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Mkogisos | February 2021

Top photo: Potawatomi birchwood basket on display at CPN's Cultural Heritage Center.

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Walking on



Keeping it ultra-cold: CPNHS rolls out COVID-19 vaccines

One arm at a time.

One shot at a time.

Within days of emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services began receiving and administering vaccines to combat the coronavirus in central Oklahoma.

Along with the other self-governance tribes across Oklahoma, CPNHS opted to get its primary vaccine doses through the Indian Health Service rather than through the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

CPNHS Chief Medical Officer Dr. Adam Vascellaro said the decision to go through IHS was deliberate. This move increases the chances of both the Tribe and its pandemic vaccination partner, the Pottawatomie County Health Department, having dual distributor access to the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine for the populations they serve.

"There's twice the chance we'd get the vaccine out in our rural locations versus us all relying on the same supply chain."

"Plus, with both ourselves and the state health department using the same Pfizer ultra-cold vaccine, if someone got their first dose here and we ran out, they could get their second dose from the state's lot or vice versa. Our stocks are complementary."

For the initial phase, IHS received 46,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine and 22,400 doses of the Pfizer vaccine nationwide. Originally, IHS was not slated to receive additional funds to cover costs associated with administering them. However, as part of a \$900 billion CARES Act bill signed into law in late December, IHS and other entities will share \$8 billion specifically earmarked for vaccine distribution expenses. An exact money allocation breakdown was not available on deadline.

The IHS Oklahoma City Service Area, which along with all of Oklahoma includes Kansas and part of Texas, received 5,850 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and 8,900 doses of the Moderna vaccine.

Combined, Citizen Potawatomi Nation's East and West clinics received about 400 doses of the Oklahoma City Service Area's first allocation of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. As of Jan. 29, CPNHS alone has administered approximately 3,000 first and second doses.

With IHS relying on a wheel and spoke model for distribution, CPN's



Gary Jeffers gets his first shot during a COVID-19 vaccine drive.

clinics are also serving a distribution hub for several other Oklahoma tribes and some in Kansas and Texas. The two clinics began receiving the vaccine in mid-December, with an initial 2,000 doses passing through on their way to other tribal facilities.

Although both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two doses, they are not interchangeable. Someone who receives an initial dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has to receive a second dose of the same medication in order for it to be as effective as advertised.

First to receive Food and Drug Administration approval, Pfizer-BioNTech's vaccine presents an additional logistical challenge. To remain potent, it requires storage at around -70 degrees below 0 Fahrenheit or lower and should not be thawed and kept in a refrigerator for more than five days before administering. Doses are not given at sub-freezing temperatures, but they can only stay reconstituted at room temperature for six hours before having to be wasted.

However, for health care providers, that means either procuring plenty of dry ice or expensive ultra-cold freezers in order to keep the vaccine sufficiently chilled until it is time to administer the doses.

The Tribe used some of its CARES Act money to invest in three full-sized and one portable ultra-cold freezers in order to be among the first in the state to receive the Pfizer vaccine. Combined, the four freezers have enough space for about 400,000 doses — more than enough to meet the needs of CPNHS but also act as a hub for OCA IHS and the Pottawatomie County Health Department with storage capacity.

Captain Brian Wren is the pharmacy and lab contact for OCA IHS. He said his agency's partnership with

CPNHS has been a key component in IHS' vaccine rollout efforts.

"The robust capacity within this health system for ultra-cold vaccine storage allows us to have greater flexibility among our sites," said Brian Wren, Doctor of pharmacy, CHC Area Pharmacy & Lab consultant/AVPOC, OCA IHS. "It allows us to move vaccine to our other sites from the central hub. So essentially this collaboration has allowed us to be more efficient with our distribution processes and reach more individuals with vaccine much more quickly."

Health care providers and Tribal elders were among the first to receive vaccinations from the doses allocated to CPNHS. Senior housing residents and long-term care and senior housing residents also obtained priority consideration for vaccine access.

Additionally, the Nation spread early doses across multiple essential departments within the Tribe in order to maintain operations in the event of a worsening outbreak or natural disaster. Among the departments with a handful of employees getting vaccinated early on include information technology, electrical, emergency management, law enforcement, first responders and Pottawatomie County Rural Water District No. 3, which the Tribe owns and operates.

"Our clinics are in rural Oklahoma," Dr. Vascellaro said. "Occasionally the power goes out. Occasionally the water goes out. Occasionally the heat goes out. Occasionally the air conditioning goes out. Occasional the internet goes out. On top of our augmented work flow but still significant normal clinic functions, I've got hard working, dedicated medical providers, nurses, lab techs and others working outside in the COVID-19 tents

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Growth through the ashes of disaster

By Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation

There is something awe-inspiring about “triumph over tragedy” successes. We all love a gripping story, with spellbinding turns and twists. Give me a plot that starts well, almost ends in disaster and suddenly triumphs overall. This sounds like a fairy tale, and we all know that fairy tales aren't real. Or are they? Native business owners Dwight and Darcee Yancey with Shawnee Cleaners & Linen have such a story. A tale so dark and soot-filled that it seemed for a moment they might not recover — a tale that grows through the ashes of disaster into a remarkable business success.

It all began over 30 years ago in the quaint little city of Shawnee, Oklahoma, with the purchase of three laundromats. Dwight previously worked in the soft drink profession when the opportunity came to purchase a dry cleaner/laundromat business. He jumped at the chance, changed careers and started his life as an entrepreneur. Things went pretty well until about 10 years ago when his business caught fire, destroying his hard work and shutting down his laundromat.

He found himself on a Sunday afternoon contemplating what to do when he called the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation and requested for a special meeting that very day. When asked by our staff, “Why on a Sunday?” Dwight replied, “Well if you turn me down on a Sunday, I don't feel as bad as if you turned me down on Monday.”

He explained all the things that were happening at the time with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation expanding its hotel and other enterprises and the need for his services in that process. One thing led to another, and soon he found himself in a meeting with lenders and those in positions to help him rebuild his business.



Dwight Yancey used financial and business planning support from the CPCDC to expand commercial operations of Shawnee Cleaners.

Dwight purchased a former nursery and remodeled it to fit the needs of a dry cleaner and linen plant. As Dwight told his story, he talked of his children who help in the day-to-day operations, how he depends on his employees and how important his business is to him.

“It's family-owned,” he said. “We've been doing it a long time. We started with three employees across the street. We're now up to 18. It's good for the community. It's something it needs. I like it, and with the help of the Citizen Potawatomi CDC, we've expanded pretty handily in the last four to five years. And it makes the process so much easier to expand because (the CPCDC) listen to some crazy ideas, which sometimes work out.”

It took around six to eight months for Shawnee Cleaners & Linen to reopen their doors after the disastrous event. Throughout the last few years, things have begun looking up for the Yancey family, and in December of 2019, they opened two new locations, expanding to three across two cities.

Since starting over, Shawnee Cleaners & Linen has reestablished its place in the community in a big way.

“Seeing those faces come again and again, it makes you feel good — you feel like you're part of them,” Dwight said. “I'm proud to be in this community. We're trying to keep everybody here locally instead of going to Oklahoma City. We have a nice facility, centrally located, and we've updated equipment over the last five or six years. I'd put our plant with any plant in Oklahoma City. We do a great job, and we have a very experienced staff.”

The CPCDC is honored to be a part of this success story. We have been delighted to watch Dwight and Darcee's business expand through the years.

“With the CPCDC, they listen to you and make sense out of my wild ideas, and they don't mind if things don't make sense,” he said. “They'll listen to some wild ideas as long as it makes sense in the long term. A regular bank, they would probably throw you out. So (the CPCDC) are willing

to sit down and listen and guide you through the procedure and get it to make sense, where the numbers all make sense. ... They make the procedure really easy.”

As the interview came to a close, we asked how things might have been different without the CPCDC to help out. Dwight said, “I don't think I'd ever left that building over there because banks just will not take the chance on a startup business. ... I just don't think it ever would've happened because it was not a cookie-cutter deal to hand to a bank and going, ‘Sure, it's a gold mine.’ It was really an unusual procedure. This was a nursery, so we had to basically gut the building and made it a cleaners. So other than that, it took a long time. You had to think outside the box to make this a cleaners.”

Stop by and visit Shawnee Cleaners & Linen at any of their locations to experience excellence dry-cleaning service:

Shawnee North
1049 Vision Blvd.
Shawnee, OK 74804
405-585-2992

Shawnee South
704 E Independence Street
Shawnee, OK 74804
405-878-8641

Tecumseh Cleaners
701 N Broadway
Tecumseh, OK 74873
405-878-8641

The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation finances tribal enterprises and Native American-owned businesses like Shawnee Cleaners & Linen across Oklahoma and the U.S. The CPCDC is here to help plant seeds for a brighter future. To find out more about how we can assist your Native-owned business, call us today 405-878-4697, or visit us at cpcdc.org. ♡

40 Under 40 award recipient continues to expand industry during pandemic

Some college friends taking a wine tasting class eventually led to a Citizen Potawatomi woman earning national recognition for her work in the hospitality industry.

The Connect Association, which recognizes event and meeting planners nationwide, recently named CPN member and Anderson family descendant Kristen Vencl as one of its 40 Under 40 for 2020.

Thanks to the pandemic, the Connect Association postponed its awards ceremony scheduled to be held in Orlando, Florida, and instead moved the event online. However, that did not diminish the importance of the accolade to Vencl.

“Receiving the award was an honor just based on the amount of time, relationship building I've done since being in the industry,” she said. “This whole hospitality business is all about people. When you can't see or meet with people, it makes it more challenging.

“It's been an interesting year to be in the hospitality industry, and I

think that's made everyone get more creative and think of other ways to make those personal connections.”

In her role as the national sales manager for the Tulsa Convention and Visitors Bureau, Vencl helped figure out ways to show professional organizations and associations from all over the world why they should bring their events to northeastern Oklahoma once the pandemic is over and mass gatherings are safe again.

With in-person meals, trips to Tulsa landmarks and other pre-coronavirus promotional standards not safe or feasible for most of 2020, Vencl turned to the web instead. Working in conjunction with local hotel managers and restaurateurs, she put together virtual tours and condensed what would normally be a three or four day trip into an hour.

“Obviously, they don't get the full aspect of getting to see, smell, taste the food ... but they get an idea,” Vencl said. “When it's safe, they can come



Kristen Vencl receives prestigious accolade for her professional career. (Photo provided by Adam Murphy)

experience it and might have a better idea of what they want to go and do.

“It (virtual tours) has given us the chance to get in front of some planners who wouldn't normally consider Tulsa or Oklahoma, for that matter. We might

have some opportunities in the future that we might not have had before.”

Vencl fell in love with the hospitality industry while an undergraduate at Oklahoma State University. Initially an accounting major, she did not know hotel and restaurant management was a degree option until some friends mentioned they were taking a wine tasting class.

“I like people too much to be behind a desk,” she said with a chuckle. “When some friends said they were taking a wine tasting class, I was intrigued.”

In the 15 years since completing her degree, Vencl has worked across Oklahoma, including stops in the Enid and Tulsa areas, building connections throughout the hospitality industry and with professional organizations looking for convention sites. She credits those relationships with making it easier not only to move among markets but to stay in it during tough times like those brought on by the pandemic.

“It's been such a fun group to be with,” she said. ♡

Shop with a Cop brings together community, law enforcement

In early December, kids, guardians and law enforcement gathered at the Shawnee, Oklahoma, Walmart for Christmas cheer at the end of a very long and challenging year. The annual Shop with a Cop event gives children in need the chance to pick out gifts with a member of area police forces, including Citizen Potawatomi Nation officers. The event's organizer, Kenny Williams, looks forward to it every year.

"I think it's a great environment for the kids to get to see the police officers in ... and get to realize that, 'Hey, they really are our friends; they're here to help us.' And gives them that opportunity to build that bond as well as provide them a Christmas that most of those kids probably would not get anything had it not been for the community of Shawnee pitching in like they do," he said.

In 2020, Shop with a Cop raised more than \$13,500 with the help of 16 organizations, including Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Junior Service League of Shawnee, Shawnee Community Foundation and many local businesses and entrepreneurs. The generous donations provided enough to give more than 130 participants from various local community organizations a \$100 Walmart gift card to spend as they wished.

"We're grateful for what (CPN) did," Williams said. "They helped a lot of kids. ... They were one of the very biggest contributors, so we appreciate that greatly."

The event collected more money than ever before, which allowed it to help a record number of families since Shop with a Cop began in the area more than 10 years ago.

"I thought it was going to be just the opposite — there'd be more kids in need, and I'd have less funds available. And it was just the opposite this year. We were able to



CPN officer Orrin Beckham starts the evening shopping with the Napoleon family.

raise even more funds. ... I know a lot of people have gone without," Williams said.

Officers in a new light

Two Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Department officers attended, along with 26 others across seven local departments. Officer Orrin Beckham joined the Tribe's force in January 2020. He and his family previously lived in Texas, and his sons received the opportunity to shop as participants.

"It's close to home," Beckham said.

"Just to get out and help families do some shopping for Christmas, helping the younger generations is always enjoyable for me."

Many officers immediately thanked Williams for hosting Shop with a Cop as they picked out toys or went to the register. He also woke up to emails of gratitude the next day.

"I bet I had at least a dozen or so of them come up to me and just tell me how important they feel them being there is. Just because they realize what environment a lot of times some of these children see them in, and it kind of puts them in a negative view in that child's eyes," he said.

Lining the aisles

As everyone waited patiently for their turn to look at toys with an officer, Williams took his megaphone and asked, "Who's ready to shop with a cop?" followed by a round of applause and cheering. He makes a point of meeting everyone, usually as groups check out, and ensures they had a good time.

"There's a lot of toys I want to just hop right in and play with them," he said. "I seen the Nerf gun, and I seen a Wii come through, and I was like, 'Shoot. I think I want to go home and

play with you all for the evening.' ... I'm still just a big ol' kid at heart."

Many participants buy items strictly for fun, but Williams has also noticed underwear, socks and toothbrushes fill some baskets since he took over the Shawnee event in 2013.

"When you see them actually buying stuff that they need and not want, that's the ones that you just kind of sit there and realize how blessed you are that you've got a roof over your head and food in your belly and clothes on your back," he said.

Williams also makes a point of teaching the participants how to "pay it forward." He awards two shoppers a \$25 gift card that they pass on to someone else in the store. He started the tradition in 2019.

"I always remind them that the community was so generous to all of us to make this event happen, that we want to make sure that we pay that forward to someone else," he said.

Throughout the last decade, Shop with a Cop went from helping approximately 35 children in 2009 to celebrating Christmas with 136 in 2020. Williams hopes the substantial growth continues while he fundraises and organizes the event.

"If we can grow 10, 20, 25 percent each year, then that's that many more kids in the community that we can help when they need the help," he said. "I think that benefits that child now, and it can benefit them in the long run — maybe if one of these kids eventually want to be part of the program on the other side of it."

Contact Kenny Williams at kwilliams@yaffeco.net for more information about Shop with a Cop. Visit the CPN Police Department online at cpn.news/police. ♡

FAQs about fostering and adopting Potawatomi children

By Kendra Lowden, Foster Care/Adoption Manager

Foster care is a temporary living situation for children whose parents are not currently able to care for them due to abuse and neglect. With support from FireLodge Children & Family Services, many Citizen Potawatomi Nation foster children successfully and safely return to their families. Some children may be placed for adoption should reunification not be possible. We answered some of the questions we are frequently asked by prospective families interested in fostering and adopting Potawatomi children.

Why should I become a foster parent for FireLodge Children & Family Services?

Our department offers individualized support and training for foster families. Our team includes experienced child welfare advocates focused on providing excellent customer service and emotional support to the families we serve. FireLodge also provides foster families essential items needed to care for children including cribs, beds and car seats.

What qualities are needed in a foster parent?

Successful foster parents are generally patient and understanding to the unique needs of children placed into foster care. They are willing to be flexible, tolerant and dependable while working closely with child welfare staff.

What is the difference between

private adoption and adoption through foster care?

Private adoption occurs when birth parents voluntarily place their child for adoption with a family of their choice. Children available for adoption through foster care are placed into care involuntarily. The goal in foster care cases is normally to reunify children with their families. When this cannot happen, typically the relative or non-related foster family will adopt the children when it becomes legal to do so.

Can I adopt a Potawatomi foster child?

The goal of our department is to reunite families. Foster parents may be able to adopt their foster children if they cannot be returned home or

placed with a relative. Many families successfully adopt their foster children.

What assistance is available to adoptive families?

Adoption assistance exists to remove the financial and other barriers that may prevent a family from adopting from foster care. Services available for adopted children may include daycare assistance, medical assistance, monthly maintenance payments and adoption attorney fees.

Although each and every situation is unique in child welfare, this is some basic information you can use to guide you through the process of deciding to open your home to children in need. For more information, contact FireLodge Children & Family Services at 405-878-4831 or on Facebook @CPNFireLodge. ♡

Vaccine continued...

in the ever-changing Oklahoma weather ranging from 100 degrees this summer to 20 degrees or less. They must have air conditioning and heat to function for long hours in a consistent manner especially when COVID-19 patient testing and evaluation needs are high.

"If the water goes out, we can't keep the clinic open. We've had a few departments that have been almost

come to a halt operationally from COVID exposures and cases."

With many people initially skittish about taking the COVID-19 vaccine, inoculating Tribal officials and leaders in various departments has also provided an opportunity for tenured, respected employees to give testimonials to debunk rumors and be an up-close-and-personal demonstration of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine's efficacy.

Neither vaccine has microchips, and no formal studies have documented any link between either medication and fertility issues. As per the Mayo Clinic, neither vaccine is made with fetal tissue or egg. The vaccine also does not integrate into your DNA, according to the CDC website.

However, at least for a day or two, the muscle pain at the injection site is real, and people can have side effects including fever, chills, body aches, fatigue, dizziness, etc. especially after the second

dose. However, almost all side effect symptoms Dr. Vascellaro has seen resolve within one to two days from onset.

"I chose to lead by example and take the vaccine early. My arm was a little sorer than a flu shot, but less sore than a tetanus shot," Dr. Vascellaro said.

For more information about the vaccine and Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services, visit potawatomi.org/COVID-19 or cpn.news/health. ♡

New, virtual technology removes court system's barriers

While many court systems pushed back cases indefinitely or shut down during the coronavirus pandemic, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Court and other departments welcomed changes and additional responsibilities. CPN's District Court maintained operations throughout 2020 with no major pauses.

CPN Court Clerks Andrea Gabel and Toni Sears learned that "each day can produce a completely different set of challenges and to be flexible and work through them the best that can be done."

CPN Child Prosecutor Lisa Herbert works in many different courts throughout Oklahoma. She recognizes the clerks' hard work and efficiency to maintain organization in the midst of implementing new rules.

"It's really a lot more than just filing things in and setting court dates for people," Herbert said. "They really have to deal with people who are in crisis, and they do such a beautiful job of that. ... I don't think people really realize how difficult their job is."

Like many other businesses and offices, the court has increased its use of video calls and teleconferencing. It adds another step in the already hectic process of running a proficient court. However, it provides convenience for witnesses and lawyers while prioritizing social distancing practices.

"It's just as if the person is there. Those are some new skills that are really having to come into the courtroom practice, and our girls have been up to it. ... They've been wonderful about trying to accommodate some of the changes and some of the things we're doing in our courtroom just to try to make things safe," Herbert said.



The Citizen Potawatomi Nation District Court uses modern solutions to adhere to coronavirus restrictions while continuing to function uninterrupted.

The court has incorporated a smartboard for Zoom and video calls. While this adds extra processes when preparing for hearings and sending out information, Gabel believes it has worked well.

"In order for the court to hear a case by virtual appearances and appearances by phone, attorneys must be granted the accommodations in advance," she said.

"IT (information technology department) has truly been an asset in setting up our smartboard and our other equipment. They also assist in running it for us for court so we can focus on the hearing and/or trial."

Practical application

FireLodge Children & Family Services Foster Care/Adoption Manager Kendra Lowden frequently appears in court for foster care and adoption cases. She appreciates the ability to

maintain services to her clients and knows time is of the essence when moving children between homes.

"If court hearings are delayed, that means sometimes permanency is delayed for children, whether that be reunification to their families or adoption to another family. If the court system doesn't continue to operate and function during a pandemic, then things are stalled for children, and that's not necessarily a good thing for them," Lowden said.

The new technology also created options never before available to her clients. With a restricted number of individuals allowed in the building to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, using Zoom allowed more people to witness an adoption case last May.

"The adoptive families' relatives were able to attend by just logging onto the Zoom, and they could hear and see

everything going on. So they didn't have to miss out on that special day for this family and that child," Lowden said.

Additional challenges, changes

The requirements limit the volume of cases heard in a given day, but the staff tries their best to serve everyone as quickly as possible.

"Our number of cases has almost dropped in half compared to the last couple of years. Due to the restricted number of cases we can see each court setting, resetting cases for those who miss court gets difficult," Gabel said.

Herbert's decades in law have taught her such changes are not always a bad thing, even though they come from distressing conditions.

"I think we're all going to learn, and I think we're just going to keep moving forward," she said. "And it's kind of an exciting time when you think about what we've had to do to adapt and the things that we've been willing to do to commit to keep going. In a way, some of this is good for us."

Gabel reminds everyone to follow the new coronavirus stipulations and that everyone's well-being remains a priority — both staff and those required for proceedings.

"Please make your court hearings if you are well and healthy! If you are sick, we want you to stay home so you can get healthy. Just let us know as soon as possible so we can get the changes in motion. We can start working then to get the case back on the docket," she said.

For more information on the CPN District Court, visit cpn.news/judicial.

Haaland's Interior nomination heralds change in cabinet appointments

The National Congress of American Indians typically passes resolutions intended to shape policy for the millions of Indigenous people and more than 500 tribal governments in the United States. At this year's NCAI Gathering, held just days after the U.S. presidential election, NCAI passed a resolution calling on the incoming Biden administration to name the "first American Indian or Alaska Native in our nation's history to serve as the Secretary of the Interior."

The administration's choice of Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-NM) was historic in terms of nominating an enrolled tribal citizen to a full cabinet position. If confirmed by the Senate, the Laguna Pueblo citizen would be the first Native American to lead the U.S. Department of the Interior. As head of Interior, Haaland will manage a wide portfolio over numerous agencies. The approximately 70,000 staff under the DOI oversee one-fifth of all the land in the United States. This includes managing national parks, wildlife refuges and natural resources such as gas, oil and water in addition to 574 federally-recognized tribal nations across 35 states.

Haaland would be the highest-ranking federal official with tribal

citizenship since Charles Curtis. Vice president under Herbert Hoover, Curtis was a citizen of the Kaw Nation, originally from Kansas.

While the Trump Administration focused on rolling back restrictions on energy development on public and tribal lands, the incoming Democratic administration is charting a demonstrably different course. One of President Joe Biden's first executive actions halted the Keystone Pipeline Project, which was the site of major Indigenous rights and environmental protests from 2016-17. Haaland has identified the restoration of public lands protections for Bear Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante in Utah that the Trump administration removed to support energy projects. Several tribes in southern Utah view the sites as sacred and claim the previous administration ignored tribal consultation procedures before trimming back protections. In addition to the nomination, President Biden pledged to reinstate the White House Tribal Nations Conference — a convening of tribal and federal leaders begun during the Obama Administration. It was not held the previous four years.

Haaland was overwhelmingly endorsed by Oklahoma's Indian Country



From the halls of Congress to the Cabinet of the United States, Deb Haaland gives hope to Native Nations across America.

leadership. In mid-January, 25 tribal leaders, including CPN Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett, signed a letter to senators James Lankford (R-OK) and Jim Inhofe (R-OK) supporting her nomination.

The letter stated, "As senators for a state with 39 federally recognized Tribal

nations and one of the highest Native populations in the United States, you fully recognize the importance of including Native representation at the highest levels of government. Native voices bring unique perspectives to vital discussions, and more often than not

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Nationwide surge in housing market creates opportunity for buyers, sellers

Among the big surprises of 2020 was a nationwide surge in housing sales. It seemed to be both a buyer and seller's market with low interest rates pushing those looking to snap up available properties at a breakneck speed. This mostly affected metropolitan areas, and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Department noticed the change across the country.

"Whenever the pandemic hit us, I kind of expected everything to just kind of go flat. When the unemployment rates were rising, we didn't expect people to venture out there and do a lot of home buying," said Housing Department Director Scott George.

U.S. Census Bureau data showed new home sales increased 43 percent in August 2020 compared to the same month in 2019. According to the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index, national sales-adjusted inventory decreased to its lowest level since at least 1963 at the end of the summer.

"I guess you could attribute that to people that maintain their jobs throughout this pandemic were usually white collar workers that had some sort of stability in their (jobs) and were able to work from home — things of that nature," George said. "That's the only thing I could think it was, and they took advantage of those (low interest) rates because of it."

Dropping down to two percent at times, the rates drove the market and allowed some homeowners to refinance for a lower monthly payment. Many first-time homebuyers also made purchases, which contributed to the competitiveness.

"They could buy more of a house than maybe what they thought they could have at a previous time with the previous interest rates," said homeownership manager Sherry Byers.

CPN HOUSING DEPARTMENT DOWN PAYMENT/CLOSING COST ASSISTANCE

- ✓ Available one time only for purchasing, refinancing or building a home
- ✓ Tribal member's name must be on the loan
- ✓ Not eligible for use toward mobile homes
- ✓ Structure must be the applicant's primary residence
- ✓ Felons not eligible
- ✓ Maximum of \$2,125 toward closing costs or down payment only
- ✓ Oklahoma applicants are encouraged to mortgage through First National Bank & Trust Co.

"It was surprising that people would take that big of a chance, and maybe it was just too good of a chance to pass up," George said.

One-time grant program

The housing department processed one of the highest numbers of applications per fiscal year for the Tribe's down payment and closing cost assistance grant since it began in 1998. Byers receives approximately 100 plus applications annually; however, she passed 230 requests before Oct. 1, despite an initial decrease in the spring.

The program provides a maximum of \$2,125 toward a down payment and/or closing costs to CPN members across the country. The department recommends Oklahomans mortgage with the CPN-owned First National Bank & Trust Co., and the Tribal member's name must be on the loan. The funding may not be used toward a mobile home, and the structure must be the applicant's primary residence.

"We can do the grant anywhere in the United States, one time only, and there are no income limits. So pretty much as long as you fit the criteria of the program, you're pretty much eligible, if you submit all the required paperwork," Byers said.

She judged the shift in the market by the piles of applications on her desk and stepped up to meet the time restraints that come with closing dates.

"It's very hard for me to leave the office or take off because I have a lot of work that's either waiting on me, or I work a lot from home or during odd office hours because we have laptops at home just to try to keep up," Byers said.

While many Tribal members in Oklahoma applied for the grant in 2020, others from across the country took advantage of it more. George explained this reflects the housing market in rural Oklahoma, and in particular, Pottawatomie County.

"We don't really see a lot of people buying in this area right now," he said. "We've

got some, but not as much as there has been on either coast and various other places. So I don't know if it will trend like everything else does and eventually fall back to the middle of the country and we'll wind up doing a lot here or not."

Applying for the Housing and Urban Development and CPN-funded one-time grant requires effort from several departments, both within the housing office and the Tribe as a whole, including accounting, environmental and Tribal rolls.

"We have so many people that have lost their Tribal cards, or they say they never got a Tribal card. So, I'm in constant contact with Tribal Rolls. Accounting has been wonderful with their treasury accountant on helping in requesting the checks and everything from FNB. It's a mixture of departments to get all of this done, but it originates here," Byers said.

She and George encourage Tribal members across the United States to contact the housing department when purchasing a home to discuss their options, especially the one-time grant, regardless of the market.

"There's so many people just even in this immediate area that did not seem to know about the program. And when I say, 'Well, we've had it for almost 22 years,' they're just flabbergasted," Byers said.

The 2021 fiscal year was off to a busy start on Oct. 1, 2020, with plenty of requests continuing to pour in by the end of December. She and George look forward to watching the housing market in 2021 and helping Tribal members everywhere.

Find out more about the down payment and closing cost assistance grant program at cpn.news/onetimegrant and cpn.news/housing. 🏠

Buying a home?

All Citizen Potawatomi tribal members are eligible for this grant one time only. The maximum amount is \$2,125 and does not have to be repaid. The grant cannot be used for any type of mobile home, and the home being purchased must be their primary residence. The Tribal member's name must be on the loan. Convicted felons or other household member felons are ineligible.

The application and support information is required in our office at least two to three weeks prior to the closing date. This gives our office enough time to get the paperwork processed and the check mailed back to the Tribal member by the specified date.

Please contact Sherry Byers, homeownership manager at 405-273-2833 or at sbyers@potawatomi.org.

Complete the application and send us the following:

- 🏠 Copy of borrower's CPN membership card
- 🏠 Copy of Social Security cards for household member without Tribal cards
- 🏠 Copy of the "Loan Estimate" from lender
- 🏠 Income verification for all household members (last 3 to 4 pay stubs or if same employer for years, the last two years of tax returns, first page and signature page only)
- 🏠 Name of the closing entity (Title Co., Escrow Co., Attorney, etc.)
- 🏠 Completed W-9 form
- 🏠 Copy of appraisal



This grant may also be done after closing. The required paperwork must be in our office at least 30 days from the loan closing date. Please contact our office if applying after closing.

For more regarding loan products and lending requirements at First National Bank & Trust, please contact Jeff Scroggins, mortgage loan officer at 405-275-8830 or at 1-800-227-8362.

Golfers label FireLake “a hidden gem”

According to the National Golf Foundation, more people played rounds of golf in 2020 than the year before, despite the coronavirus pandemic and the initial decrease it caused in the spring. FireLake Golf Course saw its numbers increase and celebrated its best year ever since opening in 1983.

“It all started whenever the Oklahoma City courses closed, unfortunately, due to COVID-19. ... And we got a lot of new customers because we were one of the few facilities close to Oklahoma City that was still open because we never closed,” after consulting with Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services and implementing best practices to reduce the spread of the coronavirus, said Director Chris Chesser.

Compared to 2019, FireLake saw an increase of 4,000 rounds in fiscal year 2020. Golf carts became a hot commodity on the weekends, with patrons utilizing all of the course’s offerings Thursdays through Sundays. The clientele also diversified. More women visited than ever before, and the senior men’s league continued every Thursday from April to September.

Accommodating the growth and changes while maintaining smooth operations remained the staff’s goal.

“Well, it’s been a crazy year with COVID, of course,” Chesser said. “We have handled it actually pretty good, in my opinion, as busy as we’ve been.”



The course provides the perfect place for outdoor, socially distanced fun.

After a renovation in 2016, the course reopened in summer 2017. Many returning customers commented on the changes and called it a “hidden gem,” located 45-minutes from the Oklahoma City metro.

“They hadn’t been here in 10 or 15 years, and they had no idea we had renovated, and they just fell in love with the place, and we’re continuing to get play from Oklahoma City — more than we ever have,” Chesser said.

The course boasts water hazards on 13 of 18 holes, more than 6,300 yardage of greens, fairways and roughage

throughout the course as well as trimmed cart paths, pushing the experience to the next level. Course superintendent Derron Day and the rest of the staff practice meticulous upkeep.

“Our greens are really good,” Chesser said. “We have Champion Bermuda greens, and they’re very fast. They’re very slick. Golfers like putting surfaces that are fast, and ... Derron and his guys really maintain the golf course. They really are detailed at their work.”

Many new patrons have added FireLake to their list of favorite courses for the value and location near the Grand Casino

Hotel & Resort, FireLake Entertainment Center, convenience stores and more.

After months of implementing the safety measures, including a mask mandate in the clubhouse and other indoor facilities, the requirements currently remain in effect with customers complying. FireLake offers masks to players that do not have one. However, most quickly head for the course.

“They don’t really hang out in the building like they used to,” Chesser said. “They may come in and get a sandwich or something, but they pay for their stuff, and they get out the door, and they get in the fresh air and go play golf.”

With plenty of to-go options such as hot dogs, hamburgers and daily lunch specials, patrons can grab a bite to eat at the clubhouse grill before hitting the back nine. The kitchen also hosted several carryout-only dinners for two throughout 2020, serving Italian, German, comfort food and other cuisines, which will continue throughout 2021.

The golf course’s website offers the daily weather, contact information to book a tee time, a downloadable course map, digital course tour, grill menu, and directions.

Visit FireLake Golf Course online at firelakegolf.com and on Facebook @firelakegolf. ♡

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT



TRIBAL SCHOLARSHIPS

FALL 2019

1,319 FULL-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,628,000
287 PART-TIME STUDENTS	\$222,250
1,606 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,850,250

SPRING 2020

1,200 FULL-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,357,250
312 PART-TIME STUDENTS	\$238,000
1,512 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,595,250

SUMMER 2020

276 FULL-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS	\$543,000
388 PART-TIME STUDENTS	\$297,000
664 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS	\$840,000

OVERALL TOTAL

2,795 FULL-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS	\$5,528,250
987 PART-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS	\$757,250
3,782 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS	\$6,285,500

GRADE LEVEL DISTRIBUTION

CONCURRENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT	(149)
UNDERGRADUATE FRESHMAN	(749)
UNDERGRADUATE SOPHOMORE	(790)
UNDERGRADUATE JUNIOR	(678)
UNDERGRADUATE SENIOR	(749)
GRADUATE	(701)
OTHER	(34)

GENDER BREAKDOWN

FEMALES	(1,206)
MALES	(849)

ADVISING

261 SESSIONS

RECOVERED FUNDS

\$138,505

INTERNSHIPS

FALL 2019

3 PART-TIME INTERNS

SPRING 2020

9 PART-TIME INTERNS

SUMMER 2020

0 FULL-TIME INTERNS - DUE TO COVID-19

OVERALL TOTAL

12 INTERNS

STOLES

SOLD 71 STOLES FOR \$3,550 PROFIT

VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

45 STUDENTS TOTALING \$82,201

VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIR

271 STUDENTS | 65 NATIVE AMERICAN
36 DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS | 65 BOOTHS

TOP 10 UNIVERSITIES

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA-NORMAN CAMPUS	(159)
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	(129)
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY-MAIN CAMPUS	(113)
OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	(70)
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	(65)
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY	(65)
ROSE STATE COLLEGE	(58)
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS	(57)
SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE	(56)
OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY	(55)

TOP 10 STATES

OKLAHOMA	(1,341)
TEXAS	(439)
KANSAS	(432)
CALIFORNIA	(369)
MISSOURI	(109)
WASHINGTON	(101)
FLORIDA	(95)
COLORADO	(81)
ARKANSAS	(80)
ARIZONA	(78)

TOP 10 MAJORS

NURSING	(309)
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	(196)
PSYCHOLOGY	(140)
BUSINESS	(128)
ACCOUNTING	(73)
COMPUTER SCIENCE	(73)
EDUCATION	(67)
GENERAL STUDIES	(62)
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHING	(58)
SOCIAL WORK	(57)

VETERANS WALL OF HONOR

The Veteran Memorial serves to honor and exhibit the sacrifices our *Wédaséjek* (warriors) have made by telling the story of what it meant to be a Potawatomi warrior. It is a living monument to our proud Citizen Potawatomi Nation veterans and active duty members. Currently, the memorial commemorates more than a thousand veterans and warriors and is continually growing. We invite all veterans, active duty and their families to submit to the memorial.

If you are a veteran and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and would like your place on the Veterans Wall of Honor at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center, please contact us at 405-878-5830 and ask for KeAnne Langford or Blake Norton or email keanne.langford@potawatomi.org or bnorton@potawatomi.org.

Many of the veteran records we preserve at the Cultural Heritage Center do not have an accompanying military portrait for display. Please see the list below of those veterans we have records for but need portraits of:

Michelle Abiri	Larry O. Cook	John C. Gillmore	Charles G. LaReau	Charles E. Pierce III
Benjamin T. Acre Jr.	Wayne E. Cook	Glen A. Goodwin	Roger Lazelle	Annabelle Pittman
Hubert L. Adams	Roy L. Coon	Rolan J. Goyer	Alfred LeClair	Thomas K. Pyeatt
James T. Anderson	Thomas E. Cooper	Dustin M. Gross	Earl E. Lehman	Timothy K. Pyeatt
Ronald Anderson	Albert W. Copeland	David H. Guinn Jr.	George A. Lehman	Gregory L. Quinn
Cecil Baird	Michael S. Cory	Clenard O. Haas	Leo F. Lehman	Stephen L. Quinn
Walter L. Baker	Daniel Crumbo	Marion L. Haas	Leonard G. Lehman	Everett J. Rachels
Robert W. Barrett	David A. Cryer	Mickey E. Haas	Charles L. Lewis	John A. Reynolds
Bruce I. Bazhaw	Harvey J.L. Curtis	James M. Hale	Clifford E. Lewis	Leonard P. Rhodd
Ingram H. Bazhaw	Dan Dansenburg	John Hall Jr.	Francis L. Lewis	Stephen E. Rhodd
Ralph H. Bazhaw/Bergeron	George Dansenburg	Larry E. Hammack	Russell L. Lewis	William J. Rhodd
John T. Bergeron	Lloyd B. Denton	Richard L. Hammack	Benjamin Lucas Jr.	Henry B. Richard Jr.
Thomas M. Bess	Lloyd C. Denton	Jack E. Hancock	Jackie L. Lucy	Raymond U. Roberts
William B. Bivens Jr.	Marvin Derryberry	Leon L. Hancock	Michael S. Mahaffey	Thomas L. Roberts
Charles D. Blair	Forrest J. Desmit	Michael S. Hardesty	Philip R. Marquis	Alexander Rhodd
Robert G. Bogle	Charles E. Dewitt	Daniel L. Harvey	Albert F. Mars	William M. Roberts Jr.
Douglas E. Bourassa	Gary E. Dewitt	Gary L. Helberg	Warren G. Mars	William M. Roberts III
Freeman Bourassa	J.B. Dewitt	Henry P Hernandez	Timothy Q. McCauley	Cilifford Robison
Jerry D. Bourassa	Travis G. Dick	Edward T. Hey Jr.	Samuel H. McCollum	Paul R. Rosewitz
John A. Bourbonnais	Jimmy R. Dike	Averett W. Higbee	David C. McEvers	Marvin E. Savory
Joshua J. Bourbonnais	Richard G. Dike	Marvin L. Holeman	Vernon W. Meade	Larry K. Schoemann
Edmund F. Bowles	Dennis D. Dockery	William H. Holeman	Stephen C. Negahnquet	James J. Schroefer
Andrew E. Bradford	Beverly L. Dodd	Daniel L. Hollingsworth	Adam A. Nocktonick Sr.	Homer C. Schwartz
Emery A. Bradford	Lawrence A. Dodd	Tony P. Hollingsworth	Ralph E.B. Nocktonick	John H. Seedorf
Charles R. Bromley	Willie O. Dodson	Edwin A. Howard	Ronald K. Nocktonick	Dennis M. Sexton
James F. Bromley	Thomas N. Doyle	Kevin M. Hubble	Robert J. Nourie	Jesse Slavin
Carolyn S. Brown	John W. Edwards	Arville L. Hull	Albion L. Ogee	Dale E. Smith
Andrea L. Broyles	Charles M. Ellis	Johnny I. Hull	Phillip S. Ogee Jr.	Jesse A. Smith Sr.
Everett D. Brunt	John E. Feliciano	Davina C. Hyers	John B. Olsen	Robert G. Smits
David A. Burnett	Sharold N. Ferris	John Immensuh	Randall W. Olsen	Richard D. Soelter
Leo Burnett Jr.	James B. Fisher	Jeffrey D. Johnson	Wilbur C. Osborne	Michael D. Stone
Stephen R. Burnett	Jerry L. Fitzgerald	Larry S. Johnson	Donnie R. Owens	Brenda J. Tamashiro
Joseph H. Burns	Mary J. Foster (Spaulding)	Frank Kennedy	John R. Paine	Jerry L. Tarter
Tilden J. Byler	Michael D. Fox	Mark W. Ketterman	Gary D. Pambogo	Elton B. Tinney
Michael D. Cavender	Christina D. Franklin	William G. Ketterman	Cloyd D. Parrish	Jack R. Tipton
Mary-Ellen Clinton (Vieux)	Murray S. Frapp	Charles B. Kimes	David J. Parr	Joshua Tipton
Eugene Albert Coder	Russell W. Frizzell	James T. Kirk	Kenneth W. Paslay	Clarence J. Trousdale
Adam B. Coe	James M. Gardom	Darrin D. Lambert	Vernon D. Peery	Joseph C. Trousdale
Michael E. Conner Jr.	Horace D. Gillespie	Charles E. Lamirand	Stephen C. Penniston	Tommy Upton

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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

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Dating violence education means more than healthy relationships

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, and bringing the issues that often remain in the dark into the light provides the opportunity to stop cycles of harm. Citizen Potawatomi Nation House of Hope Prevention Specialist Kayla Woody believes education is the best tool.

“We as a society have normalized it,” she said. “We have got to get the information out there to our communities. We’ve got to get it out there to our parents, to our teens, our teachers, youth pastors and community leaders so they can start showing our children what healthy relationships look like.”

Woody teaches and reminds people, including youth, that not all abuse is physical.

“We see a lot of physical violence in teen dating relationships, but we also see emotional violence,” she said. “We see a lot of manipulation. As far as financial violence, (perpetrators are) telling (the victims) what they can do, what they can buy, where they can go eat at, who they can hang out with. There is such a wide variety when it comes to abuse, even with teens.”

The cycle

According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1.5 million high school students nationwide reported physical violence in their relationship in the past 12 months. Women ages 16 to 24 have the highest rate of intimate partner violence in the United States, according to Woody.

“Those are really those crucial ages where it’s beginning to start, around 16 years old, so we really want to try to focus on the teens, teaching them about healthy relationships, showing them those red flags. Showing them those green flags as well,” she said.

Providing examples of healthy relationships and having educational conversations about dating at an early age prepares youths for a partner and to spot problematic behavior.

“They don’t really know what to expect if they are not sat down with a trusted adult, like a parent or guardian, who



is explaining that to them,” Woody said. “They’re just kind of having to figure it out on their own. So, when they get into a heavy relationship, and they have a partner telling them, ‘Oh,

it’s OK to do this, it’s OK to do that,’ and they don’t know any better.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 11 female

and 1 in 15 male high school students reported experiencing physical dating violence in the last year, possibly leading to depression, anxiety and other unhealthy behaviors. Without education, physical and emotional abuse can span generations.

“It continues because young people are brought up in these abusive homes. They tend to see this abuse as normalized. So when they start dating at a young age, they tend to think that physical violence, emotional violence, sexual violence, is what is normal,” she said.

CPN’s House of Hope domestic violence program works to start a new cycle of healthy relationships and positivity for teens by holding events with the Community Renewal of Pottawatomie County. The programs focus on how to spot warning signs and good traits, successfully and safely end a relationship as well as approach a friend or loved one who is in a bad relationship.

“It’s hard to leave that relationship when it started off so well, and it went so well for so long, and then it just slowly turned bad,” Woody said. “I kind of look at it as a frog in hot water. If you turn the heat on slowly, the frog will stay there.”

Some of the “red flags” the HOH focuses on include control, manipulation, physical harm, cheating, a short temper and constant contact to the point of stalking. “Green flags” include open dialogue about feelings, respect of both bodily autonomy and opinions, trust and equality.

“We want to catch those kids when they’re young, teach them those skills, those signs so that the cycle really stops with them,” Woody said.

LovesRespect.org is a project of the National Domestic Violence Hotline aimed at ages 13 to 26. It offers a safety hotline and online chat platform to talk with advocates. StrongHearts Native Helpline is a confidential, easy-to-use resource on the web at strongheartshelpline.org and on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @strongheartsv.

Find House of Hope and its resources at cpnhouseofhope.com and on Facebook at @cpnhouseofhope. ♡

Language update

By Justin Neely, Language Department Director

Bozho jayék
(Hello everyone),

It’s been an active time in the language department. If you haven’t already checked out our two YouTube channels — one for kids and one geared toward adults — check them out. Also, we share a lot of content on our Potawatomi language Facebook page, cpn.news/langfb.

Kids channel: cpn.news/JN

Adult-gear channel: cpn.news/langyt

We just wrapped up another Popeye cartoon that is about 20 minutes long. We also are wrapping up a number of video books that have been really popular. Our staff is working hard on a new project to develop a series of books for Level 1 and Level 2 readers. We also now have some of our 7 Grandfathers posters available in

Potawatomi Gifts: *Wedasewen*, Bravery; *Edbesendowen*, Humility; *Debanawen*, Love; *Wdetanmowen*, Respect; and we just finished *Gwekwadzewen*, Honesty. Order them online at cpn.news/posters.

We also just wrapped up our first semester of high school classes. This year, we are offering the language in Maud, Wanette, Shawnee and Tecumseh. We hope to partner with more districts in the coming months. We are able to offer the language anywhere in Oklahoma, and it counts toward a student’s high school graduation credit for language.

We are still going to be doing our annual winter storytelling event on Friday, Feb. 26. The stories will be pre-recorded and available on that date. We will put them on our YouTube channel and include links in our Facebook group as well as the Tribe’s website. We are planning on each staff member telling two stories and plan to have 10-12 stories. We will remove the stories once winter has



passed. Traditionally, we only tell certain stories in the wintertime, preferably when there is snow on the ground. We believe that in the wintertime the spirits and the earth are asleep. The snow covering the earth is like a blanket.

Make sure to check out our many resources available. We have a video that describes some of the many tools available for learning the language such as our online dictionary, online self-paced classes, Quizlet, and Memrise program. Check out this promo video to see what’s available: cpn.news/langpromo.

We are going to be adding to and updating our 9,500-word online dictionary in the coming months. We will be adding additional videos and audio files. Our IT department, which created our dictionary, is going to be adding some cool features such as a game that will quiz you on various words, adding a fun element to the dictionary.

The IT department along with Tribal archives is finishing adding audio to the language kiosk on the Cultural Heritage Center’s floor, so now visitors will be able to hear the words when they tap on the kiosk. ♡

Remembering the 1887 Dawes Act's impact

Feb. 8, 2021, marks 134 years since President Grover Cleveland signed The Dawes General Allotment Act. This policy divided tribal land into individual holdings, and it included provisions for opening the leftover plots to non-Native settlement. As a result, tribes across the United States lost 62 percent of their land, or approximately 86 million acres, which included large swaths of the Citizen Potawatomi reservation in present-day Oklahoma.

"It served the larger purpose because the larger purpose was twofold: to make us more like white people or destroy us and get large amounts of land out of Native control and into the hands of individual, non-Native citizens," said Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center director.

While the Dawes Act did not impact every tribe in the United States, it affected a tremendous number of Native Nations within the central Plains region, including most that call Oklahoma home. Settlers wished to hold property and establish farming and ranching enterprises on the fertile lands between the Rocky and Appalachian Mountain ranges. The Dawes Act provided the groundwork needed to meet these requests and encouraged agricultural development.

Through the act, Citizen Potawatomi received allotments based upon age and family standing: 160 acres for heads of households, 80 for unwed adults and 40 for those under 18. The Potawatomi reservation included portions of present-day Pottawatomie, Cleveland and Oklahoma counties, and many Tribal members chose plots in the southern and northern-most portions of the 900-square-mile reservation.

Not the first "rodeo"

The Dawes Act was not the Nation's initial experience with the allotment process. The Treaty of 1861 served as one of the federal government's earliest experiments with providing

Native Americans individual plots of land to then open the remaining acres for non-Native settlement. However, within a few short years after signing the treaty, a great number of Tribal members soon found themselves landless due to the federal government's refusal to fulfill agreements.

Through the Treaty of 1867, many Citizen Potawatomi members that still possessed their properties sold them to purchase a new reservation in present-day Oklahoma. In 1872, the Tribe went through another round of allotments on the new reservation. Although some Citizen Potawatomi received plots of land in 1872, the Nation owned the surplus acres.

"By 1887, this was our third allotment for the Citizen Potawatomi," Dr. Mosteller explained. "We had done this. We knew what we were getting into, but with the Dawes Act, there was nothing we could do."

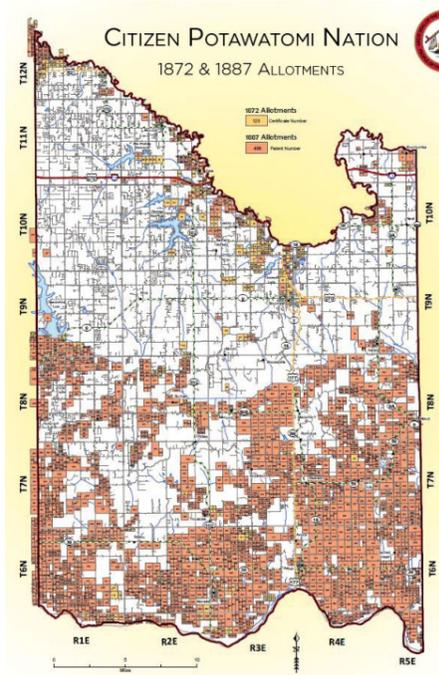
The 1861 and 1872 allotment processes provided opportunities for the Citizen Potawatomi to voice their concerns to the federal government, but the Dawes Act did not. Approximately 1,600 Citizen Potawatomi received plots of land through the 1887 legislation.

"It was not a panacea — a cure-all — for the 'Indian problems' that the federal government touted it to be, and they absolutely knew that," Dr. Mosteller said. "They argued that this would make life better for Native people, but they knew that was very likely not going to be the case."

Oklahoma statehood

Although originally touted as Indian Territory — lands set aside for only Native Nations for as long as the grass grew and the water flowed — the Dawes Act laid the groundwork for Oklahoma to become an official state.

"Opening up land in Oklahoma for non-Native settlement and the Dawes Act were happening in tandem. The



Learn about Citizen Potawatomi allotments through the 1887 Dawes Act by visiting the Cultural Heritage Center in-person or online at potawatomiheritage.com.

Dawes Act was brought here to make that possible," Dr. Mosteller said.

After the Dawes Act, the Citizen Potawatomi owned only one-third of the original reservation its members purchased outright through the Treaty of 1867. The federal government deemed the remaining two-thirds surplus land that non-Native settlers eventually had a chance at owning.

Three years after the Dawes Act, the Organic Act of 1890 opened up "Unassigned Lands" and established boundaries for the formation of Oklahoma Territory, which included almost all of present-day Lincoln, Payne, Logan, Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland, Kingfisher and Pottawatomie counties. It also opened up the panhandle — known as the Public Land Strip or No Man's Land — and the Kiowa-Comanche-Apache, Cheyenne-Arapaho, Osage, Otoe, Kaw, Ponca, Pawnee and Wichita-Caddo reservations.

"The Organic Act of 1890 set up this whole concept of non-Natives moving in and that it wasn't going to be this 'Indian Territory' that we were fighting for," Dr. Mosteller explained.

Land runs began in 1889. Hopeful landowners lined up to stake their claim to the un-allotted reservation properties. The Citizen Potawatomi and many other tribes witnessed large portions of their reservations officially change possession within a matter of hours.

"The Dawes Act solidified once again the distrust that has settled in about dealing with the government. Every time the government comes in and asks for something, there is always that ulterior motive," she said.

"But also, I think another impact it had on us was the whole concept of 'what doesn't kill you makes you stronger.' It made us very tough, and all of the things we went through before this was building toward this moment."

Tribal members used past experience to work with the federal government to receive as much money as possible from the surplus, or unassigned, land. Although the returns were still far below actual value, the Citizen Potawatomi never stopped fighting for the Nation's sovereignty.

"They had to bear down and make the best out of an often not only bad situation but an uncertain situation — an uncertain future. There was a lot of resilience and that spirit of 'push on to the next day.' ... A lot of people refer to it as a 'pioneer spirit,' but I think more accurately, it's a spirit of people who understand that they don't know what tomorrow brings and to make the most of today," Dr. Mosteller said.

Learn more about The Dawes Act and its impact on the CPN by visiting the Cultural Heritage Center's gallery *Indian Territory: A Place to Call Our Own* or online at potawatomiheritage.com. 🔥

The importance of savings

By Payton Moody
First National Bank & Trust Co.

Do you ever come up short on cash or bills when you need it the most? One route to financial stability is a savings account.

Since we were old enough to open our first bank account, our parents, grandparents and various family members have harped on the subject of a savings account. They told us 10 percent of our paycheck each month should go into our savings, just in case something went wrong.

Little did we know, they were actually correct.

For example, you go to get in your car in the morning for work, and it doesn't start. You don't have any savings, and all the money in your bank account is going toward upcoming bills. You are late for work, which is also losing money. This is a prime situation when a savings account is an excellent thing to have.

It can prove to be a vital tool when an emergency or unexpected payment

arises. In today's society, mishaps and emergencies are inevitable. Be prepared with a savings account.

Each month, a portion of your paycheck can be put into your savings account — even an amount as little as \$10.

At First National Bank & Trust Co., we are here to make sure you are never left unprepared. With our friendly and welcoming staff, opening a savings account is quick and easy, not to mention a necessity for everyone. There is no such thing as starting too early.

Come open your savings account with us today, and be prepared for life's many surprises.

The First National Bank and Trust Co. is here to help.

Find us on the web at fnbokla.bank and on social media at [facebook.com/FNBoklahoma](https://www.facebook.com/FNBoklahoma). Reach our Shawnee home office at 405-275-8830. 🔥

Haaland continued...

have a deeper understanding of the way federal initiatives impact Tribal citizens and Tribal governments.

"Rep. Haaland is not only a historic pick — she is the right pick for this position."

A different background

Haaland was raised in Pueblo Laguna, located about 50 miles west of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Like many tribal lands rich in mineral deposits tied to uranium mining, Pueblo Laguna is located near the Jackpile-Paguate Uranium Mine superfund site. The high rates of cancer and health care issues tied to sites like it throughout the southwest influenced Haaland's view on environmental stewardship. In 2016, she traveled to the Standing Rock, where tribal and environmental activists set up camps to protest the Dakota Access Pipeline's path through Sioux territory in South Dakota. She stayed at the camp for nearly a week, helping cook and feed the protestors.

Haaland's nomination financial disclosure forms indicate a background humbler than many of her contemporaries in Washington D.C.'s halls of power. According to *Politico*, while cabinet officials are often among the richest 1 percent of Americans, Haaland is a mold breaker in another way. She does not have a checking account with more than \$5,000 and carries between \$15,001 and \$50,000 in student loan debt. She also has no income beyond her \$174,000 congressional salary and \$175 in annual payments from her tribe.

In an interview with *Roll Call* in 2019, Haaland recalled struggling to afford housing and holiday meals as a single mother. Her difficulties qualifying for government assistance programs and accruing student debt drove her to want to improve the livelihood of others.

Many in Indian Country hope that Haaland can represent the experiences many Americans far outside the beltway endure while shaping policy in Washington. 🔥

Melott descendant's Legal Aid Society training teaches the intricacies of ICWA

Noticing the lack of materials available regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act, Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Omar Rana set out to make a change. He crafted an educational presentation on ICWA in fall 2020 that eventually became an official continuing education program for his fellow colleagues at the Legal Aid Society of New York City.

As a staff attorney at the organization, Rana represents children in the court systems. After taking the job, he realized the nonprofit had limited knowledge available for its workforce regarding Native American children and ICWA. He believes the protections provided through ICWA "is important to the survival of so many Indigenous communities."

According to the U.S. Office of Indian Services, "The purpose of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is '...to protect the best interest of Indian Children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families by the establishment of minimum Federal standards for the removal of Indian children and placement of such children in homes which will reflect the unique values of Indian culture.'"

Before 1978, removing Native children from their families and placing them within non-Native homes was commonplace and served as a form of forced assimilation. ICWA sets standards for states to work with tribes when Native American children become involved in child abuse, neglect and adoption cases. It also encourages the placement of these children with tribal foster families.

"ICWA is so important in the fact that it's helping preserve our culture and its helping (overturn) centuries of degradation and centuries of



Omar Rana leads an educational session during Native American Heritage month. (Photo provided)

trying to break our culture," Rana said. "Our culture is very alive and very well, and this is something that is protecting it for future generations.

"It's a safeguard for not only children to be connected to their culture and be proud of who they are but also for tribal sovereignty and the legitimacy of the tribal system."

When an ICWA-indicated case came across Rana's desk, he researched resources within his organization to provide guidance. After utilizing all internal materials tied to ICWA, he began looking externally to learn as much as possible, and he compiled his findings to pass onto to his colleagues.

"I wanted to start by doing a presentation, but then my supervisors were like, 'You

should actually do this as a training and develop it more,'" he said.

Rana served as the keynote for Legal Aid's meeting during November as a part of Native American Heritage month, and has since led three separate continuing education courses. Due to the coronavirus, the virtual sessions have provided an opportunity for more people to attend than might have otherwise.

"It's gotten really positive feedback, and I'm glad. I feel like I've helped fix an issue that we've had because I think it was a really big problem that we didn't have a training for ICWA," Rana said.

Inspiration

Rana grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and has both Pakistani and Potawatomi heritage. He felt studying law could help lend a voice and uplift fellow South Asians and Native Americans as well as other minorities.

"I always had an interest in politics, and ... this is something I could have talents in but also something I could be achieving the goal of helping other marginalized people," he said.

Before attending Rutgers University's law program, Rana studied at Kansas University and participated in the institution's partnership with Haskell Indian Nations University. Through this experience, he became more acquainted with his Native American heritage. Living in the New York metropolitan area, Rana has a sense of connection to his South Asian background, but he felt like it has become harder to remain associated with his Potawatomi roots. The training assists with building a bridge between his Indigeneity and career as a lawyer.

"This is a way — and has been a really positive experience for me — to be able to show this part of my heritage and show that I'm really proud of it," he said.

Future

The U.S. court system has the ability to overturn ICWA, but Rana said everyone can make a difference by voting for elected officials and judges that support the federal law. Additionally, he wants lawyers and others working in child welfare to utilize the resources provided through the Bureau of Indian Affairs that list the best contacts for each tribe. Find the database at cpn.news/biaicwa.

"One thing I try to impress upon in my training is when you say call the office of the chief of the Cherokee Nation about an ICWA-indicated case ... it would be like if you called the governor of Alaska and you were asking about this one person who could be a citizen of that state," Rana said.

When a Native American child enters the welfare system, ICWA requires reaching out to the Native Nation from which they belong. Utilizing the BIA's database saves precious time by increasing the likelihood of reaching the correct individual(s) within tribes.

Although ICWA establishes a foundation for protecting Native American children from forced assimilation through the child welfare system, he said a tremendous amount of work lies ahead given the overrepresentation of Native American children in foster care. Rana hopes by educating others, he's helping provide solutions that will continue to move efforts forward.

Find more information on The Legal Aid Society – New York City, visit legalaidsnyc.org. ♡

CPN celebrates 25th anniversary of name change

In February 1996, Citizen Potawatomi from across the United States cast their votes during a special secretarial election to reflect the Tribe's sovereignty as a tribal nation by officially changing its name from the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe of Oklahoma to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

The U.S. Secretary of the Interior authorized the special election, which differed from the Nation's annual election because members voted to revise the Tribal constitution with two separate amendments. First included the name change.

CPN Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett wrote in his January 1996 *Hownikan* column, "The first issue is very basic: correct the name given our Tribe by the War Department in 1867 when we split from the Prairie Potawatomi and came to Oklahoma. When a group of Indians split off from the main group and have no organized government, the U.S. Government calls them a 'band.' The word used to mean 'renegade' in common usage."

Chairman Barrett noted that the Citizen Potawatomi were and never will be a group of unorganized deserters.

"We are a tribal Nation that signs treaties and agreements as a sovereign with the United States government. To be called a 'band' is an insult to the hard work and dedication of the many people over the last 130 years who have put a part of their lives into making us a tribal Nation. ... We must retain the unique aspect of our history in our name 'Citizen Potawatomi' as the first Tribe to take U.S. citizenship. That we are a 'nation' there is no doubt."

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines nation as "a tribe of Native Americans or a group of Native American tribes that share the same history, traditions or language."

Chairman Barrett's column continued, "That describes us exactly. That is why we are asking you to vote for this change."

The second constitutional amendment of the secretarial election decided whether all members could apply for Tribal scholarships, regardless of age. According to an article published in the February 1996 *Hownikan*, "While there aren't enough funds to award all eligible applicants money, the Business Committee said at their November meeting that they are



Standardized in 2003, the CPN seal reflects the Tribe's efforts to receive recognition as a sovereign tribal nation and continue its culture, heritage and traditions for generations to come.

particularly concerned about middle-class students who aren't eligible for Pell Grants." Changing the constitution would allow more students to receive educational assistance.

Out of the 13,969 mailing notices sent to members, approximately 4,000 Potawatomi returned their registration forms to become eligible to vote in the special election.

A three-person election board made up of Shawnee Area Bureau of Indian Affairs Supervisor Robert W. Jones, Joe LaReau and Tribal Vice-Chairman Linda Capps counted the ballots, and the local BIA agency posted the results before forwarding to officials at Washington D.C. for final approval.

More than 1,500 were in favor of the name change, and 1,813 approved removing age restrictions on scholarship funds.

CPN's seal prior to 1996 featured a black circle and included the words "Great Seal of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma." After the renaming, a new seal was created with colored pencil, pen and ink by hand. Designers crafted a digital version, which became the official symbol of CPN in 2003 and is still in use today. It serves to visually represent the Nation's sovereignty and strong, rich history and culture that will continue for generations to come.

Learn more about the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and read previous versions of the *Hownikan* at potawatomi.org. ♡

Cultural Heritage Center develops traditional Potawatomi games into online experiences

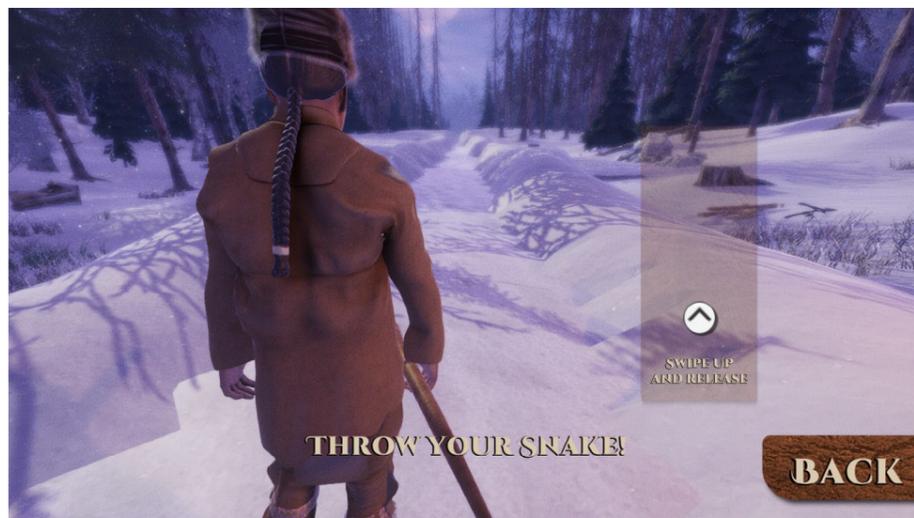
Since time immemorial, Potawatomi have come together to build community through traditional games such as *zhoshke'nayabo* (snow snake), *gwzege'wen* (bowl and dice) and *mamkeznéwen* (moccasin). The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center plans to release these games spring 2021 on a free, online format.

"The goal was to provide our members and visitors with a realistic virtual and cultural experience that creates a personal link from past to present. The various elements presented in this updated platform, from cultural lessons and gameplay to interacting with a period appropriate landscape, all enhance the educational value of the new program," said Blake Norton, CHC curator.

CPN Information Technology Department staff member Nathan Hawkins, CHC Studio Manager Shawn Barfield and Norton began developing digital concepts for *zhoshke'nayabo* (snow snake), *gwzege'wen* (bowl and dice) and *mamkeznéwen* (moccasin) in 2017. They worked together to create an interactive display for visitors to learn about traditional games within the CHC's gallery, *Gete Neshnabek Zhechgéwn*. Wanting to expand access and finesse the graphic experience, they plan to release



High-quality graphics and incorporating traditional elements help maintain key aspects of in-person play.



Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members can soon learn about their culture and customs through three digital online games.

them to the online gaming platform STEAM and within the gallery itself.

"We feel that they were a success but didn't provide a true virtual experience for our members," Norton said. "Understanding our technical limitations at that time, we knew we wanted to readdress our original goals for the games at a future date and exceed them with a 2.0 version. That is what we have done."

Creation process

Barfield headed the project, working with two Oklahoma-based industry experts, Dano Scarbrough and Dan Moyer. They took the initial games developed for the CHC and crafted the highest quality graphic experience possible.

"The original one was just a drawing," Barfield explained. "So it serves the function, but this is now a full, 3D game that you might see on your phone or on a home console."

Launching the updates required overcoming many obstacles, including a small team and the coronavirus pandemic.

"I think just not being able to get so hands-on with the developers during COVID has been probably the biggest challenge," Barfield said. "It's so easy to forget steps during calls versus sitting down and working

through it and actually solving the problem right then and there."

Moyer helped develop the character models, and Barfield focused on overall design and other 3D models while Scarbrough programmed. Rather than meeting in-person, the trio brainstormed and worked over the phone and video chat platforms.

"Video games are like films in which you basically hire an army to take care of all the little tidbits required to create a world," Barfield said. "So with just three of us ... I'm pretty proud of what we've accomplished visually."

The Potawatomi homelands of the Great Lakes region often have long, bitter cold winters. Several of the competitions featured are traditionally played during this season as a way to remain connected.

"We had to make this decision: OK, this is a big game that can take hours if you want it to, how do we make it a two-minute experience? It's a weird mix to try and retain that community feel in a timely manner," he explained.

Gameplay

Zhoshke'nayabo includes throwing a stick down a snow-packed passageway to see who can launch it the furthest. Once exclusive to men, *mamkeznéwen* usually

involves gambling and is similar to the shell game with a hider and seeker. Two teams sit opposite of each other and hide bullets under moccasins. The object is to distract and deceive the other side from guessing the correct moccasin. Only women played *gwzege'wen* at one time, using a wood bowl and eight dice. Six are painted, thin discs, and two are small, carved animals that represents the *gwzege'wen* owner's *dodem* (clan). Players use the bowl to flip the dice, earning points based upon how the pieces land.

To help preserve some of the games' intricacies, Barfield intertwined deception that is common while playing in their traditional format.

"If you move over a certain moccasin to find the bullet or the ball underneath, the character's face will change. They might look sad or they might look happy, and that's kind of a tell. You don't know for sure if that tell is fake or a real showing, so there is some psychology involved," he said.

Incorporating layered elements also helps provide the most authentic user experience possible.

"Music has always been a big part of gaming and emotionally convincing the enemy that you're strong, so that was an interesting thing for me to think about — that music can play a big part in deceiving the opponent or discouraging the opponent," Barfield said.

This project furthers the Cultural Heritage Center's mission to connect the Citizen Potawatomi to their history and culture through fun, educational platforms.

"These games allow the user(s) to step back in time and really feel what it is like to engage in these important social gatherings," Norton said.

The Cultural Heritage Center plans to release the games online as well as within its gallery *Gete Neshnabek Zhechgéwn* spring 2021. For more information on the CHC and its educational programming, visit potawatomiheritage.com. ♡

A rising tide lifts all boats

**By John "Rocky" Barrett,
Tribal Chairman**

In recent years, tribal governments across this state have developed sophisticated operations from once-modest organizations. Whether it's employing tens of thousands of Oklahomans, providing law enforcement in rural communities, or bringing in federal funds to pay for road paving, Oklahoma's tribal nations contribute greatly to our shared communities.

The value of tribes grew even more evident in 2020. Native nations across the state voluntarily adhered to the spring shutdown of non-essential businesses, focusing on keeping our food distribution and public safety operations open. Many tribes kept furloughed workers on the payroll,

even as revenues dried up. In fact, job numbers grew for some tribal employers. Many unemployed Oklahomans outside the major metropolitan areas found jobs and health insurance thanks to their new status as tribal employees.

The 38 federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma received funding as part of the federal CARES Act. Tribes used that money to support tribal citizens as well as government operations and businesses.

If you look to any part of rural Oklahoma within a tribal nation's jurisdiction, you will find countless stories about how these governments used their resources to keep Oklahomans afloat and healthy during this challenging year.

At Citizen Potawatomi Nation, we distributed more than 65 percent

of our CARES Act funds directly to our members for a myriad of uses, including online education, eviction prevention and income loss.

The public health work of Indian nations will help propel our state toward the end of this pandemic. Tribal providers are rolling out concurrent vaccination efforts that county public health departments are implementing in rural parts of the state.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services administered 3,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine in less than one month. This isn't as simple as just sticking a person with an injection. It takes months of planning and millions of dollars that wouldn't be in the state without the presence of tribes. In Pottawatomie County, CPN used

CARES Act funds to purchase the ultra-cold storage equipment necessary to house the Pfizer vaccines. We are housing these cold storage units for our own Tribal health services but also for our partners at the county health department and Indian Health Service.

Too often in Oklahoma's halls of power, tribal governments are portrayed as casino operations and little else. That could not be further from the truth. Almost all members are dual citizens of Oklahoma and our Indian nations. They are people who look out for rural Oklahoma because that is where their homes and businesses are. Our employees, relatives and friends may not all be tribal members, but what unites us is our belief that a rising tide lifts all boats, whether in the public health or economic realm. ♡

Darling family history

Each month leading up to June, the *Hownikan* will feature the history and background of each scheduled honored family selected for the 2021 Family Reunion Festival, including the Bruno, Darling, Hardin, Higbee, Lewis, Nadeau, Slavin and Smith families. The second in this series is the Darling family.

Ouilmette-Darling connections

The Darling family's Potawatomi ties began with the marriage of Elizabeth Ouilmette and Lucius (Louis) Ripley Darling.

Darling was of Scottish and Irish descent and operated a ferry. He married Elizabeth on July 15, 1836. She was the daughter of Antoine, known as one of the first residents of Chicago, and Archange Chevalier Ouilmette. Archange's mother, *Chopa*, was the daughter of Potawatomi warrior and headman named *Naunongee* from the Calumet River Potawatomi. *Chopa* is related to other famous Potawatomi leaders through marriage including *Nuscotomeg* (Mad Sturgeon), *Wabinewa* (White Sturgeon) and Main Poc. *Chopa* married Francois Chevalier, and the Chevalier family held a reputation as one of the main French-Canadian fur trading families in St. Joseph, Michigan, in the 1700s.

Antoine built a home near the Chicago River, and because of Archange's Potawatomi heritage, they did not flee during the Battle of Fort Dearborn in 1812. They protected William Wells' daughter Margaret Helm as the conflict ensued by hiding her under a feather bed. Wells and approximately 30 Miami warriors traveled from Ft. Wayne, Indiana, to present-day Chicago to assist Ft. Dearborn residents as they left the garrison. One year later, the Ouilmettes had a girl, Elizabeth, who was one of eight children.

Elizabeth first married Michael P. Welch on May 11, 1830, and they had two children: Catherine Welch and Joseph Welch. She then married Lucius Ripley Darling in 1836.



*Eliza M. Darling Smith
Eldridge Meloch Bressman*



Elizabeth Willmette and Lucis Ripley Darling

The Weekly Wisconsin newspaper in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, published on July 21, 1836, "In this Town on Friday morning last by rev. S. W. Beardsley, Mr. Lucius R. Darling, of Racine, to Miss Elizabeth Ouilmette of this place."

He removed to Council Bluffs, Iowa, with Elizabeth in 1837 and joined *Waubansee's* Potawatomi band, serving as a trader. Their son William was baptized there on June 9, 1838. They had thirteen children total: William, Francis L., Eliza, Lucius, Louis Oliver, Charles Nathan, and the remaining children died while infants.

Arrival in Kansas

The Treaty of 1846 required all the Potawatomi removed west to relocate on one reservation in Kansas, and the Darling family made their way there in 1847. Their children attended the Baptist Mission School for a year before a Catholic school opened nearby in St. Marys, Kansas.

On July 10, 1850, Lucius established a contract to begin operating the Potawatomi Nation Ferry 1.5 miles from Uniontown for \$650 a year.

Due to pressure from incoming settlers and business, the Potawatomi signed a treaty in 1861 that offered an opportunity to become U.S. citizens and receive land allotments. Although Elizabeth passed away before the process was finalized, Lucius and their children chose to receive individual plots of land and became members of the Citizen Potawatomi.

Lucius then married Theresa Hardin and had one child who passed away at a young age. With his third wife, Esther Hartwell, he had three children.

The Treaty of 1861 was not successful for many Citizen Potawatomi. The government refused to uphold all the provision's agreements, and numerous members lost their lands. The Tribe decided to sign another treaty in 1867 with the federal government that allowed Citizen Potawatomi to sell land in Kansas to purchase a new reservation in present-day Oklahoma.

Indian Territory

In 1872, an initial set of families made their way to the new reservation. Later that same year, a second group of families traveled from Kansas to present-day Oklahoma, including the some of the Darlings. Lucius and Elizabeth's children began crafting lives of their own on the prairies of Kansas and Oklahoma, while others looked for new opportunities on the West Coast.

Lucius A. Darling never married and received his allotment just north of present-day St. Louis, Oklahoma, in 1887. He passed away from pneumonia in February 1892 in Red Rock, Oklahoma.

William also never married, according to his sister Eliza Bressman's testimony, and received an allotment in 1872 near Highway 62 and Indian Meridian Road, east of present-day Choctaw, Oklahoma.

Francis L. "Frank" received his allotment in 1887, which included 320 total acres and portions of present-day Lake Thunderbird State Park. He married three different times. First was to Mary Sharrai, and they had three children: Rose, Carrie and Edward. After Mary passed away, he married Jennie Baunta and finally, Fannie Sutherland. However,

according to family records, due to the fact that Fannie never officially divorced her husband prior to Francis L., some never legally recognized the marriage.

Eliza Mariah married William Henry Smith and had five children: William Elsworth, Alice May, George B., Fedrick W. and John William. Through her second marriage to Daniel A Bressman, she had one child, Daniel Oliver.

Although Louis Oliver lived in Hoyt, Kansas, he received an allotment near Macomb, Oklahoma, in 1887. He and his wife Maggie had seven children: Frances, Anna, Louis O. Jr., George, Ernest, Louisa and Lucius.

While most of Elizabeth and Lucius's children helped grow and establish the Potawatomi connections in Oklahoma, Charles Nathan moved West, settling in Paloosa City, Washington. He and his wife had three children: Frank, Otis and Bina.

Since the late 19th century, Darling descendants have gone on to serve in the military, establish businesses, become talented athletes and more.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center provides resources to keep the Tribe's history safe and accessible for generations to come. One key way the Nation does this is through the CHC's archives. If interested in assisting preservation efforts by providing copies of Citizen Potawatomi family photographs, documents and more, please contact the CHC at 405-878-5830. Learn more about the Family Reunion Festival at cpn.news/festival, and find research resources online at potawatomiheritage.com. ♡

2021 ELECTION CANDIDATES

CHAIRMAN

John "Rocky" Barrett (*Incumbent*)
Lisa Kraft
Steve Castaneda

DISTRICT 1

David Slavin
Kevin Roberts
Alan Melot
Jon A. Boursaw

DISTRICT 2

Eva Marie Carney (*Incumbent*)

DISTRICT 3

Bob Whistler (*Incumbent*)

DISTRICT 4

Jon Boursaw (*Incumbent*)
Elexa Dawson

DISTRICT 11

Andrew Walters

Greemore descendant studies arctic sea ice as global warming intensifies

Born and raised in North Carolina, Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Jacob Pratt decided to attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks to obtain his master's degree in geophysics before visiting the campus or the state.

"I ended up packing everything I owned into my truck," and spent two weeks driving across the United States and through Canada, he said.

He studied geology at Appalachian State University in North Carolina after serving in the Marine Corps and living in Japan for three years. While working on his bachelor's degree, Pratt focused his research on glacial sediment in Alaska.

"It was the ... biggest challenge I had in undergrad, and so if I was going to do something at that next level, I wanted it to be something that I already felt challenged in at the level I was currently working," he said. "And so, I just wanted to see what the craziest, harshest conditions, toughest coursework — what's it got to offer?"

That desire led him to studying something called bottomfast sea ice in Utqiagvik, the northern most city in the United States, located in the Alaskan Arctic. Bottomfast ice can grow up to 8 feet thick during the winter, and in shallow areas near the coast, the entire water column can freeze. It gains stabilization when the ice sheet freezes to the floor and anchors in place.

"Sea ice is a valuable resource for coastal communities along the Beaufort Sea, especially," including transportation, Pratt said.

Scientists take as many ecological and environmental measurements

as possible to find trends affecting local fish populations and benthic (deep sea) communities.

"A lot of these things are big concerns for the food population, food availability up there, because subsistence hunting is still a large part of the Native communities' everyday life," he said.

As part of a 10-year study looking at changes in the local ecosystems, Pratt and other scientists frequently talk with the Indigenous populations. His advisor views their insight into the area as an invaluable resource.

"We like to sit down with the elders and ask them, 'What have you seen going on with the ice?' or 'Can you describe this weird process that we're seeing with the ice?' And sometimes, they have ideas that I wouldn't have even known to think of. It's due to thousands of years' experience around the ice, and their knowledge is endless," Pratt said.

Working with the Inuit peoples made the Greemore descendant eager to learn more about his Potawatomi ancestry from his maternal grandfather. While he has spent some time in Oklahoma, he hopes to attend the Family Reunion Festival and visit more in the future.

Running out of time

Based on current climate models, Pratt estimates sea ice in the arctic will see ice-free summers by 2035 due to rising global temperatures. That leaves less than two decades to study bottomfast ice, if trends continue. With advances in remote sensing data, he is working on new methods to identify bottomfast sea ice using interferometry.



Jacob Pratt's graduate research takes him to the northernmost points of North America to study rapidly declining sea ice. (Photo provided)

"What I'm using now is a method that looks at microscale motion at the surface level to determine whether or not the ice is stable — bottomfast ice — or whether it still has a dynamic component to it, which would mean that there's water flowing underneath it or it's susceptible to motion by wind or changes the in-ocean current," Pratt said.

While remote sensing data is a valuable tool, there still needs to be a ground component to verify lab results. Part of his work includes developing easier and faster methods for collecting the information, particularly ones more accessible to local populations. He started using his creation last winter. The pandemic prevented Pratt and other members of the research team from traveling back out into the field, and they lost their data. However, the importance of the work carries him forward.

"I will write a thesis detailing the interactions of bottomfast sea ice in Arctic lagoons and the surrounding ecosystem," Pratt said. "And so it still needs to be fleshed out a little bit, but a lot of it comes from the ecosystem responses. These studies will help to understand which systems will be affected most as ice thickness and extent continue to decrease at an unprecedented rate."

He gave a virtual presentation in December 2020 as part of the annual American Geophysical Union conference about his work mapping the locations of bottomfast sea ice and its importance. Always up for a challenge, Pratt hopes to get out into the field one or two more times before he graduates with his master's.

Find the American Geophysical Union online at agu.org or on Facebook @AmericanGeophysicalUnion. ♡

Communication, routine key to healthy families

By Darian Young, Family Preservation Coordinator

Appropriate boundaries promote healthy development in children and are a necessity, alongside love and support. They allow children and adults to feel safe, have clear expectations and know what is acceptable. Some boundaries are easier than others to develop and enforce, while others will need updated over the course of time as children grow and mature.

These invisible lines and zones mark the direct point when something turns from comfortable to uncomfortable, from allowable to unallowable and from healthy to unhealthy. Visualize a property line or a sports field/court. Typically, people know these borders and the consequences that follow crossing or breaking them.

As with physical boundaries in the world, our personal ones are likewise important. Healthy boundaries should exist in several forms within our homes. When it comes to safety, we teach things like: we cannot play in the street because of traffic, and we don't use our hands to hurt others when we are angry. When it comes to children's bodies, healthy physical

boundaries can manifest in teaching children that their body is their own, and if they are not comfortable giving an individual a hug or kiss, then they do not have to do so. Simultaneously, it is teaching children that same level of physical respect and consent for our bodies should be shown to others. We follow routines such as bedtime and bath time each day, which are examples that provide children security and can lessen the fear or anxiety that comes from the unknown or unexpected. Boundaries in the form of discipline occur when parents consistently enforce healthy consequences when rules are broken or not respected. For example, if a child is told not to do something such as throw a toy at a sibling, if the behavior repeats, the guardian implements consequence such as putting the child or toy in time out instead of only threatening and then ignoring the negative act. Emotional boundaries are similarly vital and can begin by prioritizing communication. Encouraging communication within a home makes children more aware of trusted individuals to talk to when strong feelings such as stress, anxiety, fear, sadness or anger bubble below the surface, or if something happens and

they need help. Additionally, teaching children to stand up for themselves when others attempt to disrespect or take advantage of them can strengthen a child's emotional boundaries.

Strong and healthy boundaries present throughout an individual's childhood typically will lead to an adult with secure ones as well. That is not to say one cannot develop healthy boundaries on their own if they were absent during childhood, but it will make it more difficult to establish them after one's self-identity is forged in adolescence.

Where to start if boundaries do not already exist within your family:

- Create simple routines for your children and family to follow each day. If routines are also a new concept to your family, start small, and choose one area or routine to work on first such as a set bedtime or curfew, or limited screen time.
- Announce the new routine or boundary through conversations with children, and consider posting the new expectation visibly as well. Be clear and exact when explaining

it, and ensure you are committed to enforcing the boundary. Then, slowly begin implementing it one day at a time, working toward the new expectation. Model the boundary yourself as well, or model a similar boundary to show that as a family everyone can work towards the improvement.

Strengthening your family's communication skills will simultaneously assist you in creating healthy boundaries. Carve out 10 minutes a day to intentionally talk to each child about their day, any issues they may be having, something that has made them happy recently, something they're looking forward to, something you as a parent could do better for your child, etc. Strengthening communication can strengthen bonds and increase empathy, making both creating and implementing steady boundaries much easier.

If you or someone you know are involved with the child welfare system or are interested in the services FireLodge Children & Family Services Family Preservation Program can provide, give us a call at 405-878-4831 or visit us on Facebook @CPNFireLodge. ♡

Tribal Chairman – John “Rocky” Barrett



Bozho nikan
(Hello, my friend),

I want to offer my most heartfelt condolences to Legislator Bob Whistler from Texas for the passing of his beloved wife, Linda. We will all miss her and our prayers go with Bob in his time of sorrow.

I hope all of you are well and taking every precaution with the coronavirus pandemic. Our medical staff is doing a heroic job in working to provide vaccinations for all of our fellow Citizen Potawatomi and their spouses. Because of

the effort and expertise of our clinic management and our investment in ultra-cold storage equipment, we have become a leading distribution point for the Pfizer vaccine. As a matter of urgency, our frontline health workers and most vulnerable elder populations are given priority. I urge all of you to seek this life-saving vaccination by contacting the CPN clinics.

The 2021 Tribal legislative election has exhibited some surprises and has ended up in CPN District Court already. This may seem a little complicated, but not so hard to do if one follows the law, which we have done and will continue to do. If you are being told differently on the internet or Facebook, *check the facts*. Call the Tribal office, and seek the truth. I will be glad to talk to you or refer you to a resource.

Here are the facts on the District 11 legislative seat election, up to today:

Normally, the District 11 seat would not be up for election

for two more years. In order to follow the Tribal Code and the Constitution (Article 12, Section 4), Lisa Kraft is required to resign her seat as a Legislator to run for Tribal Chairman. She did this by letter dated Jan. 5, which I received on the 6th. The deadline for filing for election was Jan. 13.

Since the *Hownikan* for January was already going in the mail and was out to the printer, the Election Committee was only able to put notice of her seat being vacant on the Tribal website and publically post it at the Tribal offices. One of our Tribal members, Andy Walters, noticed the vacancy on the Tribal website and contacted Representative Bob Whistler, his friend, about the vacancy on Jan. 8. Since five days remained in the filing period, Mr. Walters filed for election for the remaining term of office. The Tribal Code does not establish that either the Tribal Chairman or the independent Election Committee has the legal ability to extend or change the filing deadline. The Legislature can

change the filing dates by statute, but only before the deadline, not after the fact.

After the deadline expired, Mr. Jay Laughlin filed a protest with the Election Committee that the seat was not advertised as being open and he couldn't run. Of course, with Lisa Kraft waiting until just a few days before the deadline to resign, as required by law, knowing the *Hownikan* was out, the best that the Election Committee could do for notice was the website and a public posting. The Jan. 13 filing deadline had been posted in the *Hownikan* many times, for months.

The Election Committee rejected Mr. Laughlin's protest, and he appealed it to Tribal Court. The outcome of that appeal is pending at the time of writing this in late January. Lisa Kraft and her supporters have accused me of "packing the legislature." This is baffling. There is absolutely nothing I could have legally done differently. I wish both Mr. Laughlin, who has run for office

before, and Mr. Walters, who was a great help to the Tribe during his career as a police chief in Texas before he moved to Oklahoma, the very best. When the court rules, I will follow the judge's orders, as I must. As for the accusations, I have been through 10 elections with my Tribe. I expect some political maneuvering. But if you read something that someone says I did was against the law, please let me know. I welcome a trip to the Tribal Court to see justice done and have them repeat it under oath. I'm not old or tired, and as most of you know, it won't be my first rodeo.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Tribal Chairman.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

John “Rocky” Barrett
Keweoge
(He Leads Them Home)
Tribal Chairman

Vice-Chairman – Linda Capps



Bozho
(Hello),

America has had a tough year in 2020. To make it worse, 2021 is not starting out so well either. Despite the trend, I believe we are targeted to see a decline in COVID-19 soon. As COVID-19 vaccinations continue to reach states,

counties and cities, more and more people are being vaccinated each day. We must be patient, but we can surely do so after our trials in 2020.

Our Tribe has challenges for the year 2021, but we must go forward with an attitude of perseverance. Last year, the Tribe was left with lost time, lost earnings and lost opportunity. Regardless of the setbacks, our Tribe has many blessings for which to be thankful. God is ultimately in control, just like all the previous years, which is why we have grown this great Nation to what it is today. We have many tasks before us, including economic development, infrastructure improvements, acquisition expansion and continued quality enhancement of all our programs and enterprises. We must stay busy, even though we still

have employees quarantined. We are in hopes that the well-known phrase “This too shall pass” is appropriate for CPN's employment situation.

We also have an election to look forward to on June 26, 2021. It is a very important one, just like all CPN elections of the past, present and future. There will definitely be a walk-in election on that last Saturday of June, even if we do not have the Family Reunion Festival. Tribal members 18 years of age and older will get to cast their vote, whether it is by absentee vote or by walk-in vote. This is an exciting time for first-time voters. I had three grandsons who turned 18 before our last election, and they were elated to finally get to vote.

I would like to encourage all Tribal members who have never

participated in a CPN election to cast your vote this year. I feel certain there are many CARES funding recipients that have not had the opportunity to vote in the past. I am pleading with those who received funding to please vote in this upcoming election. This is one way to truly feel connected to your Tribe. Of course, all Tribal members should vote, but it is always a special occasion for those who have not voted in the past.

I want to extend a heartfelt “thank you” to those who have shown appreciation for the CARES funding by sending notes through the mail, email, by calling — some even texted. I am sure that most of the recipients are thankful for the funding. It was a true blessing for those in need to receive such a wonderful gift during a frightening pandemic.

Many of you have contacted the Tribe to inquire about additional funding. CPN Public Information Director Jennifer Bell and her Assistant Director John VanPool will get the message out to our people as quickly as possible if we should receive more funding from Congress.

It is my utmost pleasure to work with you, and for you, all these years as your Tribal Vice Chairman.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Linda Capps
Segenakwe
(Black Bird Woman)
Vice-Chairman
405-275-3121 work
405-650-1238 cell
lcapps@potawatomi.org

Virtual Potawatomi Leadership Program

The virtual six-week Potawatomi Leadership Program educates a group of promising Tribal students from around the world about the government, culture and economic development of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Where else can you get a crash course on CPN? After your time in the PLP, you'll be empowered with the knowledge and tools to be an engaged leader of the Tribe. Must be a CPN member, 18 to 21-years-old and have a 3.0 GPA.

TO LEARN MORE OR APPLY, VISIT PLP.POTAWATOMI.ORG

Application Dates

OPENS ON FEBRUARY 8 | CLOSSES ON MARCH 10



POTAWATOMI
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

District 2 – Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

Personal thank yous

It's important to me that I open this column by publicly extending my personal thanks to the many CPN personnel involved in distributing the CARES Act funding to our people. *Chi migwetch* (many thanks) for the role each of you played in this extraordinary undertaking during extraordinary times. I also want to thank everyone in Tribal Rolls for the extraordinary efforts they put in to enrolling many new citizens in 2020. I am hopeful that a second round of funding is forthcoming that will permit the Nation to put additional funds in the hands of those in need.

COVID-19 vaccine and personal and public safety information

I've been getting notes and photos from family, Tribal members and friends reporting that they have received the first of their COVID-19 vaccinations. I've also been hearing from some folks who aren't so sure about the vaccines. In addition to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)), another comprehensive source of reliable information is the Urban Indian Health Institute website at uihi.org. There, you can find fact sheets on the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines that provide important information on how and with whom the vaccines were tested.

Please, for everyone's protection and to help end this scourge, get

vaccinated and continue to conduct yourselves safely, consistent with the sound recommendations of nonprofit organizations such as the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health, which created this helpful graphic featured in this column.

Winter storytelling

With winter here, it's time to share some of our traditional stories. You can find on [evamariecarney.com](https://www.evamariecarney.com) the book *Winter Stories* that I put together in 2015 at cpn.news/emcws. If you are looking for the stories while browsing my website, it's under the "Heritage" tab; if you don't have the password for that protected part of the site, let me know, and I'll give it to you. (Publishing the password in this column would defeat its purpose.) The following story shared by a Wasauksing First Nations friend is a new one to me. It is about one of my favorite creatures, *Mshike* (Turtle). She told me that the story is "as told by Mike Swan, spiritual leader for the Pine Point community and Native American Cultural Liaison for Detroit Lakes Public Schools." Please note that Potawatomi teaching is that traditional stories I've included that involve *Nanabozho* or *Wiske* (or as below *Wenebojo*) are told only in the wintertime. This is the time when the earth and the spirits are asleep.



Lyle Simmons' pucker toe mkesinen (moccasins).

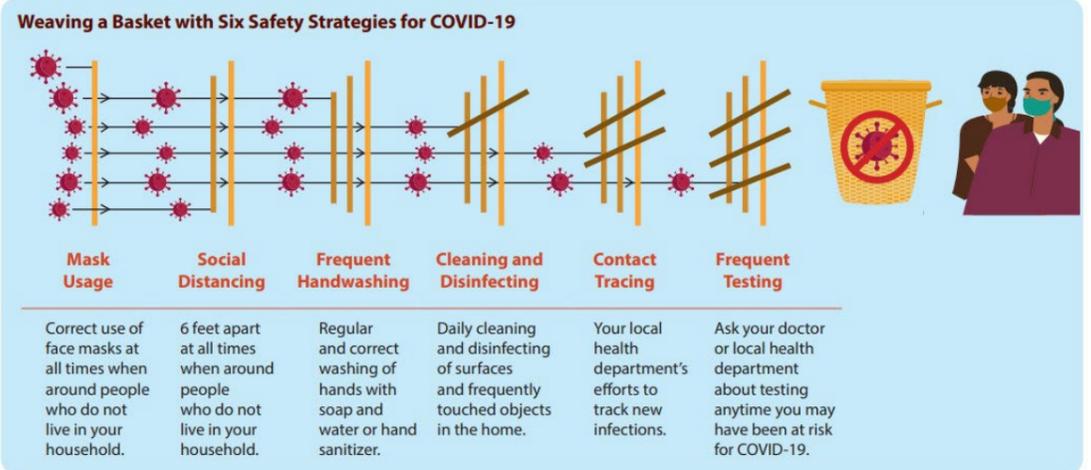
"Long ago, when the world was young, there were only two Turtles. They didn't have any shells or houses on their backs as we know them today. They were all soft.

In the woods, the strong animals hunt the weaker animals, and Otter planned on eating Turtle.

Weaving a Basket for Safety Against COVID-19

As winter approaches and COVID-19 cases rise, it is important for our community to know about the steps we can take to keep ourselves and our families safe from COVID-19.

Think of these safety steps like a woven basket. No single step will stop the virus by itself. But if we combine different steps like we combine woven strands, we can make a big difference in making our communities safe.



Effective November 13, 2020
Source: CDC

One day, Turtle wanted to go on land to take a walk, but he couldn't run very fast so he looked around to see if any of the other animals were there. As he looked around, he saw Otter coming. So, Turtle turned around, crawled under a piece of bark and drew his head, legs and tail in, and Otter didn't see him.

When Otter was gone, Turtle went back to the pond where he lived. But he didn't know that Wenebojo was watching him and saw how had he saved himself from Otter.

One morning Wenebojo was out fishing, and he asked Turtle where there were lots of fish. He said, "If you tell me, I'll give you a sturdy house that you can carry on your back."

As soon as the Turtle heard this, he dived down to look for fish and found a lot, and then he came back and told Wenebojo where they were. Wenebojo thanked him, and got out of his canoe and asked Turtle to come up on land with him.

There, Wenebojo found a piece of bark and put it on Turtle's back, and got another piece and put it on his stomach. Then,

they watched for Otter to come. When they saw him coming, Turtle went out on the path and pretended that he didn't see Otter coming. When Otter saw Turtle, he jumped on him so he could eat him, but Turtle drew his head, legs, and tail into the new shell and was safe.

After Otter went away, Wenebojo told Turtle that, "From this day forth, every Turtle shall carry his shell, or house, along wherever he goes."



Eva and Reva Wolf in pucker toe mkesinen (moccasins) during 2017 Potawatomi Gathering at Walpole Island First Nation, Canada.

a bit of comfort with her feet in some soft *mkesinen*. I'll be using the pattern and instructions put together by CPN District 2 citizen Lyle Simmons available at cpn.news/mocguide and watching the *mkesinen*-making video featuring CPN citizen Lakota Pochedley created by our Cultural Heritage Center as a refresher at cpn.news/mocs. Both of these instructional tools are also available to you anytime by visiting the "Heritage" portion of my website. I am cautiously optimistic that I'll be able to see many of you with your *mkesinin* in Grand Entry during either the last Saturday in June (Friday, June 25 to Sunday, June 27) for the CPN Family Festival or the last week in July (Monday, July 26 to Saturday, Aug. 7) when the Hannahville Indian Community hosts Potawatomi Gathering.

D2 family meeting March 13

I will be hosting another Zoom meeting on Saturday, March 13 at 11 a.m. ET. Among the guests will be CPN Family History Specialist Czarina Thompson, who will join us to discuss researching our Potawatomi lineage. I hope many of you can join. The Zoom link is cpn.news/d2meeting. If prompted, the meeting ID is 813 1043 6316 and passcode: 951681. I will send out the Zoom link by email to all in District 2 for whom I have email addresses.

My best to you and your families for the new year, and *migwetch* for the honor of representing you.

Kind regards and *bama pi* (until later),

Eva Marie Carney
Ojindiskwe (Blue Bird Woman)
Representative, District 2
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Regalia making

I recently pulled out some leather pieces to make a pair of traditional *mkesinin* (moccasins) for a Diné elder friend, Cathy. Cathy has been working diligently for her community during the pandemic, securing PPE and cleaning supplies, and coordinating distributions to individual elders and chapter houses within the Navajo Nation. She recently lost her daughter to COVID-19. She's put off knee surgery to care for others, so I am hopeful she will get that soon. Until then, I hope she can find

CPN District 2 Family Meeting with Rep. Eva Marie Carney

March 13, 2021 · 11-12:30pm

Join us to learn about researching our Potawatomi lineage from CPN Family History Specialist Czarina Thompson



Follow this zoom link to join:
cpn.news/d2meeting
Meeting ID: 813 1043 6316 | Passcode: 951681

District 3 – Bob Whistler



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

Medical insurance

As a reminder, under the Affordable Care Act, as Native Americans we are not obligated to purchase medical insurance if we have medical benefit service either provided by our tribe or from another service that is funded by either Indian Health Services or another Native American tribe.

For those of you that will soon be eligible for Medicare, I suggest you look into some type of supplement to Medicare. You can start looking into Medicare 90 days before you turn 65. Unfortunately, if you carry the basic Medicare plan, you may find very few primary care doctors, let alone specialists, willing to accept you as a new patient. The reason being that Medicare payments to the doctors are so low that they simply won't take you. For those that do, they tend to limit the number of visits by patients with that medical coverage, and you will find yourself put on a long waiting list. In 2021, if you are on Social Security, your Medicare deduction for basic primary care will be \$148.50 taken out of your Social Security benefits. Under basic Medicare, the so-called policy calls for them to pay 80 percent, and you pay 20 percent of your medical expenses. Moreover, basic Medicare does not cover prescription drugs. For that, you need Part D, which may run you from just a few dollars a month to over \$100 per month. The medications you need will dictate which firm you should use, and you are stuck with that added premium.

While you may be a member of CPN, you may have a spouse who is not, and they do not qualify for the CPN mail-order prescription drug program for

those 63 and older. For my wife who just recently walked on, we chose to skip basic Medicare and go with a firm called Care N' Care. They contact Medicare and have the \$148.50 transferred to them for part of the cost of their monthly insurance premium. We signed up for their mid-range program, and the monthly cost to us was \$55 each. For that program, our co-pay to the doctor was \$10 per visit, and Care N' Care covered the difference. For a specialist, the co-pay was \$25, and Care N' Care pays the agreed to difference. The Care N' Care plan includes them covering most of the cost of prescription drugs at no additional premium. This is much better than the Medicare plan where you pay 20 percent.

In 2020 due to my wife's cancer treatments for infusion and radiation, the total annual medical cost was right at \$300,000. Our out of pocket for all of that expense was just under \$4,500, plus the \$660 for the annual insurance premium. Yes, we had co-pay and some other fees that came in around another \$2,000. Had we not been using Care N' Care and but instead used basic Medicare, our medical expense liability would have been around \$30,000. Care N' Care is not available throughout the country or all of Texas, but if you live in north Texas, you may want to contact them to see if you are eligible for their program. Their phone number is 844-469-4220, or you can go online at cnhealthplan.com. To find general information about Medicare, go to medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE. By the way, if you are not eligible for Medicare and do not have an insurance plan at work, but had to get your own medical insurance, Care N' Care may be an option worth considering. And finally, I recently spoke to the insurance broker who alerted us to Care N' Care. He advised there are three new plans available for everyone in Texas over the age of 65. His contact information is Tai W. Chin. Phone numbers 888-778-9870 or 817-704-3480. I hope this information helps some of you.

Namings

On Dec. 19, I had the honor of naming one of our veterans and then assisted him in naming his daughter. Retired Lt. Col. James Spillman lives in the



Jim Spillman names his daughter.

Dallas area and unfortunately is very sick. I was contacted by his daughter, Dr. Monique Spillman, inquiring about him receiving a Potawatomi name. She worked with her father and got the completed paperwork to me in record time. Lt. Col. Spillman was a jet fighter pilot who served three tours of duty in the Vietnam War. His flying call sign in the air was Siesta (meaning "asleep" or "taking a nap" in Spanish). He received many awards during his service, including the Distinguished Flying Cross. While in his home, I was able to see a photo of him getting into his jet fighter aircraft, plus his bright yellow helmet and a display of his medals. I named him *Mba Ogechida* or Sleeping Warrior. After naming Lt. Col. Spillman, I read the script for him to give a Potawatomi name to his daughter, Dr. Monique Spillman. She is one of roughly 1,000 female doctors in the U.S. certified in gynecologic oncology. She is double board certified in obstetrics and gynecology. She serves as a Clinical Associate Professor at several medical schools, including Texas A&M and Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas. In addition to being Citizen Potawatomi, Dr. Spillman is of Scottish ancestry and a member of the Guthrie clan whose motto is "Sto Pro Veritate," meaning "I stand for truth." She exemplifies that motto where she currently chairs the American Medical Association Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs. We named her *Mshkeki-wkwe* or Medicine Woman.

Avoid hurting others

When I was dating my wife, I told her of a story I wanted

us to live by if we married, and it began as follows:

At about age 5 or 6, I recall that my brother and I were arguing and calling each other names. No cursing, but I wore glasses. He may have called me four eyes or something else, and I called him something he found unbecoming. My dad heard us and came out of the house with a hammer and some nails. He had us accompany him to the fence in the backyard. He had us hammer nails into the fence and then had us remove them, and then asked us what did we see. I'm not sure of our reply, but he then said, "Boys, when you live with someone, over time you will find a weakness that they have that really bothers and hurts them. When you are mad at them, you will use that weakness. That is the hammering of the nails into the fence. You may later feel bad and apologize to them. That is pulling the nails out of the fence. They say they will accept your apology, but inside they will never forget that you used that weakness against them. The holes in the fence will be there literally forever, just as their memory of you using that weakness may last their life time."

My wife and I tried to live by that story during our marriage. Yes, there were times we didn't agree on something and one of us would leave the room, and we didn't discuss the item again until we were calm and collected. We did finally come to an agreement that was satisfactory to both of us. If you were to ask my daughters if they ever saw their parents argue and call one another names or throw things at each other, they



Jim enters fighter aircraft.

will tell you no there was no fighting or that kind of anger in our home. Sometimes maybe a loud voice but nothing more. I give you this story because it worked well for me, and it is a primary reason my marriage lasted so long. If you have small children, when they start to argue, take them outside with a hammer and nails. Have them hammer the nails into a fence, then remove them and tell them this story. It may help them as adults when they get angry to enable them to stop before they say something for which they may regret and need to apologize for later.

As mentioned last month, I am running for re-election in June this year, and ads will be forthcoming next month in the *Hownikan*. I have been honored to serve as your representative in District 3 and would be proud and honored to continue serving you in the future. Please contact me if there are any areas involving our Nation where I may be of assistance. I'm only a cell call away.

I have had a few of you forward me your email address. It would be appreciated if you are not getting email from me that you send me that contact information, that way you will get items that come up in between issues of the *Hownikan*.

Gwshe gweyen
(A very sincere thank you),

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He Soars)
Representative, District 3
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Bedford, TX 76022
817-282-0868 office
817-229-6271 cell
817-545-1507 home
rwhistler@potawatomi.org
cpn3legislator@yahoo.com

2021 STORY AND ADVERTISING SUBMISSION DEADLINES

March	April	May	June	July
Submissions due on February 1 st	Submissions due on March 1 st	Submissions due on April 1 st	Submissions due on May 1 st	Submissions due on June 1 st
August	September	October	November	December
Submissions due on July 1 st	Submissions due on August 1 st	Submissions due on September 1 st	Submissions due on October 1 st	Submissions due on November 1 st

District 4 – Jon Boursaw



Bozho
(Hello),

We have all been through a lot over the past 12 months, and it doesn't look much better for several months to come. It is usually about this time of year when we are planning district meetings and scheduling naming ceremonies to be held in the spring. Unfortunately, all that is still on hold. Stay safe, stay well and we will get through this together.

Another CPN youth recognition

The following update regarding Haley Brown, *Dok me noj mo kwe*, was received from her parents, Toby and Kourtney Brown. Haley is in her final semester at Missouri Western State University graduate program pursuing a Master of Applied Science in sports and fitness management. She has maintained a 4.0 GPA, with one course left to complete. Haley is currently assigned to volleyball and softball; however, due to COVID-19 and the recent departure of their head athletic trainer, the staff will likely be spread across 14 to 16 sports since MWSU is considering playing all sports in the spring, including football. If she does get the opportunity to work with baseball team, she will be the team's first female grad assistant athletic trainer. Kourtney said she is hoping *The Griffon News* will write an article about it, as this is a great accomplishment for other women who are trying to break into male-dominated areas. At this time, Haley is not 100 percent sure what her plans are after graduation. There are a few jobs she is

thinking about applying for; however, she is also considering continuing her education to get her Ph.D. Well done, Haley.

FYI: Missouri Western State is a member of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association conference along with Fort Hays State University, Pittsburg State University, Emporia State University and Washburn University. For those you who may not know, Toby and Kourtney own the Brown Chevrolet/Buick dealership in Wamego. Remember to support CPN member-owned businesses.

CPN member selected to Kansas All-State Football Team

In last month's column, I wrote about Torrey Horak leading the Rossville High School football team to a 13-0 season and the Class 2 State Championship. Just a week after submitting my article, it was announced that Torrey was named to the *Topeka Capital-Journal* 2020 All-State Football Team. This team is comprised of the Top 11 most outstanding players in the state,

regardless of which position they played. Torrey is one of four quarterbacks selected and is one of four juniors on the team. For the season, he had 3,070 yards of total offense and 55 touchdowns. Torrey is the son of Wendi and Terry Horak. Well done, Torrey.

Keeping addresses updated

Obviously if you are reading this article in the *Hownikan*, your mailing address with tribal rolls in Shawnee is correct. I have recently learned that not all CPN members have notified tribal rolls of address changes. This applies to several young members who have moved out on their own and have not submitted an address update. Several of us have family relatives who have moved and not updated their address. If you know of individuals that are not receiving the *Hownikan*, let them know that it is very simple to do. The address change can only be done by the individual involved. The individual can go online to potawatomi.org, select "Services," then "Citizenship/

Tribal Rolls," and then select the "Change of Address form" located in the lower left corner. Print it, fill it out and mail it back to tribal rolls. Point to remember: without a current address on the tribal roll, a member will not receive a ballot request in the mail for the upcoming CPN election in June.

Finally, it has been a pleasure to serve as your legislative representative this past year, and I am looking forward to continuing to serve with enthusiasm. I have filed to run again as your District 4 Legislator for another term.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Jon Boursaw,
Wetase Mkoh (Brave Bear)
Representative, District 4
2007 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66604
785-861-7272 office
785-608-1982 cell
jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org
Office hours:
9-11 a.m. Tuesdays
3-5 p.m. Thursdays
Other times: please call

District 5 – Gene Lambert



Bozho
(Hello),

Wow, after all the political turmoil, coronavirus and life, we find ourselves in the month of February 2021. We did make it!

Since we are always writing a month ahead, this will be my first article in the new year.

February is often thought of as the month to recognize loved ones or embrace the cherished, heartfelt emotion itself. You have heard the saying "share the love."

Love truly is what makes the world go around.

See there, and you thought it was your bank account? Money really does make you feel better temporarily. That doesn't last the way it does when you love someone or when someone loves you. Just knowing they are there for you through the good, bad and the ugly gives you a home in the heart. We don't want to test it by getting too ugly, by the way.

I would really like to take this time to share the love, acknowledging our heritage and all Native people.

The intention is to connect to all the commonality that exists within the experiences we share.

Potawatomi online resources

Our language department has done a fabulous job of creating a lot of information about our heritage, traditions and stories for children. I reference it often. If you haven't been on that page, please take a look as there is so much there. Find more information at potawatomi-heritage.org/language.

We also have websites, podcasts, Google, YouTube and television flooding the market with knowledge.

This is not a social media promotion, rather an acknowledgement of our sources.

You could spend hours, if not days, just skipping from tribe to tribe, learning their stories, information and history.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is there also and greatly represented throughout most mediums. You can even find our museum on YouTube and a tour of what has been captured within. They have done a beautiful job preserving our heritage. It would be an opportunity to see for yourself if you haven't had the chance to visit personally. Check it out at cpn.news/YTCHC.

CPN legislators Bob Whistler and Dave Carney have also placed information you may want to check out on YouTube. Find Bob's presentation at cpn.news/D3TX and Dave's page at cpn.news/DAVECYT.

If there are others, please let me know as I don't want to offend anyone through a lack of acknowledgement.

Then we have Eva Marie Carney with her nonprofit The Kwek Society serving tribal women in this country. You may want to take a look and see if there is a way you could contribute. She too is a CPN legislator representing District 2.

Paul Wesselhöft is a legislator and a published author who writes about his life experiences growing up Native. His books include *The Redfeather Pentalogy* and *Eros: Penultimate Love*. I believe he has won awards.

Native podcasts

You would be amazed at how many Native people serve in multi-faceted ways to contribute to the growth and betterment of our people.

The *Red Nation Podcast* is a good resource that covers energy, spirit and youth.

Search online for an article titled *How Osmosis Can Bridge The Digital Divide Affecting Rural Tribal Lands*. Their focus appears to be on informing you of the less-than-average lifestyle that exists today on U.S. tribal lands.

Check out this article about nine Native women with podcasts at cpn.news/9podcasts. Each one allows them to tell their stories and educate the public on Native issues, customs and more.

Continue with Player FM app, and use it to follow along with Indigenous political programs, social gatherings and powwows.

Native American Calling is another podcast you can participate with via calling and responding to various subject matters.

It is all so interesting and really helps you to see the successes CPN has accomplished by comparison. I think it would be a bit like going to other countries and seeing how they live to become appreciative of what we have here in America regardless of our shortcomings.

You will find unbelievable participation and activities, far too many to name. Each podcast has their own areas of focus, so you can choose things most important to you.

YouTube and looking ahead for 2021

YouTube is absolutely amazing on Native subjects, and I know once you start, you will be there for hours.

Then we have all the Native music available on YouTube as well.

If you have been isolated, checking out all the resources available would be a great project and an interesting way to spend worthwhile time.

In my opinion, this would be better than Facebook given "I" cannot be trusted to keep quiet. Since my last article, I really have been trying, but it is going to take a little more time. You can't get to my age without a few strong opinions.

Obviously, there are others out there with opinions as strong or stronger. Just a side note:

please remember that is exactly what it is — an opinion.

Think of how many generations did not have the opportunity or the selection of gathering that needed information and entertainment.

If we do nothing else in 2021, let's have gratitude for who we are, what we have, and appreciate the fact we are here for another year.

Take the time to tell someone you love how important they are to you. It wouldn't hurt to tell them why they are important to you either.

As we have seen issues, situations and experiences happen continually and expeditiously — relish in the moment.

Create memories you can look back at next year with pleasure. Do things you have never done before just for the heck of it.

Contribute in some way to another who needs help. Think what the world would be like if we all did that? You too have something to share, so don't be afraid and think it's unimportant. Sometimes we help others without even knowing we are.

Let's get back to the small kindnesses that are an expression of love.

Sending you love.
Your legislator,

Eunice Imogene Lambert
Butterfly Woman
Representative, District 5
270 E Hunt Highway, Ste 229
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District 8 – Dave Carney



Bohzo nikan
(Hello friend),

Just as it seems things may be getting a bit more “normal,” they just get stranger and stranger. COVID-19 cases (and deaths) continue to take their toll as well as what seems like general craziness around the world. Sometimes, news events hit close to home.

On Dec. 2, there were devastating landslides as a result

of heavy rains and flooding in Haines, Alaska, a small town of less than 2,500. One of our CPN District 8 members is still missing and presumed to have walked on, Janae Larson. Janae is an amazing young woman who had just started teaching kindergarten at Haines Elementary School. By all accounts, she is respected and thought highly of by students and staff alike. Our hearts go out to her mother Kim and her family.

I learned recently that Beverly Holly, a second cousin to me, and her husband, Robert, were recently diagnosed with the coronavirus. Then, very tragically, I was told that she walked on in her home in Topeka, Kansas, on Dec. 20. Thankfully, her husband is making a recovery, I am told.

Beverly was a hugger with a huge heart. She loved all things concerning her Native heritage.

In fact, I only got to know her from interaction at the CPN Family Festivals over the years. Her husband, Robert, was always super supportive and right there, enjoying activities and tours, like the Nation’s eagle aviary. Beverly was a member of the Juneau founding family.

Whenever possible, I am staying in touch with District 8 members, but I can only do this if I have your contact information — especially email. The Nation does not



Damage from landslides in Haines, Alaska.



Janae Larson

provide this information to legislators, as many members assume. I would especially like to hear from members in Minnesota and Iowa, as I have very few connections in these states. Please email me at dcarney@potawatomi.org.

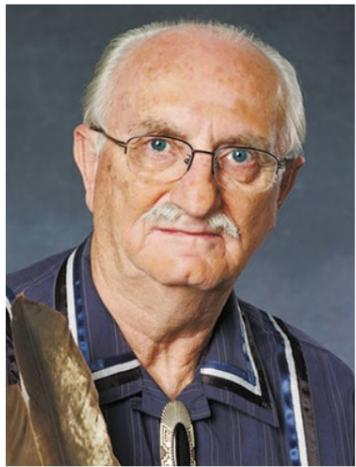
The status of the Family Festival has not been determined; however, there will be elections

at the end of June. The candidates are not announced (as of the time I am writing this); however, I do know that Chairman Barrett is running for re-election. I have a great deal of respect for the Chairman and the synergy between him and Vice-Chairman Capps that have gotten us the amazing success we have enjoyed and the stability that is lacking in so many other tribal governments.

As always, it is my honor to serve as your legislator.

Dave Carney
Kagasghi (Raven)
Representative, District 8
520 Lilly Road, Building 1
Olympia, WA 98506
360-259-4027
dcarney@potawatomi.org

District 9 – Paul Wesselhöft



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend),

I saw something the other day online, and it got me to thinking. Even in Oklahoma, there are a lot of people who misunderstand what a Native American is. In hopes of showing some of the strange responses I’ve received over the years when I’ve told people of my Potawatomi heritage, I wanted to share revised versions that highlight the inappropriateness of these statements and questions.

Six things Native Americans should say to white people:

1. How much white are you?
2. I’m part white myself, you know?
3. My great-great-grandmother was a full-blooded white American princess.
4. Funny — you don’t look white.
5. Do you live in a covered wagon?
6. Hey, can I take a picture of you?

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Paul Wesselhöft
Naganit (Leader)
Representative, District 9
reppaul@gmail.com
pwesselhoft@potawatomi.org

SPRING SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

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Apply at portal.potawatomi.org

Denise Smith Antonello



Denise Smith Antonello, 68, of Belton, Missouri, wife of the late John F. Antonello Jr., lost her battle with cancer and passed away peacefully on Dec. 15, 2020, at Research Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Born Nov. 9, 1952, at Camp Roberts Army base in California, she was the daughter of the late Dennis Smith and Wanda Smith of Kingsville, Missouri.

Denise graduated from Van Horn High School in Independence in 1971. She worked at the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City until she fell in love with her husband and started a family. Denise and John were married on April 29, 1972, and she spent her time as a mother and homemaker until his death on April 29, 2010. She then lived with her two sons and worked in the cafeteria at the Belton School District. During her time there, she made many friends, and it made her very happy to be able to work with children.

Denise was preceded in death by her father, Dennis Smith of Kingsville; her husband, John F. Antonello Jr. of Kansas City; and her grandson, Bryer John O'Reilly. She is survived by her mother, Wanda Smith of Kingsville; her daughters, Maria Antonello Chase of Peculiar and Angela O'Reilly of Harrisonville; sons, John J. Antonello and Anthony Antonello of Belton; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Beverly Holly



On Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020, Beverly Lillian (Goodson) Holly (Bev) "walked on" to be with her Lord for eternity. Our hearts are broken, but we know she is no longer suffering or in pain and that she is with her Lord and her Mother, who she sorely missed. Bev was

one of so many to suffer from and succumb to COVID-19.

Bev was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 23, 1952, but by age 1, she was in Topeka, Kansas, and lived there the rest of her life. She was the third child born to Melvin Andrew Goodson and Lillian Eileen Schwartz Goodson. Bev is survived by her husband of 35 years, Robert Kenneth Holly, Jr.; and three siblings: brothers, Mark Edward Goodson and his wife Susan of Longview, Texas, and David Andrew Goodson and his wife Connie of Ozawkie, Kansas; and sister, Amy Rose Herrick and her husband Randy of Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Beverly is also survived by her large "bonus" family. To Bev, they were never stepchildren.

Bev was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Her Native American name was *Wabenkwe*, which means Sun Rise Woman. She was a direct descendant of three Potawatomi honored families through Solomon Juneau and Josette Vieux Juneau; and their son, Narcisse Juneau and his wife Madeline Yott Juneau. She loved everything about her Native American heritage. She was ultimately the driver behind her immediate and extended family learning to love their CPN heritage and participating in the CPN's annual festival and powwow and Potawatomi Gathering.

Beverly's complete obituary and a video montage are available on the Davidson Funeral Home website at davidsonfuneral.com/obituaries. We will always love you Bev, and we will see you in heaven someday. Bama pi (*Until later*).

Dale Richard Lewis



Dale Richard Lewis — *Meshomes* — a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, peacefully passed away in his sleep Dec. 23, 2020, at the age of 77. Like his grandfather Arthur Kirkwood Lewis in 1918, Dale succumbed to the flu.

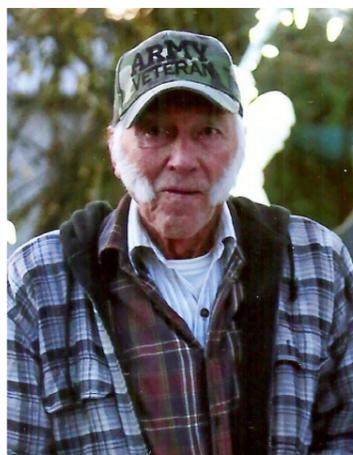
He was born April 7, 1943, in Chicago, Illinois, the seventh of 11 children to Lester and Dorothy (Guy) Lewis. At a young age, Dale was a volunteer firefighter for the Homewood Acres Fire Department, as was his father.

Dale proudly served as a private first class in the Army, traveling

all over in the early 1960s. Once out of the service, he met a young lady at the local Garfalo's grocery store by the name of Barbara Ann Hawkinson. In 1966, he made her his wife, and together, they raised six children and numerous grandchildren in their Richton Park, Illinois, home, loving, laughing and irritating each other the whole time. Dale was an avid reader, bowler and was involved in his community (civil defense and charities). He worked as a machinist most of his life for companies like Allis-Chalmers and Ardco. He loved cooking, going for walks, dancing and watching all the Chicago teams play.

Dale is preceded in death by a daughter, Jodi; sister, Gwen; brothers, Mike, Jerry and Keith; and parents, Lester and Dorothy. Dale is survived by his wife of 54 years, Barbara, and their children: Patty (Jerry) Rusthoven of Austin, Texas; Debbie (Steve) Hillmer of Clyman, Wisconsin; Tina (Jerry) Lisle of Griffith, Indiana; Dena Lewis of Mokena, Illinois; Dean (Melissa) Lewis of Channahon, Illinois; 11 grandkids, Justin, Alicia, Katelyn, Paige, Kira, Jared, Corey, Patience, Jacob, Stephanie and Samantha; great-grandkids, Olen, Sofie and still growing; siblings, Bob (Loucinda), Lester (Pat), Don, Kay, Maida, Dorothy (George), Cheryl, Jeannie, Marti and Anita; and many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends all over the country.

David Oliver Holloway



David Oliver Holloway of Safford passed away on Dec. 13, 2020, at his home with his family at his side. He was born on April 10, 1927, in Ada, Oklahoma, to Grover C. Holloway and Ophelia Lambert Holloway with siblings Opal, Leonard, Corlous, Carter, Bubba, Beck, Jim and Bill.

David joined the U.S. Army on June 6, 1945, in Oklahoma City and served during World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1946 in Houston, Texas, after having served in Germany. On Oct. 30, 1944, David married Hazel Emma Muck in Atoka, Oklahoma, and the couple was blessed with four children: Roy, Danny, Chris and Joan.

He was an upholsterer by trade but enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing pinochle, attending grandkids' ball games, birthday parties and his Potawatomi reunion powwows. He truly enjoyed being with family and friends.

David is survived by his wife of 76 years, Hazel Holloway; his children, Roy (ReNae) Holloway, Danny Holloway, Chris (Terry) Bowman, and Joan (Jim) Pettit; 14 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and his pet, Sammie.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Grover and Ophelia Holloway; his siblings, Opal Holloway, Leonard Holloway, Corlous Holloway, Carter Holloway, Bubba Spurlock, Beck Covington, Jim Holloway and Bill Holloway; and his daughter-in-law, Pam Holloway.

Arrangements are under the direction of McDougal's Caldwell Funeral Chapel & Gila Valley Crematory. Online condolences may be extended at caldwellfuneralchapel.com.

Imogene Huffman



It's with great sadness we announce the passing of our dear mother, Imogene Huffman. Imogene was born Dec. 1, 1922, in the Township of Bales, Pottawatomie County (McCloud), Oklahoma, to Samuel J. and Ruby L. Bryant. Imogene was 97 years old when she died from a stroke in Bakersfield, California, on Nov. 1, 2020.

Imogene's father, Samuel, was born on Oct. 14, 1896, in what was later known as Shawnee, Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma. Samuel's mother, Hannah E. Cummings, was born in Alma Township within *Wabaunsee* (Potawatomi for 'Dawn of the Day') County, Kansas, on Aug. 22, 1860.

Imogene was predeceased by her parents, Samuel and Ruby Brant; and her sisters, Lavern Whiteneck, Helen Butte, Jesse Taylor and Genevieve Minshew.

She is survived by her sister, Mary Alice Johnson; her children, Gary Alley (Suzie) of Fresno, California, Barbara Jones of Bakersfield and Avery Huffman of Canoga Park, California; as well as two grandchildren, Tiffany Jones (Joe) and Brian Jones (Lisa); and great-grandchildren Juniper, Lily, Ivy, Sierra and Kaila. Imogene also leaves behind cousins, nephews and nieces that dearly loved her.

Imogene was a loving, kind woman and mother who enjoyed sewing and reading her Bible. Her favorite religious song was *Amazing Grace*. Imogene won three blankets at various Potawatomi powwows for being the eldest attendee.

Imogene will be greatly missed by friends and family alike.

A burial for Imogene was held Nov. 11, 2020, at Hillcrest Memorial Park and Mortuary in Bakersfield.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at hillcrestmemorial.com for the Huffman/Jones families.

Mary E. Prickett



Mary E. (Pedicord) Prickett passed away on Nov. 24, 2020, after a short contest with COVID-19.

Mary was born on April 28, 1925, and grew up on land that her great-grandmother, Mary Margaret (Bourbonnais) Dike, chose as her Potawatomi Tribal allotment just after the Civil War.

She graduated from Kansas State University and soon after married David Prickett, an architecture student who served as a medic in some of the fiercest battles of WWII. David Prickett saw Mary Peddicord across the floor at a dance in college, and that was it. She was the one, though he had to work to convince her of that fact.

Mary and David began their life together in Wamego, Kansas, living above a dry cleaning shop. Their daughter, Mary Sue, arrived in 1952. Work took them to Topeka, where David designed several notable public buildings. Over the years, David also designed eight homes for the family that they built themselves. Each one was a testament to teamwork. David was the dreamer, and Mary made sure the job got done.

David retired early, and they hit the road in a succession of smaller and smaller RVs, traveling all over the United States, including several trips to Alaska. In the 1980s, they landed in Washington State, where they built two houses for themselves and one for their daughter. At 60-something, Mary was climbing on rafters, out-working most of the crew.

Mary was a champion for those in need. She was brave and strong and elegant without overdoing it. She was practical but always had room for art.

Mary has lived for the last several years at the Potawatomi Village in Rossville. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Sue Prickett, and her grandson, David Bowman Ross.

Michael James Dockry

Michael James Dockry, son of the late Dr. Patrick Francis Dockry and Genevieve (Doyle) Dockry, passed on Dec. 16, 2020, surrounded by his wife of 51 years, Eleanor Dockry, and his two sons, Michael John Dockry and William Patrick Dockry. He deeply loved his late sister, Mary Ann Harty, and brothers, Patrick Dockry and Dennis Dockry, their families, and his cousins and relatives. Mike was a beloved spouse, brother, father and grandfather. He was proud of his heritage, both as an Irishman and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Mike was descended from the Slavin family, and his Potawatomi name was *Nan Zhe Jewen* (Reflective Water), given to him by his cousin, Sr. Ginger Pearl, CSJ.

Mike enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and achieved the rank of sergeant in the early 1960s. Mike obtained his broker's license and began Dockry Commercial Real Estate. Business for Mike was always about relationships and doing the right thing. He was devoted to his Catholic faith and was a Norbertine Associate. He frequently attended Mass as well as morning and evening prayer at Saint Norbert Abbey.

Mike lived life in service to others and made everyone feel comfortable and welcomed. Mike served terms as president of the local chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, distinguished president of a Green Bay Optimist Club, and president of the Norbertine Associates. He served on several boards, including Saint John's Homeless Shelter and the American Indian Center in Green Bay.

Mike loved people, sailing, long walks and animals. He loved any dessert and could help his friends (particularly

dieting ladies) finish their desserts. And of course, he loved the Green Bay Packers.

Mike's memorial Mass can be viewed online at Saint Norbert College Parish's Facebook page.

Scott Charles Arnett

Born Sept. 7, 1963, Scott Charles Arnett, age 57, cellular engineer for Verizon Wireless, passed away Dec. 9, 2020. There was no visitation, and funeral services were held on Dec. 14, at Smith Mortuary, in Derby, Kansas.

Scott was preceded in death by his parents, George and Pat Arnett. Survivors include his wife, Laura; sons, Josh Arnett (Rachel), of Derby, and Ross Arnett, of Wichita; daughter, Amy Sacket (Dylan), of Wichita; brother, Jason Arnett (Tammie), of Grand Island, Nebraska; sister, Amy Hellsten (Dag), of Doniphan, Nebraska; grandsons, Cayden and Logan; niece and nephew who called Scott "Uncle Dad," Ashley Smidt (Josh) and Derek Jones (Rebecca).

A memorial has been established with the Kansas Humane Society, 3313 N. Hillside, Wichita, Kansas 67219.

Randy Glenn Goodman

Raymond Glenn Goodman was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on Sept. 4, 1941, to Thomas Samuel (Buster) Goodman and Hazel Lorene Weathers Goodman. He passed away on Dec. 18, 2020, from complications of COVID-19 in Midwest City, Oklahoma.

He is survived by two sisters, Darla Wells and Shirley Laster. He is also survived by brother, Thomas Goodman.

He lived his younger years in Shawnee and spent a lot of time with his grandparents at

the Bourbonnais Cabin, which is now part of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center. He later moved to California where he graduated from South Gate Senior High School and attended Long Beach State College.

He had a successful career in IT for 25 years in system analysis, programming computers.

He was a naturalist and loved all the cosmos.

He purchased a wall tile memorial to Iva Lou Lazzelle, his grandmother, and himself at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C.

In his later years, Raymond truly embraced his Potawatomi heritage and donated his regalia, which was mostly handmade by him, to the CHC. His wishes were to have a memorial feast at a later date.

John Ross Greenwalt

On the afternoon of Christmas Day 1957 in San Diego, California, Reverend A.L. Greenwalt and Alice Greenwalt received a present they would never forget — the birth of their son John Ross Greenwalt. He is the sixth of seven children, six boys and one girl. In 1979, he married the love of his life, Cathy Lynn Close. They had three children: John Ross II, David Matthew and Alicia Amber. Having given his life to Christ at an early age, John surrendered his life to preaching the good news of Jesus for a little more than 25 years, serving seven churches throughout California. On Dec. 28, 2020, John was called home by his Lord and Savior. He is survived by his wife, four of five brothers, sister, his three children and eight grandchildren.

Jane Kreeger

Jane Kreeger was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister and friend. She died peacefully in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on Dec. 28, 2020, at the age of 63.

Jane is survived by her mother, LaVonne Ware, of Seminole, Oklahoma; sons, Kyle Kreeger and Colt Kreeger along with their wives and children; and one sister, Teresa Dean of Seminole, Oklahoma. She was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Danny Kreeger, and her father Jimmy Ware.

Born on July 14, 1957, in Seminole, Oklahoma, to Jimmy and LaVonne Ware,

Jane graduated from Seminole High School in 1975 and completed an associate degree at Seminole State College in 1976. She married Dan Kreeger, her high school sweetheart, on July 26, 1975. As a lifelong resident of Seminole, Jane worked as an accountant for various area businesses and in the oil industry. Jane's children remember her as a kind and devoted mother who worked hard to provide opportunities for her family and encouraged them to pursue their dreams and goals.

Jane loved spending time at the lake, caring for her many plants and small dogs, and celebrating every holiday with lots of decorations and fanfare. She was a generous person and a loyal friend. She spent most of her life as a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Seminole where she enjoyed volunteering and helping with vacation bible school. Jane helped her husband Dan run the local little league football program for several years.

The family plans to hold a celebration of life service at a later date in safer times.



Hau ndenwémagnek
Ho my relatives

Ébyé yak shote gnom
We have come here today

Éwi nesh myé yak ode wdenwéma
To lay our brother to rest

Ngom she épam sét ode
Today he walks

Ga wje zhyé wat gi gambojek
Among those who have passed on

I yé i ébgednoyak ode ngemwen
That is why we offer this song

Émno shketot wa je zhyat ibe shpemsegok
That his journey will go well where
he goes above

Iw énaj moyan
That's all I have to say

A Potawatomi prayer for a specific loved
one who has walked on.

By Don Perrot

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

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.