To apportion CPN population equally across tribal legislative districts, legislators updated the district map as of July 1.

Barrett, wins chairman vote, legislative incumbents all re-elected

Amidst the sporting and art contests, cultural classes and powwow dancing, the annual Citizen Potawatomi Nation Family Reunion Festival centers around the General Council meeting, held Saturday afternoon of each Festival. After a blessing and presenting of colors by the CPN Veterans Organization Color Guard, tribal election results were announced by Gary Bourbonnais, chairman of the CPN Election Committee.

At the time of writing and printing of this edition of the paper, all election results are pending for a five day contest period before they are ruled official.

For the election of the tribe’s highest office, incumbent John “Rocky” Barrett of Shawnee, Oklahoma defeated challenger Steve Castaneda, also of Shawnee, by a vote count of 1,689 to 306.

“I’m grateful to the Citizen Potawatomi people for allowing me the honor of continuing a leadership role with the tribe,” said Tribal Chairman John Barrett. “I know this couldn’t have happened without the help of many talented and dedicated people and I thank them for their support. I look forward to helping the tribe provide ever-increasing opportunities for our people and partnering with our local communities.”

Barrett ran on a platform of continuing progress for the tribe, which has grown in population and economic standing since he became tribal chairman in 1985.

In the race for the Kansas seat of District 4, incumbent Jon Boursaw of Topeka, Kansas defeated Topeka’s Theresa Adame by a vote of 150 to 86. The two have now faced off in three consecutive elections, the first in 2009 when Adame won, the second in 2013 when Boursaw came out on top.

“I genuinely appreciate the support I received from across the District; I could not have won without it. I am extremely honored and pleased to continue as your legislator for another four years. You have my commitment to do the best I can as your representative.”

Adame thanked her supporters, saying she was sorry they could not come out with a win but that she would remain active in District 4.

“Some may say ‘Look, she lost. Why would you want to put yourself out there like that?’

“I answer, ‘Why wouldn’t you? It gave me a forum to talk about the importance of voting and other issues.’”

In east and central Texas’ District 3, incumbent Robert Whistler of Bedford, Texas defeated first time candidate Jahn Eric Humphreys of San Leon, Texas by a vote of 164 to 19.

Whistler commented on his victory, saying “I am very honored that the District 3 tribal members have decided to have me represent them for the next four years. I will be focused on living up to their expectations and will serve proudly,” said Whistler.

Humphreys, who ran in his first tribal election in 2017 congratulated his opponent on the victory. He said he was humbled by the support he had received.

“Legislator Whistler has and will continue to have my respect, support, and loyalty. Bob Whistler is a good man doing a great job as the legislator of District 3. Bob I pray for your good health and happiness for you and your family.”

In CPN District 1, Roy Slavin was re-elected after no opponents filed. In CPN District 2, Eva Marie Carney was also re-elected, facing no opposition.

The annual tribal budget also passed with 1,863 votes for, 115 against.

FireLake Golf Course re-opens

Nearly two years after work crews began excavating large sections of FireLake Golf Course, golfers are set to return to the 18-hole public course located 40 minutes from Oklahoma City.

The 6,335 yard course has plenty of new amenities and numerous hole redesigns to challenge golfers of all skill levels. Lined with native grass and water hazards on 13 holes, FireLake boasts champion Bermuda greens on all 18 holes playable at an affordable price of $38 available seven days a week.

Continued on page 10

Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett being sworn in by Judge Philip Lujan.

The view looking south from the fairway on Hole 17.
Population growth results in redistricting for CPN Tribal Legislature

Just like American political jurisdictions that shift after an annual census, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Tribal Government is no different. At the March 2017 legislative meeting, elected legislators from across the country agreed to redistrict several CPN legislative districts. The need for redistricting comes as a result of a growing tribal population, with more than 33,000 tribal members spread across the U.S. and wider world.

The goal is to try and keep the legislative districts, specifically districts 1-8, which are outside of Oklahoma, as near to a population of 2,500 as possible. While the districts may be stretched across several American states and counties, legislators encourage all those Potawatomi living in those areas to contact their elected representatives. Monthly columns written by the legislators run in each edition of the Hownikan, which include contact information and updates on news and issues impacting the Potawatomi living in their jurisdictions.

For those in Oklahoma, there are five at-large elected legislators in addition to the offices of tribal chairman, vice-chairman and secretary-treasurer, which all have votes in the body.

In District 5, represented by Legislator Gene Lambert, which encompasses the southwest United States and all of western Texas, the counties of Edwards, Kinney and Maverick counties have been added.

The changes to District 5 also include the addition of the state of Nebraska. District 8 added two more states, with Citizen Potawatomi in Minnesota and Iowa now being represented by Legislator Dave Carney.

Utah, is now split between District 6 and District 7, which are represented by Rande Payne and Mark Johnson respectively. For those Potawatomi in Hawaii, their new representative is also Rande Payne of District 6.

Though redistricting can be a challenge, the tribal legislators across the U.S. often hold regional meetings throughout their districts in an effort to stay in touch with Citizen Potawatomi living there. In the last year, meetings organized by tribal legislators have been held in:

- Queen Creek, Arizona
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Nashville, Tennessee
- Burlington, Vermont
- Orlando, Florida
- Lubbock, Texas
- Portland, Oregon
- Ft. Smith, Arkansas
- Visalia, California

The Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Legislature is one of the only bodies of its kind in Indian Country that digitally connects elected representatives via video conference for regular legislative meetings throughout the year. To learn more about the CPN Legislature as well as contact information and a legislative district map, please visit www.potawatomi.org/government/legislature.

In today’s world, it seems every moment is spent on the go – work, school, sports, family vacations and more. So you need a bank that goes where you go. That’s why First National Bank & Trust Co. has intentionally put together services that keep pace with your schedule. With our technology and friendly customer care, you can take us with you anywhere you go.

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2018 CPN DISTRICTS BY COUNTY

TEXAS COUNTIES IN DISTRICT 5
Bandera | Baylor | Callahan | Coleman
Concho | Dimmit | Foard | Frio | Gillespie
Hardeman | Haskell | Jones | Kendall | Kerr
Kimbie | Knox | La Salle | McCulloch | Mason
Medina | Menard | Real | Runnels | Shackelford
Taylor | Throckmorton | Uvalde | Webb
Wilbarger | Zapata | Zavala

UTAH COUNTIES IN DISTRICT 6
Millard | San Pete | Carbon | Grand | San Juan
Kane | Washington | Iron | Garfield | Wayne
Piute | Beaver | Sevier | Emery

UTAH COUNTIES IN DISTRICT 7
Box Elder | Cache | Rich | Weber | Tooele
Davis | Morgan | Summit | Daggett | Uintah
Duchesne | Wasatch | Salt Lake | Utah | Juab
Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle appointed to OK Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Board

Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Behavioral Health Clinic experiences very few “slow days,” a result likely related to the inadequate behavioral and mental healthcare services in the United States as a whole. Along with determined support from the tribal leadership and CPN Health Services, the behavioral health program has benefited from the leadership of Dr. Glenna Stumblingbear-Riddle. In addition to her service as director, she serves as clinical director of Native Connections, an outreach program coordinator and is a licensed health services psychologist.

She has recently added one more title to her resume, when in May 2017 Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle was appointed to the Oklahoma State Board of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Her appointment marked a significant moment for tribal health services in the state. In many parts of the state, tribal health services, specifically those dealing with behavioral health and substance abuse services, are some of the only providers available and provide a relief on strained rural health systems.

The Hownikan spoke to Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle, a citizen of the Kiowa Nation, about her appointment and what it means for Native American healthcare professionals in Oklahoma.

What kind of role does one play as a member of the Oklahoma State Board of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services?

“The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services board ensures the quality of mental health and substance abuse programs across Oklahoma. It is an eleven-member board appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Oklahoma State Senate. My role on this board is to assist in setting broad policy pertaining to mental health and substance abuse services for Oklahomans.

“We know that many people who need mental health and substance abuse services do not get the help they need, so this board works to help reduce these types of barriers. Also, this board sets provider certification standards to ensure quality care throughout Oklahoma.”

You’ve been an advocate of the inclusion of tribal behavioral health professionals being included in state-level planning. Why do you think this is important?

“I think this is critical. In Oklahoma there are 39 federally recognized tribes and we have a high percentage of American Indians in our state. Therefore, it is vital that tribal behavioral health professionals be included in policy and other decision-making that will ultimately impact our communities.

“Sometimes decisions are made without long-term thought and are not consistent with the needs and values of the community. I am honored to serve the state of Oklahoma and help share a collective voice for all who are negatively impacted by mental health and addiction. Mental health and substance abuse issues impact not only the individual but the family, community, economy, and state as a whole. We all have a role to play in helping to create a healthier Oklahoma. We cannot accomplish this without addressing the needs and gaps pertaining to mental health and addiction.

“I am very thankful for the support of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and I am eager to serve the state of Oklahoma. I’m excited by this new endeavor and stay reminded of this quote by the late Chief Wilma Mankiller who said, ‘the secret of our success is that we never, never give up.’

“We can never give up on creating healthier communities. Our communities benefit when we are reminded of our resilience and that recovery is possible. We just need to help individuals and families have better access to it.”

If you would like to learn more about behavioral health services available through the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services, please visit potawatomis.org/services/health or call (405) 214-5101.

$10k CPN donation helps provide Tecumseh P.D. active shooter protection

Tecumseh’s finest will have one more line of protection should the worst happen thanks to a $10,000 contribution from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to the police department. In 2016 the tribe donated $5,000 to the Tecumseh Police Department for the purchase of active shooter kits and followed up in May 2017 with another $5,000.

Active shooter kits are bullet proof vests and Kevlar helmets designed to protect the vital organs for law enforcement officers responding to situations where high caliber ammunition is used. The vests can be worn on top the standard bullet proof vests many police officers wear on daily patrols, giving an extra layer of protection when it’s most needed.

“The Tecumseh P.D. are often the first ones alongside our tribal police when a call comes in,” said CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps. “We saw an opportunity to add some protection for those who put their lives on the line to protect our community.”

Though the county has a number of law enforcement agencies, including the Shawnee P.D. SWAT team and the Pottawatomie County Sheriff’s Warrant Team, Tecumseh’s police leaders wanted their patrol officers to have the gear if a situation immediately arose where they needed it.

“If our officers run into a situation where somebody has a rifle that situation could deteriorate quickly. So it would be best for everybody to have that level of protection, and that’s when we started looking for these active shooter kits,” said Assistant Chief Kidney.

A total of 14 vests and Kevlar helmets cost just more than $10,000, or roughly $71 per kit. Though the cost may not seem large, with municipalities across the state facing cuts at the state and local level, their purchase would have been a strain on the city’s budget. Assistant Tecumseh Police Chief J.R. Kidney said donations were vital to purchasing the kits.

“It would have been crippling to the city to provide these through the budget cuts we’re facing, because they already provide us with the standard bullet proof vests,” said Kidney. “Along with the tribe, local business-
CPN Education update: July 2017

By Tesia Zientek, Director of the CPN Department of Education

Recently, St. Gregory’s University approved the Master’s in Business Administration in Tribal Enterprise Management. A group from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and SGU have worked tirelessly to develop this tribally-focused MBA, and we are pleased to announce that SGU will launch their first group of students through this program in the fall of this year.

The mission of the MBA-TEM is to “synthesize a tribal perspective with contemporary business practices to create ethical, sustainable, innovative techniques for leading and managing enterprises in Indian Country and beyond.”

This program will be open to all students in order to create a valuable professional learning community. We hope that this program will enable students to apply what they learn to businesses within Indian Country and give back to their tribal communities.

The 39-credit program integrates a tribal perspective with traditional MBA material into a six-module curriculum that will be completed in one year. The program will be held on-ground in Shawnee, Oklahoma. If successful, an online version will be considered in the future. Each module has been designed for students to take two classes per module, with one of the courses specifically focusing on tribal issues.

For example, in Module 2: Sovereignty and Business Concepts, students will take Legal Environment & Tribal Sovereignty at the same time they study Managerial Economics. This will ensure that a tribal perspective infuses all learning and discussions. Courses not specifically designed with a tribal component will use examples, articles, current events and cases relating to tribal issues and entities.

This model is distinctive in the United States and fulfills a dire need in Indian Country to develop leaders and employees who are well versed in the unique complexities of tribal business. We are proud of our role in developing this innovative program and look forward to watching its success.

To apply to begin in fall 2017, students must meet a July 1 deadline. Qualified CPN students are eligible to apply for full-tuition scholarships. Non-CPN and non-tribal students are also encouraged to apply. For more information, please contact the CPN Department of Education at college@potawatomi.org or 405-275-3121.

We’ve included some photos of CPN graduates from May who donned their Citizen Potawatomi graduation stoles, which are available through the CPN Gift Shop at giftshop.potawatomi.org and bring proceeds to tribal scholarships. For those graduating in December or next May, keep them in mind!
A look at John Anderson, Citizen Potawatomi banker

Born June 16, 1927, John V. Anderson grew up in Choctaw, Oklahoma during the Great Depression. At the age of 17, his father signed the papers that allowed John to enlist in the Navy. He served as a seaman on the USS Siboney from June 1945 until August 1946.

Upon ending his tour of duty with the Navy, John pursued a job at Liberty National Bank & Trust because his childhood friend, the late Pat McKinney, encouraged him to apply. He was hired under an on-the-job training program for GI’s as a messenger. He steadily moved up through the ranks working as a bookkeeper, on the teller line, and then to auditing where he worked for 16 years. In 1969, John was named an Assistant Vice President and by the time he left Liberty National Bank in 1973 he had been named a Senior Vice President in charge of Liberty Operations with oversight of security, transit and proof, bookkeeping and tellers, systems and procedures, collections, purchasing, payment services, and as liaison for the bank.

Mr. Anderson purchased Farmers & Merchants Bank in Crescent at the age of 45 in September of 1972. However, he did not take over as president of United Bank Advisors Services located in the Oklahoma City Stockyards. He assumed the President and CEO position with Farmers & Merchants Bank in January of 1980.

Through the years, F&M Bank has grown from $5 million in assets to $410 million in assets and 9 locations.

Today, the bank employs more than 100 full-time employees across Crescent, Edmond, Guthrie, Kingfisher, Piedmont, and Yukon.

Mr. Anderson still actively comes into the Crescent location every day, serving as Chairman, Emeritus and Director for F & M Bancshares, Oklahoma City. His sons Terry, Barry and John Tom work with him running the various branches of the banks and his daughter Patti Rains also works in banking operations after retiring from a long career in education.

Mr. Anderson is active in the Crescent community as a deacon at First Baptist Church and has served as president and in other capacities with the Crescent Chamber of Commerce, Crescent Lions Club, and Crescent Public Schools Foundation. He also served as president of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of the Bank Administration Institute; and as a director and officer of the Oklahoma Bankers Association.

He has been married to his wife Jo, for 67 years. John is also a proud grandfather and great grandfather.

According to son, John Tom Anderson, his father routinely tells others how blessed he has been with opportunties he could have never dreamed would happen in his life.

“I believe my father’s finest attributes are that he lives his life and conducts every aspect of his business with honesty and integrity. Not only that, he has passed those values on to his children and grandchildren.”

So, we put together an impromptu ceremony for us and the families attending. Daryl Talbot, David Barrett, Derek Skaggs and Kenny Reed were the participating Color Guard members.

Migwetch.

I hope that everyone reading this used that day to remember the veterans and active military who made sacrifices to protect our country’s rights and way of life. If you enjoyed your day, and remember to thank a veteran.

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization meets every month on the fourth Tuesday at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN and spouse veterans and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.
Two CPN members recently helped Shawnee High School capture its third state championship in a row while leading the team to the top ranking in the nation.

**Jacob Taylor**

Vype Magazine covered the story of Jacob Taylor before their 2017 state title and has allowed the reprinting of their article here.

Shawnee High School varsity baseball player Jacob Taylor was recognized in early May as Vype’s Citizen Potawatomi Student-Athlete of the Month.

Now a senior, Taylor plays multiple positions for head coach Todd Boyer. Taylor is versatile enough to play catcher, pitcher or third base. But his baseball career started more than a decade ago with a team in Tecumseh.

“I’ve been playing baseball for 11 years. My first team was named the Tecumseh Rangers,” said Taylor.

Taylor is a valuable member of the three-time defending class 5A state championship team at Shawnee and is currently ranked No. 1. Taylor has committed to Oklahoma State University and will take his talents to the Cowboys next season. His decision to become a Cowboy was based on many factors.

“There are a few reasons for becoming a Cowboy. First is the coaching staff. They bring a lot of energy, experience, and knowledge to the game, which will help me grow as a player. They preach playing the game hard and the right way. The campus felt like I was at home and I was very comfortable when I was up and around all the guys,” said Taylor. “Not to mention the education side. I take pride in making good grades and becoming as knowledgeable as I can to better myself in life if baseball doesn’t work out.”

Taylor plans to major in business while at Oklahoma State.

As a member of the Potawatomi Tribe, Taylor points to the support they have provided, which has helped him further his athletic career.

“They have given donations, which have supported me in being able to play in events and tournaments that have helped me become a better player as well as get exposure,” said Taylor.

Being a member of the Potawatomi Nation is special to Taylor, especially knowing how much they care about student-athletes.

“It means a lot, I am very blessed to be a part of a tribe that cares about student athletes and is willing to give a helping hand when opportunities arise,” said Taylor.

The success the Shawnee Wolves have enjoyed the past two years has created memories for the players and fans that will carry on for a lifetime.

“I will remember and cherish the friendships and bonds I’ve made over the past four years. It’s a special almost brother like bond,” said Taylor.

Taylor is thankful for many things including his father, who has been a part of his life since he was a small child.

“My dad has always been very supportive and has spent countless hours, money and energy hauling me all over to be able to play the game I love. He has never told me no if I asked him if I could go do this event or go tryout for a team. Away from the baseball side he has taught me a lot about life and has raised me to be a respectful and humble young man that never takes anything for granted,” said Taylor.

Taylor said his teammates have always been there for him and are a big reason he’s had success on the field.

“I am blessed to have supportive teammates and they are always there for me. They pick me up if I’m in a slump and are there for me outside of baseball. Like I said earlier it’s like having 20-plus brothers rather than teammates.”

On June 14, Taylor was selected in the 25th round of the MLB Draft by the Atlanta Braves.

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Combs role at Federal Reserve Bank centers on protecting American banking system

While the Federal Reserve System is often in the news for its role in setting American monetary policy, the bank’s responsibilities in the world's largest economy are wider than setting the benchmark interest rates. One such role involves examining and ensuring the stability of financial institutions across the U.S., from large multinational banks to the small town bank in rural America. Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Michael Combs is integral to that mission in his role as an assistant vice president for the Fed’s Oklahoma City branch.

Though he serves in an organization with offices across the U.S., Combs has stayed close to his hometown of Oklahoma City throughout his career. He is a graduate of Bishop McGuinness High School and the University of Central Oklahoma, where he completed a finance degree before graduating with an MBA from Oklahoma City University.

Unlike those who ran from their final class involving mathematics during the completion of their undergraduate studies, Combs said he always had an interest in accounting and finance. He attributed this to his work with the Fed.

“I worked full time during college in the cash office at Sam’s Club,” he recalled. “I was very interested in the monetary aspects of retail.”

On a finance club field trip to the Oklahoma City branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City as an undergraduate, Combs said his interest in finance was piqued by the sheer volume of cash and check processing the bank oversaw at that time.

Upon the completion of his MBA, he saw an opening for a financial institution examiner and quickly applied. He was offered the position, which took him across Oklahoma to examine the safety and soundness of the state’s financial institutions.

“I took that job and haven’t regretted it a single day since,” said Combs. “I spent several years early in my career on the road visiting very small banks around Oklahoma and just getting to know how the banking system works and how community banking was such an important part of the economy.”

In a state where grandparents are still old enough to remember their own parents’ savings being wiped out during the Great Depression, the need for a well regulated and stable financial system remains paramount.

“It’s quite different from the big banks you hear about, these are usually small, family-run organizations and they provide a very important service to their local communities. Just imagine if these small towns didn’t have a bank,” Combs said.

He has been with the Fed in this capacity since joining as a bank examiner in 1994. Though today he supervises teams that provide national technology to examiners reviewing these financial institutions as an assistant vice president, he affirmed that his mission remains the same; ensuring a stable American banking system.

The Fed’s role in everyday lives of Americans is arguably so ingrained that most don’t understand its true impact. From guaranteeing a pay check clears to ensuring mortgage rates remain at the agreed upon figure in a contract with a lender, the impact of the Federal Reserve on the average American is akin to waking up in the morning, turning the faucet expecting clean, potable water to pour out, and instead having nothing. Americans don’t truly think about its presence until it’s not available.

“Being a target of political cudgels wielded by both major political parties in Washington, D.C. or New York. It’s not necessarily a huge government agency based out of Washington, D.C. but I’ve become very proud of what we do,” Combs said.

He noted the example of Vice-Chairman of the Fed, Lael Brainard, who provides an example of what a Fed examiners do in their day-to-day work. The professionals working under him also help shape Fed technological solutions, designing systems and best practices for teams to implement across the Federal Reserve System.

“Regardless of the fact that I live in Oklahoma, I’m able to make a difference to every examiner that’s doing their job across the country. That’s really meaningful, I don’t have to be anywhere else and we can still make effective change to the system.”

The Walpole Island First Nation has a wealth of information about activities, conferences and other events taking place during the four day Gathering, including a website with a tentative schedule, local hotel and camping information and registration forms for the Potawatomi Language Conference and Miss Potawatomi Princess Contest. The website can be found by visiting http://nita.potawatomisoft.com. Walpole Island also has a Facebook page for the event, www.facebook.com/PotawatomiGather ing17 and more questions can be sent directly to Portia Shipman, Potawatomi Gathering Coordinator, at 519-628-5700 or via email at nita.shipman@wifn.org.

Activities taking place at the Gathering also include golf and softball tournaments, a tribal youth conference, powwow dancing competitions for men and women and cultural item creation and regalia workshops.
Executive Director Daniel LeClaire to its Achievers Under 40 Awards for his service to the tribe and community.

CNP Vice-Chairman Linda Capps nominated LeClaire for the awards and praised his work for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

“As an employee with a keen intellect for team work, he is an integral part of activities both within and outside of the workplace,” said Capps. “Not only is he an outstanding employee and volunteer, he is also a wonderful father, son, brother and uncle to a host of relatives.”

Daniel, a descendant of the LeClaire and DeLonais families, has worked up the ranks since starting as a tribal police officer in 2006. He initially joined the CPN Tribal Police Department following his graduation of the collegiate officer program through Rose State College and Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City.

He served as a patrolman for the tribal police for three years before joining the CPN Gaming Commission in 2009 as an investigator, where he ensured integrity and security of the tribe’s gaming operations by investigation and enforcing tribal, state, and federal laws and regulations.

Asked about his approach to the jobs he has held at CPN, LeClaire replied that “I want to lead a life that makes my family proud, and I try to measure my actions and decisions each day in my roles, whether at church, in the office or other arenas, that reflect that goal.”

In 2014 he was named executive director of the gaming commission. As executive director he is tasked with managing the day-to-day business of the gaming commission staff of 20 who protect the assets of the tribe’s gaming enterprises and regulate all forms of permissible and authorized gaming within the Nation. He oversees internal auditors and compliance officers who ensure fairness and consistency with all gaming regulations and laws. The Bank Secrecy Act/ Anti-Money Laundering Department certifies compliance with Title 31, a federal law intended for casinos to track cash and to deter criminal activity such as money laundering and structuring from individuals and terrorists. The investigators, who are trained in internal and external criminal activity as well as policy and procedure violations in order to protect tribal assets. The commission’s IT department takes on a large range of responsibilities which vary from desktop support to assisting with network security. The licensing department for the commission conducts background investigations on all employees and vendors who are conducting business within the tribe’s gaming facilities.

“I want to lead a life that makes my family proud, and I try to measure my actions and decisions each day in my roles, whether at church, in the office or other arenas, that reflect that goal.”

Daniel has always strived to not only continue to grow his own knowledge of the ever-changing pace of gaming but also displays an unwavering commitment to ensure his department team members are getting that same access to education and training,” said Jodi DiLascio, Director of Tribal Gaming for BMM Testlabs, a firm providing technical and regulatory compliance services. “I believe this is just one example of the strong leadership qualities that Daniel displays in his role... (he) is effective, efficient and has the highest ethics of any regulator I have the honor to work with.”

When not serving in his official capacity as executive director of the gaming commission, LeClaire is also a member of the Oklahoma State Athletic Commission and the CPN Boxing Commission. He sits on the Shawnee Educational Foundation Board and is an active volunteer with Life Church serving as a Switch Leader and Loop Leader. He’s a member of the Squirel Creek Singers and serves as co-arena director during the tribe’s festivals. His favorite role is being a father to Ava, Liana and Luke.

Blue Zones seek partners in Shawnee

By Bethany West, Blue Zones Project Pottawatomie County Engagement Lead

In April, CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps wrote about her work with an initiative in Potawatomi County that seeks to promote healthier lifestyle and infrastructure in the communities that many CPN members and employees live in. The following is a submission on what the project is and how it will work to enhance the lives of the people in CPN’s neighborhood.

How the Blue Zones Project Works

Inspired by the world’s longest-lived populations, Blue Zones Project® is all about making healthy choices easy right here in Pottawatomie County. Dan Buettner discovered five areas around the world where people who lived longer and healthier lives, places he called Blue Zones®. He noted nine common principles shared by these areas, The Power of Place. The Blue Zones Solution. But, his insights didn’t end there. The Blue Zones Project incorporates insights from the Blue Zones to reverse engineer longevity in communities throughout the United States. Pottawatomie County has been selected as one of the newest Blue Zones Project demonstration communities thanks to a sponsorship by the Avedis Foundation.

Blue Zones Project takes a unique approach by focusing on what we call the Life Radius, impacting places you learn, work, play, and pray. Individuals spend most of their time within 5 miles of where they live and where they work, their life radius. If the places within your life radius support healthy habits, you are more likely to adopt healthy habits and maintain your own well-being improvement choices. Check out some of the areas communities are coming together to support well-being in one another.

People

Blue Zones Project provides opportunities for individuals to connect with one another. Borrowing an idea from the Okinawan culture, people are encouraged to form “Moais,” groups that meet for a common purpose. Blue Zones Project facilitates connections through the formation of Walking Moais, Potluck Moais, and Purpose Moais. At Moai launch events, groups of 5-8 people are formed and these groups commit to meeting on a regularly for ten weeks. After ten weeks, many Moai participants find that they have gained valuable friendships and continue to meet.

Places

The places outside of our own home that we spend most of our time have a dramatic impact on our well-being. Blue Zones Project works with schools, worksites, restaurants, grocery stores, civic organizations, and faith-based communities to make the health choice the easy choice. These places select evidence-based practices that improve well-being in order to become Blue Zones Project Approved™. This status signals to individuals which places within their life radius support the healthy choices they have made.

Policy

Blue Zones Project works closely with community policy makers to adopt policies that are right for the individual communities to help the citizens and visitors alike in improved well-being. Experts in the fields of built environment, alcohol and tobacco, and food policy work with communities to highlight the assets and discover opportunities for improvement. An example of policy improvements include adopting a complete streets policy to improve accessibility for not only vehicles but also for pedestrians and bicycles as well.

You can learn more about Blue Zones Project Pottawatomie County by visiting pottawatomie.bluezonesproject.com. You can also contact Pottawatomie County’s local Blue Zones Project team by e-mailing healthways.com or follow us on Facebook at Blue Zones Project Pottawatomie County.
A low passed in January 2017 and overturned in March is raising concerns with environmentalists around the U.S.

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At Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s eagle aviary, staff overseeing injured birds see the impact of lead ammunition on those in their care on a daily basis. One eagle in particular, named Myanbe, lives with complications from lead poisoning.

“Myanbe’s name means ‘sees poorly’ in Potawatomi. The lead poisoning left him with impaired eyesight. He can see, just not as well enough to be released,” CPN Eagle Aviary Assistant Director Bree Dunham said.

Dunham says that her goal isn’t to eliminate hunting altogether, but she does want to encourage hunters to use leadless ammunition and find ways to responsibly dispose of the bullets after their hunt.

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The benefits of lead ammo as a projectile is its weight, pure and simple. It offers the heaviest weight for a particular volume based on cost… the heaviest material for the least amount of money,” Barrett said.

Barrett also says that it’s not just about the cost. In order for a humane and clean kill to take place while hunting, heavy ammo must move at a high velocity.

“You want deep penetration but not over penetration because you don’t want it to exit and perhaps pose a danger to another animal. That weight affects how it performs when it hits tissue.”

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“Hunting is an integral part of land management and wildlife management. If there weren’t people out there hunting deer, we would have too many deer and an unhealthy population and unmanaged land.”

Myanbe is as healed as the staff at the aviary say he will ever be.

“We watch him watch other birds in the pasture so we know he can see far off. It’s mainly his depth perception that he has a problem with so he will never be able to be released,” Dunham said.

At first, there was a question of whether or not they would euthanize him due to concerns over his quality of life, but Dunham says he hasn’t had a seizure now in three years.

“It’s just a matter of getting people to understand that it really is a problem,” she said. “It’s such an easy fix and it would save a lot of lives.”

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Use money windfalls to create better financial footing

By Tina Pollard, CPCDC Consumer Finance Lending Manager

What do jackpots, tax returns, bonuses, and extra paychecks have in common? They are all usually missed. A windfall of money is when a household acquires an unplanned, sizable sum of money. We have a choice to make every time we have extra money. They can benefit us short-term or help us get ahead. Here are a few suggestions for productively using these windfalls.

The key to using windfalls successfully is to ignore them.

You read that right, ignore them!

If you forget these funds until after you create your budget, when you receive these windfalls they will not become necessity. If you rely on these funds to balance your budget, your budget is not balanced.

If you can use these windfalls to increase your savings, then you will have a cushion for unexpected situations. Having this cushion can help you avoid overdraft fees, loans for every day expenses and will reduce your financial stress. Remember every time you have to borrow money you must pay interest, which makes every emergency that much more expensive.

Periodic expenses are expenses we incur regularly, but not consistently. Examples are tires and other maintenance for vehicles, holiday gifts and income taxes. Building these expenses into your budget is best, but if it’s not possible, windfalls could make them more affordable.

Want to retire a millionaire? Invest windfalls into your retirement accounts is a way to stretch your savings dollars. If you are paid bi-weekly, you will receive two “extra” paycheck a year. If you invest that every year then you can exponentially increase your net worth without sacrificing your standard of living.

Life is less expensive for people with good credit. You can save a lifetime of money by increasing your credit score with your windfall. Paying off old debts or using your windfall to create a new trade line can increase your credit score. These are just a few ideas of how to take advantage of windfalls.

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Scholarship recipient performs in the classroom and on the field

Rhodd family member Taylor Ramsey from Carlsbad, California, is no stranger to hard work and dedication. As a certified strength and conditioning specialist and full-time performance coach, he also recently completed graduate coursework at Point Loma Nazarene University in May.

Ramsey is a tribal scholarship recipient who received assistance with his bachelor’s degree in exercise science: sports performance and nutrition, while playing college football at Southeast Missouri State University. He is currently using the tribal scholarship funds to help complete his master’s in kinesiology: sports performance.

“Sometimes the scholarship I received from Citzen Potawatomi Nation has been the only thing that allowed me to live comfortably and not miss meals during the last couple years,” Ramsey said. “I am truly grateful that they have extended so much without ever having met me. I believe CPN has played a larger role in shaping me than they or I will truly understand.”

Ramsey combines his experience as a former college football player with his knowledge as a sports performance specialist to design and implement training programs for athletes. His work helps to increase their athletic performances while decreasing the risk of non-contact injuries at a facility called Keen Performance.

“Playing football not only allowed me to define myself through an opportunity for leadership, great effort and a relentless determination regardless of the odds, but it allowed me an opportunity for a higher education and a better, more diverse life as well.”

Ramsey said his life has been so impacted by sports that he wanted to give back to other athletes.

“A main reason why I started studying kinesiology is that I have seen numerous promising athletes get injured and never have the opportunity to return to a high level or, for some, never return to playing.”

His passion is clear if you look at his schedule. He wakes up at 4 a.m., works as a performance coach for youth ranging from nine years old to college athletes, trains professional athletes and those in the military and continues to train until 8 p.m. He does this all while concurrently studying to complete his master’s degree.

“Coming from a single parent and multi-children home, I was no stranger to the very real struggles that seemed to plague adulthood. If ever I would worry, my mother would reassure me to have faith that God has a plan,” Ramsey said. “I owe most everything that I am to being an athlete, the people that supported me, the coaches and role models throughout the years.”

His future plans are to earn a doctorate and own a sports medicine practice or coaching facility. He would also like to coach for a professional sports team and eliminate non-contact injuries for the athletes with whom he interacts.

If you are interested in learning more about how CPN can help you succeed in your career and educational goals, please email college@potawatomi.org and speak with one of the college advisors.

Golf Course continued...

The course was built in 1983 and is owned and operated by the Potawatomi Nation.

“The tribe committed to shutting down two years so we could make a good course a great one, and with what we have worked since 2015, I believe FireLake is just that,” said Chris Chesser, course director.

The course, clubhouse and driving range have all been overhauled since renovations began in 2015 under the supervision of FireLake Superintendent Derron Day. The new clubhouse is open, complete with a pro-shop, a restaurant and bar, as well as an event space on the second floor.

For those familiar with the old driving range’s tendency to turn into a water hazard at the slightest hint of rain, new, undulating target greens now sit atop embankments.

In addition to a $38 green fee and cart deal, the course has numerous specials and discounts including a weekday senior green fee and cart special for $30, walking green fees for juniors and seniors at $17 and twilight fees that include a cart for only $25.

FireLake host local high school and amateur golf competitions, including the FireLake Classic – taking place July 22-23 – and one round of the Shawnee Shootout, Fundraisers and tournaments for private groups are also booked throughout the year.

The course offers a number of membership options for golfers who regularly play, with a regular membership that includes a cart rental only $1,800. Adding a spouse or child age 17 or younger only costs $200.

Discounts for walkers, seniors and golfers with their own golf cart are also available at discounted rates. For young golfers and students, FireLake offers a summer junior walking membership for only $300.

“It’s been a long process, and we know we have a lot of people asking about re-opening,” said Chesser. “But we wanted to get it right the first time, have good grass down and give our golfers a playable course on our opening day. There are still a few minor fixes but we’re very happy to see our regular golfers and new faces out here.”

More information can be found by calling 405-275-4471 or visiting www.FireLakeGolf.com.

Get the Hownikan via email!

If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.
Tribal member John V. Anderson marks 70 years in banking

By Paula Burkes

The following article originally ran in the March 19, 2017 Oklahoma newspaper chronicling the life and career of CPN tribal member John V. Anderson. It has been reprinted here with the author’s express written permission.

More than 120 guests from throughout the state converged on the lobby of F&M Bank on Monday to congratulate the bank’s board chairman, John V. Anderson, on 70 years in banking.

Anderson started in the correspondence department of Liberty National Bank & Trust in 1947, and rose to senior vice president, before buying F&M Bank in 1972. In more than four decades, he, his sons and now his grandchildren have helped grow the bank from $5 million in assets and one location to $410 million and nine locations.

The bank employs 106 full-time workers across Crescent, Edmond, Guthrie, Kingfisher, Piedmont and Yukon.

Anderson, 89, still spends his mornings at the Crescent location, serving longtime customers and conducting civic business. He attends asset liability, executive and board meetings, as well as “A-PAC” meetings with the four Anderson children about donations and other matters.

“My wife tells me that I, early in our marriage, commented that I’d like to own a bank and a farm,” Anderson said. “I never imagined I’d one day do both,” he said. “I was financially broke. That was just a dream.”

Anderson took a break from his career of CPN tribal member John V. Anderson marks 70 years in banking at Tinker. My dad, who was also a small farmer, loaned us a cow so we’d have milk. My folks divorced when I was 14. My brother, who was five years younger, stayed with my mom, and I lived with my dad and his parents. My dad was drafted during World War II, and signed the papers so I could enlist in the Navy at age 17.

You served as a seaman in the Navy from June 1945 to August 1946. What’d you do?

Mess cooking and every other crappy job there was. I completed boot camp in San Diego and served on the USS Siboney in “Operation Magic Carpet.” We’d transport sailors and soldiers from the Pacific to Pearl Harbor and San Diego, and go back for another load. It was pretty joyous, because they all were on their way home.

How’d you get into banking?

My childhood friend from Choctaw, the late Pat McKinney, encouraged me to apply at Liberty. As ex-G.I.s, we paid $20 a week for 52 weeks, as long as we were looking for a job. I hired on in 1947 under an on-the-job training program for G.I.s, as a messenger, pulling a dumb wagon of deposits and checks, and making trips around town. After a couple of months, I was promoted to bookkeeper where I worked for three years, then to the teller line for the next three, and on to auditing for 16 years. By the time I left Liberty, in 1973, I had been promoted to senior vice president in charge of operations. In the beginning, I had no specific goals; only to the best at every job to which I was promoted.

You earned 30 hours of college credit with Oklahoma City University. Why didn’t you go on to graduate?

I bought F&M, in February 1973, the bank made a whopping $30.27. It’s funny now, but it was far from funny then. I laid awake at two in the morning, wondering what in the world I’d done. But through sound loan and investment philosophies, and great mentors at Liberty, including Morris Tucker, Harvey Everett and Orvis Rundell, who’ve all passed away. They helped move my career along and I’m forever indebted.

How’d you meet your wife?

Jo worked at Liberty, sorting checks in the transit department, which was next to the bookkeeping department. She was engaged to another fellow when I met her, but all 16 of us bookkeepers, mostly ex-G.I.s, gave her a hard time about her fiance, who’d come in to visit her, wearing a hat with his pant legs rolled up. Jo and I started dating after she broke off her engagement, and we married six months afterward. She was pretty, snappy and had a sharp disposition.

In September 1972, at age 45, you bought what was then Farmers & Merchants Bank in Crescent. Why’d you decide to buy a bank?

I’d been on audits for Liberty up here. Then, as a favor to its former owner, the late J.L. Gibson, I’d sat in on a few board meetings to offer advice. When J.L. began to have health problems, he wanted to give me the first chance to buy the bank. I told him I appreciated the offer, but that I had no money. I told my colleagues at Liberty of the opportunity, and they agreed to lend me $548,000 on sweat equity alone. They figured I knew enough about banking to secure the loan. I didn’t take over as president and CEO until January 1980. I figured the bank wasn’t large enough to afford my salary, so I brought in my long-time friend, Pat McKinney, while I worked five years as president of First National Bank of El Reno and two years for United Oklahoma Bank in the Oklahoma City Stockyards. A few months after I bought F&M, in February 1973, the bank made a whopping $30.27. It’s funny now, but it was far from funny then. I laid awake at two in the morning, wondering what in the world I’d done. But through sound loan and investment philosophies, and great banking staffs, we’ve built a success.
Caregiver Program offers respite for families of home-bound Citizen Potawatomi

According to the Social Security Administration, American men reaching the age of 65 today can expect to live, on average, until they’re 84. For women, the life expectancy is 86. Yet that longevity comes with complications, including rising medical and elder care costs, exacerbated by a struggling American healthcare sector and increasingly, American families.

One tribal program available to Native Americans via the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is seeking to alleviate the challenges for primary caregivers to loved ones who are confined to their home. Operating under the CPN Title VI Elder Program, the CPN Caregiver Program offers respite care for those taking care of their loved ones on a day-to-day basis.

The program is funded by federal grants available through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CPN receives an average of $55,000 annually from the Administration of Community Living for its Caregiver’s Program under HHS. As long as either the patient or their primary caregiver is a member of a federally recognized tribe, they are eligible. According to the latest statistics from the U.S. Census, there are more than 7,300 eligible tribal elders — aged 60 or older — living inside the CPN’s service area.

One of the biggest challenges the program has faced since its implementation at CPN is the lack of use by those who are eligible. As program supervisor Tami Fleeman noted, one common reason is tied to afflictions impacting many elders.

“People with dementia don’t do well with new people coming in, and so their families just don’t use the program as much as we would like,” she said.

There have been those who have utilized the Caregiver Program to help care for their loved one as well as themselves though.

Hubert Hightower is the primary care giver for his wife, Jean, a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member who remains confined to their home in Oklahoma City.

“The good thing about the program is we get to choose a care giver, a niece of mine, for my wife. It’s just working great because she seems to like coming here and my wife really enjoys it,” said Hightower.

Prior to enrolling in the program, he explained that the challenge for his family was during the week when his four children were unable to assist due to their own work schedules.

Following an assessment by the CPN Title VI Elder Program, which oversees the caregivers, the Hightowers hired their niece to help. She stays with Jean for two hours a day, three days a week, allowing Hubert to run errands such as buying groceries. He’s also able to keep up with his own exercise regimen, where he walks about 25 minutes a day, doing part in part to stay in good enough shape to maintain his health.

Fleeman, a registered nurse who oversees the CPN Title VI Program, noted the importance of Hubert’s desire to stay active.

“Being a primary caregiver can be extremely stressful,” she said. “Very often they do not want to leave the loved one and might refuse efforts to give them relief. The prolonged stress can start to cause major medical problems for the caregiver.”

The list of afflictions for those caring for loved ones who are bed or home bound are extensive. They include back pain from lifting the person they are caring for and stress related symptoms like insomnia, headaches and high blood pressure. If these continue over the long term, the caregiver runs the risk of becoming a patient themselves.

The caregiving programs typically run about three months in duration, but can be reassessed and renewed. Alternatively, if the circumstances call, the family can be given more choices for respite care.

“‘Our goal is to give them the ability to take time for themselves whether it is for appointments, going to lunch with friends or whatever it is they need to recharge their batteries so they can fulfill their role as long as possible,’ said Fleeman.

When it comes to what the program actually entails, the Title VI Program has shaped the assessment, enrollment and implementation to meet the needs of each individual family. Once approved for a caregiver, that individual – which can be a friend or family member of the patient – the CPN Caregiver Program and the patient sign a contract that states the pay rate and what hours will be worked. Typically they call for four to six hours a week, which are logged by the caregiver on a time sheet. They then submit the time sheet to the CPN program, who then cuts a check directly to the caregiver.

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The caregivers typically take care of minor tasks around the house in addition to sitting with the patients, including small chores and making meals. As long as it is agreed upon in the initial contract, the tasks are up to the family and the caregiver.

On occasion Fleeman has had to counsel families that the program is not a home cleaning service or yard maintenance program, but is there primarily to provide a brief bit of respite for a family with a homebound member.

“‘You know, you’re kind of concerned to just hire someone to come in that you don’t know,’” explained Hubert Hightower. “‘So it’s just a great program in my opinion, because it allowed us to hire my niece, and that was the best part because my wife so enjoys seeing her.’

If you’d like to learn more about the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Caregiver Program, please contact the CPN Title VI Elder Program by calling 405-214-5111 or email program director Tami Fleeman at tfleeman@potawatomi.org.

An American bald eagle hatched at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Avariy in May to Kiche Gwich’ (he or she) and Zaapinem-nené (Charlie) will be released thanks to special authorization from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

The avairy staff recently confirmed the young eaglet was a boy, and he will be the first bald eagle to be hatched and released from a Native American tribal eagle avariy.

“We were able to send the hatched egg off for a DNA test to determine that it is a male,” said avairy manager Jennifer Randall. “Once he starts to maturate there will be other characteristics that help identify him as a male, but the DNA testing helps to confirm.”

This will be the second eagle released from the avairy. Wadasé and Zagéndem-nené, one of the first eight eagles to call the CPN Eagle Aviary home, were released in April 2013. Rob Domench from the Raptor View Research Institute equipped the eagles with a GPS device so that her travel and hunting progress can be monitored. The transmitter will allow CPN to follow the movements of the eagles and is a way to keep track of the eagle to make certain of her survival in the wild. CPN is the first Native American tribe to use a GPS device to track a rehabilitated eagle. The new eagle will be fitted with the same technology so that the avairy staff can monitor his progress.

“The eagles are warriors and messengers for the Nesmabe people,” said Randall. “It is an honor for us to care for the eagles here at the CPN. Although this eaglet came as quite a surprise, it is a blessing to our people to have the opportunity to be a part of hatching, raising and returning one to the wild.”

The avairy staff anticipates that the eagle will be released before fall.
FireLake Designs assists with new CHC exhibits

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center staff and CPN tribal members have been working diligently since the flood of 2014 to create an exhibit detailing Potawatomi life from pre-colonial times to now. The exhibit’s planning phase took place during that time, though most of the creation and installation occurred in the past year. Along with CHC staff and tribal members like CPN Graphic Designer Trey DeLonais and CPN Aviary Manager Jennifer Randell, FireLake Designs has played an integral part of the creation process.

CHC Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., told the Hownikan that the graphics and murals in the exhibits are from photographs and drawings in the CHC’s collections.

“Imagery is a really critical piece in the new exhibits because we wanted to take photographs we had of tribal members to incorporate people who were actually members of the tribe,” Mosteller said. “Having someone on site at the nation who can understand our vision has been important. Without having FireLake Designs here, this would be a much more complicated process and I don’t know if a lot of things we are doing mural-wise would have been possible.”

Mosteller explained that in the past exhibits, mannequins were used to express Potawatomi culture because of time and price constraints. “We wanted to go with murals and cutouts of actual tribal members’ images instead of the mannequins because we had the time and the resources to do so,” Mosteller said. “With the flood, it gave us this opportunity to move walls around and start with a fresh slate. We were able to build out more walls and approach this in a way that brought the history that we have here into the space.”

While experimenting with different materials and processes, FireLake Designs printed and cut artwork and text for images on various walls and objects with the help and direction of the CHC staff. According to FireLake Designs Director Lakisha Ade, some projects have been outside of the team’s normal scope of work, but they have enjoyed working on the projects and are proud of each piece they’ve helped create. The partnership has been mutually beneficial — stretching both teams to learn new skills.

Lead Graphic Artist Derek Johns credited the whole team at FireLake Designs — Sign and Banner Specialist Shawn Shackleford, Director Lakisha Meade, Sales Manager Jamie Sartin, Lead Sales Tracy Reynolds, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Midget, Screen Print Specialist Cass Merrell and Embroidery Specialist Monica Pickard — for their work with the CHC exhibits.

“We started the first section more than a year ago with the seven tall light boxes with water color animal paintings on each of them, along with the vinyl text that explains the Seven Fires Prophecies around each light box. It took four of us an entire day to get the graphics squeegeed onto the light boxes, and two people a few days to apply the vinyl cut lettering onto the walls around them,” Johns said. “I remember when we finished the first letter of this section and got to stand back in awe of what we had all just created together.”

Since then, the team has worked on a few large murals — even one on a curved wall — and several smaller graphics for the museum exhibits and veteran’s wall of honor.

“Working on the new CHC has been an amazing journey from a year ago, it’s hard to believe that our work is almost done,” Johns said. “Everything is turning out so beautiful and I can’t wait for all to see it.”

To learn more about the services and products offered by FireLake Designs, please visit http://firelakedesigns.com or stop by their storefront at 1109 S. Gordon Cooper Drive in Shawnee, Oklahoma.
CPN Legislative update: May and June 2017

Just following Festival, the full legislature met for its June 26, 2017 meeting. All members were present, and after the approval of the minutes, Education Director Tesa Zientek gave a presentation of her department’s work.

The legislators then approved a resolution approving applications for a community services block grant and the Lower Income Home and Energy Assistance Program, both from the Administration for Children and Families. They also approved a resolution supporting Executive Order 17-05 supporting the tribe’s homeland security grant program and its implementation at CPN. A National Park Service funding opportunity was also approved by a legislative resolution.

A proposal for the tribe’s Diabetes Grant – Year 21 program under the Indian Health Services was also approved.

Fee-to-trust applications to the BIA for trust acquisition for the Hollis property for non-gaming/reservation use was also approved.

In membership, 64 new tribal members were enrolled in the tribe.

On May 25, the CPN Tribal Legislature met with the exception of two Oklahoma-based legislators, District 11’s Lisa Kraft and District 13’s Bobbi Bowden, who were absent.

After approval of the minutes from the regular March 6, 2017 meeting and a special electronic meeting on May 8-9, 2017, legislators addressed an amendment to Title 51 of the Tribal Code. The ordinance will create the Potawatomi Language Proficiency Certification to Teach in Public Schools. A resolution approving an agreement between the tribe and Wannette Public Schools that establishes a Potawatomi language course as an elective for students there was also on the agenda, but legislators agreed to table both the amendment and resolution until the June 26, 2017 legislative meeting.

A repeal of all previously conflicting ordinances and enactments of the Tribal Code of 2017 so as to conform to the codification system was passed with all legislators voting affirmatively.

Several resolutions approving the tribe’s grant applications were passed, including one from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Native Americans’ 2017 Social and Economic Development Strategies Program, a separate grant for the department’s Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance Program and for its Native Youth Initiative for Leadership, Empowerment and Development program.

A grant funding application for the CPN Child Care Development Fund from the U.S. HHS’s Bureau of Indian Affairs 477 program was also approved.

The tribe’s membership, delegates and membership dues to the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas was approved by the legislature. Tonya Turnpaugh and David Bourbomais were appointed as the voting and alternate delegates respectively for CPN as members of the Inter-Tribal Agriculture Council.

Funding increases for the CPN Sanitation Facilities Construction Program for new and like-new homes through the Indian Health Service was approved by the legislature, while the tribe’s letter of intent to compact land, title and records office program from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs was also affirmed.

Legislators adopted an updated version of Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s tribal transportation and improvement program through the U.S. Federal Highway Administration.

Two fee-to-trust applications were approved by resolution, one for non-gaming use of the McPhetridge property while the other for non-gaming use of the Ella Mae Edgin Church property.

Two tribal citizens had voluntary relinquishments of citizenship, one from Alesha Ann Crisler, the other from Dallas Thomas Nolan, both which were approved by the legislators. In tribal membership, a resolution confirming the enrollment of 217 tribal members passed unanimously.

Housing program puts tribal members on the road to homes

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Housing Department has numerous programs and incentives to help CPN members across the U.S. and Native Americans living in its jurisdiction access housing. Programs include low income housing, down payment and closing cost assistance as well as the Home III Construction and Acquisition Program.

“We often hear from tribal members that they didn’t know about a program that might help with their housing needs,” said CPN Housing Department Home Ownership Manager Sherry Byers. “The truth is that we have many programs that might apply.”

One such endeavor is the Home Acquisition Program, funded partially through grant funds from the U.S. Department Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The program is available for those living in the tribal jurisdiction with a priority given to Citizen Potawatomi who meet the program’s guidelines. The acquisition program enables CPN tribal members to choose and purchase existing homes from the CPN Housing Department inventory.

There are specific guidelines for the program however.

Each applicant must meet the median income limit guidelines – calculated at 80 percent of national income - which is determined by family size. Qualified applicants are required to secure a mortgage through First National Bank & Trust of Shawnee, Oklahoma, which is wholly owned by Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Neither the applicant nor any household member that will reside on the property can be a convicted felon.

Once approved, eligible borrowers have access to financing up to a $20,000 buy-down grant that will be applied to the purchase price of the home. Each applicant must contribute at least one percent of their own funds toward this purchase.

“We currently have one home in McCloud, Oklahoma ready for purchase,” said Sherry Byers, CPN Housing Department Home Ownership Manager. “If the applicant has never used it before, our one time grant might also be available for use with the acquisition program.”

To learn more information, Byers encourages interested tribal members to contact her at the CPN Housing Department by email at sbyers@potawatomi.org or by phone at 405-273-2833.
Representatives Slavin, Car-

ideas out there for improving

for tribal office who made

humbled and thankful for

I want to say first that I am

serve as tribal chairman at an

our Potawatomi Nation, and

come and gone at Citizen

Bozho nikanek

val will have come and gone.

for the summer and the Festi-

baseball will be behind me

I am at the ball fields in the

(Hello),

Clyde Yates

The staff

of the public information

department, the CPN Eagle

Aviary, FireLake Designs

and the CHC have undertaken

enough of the work in our

heritage center, and I thank

them on behalf of all Citzen

Potawatomi for their efforts.

With the tribal legislators in

tow, we headed over to our

recently re-opened FireLake

Golf Course for its own rib-

bon cutting. Director Chris

Cheesser and his staff gave a

tour of the renovated course

and hosted us for a dinner

inside our magnificent new

club house. Many of our Fes-
tival attendees had a chance
to stop by the clubhouse to

look, while a few more de-
cided to play. Chris’ staff,

including Superintendent

Derron Day, have rebuilt our

1982 golf course into a great

one, and I am happy to say

that Potawatomi County’s

only public course is open to

play. You will be amazed at

the improvements.

Finally we cut the ribbon on

the historic Squirrel Creek

Rainbow Arch Bridge, with

CPN Roads Department Di-

rector Art Muller joining

our legislators to officially

re-open the county’s oldest

span. Located on Squirrel

Creek Road west of our prov-
grounds, the rainbow arch

bridge was once the main

connection point between

the towns of Shawnee and

tecumseh after it was built in

1917. The tribal roads de-

partment rehabilitated the

bridge and it is now open to

foot traffic for all.

Along with new buildings we

also had a few other changes

at Festival 2017. Many who

attended the powwow may

have noted the change in the

tentry of the colors before the

start of the dancing. In many

powwows across the U.S.,

the American and tribal flags

come into the arena first to

the sound of taps, where they

are presented and saluted.

Following that, the drums of

the powwow begin playing,

which is how our event will
generally begin each year.

You will be amazed at the

improvements.

I want to publically thank

all the candidates for local

tribal office who made the
effort to file and put their
ideass out there for improving
our tribe. Congratulations to
representatives Slavin, Car-
ney, Whistler and Boursaw

on their electoral victories,

I look forward working with
you all in the coming legisla-
tive session.

As great a celebration as our
day Festival is, it could not
be accomplished without

one of our most valuable re-

sources; our tribal employ-

ees. All tribal employees –

regardless of where they are

employed – work through
our Festival weekend so

that our tribal members can

take place as we opened a travel-

ving exhibit from the Smith-
sonian’s National Museum

of the American Indian that

documented the indigeneity

of Native American veterans

of the U.S. Armed Services.

CPN Cultural Heritage Cen-
ter Director Kelli Mosteller

Ph.D., also gave those of us

in attendance a sneak peek

at our soon-to-reopened

CHC museum exhibits,

some of which have been

chronicled in recent editions

of the Hownikan. The staff

of the CPN Cultural

Heritage Center was also at
the table. Phyllis trained other

people to fill her position, while
she resigned herself to the

idea of retirement.

Mrs. Williams, her supervi-
sor, told the Wamego Times
newspaper that, “I will miss
her wisdom, and hearing her
stories about how this building
has changed over the years.
She is so dedicated and hard
working.” Phyllis has three sons

and three daughters, including
Greg Riat, the Pottawatomie
County Sheriff in Kansas.

Congratulations to Phyl-

lis!!

I hope to see some of you at
Walpole Island in Canada the
first week in August. Mean-
while, may the Lord bless
and keep you until we meet

again.

Migwech

(Thank you),

John “Rocky” Barrett

Keweego

(He Leads Them Home)

Tribal Chairman

JULY 2017
District 1 - Roy Slavin

Memorial Day for the past four years the CPN Color Guard has attended the massing of colors in Topeka, Kansas. This is quite an event. Many units, girl scouts, boy scouts, veterans (VFW – American legions, Native American (CPN and the Prairie Band Potawatomi) gather at the old train station to present their colors. The event is attended by many dignitaries including Kansas Governor Sam Brownback.

It is to honor those who have given all in defense of their country. It makes this old soldier feel good to honor those who have served. I have attached a picture of our color guard at the event left to right is Lyman Bour- saw, John Boursway, myself and a friend, Paul McQuire. Very near the end of their journey. I have attached a picture of the folks on this journey standing behind the marker, pictured are Rich Meyer, Katerina Friesen, Da- vid Stoeber, Julia Schmidt, Grant Swanson, Greg Clark, Ric Hudgens, Cynthia Coyle Friesen, Kevin Driedger, Les Gustafson, George Godfrey, Bryan Miller. (though not in this order).

As always, thank you for allowing me to be of service.

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

District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

Powell’s City of Books – I’m looking forward to adding to our CPN library directory (visit there); and barbecue of all types!

I’m writing this in early June so don’t yet have thoughts to share on this year’s Festival. Due to print deadlines I was unable to include them in this edition, but will have a full report in July’s column.

I just returned from the bluegrass festival and particularly appreciated the astounded musicianship of the dobro-and guitar-playing duo, Rob Lackey and Trey Hensley; you can find out more at www.robandtrey.com.

I’ll update you on any additions to the CPN library in a future Hownikan column.

As for barbecue, I think the best sauce I’ve had is made with Anne Ziegler’s recipe. Anne is the mother of tribal members Lee, Lowell, Buffie and Rosanah, and the wife of Numat (Carl Ziegler); I had the privilege of naming Numat some years back near their home in North Carolina and enjoying some of Anne’s cooking then. Anne’s barbecue sauce recipe is included in this column and also is printed in the recipe book I put together in 2013 from contributions of Citizen Potawatomi. You can reprint the book, or just a specific recipe, by visiting my website (under the Heritage tab), or by clicking here: http://tinyurl.com/CPNCookbook.

Photo from May Naming: Hownikan space was tight for the June edition; there wasn’t room for the photo I’d wanted included of De- lores Casey/Mno bsentage-kwe (Toupin family), during her (and others’) naming cer- emony at the Wards’ home in Benton, Arkansas. Here it is – with best wishes to Delores and all of her family who attended the ceremony with her.

Fall Feast and NMAI Ar- chives Trip: Please make plans to attend the District 2 Fall Feast on Saturday, No- vember 11, 2017, in Arling- ton, Virginia, at the Church Hall where we’ve met for the last few years. All details are on my website calendar page; I promise that it will be a great time! And spaces remain for the guided tour of the Archives of the National Museum of the American Indian. The date is Friday, De- cember 1, 2017. Details for the tour, and lunch (my treat) before the tour, likewise are on my website calendar page; please reserve your spot today.

Contact Me, Please: Gk-kemmen ne? Do I know you? Please contact me if you need any assistance, have a question or just to say hello. It is important that I know who I represent, but it’s up to you to let me know you are a Potawatomi living in District 2 (the CPN Trib- al Administration does not share citizens’ details with us legislators). If you reach out to me, I’ll keep you in- formed by occasional email and Facebook postings and do my best to answer your questions and represent your interests. All my contact de- tails are below. I’d sure ap- preciate hearing from you if I haven’t already!

Migwetch/thank you for reading this. My best for a lovely rest of summer. I deeply appreciate the honor of representing you.

Kind regards and bama pi (until later), Eva Marie Carney Ojindiskwe Legislator, District 2 2200 North George Mason Drive #7307 Arlington, VA 22207 evamariecarney.com

Bocho nikan (Hello friend),

You will be reading this artic- le in July after Festival. As you may know my legislative term ended and I was unop- posed so I was sworn in for another four years as District 1’s legislator during Festival. Thank you!

Memorial Day has just passed as I write this, and I mention this because each

Bocho nikanek (Hello friends),

Sharing Summer Experi- ences and Recipes: These days, the top four things I think of when I think summer are our CPN Family Reunion Festival; The Graves Moun- tain Festival of (Bluegrass) Music, in Syrva, Virginia, held each early summer in the Virginia Blue Ridge; our family’s annual reunion in a city we choose somewhere in the U.S. (this year we are off to Portland, Oregon, home of

Anne’s (North Carolina) BBQ Sauce

Recipe: The CPN Color Guard at the Kansas Memorial Day celebration.

There were many, many oth- er units in attendance that are not yet in the picture.

On another note, my wife Julia and I were honored with a request to meet with a group of folks who were following the path our an- cestors followed during the Removal. There is a marker in Heritage Park commemo- rating the journey in the far south part of Kansas City

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Migwetch/thank you for reading this. My best for
For many of us who routinely use a computer daily, we have needed to be on guard against a surge in exposure to a virus or malware.

I have had that sudden shock when my computer all of a sudden has a message on the screen saying, “your computer is infected. You need to call our 800 number for help. Please be aware that all of your banking and credit card information may be compromised unless you contact us immediately.”

Yes, I have had these messages. I don’t go into a panic. Nor do I call them because all they really want is to gain more access to what is on your computer. Do not under any circumstances call the 800 number, let alone allow them to get onto your computer remotely to supposedly “repair the virus.” Doing this will give them access they will plant a mole that can get into banking and/or credit card areas. Their message states that you are calling Microsoft, but that is a lie. You are calling a hacker who is going to do more harm and will not be helping you or your situation!

You may also have seen on the television news there is a malware program that may have been created by North Korea that will lock up your computer. Should this happen they demand a $300 payment to pr00ntin to unlock your machine.

There are things that you can do to protect your computer from getting into this kind of situation. First and foremost you need to have an anti-virus program. If you use Windows 10 just be sure that you have gone on-line and have downloaded their latest updates. If you are not using the anti-virus programs such as Norton, then be sure you have the antivirus program that is built into Windows 10 activated. It is called Windows Defender. If you are using Windows XP, Microsoft discontinued support for this program several years ago and you need to update your computer to Windows 10.

Getting the latest update to Windows 10 should initially protect you from the ransom virus program. For malware, there are other options. I use a program called Malwarebytes 3. I downloaded the program to my computer and keep the link icon on my computer screen. They offer a free version, and a premium edition for a fee. The free version won’t block malware but will remove it and should be sufficient for most users. All you need to do is just update the program before you start the scan.

When I get that nasty warning that my computer is infected with a virus or malware, there is no panic. I simply sign out of my Internet browser and open and run the scan that is built into Malwarebytes 3. If after the scan, it shows any issues were identified, the program will allow me to quarantine them. After I do this, it is back to my browser to get to email or whatever else I was going to work on.

The Malwarebytes 3 program is free as well as several free antivirus programs, all of which can be downloaded. Just go to www.mninite.com and download the programs that you feel will help you not only fight unwanted programs, but may help you to be more secure.

Some number of audio/video programs, pdf readers, etc. All of them are initially free for about 30 days. Some are free with no trial period. I hope this information is useful to some of you, and saves you from having an anxious moment when it looks like you may have a virus or malware issue. Most of the time a user of Windows 10 should initially protect you from the ransom virus program.

If you are using Windows 10 activated. It is a virus program that is built into the program to my computer. There are other options. I use a program called Malwarebytes 3. I downloaded the program to my computer and keep the link icon on my computer screen. They offer a free version, and a premium edition for a fee. The free version won’t block malware but will remove it and should be sufficient for most users. All you need to do is just update the program before you start the scan.

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Some number of audio/video programs, pdf readers, etc. All of them are initially free for about 30 days. Some are free with no trial period. I hope this information is useful to some of you, and saves you from having an anxious moment when it looks like you may have a virus or malware issue. Most of the time
are on July 4, while the month also contains the birthdays of my brother Charles Lambert, sister Rexann Caudle, daughter Robyn Hutchison and many aunts, uncles and cousins. It is indeed a month to remember in our family. Patriotism has always been a strong base for me. It also means half of 2017 has disappeared.

I always wanted red, white and blue regalia and last year Joy Esch (Navarre) presented exactly that to me. Maybe some of you saw me dance the colors last year.

I could not believe someone, anyone, would go to all that work and present it as a surprise. I will dance in it again this year. Thank you again Joy. You are one of our very special people.

The common thread creating all these celebrations is what this country stands for. May we lose sight with all the celebrations. During Christmas some are so caught up in the gifts they need little reminders of what it’s about. The Declaration of Independence and the holiday celebrating it, the Fourth of July, stands for freedom.

The freedom we all enjoy without thinking about it.

We assume,

You know what that happens when we assume...

Wars have been fought and lives lost to protect that freedom. The sacrifices families have made losing a loved one in the military, regardless of which war.

We celebrate that approximately 1.3 million serve in the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty and more than 800,000 serve in the reserves who continue the ongoing battle in maintaining that right of freedom.

In WWII 416,800 American lives were given so we could be free. It is my understanding that during a meeting in New York (held every year) there were 860 WWII prisoners of war still with us, and we thank God for them. Imagine what they have seen in their life time.

We as Native Americans have not always had that right of freedom. There are times it is still questionable. We too have fought for what we have and to maintain our integrity as a people.

Through this declaration “all men are created equal,” we have come through with our culture intact.

You will be proud to know that during the military battles of the United States of America and the mistreatment of our people, Native Americans still outranked all other races in terms of the percentage serving per capita in the military.

Now that’s true class and culture.

District 6 - Rande K. Payne

Each year our CPN graduates are recognized in the May and December Hownikan, but on occasion some miss the paper’s deadline. I want to recognize a recent District 6 graduate, Victoria Ann Correll who graduated with a B.S. in Zoology from the University of California – Santa Barbara. Congratulations to Victoria and all the CPN graduates in 2017!

At the March 6, 2017 Legislative session, Resolution 17-40-RG was passed allowing for redistricting needed for conformity with our tribal constitution. This is an excerpt from that resolution.

“WHEREAS, Article 12, Section 6 of the Constitution of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation states that “appropriation of the Legislative Districts and any boundary changes necessary to reflect reapportionment shall occur every ten (10) years, after the initial reapportionment and boundary descriptions set by appropriate legislation …”; and

WHEREAS, Article 7, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation further states that Legislative Districts shall be equally apportioned within 30% by population; and

WHEREAS, due to shifts in tribal population since the district apportionment done in 2007, the district populations no longer meet the 30% threshold.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION, that a resolution to reapportion the tribal Legislative Districts as presented in Attachment A, to become effective on July 1, 2017, HEREBY APPROVED.”

Space is prohibitive of providing the new district map in my column but there is one on page 2 of this Hownikan. However, with regards to District 6 I would like to welcome tribal members from the State of Hawaii and the southern half of the State of Utah! I’m looking forward to meeting many of you in the near future!

I saw many of you at Family Reunion Festival this year, but for those who I may have missed, my contact information is below. I would greatly appreciate hearing from you!

Wisdom from the Word: “Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” Psalm 103: 5

Bama pi

Rande K. Payne
Legislator District 6
31150 Road 180
Visalia, CA 93292-9585
(559) 999-3525 office
(559) 999-5411 cell
rande.payne@potawatomi.org

District 5 - Gene Lambert

Bozho nikanek (Hello my friends),

Summer is upon us and I would like to wish everyone a great summer season. Summer is the season of the southern direction. Summer is also the season of youth. Is it any wonder that children enjoy summer so much? It’s their season and here I always thought it was because of summer vacation!

Bozho (Hello),

This is the month of “Independence Day,” or should I say the Declaration of Independence. June established “Flag Day,” July is noted for many things so this is a big one!

No matter how you look at it we are celebrating with barbecues, picnics, fireworks and flags flying with the red, white and blue.

For me it is all that and more. It seems I have birthdays to think about, far more birthdays than the norm. The country’s birthday and mine is also the season of youth.

Bozho nikanek

Hello my friends,

18 JULY 2017
June has come and gone and another successful Family Reunion Festival. If you didn’t attend this year, find the time in the future and join us in Shawnee over the last weekend in June, and spend time getting to know your heritage, and share your family’s stories with the rest of your relations when they all gather together. One way to make sure your family’s stories are preserved is to leave items of historical importance in the care of the tribe’s cultural heritage center in Shawnee. My father was the keeper of the fire for the family, before his passing he made arrangements to transfer most of the historical items that had been passed down to him by his father, to the CHC. One of the most important was the stamper trunk his father David P. Johnson was given at Carlisle when he was sent there to school. In a book he wrote about his father, he recounted the story of the trunk.

“One day in October, 1957, before going to work, I drove by my father’s home to see how he was doing and soon realized that he was near his journey’s end. My father accepted my hand and said for me to go to work, but would I take his old trunk and share its contents with others. He said ‘there’s something for everyone.’ With those few words and receiving my response that I would do what he requested, he said for me to go on to work, he would be just fine. Later that night, I received a call from a family member that his journey had ended.

“His trunk was void of silver or gold, but contained a fortune in information concerning events covering a lifetime of accomplishments, good and bad. David was one of those hardy individuals who lived during the early development and growth of this great nation. For us to reflect on the period covered by events of the time, we must have a time capsule of information or an old trunk whose voice we now can hear through the written text of many contributors.”

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 8 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.

District 7 - Mark Johnson

Bozho nikanek,
(Hello friends)

On June 3 we had our regional meeting at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, Washington. It was well attended and everyone was very pleased to see Tribal Chairman Barrett. It was amazing that he knew so many of our District 8 members by sight.

As the chairman was speaking he broke from his topic and commented on the beauty of our District 8 area.

“Ya’ll have trees growing everywhere – growing spontaneously by the side of the freeway...if just one of those trees was in Shawnee, Oklahoma it would be called the big tree!”, he said. “Folks would say, ‘let’s meet under the big tree’. Funny and true – and of course this comment was met with laughter.”

Topics for discussion were the state of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, an overview of tribal history, benefits and culture, ceremony and traditions. Several members later commented to me that they always learn a great deal when Rocky or Linda come out to the districts.

As is the Potawatomi tradition, the chairman went to make the presentation of prizes to the wisest, youngest and farthest travelled and we both discovered that neither had brought them! Not to worry – the prizes were in the hands of the winners by the end of the following week.

Our wisest member in attendance was 87 years young Warren Morris from Longview, Washington – just beating Lenora Vermilyea of Tillamook, Oregon.

The youngest enrolled member was the adorable George Mitchell Fuller (18 months old) of Gresham, Oregon. Several members competed for farthest travelled, but the winner was Lora Leedy of Muirteo, Washington.

I am already planning our “Fall Feast” in Seattle and the date will be November 11. Please mark your calendars.

Chairman Barrett with wisest, Warren Morris.

Youngest, George Mitchell Fuller, with Chairman Barrett.

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Youngest, George Mitchell Fuller, with Chairman Barrett.

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(Hello friends)

June has come and gone and another successful Family Reunion Festival. If you didn’t attend this year, find the time in the future and join us in Shawnee over the last weekend in June, and spend time getting to know your heritage, and share your family’s stories with the rest of your relations when they all gather together. One way to make sure your family’s stories are preserved is to leave items of historical importance in the care of the tribe’s cultural heritage center in Shawnee. My father was the keeper of the fire for the family, before his passing he made arrangements to transfer most of the historical items that had been passed down to him by his father, to the CHC. One of the most important was the stamper trunk his father David P. Johnson was given at Carlisle when he was sent there to school. In a book he wrote about his father, he recounted the story of the trunk.

“One day in October, 1957, before going to work, I drove by my father’s home to see how he was doing and soon realized that he was near his journey’s end. My father accepted my hand and said for me to go to work, but would I take his old trunk and share its contents with others. He said ‘there’s something for everyone.’ With those few words and receiving my response that I would do what he requested, he said for me to go on to work, he would be just fine. Later that night, I received a call from a family member that his journey had ended.

“His trunk was void of silver or gold, but contained a fortune in information concerning events covering a lifetime of accomplishments, good and bad. David was one of those hardy individuals who lived during the early development and growth of this great nation. For us to reflect on the period covered by events of the time, we must have a time capsule of information or an old trunk whose voice we now can hear through the written text of many contributors.”

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 8 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.

District 7 - Mark Johnson

Bozho nikanek,
(Hello friends)

On June 3 we had our regional meeting at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, Washington. It was well attended and everyone was very pleased to see Tribal Chairman Barrett. It was amazing that he knew so many of our District 8 members by sight.

As the chairman was speaking he broke from his topic and commented on the beauty of our District 8 area.

“Ya’ll have trees growing everywhere – growing spontaneously by the side of the freeway...if just one of those trees was in Shawnee, Oklahoma it would be called the big tree!”, he said. “Folks would say, ‘let’s meet under the big tree’. Funny and true – and of course this comment was met with laughter.”

Topics for discussion were the state of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, an overview of tribal history, benefits and culture, ceremony and traditions. Several members later commented to me that they always learn a great deal when Rocky or Linda come out to the districts.

As is the Potawatomi tradition, the chairman went to make the presentation of prizes to the wisest, youngest and farthest travelled and we both discovered that neither had brought them! Not to worry – the prizes were in the hands of the winners by the end of the following week.

Our wisest member in attendance was 87 years young Warren Morris from Longview, Washington – just beating Lenora Vermilyea of Tillamook, Oregon.

The youngest enrolled member was the adorable George Mitchell Fuller (18 months old) of Gresham, Oregon. Several members competed for farthest travelled, but the winner was Lora Leedy of Muirteo, Washington.

I am already planning our “Fall Feast” in Seattle and the date will be November 11. Please mark your calendars.

Chairman Barrett with wisest, Warren Morris.

Youngest, George Mitchell Fuller, with Chairman Barrett.


**WALKING ON**

David W. Orr

David W. Orr, 64, passed away May 25, 2017 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

David was a retired machinist and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Services were held May 30, 2017 at Dillon Marler Dighton Funeral Home’s Legacy Chapel in Sand Springs, Oklahoma.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email cclark@potawatomi.org.

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**Stanley G. Brown**

Stanley G. Brown, 73, of Lawrence, Kansas, whose tribal name was “Gishek,” went to his heavenly home on May 15, 2017 with family by his side.

He was born December 28, 1943 in Topeka, Kansas to William “Kise” and Mary Evelyn (Ice) Brown. As a child and into adulthood, he was very much involved in baseball, even being named after “Stan-the-man” Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals. He had several jobs as a teen and young adult, finally working in the maintenance industry at the dairy for 20 years. He worked part-time for six years delivering medicine for a local pharmacy, only to retire once again a few months before his passing.

Services were held May 22, 2017, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Lawrence, Kansas. He was preceded in death by his parents and youngest brother, Edward Brown. He is survived by his wife, Felicia; daughter, Saundra Wagner, and husband Mike, and granddaughter, Michaela, of Pittsburg, Kansas; brother Rich Brown; sister Mary Frances Riner, and husband Michael, both of Lawrence, Kansas; four nieces; one nephew, two great nieces, one great nephew, and one great-great niece.

Stan was proud of his Native American Heritage and requested in lieu of flowers, that donations be made to the CPN Eagle Aviary. He was a good man who will be remembered and missed by many.

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**John Edward Feliciano**

John Edward Feliciano was born on Sept. 15, 1953 in San Jose, California. He died on April 1, 2017.

John joined the US Marine Corps Reserves in 1970. He attained the rank of Lance Corporal. He earned six medals as a marksman with rifles and pistols. John married his only love, Jacqueline Stidman, on Dec. 23, 1972. Together they had two children, a succession of dogs and a menagerie of cats.

John was a hard worker from the age of 16 when he began taking day jobs through the Teamsters union. He played a major role in his father's plastering company until his father suffered a tragic accident. In 2005, John was placed on disability after both his shoulders were replaced. Retirement was hard for John. He kept busy restoring and building furniture until leg problems made it difficult for him to stand. Then he cared for his infant grandchildren as they arrived.

John was always ready to help anyone with just about anything. He was an expert at packing a truck and moving an entire household. We asked him to do this too many times. He did woodworking, plastered a pool for an uncle, did anything his grandfather asked and maintained his mother’s home. He was knowledgeable about cars, landscaping, home improvements and more. He willingly shared his knowledge (and his tools) with anyone in need.

Although highly proud of his Native American heritage, he was a cowboy through and through; most comfortable in his hat and boots. For special occasions, he would wear his beloved black leather vest.

John is survived by his mother: Nancy Tarter; his wife, Jennifer and John Joseph; two children-in-law; four grandchildren and three siblings.

Most of us have never known a time without him. His walk-on will be deeply felt. Semper Fi.

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**Tony Dal Stephens**

Tony Dal Stephens, age 55, of Midwest City, Oklahoma, passed away on May 10, 2017 at the age of 89.

Bevery Lawrence Dodd passed away on May 10, 2017 at the age of 89.

Beverly served in the U.S. Army for 32 years and retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4. Although he lived in Frisco, Texas for the last few years of his life, he loved El Paso. After returning from several overseas and domestic assignments, Beverly and his family always returned to El Paso and he and his loving wife Bessie retired there.

Beverly and Bessie, who met in Germany when they both served with the occupation forces, were married one month shy of 70 years.

He is survived by his wife: Bessie; sons: Darrell and Valor; grandchil- dren: Darren and Daniel.

He was preceded in death by his son: Larry, who lost his life in Vietnam.

Beverly was buried at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery with full military honors. He will be missed by his family and all who knew him.

Beverly Lawrence Dodd

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**CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls**

The $2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email cclark@potawatomi.org.

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**Submitting obituaries**

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with no more than 300 words, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to:

hownikan@potawatomi.org

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