

HOWNIKAN

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Potawatomi Fire receive
championship rings



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Sanchez named Citizen of the Year

CPN Tribal member and employee Nicole Sanchez received a surprise leading up to the holidays as she was named Citizen of the Year by the Tecumseh (Oklahoma) Chamber of Commerce.

"I was completely surprised to be nominated and in the running for this prestigious award," she said, adding that she was shocked when she was announced as the winner. "I think every other person who was nominated was more deserving than myself. What an honor to represent my family, my Tribe and my community!"

Kimberly Elliott, executive director for the Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce, said all chamber members in Tecumseh and Shawnee have a chance to nominate candidates for the Citizen of the Year. A committee of three narrows those nominations down to three candidates, and then each business that is a member of the chamber gets at least one vote in determining the Citizen of the Year.

She said Sanchez is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Tecumseh School Board, and overall very active in the community and events.

"To know Nicole is to love Nicole. She's definitely a people person, and she loves to make others happy. I think that contagious joy is one of the reasons she received the most votes," Elliott said. "She puts her heart and soul into the community, and the community loves her back."

Sanchez, a member of the Bourbonnais family, was raised in Tecumseh, where she attended school, graduating with the class of 2000. She attended Seminole State College in Seminole, Oklahoma, then received her degree in business administration from St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Oklahoma, in 2006, after earning the *Nishnabe* Potawatomi Leadership Scholarship from CPN.

"I have never left my hometown. I never wanted to," she said. "There is so much beauty to be found in Tecumseh, beauty that only comes from generations of families and ties that simply cannot be broken."



Nicole Sanchez, center, is pictured with CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, left, and Stacey Bennett. (Photo provided)

Sanchez spoke proudly of daily life helping her grandfather Carlisle Jenks outside, driving fence posts and feeding cattle with her father James "Bud" Jenks, and helping her grandmother Kay Anderson Jenks with sewing projects.

"A favorite memory of mine is the summers my Mema and I spent making Potawatomi regalia for the other women in my Tribe. The love of my Tribal heritage was something that both my grandparents instilled in me, and for that I am so grateful. Teaching me to keep that fire going and be the light for others," she said.

In 2000, she started working for CPN first for a few weeks at the mini putt golf course, then part-time as a convenience store clerk while attending college. FireLake Discount Foods, which actually sits on land that was once

the allotment of land Sanchez's family received in the 1800s, was under construction at that time.

After the grocery store opened, Sanchez worked there part-time before moving to full-time in 2003. Today, she is FireLake Discount Foods' marketing manager, and she oversees the marketing and social media for the store.

"I have an enjoyable and unique job at CPN," she said. "I am 'Passionately committed to retail excellence, one customer at a time.' That is our vision statement. For me, that goes far beyond the sales floors."

Sanchez married her husband, Julio, in 2005, and they have three children, Blakeley, Drake and Titus, as well as two stepchildren, Micah Sanchez and Micaiah Sanchez-Crawley. They also have four grandchildren.

She said she enjoys playing with her grandchildren and exercising her creativity through many mediums.

"I love all things that have to do with nature. You can often find me at one of the local lakes in my kayak or chasing those beautiful Oklahoma sunsets to take a photo," she said. ♡

Bystander intervention could save others from abuse

By Kayla Woody,
CPN House of Hope Prevention Specialist

Domestic violence is gaining more coverage in our society today. We hear about it throughout social media and news outlets. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, more than 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men experience rape, physical violence and/or stalking by the hands of their intimate partner. A question that most ask is "What can I do to help?"

An effective way to help victims is learning to be an active bystander in your community. Bystander intervention is a vital part of the fight against domestic violence. An engaged bystander can help someone by intervening before, during or after the situation. Many hesitate to intervene because they do not know the best way to handle it.

Warning signs that a situation may be abusive

Is the aggressor:

- Acting excessively jealous of their partner?
- Insulting or embarrassing their partner in public?
- Yelling at or trying to intimidate their partner?

Is the victim:

- Acting submissive?
- Showing physical injuries or wearing unusual clothing as if to hide an injury? (i.e., sunglasses indoors or long sleeves in summer)
- Anxious to please their partner?
- Afraid of their partner; talking about their temper, possessiveness or jealousy?
- Restricted from seeing family and friends?
- Limited in access to money or a car?
- Depressed, anxious or suicidal?

Bystander barriers

- I am unsure what to do or say.
- I am not sure if it is safe to intervene.
- I do not want to embarrass myself or the people involved.
- What if it is not really abuse?
- I do not want to offend anyone.
- I do not know the people involved.
- It is really none of my business.
- I do not feel comfortable judging someone else's behavior.
- No one else is doing anything.
- I hate conflict.



How to be an effective bystander

It may not always be safe to confront the perpetrator. Here are some tips on involvement at every stage of a situation.

1. Interrupt or distract.

When you witness the altercation, simply pretend to ask for directions or act as if you know the victim and start a conversation.

2. Confront the perpetrator.

You can interfere by respectfully telling the harasser that their actions are not okay.

3. Request assistance from others.

The more people who can assist you in stopping the situation, the more likely the violence will end.

4. Make a scene.

Sometimes attention to the situation can delay an escalation.

5. Call in professionals.

If the situation is threatening your safety or the safety of others, it is best to contact law enforcement to assist.

6. Familiarize yourself with local domestic violence shelters.

The best way to assist someone after the fact is to give them contact information to a local domestic violence shelter to seek safety and resources.



Employees raised money and donated toys for local charities during the Grand Casino's Christmas party. Pictured, from left, are Grand Casino Admin Services Manager Tedda Hogan, Food and Beverage Manager Ka'Rrie Lee, Captain Ian with the Salvation Army, Cash Operations Manager Carol Doyle and Assistant Director of Facilities/Maintenance Kristen Roberts. (Photo provided)

CPN helps give back during holiday season

Citizen Potawatomi Nation helped give back to the community during the holidays as employees hosted a variety of food drives and fundraisers.

Each year, the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort plans a Christmas party, and this year, employees who attended made cash contributions or donated toys to benefit non-profit organizations, including The Salvation Army and FireLodge Children and Family Services. In total, the employees collected \$2,699 in cash in addition to the donated toys.

CPN employees also collected donations for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to be passed out to families in need. More than 600 pounds of food were donated for Thanksgiving, with 350 baskets given to families for their holiday dinners. Another 350 baskets were distributed for Christmas. Baskets included ham or turkey and ingredients for a holiday meal, in addition to supplies for breakfast and a second meal. 🔥

How can you make a difference?

With the staggering statistics of domestic violence, there is a good chance that you know someone who is affected. Most often, violent situations remain behind closed doors, but if you pay close enough attention, you will see that perpetrators also act aggressively in public. Educate yourself on behaviors to look for and spread the word in the community about helping.

- Recognize that domestic violence is a real problem in the community.

- Speak up about bystander intervention and the importance of helping others.
- Do not brush off uncomfortable situations; say or do something.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault and would like more information, contact CPN House of Hope at 405-275-3176 or visit us online at facebook.com/cpnhouseofhope. 🔥

Language update

By Justin Neely, CPN Language Department Director

Bozho Jayek, (Hello everyone),

Ni je na ginwa? (How are you all?)

We are starting a new beginner class on site here at the Cultural Heritage Center from 6-7:30 p.m. Central Time starting March 5, every Tuesday and Thursday for six weeks. This class will be taught by Cole Rattan and Josey Wood, who also taught our last class and did an excellent job. We will be sharing a Zoom link for those who would like to attend but don't live locally. We will record each class and also post on our YouTube channel for those who have to miss a class.

We will be doing our Winter Storytelling March 13 in the Cultural Heritage Center from 6-7:30 p.m. Central Time. We will be doing this live as well. We have a number of stories which traditionally we only tell in the winter, preferably when there is snow on the ground. For many years we have had just a sprinkling of snow or even none at all. In order to adhere to these cultural guidelines, we tell these stories in the winter season before the arrival of spring.

Starting January 10, we began a new lunchtime class every Wednesday for our elders at the Elders' Center here in Shawnee. We start around 11:40 a.m. and end before the meal or bingo starts. This class is being co-taught by Cole Rattan and the newest member of our language team, Shelly Watson.

We are also starting to do daily or every other day live classes at 2 p.m. Central Time which can be found on the Potawatomi Language Facebook page. Thursdays we are going to start doing an Intermediate course.

If you haven't checked out our online dictionary. Check it out at potawatomidictionary.com.

Also try some of our online courses at learning.potawatomi.org.

We have an Introduction course which is 20 chapters. We also recently added a middle school course designed for young people who can read. We are currently working on two other courses we hope to have up and available very

soon. One is a grammar course which will allow you to jump around to different areas of grammar where you feel you need more help. There will be games, activities and videos to help you fine tune your Potawatomi Language skills. Such categories as VAI, VII, VTI and VTA verbs, pluralizing, asking questions, etc. The other course is a children's course designed for younger kids who can't read. The course will be broken up into categories like weather, colors, numbers, animals and objects. The course will have cartoons, songs, movie spoofs, learning videos, cultural teachings and puppet shows.

As we get to Valentine's Day, we will share a few words for love. In Potawatomi, it depends on which word you use. *Debana* is the verb to love someone like a child or a good friend. *Menwénma* is the verb to love someone like a girlfriend or a spouse.

Dbandewen gishget - Valentine's Day (love one another day) (duh ban duh win geesh git)

Mno dbandewen gishget - Happy Valentine's Day (mih no duh ban duh win geesh git)

Gdebanen - I love you (guduh ban in)

Gdebanenem - I love you all (like a child) (guduh ban in um)

Gmenwénmen - I love you (spouse/ girlfriend) (Guminwanmin)

Waskonédo - flower (waskonehdo)

Waskonédoyen - flowers (waskonehdoeyin)

Nde-kweyom - my lady/my woman (ndukweyome)

Nabém - my man (Nah bam)

Dé - heart

Ndé - my heart (day nday)

Washkbek - candy (washkuhbuck)

Mingoswen - gift (meengosewin)

Yakwémeshen - Hug me (Yackwaymeshin)

Jimshen - Kiss me (Jeemshin) 🔥



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION **HEALTH SERVICES**

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Representatives from several tribes present information about services and programs available to schools at the TED Forum.

CPN hosts Tribal Education Forum

Citizen Potawatomi Nation hosted the Tribal Education Departments' Forum (TED Forum) at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort in November.

Representatives from a variety of tribes and organizations presented information to educators from around the state, offering insight into what sort of services and opportunities are available for schools and Indigenous youth.

"The purpose is to gather as many TEDS (Tribal Education Departments) as possible in one place and have them speak directly to the counselors and educators," Charles Lee, assistant director of the CPN Department of Education, said. "This way there is no confusion about what services each nation provides to their citizens, and it will remove any obstacles for students to receive services."

Lee added the event also gives the tribal education departments a chance to speak to each other and form relationships that could lead to future collaborations.

More than 70 representatives attended the forum, coming from 46 school districts and 25 different counties across the state of Oklahoma.

Among those presenting were representatives from Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Absentee Shawnee Tribe, Choctaw Nation, Comanche Nation, Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, The Muscogee Nation, Osage Nation, Sac & Fox Nation, Quapaw Tribe, American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Representatives discussed what programs and assistance are available from the various tribes, many of which included scholarships, advising, internships, ACT workshops, college fairs, graduation stoles and assistance paying for youth programming such as camps and extracurricular activities.

Among the services offered by CPN were scholarships, advising, internships, ACT workshops, an annual college fair during the first week of September, graduation celebration, lesson plans for social studies and government teachers,

the Johnson O'Malley Program, youth programming that pays for things like camps that develop leadership, the Potawatomi Leadership Program for 18 to 20-year-old students, and a new program called Coming into the Circle.

AISES presented about the National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair (NAISEF) at Oklahoma State University. The fair is for students in 5th through 12th grades, and students can participate individually or in teams of up to three.

The representative from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs discussed BIA Pathways Internship Program, a federally-funded program that helps students find paid internships as well as careers after graduation.

The TED Forum is in its third year, with the CPN Department of Education planning to host it annually.

For more information about the CPN Department of Education, visit cpn.news/education. 🔥



Educators and counselors from around the state listen to presentations at the TED Forum.

Hardin family history

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's 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 and video interviews.

To highlight some of the archive's holdings, the *Hownikan* is featuring photographs and family history of every founding Citizen Potawatomi family. If interested in assisting preservation efforts by providing copies of Citizen Potawatomi family photographs, documents and more, and to schedule family interviews, please contact the CHC at 405-878-5830.

Hardin family beginnings

The Hardin family is closely related to the Lafromboise family. Their Potawatomi roots stretch back to the marriage of Francois Lafromboise to *Shaw-we-no-quah*, a Potawatomi woman. Two of their sons were notable in Potawatomi history.

Their son Joseph Lafromboise married Therese Peltier. Joseph, later to become Chief Joseph, and Therese had a daughter named Theresa. The younger Theresa was known in the family as "Chee Chee."

Claude Lafromboise, also the son of Francois and *Shaw-we-no-quah*, married *Nankiwas*, a Potawatomi woman. (*Nankiwas* may also be known as *Mankwas Keminkiwie*) They were the parents of Marguerite (Margaret), Susanne, Francois and Marie. Claude worked as a trader and bootlegger as well as a boatman with the American Fur Company. He also served as an interpreter for the Prairie Band Potawatomi.

Claude was very proud of his children's Potawatomi heritage and encouraged them to be proud as well.

Facing removal

As settlers began to encroach on their homelands, Joseph, now a Chief, and his brother, Claude, fought in the Black Hawk War alongside *Sauganash* in an attempt to hold onto Potawatomi lands. Chief Joseph was one of the Chicago Chiefs, along with Chief *Wabunsee*, Chief Thomas "Billy" Caldwell or *Sauganash*, and others. Ultimately, Black Hawk surrendered on Aug. 27, 1832. Two months later, the United States demanded Potawatomi-owned land, and drafted a treaty that ceded all the Tribe's acres south of the Grand River in Michigan in exchange for two small reservations.

However, on Sept. 21, 1833, the federal government claimed nearly all Potawatomi land with the Treaty of Chicago. It established the United States' rights to the reservations in exchange for five million acres in present-day Iowa.



Elizabeth Hardin with grandson John Boy Anderson

Chee Chee and her family removed to Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1835 before making the journey to the Potawatomi reservation in Kansas. In the mid 1830s, she married Thomas Watkins and they had three children.

However, Theresa and Thomas parted and she married John Allen Hardin in 1846. The couple had three children named Mary (Riley) (Bostick), Theresa and Peter.

After John's death, Chee Chee married Madore Beaubien. Together, they had seven children.

John Allen and Theresa's daughter Mary wed John Riley and had two children, Elizabeth and Alice. She then married David Bostick, and they had seven children: Harry, Joseph, Harriet, Lilly, Ella, Frank and George.

According to family records, Theresa passed away before the Potawatomi received allotments, and Peter died due to an accidental gunshot wound at age 16. Mary married Robert Darling and the couple had two children. Sadly, both children died young.

It was also in Council Bluffs that Margaret Lafromboise, who had removed to Iowa alongside the other Lafromboise family members, married John Hardin, who was originally from Missouri. While in Iowa, they

had four of their seven children: Elizabeth (Anderson), Davis, Thomas “Bud” and Julia (Anderson).

The Hardin and Laframboise families remained in Iowa until the Potawatomi signed the Treaty of 1846. This agreement established a reservation near Silver Lake, Kansas, for all of the Potawatomi west of the Mississippi. After the move, John and Margaret had three more children: Narcis, Roseann and Mary Louise (Reed).

The journey to Indian Territory

Due to continued pressure from white settlers, the railroad and federal government, the Potawatomi signed the Treaty of 1861. The treaty separated the Potawatomi in Kansas into two groups: one remained living communally on an 11-square-mile reservation while the other opted for each member to receive allotted plots of land and the opportunity to become U.S. citizens, including the Hardin family. Those who remained living communally are known as the Prairie Band, and those who took allotments became members of the Citizen Potawatomi.

Margaret and John’s son, Davis, would grow up to be a Tribal secretary for the Potawatomi in the late 1800s. Davis Hardin supported Citizen Potawatomi sovereignty and stood in opposition to the U.S. government’s attempts to usurp it. His signature appears on an 1883 letter in the CHC archives that protests the enrollment of non-Native men who had married Potawatomi wives. The letter, signed by the CPN council, states “We therefore claim the rights and privileges the Act of Congress confers upon us...to designate who are our members, and who shall be members of the Citizen Band of Pottawatomies.”

Thomas Hardin would later marry Lizzie Rhodd. Their daughter was named Maggie Hardin (Dickinson).

John and Margaret’s daughter Elizabeth married John Anderson, and their children included: Elizabeth (Madole), Charley, Tom, John, Minnie (Bursch), Rosette (Sims), Maggie (Smith), Julie McEvers, Mary (Daniels) and Sophia, who died young.

Elizabeth’s sister, Julia, married John’s brother Pete Anderson.

Life in Oklahoma

The Treaty of 1861 was not successful for most Citizen Potawatomi, so the Tribe signed another treaty in 1867 that allowed for the purchase of a reservation in Indian Territory where the Nation’s headquarters remain today.

John and Pete Anderson’s families were among the Citizen Potawatomi families who settled the Tribe’s new reservation in Indian Territory.

At the age of 31, Julia (Hardin) Anderson passed away during childbirth, and Margaret Hardin Clinton and Mary Hardin helped raise Pete and Julia’s children for some time.

Shortly after getting established in Indian Territory, John and Pete Anderson as well as Davis Hardin were active Citizen Potawatomi leaders.

Davis Hardin eventually served as the Tribal secretary and held other roles throughout his lifetime. Fluent in Potawatomi and Kickapoo, Davis helped serve as an interpreter in many dealings. He married Hannah Goodboo, and their children included Rosa, Peter, Minnie and Annie (Anna).

Approximately six years after the death of Julia, Pete passed away tragically in the line of service within hours of becoming deputized. Today the family is still seeking the final resting places of Julia and Pete and are offering a reward for any information that may reveal the gravesites. Some of the children attended Scared Heart Mission for some time, and eventually Joseph W. Daniels — husband of Mary Anderson — became the children’s legal guardian.

Hardin and Anderson descendants have continued upholding their families’ legacies as Tribal leaders, both volunteer and elected, through military service, trades and more.

If interested in assisting preservation efforts by providing copies of Citizen Potawatomi family photographs, documents and more, and to schedule family interviews, please contact the CHC at 405-878-5830. Schedule interviews online at portal.potawatomi.org. Learn more about the Family Reunion Festival at cpn.news/festival, and find research resources online at potawatomiheritage.com. 🔥

JOIN THE NISHNABE NERDS FACEBOOK GROUP

A community space from the CPN Department of Education for Potawatomi students, parents, educators and community members.

Share ideas, resources, questions and goals about learning and education in a supportive environment.

Fanning the flames of the Seventh Fire for the next seven generations through education!

 NISHNABE NERDS

Szupica receives 2023 Michael John Kennedy Scholarship



Casimir Szupica (Photo provided)

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation awarded the 2023 Michael John Kennedy Scholarship to Bourassa family member and University of North Carolina student Casimir Szupica.

In the essay he wrote to apply for the scholarship, Szupica talked about the history of Potawatomi warriors through history and how they have influenced and molded CPN.

"The Potawatomi dedication to their warrior skills is an example of continuous self-improvement, even to the present day," he wrote. "As I viewed the online Potawatomi Veterans Memorial and began to search for my own family members, I was struck by the number of Potawatomi who followed and continue to follow the tradition of the *Wédasé*. Their duty to their country and selfless service is a great credit to the CPN and the tradition of the *Wédasé*."

He also discussed his own family members, including his grandfather, Clark Richard McCauley, who served during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, and his uncle, Timothy Quinlin McCauley, who served in Vietnam.

"Hearing stories about them and their service, especially as my grandfather died before I was born, encouraged me to join the Army and be a part of the tradition

of the Potawatomi Warrior. One day, following their footsteps, I hope I can be called *Wédasé*," he wrote.

Szupica grew up in Malburn, Pennsylvania, where he went to school and joined Boy Scouts.

Now a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he is studying geology with plans to graduate in the spring and commission into the United States Army as a second lieutenant in the chemical corps.

The interest in geology, however, goes back to his childhood.

"When I was a kid, I really liked dinosaurs, and geology is one of the ways to do that," he said, adding that he did some paleontology work in Montana a couple of summers ago. "I don't know if I'd like to pursue that further when I'm out of the military, but I'm keeping my options open."

For now, he's hoping to be stationed in Korea as his first duty station, and then maybe at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington.

"I hope as a first lieutenant to either serve as a chemo (a chemo being short for chemical officer) in the 75th Ranger Regiment or on a chemical reconnaissance attachment, which is attached to a special forces group," he said.

Szupica isn't sure if he'll make a career in the military or pursue other paths, such as with the U.S. Geological Survey or working for FEMA, but ultimately, he would like to buy land in West Virginia and start a farm.

"It's a good combination of cheap land and not that many people, and also, the weather has a distinct four seasons. You're up in the mountains, so you get a good amount of snow, and I've always liked snow," he said.

The Michael John Kennedy Scholarship is funded by the estate of Army veteran and CPN member Michael Kennedy. It is open to college juniors and seniors and welcomes children and grandchildren of veterans to apply.

Charles Lee, assistant director of the CPN Department of Education, said the winner of the scholarship is chosen by an independent review committee that reviews essays by metrics such as mechanics, relevance and impact.

"Casimir's story really stood out to them because of his family's long history of service and his way of folding that into Potawatomi values and how he is continuing that tradition," Lee said.

"I'd just like to express my gratitude for everything that CPN has done for the past four years," Szupica said. "It's definitely helped me out a lot."

For more information about the MJK Scholarship, or to apply, visit portal.potawatomi.org. 🔥



CPN employees helped distribute holiday food baskets to local families.

Workforce & Social Services spread holiday cheer for families

By **Stephanie McElfresh,**
Safe & Stable Families/Homemakers Counselor

During the months of November and December, the Workforce and Social Services Department coordinated with Administration, Child Development and employees across the Nation to put together a total of 700 holiday food baskets. There were 350 baskets for Thanksgiving and 350 baskets for Christmas. Employees generously donated from throughout the Tribe to ensure our bigger household sizes received more food than “just a meal.” Having these holiday baskets available for families in need helps to take at least one stress away from families during such a trying time for everyone.

Each family that received a food basket received either a ham or turkey and all the fixings for a breakfast, main meal and a secondary meal as well as a few extra items to help. CPN staff and a few service organizations completed referral forms nominating recipients for a food basket. All referrals are vetted so there are no duplications. As a team, we worked together for the greater good of the community. We have several departments that donated their time and volunteered to help prepare the baskets. Our heartfelt THANK YOU to all who contributed or participated. It is very heartwarming to see, hear, and know together we made a difference in so many households. 🔥

CPN hosts ribbon cutting for new playground

Citizen Potawatomi Nation hosted a ribbon cutting for a new playground at Citizen Place North.

CPN Housing Director Scott George opened with a prayer, and some of the elders drummed and sang traditional songs.

The event also included food, games and giveaways. The Housing Department and Workforce and Social Services served hot dogs and hot chocolate. Cole Rattan with the Language Department led basketball in Potawatomi. Cheryl Richardson with WIC offered face painting.

Citizen Place North also has several new units under construction, with another playground and storm shelter planned to be added. 🔥



Housing Director Scott George cuts the ribbon for the new playground at Citizen Place North.

Tescier family offers Potawatomi history to local museum



Gary Helberg and several Tescier descendants recently gathered in Harrah, Oklahoma, to discuss family history.

A discussion at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Family Reunion Festival has motivated members of the Tescier family to ensure that Potawatomi history is included in a local historical society's museum.

Gary Helberg said when he and his mother, Glenda Payne, visited the Harrah Historical Society's Museum in Harrah, Oklahoma, they noticed the museum didn't have many items representing Potawatomi history.

The land for the town's original site was donated by Tribal member Louis Navarre, who was first to arrive at his allotment in the 1870s. While a plaque outside the museum mentions Navarre, the town was later named in 1898 for Frank Harrah. Navarre Street is prominently located near the center of town.

Helberg said he and some of his Tescier cousins realized during the 2023 Family Reunion Festival that some of their elders who best remembered the family's history have walked on. With their passing, important pieces of history could be lost, he said.

"My mother and I, over the last few years, we had been looking at our background and our family on the Potawatomi side," hoping to preserve as many memories as possible, he said.

Local history

The goal to preserve their family history spurred Helberg and his mother to stop at the Harrah Historical

Society's Museum. Glenda Payne is knowledgeable about the town's ties with the Potawatomi. Both sides of the Helberg family grew up around Harrah.

They admired the museum's collections, but they noticed that other than the plaque outside the museum that referenced Louis Navarre, there was only a small booklet about Potawatomi history.

"We were really enjoying the facility. I was just noticing, there wasn't anything on the background, the heritage of our Nation there," he said.

Helberg recalled the conversation at Family Reunion Festival and decided the museum would be a great location for Tescier relatives to gather and discuss the Navarre and Tescier families' histories.

Next, he discussed the idea with Lester "Bud" Merritt, Helen Kusek and other cousins. They agreed it would be important to explore their family's history and share that information with the Harrah Historical Society.

"We decided, let's get together somewhere and just talk about our family and maybe, with that historical society, we could do a little research. They might have some information that would be helpful. That was the initial idea," Helberg said.

He hopes other historical societies will consider including Tribal members as they gather information and artifacts and put together displays. Helberg believes the

cooperative effort would enhance the visitor experience and give local families a place to share their relevant historical documents, photographs and more.

Future efforts

While the process has just started, Helberg is hopeful that it will lead to future cooperation between CPN and local historical societies or museums.

"I hope more of our people can go and see (their local museum). Local museums have a lot of information in their books and articles," Helberg said. "I also hope local museums can come and see our Cultural Heritage Center because it's just spectacular."

He urges historical societies to consider adding a standalone Potawatomi history exhibit. Helberg believes this could be possible if a local museum worked with the Cultural Heritage Center to either create their own display or ask area Potawatomi families to possibly loan items for an exhibit.

Helberg imagines that eventually, a CPN volunteer or Native American history major could help curate the standalone Potawatomi exhibit, periodically updating it with new artifacts.

Having a Potawatomi perspective could help broaden the museum's reach and fill in any possible gaps in an area's timeline, he said. While many towns like Harrah may have ties to Potawatomi families, they may not have enough information to share that history.

"We're just one family, right? There's so many more out there (that need to be included). I mean, the (family) name may be up there, but nobody ever puts the two together," he said.

The staff at the Harrah Historical Society Museum were receptive to Helberg's idea and agreed to host the inaugural Tescier/Navarre meeting. Museum volunteers were present and the group discussed Harrah families with Potawatomi heritage.

CHC Family History Specialist Czarina Thompson, a Tescier/Bourbonnais descendant, attended to share additional Potawatomi history. In addition to Helberg, Merritt and Kusek, Helberg's sister, Lyndee Runyon, and Kusek's daughter, Cerise Douglas, also attended.

Helberg hopes more Potawatomi families will get together and find creative solutions to preserve family history for future generations.

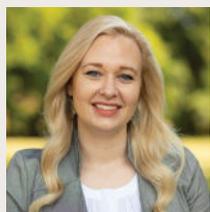
"I know museums are always kind of limited on space or personnel to manage it, but there's just so much more (history) out there that is just going to disappear if you don't get a hold of it," he said. "We're definitely going to get together again and probably continue meeting. Once they get into a group and start talking, that's where you pull out some of the information."

To begin exploring family history, visit the Cultural Heritage Center website. 🔥

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Potawatomi Fire receive championship rings

Pictured from left are K.D. Moore, Fire Head Coach Mark Dannhoff, Chuck Guy, Deshawn Munson, T.J. Maston, and FireLake Arena General Manager David Qualls. Fire players Moore, Guy, Munson and Maston all received championship rings at a banquet Jan. 18.

The Potawatomi Fire, the only tribally-owned basketball team in the nation, received championship rings at a banquet Jan. 18 at the FireLake Arena.

In only its second season in The Basketball League, the Fire took home the National Championship at the end of the 2023 season when they defeated the St. Louis Griffins 98-89 in game 3 of the finals.

Not only did the team win the championship, but others received honors during the 2023 season as well.

Fire Coach Mark Dannhoff was named Coach of the Year, Chuck Guy was named Defensive Player of the Year, and the Fire Girls were named the best dance team in the Central Conference.

At the banquet and ceremony, championship rings were presented to the Fire players and Fire Girls, in addition to Dannhoff receiving his Coach of the Year ring and Guy receiving his ring for Defensive Player of the Year. Deshawn Munson also received his ring for being named 2022 MVP for TBL.

Fire sponsors were also honored at the event. Vyve Broadband and Chick-fil-A were presented with framed,



autographed jerseys for their support. Pottawatomie Go (a health initiative also known as PoGo) and SSM Health (which provides the team's trainers) were not able to attend but also received jerseys.

"We were humbled by the show of support from our fans and sponsors who came out to honor our players," FireLake Arena General Manager David Qualls said. "It's a once in a lifetime opportunity."

The Potawatomi Fire will kick off the 2024 season against the Enid Outlaws at 7 p.m., Friday, March 1. Tickets and the 2024 season schedule are available online at potawatomifire.com.

"We're excited for this season," Qualls said. "We're loaded with the high caliber of players that can lead us to back-to-back championship wins."

Find the Potawatomi Fire on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#). 🔥

Veterans Report

Bozho (Hello),

Every week the Veterans Affairs Department (VA) sends a newsletter that has resources like free concert tickets, farming assistance, workout programs, national park passes and Veteran discounts on hundreds of services available to the Veteran community. Here are some of the most popular Veteran resources:

Veterans Day retail discounts, free meals and other offers: on Veterans Day, Veterans and their families, caregivers and survivors have access to hundreds of free meals, discounts and other freebies. There are many discounts available year-round.

Veterans are set to see a cost-of-living increase to their benefits. The Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Act of 2023 directs VA to provide a cost-of-living adjustment for Veterans' benefits in 2024 equal to the COLA applied to Social Security benefits, as determined by the Social Security Administration.

Veterans and Gold Star Families get a free lifetime pass to national parks, wildlife refuges and other public lands. The U.S. National Park Service offers a lifetime pass that provides free entrance to national parks for Veterans and their families. The pass gives them free access to about 2,000 public locations spread out across more than 400 million acres of public lands.

Explore resort and hotel deals through the Armed Forces Vacation Club for Veterans. For Veterans who have served our nation with dedication and sacrifice, finding opportunities to relax and rejuvenate is essential. The Armed Forces Vacation Club is a valuable resource that offers a chance to enjoy well-deserved vacations without breaking the bank.

200 remote jobs from Veteran friendly employers: working from home offers veterans and their families the flexibility they need to carry out their job responsibilities.

Experience live events through Vet Tix with friends and family. Vet Tix is a national nonprofit group that provides free tickets to veterans and service members for live events, including concerts, sports, performing arts and family themed events. You can become a VetTixer by creating an account for free at [Vettix.org](https://www.vettix.org).

In tax season, how can veterans maximize their tax benefits? Veterans may be eligible for certain tax benefits under the tax code. There are some key federal and state tax benefits for veterans. Sign up for the #VetResources weekly newsletter. You can sign up at [VA.gov/VetResources](https://www.va.gov/VetResources). All VetResources newsletters can be viewed at news.va.gov/category/vets-experienc/vetresources.

Your VA ID Card is the proof you need for discounts. How do you get one? First, you need to apply for VA's



I JOINED THE MARINES BECAUSE THIS RECRUITER ASKED ME! NOBODY EVER ASKED ME TO JOIN ANYTHING BEFORE!

Veteran ID Card (VIC), a digital photo ID you can use to take advantage of the many discounts offered by businesses, including restaurants, hotels, stores and recreational activities, among other perks.

Remember our monthly meeting of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Organization is the 4th Tuesday of each month, February 20 (unless otherwise notified due to weather or conflicting events) at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the CPN Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and spouses and their families are welcome. Membership in the Veterans Organization is not required; come and visit us and enjoy our socializing. For more information, you can contact Daryl Talbot.

Daryl Talbot, Commander
daryl.talbot75@outlook.com
405-275-1054 🔥

Language fair continues to grow

The Sam Noble Museum's Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair has received a grant to support future Indigenous language revitalization efforts in Oklahoma.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation children are among the thousands of students from across Oklahoma who gather at the Norman, Oklahoma, museum to showcase their knowledge of their ancestral language. A \$20,000 grant will help organizers expand the 2024 event.

The language fair is held in early April at the Sam Noble Museum on the campus of the University of Oklahoma. It is free and open to the public.

The funds will help the museum increase the language fair's visibility as well as provide additional creative opportunities.

"Goals for this funding include budgeting for more high-profile speakers at the event, increased outreach and partnership with local schools and tribal organizations and including an interactive language and print-making workshop/demonstration on both days of the fair," said Alexander Mann, Sam Noble Museum.

CPN Language Department Director Justin Neely is excited that the boost provided by the grant will expand the fair's offerings and encourage more people to participate.

"One thing I've noticed different this year is they have a lot more categories," he said. "They have one for short video, something that you might put on TikTok. I've noticed there are a lot more options."

Another part of the 2024 event that Neely is looking forward to is the addition of speakers. He said Mosiah Bluecloud (Kickapoo), is expected to speak at this year's event. Bluecloud previously taught Sauk (Sac & Fox) and Kickapoo in Oklahoma before earning his master's degree in linguistics. Bluecloud is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Arizona and is a highly sought after consultant on language projects.

Neely said Bluecloud and other speakers will likely share insights that are helpful for many attendees, who either teach language or coordinate their nation's language program.

Mann said the grant will help meet current and future demands for language revitalization programs.

"Apart from an expected dip during the pandemic years, the language fair has been pretty consistent about seeing growing attendance year over year, so I think it's accurate to say there is a growing demand for language revitalization," Mann said. "The grant specifically aims to help us increase outreach and participation even further, supporting the fair's goals to enrich the education of students, increase awareness of the diversity of Native American languages, and provide supportive social

interactions for students to make discovering Native culture a positive and encouraging experience."

Neely agrees with Mann that the demand for language revitalization will continue to grow.

"Most people, I think, would agree that we're in that seventh generation where we're trying to pick up those things that have kind of been left behind and trying to bring our languages forward into the future," he said. "It's hard sometimes, but I think languages are a critical point for most tribes, where they're down to their last few (first-language) speakers. But I'm kind of a glass half full guy so I look at it more like, all we have is up."

Driving growth may be the increasing visibility of Indigenous languages in popular media, such as movies, television and more. Recently, Blackfeet actress Lily Gladstone won a Golden Globe award for her role in *Killers of the Flower Moon* and included Blackfeet in her acceptance speech. The Disney streaming service premiered *Echo*, a series focusing on a Choctaw youth that included the Choctaw language.

"I think that's wonderful. I think it makes the language visible. It makes people realize that we're still here. We haven't disappeared. We're still trying to practice our traditional ways. We're still trying to keep our culture going and keeping it alive and looking to the future," Neely said.

Over the past few years, the language fair has offered several benefits to Neely's staff. They enjoy networking with other language teachers.

"We don't have a lot of opportunities in Oklahoma to gather with other language programs and kind of pick each other's brains. I'm a big believer that we don't have to always remake the wheel. Oftentimes if something works for one tribe, it will definitely work for another," he said. "It helps to bring all of these different language programs, language instructors together where you can kind of talk shop a little bit."

Most of all, he's proud the event offers CPN a chance to highlight their language learners.

"It gives us a chance to really highlight these young people and encourage them because, obviously we want those young people to start picking up the language and take pride in it. And there's not a lot of opportunity to do that for them. It's a chance for these kids to get that encouragement that's really helpful," Neely said.

The next level

Neely said he hopes in the future, the fair will discuss how to implement technology into language programs. At CPN, the use of Zoom, Facebook



and other programs have helped the Tribe reach its citizens who live far from Tribal headquarters.

"I could see offering some help for how to set up different free language programs because there are places where you can make free courses and there's free content you can put out, like on YouTube and stuff like that," he said. "But you have to know how to (use the technology)."

He also advocates for exploring different teaching styles.

"We could look at things like TPR or total physical response, or TPRS, total physical response storytelling. TPRS is a style of teaching that involves, immersion teaching. It's basically using a story to act things out," Neely said.

Beginning learners

Neely encourages Potawatomi who are new learners to start small and include *Bodéwadmimwen* as part of their daily routine. This will also encourage their children and grandchildren to use the language as well.

"If you learn hello, start using *Bozho* in your house. You don't have to speak in complete sentences.

As you learn words and concepts just try to incorporate them into your house. In my house we never say water, we always say *Mbish*," he said.

Several projects are in development in Neely's office to help incorporate *Bodéwadmimwen* into households. One will use QR codes to identify and sound out the words for common household objects, such as furniture or cooking utensils.

"Whatever you learn, whatever you can pick up, try it out, use it with your kids," he said. "If you need certain words or concepts, don't be afraid to reach out to your Language Department. We're happy to help people."

Neely pointed out that all language learners are welcome at the language fair, not just instructors and youth, and he encouraged more people to attend.

"Language is really a defining principle and what it means to be Indigenous. It's part of our ancestry. It's part of our pride in who we are. But it's also one of the defining characteristics that makes us a unique people," he said.

For more information about learning *Bodéwadmimwen*, visit the Language Department. 🔥

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From the executives



John "Rocky" Barrett Tribal Chairman

Bozho nikan, (Hello, my friend,)

At the end of January, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation signed a ten year compact with the State of Oklahoma that maintains the substance of a longstanding cooperative agreement between our Nation and the State about the details of tobacco sales by the Nation within our jurisdiction.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation engaged in discussions with the Oklahoma Governor's office, and we reached terms that are mutually beneficial to the Nation and to the State.

This compact is a tangible confirmation of our continued belief that both the Nation and the State do better when we work together. We are grateful that through these discussions, we have avoided unnecessary conflict, uncertainty and economic disruption. The Nation is always willing to discuss matters of mutual interest with State officials on this and other overlapping priorities.

The Compact's ten-year duration and possibility of subsequent renewal at the end of the first term promotes stability for our revenue and for our workforce. The terms of this agreement are good for both parties, as they should be in any agreement.

The matter of CPN's motor vehicle tags has been of recent concern to some of our Tribal citizens. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has exercised self-governance over vehicle tags for decades without the necessity of an agreement with Oklahoma, as have the vast majority of other Tribal Nations in Oklahoma.

Some State officials have recently requested that we discuss an agreement on this topic. We are presently in such discussions. We are also in communication with leaders of other Tribal Nations in Oklahoma about the issue. We may at some point determine that it is best for the Nation to reach a compact with the State on motor vehicle tags, and we are always willing to discuss matters of concern with neighboring governments.

Whatever the result of these ongoing conversations may be, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's commitment to wise self-governance over its citizens' vehicle tags, as with so many other issues under our jurisdiction, will remain unchanged. And we will continue to promote and protect public safety in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, in cooperation with law enforcement officials from other governments, whether Tribal, Federal, State or Local, as we always have.

Until that time, if you have an issue with an Oklahoma State law enforcement official declining to recognize the validity of your Tribal tag, feel free to notify our legal department.

Megwetch (Thank you),

John "Rocky" Barrett | Geweoge (He Leads Them Home) | Tribal Chairman



Call for Artists

Heritage Park Public Art Project (Potawatomi Trail of Death)

The JCPRD Public Art Program is interested in commissioning a site-specific, permanent sculpture at Heritage Park to commemorate the Trail of Death and celebrate the resiliency of the Potawatomi tribe. The Trail of Death, a forced removal journey of the Potawatomi tribe, occurred in 1838. This 660-mile grueling trek passed through the land that is now Heritage Park in Olathe, KS.

Applications Due: Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Artist Eligibility: Professional artists residing within the United States with a tribal affiliation that is recognized.

Expected Installation: April 2025 | Project Budget: \$100,000

View the RFQ + Submit your interest: jcprd.com/1968



Linda Capps Vice-Chairman

Bozho (Hello),

It is common knowledge that cremation is gaining in popularity and continues to outpace traditional burials within the United States. According to the National Funeral Directors Association, the percentage of people choosing cremation is expected to surpass 70% by the year 2040, while conventional burials will decrease to around 16%. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation recognizes this fact and has been planning to build a columbarium for several years. These plans have come to fruition during the later part of 2023. Road construction to the columbarium is now underway and near completion.

A columbarium is a room, building or wall that is designed for the interment of the remains of people who have died and been cremated. Columbarium niches, or cremation niches, are the compartments within the columbarium that hold a person's cremated remains.

The niches of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Columbarium are large enough to hold two urns or other containers of ashes. There is a plaque on the front of each niche that will have the name and other information of the people whose ashes are interred within the niche. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has purchased a laser machine, and the Public Information Department will oversee all engraving on the plaque for each niche.

The new columbarium is the first of several columbariums that will eventually be built at the Mission Church site, just north of the CPN East Clinic. Each columbarium will contain 400 niches. As the niches are filled, CPN plans to build other structures to mirror the first columbarium. The columbarium is a labor of love for CPN's future since cremation is a choice for more and more Americans. The leaders of CPN believe that giving our people the choice to be cremated is a sound, practical choice for the interment of the ashes of loved ones.

Each niche in the CPN Columbarium is approximately 11" wide by 11" high by 15" deep, which is room for two small urns or boxes of ashes. Presently, there is no charge for obtaining a niche, but for this first columbarium there are guidelines regarding the age of those applying for niches. A form that contains more information will be printed in the March edition of the *Hownikan*. CPN will have available the proper size urns needed for interment. There will be a modest fee for these urns.

One question that will be asked is, "Can a non-Potawatomi be buried with the Tribal member?"

The answer is "yes." Most spouses of Tribal members are non-Potawatomi. Another question is, "Can a non-Potawatomi spouse be buried first?" The answer is "yes." If a Tribal member's spouse "walks on" before the Tribal member, the spouse can be buried first. At the time of arrangements, the Potawatomi's name will go on the plaque (of course, minus the date of death) with the non-Potawatomi spouse's information. Our Tribal members may have other questions. A form will be in next month's *Hownikan* for those interested in applying for a niche.

Please feel free to contact my office at 405-275-3121 ext. 1105 with questions. You can also speak with my Administrative Assistant, Dennette Summerlin. We would like to see what kind of response we have from the senior Tribal members in the beginning of the application process. If you are under 55 years of age, please wait for a future date to apply for a columbarium niche. There will be adequate information forthcoming on the columbarium.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Vice-Chairman since 1990. As usual, I cherish my years of service.

Migwetch (Thank you),

Linda Capps | Segenakwe (Black Bird Woman) | Vice-Chairman
Work: 405-275-3121 | Cell: 405-650-1238 | lcapps@potawatomi.org

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D. Wayne Trousdale Secretary/Treasurer

Bozho (Hello),

I hope that everyone is enjoying the beginning of the new year and that the holiday season gave everyone an opportunity to see family and friends. While January marks the beginning of the business year for most organizations, I remind you that the Nation began its fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2023. That means that we just completed the first quarter of our budgeted year. With the closing of the 2023 fiscal year at the end of September we are now in the process of working with the third party auditing firms on all of the Nation's programs in order to present a fair and accurate accounting. I would be remiss if I didn't mention how fortunate we are to have an accounting team, led by CFO Mary Chisholm, that works continuously to fairly account for the Nation's assets. As the Tribe grows, so does that work and the responsibility that all elected officials have to our people. I am very proud of the growth in the Nation's assets over the last year. It is very important that your elected officials not only safeguard the assets of the Tribe

but also increase the funding and earnings of the Tribal programs and enterprises so that we can continue to provide the assistance that our people need. As I am sure that inflation has affected your families it has also affected your Tribe. Even with these headwinds in place we still must maximize our returns for the people. Please know that the Nation is on a solid financial footing and continues to perform well in this post-coronavirus business environment.

Your Nation continues to not only increase the profitability of existing enterprises but also has expanded its offerings through a new venture, Sovereign Pipe Technologies. SPT is a high-density polyethylene manufacturing facility located on the Tribe's Iron Horse Industrial Park. SPT was designed to have five extruder lines with the capability of producing in excess of one hundred million pounds of product each year. Unfortunately, given the supply chain issues around the globe, full capacity manufacturing has been delayed. We were able to start production the first line last May and were able to add lines two and three in November. We are also hopeful that line four is contributing to production by the end of February. Even with the startup delays we have seen our production increase by adding the additional extruder lines. HDPE is used in several different industries including energy, water, sewer, communications, etc. The demand for this product is projected to increase in the United States over the next 20 years. One main driver in this projection is the amount of deteriorating municipal water infrastructure that needs to be replaced. The Nation is positioned well in this business and has budgeted to produce and sell nearly 40 million pounds of product in the 2024 fiscal year.

I will continue to report on the progress of the financial aspects of your Nation and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I appreciate and am humbled to have served you as Secretary/Treasurer for over 21 years. We will always continue to work in the best interests of you, our people.

Migwetch (Thank you),

D. Wayne Trousdale | Netemgiwse (Hunts First) | Secretary/Treasurer | 405-275-3121 | dtrousdale@potawatomi.org



ELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE APPENDIX FORM 4 – PUBLICATION OF CANDIDACY

The below individuals have lawfully filed an application declaring themselves to be a candidate for the 2024 election:

Paul Wesselhöft
District 9 Legislator

Matt Higdon
District 9 Legislator Challenger

Paul Schmidlkofer
District 12 Legislator

A background check through NCIC has the following information listed: No information requiring disclosure for the above named candidates.

A background check through the Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Court has the following information listed: No information requiring disclosure for the above named candidates.

A background check of Tribal records limited to tribal employment history relating to personal behavior that has been addressed by formal disciplinary action for misconduct or dishonesty has the following information listed: No information requiring disclosure for the above named candidates.

To view the full reports, visit cpn.news/24candidacy

From the legislature



Eva Marie Carney District 2

Bozho, nikanek (Hello, friends),

Meetup at the National Gallery. Becky Bearden Olynik and Alex Olynik (Vieux family, living in Maryland), Henry Scarborough (Ogee family, from New York, studying in Massachusetts) and I started the new year in a good way with a meetup at the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. We toured the exhibit “The Land Carries Our Ancestors – Contemporary Art by Native Americans,” and then had coffee and visited. Perhaps not surprisingly, given its European art focus to date, the last National Gallery exhibition of Indigenous art was in 1993! I have included a photo of our visit and posted on my Facebook page photos of most every piece in the exhibit. I loved hearing folks’ thoughts about the art and catching up; I will plan another “local” event soon.



I went back a few days later to spend more time with the art and bought the beautiful book accompanying the exhibit. I am so glad I did, as it allows me to share with you the artist-curator Jaune Quick-to-See-Smith’s introductory poem, “A Short History of America:”

Snow White came from Europa.
She kissed the Frog
Who turned into
A Ledger Book Prince
She converted corn into Fritos
And soon
She put everything
Up for Sale.

Ojibwa artist Andrea Carlson, known for her mural along the Chicago River, “*Bodéwadmikik èthë yéyék/You are on Potawatomi Land,*” is among the showcased artists. You can read more about her mural [here](#), and view a selection of what we saw [here](#). The exhibit is leaving Washington on Jan. 15 and from there can be viewed at the New Britain Museum of American Art, in New Britain, Connecticut, from April 18–Sept. 15, 2024. Visit if you can!

**CPN DISTRICT 2
MEETING & LUNCH**

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024 | 11AM TO 2:30PM

**Church Hall, Rogers First Church of the Nazarene
4911 W Pleasant Grove Rd, Rogers, Arkansas**

Directions can be found at rogersfirst.com. Children are welcome!

**Please RSVP to evamariecarney@gmail.com
or leave a voicemail at 888-849-1484**

Reminder: Upcoming District 2 Meeting in Arkansas. We will meet in Rogers, Arkansas, on Saturday, April 20. Please see the postcard and my website [calendar entry](#) for all the details. You do not need to receive a postcard invitation to attend, but please do RSVP.

Family News. Do you have a copy of Potawatomi artist Sharon Hoogstraten’s beautiful book, *Dancing for Our Tribe: Potawatomi Tradition in the New Millennium*? You can find it [here](#) (and on Amazon). Midwest Book Review opined: “A simply magnificent coffee-table style volume, “Dancing for Our Tribe: Potawatomi Tradition in the New Millennium” features full page, full color photography of men and women in full and authentic regalia enhancing an impressively informed and informative commentary. A monumental and seminal work of meticulous scholarship, no personal, professional, college or university library Native American Studies collection can be considered comprehensive or complete without a copy.”

In other family news, John Garrett, a Nadeau descendant living in Mobile, Alabama, shared that he recently obtained his Certified Financial Planner™ designation, a career milestone. Congratulations, John. Everyone, please keep the family news coming!

Fiction (Book) Recommendations. I have read three books over the last month by Indigenous *kwe'k* (women) authors that I recommend to you. The first, *A Council of Dolls*, by Mona Susan Power, is a novel about generational trauma and healing by an Oceti Sakowin (Sioux) novelist whose earlier debut novel, *The Grass Dancer*, is also terrific. You can read about the author's interesting life, and more about her books, [here](#). The third book is *The Berry Pickers*, Amanda Peters' debut novel, about a 4-year-old Mi'kmaw girl who disappears one summer. I love this excerpt from a [New York Times review](#): "With 'The Berry Pickers,' Peters takes on the monumental task of giving witness to people who suffered through racist attempts of erasure like her Mi'kmaw ancestors. 'White folks been trying to take the Indian out of us for centuries,' a character tells Norma. 'But now that you know, you gotta let people know.' Peters is letting people know."

Migwetch (thank you),

Eva Marie Carney | *Ojindiskwe* (Bluebird woman) | ecarney@potawatomi.org
evamariocarney.com | evamariocarney@gmail.com | 5877 Washington Blvd.
 PO Box 5591 | Arlington, VA 22205 | Toll Free: 866-961-6988



From left are Alex Olynik, Becky Bearden Olynik, Eva Marie Carney, and Henry Scarborough.



Bob Whistler District 3

Bozho ginwa (Hello everyone),

Overlooked scam technique

Many of us pay almost everything with a credit card. Some of those charges are recurring each month and may be for insurance, rent, utilities, etc. That is in addition to items such as gas for the car, groceries and one-time items that were advertised online. In the last several months, I realized I was in the throes of a scam twice this last year. In April I saw an ad online for an electronic item that might save me money and I placed my order. The item arrived and my credit card statement for the period reflected the charges which were between \$100 and \$200. Those charges were correct and as advertised. I was happy. The next month rolled around and I was auditing my credit card statement and saw a small charge of about \$10 that I didn't recognize. I called the phone number associated with the charge and spoke to an employee. I said I purchased the item in April and had been billed for it. I asked what the small charge was now for, and he advised that when I placed my order the company also enrolled me in a monthly plan with the small monthly fee. I challenged this and said I didn't apply for enrollment and requested a refund. He said he would take care of it. I did receive a credit on the following month's statement. In October, I made a purchase again online for another item from a totally different firm. The statement arrived and the charges were correct. I checked my November statement and saw a charge for \$10.57. I called about the charge and learned the firm also had the same automatic program that has a recurring monthly charge. It is odd that two separate firms tried to scam me in the same way. Had there only been one incident like this I would probably just pass it off as an oddity. Twice makes me think this may be impacting many others. So, I felt a warning to all of you was needed. I had another exception involving my checking account, but the probability of it happening to anyone else is very remote. However, in that case, because I balance my checking account each month, I saw a double charge for the same check number. There was a mechanical glitch and was not a deliberate attempt to extract money from my account deceptively. In 2016 the banks determined that roughly 71 percent of their customers do not balance their checkbooks monthly. For credit cards, a quick check revealed that 1 in 5 cardholders probably do not even look at



Crow regalia dress

their monthly statement. In summary, I urge you to take the time even with very busy schedules to go through any credit card or bank statement every month and ensure there are no charges that are not justified.

Crow Nations Women's Regalia

I recently attended a function to promote the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women initiative. Their representative was wearing a beautiful regalia dress that was decorated with white items. I asked her what Nation she represented and she said she was from the Crow Nation. I asked about the decoration and learned they were elk's teeth, a decoration commonly used in Crow culture. A photo is included so you can see an example of how each Nation's regalia differs and it was easy to determine which Nation they were from.

Serving District 3 is an honor and I thank each of you for electing me to represent you.

Nagech (Later),

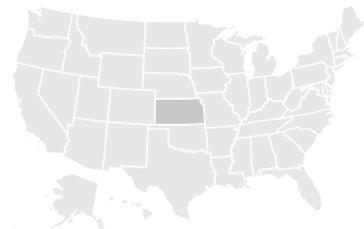
Bob Whistler | *Bmashi* (He Soars) | rwhistler@potawatomi.org | cpn3legislator@yahoo.com
1516 Wimberly Ct. | Bedford, TX 76021 | 817-229-6271 | cpndistrict3.com



Jon Boursaw District 4

Blessing of Burnett's Grave Site

On a surprisingly warm and sunny Friday afternoon in mid-December, a small group of Tribal members and I gathered at Burnett's grave site for a few remarks and a brief blessing ceremony. The event was recorded by WIBW Chief Videographer Doug Brown, a CPN member at the local CBS TV station in Topeka. Clips of his video and an interview with me appeared on the local news. As a result, I have received phone calls and emails from local citizens expressing their appreciation for what the tribe has done to renovate and preserve this historic site in Topeka.



Upcoming CPN Elders' Potlucks

Dates for the next two Elder Potlucks held in Rossville at noon are:

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| February 9 | Baked Crack Chicken and rolls | RSVP by the 6th |
| March 8 | Corned Beef and Cabbage | RSVP by the 5th |

Bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Please RSVP to Tracy at 785-584-6171

Future Research Efforts at the Uniontown Cemetery

The research in the Uniontown Cemetery is not over. As you know we have been fortunate to have staff members from the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS), which is affiliated with the University of Kansas, working with us from the beginning of this effort. After discussion with Dr. Blair Schneider of KGS, we have identified four more locations in or near the cemetery that we would like to further investigate once we have warmer weather.

The first of these would be to conduct a magnetic survey of the large field north of the house located adjacent to the cemetery. This would require the permission of the property owner. There is some thought that this rather large area, now a corn field, may have been the location where the Uniontown structures were burned during the Cholera epidemic.

Next, we plan to use another dating technique consisting of inserting a probe underneath the stone markers to collect soil samples. With this, we can estimate when the marker was originally set in place. Dr. Schneider describes it as "cool" technology called Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) that can detect the age of the soil under a marker by calculating the last time the soil was exposed to sunlight, typically within a 10% accuracy. Our first objective would be to collect samples directly underneath the Bourassa monument to calculate the date of its placement. This test can only be done at night, as any exposure to light voids the results.

There is an area on the south portion of the cemetery that contains primarily non-Native American graves. The majority were members of the Green family which procured the





property in the latter part of the 1800s. We intend to use this same sampling technique (OSL) to determine an age for several of the grave markers contained in the Green portion of the cemetery. We also plan to use the electrical resistivity technology that we previously utilized within the Bourassa enclosure to locate and identify possible unmarked graves within the Green area in the cemetery. If our suspicions are confirmed, these could be Native American burial sites.

Finally, there were two areas of interest in the magnetic and GPR datasets from the 2021 data collection that suggested possible structures were within the cemetery. We propose to utilize small excavation units to try and identify the source of these anomalies. There are no markers or depressions at the ground surface that suggest these anomalies would be burial sites. It looks like the next few months are going to be interesting, I'll keep you posted.

Megwetch (Thank you),

Jon Boursaw | Wetase Mkoh (Brave Bear) | jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org
 2007 SW Gage Blvd. | Topeka, KS 66604 | 785-608-1982
 Office Hours: Tuesday 9-11 a.m. | Thursdays 3-5 p.m. | Other times as requested



Gene Lambert District 5

Greetings,

This is my first article for 2024 belonging to February and written in January. That is the way it works to attempt to organize everyone's articles, comments and news for our new magazine. Hopefully you love it as much as I do. The change occurred with the hope it will be easier to read, store, reread and categorize. Let us know what you think after having had some time to get used to it.

The articles I write bring about quite an education for me as I go through the research trying to find new things to write about. So much is already in the magazine and all the articles, so I try to create diversity.

This month's curiosity led me to the tallest kachina in the world. Would you

believe I found it in the Tonto Hills, Cave Creek, Arizona, USA?

This magnificent piece of art stands 39 feet tall and was designed by Phillip Sanderson. The inspiration reportedly was the Corn Maiden Dancer Kachina. The purpose of the Corn Maiden is to purify women who do the preparation of the corn, and it is considered ceremonial through her special powers.

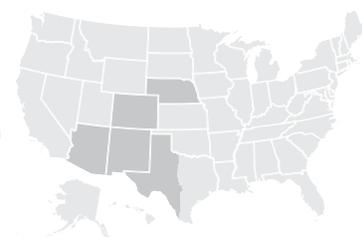
We won't worry about our weight anymore as we compare it to the Corn Maiden's 14.5 tons.

This isn't a claim by Mr. Sanderson but recognition through the World Record Academy.

Phenomenal!

I am so taken with the kachina spirits I now have a 5-foot kachina in my front yard created by a young 25-year-old man with a chainsaw. Amazing! There is another 4-foot kachina in my office. You just can't have too many as it is said they are the messengers between the two legged and the world of spirits.

Interestingly enough, with the 39-foot kachina just down the road in northeast Carefree, Arizona, is the America's largest sundial.



A Kachina, or Corn Maiden



According to Wikipedia, the sundial is 4' feet wide and 62' feet long and standing 35' feet above Solar Plaza.

The surrounding area for both the sundial and the kachina is purely encircled with beautiful desert landscaping.

Now if all this wasn't impressive enough, I also discovered for myself this week (you all probably knew) that as of October 2012, Kateri Tekakwitha, who was Algonquin-Mohawk from the State of New York, was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at Saint Peter's Basilica.

This woman was the first Native American, Catholic saint known as Lily of the Mohawks. She is the patroness of ecology and environment.

If you want to know more about her you can read her story online and you will be pleased you did.

Meantime, please love and take care of your special people and don't forget about the February 14 Valentine's Day.

Kachinas are said to be messengers between the two-legged and world of spirits I love you all.

Gene Lambert (Eunice Imogene Lambert) | Butterfly Woman | glambert@potawatomi.org
270 E Hunt Highway Ste 229 | San Tan Valley, AZ 85143 | Cell: 480-228-6569 | Office: 480-668-0509



Dave Carney District 8

Bozho, jayek (Hello, everyone),

Winter is here which brings and brings with it Winter Storytelling. The Language Department usually hosts an online story telling event in February; however, it is being planned for a little later this year. The tentative date is March 13. I will be reminding District 8 folks and spreading the word when that date is firm. Justin Neely typically coordinates and leads these events, and they are worth your time to participate.



Some stories told at past story telling sessions have been Sky Woman and Turtle Island, The Flood Story, *Wiske* and the Buzzard, *Pondese* and the story of Winter Snow to name a few. You never know which "new" old stories may be presented, so please mark March 13 in pencil on your calendar.

In October, District 8 citizens attended our Fall Feast at the Duwamish Long House in Seattle. Among other activities, we made Potawatomi Woodland design applique tote bags. In a subsequent *Hownikan* column, I offered to send crafting instructions if requested. I'm pleased to say that many Tribal citizens from across the country reached out and instructions and templates were sent out either through e-mail or U.S. postal service. It was an honor to share this craft also with an elder from the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi who asked for information. If you would like to receive the design templates, etc., please reach out to me.

Around this time of year, folks usually start making their travel plans to come to the Family Reunion Festival happening in June. There seems to be some confusion as to what the dates are each year. As prescribed by the constitution, Article 13, section 1, annual meetings of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Council shall be held on the last Saturday of June of each year. The Family Festival is built around this.

For 2024, the honored families are:

Darling, Hardin, Higbee, Levier, Lewis, Nadeau, Negahnquet, Pambago and Smith.

These families are provided with special sections of the Round House to gather, are encouraged to share their family's story through interviews at the Cultural Heritage Center and have an honored place during Grand Entry.

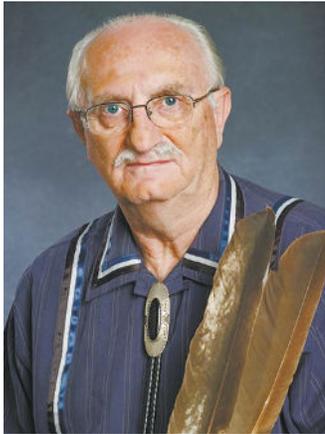
This Family Reunion Festival will be missing something this year. Julia Slavin (spouse of long time District 1 Legislator, Roy Slavin) passed away in late November 2023 at the age of 90. Julia and Roy were a team and it often seemed like she was as proud of the Potawatomi Nation as her husband of Native blood. Julia was a wonderful seamstress

and creative soul — making hundreds of colorful ribbon shirts, shawls and other regalia pieces. She and her daughter Verna always set up a vendor booth (even after Roy walked on in 2020) near the powwow grounds. and a visit or two with them has always been a part of the Family Festival experience. She will be very missed.

I am beginning to plan events for the summer months, and they will definitely include a get-together in the Idaho panhandle in July or August. That area is selected because it will be accessible to Tribal citizens in eastern Washington, Idaho and western Montana. Stand by for more details.

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

Dave Carney | Kagashgi (Raven) | dcarney@potawatomi.org | 520 Lilly Road, Building 1 | Olympia, WA 98506 | 360-259-4027



Paul Wesselhöft District 9

Bozho, nikan (Hello, friend),

HOW CAN THIS BE?

John Updike, the great Pulitzer Prize winning author, was given the daunting task of publishing in a single volume, “The Best American Short Stories of the Century.”

The publisher and editors gave Mr. Updike over two hundred of the most awarded and recognized American short stories to select from. The publisher has published “The Best American Short Stories of the Year,” every year, which is a volume of many stories in itself. Updike’s monumental volume narrowed down the best short story published in each year from 1915 to 1999.

I have read all of these provocative and entertaining short stories; several are my favorites. In his volume, Updike wrote a ten-page introduction extolling the virtues and significance of each decade, the great writers of that decade, and their contribution to this particular literary art form. The short story is the quintessential American literary art form.

As I read through the introduction, I was enlightened and delighted to learn many of those ingredients which make a short story great. However, as I came to the bottom of the last page of his introduction, I read a sentence of sixteen words, which broke my heart: “I regret that no story about Native Americans could be worked into the table of contents.” Really? How can this be?

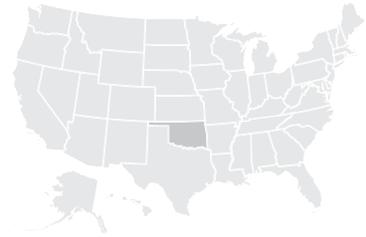
So, from thousands of the best short stories published throughout the 20th century, Updike, the editors and the publisher could not find one story about Native Americans worthy of inclusion in “The Best American Short Stories of the Century.” Again, how can this be?

There are thousands of stories written by Indians in the various tribes throughout America; I have read many excellent Native American stories.

Surely, one could have — should have — been included in “The Best American Short Stories of the Century.”

Migwetch (Thank you),

Paul Wesselhöft | Naganit (Leader) | reppaul@gmail.com | pwesselhoft@potawatomi.org



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION
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Walking On

Mary Velma Flanagan Peltier Family



Mary Velma Flanagan Ward was born May 6, 1944, to Eugene James Flanagan and Mary Catherine Janes Flanagan in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was a beloved daughter, mother, sister, aunt, and grandmother, with many cousins and other family members. She was known for her generosity, humor and love for all, including her dogs and visiting birds. She enjoyed growing flowers and vegetables. She also was a talented

artist, painting portraits and refurbishing furniture.

She attended Mount St. Mary High School and took classes at Rose State College. She excelled as a professional Realtor, and enjoyed helping people find or sell a home. She loved going to Lake Eufaula with family and friends and traveling. She was an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and last visited the CPN Family Festival in June 2023. Her Potawatomi ancestors were in the Peltier family.

She was preceded in death by her husband Lee Wayne Ward; her parents; her siblings Helen Bloom, Mary Elizabeth Flanagan, Gene Flanagan, Carol Miller, Denis Flanagan, her brother Patrick's wife Teri; and a host of other relatives.

She is survived by her daughter Tracy; sons Tyler, Aaron, and Eric and wife Liz. Also, by her sisters Marian Keef and husband Ron, Donna Barnard and husband Howard; her brother Patrick Flanagan; special friends Linda Danes and Bernadette Prichard; and many other relatives and friends. She will be missed by many friends and family.

Floyd Harmon Fox Beaubien/Lafromboise



Floyd Harmon Fox, age 78, of Purcell, Oklahoma, passed away at his home on Jan. 15, 2024. Floyd Fox was born to Haskell and Reba Mae Fox on April 18, 1945. He was the sixth of 10 children born in Purcell, Oklahoma, where he lived his entire life. Floyd was nicknamed "Butch" by his dad at an early age; most people never knew his real name. Butch attended Purcell schools and loved sports and cars.

After dating for 3 years, he married his high school sweetheart, Patricia, on June 29, 1963. In 2023, they

celebrated 60 years of marriage. Butch and Pat would continue to work and live in Purcell, where they had four children. He enjoyed supporting his kids in their activities and did the chains at football games for over 20 years. Butch also had a passion for working on and rebuilding cars. Butch has had several jobs along the way including Connor's Funeral Home and Ambulance (Now Wilson-Little), a full-service gas station, and Bacon's wrecker service where he worked with four generations of the Bacon family. He went on to join the Purcell Fire Department and served as a firefighter and fire inspector for 20 plus years. When Butch retired, he continued with his passion for old cars.

Butch had a saying he lived by — "Treat others the way you want them to treat you." Butch was a friend to many, and many knew they could count on him to be fair and honest.

Butch was preceded in death by his parents, Haskell and Reba Mae Fox; five brothers, Leroy, James Edward, Jerry, Glen and Darrell; and three sisters, Francis, Dorothy and Brenda.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Fox, of the home; his children, Pam Fox, David Fox, Bruce Fox and wife Kim, and Danny Fox and wife Heather; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; his sister, Mary; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral Services were Jan. 18, 2024, at Little's Chapel, Wilson-Little Purcell, with burial at Hillside Cemetery.

Margaret Ann Jacobs

Peltier Family

Margaret Ann Jacobs passed away on Nov. 6, 2023, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, at the age of 88. She was born to her parents David Peter Coots and Elizabeth Coots (Peltier) on Aug. 3, 1935, in Shawnee, Oklahoma. On Aug. 1, 1956, Margaret married the love of her life, John Thomas Jacobs. They were married for 63 years and raised four beautiful children together. She was an amazing wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed caring for animals and nurturing her grandchildren. She leaves behind a legacy of love and family.

She is preceded in death by her husband, John Jacobs; her son, Steve Jacobs; and her parents, David Peter Coots and Elizabeth Coots (Peltier); and her all her siblings.

A Tribute from Margie's children:

How do we ever thank you, Mom?

Our biggest champion! Through you we learned to defend others because you always defended us — the ultimate mother bear.

We learned to encourage others because you were our greatest cheerleader.

We learned to tell the truth because you were always brutally honest! She pulled me out of piano lessons and told me never try to make a living singing or dancing because I had no rhythm. She was definitely right, and none of us were ever embarrassed on *American Idol*.

We learned that family was everything, and love never gives up and never ends.

Most important, we learned about Jesus! We knew him through Your example. We saw you and Dad kneeling every night on both sides of the bed praying for us.

You never had an easy life, and you made do with less so Dad wouldn't have to worry. You gave us everything and today we honor and remember all the sacrifices, all the sleepless nights, all the homemade meals, all the laundry, all the work, and most of all — the unconditional love.

You always told Dad you didn't want to live one day without him. So, we let you go home, to the mansion you've always deserved. We love you so much mom; you have left a legacy of love.

.....

James Michael Rudolph
Juneau Family



James Michael "Jim" Rudolph, 66, of Topeka, Kansas, passed away at his home due to a medical emergency on Oct. 14, 2023.

He was born Aug. 17, 1957, in Topeka, the son of Edward and Anne Nelson Rudolph. He graduated from Hayden High School and attended Washburn University.

Jim was a construction project manager, skilled millwright, certified welder

and member of the Painter and Allied Trade Union. He started working with KBS in 2015, and brought a wealth of experience to his position. Jim was well-respected in the construction industry by colleagues, co-workers and clients. Although Jim was the baby of the family, he was the organizer, caretaker and photographer. He and his wife, Teresa, were members of St. Matthew Catholic Church.

Jim played baseball as a kid and coached several of his son's teams. He enjoyed watching and playing sports. KU basketball and football were his favorites. He was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

He was an avid guitar player and willingly gave guitar lessons to several family members and friends. Jim spent 20 years with *Linda Kay and the Lonestar Band*, for which he was lead guitarist. They played at many clubs, dances and venues around Topeka. What Jim loved most was being a grandpa — regularly taking his grandchildren to parks and playgrounds, showing up with small gifts or snacks.

Jim married Teresa Reynoldson in 1999. She survives at their home in Topeka. Other survivors include Jim's son, James Michael "Mike" Rudolph, Jr.; his wife, Laura; two stepsons, Jason and Justin Wunder and their wives, Jessica and Elizabeth; two sisters, Joan Hrenchir and Kathy McDonald; and a brother, Ed Rudolph. "Grandpa" Rudolph is also survived by five grandchildren: Caleb, Wesley, Hannah, Michael and Samantha.

A mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Matthew's Church, and burial was in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, both in Topeka.

.....

Sandra Ann Lederer
Denton Family



Sandra Ann Lederer was called home to her heavenly Father on Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, in Glendale, Arizona, at the age of 86.

She was born on Oct. 19, 1937, in Topeka, Kansas, to James H. Souders and Dorothy Mae (née Smith).

Sandra is survived by her children, Gary (Diane), Lynn (John), Dale and Jill (Bryan); her grandchildren, Brian (Rose), Shannon (Mark), Ronnie, Correena, Tony, Nicholas (Ally), Maria, Cody and Andy; her great grandchildren, Brianna, Isabella, Jackson, Avery, Tatum, Noah, Rhett, Morgan, Kaitlyn and Samuel; her brother, David Souders (Mary Lou); sisters-in-law Carolyn Verfuert (Ron) and Jean Lederer; and many nieces and nephews.

Sandra is preceded in death by her husband, Ralph O. Lederer, and her parents, James Souders (Alice) and (Dorothy Mae).

Sandra enjoyed traveling, sewing, crafts, gardening, hiking, fishing, music and piano but, most of all, she enjoyed being with her family.

Sandra had a strong faith in her Lord. She taught her children the importance of faith in Jesus as their Savior. She lived her life as an example for her family, friends and many others.

Sandra was a beloved Mother and Grandmother and will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church 5600 W. Palmaire Ave in Glendale, Arizona. A luncheon followed the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Sandra's name can be made to Grace Lutheran School, to be used for the music program.

Nathan Twain Ingram
Willmetts Family



Nathan Twain Ingram, 44, of Winfield, Kansas, passed away Monday, Oct. 23, 2023.

Born June 27, 1979, in Wichita, Kansas, he was the son of Larry Dwain and Maureen (Payton) Ingram. He was raised in the Floral area and received his education in Winfield, graduating from Winfield High School in 1997. After high school, he worked at Greif Brothers for a short time before starting his career at Husky Liner.

He married Misti Knight on Dec. 13, 2014. The couple made their home in Winfield and later divorced. Nathan remained at Husky Liner working in several positions over his 24-plus year employment. In February of 2022, he began his relationship with Christina Alsip. The couple made their home in Winfield and recently welcomed their son, Benjamin. Nathan was proud to spend the last four months caring for his son.

Nathan enjoyed playing video games and watching sports. He especially enjoyed watching the Green Bay Packers.

His family includes his fiancée Christina Alsip of Winfield; his mother Maureen Ingram of Winfield; his siblings, Justin Ingram of Winfield and Ashley Ingram and wife, Jessica of Winfield; his son Benjamin Ingram of Winfield; and his bonus daughters, Julianna and Rhaegan.

Nate was preceded in death by his father.

Martha Lou Clement
Curley Family



Martha Lou Clement, age 87, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, entered into rest on Dec. 19, 2023. Born April 16, 1936, in Concho, Oklahoma, Martha was the fifth child of seven and the fourth daughter of the late Mae Belle (Wolfe) Patterson and Squire Jackson Patterson.

Martha is survived by her husband of 71 years, Harold Dean Clement of Broken

Arrow; her children, Harold Steven Clement of Broken Arrow, David DeWayne Clement (Berta) of Broken Arrow, and Rhonda Jean Lytton of Glendora, California; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; and numerous extended family members. Martha was preceded in death by her daughter and son-in-law Pamela Kay Kurr and Raymond Alan Kurr; her son-in-law Gerald Craig Lytton; and all of her siblings and their spouses: Delores Patterson Lamirand (T.J.),

Arlyn Patterson, Diana Juanita Patterson who died at 21 months of age, Betty Patterson Moon (Lecil), Patricia Patterson Foughty (Charles) and Violet Patterson Moore.

Martha was introduced to Harold by a mutual friend and they married in 1952. They initially lived in Shawnee, Oklahoma, where their first three children were born, before settling in Tulsa, where their fourth and final child was born. Martha was a loving wife and devoted mother who took great care in homemaking and nurturing her family and four children.

Martha was baptized in 1963, joining Harold as a member of the Worldwide Church of God, and the two of them dedicated their Christian lives to the word of God and serving brethren. Later in life, Martha and Harold moved to Mounds, Oklahoma, and she especially enjoyed the many years they shared on their land.

Martha has been described as a "ray of sunshine" upon entering a room. She never met a stranger and will best be remembered for her Christian example, her beautiful smile and her bountiful love.

Funeral services were held on Dec. 28, 2023, at United Church of God in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Martha was interred at Oakdale Cemetery in Mounds. The service was also aired online at cpn.news/clement.

Rubin Ray Rhodd
Rhodd Family



Rubin Ray Rhodd was born to Earl L. Rhodd and Mary E. Griffin in Santa Rosa, California. He was preceded in death by our parents, brother Bobby, sister Doris, and also his beloved dog Tinkers, his partner in crime.

He is survived by his wife of four years, Nana; five siblings, Kenneth, William, John, Ramona and Rhoda; and lots of nieces and nephews. Although he never had children of his own, he was always there for our kids, including the neighborhood kids. We never worried about them when Uncle Rubin was around. He was just a big kid himself and the kids loved playing with him. He was the coolest guy you'd ever meet. Whenever a family get together was happening you could

always count on him being there (with spinach dip); he was very much a family man.

He loved fishing and hunting until it became difficult for Bobby to get around, which then

caused Rubin to lose interest, but he never lost the love for nature, especially the ocean.

He loved working on cars; we always knew he was there to keep our cars up and running. He was a TRUE friend to anyone in need. You could always count on him.

He loved his SF 49'ers, proof in the décor of his home.

He had a heart of GOLD. His passing has left a HUGE hole in our hearts!

Rest in peace, brother of ours.

Save a place for us.

Loves and hugs, your siblings.

Tony Preston Hollingsworth

Vieux/Nadeau Family

Tony Preston Hollingsworth, 93, of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, passed away Friday, Jan. 5, 2024, in Tecumseh

He was born on May 23, 1930, to Claude and Rena (Nadeau) Hollingsworth in Harjo, Oklahoma.

Tony was raised in Harjo and Tecumseh and attended Harjo Public Schools.

He married Barbara Copeland on Jan. 9, 1956, in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Tony was a jack of all trades and worked as a mechanic, truck driver and for the city of Tecumseh in several different job roles. He owned and operated a gravel company and a salvage yard. He loved to fish and hunt and go to the casino. He enjoyed watching westerns and telling stories and was known for his DIY skills and sense of humor. He was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Tony was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Barbara Hollingsworth; son, Jesse Joe Hollingsworth; daughter, Gaye Sisney; brothers, Jim Hollingsworth, Louie Hollingsworth and Glenn Hollingsworth; and sisters, Laura Lincoln, Sarah Belcher, Dilla Foreman, Mary Cole and Hazel Fread.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughter, Toni Johnson, of Noble, Oklahoma; one sister-in-law, Betty Hollingsworth, of Seminole, Oklahoma; four grandchildren, Misty Conover, Bo and Braiden Green, Dakota Motley, and Christopher Motley and wife Mickey; five great-grandchildren, Megan Conover, Dylan Conover and fiancé Caroline Pepper, Jayden Green and fiancé Elijah Keenan, Jett Green, and August Green; one great-great-granddaughter, Lainey Conover; numerous extended family; and many friends.

Service was Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at Cooper Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Larry Hart officiating. Burial followed at Resthaven Memorial Park in Shawnee under the direction of Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh.

To share memories, or to sign the guestbook online, go to cooperfuneral.com.



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

The **CPN Burial Assistance Fund** is available to all enrolled CPN members. Notify Tribal Rolls office of member's passing to receive \$2,000 aid. Burial process information and instructions sent to next of kin. Contact Tribal Rolls at tribalrolls@potawatomi.org or 405-878-5835.

Submit obituaries (300 words, 300dpi photo) and contact information to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

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