Kelli Mosteller at cpmchen@gmail.com or (405) 878-5830.

When it is complete, there will be a 72 square-foot wall of moccasins. Each pair will be handmade by a tribal member fitting the size of their foot and represent 10 people who were on the Trail of Death. Since there were 859 people who made the trek from the Great Lakes, 86 moccasins will be made and mounted to the wall near a plaque with the names of their maker.

“When you come to the wall, you will see a physical representation of the people who had to leave their home and experience this life-altering removal,” said Mosteller. “They experienced, not only the physical removal from the Great Lakes, but also from everything they’ve ever known: their homeland, their way of life and the place the Creator led them to.”

For more information about the CPN Eagle Aviary or to read previous updates visit www.potawatomiheritage.org.
FireLodge Tribal Youth update: February 2017

By Coby Lehman, Tribal Youth Cultural Activities Coordinator

For a short month, February 2017 packs a big punch of events for the PLACE.

For the second year in a row we start back the girls-to-women and the boys-to-men programs. From February through April the program will focus on providing much needed tools for our tribal youth to be successful as they grow into adults. Each week will be packed with guest speakers who are positive, successful individuals working in our tribal entities. We will be helping our tribal youth complete job and college applications, college grants, host mock job interviews, as well as instructing them on how to handle personal finances.

As we celebrate and commemorate Black History Month, some of the major influential events and individuals we will highlight include the Freedom Fighters, Rosa Parks and the Underground Railroad. We will also take a look at the many African American inventors.

February 13 is World Radio Day and we will celebrate why we love and need it. This is a day to remember the unique power of radio to touch lives and bring people together. We will be bringing our tribal youth together by K-PLACE.

February 14 is Valentine’s Day. We will be celebrating with the tribal youth by having a valentines dinner and dance. Also in February we will kick off our Mardi Gras celebration.

Also to shake the cold we will have a staff chili cook off. The tribal youth will be the judges.

In conjunction with the Get Native Program from January, we will continue our native wellness program. We will touch on native vision and understanding your purpose in life. We will also focus on 10 ways to become a better person.

As we keep with developing healthy eating and exercise practices, our Get Fit Program will find ways of staying active. We will have a hula hoop contest, whiffle ball and volleyball.

For the second year in a row we will have a Pine Wood Derby PLACE 500 Race. If you would like to learn more about our programs, please reach out to me at thomas.lehman@potawatomi.org or call us at 405-214-5110.

Zak Coleman shoots pool during the PLACE’s afterschool session.

By Justin Neely, Director, CPN Language Department

This month we will be hosting our fifth annual winter storytelling event on February 22 at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center from 6-8 p.m. As many of you may recall, traditionally we have a number of stories which can only be told in the winter time. Preferably when there is snow on the ground. Here in Oklahoma snow is very inconsistent from year to year. Our elders told us that in the winter the spirits are asleep so we could share certain stories. In particular stories which involve Nanabozho or Wiske the trickster. Sometimes Wiske would play jokes on our children and other times he would help us with the gift of fire or teach us a lesson.

Please mark your calendars for this event. We will have food and drinks so send us an email if you are coming to neelyg@potawatomi.org so we can plan accordingly. But if you forget please don’t hesitate to pop on in and enjoy some fellowship with other Potawatomi and learn some stories which you can pass on one day to your own kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews.

In the Potawatomi world view the passing of a winter was an indicator of a new year. We would follow the 13 moons and watch for changes in our environment to know that the seasons were changing. The coming of the thunders, the noise of the bullfrog and the return of the crane were all indicators that the winter season was coming to a close. Remember, if you’d like to learn the languageat your own pace, visit our online courses for adults and children at language.potawatomi.org.

Winter language lesson

Ksena mget zagetch.

It’s cold outside.

(Kuh sin yan get zah gech)

Explanation: Wi

- future tense marker.

Gish-gek

It’s snowing.

(We bone eemget ah nayaka mkomis)

Wi Bonimget

- future tense marker.

Zagetch- outside.

Wi bonimget nyano gishgok.

It’s going to snow Friday. (We bone eemget nyano gishgok)

Explanation: Wi - future tense marker.

Gish-gek

At Friday. Nyano from nyano- 5th (hence 5th day of the week) gishgok or gishek day. Gishgok - locative to indicate on that day.

Ngi-nodan mteno ewi gmowek.

I heard it only going to rain.

(Nuh goo dan mTino eh week mew wicked)

Explanation: N-1 gi - past tense marker nodan- verb to hear it. Mte- no-only ( the m is semi silent or hard- ly said) & it’s a fact used to stop the change from wi to wa with a verb in the conjunct. wi - future tense marker. Gmowen - it is raining ( one of the verbs which is animate in weather so doesn’t take the mget) gmowek conjunct for of the verb. Used often when two or more verbs are in a sentence.

Gmower.

It is raining. (Mo wen)

Cho. Wi bonimget anake mkomis.

No it’s going to snow or ice.

(Cho. Wee bone eemget ah nayaka muhcomb ees)

Explanation: Cho- no wi - future tense marker. Wi Bonimget- it will snow or some use nake. Mkomis- icy. Some say mkwem for ice.

Shkena kyetnam kche boni mget.

Geeze it’s really snowing.

(Shkay nah key yet nam kuchay bone eemget)

Explanation: Shkena- geeze, kyetnam- really/ intensely kche- heavy or really or intensely attached to a verb.

Kche bonimget- it’s really snowing.

Gn nene nwi-chetemun.

Let’s make a snow man. (Goh ne huhetaw nii vee zheh toe nim)

Explanation: Gn- snow nene nzhetemun- let’s make/create from the verb wzheton.

Gnedwendem ne gon pkskewet miwegdyek?

Do you all want to have a snowball fight? (Guh ned win dahm nah goh ne pukwhahquit mee geh des yack)

Explanation: Gnedwendem you all want ne- question from verb nedwendan- want something.

Gn- snow pkskewet- ball miyadi- verb to fight yek- you all do it in the conjunct form.
Rekindling 7 Generations update: February 2017

By Lakota Pochedley, CPN Cultural Education Specialist

For the month of December, Rekindling 7 Generations’ Youth stayed busy with our monthly traditional arts and skills groups, band circle, drumming circle, and girls’ talking circle. Over winter break, new and old R7G youth participated in our Winter Arts Workshop. For four days, you explored various traditional and modern art forms, including drawing, photography, film, storytelling and new forms of digital media. We were lucky enough to be joined by CPN employees Bo Apitz, Will Hogan, Jennifer Randell, Bree Dunham, and Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., and local employees Bo Apitz, Will Hogan, Jennifer Randell, Bree Dunham, and Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., and local community members Johnnie Jae, Mark Williams, Sam Navarre and Randy Schlachtun.

Each volunteer shared their various perspectives and experiences in the arts as Native Americans or working in Native American communities. In the afternoons, youth were able to play traditional sports, such as pegnegaewen and Indian football, and afterwards many sketched, took photos and film, and created stories about the eagle aviary and the eagles that live there. One of our first R7G participants shares her experiences below:

“Once I joined R7G right away. I joined R7G. One of the events R7G created for the whole weekend was the R7G drum circle – which can be signed up for at cpn.news/RK7Feb2017. The deadline for sign up is February 14. If you are new to the R7G program, before you sign up for any workshops we ask that you fill out and submit our general application here cpn.news/cultural.area.

We encourage everyone to like our Facebook Page, facebook.com/ CPN7Gens to stay up to date about all our workshops, classes and community events. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Lakota.Pochedley@potawatomi.org or 405-878-5830. All our programs are Potawatomi and Native preference.

Hannah Camron and Anna Rhodl Brimmon work on a crafting project during a recent R7G meeting.

By Tesia Zientek, Director, CPN Department of Education

CPN-SGU Tribal Development Scholarship Update

After completing a full year of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation-St. Gregory’s University Tribal Development Scholarship, the CPN Department of Education staff had a chance to sit down with tribal and university leadership. After reflecting on all of the successes and lessons learned, everyone agreed how proud we are that this opportunity exists for the wonderful students receiving this scholarship. With ten percent of the SGU student population now receiving this scholarship, it’s extremely exciting to see how a partnership that started over 2017.

We also discussed some policy changes. Because there has been such interest in the program, tribal members should understand that the fund is being spent quickly, so if you are interested, it would be better to apply sooner rather than later. To ensure that we are investing funds well, we will be reviewing new applicants carefully using a new admission process. All of the program’s current policies can be viewed cpn.news/EduHandBook, but some of the highlights are included below.

1. Prospective students will begin by completing a short, online application provided by the CPN at cpn.news/scholarship. While the application will have a rolling deadline, an application for admission should be submitted at least one month before the term in which the student plans to enroll to allow time for the full process. As part of the application, students will be required to submit the following:
   a. Contact and demographic information
   b. Previous schools attended information
   c. Unofficial transcript
   d. ACT/SAT scores (or an explanation explaining why they are not available)
   e. Answers to two essay questions:
      i. What are your academic and career goals?
      ii. How will you use this scholarship to benefit your tribal community?

2. A scholarship committee made up of members from the CPN Department of Education will review each application using criteria to determine the likelihood of successful graduation. Criteria will include a student’s academic history, ability to meet SGU’s admission requirements, demonstration of alignment of scholarship and university mission through essay answers and verification of tribal enrollment. Students who are not selected to receive the scholarship still may attend SGU, but they will be responsible for paying their tuition.

3. Students selected by the CPN Scholarship Committee will be referred to the SGU Admissions Department, where they will be instructed to apply online at www.sgriggs.edu. Prospective students may also visit the admissions office at the university on the first floor of Benedictine Hall.

4. SGU applicants must meet minimal admission criteria or be admitted on probation, as outlined in the St. Gregory’s University Academic Catalog in order to be eligible.

5. Once students have been approved for the scholarship and admitted into SGU, they will meet with a CPN College Advisor to review the scholarship handbook, sign a form detailing their understanding of the policies included herein, and complete an authorization of release form. Until they have completed these steps, their scholarship funding will be withheld.

6. Students will only be guaranteed funding for a year at a time, provided that they maintain academic progress. For students who are placed on academic probation, the CPN Department of Education will provide support and an improvement plan to help a student get off of probation and avoid relinquishing the scholarship.

We look forward to welcoming a new group of students this spring! If any student has a question about the CPN-SGU Tribal Development Scholarship, they can reach out to the CPN Department of Education via email at college@potawatomi.org or telephone at 405-275-3121.
There is great news here at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in our efforts to provide higher education for our people. Our most recent agreement with St. Gregory’s University in Shawnee resulted in more than 70 new students in the undergraduate program there, making 10 percent of the student’s population Citizen Potawatomi. In addition, our Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation has received a long term (40 year) low interest loan from the United States Department of Agriculture to relegate to St. Gregory’s. This loan will allow the university to refinance and add to their existing campus and will continue the 140 year relationship we have with the only Catholic university of Oklahoma, as St. Gregory’s was called in 1875.

It is the oldest university in Oklahoma and is the result of a direct communication in 1875 between the newly formed tribal government on our reservation in what would become Oklahoma, and the Benedictine monks of St. Gregory’s Abbey. In return for a grant of one square mile of land from the Citizen Potawatomi, the monks came over from France in 1875 and started the school and church where present day Sacred Heart, Oklahoma is located in the far southeastern end of our jurisdiction. The college moved to Shawnee after a devastating fire in 1901 that destroyed more than 75 percent of the college and boarding school. Since the Sacred Heart area had been bypassed by the railroads, the decision was made by the monks to relocate the college 35 miles north to Shawnee, Oklahoma Territory. The college is now an autonomous entity governed by a board of directors that includes D. Wayne Trousdale, secretary-treasurer of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and me. We have great hopes in this opportunity to provide a quality education for our citizens while making the facilities of the Nation and our culture available to the students while they are in school. After graduation, these students will have enhanced employment opportunities in their jobs. The result can only be positive for the future of our tribe and government.

On the local front, our litigation with the various agencies of the State of Oklahoma and Rural Water District 3, the tribally sponsored rural water district, is drawing to a successful close. With only one appeal left for the state, it appears we will obtain a favorable ruling from the courts. While this litigation, including the now-dismissed lawsuit with the City of Shawnee, has been an expensive fight, we are prevailing. We truly had no choice in this issue. We had to either defend the Nation’s interests in court, or watch our governmental authority evaporate under a barrage of racially inspired attacks, and watch access to drinking water for more than 75 percent of the county and its towns, homes, schools and churches simply disappear. Things are looking better for the future.

These are still, however, often difficult and sometimes tragic times. Our tribal operations now include more than 2,400 employees. We have suffered a recent tragic event at the Grand Casino. In response, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is beginning a new area of training for our managers and employees to minimize and prevent workplace violence. This is a national problem that is receiving the full attention of virtually every kind government and private enterprise operation. While the tragedy occurred in a non-potawatomi area of the casino and involved two employees who were not Citizen Potawatomi, our law enforcement person- nal, management and staff have worked together in a highly professional manner. For the future, we are going to go the extra mile to ensure that our veterans, our employees and customers in the workplace. This training will be done throughout our tribal organization with a particular emphasis on crisis management. The recent incident was completely spon- taneous, however, and occurred without manifesting itself in any kind of obvious previous behavior. It seems to have been the result of a sudden mental aberration in one individual. Truly, that the world is becoming a more violent place is the sad reality. We just have to prepare for our people a heightened awareness of the behavior of those around them and have a solid plan for how to deal with it. In the nearly one and one half centuries we have been here in Oklahoma as a tribe, this has always been a safe place to work and visit. That will not change as we grow.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your tribal chairman. It is an exciting and challenging job that I truly love. I have filed for re-election for another four year term and would be grateful for your vote and support.

Steve Webb

John “Rocky” Barrett

Kewego

“He leads them home.”

Tribal Chairman
HOWNIKAN

District 1 - Roy Slavin

I hope your New Year has begun in a positive manner.

By the time this paper arrives on your door step, it will officially be election season at the Citizens Potawatomi Nation. I announced this in some of the previous editions of the Hownikan. I reiterate this in order to reiterate it again. I am running for another term of as your District 1 legislator.

If you are in districts 1, 2, 3, 4, you can vote for your respective legislative office. If you’re a Citizen Potawatomi voter, regardless of your location, you can vote for the office of tribal chairman and on the annual budget. I encourage you to read the next months’ editions of the Hownikan as well as contact those running for office to ask them questions important to you as a voter. It is the tribal legislature and executives who help shape and implement policy and programs that impact you as Citizen Potawatomi tribal members. Regardless of who you vote for, there is no excuse for not casting a ballot.

Ballot request forms will be mailed out to all eligible voters in the months prior to Election Day at the end of June 2017. The CPN Election Committee mails these forms using the last known address for you in their records, so if you have moved or can’t remember the last time you updated that information, you should contact them at 405-878-5830.

I had planned on cheering on my hometown Kansas City Chiefs in what I hoped would be a long run in the NFL playoffs. I am a lifelong fan, former season ticket holder and this past fall I took part in a ceremony in honor of Native American Heritage Month. But the Pittsburgh Steelers came to town just after an ice storm, and so now I’m just looking forward to next season instead.

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

Roy Slavin
Netagtege (Forever Planting) rslavin@potawatomi.org rslavin@email.com

District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

Celebrate the best of bbon! winter:
As I get ready to finalize this column there’s two inches of fresh new snow here in Virginia – it’s officially bbon/winter. Winter 2017 brings opportunities for traditional learning and time for study, reflection, cooking soups and stews, and storytelling. As our terrific CPN Cultural Heritage Center website, www.potawatomi-heritage.org, tells us about our ancestors’ winter activities:

“Migrating to winter camps, Potawatomi would focus on attaining food through the trapping of small game and ice-fishing. Food that had been collected from the previous month’s hunts, harvests and gatherings were used to supplement diets. Meats and fish were smoked, dried and stored on elevated pallets to deter theft from animals, insects and raiders. Crops such as corn, beans and nuts were also protected, stored in subterranean pits and baskets.

“During bbon/winter, horses were warmer than their opponent. When thrown, the zhoshke’nayabo was thought to resemble a snake slithering, hence the name snowsnake. The snowsnake with the longest cumulative distance won.

“With much time spent indoors, bbon was the time when elders would tell stories, passing on oral traditions and histories. Wizhe or Nanabocho were central to these narratives as it was considered taboo to recount them outside of the winter months. Bbon also brought stories of the Windigo, a man-eating creature that traveled in blizzards devouring ill-mannered children.”

Warming soups and stews:
When it comes to Potawatomi soup and stew recipes, there’s a number to choose from – here’s one link: www.evamariecarney.com/documents/indian_recipes.pdf, which is to Priscilla Mallin Sherrard’s cookbook, dating from 1975. This cookbook features recipes for many traditional dishes. And here’s another link, to a book I put together in 2013 (it includes our family’s favorite cream cheese and banana bread recipes, and the best barbecue sauce recipe, shared by the Zigler family): http://tinyurl.com/zhoshkepn.“

This same book also includes this traditional peanut soup recipe, shared by Eva Marie Carter (Crumbo family, who was gifted it by a Cree/Potawatomi elder.

Tasty Chicken

Ingredients:

• 1 Tbsp. margarine
• 1 medium onion, chopped
• 4 boneless chicken breasts, cut into 1/4 inch pieces
• 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
• 4 c. milk
• 2 (9 1/2 oz.) jars of dry roasted peanuts
• 1 (4 1/2 oz.) can chopped green chilies
• Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

1. Melt margarine in Dutch oven or large pot over medium heat. Add onion; cook and stir 2 minutes.
2. Add chicken; cook and stir 3 minutes. Cover; cook 5 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink and onion is tender. Stir in flour until well blended.
3. Gradually add milk, cooking and stirring over medium-high heat until thickened and bubbly. Add remaining ingredients; cook until thoroughly heated.

Peanut Soup

Ingredients for 6 servings:

1 (9 1/2 oz.) jar of dry roasted peanuts
2 c. milk
2 c. chicken broth
1 Tbsp. minced chives

Instructions:

Puree the nuts in a blender. Mix nuts and other ingredients in a large sauce pan, stir often and heat 15-20 minutes. Serve hot and in small portions – this is very rich.

Traditional winter stories:

A number of tradition winter stories that have been shared with me over the last years are reprinted in a winter stories book you can review/print out through the following Dropbox link: http://tinyurl.com/bbmuqof.

I hope you enjoy these collections of recipes and stories – they reflect contributions of quite a few Potawatomi friends and, with respect to the 2013 recipes book and the winter stories book, our family’s efforts to format, type and proofread the text (though, somehow, I see typos every time I take a look at them, but maybe that’s just the lawyer/editor in me – I thought we did a job of finding those typos!).

Keeping up with your fellow Potawatomi: To be in the loop on District 2 and CPN national happenings, please send me your email address so I can send you email updates! Also, if you are in District 2 and a Facebook user, please like me on Facebook (I’m the only Facebook user with my name, I believe!) and friend me so I can also add you to our private District 2 Facebook group; we now have more than 150 members – there has been slow but steady growth in the group. District 2 folks, please also contact me if you want to receive a not so new year’s mailing and haven’t already; I will need you to confirm your current mailing address (to avoid costly USPS returns of misdirected mail). Please send me an email or leave a voicemail message with your current mailing address for this purpose.

Personal thanks and good wishes: Migwetch/thank you for the honor of representing you. May your winter be blizzard-free but full of family stories that don’t result in Windigo, the man-eating creature, taking the life of your children or grandchildren, even if they sometimes forget their manners! Eva Marie Carney

Ojibwe/Anishinaabek Nation CPN Legislator, District 2 2200 North George Mason Drive #7307 Arlington, VA 22207 Toll Free: 866-961-6988 evamariecarney.com

Bozo nikan! (Hello friend)

I encourage you to read the 2013 recipes book and the winter stories book – they reflect contributions of quite a few Potawatomi friends and, with respect to the 2013 recipes book and the winter stories book, our family’s efforts to format, type and proofread the text.
Another is; “My fellow Americans, ask not what you can do for your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”

Another source is to attend the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations each August. In 2016, we hosted the event in Shawnee. By going to these you have the opportunity to get exposed to our language and crafts.

Another source is to attend district meetings. In 2017, my plan is to hold meetings in the following areas; Tyler, Abilene, The Dallas-Forth Worth area and south Texas. These will be held starting near the end of March.

Another is to go to powwows, Santa Fe Days and American Indian Heritage Day in Texas are good events if you are unable to get to Shawnee for Family Festival. To learn even more about all of the nine Potawatomi nations, it would be well worth your time to attend one of the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations each August. In 2016, we hosted the event in Shawnee. If you are unable to attend, you can still get exposed to our language and crafts.

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In the past and the present. This is a very good statement of cause and effect.

In our history books we can find the words spoken by many of our ancestors. Here are a few examples:

- “Give me liberty, or give me death!”
- “My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”
- “For example, “Give me liberty, or give me death!”

In closing, I am honored to serve as your District 3 representative and proud of the fact that I have been able to represent you and the Nation in many capacities. As a point of information, I physically attend each of the legislative meetings held each quarter in Shawnee. While each district outside Oklahoma can participate remotely, I believe that by being physically present, I have eliminated any possibility of being overlooked when I have a question on a resolution or budget item. This also gives me the opportunity to have lunch with the elders at times, and visit with CPN Tribal Rolls and the CPN Language Department when working on a naming. If you need assistance on anything relating to the Nation, please give me a call or contact me by email.

So until next month, enjoy the other articles in the Hownikan, consider getting a book on our history or culture and start working on your regalia if you’re planning to attend the 2017 Family Festival. This year the Bourassa family is one of the honored families. For Grand Entry, I plan to be in full regalia. If there is enough interest in getting specific t-shirts with the family name, let me know and I will work with FireLake Designs to set it up for personal orders. You will need to preorder the shirt and go to their facility to pick up your item.

Bama pi, (later)

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He soars)
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
District 3 Representative
112 Bedford Rd., Ste 116
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Hownikan
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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All correspondence should be directed to Hownikan, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

Questions: hownikan@potawatomi.org or 800-880-9880

Address changes should be sent to Tribal Rolls, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801
District 4 - Jon Boursaw

Director of a YLC. The YLC in Topeka is one of approximately 30 YLCs held across the country sponsored by the Military Order of the World Wars, a national organization comprised of current, retired and former officers of the U.S. uniformed services. The two-day program, scheduled for March 22-23, is for high school sophomores and juniors who have been identified by their school officials as having demonstrated leadership qualities. The objective of the YLC is to have a curriculum comprised of 50 percent leadership, 30 percent patriotism and government and 20 percent free enterprise. To achieve this ratio takes some imagination and creativity.

In the leadership category there are presentations on leadership by example, ethics in leadership and a panel discussion on leadership in law enforcement. The panel is comprised of the superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, the Shawnee County Sheriff and a bureau commander from the Topeka Police Department. Their individual comments about the complexity of their leadership roles will be followed by a question and answer session with the students.

The patriotism and government category consists of presentations by a Shawnee County commissioner, a juvenile court judge and a former Vietnam fighter pilot, who was shot down north of Hanoi and escaped and evaded capture for 23 days before being rescued. There is also a special presentation on the U.S. entry in WWI by the archivist of the National WWI Museum in Kansas City.

The free enterprise objective this year is being achieved in part by a presentation by the director of the Washburn University Small Business Center. Then the students, who have been working in six member teams, will give a presentation on the development of a small business of their team’s choosing.

Our first YLC in 2015 was attended by 15 students from five schools, last year we had 42 students from 10 schools and this year we are anticipating 70 students from the 27 schools invited to participate. All of this takes a lot of time and effort on part of our committee of eight members, but to witness the enthusiasm and interest exhibited by the students during the two days makes it all worth it. If you would like more information about the YLC drop me an email or give me a call.

Volunteer at the Combat Air Museum: This month is pure fun. I volunteer a few days a month at the CAM, which is a museum consisting of 40 military airplanes and other aviation exhibits in two hangers located on Forbes Field in Topeka. Included in the collection are several legendary aircraft such as the Air Force’s F-105, F-101, F-84, F-86, F-4, C-47; the Navy’s A-4, F-9, F-11, F-14; and several Army helicopters. When I’m at the CAM I man the admission counter which gives me opportunity to do what I enjoy most—the opportunity meeting and talking with the other veterans as they enter and leave the museum. It is always interesting to hear about their time in the military, where and when they served and what brought them to the museum. Our visitors come from all over the United States and we also get a surprisingly large number of international visitors. Volunteering at the CAM allows me the opportunity to stay connected to a very large and important part of my life; my military career. If you are ever in the area and have a couple of free hours I encourage you to visit the CAM, and if you are truly fortunate you might find a familiar face behind the cash register. Again, if you would like more information about the museum drop me an email, give me a call, or go online at www.combatairmuseum.org.

Not to worry, I still have plenty of time dedicated to fulfilling my responsibilities as your legislative representative.

Migwetch,
(785) 760-8122
2007 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka, KS 66604
jon.boursaw@potaواتومي.org
Office Hours: Tuesday 9-11 a.m. Thursday 3-5 p.m.
Other times - Please call

District 5 - Gene Lambert

February always reminds us of “love” in its purest form.

There are many types of love, one unrelated to the others, yet all have a warm, compassionate, heartfelt caring toward another.

Love could be shared by your partner, husband, wife, children and family members, including our pets. We could talk about your love of your home, life calling or hobbies. We could talk about your love of your family, children, parents, etc. some-thing you like about them, something that makes them special to you.

While you are doing all the above don’t forget the flow-ers and cards. They still rate pretty high on the list.

Remember, love really is all there is.

Thank you for allowing me to be here to serve you. Let me know your thoughts.

District 5 legislator,
Eunice Imogene Lambert
Gene Lambert
Legislator District 05
480-228-6569
P.O. Box 5905
Mesa, Arizona 85211
eunice@lambert@gmail.com

The Valentine’s Day practice arrived in America in the 1840s and is the second largest day for the expression of love through special gifts. Nationally, more than one billion cards, or gifts, are sent, along with 220 mil-lion roses grown and over six million couples are engaged on February 14 as an expression of passion and life commitment to another.

We all get tied up in the reg-imented lives we lead and never take the time on a dai-ly basis to show the love we have for those around us who make life worth living.

Some think the work they do, the support they provide all say “I love you.” It does. However, there is more. The daily dinners you share are losing momentum, bring them back. The telephone call and you don’t think about saying “I love you.” Say thank you for small contribu-tions to enhance your day. These are all ways to say I love you.

So...for the month of Feb-ruary take the time and re-member to tell your partner, children, parents, etc. some-thing you like about them, something that makes them special to you.

POTAWATOMI NATION FOOTBALL & SPORTS SKILLS CAMP
June 25-27
8AM-3PM | GRADES 1-8 | CAMP FEE: $15
CONTACT SARAH LAWRENCE AT 405.395.9304

HOWNIKAN
On December 17, I had the opportunity to visit Santa Fe, New Mexico with my wife Rita, where we attended the Santa Fe Indian Market sponsored by the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts. While viewing the many excellent native artists’ works, I had the pleasure of running into two Citizen Potawatomi Nation members who were displaying their many works of art and textiles.

Cathy and Christopher Short recently moved to Santa Fe from Arizona to pursue their artwork under their Lizard Light Productions company name. Cathy specializes in textile works made from Blue Bird Flour sacks and photography, and Christopher works with laser art and photography. Christopher was also recently featured on the BBC World Travel show talking about his Petroglyph Laser art. The story can be viewed at http://cpn.news/1LBBC.

As a reminder, the College Educational Summer Scholarship application period opens March 15 and closes June 15. With the new application process, students can apply via the student portal at portal.potawatomi.org. If you have questions, you can reach the CPN Department of Education through email at college@potawatomi.org or by phone at 405-275-3121. The CPN Department of Education can also help in finding other scholarship opportunities outside of the tribe. Scholarships for vocational and technical studies are handled by the CPN Employment and Training Department, they can be reached by telephone at 405-598-0797.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always, give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch / Thank You,
Mark Johnson / Wisk Mtek
(Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA. 93611
(559) 351-0078 cell
Mark.Johnson@potawatomi.org

Christopher and Cathy Short

District 7 - Mark Johnson

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WITH TRIBAL ROLLS

Is your address information updated with CPN Tribal Rolls? In the next year, the tribal government will examine population numbers across the U.S. for legislative redistricting. It is vital that we have your most up-to-date address information.

Please contact tribal rolls today and update your address information by calling (800) 880-9880.

POTAWATOMI GATHERING OF NATIONS BUS TRIP

AUGUST 1-7, 2017

The Gathering will be hosted by Walpole Island First Nation in Wallaceburg, Ontario, Canada during August 2-5, 2017.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will provide free bus travel to the annual Gathering of Potawatomi Nations for tribal members and their immediate families.

A chartered bus will leave the Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters

AT 1601 S. GORDON COOPER DRIVE IN SHAWNEE
6 A.M. ON TUESDAY, AUG. 1st, 2017

and the bus will return home on Sunday, Aug. 6th.

The bus will arrive back in Shawnee the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 7th

PREPARE:

A $50/passenger refundable deposit is required. Tribal members who attend the Gathering will be responsible for their own food, lodging, and incidentals expenses.

To reserve a seat on the bus or obtain more information, please contact Cathie Hanson at 275-3121 (extension 1434) or 800-880-9880 or at chanson@potawatomi.org.

Limited seating available. The deadline for reservations is 5 p.m. Friday, June 9th, 2017

MIGWETCH / THANK YOU,
MARK J. JOHNSON
DISTRICT 7 REPRESENTATIVE

Walpole Island First Nation of Wallaceburg, Ontario will be hosting the Gathering this year.

facebook.com/PotawatomiGathering17

A current passport is mandatory. You must show your passport or passport card to board the bus at your departure point.

In Oklahoma, county clerk offices will accept applications. In Pottawatomie County, passport applications are Monday - Friday from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

In addition to the $110 fee for a passport paid by money order or cash, the Pottawatomie County Clerk’s office charges an additional $25 cash fee. You will need to bring an original birth certificate, driver’s license or state issued ID and are encouraged to call ahead to ensure you bring all the required documents and payment forms.
The week my father was in ICU at St. Anthony’s in Shawnee, the blessings poured into our family from everywhere. Our family was never without caring nurses, doctors, lifelong family friends and cousins, clergy and priests. The nurses at St. Anthony’s became like family as they never once left the room without asking if there was anything they could do for the family or my father. For all of our tribal members who are in the healthcare profession, and my Aunt Becky, you are a blessing to me!

Ironically, one of the non-denominational clergy for St. Anthony’s was a fellow “gear head” like my father. My father built one of the lastest custom hotrods out there today, appropriately named Ole Black Betty. He was blessed to be able to build things with so many intricate moving parts. His hand-built 1933 Ford Coupe is featured in the February issue of Hot Rod magazine with an entire write-up back in October. For all those tribal members who can use their hands to build things of lasting worth and functionality, you are a blessing to me! The ability to see something, plan it out methodically, and actually use your hands to construct it is an amazing talent and gift to us all.

My father was also an exceptional artist with his wildlife paintings and bronze works being sold all around the world. My family is blessed to have the legacy he left us all in his imaginative art and the love it has helped the suffering, and for the parents who love and nurture our tribal youth, you are a blessing to me!

As an artist, my father was a wildlife champion. He’s self-taught ability to sketch, paint, and sculpt animals and record them in their nature habitats, as detailed as in photographs, leaves us all with his gift of conservation. He was especially fond of birds and elephants. Some pictures are very funny, but the others are very touching. Conrad would always hug and kiss the eagle goodbye and tell his Grand Patty that he loved him. For all of our tribal members who are artists, naturalists, and stewards of animals, you are a blessing to me! You carry on the old and new traditions of Potawatomi art and give us all a true reflection of this busy world. Your satirical art is equally engaging and your abstract thinking one of a kind. Your artistic lega-
**Ronald Navarre**

Ronald Navarre, mostly known as “Sonny” was born on Jan. 31, 1939 to Emory and Virginia Herron Navarre. He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters: Wanda Scarbrough and Carolyn Whitney. Sonny grew up in the Harrah, Newalla, McLoud and Choctaw areas, sometimes all of them in one night as a teenager. Sonny became one of the most sought after painters in Oklahoma County. Known for being able to paint over 45 years old, Sonny was a member of the Choctaw United Methodist Church. He served in many positions within the church, but none was more enjoyed than he and Bunny’s long time service to the youth of the church.

Sonny was also well known as a hunter and fisherman. One of his constant joys was going to Colorado each summer to fish for trout. In fact, several of the preacher’s kids of the ministers who served the Choctaw UMC learned how to hunt and fish under Sonny’s tutelage.

Bunny and Sonny were constant disciples of the Kan I Help You Sunday School Class. They were one of the key members who were instrumental in developing the annual food drive to provide seasonal food stuffs to children in need identified by the counselors of the Choctaw Nicoma Park school system and two senior citizen living centers in Choctaw. In lieu of Flowers, Bunny would like donations to be made to the Choctaw UMC “KIHU Grocery & Clothing Mission Fund”.

**William Wallace Martin**

William Wallace (Walley) Martin, 74, of McPherson, Kansas, passed away at 2:35 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017 peacefully surrounded by family at his home, Kansas. He was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church McPherson, where he was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and served as Eucharistic Minister. He served in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged as a MCPO. He was a member of the American Legion Post 24, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2715 and the Potawatomi Tribe in which he was very proud of. Wally enjoyed walking, vegetable gardening, working in his yard, playing softball, and spending time with his family and visiting with his friends.

Wally was united in marriage to Janice Abram on Oct. 29, 1965 at Gardner, Maine. The couple established their first home together in Maine and in 1976 moved to Virginia. This union was blessed with the birth of a daughter Madalyn Irene. Wally was united in marriage to Karen Barrera on June 14, 1991 at Jacksonville, Florida. The couple made their first home in McPherson. This union united Wally’s daughter Madalyn and Karen’s daughter Jennifer Lynn.

He is survived by his wife: Karen Martin, of McPherson; his daughters: Madalyn I Martin, of Virginia Beach, Virginia and Jennifer Lynn Avinger, of McPherson; his siblings: Mary Irene Hudson, of Topka, Kansas, Pauline Bickford, of Maple Hill, Kansas, Henry Martin and his wife Carol, of McPherson, Steve Martin and his wife Deanne, of Huntington, Kansas, Charles D. Martin, and his wife Diane, of McPherson; his three grandchildren: Anthony Avinger, Lila Paige, and Carter Leathers; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of other relatives and dear friends.

**Wally was a member of the American Legion Post 24, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2715, and the Potawatomi Tribe in which he was very proud of. Wally enjoyed walking, vegetable gardening, working in his yard, playing softball, and spending time with his family and visiting with his friends.**

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A funeral mass was held on November 16, 2016 in Adams, Oklahoma to Larry O. and Phyllis K. Treat. He was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and worked as a welder until his health became an issue.

Bobbie Shane was born on Oct. 3, 1965 in Shawnee, Oklahoma to Larry O. and Phyllis K. Treat.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Larry O. and Phyllis K. Treat; and brother: Stacey Len Treat. Survivors left to keep his memories alive are his siblings: Larry S. Treat of Shawnee, Stephanie Clutter of Shawnee, Susan Gregg and husband Ken of Trenton, Robin (Charlie) Patrick of Cosby, Missouri, and Joy (Steve) Jackson of Trenton.

Ermyl George Sager 53, of Trenton, Missouri, died on Nov. 28, 2016 at Liberty Hospital, Liberty, Missouri. Mrs. Sager was born in Topeka, Kansas on July 23, 1963, the daughter of Jonny and Clara Wade George.

The family moved from Silver Lake, Kansas to Trenton in November of 1964 where she attended school, graduating from high school in 1981. She attended North Central Missouri College and received her Associate in Arts Degree from Maple Woods Community College. Her bachelor’s degree was from Truman State University of Kirksville, Missouri. Her master’s degree was from Northwest Missouri State University. She went on to teach for 27 years and was a much loved kindergarten teacher.

Ermyl Annette’s George Sager, 53, of Trenton, Missouri, died on Nov. 28, 2016 at Liberty Hospital, Liberty, Missouri. Mrs. Sager was born in Topeka, Kansas on July 23, 1963, the daughter of Jonny and Clara Wade George.

He was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and worked as a welder until his health became an issue.

Bobbie Shane loved working with horses and cows. He loved riding motorcycles and playing sports. He enjoyed gardening. He loved to fish and be around his nieces, nephews, grandbabies, family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents: Larry O. and Phyllis K. Treat; and brother: Stacey Len Treat.

Survivors left to keep his memories alive are his siblings: Larry S. Treat of Shawnee, Stephanie Clutter of Shawnee, Susan Gregg and husband Ken of Trenton, Robin (Charlie) Patrick of Cosby, Missouri, and Joy (Steve) Jackson of Trenton.

Annette married Dennis Sager on May 29, 1982. After a short stay in Sweet Springs, Missouri, they lived in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. In 1986, they moved back to Trenton to make their home. They have two sons: Brian, who teaches high school science in Maysville, Missouri and Christopher who is in a post grad physical therapy program in Bolivar, Missouri.