

HOWAWANIKAN

Nmébnegises | March 2023



**New season,
new coach for
Potawatomii Fire**

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**Q&A with
Ojibwe artist
Andrea Carlson**

.....

**Election
Candidate
Q&As**



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Walking on



Tribal member connects students to science, nature

Teresa Hernandez may not have planned to have her own science education business, but she is now the proud owner of Adventures in Living Science and enthusiastic about sharing her knowledge with area students.

Hernandez is also the director of education at the Santa Ana Zoo at Prentice Park in Santa Ana, California, an organization where she has worked for approximately 18 years.

It was while she worked at the zoo part-time, hoping for a full-time position to open, that she decided to complete her degree. Hernandez received a Citizen Potawatomi Nation Department of Education scholarship. She used the support to complete her bachelor's degree as a non-traditional college student.

"I finished my bachelor's degree in science education, biology specifically. There still wasn't a full-time slot at the zoo, and I was pretty sure that that's where I wanted to be. So, I finished my master's while I waited. And right before my master's program was done, my backup plan was, 'Well, I'll just open a little business and do what I do for the zoo,'" she said.

The zoo occasionally had to turn schools away because they could not staff all the demands for science education, she said. When financial decisions forced the zoo to eliminate the ZooMobile science education program that visited area schools, Hernandez stepped in.

Her experience with the ZooMobile came in handy. Hernandez developed and implemented educational programs based on a school's curriculum for each grade level. Local schools knew Hernandez from previous ZooMobile visits.

"I was turning away schools that I had a 15-year relationship with. So, I quickly launched my own business so that I didn't have to turn them away," she said. "That's how the business was born. I had a lot of support from the zoo director, and he sent a lot of my early work my way."

Currently, Adventures in Living Science is booked into the summer.

"The business is doing well. I do it on my off time. And now that I'm full time (at the zoo), they give me a holiday bank. If a school needs me on a weekday, I usually use my time off for those days," she said.

Hernandez has ended up exactly where she needs to be.



Adventures in Living Science provides the community a fun and interactive way to learn about zoology and biology. (Photo provided)

"In a very roundabout way," she said. "I could not do it without the help of some very dedicated volunteers. Some of them drive from other states just to help me with big events. Others help me to create unique experiences for students that they just can't find elsewhere."

Animal visits

Currently, Hernandez has a wide variety of animals that visit area schools including a hedgehog, rabbit, guinea pig, tarantulas, scorpions, snakes, lizards, box turtle, desert tortoises, bullfrog, salamander, stick and leaf insects, beetles, cockroaches and isopods. A puppy, three doves and an African gray parrot serve as therapy animals.

Caring for them fills most of her days, with many chores happening in the morning, or on designated days when she has more time. Some mornings, she leaves the house a little behind schedule because of the unpredictable needs of her animals.

"I usually get up around 5 a.m. and I try to take care of all the animals before I go to work, and I leave for work at about 7 a.m. I'm always scooting out the door a little bit late because there's (an animal) that poops when they're not supposed to or made a mess of something," Hernandez laughed. "I have the weekly tasks broken up onto different days so that I can do them more quickly and it doesn't become overwhelming."

With her business focused on schools and science education, rather than social events like parties, she limits her schedule to mostly weekdays.

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Ensuring safety

Environmental Department ensures safety at Tribe's gas stations

A part of the Natural Resources division, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Department of Environmental Protection (CPN DEP), works to ensure the Tribe's departments, enterprises and infrastructure operate at the safest, most economically sound and ecologically responsible level possible. Though often working behind the scenes, the small but dedicated staff is responsible for critical operations that protect the Nation, the environment and the community.



Crews install underground storage tanks at FireLake Corner Store in 2013. (Photo provided)

Environmental Specialist

Bryce O'Connor manages the everyday operations of the underground storage tank (UST) compliance assistance programs. Assistant Environmental Director Micah Isaacs oversees the UST, recycling and water programs for the Tribe as well as the grants that fund them.

Underground storage tanks

USTs are storage tanks where fuel is stored, in this case, at gas stations, and include a complex system of piping and machinery that carries the fuel to the dispensers where patrons fill their vehicles. Oversight and upkeep of these tanks is critical to the health and safety of gas station employees and patrons, the protection of groundwater in the area, and the revenue stream of the Tribe.

"We help to ensure that all the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's gas stations are following protocol and keep running right, not harming the environment around us and keeping everything as safe and clean as we can," O'Connor said.

CPN operates three gas stations: the Grand Travel Plaza, FireLake Corner Store across the street from Tribal headquarters and FireLake Express in McLoud, Oklahoma.

O'Connor inspects each facility monthly and examines the tanks at the Grand Travel Plaza more frequently due to its proximity to waterways in the area. A graduate

of the University of Oklahoma with a degree in environmental science, O'Connor is driven by his appreciation for nature and his desire to preserve and protect it.

Inspections involve examining the visible parts of the fuel system, including parts of the USTs and the dispensers. An Automatic Tank Gauge — "the brains of the operation," according to Isaacs — monitors the invisible parts of the system through frequent statistical analysis of pressure in the tanks, lines and dispensers.

By maintaining compliance with regulations set by the Environmental Protection Agency for the operation of USTs, CPN reduces the risk of leaks, spills or other malfunctions that could cause contamination of surface or groundwaters.

Emergency preparedness

In addition to inspecting facilities for proper function, O'Connor also trains frontline staff in spill prevention and response protocols.

Employees in any position handling fuel transactions are required to achieve a Class C UST operator certification within 30 days of hiring.

O'Connor highlights the critical points throughout the fuel system where leaks or spills might happen, location of shutoff switches and the importance of shutting off the pump system as soon as a leak or spill is detected. He also explains the emergency call tree for response and reporting that must take place after a spill.

"My philosophy, and what I've tried to impart on my staff, is we want to be proactive, and we want to make sure that we're taking care of business in front of it instead of responding on the back end," said Director of Transportation and Environment Shawn Howard.

"We have learned this through experience. It's better to get everyone on the same page and know who is responsible for what, in case something happens."

Sovereignty and success

Howard explained that the Tribe is a co-regulator with the EPA when it comes to UST safety and compliance. This means that CPN's facilities are regulated internally instead of by state agents — a critical aspect of tribal sovereignty, Isaacs emphasized.

CPN partners with other tribes in the area through the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council to coordinate with the EPA and share best practices. Established by the Cherokee Nation in 1991, ITEC provides support, training and environmental services to member tribes across Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas across a number of areas, including UST compliance.

The EPA uses CPN facilities as models for training at other sites, both tribal and non-tribal, and has asked the Nation to present at EPA trainings throughout the years. In 2008,

CPN was awarded the EPA Region 6 Award of Excellence for UST compliance out of the 66 tribes in the region.

"That says a lot about how well the stores are managed and how much they take these matters seriously," Howard said. "We've never had a finding during any EPA inspection of our facilities."

The team feels that Tribal administration and enterprise managers support their role in ensuring the safety for all and protection of the environment. In addition to environmental damage, leaks and spills would have an economic impact if a facility became inoperable for a short period or shut down by the EPA.

"I think they understand, too, the economic impact that fuel sales have," Isaacs said. "Our Tribal partners have been very good with working with us. You would be surprised how often that doesn't happen."

Find CPN's gas stations at cpn.news/fuel. Learn more about the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council at cpn.news/itec. 🔥

Language update

By Justin Neely, CPN Language Department Director

Bozho Jayek (Hello everyone),

We will be having a new Beginner Class every Wednesday for 8 weeks, starting March 15 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center. If you would like to attend, please email stormy.rhodd@potawatomi.org to reserve your spot.

We recently received an Endangered Language Fund grant to host a summer master apprentice program. We will be able to bring two apprentices to the Tribe to spend one month working on the Potawatomi language for two months, 40 hours a week for a total of 320 hours of work with the language. The grant was originally set up as a three-year program. After successful completion of year one, we expect to receive additional funding for years two and three.

By the time this goes out, we will have completed our annual winter storytelling event. Once again, we are able to offer it live and also online to those who do not live locally. Based on initial RSVPs, this looks to be a well-attended event.

We also recently introduced our new introductory course on the Tovutti LMS platform. This course is set up as 20 chapters of learning videos, quizzes, voice dictation activities and other tools to increase the learners' comprehension and retention of the language. It is free of cost and open to all. To sign up, go to learning.potawatomi.org. You will need to create an account and then log in. You will see the introductory course available. If you have any issues, please don't hesitate to contact us in the Language Department.

The online dictionary at potawatomidictionary.com is currently close to 10,000 words with audio files now for 96% of the main words. We are now working on enhancing the dictionary with additional example sentences, images, videos and cultural information as well as adding audio for the example sentences and historic audio of speakers, many who are no longer with us.

We have a number of other tools available. To get ahold of us or access some of the other tools, go to potawatomih heritage.org and click on "language."

If you haven't checked out our two YouTube channels, definitely check them out. If you search "Justin Neely" and "Potawatomi language," you should find them. One is more geared to adult learners, and the other is more geared to kids. We are adding new content on a weekly basis. Everything from songs, stories, classes, PowerPoint lessons, public domain cartoons, public domain full feature films, skits and even Native sign language can be found on the channels. There are over 300 videos on each site.

We also have a new staff member in the language department, Mr. Josey Wood. We are happy to have him on board with us and are proud of the progress he is making in learning the language and also the skills he brings to the job.

With the new year here, take some time to reconnect with your people and learn some of your language. The language is essential to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be Potawatomi.

Migwetch (Thank you),

Justin 🔥



Members of the LeClair family, front row left, Oscar Urbina, Peter Oliver, Marie Adeline, Eunice Una, second row left, Louise, Oliver, Mary, Charles Monroe, Salena

LeClair 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.

The name of LeClair family ancestor Antoine LeClair (1800) appears in a 1906 Wisconsin Historical Society book along with Alexander Lafromboise (1785), Joseph Lafromboise (1802) and Thomas G. Anderson (1803) as one of the fur traders who were often seen in a Potawatomi village near what is now Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Documents in the CHC archives state that Antoine LeClair sold goods to the Potawatomi, Winnebago and Menominee who lived near the village.

Documents also reveal that Antoine was among the 125 inhabitants of an area near present-day Peoria, Illinois, and had frequent contact with the Potawatomi in the area. These villages, near the northern shores of Lake Peoria, were established around 1790.

Antoine LeClaire married *Meoqua* in about 1803. Their son, Pierre, married a Potawatomi woman named Cecile. Pierre (Perish) LeClair is listed among the Potawatomi who served with the U.S. Army during the Black Hawk War, according to the Illinois State Historical Society publication, *The Black Hawk War 1831-1832, Volume I*. Some Potawatomi elected to serve under the leadership of *Wau-bon-e-see* and *Shaw-wen-esse* during the U.S. Army's conflict with the Sauk.

Pressed to move west

The U.S. government later began pressuring many Native nations, including the Potawatomi, to leave their homelands in present-day Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. During this period, there were several bands of Potawatomi signing separate treaties. The Potawatomi known as the

United Band concluded a treaty in 1833, ceding land to the U.S. government and moved further west to Iowa. According to *The Catholic Church in Chicago*, Pierre LeClair accompanied his Potawatomi family and relatives to the Council Bluffs and Kaw River reserves. Pierre went to Washington in 1845 to discuss the cession of the Iowa reserve to the government. His name appears on a petition to the government in 1848 in favor of the establishment of Catholic schools in the Potawatomi reserve. He died at the Kaw River reserve March 28, 1849.

Together, Pierre and Cecile's family included Peter Oliver, who was born in 1837 in Illinois. He married Marie Adeline (Darveau) Darvoe. She was born in 1840. Peter and Marie Adeline had Zoa, Emily, Oliver, Mary, John Moses, Sarah, Monroe, Louise, Salena, David, Oscar, Una and Cordelia. Peter died in 1896 in Kansas. Marie Adeline died in 1909 in Kansas.

Yet again, the Potawatomi and the LeClair family would be uprooted from a place where they had worked very hard to establish homes for their families. Settlers began demanding access to Potawatomi lands for settlement and to build a railroad to the West Coast.

Life in Indian Territory

The LeClairs were among the Potawatomi who decided to take allotments in Oklahoma in 1887. Peter and Marie Adeline's children would be among the area's earliest inhabitants and are credited with establishing what would later become Pottawatomie County in Oklahoma.

Zoa LeClair DeChaine was the mother of Ida Louise, Forest P., Myrtle and Oscar DeChaine.

Oliver Peter LeClair married Mary Louise Young. They were the parents of Edna May LeClair Deever, Peter Oliver LeClair, Rena Pearl LeClair Castle and Earl Raymond LeClair.

Louise married Charles Roselius and had a daughter named Bessie.

Salena LeClair Kane was married to James Henry Kane. They had Grace Marie Kane Cummins, Edith Mae Kane, Gladys Marie Kane Coughlin and James William Kane.

Oscar and his wife, Ira, had Rudolph and Ruby Blanch.

Una married Clyde Ford and had twins, Nellie and Stella. Nellie had dark hair and brown eyes while her sister was fair with blue eyes. Their mother passed away when they were age 2, and they briefly stayed with their father's mother before going to the Indian Mission School in Shawnee, Oklahoma. They remained there until they were 12. They went to live with their father in Odessa, Missouri, after he had remarried.

Kinship relationships

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has long shared kinship relationships with other nations, such as the Prairie Band

Potawatomi Nation. The LeClair name is also prominent through a kinship with the Ponca Nation of Oklahoma.

Silas *Cillaste Selas CeNash* LeClair was born in 1838 in Dakota Territory (Nebraska). He was Potawatomi and Ponca. In 1864, he married Zozette *Akhnah Mach-Was*, a Potawatomi woman. She was born in 1835 near present-day Chicago. She died on Sept. 15, 1898, in White Eagle, Ponca Reservation (Oklahoma). Silas died Sept. 19, 1903.

Together, Silas and Zozette had a son named John *CeNah* LeClair. John was born on Dec. 7, 1865, in Jackson County, Kansas. John married Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rhodd, a Potawatomi woman, on Jan. 27, 1893. Together, John and Lizzie had Katherine, Zoie, Charles, Damion, Lillie, Frank, Cordelia, Bessie, John, Raymond and Beatrice.

According to probate records in the CHC archives, when Lizzie Rhodd LeClair died on Jan. 26, 1922, her surviving heirs were husband, John C. LeClair; daughters, Zoie J., Cordelia and Beatrice LeClair; and sons, Charles E., Frank E., Alexander and Raymond LeClair.

John and Lizzie's son, Charles, married Abby Mann (LeClair) (Stigall). Their sons and daughters were Jack J. (John Joseph) LeClair, Jeanne LeClair Flechel, Geraldine L. LeClair Jefferson, Joanne LeClaire Bible, Charles E. LeClair Jr., and James D. LeClair. Charles E. LeClair died Aug. 24, 1935. Abby Mann LeClair Stigall died June 19, 1968.

John and Lizzie's son, Frank LeClair, married Ida Rhodd. Frank and Ida's children were born at Sacred Heart in Oklahoma. Established in 1879 by Father Isidore Robot, the Catholic mission educated Potawatomi children and became a hub for the community. Dan "Eddie" was born April 10, 1895, but sadly died as toddler. The surviving children were Francis, Henry, John, Susie, Dave, Angeline, Hellen, Elizabeth and Alfred.

These LeClair family members and many others were instrumental in creating many of the earliest communities in the former Indian Territory. Without their early efforts, some of southern Pottawatomie County's towns and landmarks, such as Asher, Konawa, Wanette and Macomb, would not exist.

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. 🔥

House of Hope begins 2023 with new community outreach event



Citizen Potawatomi Nation's domestic violence program, House of Hope, filled the Tribe's North and South Reunion Halls on the powwow grounds with vendors and breakout sessions during its new Jump Start Day at the beginning of January. HOH Domestic Violence Prevention Specialist Kayla Woody wanted to host a different kind of community outreach event and began thinking of ideas during the coronavirus pandemic.

"We (HOH staff) were all just sitting around a table, and I said, 'I really want to try to put something together where we can pull in all of these different resources in one place so someone can come in and not have to go to multiple locations to get the things that they need,'" she said.

The day included 35 vendor tables as well as breakout sessions on smudging and some cultural knowledge, safety planning and more. Approximately 50 people attended throughout the day, and House of Hope had door prizes, free haircuts and other giveaways.

Woody has worked for HOH for 3 1/2 years and learned that clients rarely face domestic violence as an isolated problem.

"We see addiction issues. We see homelessness issues. We see health care issues," she said. "So, it's really important to be able to talk about all of those things and not just focus on one particular thing. And not only that, but we're also not just providing information. We're providing those really needed services like housing, like insurance, like food or clothing, or even just mental health services."

Resources

Jump Start Day brought together resources from across Pottawatomie County to help community members face those problems, including the Shawnee Public Housing Authority, Project Safe, Shawnee Bridges and Worrel's Haven sober living house for women and many more.

"Lots of different organizations — parenting organizations that help with mothers who are struggling because that's another barrier from trying to leave an abusive relationship is children. We're so grateful for those organizations like Legacy Parenting (Center) and CTSA (Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area) childcare," Woody said.

Carey McCoy works as a graduate success coach at Shawnee Bridges as part of its Getting Ahead program. The organization helps participants overcome poverty and achieve their goals during a 16-week financial education class.

McCoy spent Jump Start Day talking about their life-changing resource. She previously attended the program

and understands the participants' struggles.

"I know the psychological effects that (poverty) has on a person and how it can lead to other maladaptive coping behaviors," she said.

"And whenever you get to the root of that problem, the psychological root of the problem, and validate someone and empower them and give them the skills and tools they need, then they can make a difference and totally change their life. And whenever you change one person's life, the whole entire community benefits."

Woody invited Halli Clymer from Dazzle Hair Salon located in Shawnee, Oklahoma, to give free haircuts. Many people lack the money for the expensive service. Clymer gave 16 haircuts throughout the day and enjoyed helping attendees feel good about themselves.

"One girl ended up shaving her head because her mom had cancer, and she's like, 'I love it.' So, I did it again. ... And then I did my first two haircuts. I've never done the viral TikTok butterfly haircut, where you do two ponytails. I was like, 'Girls, let's go for it.' We did, and they loved it. And it was fun," she said.

Many of the vendors also appreciated the chance to network and expand their information about resources to offer their clients. Project Safe Outreach Coordinator Hannah MacLaren liked offering those in need knowledge about other programs after an event like Jump Start Day.

"And then also just being able to have other nonprofits in the community that can partner up with one another and just support each other because it's not easy, and we're all walking this hard road together. So, I feel like being able to rally together and provide support is super important," she said.

Knowledge

House of Hope's Kayla Woody also organized small breakout sessions throughout the day to reach attendees in a different way. She invited CPN Workforce Development & Social Services' Re-entry and Diversionary Lead Counselor Burt Patadal to lead two sessions about smudging, which Woody called "super beneficial."

HOH Domestic Violence Advocate Melody Yabarra also led a session on domestic violence safety planning.

"We get a lot of family members who call us and ask what they need to do when somebody is in an intimate partner relationship and there's violence involved,"

she said. "One of the best things that you can do as a concerned family member or a friend is reach out for resources. They did absolutely the best thing they could do to find out what's available. Like, how do they leave, how do they leave safely, where do they go?"

Yabarra emphasized that each situation presents unique circumstances, and there are no one-size-fits-all answers or solutions. She feels Jump Start Day provides the educational opportunities needed to save lives. Yabarra also pointed out that domestic violence outreach and resources have grown and changed since Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act in 1994.

"Maybe about 20 years ago, there were no domestic violence programs. There was nothing. So, a lot of people, they don't know that there's a way out and that you can get out safely and that you have

support and that you have financial assistance to help you get back on your feet," she said.

Woody plans to turn Jump Start Day into an annual event to begin each new year with a positive impact. She believes pooling knowledge in one place and expanding the sessions to cover additional topics can help break cycles of abuse.

"The more that we can talk about domestic violence, what it looks like, the more that we can really connect it with other issues in the community like addiction, like mental health issues, like medical issues. I think the more education we can put in a community, a better chance we have of really stopping the abuse before it starts," Woody said.

Visit CPN's House of Hope online at cpnhouseofhope.com or call 405-275-3176. Follow HOH on Facebook [@cpnhouseofhope](https://www.facebook.com/cpnhouseofhope). 🔥

Hernandez continued...

"I do a lot of science nights and STEAM nights at schools. So, on Saturday I will prep for whatever is going to happen in the middle of the week if I can," she said. "It is more than deciding which animals will visit a school. I custom design the curriculum to fit the standards for each grade level."

Non-traditional student

As a busy wife and mother, Hernandez carefully planned her educational endeavors.

"When I first went back to school, I wanted to be a field biologist," she said. "I started going to a community college when my daughter was still in grade school. As she got a little older, I thought about going back to school. I considered being a biologist, but it's hard to be a field biologist and be out in the field when you have a family. So, I took my time. I knew that I would be in school a while because I had to do it part time."

While in school, she found a job in Moorpark, California, hosting after-school educational programs. Hernandez would spend about a week at each school teaching biology with live animals.

"We got to develop the curriculum ourselves. I liked the teaching so much that I switched my degree from biology to education," she said.

Respect for nature

The Vieux family descendant has always felt a connection to nature, both animals and plants. She attributes part of that connection to the lessons she learned from her grandparents as a child.

"My connection to science is through plants and animals. I think my enthusiasm for nature, it's just how I connect with the world. The animals were my first connection

and is really what drove me as a child. There weren't very many animals that I couldn't find a way to approach. That was really instrumental for me," she said.

Hernandez credits her grandparents with teaching her to respect natural resources.

"When I was growing up, I knew my grandfather was Potawatomi. (Learning) was kind of a subtle thing that you just felt through the family, kind of a quiet respect for those traditions. I didn't really get to discover a lot about our culture specifically until I was an adult. But I think that may have laid the foundation for how I interact with the world," she said.

She relishes opportunities to share her Potawatomi heritage and the history of other Indigenous people of Southern California.

"I'm excited to represent my heritage. I do have some programs and presentations that I offer to schools, especially in fourth grade when they're learning about American history and culture. I put those things together so that what we offer isn't just a straight science animal program. I can share other voices of history, our history, which is nice," she said.

When she is teaching, she hopes students absorb the most important part of her presentation.

"Here in Southern California, I see the movement goes back and forth over the years of pulling away and not touching anything and just appreciating animals from a distance. I think that that does us all a disservice. We have to learn to interact with nature in a respectful way. Through interacting with living things, (students) can learn to respect what's around them. I'm really hoping to do that because they can take that with them throughout life," she said.

To learn more, email adventuresinlivingscience@gmail.com or follow [@AdventuresInLivingScience](https://www.facebook.com/AdventuresInLivingScience) on Facebook. 🔥

Election Candidate Q&As

District 10 election candidates



Incumbent – David Barrett

Potawatomi name (if applicable) and family: My Potawatomi name is (Sits with the Spirits). My great-great grandmother was a full-blooded Potawatomi named Marguerite Yudian, Indian name *Mnitoqua* (Spirit Women), who married Leon Bourassa. Their daughter Margaret married Ruben Haas who's daughter Minnie (Haas) Barrett

had patent number 105 in the book of the Citizen Potawatomi allotment under the Dawes Act of 1887.

Residence: I'm an Oklahoma boy born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I grew up in Pottawatomie County all my life, mainly west of Tecumseh, Oklahoma. I've lived in the Bethel Acres area for the past 50 years.

Education and/or other achievements: After completing B.A. in accounting with a minor in mechanical engineering from the University of Oklahoma, I got married to Connie Fry (51 Years) , served in the Navy (West Pack arena), and then came back to Oklahoma while working with Worthington Pump, receiving my MBA with honors from Oklahoma City University in 1982.

Employment: I've been a financial controller for numerous corporations during my lifetime at the same time establishing myself as an entrepreneur by acquiring different businesses and adventures. Some of my functions that pertain to making a living include being an accountant, manager, rancher, father, grandfather, legislator and controller.

General statement: I am a proud active Potawatomi member and a Navy veteran who will step up to the plate to render in a manner that is fair and objective for all our members and our veterans first, then look at how that can benefit both the Nation and our membership.

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe? My experiences from being a professional and having an entrepreneurial streak has guided me to pay close attention to details and render good decisions based on fact-finding. While serving our Nation (on the bank board, grievance committee, and legislator), I have been able to study our policies, procedures and our Constitution of which those experiences I will continue to apply to the Legislature.

Challenger – Charles Scott

Potawatomi name (if applicable) and family: Wenbisa (light rain), Charles Scott and I'm descended from John B Peltier and Ellen Vieux

Residence: Tecumseh Ok

Education and/or other achievements: BA in Philosophy and Religious Studies from St. Gregory's University. I'm also a graduate of our Mdamen program, which I highly recommend.

Employment: Retired. I'm a veteran of the Army and Navy. I have worked as a Maintenance Mechanic, a Union Organizer, and a Paramedic.

General statement: I'm running for a seat on our Legislature. As we transition from one generation to the next, I want to be a generational bridge. I want to learn from and mentor under Chairman Barrett, VC Capps, Treasurer Trousdale, Legislators Eva Marie Carney, Paul Schmidlkofer, John Boursaw and Dave Carney. I want a seat at our leadership table, to ensure your voice is heard and you are represented. My personal Pledge: to bring Legislative Leadership to our Nation, to refocus our Veterans Group, to employ more CPN Members in Leadership Positions, to represent you with Honor, Integrity, transparency, expand our Tribal Sovereignty and promote our culture.

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe? The Military taught me to Lead, to Listen, to Learn. Being a Union Organizer taught me to be inclusive and build a grassroots consensus. I've talked with and listened to many tribal members and employees. I relate to you. I will bring my personality, leadership, empathy, warrior spirit to your Legislature. I'll balance our Traditional Potawatomi values with our Legislative goals.

I need your votes. I hope to see you at our Festival in June, I will be on our Drum, singing for you, find me and say *Bozho*.

Migwetch
Wenbisa, Charles Scott

District 11 election candidates



Incumbent – Andrew Walters

Potawatomi name (if applicable) and family: My Tribal name is Nibwemko – “Standing Bear”. I am a descendent of the Bourbonnais Family through my 4th Great-Grandmother Catherine Chevelier “Catish” Bourbonnais, Peter Bourbonnais, Mary Margaret Bourbonnais, Effie Mae Dike, Hazel

Francis Coder, and my Mother Emma Mae Fry

Residence: I live in Shawnee, Oklahoma

Education and/or other achievements: I attended the University of Texas at El Paso where I studied Psychology. I attended the University of Houston where I studied Philosophy. I attended Texas A&M where I studied Criminology and received my Texas Peace Officers Commission. I have attended the FBI Command College at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio, Texas and the Texas Law Enforcement Management Center in Huntsville, Texas. I have over 3000 hours of studies in Criminology, Management and Response. I attended the Federal Law Enforcement Center in Glenco, Georgia. I served 47 years in Texas law enforcement and law enforcement management.

Employment: I am currently retired from Law Enforcement, enjoying my family and travelling with my Wife, Cora.

General statement: I believe in our Tribal Government, our Sovereignty, and our Leadership. I believe we are on the right path for the future. I do acknowledge some issues. The two most important of those is developing participation and a sense of belonging in our Tribal family and improving communication between the tribal government and those we serve. Some Tribal members feel disenfranchised and angry about the Tribe. I hope, in my next term, to try to open the door to all members and hopefully heal old wounds.

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe? I have 2 years’ experience on Legislature. During that time, I have worked with the Administration on COVID response, the distribution of ARPA funding to members, the installment of new membership, the starting new business enterprises, and plans for a Tribal future. I currently serve on the “Rules and Government” and the “Judiciary/Public Safety” committees. I have quietly listened and learned the ways of the Government. I understand now the nuances of Tribal governance. I work well with all the Legislators and proudly call some friends. I have visited with other Tribal Leaders and have compared the good and bad of their ways versus ours. I believe I am qualified to carry on for the next 4 years to apply what experience I have gained to better our Tribe. My heart is good. I want the best for us.



Challenger – Jay Laughlin

Potawatomi name (if applicable) and family: My lineage is traced back to Kesh-now-quah – Angelique (Afternoon Woman), the daughter of the Potawatomi medicine man Wabaunsee, and wife to Pierre Fraschette Navarre. Both my father and grandfather were born in Wanette, Oklahoma, where my family was resettled in the late 1860s.

My great-grandmother Emily (Weddle) Laughlin is listed on the 1937 rolls, and her grandmother Frances (Navarre) Milot is listed on the 1887 rolls.

Residence: I live just north of Edmond, Oklahoma, in Logan County. I was born in Duncan, Oklahoma and then moved not far from my family’s allotment near Wanette, Oklahoma.

Education and/or other achievements: I graduated high school from Lexington. After graduating high school, I pursued my degrees at various universities. I currently have a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and a Master of Business Administration degree with an emphasis in finance. I’m professionally licensed to practice biomedical engineering, environmental engineering, and petroleum engineering.

Employment: I’ve worked and lived in various places across the U.S. and France. After making it back to Oklahoma in 2009, I’ve continued to work in engineering, focusing on the environmental sector and in the government contracting sector. I’m an engineer, investor, activist and small business owner.

General statement: It would be a great honor to serve our people and assist in the growth of our Nation. My vision is of a thriving Nation with diversified businesses to promote, protect and foster our culture, economic prosperity, education, environment, elders programs, health care systems and our youth.

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe? I have directed multi-million-dollar projects in various capacities, been on the board and supported non-profit organizations, raised children, been married, failed and got up again to succeed. I have the experience and education needed to move our Nation forward. By electing me to District 11, you will bring a fresh perspective to our legislative body.

Continued on page 12

Community learns the importance of vaccines

Did you know that the word “vaccine” comes from the Latin word “vaca,” meaning “cow,” with “vaccinia” meaning “cowpox virus”? The word’s definition expanded after a doctor in England found success in the late 18th century using the cowpox virus to immunize community members from smallpox.

Kellie Clark, RN and Assistant District Nurse Manager for the Oklahoma State Department of Health, shared that piece of history at a vaccine education event hosted by the Pottawatomie County Health Department and Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services in late January.

Approximately 35 attendees gathered at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center to hear about the importance of vaccinations, both on an individual and community level. Emily Walsh works for the Pottawatomie County Health Department as its health equity specialist and organized the event.

“We are passionate about vaccines and just the health that comes with it, especially with the COVID vaccine. And so, we just really wanted to promote it with our community and our partners,” she said, adding that CPN is a great partner in public health.

“They just do so much and are so generous. And so anytime that we’re able to partner with CPN, we try to do that. And this seemed like a great opportunity.”

The evening included speakers, a resource booth, door prizes and a nurse from the Pottawatomie County Health Department administering vaccinations to those interested. CPNHS Licensed Practical Nurse Christine Vencl created a booth using small toys, cartoons and pamphlets that showed the lifecycle of a virus and how it spreads throughout the human body.

“I feel like everybody learns differently. Some people are visual learners. And (it’s important) to make education fun. There might be something that stands out to someone,” she said.

Vencl keeps that in mind while discussing vaccines with patients on a day-to-day basis. She feels it is important to meet them at their understanding level and works hard to answer every question.

“Whenever they understand it and realize (the benefits), then they’re open to saying, ‘Yes, I do need that,’ or ‘My child needs that.’ So, educating them and their ‘a-ha’ moments are just wonderful,” she said.

Dr. Lori Crow, MD, a pediatrician at SSM Health in Pottawatomie County, spoke about the importance of



A patient receives a free vaccine during the vaccination education event at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. The event was organized by the Pottawatomie County Health Department and hosted by CPN.

inoculating children on schedule. She described vaccines as a “part of starting a kid out on the right track for a healthy life” and “one of medicine’s greatest inventions.”

She discussed rotavirus, MMR (measles, mumps and rubella), whooping cough, polio, chickenpox, Hepatitis A and B, HPV, meningitis, flu, COVID and other diseases. Crow also reminded attendees that vaccines are the reason many people alive today have not encountered these diseases and that increased globalization makes them easier to spread.

Clark spoke next, focusing on the history of vaccines as well as adult inoculations in different stages of life — as a college student, while pregnant, as an elder, while traveling internationally and for those with preexisting conditions.

“I think a lot of the times people hear vaccines and they think babies and children, but it’s important throughout your life to maintain good health and to help prevent those diseases that you don’t have to get, if you get vaccines,” Walsh said.

Vencl’s presentation tied them all together with a brief demonstration on how measles spreads, one of the most contagious viruses known to man. She also played a short documentary video about two families affected by meningitis, one experiencing their son’s sudden death as a college student.

“Vaccine-preventable diseases do not discriminate,” Vencl said after the video. “Every parent, grandparent,

aunt and uncle, family members and guardians all want to keep their precious babies, children and self well.”

The stories and new information made attendee Rebecca Frawley reconsider her family’s vaccinations. Even as a member of the clerical staff at the Pottawatomie County Health Department, she realized she needed to look again.

“I didn’t realize there was so much danger out there with meningitis. When we get to work tomorrow, I’m going to have them pull my shot record to see if I actually have my shots for the meningitis,” she said.

Vencl and the CPNHS staff check patients’ vaccination records at each appointment and ensure they remain up to date.

“If they have any questions or concerns, we can alleviate that before. We give them a vaccine information statement that tells them about the vaccine, and each patient, for every vaccine they get, gets that. That way when they get home, and their arm’s a little sore or they feel a little achy, they can refer back to that and know that it’s a normal response,” she said.

Following the presentations, a nurse from the Pottawatomie County Health Department vaccinated a handful of attendees. Jessica Cranmore works as a hostess at a popular restaurant, which means interacting with the public. She received her COVID booster as well as a flu shot and found the evening educational.

“Now I’m thinking about my (children) going, ‘Oh crap, I know they’re up to date on their records, their shots, but we need to look at that,’” Cranmore said. “If it’s avoidable by one little shot, then I mean, they only hurt for a minute.”

After the history, scientific explanations, demonstrations and answered questions, Walsh summed up the evening’s message in two words.

“Get vaccinated.”

Find out more about Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services at cpn.news/health. 🔥

Election candidates continued...

District 13 election candidates



Incumbent – Bobbi Bowden (unopposed)

Potawatomi name (if applicable) and family: I am a member of the Trombla Family.

My Potawatomi Name is *Pkuhshnoqua* which was given to me by Chairman Barrett carried on from my Great Great Grandmother Rozette Trombla.

Residence: I live in Choctaw Oklahoma which is also where I spent my childhood.

Education and/or other achievements: I attended Rose State College and the University of Oklahoma pursuing a degree in finance which led me to a career in banking and Title Insurance. In 2014 I obtained my Certification in Interior Design and my Real Estate License.

Employment: In addition to my Design and Real Estate businesses I am the Project Manager and Lead Designer with Trails End Homes.

General statement: I am very honored to be serving another term and will continue to serve our great Nation to the best of my ability.

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe? My main strength is experience. I began serving the tribe in 2007 as a Business Committee Member. I was part of forming our 16-person legislative body. What an incredible thing that is for our members that are not in Oklahoma. I understand how important the growth and expansion of our enterprises are to continue to provide care and benefits to our members. I am looking forward to the continued success and growth of our great Nation. 🔥



Paid for by David Barrett

RE-ELECT
DAVID BARRETT
MNEDOBE (SITS WITH THE SPIRIT)

**PROUD POTAWATOMI | PROUD VIETNAM VETERAN | PROUD LEGISLATOR
SPIRIT DRIVEN | BOURASSA FAMILY | SERVING OUR NATION WITH PRIDE
VAST KNOWLEDGE OF HOW OUR NATION OPERATES**

*I will continue to bring to the table **Fair, Impartial and Independent Thinking, Hard Work, Honesty, & Leadership***

I would appreciate your continued support in securing a firm foundation for our Nation’s Progress

VOTE DAVID BARRETT FOR DISTRICT 10

ELECT

Jay Laughlin

DISTRICT 11
CITIZEN POTAWATOMI
NATION REPRESENTATIVE



"My vision is a Nation that is thriving with diversified businesses to promote, protect and foster our culture. I dream of a collaboration of our people coming together, bringing their ideas, skills, knowledge and passion to push the envelope in what this Nation can achieve"

VOTE!

INTEGRITY | PROSPERITY | HOPE

 JAY LAUGHLIN FOR CPN

 JAYLAUGHLIN4CPN@GMAIL.COM

PAID FOR BY JAY LAUGHLIN



FOREIGNER



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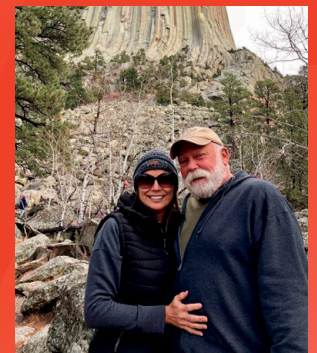
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RE-ELECT

ANDREW WALTERS

NIBWEMKO [STANDING BEAR]

DISTRICT 11 LEGISLATOR



- HONESTY
- INTEGRITY
- PROVEN LEADERSHIP

"I believe in this Tribe and our people. We have many divisions we need to heal, and many things yet to do"

nibwemko@gmail.com

Paid for by Andrew Walters

Veterans report

Bozho (Hello),

Over the years, I have had surviving members of a deceased Veteran ask me what they need to do. Well, I felt it was time I shared some of this information for the grieving families. Start with a checklist:

What, if any, type of services would you like?

- A funeral at a church or funeral home.
- A funeral at a gravesite.
- A memorial service at an outdoor site.
- A memorial service at a home.

Which, if any, of these additional events would you like to have?

- A wake.
- A viewing.
- A visitation.
- Particular religious events.

Would you prefer to be buried or cremated?

- If buried, what sort of casket would you like?
- If cremated, what sort of urn would you like?

Is there a particular location you would like the services to be held?

Who would you like to officiate the memorial?

Who would you like to have as pallbearers?

Who do you want to deliver eulogies?

Are there any charitable donations you would like to make instead of flowers?

Are there any organizations you want to notify?

If the passing occurred outside of a hospital or hospice, immediately notify the authorities.

Notify family and friends.

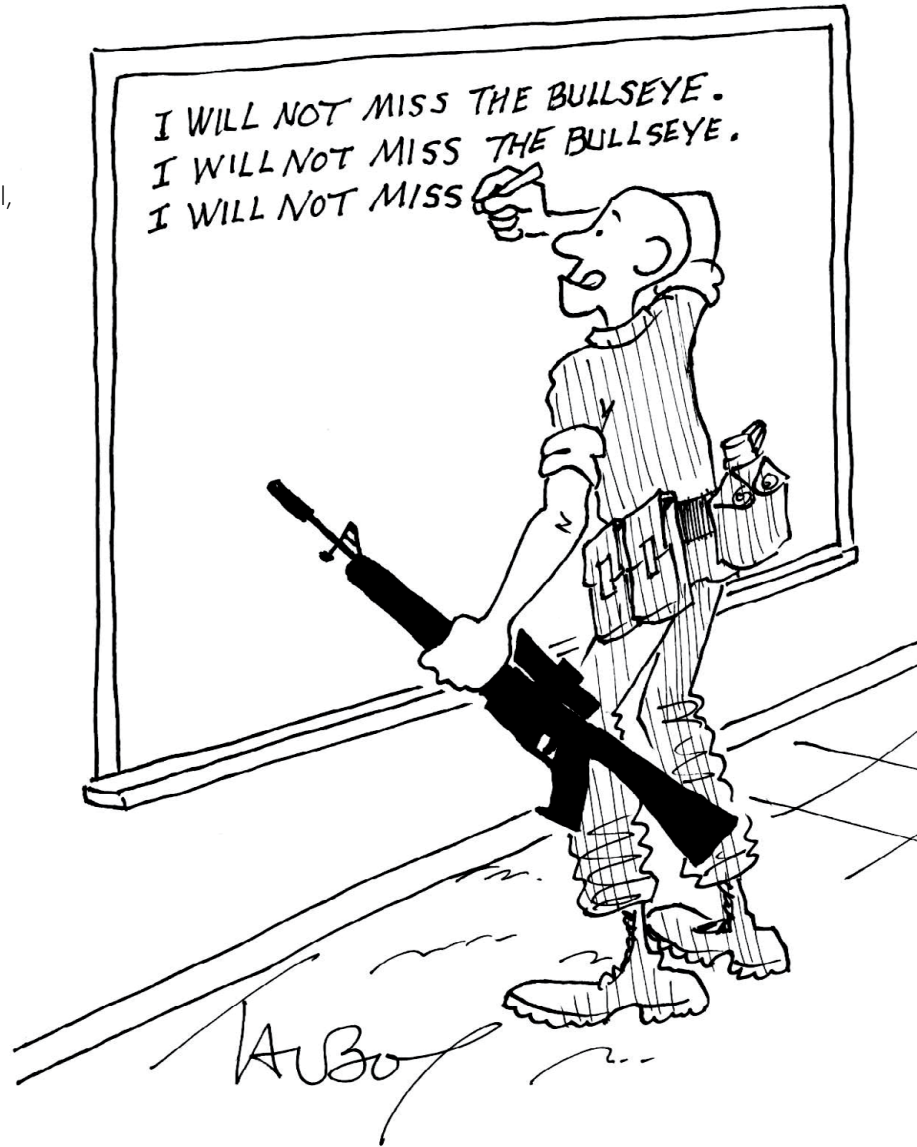
You may wish to notify social media.

Collect any relevant information for creating the death certificate and obituary, including name, Social Security number, date of birth, date of death and remaining family.

Locate the executor of the will and also provide the reading of the will for those concerned.

Determine what will happen with the affairs of the person who passed away. This includes:

- Contacting the landlord or mortgage issuer.
- Checking in on any open bank accounts.



- Canceling credit cards.
- Calling utility companies to inform them that service is no longer needed.

I hope this information will help those facing this challenge.

Remember our monthly meeting of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Organization is the 4th Tuesday of each month, March 28 (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.

Migwetch (Thank you),

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

Tribal citizen serves Indian Country through business

With more than 25 years in human resources, Karla Bylund has become a partner and advocate for many Indigenous nations across the United States.

Six years ago, the Schropfered family descendant started her own business offering a wide variety of human resources services to Tribal governments and enterprises.

Soaring Bird Solutions offers expertise in recruiting, crafting policy and procedure, handling employee investigations or grievances, employee training and development, compensation studies and strategic planning.

Many of her clients are smaller tribal nations with fewer than 100 employees, she said. When the tribal entity doesn't have a dedicated human resources department, Soaring Bird Solutions can supplement HR or provide all the HR services needed.

The staff includes four full-time and two part-time employees. Bylund enjoys customizing services to fit a tribal nation's diverse needs.

"We've done about 25 compensation studies for tribes, tribal casinos, tribal governments, tribal entities, and other large projects such as strategic planning or developing policies and procedures and HR audits," she said. "We pretty much run the gamut of all HR and organizational development."

Bylund has a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in organizational psychology. She holds a certificate in diversity and inclusion from Cornell University; and a senior human resource certification from the Society for Human Resource Management. She has served as a speaker for the National Native American Human Resource Association, the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development and the TribalNet Annual Conference.

Working across Indian Country

While working full-time for an organization in Washington state, Bylund also established a few consulting contracts. Through word-of-mouth, those contracts gradually multiplied until she found herself working 70-80 hours a week between her full-time job and her contract clients. She knew she could combine her HR expertise with her desire to serve Indian Country.

"Number one, I love the opportunity to meet other tribes, learn about the culture. I get to be introduced to their homes and what they do, and the different enterprises that they have. It's pretty exciting for me because I just love learning about different tribal cultures," Bylund said. "I also have flexibility and freedom to work from anywhere. I can do so much of it remotely."

Bylund's clients rely on her human resources knowledge and appreciate her respect for culture. She is uniquely



Karla Bylund (Photo provided)

positioned to meet their needs.

"I'm able to navigate through tribal culture and politics. There is a lot to say about having that knowledge of Indian Country and being a tribal member myself and having a sensitivity to the culture," she said.

That knowledge has helped guide her. She understands the value of building

relationships. She recalled one instance where she and a tribal leader spent an hour talking about tribal traditions before they even discussed the tribe's business needs. Another H.R. consultant may not have realized they were expected to get to know the client first.

"In my career, I've seen numerous times where H.R. people were recruited from the outside, and it's a different world. They can fumble because they may have all of the knowledge, but they don't have all of the soft skills that it takes to navigate in Indian Country," Bylund said.

Making a difference

Each day, she is grateful for the opportunity to be able to help tribal nations solve problems.

"My life motto is to make a difference," Bylund said. "It's very rewarding when I can go in and I can solve a problem. I've had so many clients who come back to me as repeat business, which tells me that they appreciated what I've done for them. We built a relationship."

She is also excited about the moments when the knowledge she shares during training begins to click.

"I'm standing up there, and I see the lights go off and I see the 'a-ha' moments. It's very rewarding for me. I was doing a supervisor skills training and afterwards one of the participants just came up and hugged me and said, 'Nobody has ever taught us any of these things.' It's kind of a daily prayer of mine to make a difference and to be of value to my clients," she said.

Protecting sovereignty

Bylund also offers her clients a unique understanding of the importance of sovereignty and tailors her services to help safeguard the nations she serves.

Some tribal nations may use a "copy and paste" approach when it comes to policy by using existing federal policy,

she said. Bylund carefully reviews tribal policies and procedures to ensure their sovereignty is safeguarded.

“Sovereignty is very important to me. One of the things that I do when I go in and I work for a tribe is I look at their policies and procedures and make sure that they aren’t inadvertently waiving their sovereign immunity. I always recommend, ‘Write your own labor code, build your own labor code into your constitution and have your own laws so that there’s never any question you’re not waiving your immunity,’” she said.

Many Native nations are facing continual efforts by state governments to chip away at tribal sovereignty. Bylund is steadfast in her resolve.

“We have to continually battle to keep the states and the federal government from assuming control because (tribes) are sovereign,” she said. “A lot of tribes are very savvy and they do understand it, and they do fight it every step of the way. But some of these smaller ones just don’t have the resources, the team of attorneys, and they struggle. There’s many, many times that I’ve rewritten the policies to help them maintain their sovereignty.”

A nod to her heritage

The name of her business, Soaring Bird Solutions, was chosen for a very special reason.



“My Potawatomi name is Bird Who Soars. My aunt Betty is the one who named me. And honestly, with a name like Bird Who Soars, I felt like I didn’t have any choice but to go far in life,” Bylund said. “So, I called my business Soaring Bird Solutions to reflect my Potawatomi name.

It reflects my culture and my background. And it’s also symbolic to strive to soar. One of the things that I say when I’m doing a proposal is, ‘We want our clients to soar.’”

For more information, visit soaringbirdsolutions.com or email k.bylund@soaringbirdsolutions.com.

Karla Bylund founded Soaring Bird Solutions in 2015. She has more than 25 years of experience in human resources and has worked with more than 30 tribal nations. The firm specializes in services including policy review, engagement surveys and more. They use a network of human resources professionals made available to the firm’s clients. Soaring Bird Solutions has exhibited at the National Center’s Reservation Economic Summit. During the coronavirus pandemic, the firm was able to serve its clients through connections made at past RES events. Bylund believes when Indian Country works together, all can prosper. 🔥



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New season, new coach

Mark Dannhoff leads Potawatomi Fire in 2023

A new face will be coaching the Potawatomi Fire during their second season. However, he may be familiar to fans of The Basketball League.

Mark Dannhoff will be the new head coach of the Fire when their 2023 basketball season kicks off March 1 against the Mavericks in Shreveport, Louisiana.

"I'm really enjoying the passion in the community," Dannhoff said. "Everybody's been so welcoming. I can't wait for the season. The enthusiasm and the excitement for the season has just been overwhelming. Hopefully we can live up to expectations."

The Fire's first home game will be March 17 against the Rockwall, Texas, 7ers.

Last year, the Fire concluded their successful inaugural season by winning 21 of 29 games, including the playoffs. Their 18-6 regular season record earned them the third seed in the Central Conference playoffs. They beat the 7ers in the first round before falling to the second-seeded and eventual TBL champion Shreveport Mavericks in the semifinal conference round.

In addition to his coaching stint in Enid, Oklahoma, Dannhoff brings nearly 30 years of experience at the college level. He served as an assistant on the staffs of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Georgia State University, Mercer University, University of Texas Pan-American, University of New Orleans, University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Tulane University.



Head Coach
Mark Dannhoff

He is the former head coach of the TBL Enid Outlaws.

The 2023 Fire

The 2023 Potawatomi Fire roster will include league MVP Deshawn Munson, and Dannhoff expects to have additional offensive and defensive weapons at his disposal. A few players are competing overseas and will join the Fire shortly after the start of the season. There will be some new faces as well, he said.

"We feel really good about the young men (signed). We like their ability to play the game, their basketball IQ, their experience and their level of play. But we also kept saying, 'We want to get the right guys on the bus.' We feel good about where we're at," Dannhoff said.

In addition to Munson, Dannhoff anticipates TBL veterans Chuck Guy, Lyle Hexom, Paul Harrison, T.J. Maston, A.J. Turner, K.D. Moore and Je'lon Hornbeak will contribute right away. Guy was named to the 2021 All-TBL first-team. Hexom is a 2022 TBL All-Star and defensive player of the year. Hornbeak is one of four players with experience in the NBA's G League.

With the new faces, Dannhoff expects the team could be even stronger than last season.

"If we share the basketball on offense, do what we're capable of doing and then turning around and defending and rebounding, we have a chance to make some noise and have some success. We've got to remember team first (and play) unselfish basketball," he said.

Relationships

Dannhoff has coached 53 players who have moved on to play at the professional level, including Oklahoma City native RaShawn Thomas, Linton Johnson, Sam Dekker, John Jordan and Bronson Koenig.

He has a firm belief that coaching is more than drawing up plays, it is about the bonds forged throughout the years. Dannhoff stays in contact with many of his former players through phone calls, email and social media. He has even had a few log onto a Zoom meeting to provide guidance and inspiration to Dannhoff's current players.



Deshawn
Munson

"For me, (the relationships are) really what it's about," he said. "They go well beyond the time (spent) coaching. You want to hear about when they're getting married or when they're having a kid or that they're taking a new job."

For now, Dannhoff is focused on the team culture for the 2023 Fire roster, drawing upon his previous coaching experience to pull the team together and building a solid foundation.

"This is who we're going to be, this is what we want to do, where we want to go and how we're going to get there," he said. "Only being here three or four months now and bringing in a whole new team, we've got to implement our culture. At the end of the day, your culture travels with you. If you defend and you stick to your training and your process, you can be successful on the road."

One aspect not expected to change is the amount of interaction between the community and the team, Dannhoff said.

"The fact that these young men get out and interact with the community is the best part, because at the end of the day, it's a basketball game. Yes, we want to win, we want

to entertain, and we want to have a successful season. But success can come in many forms, and one is getting out in the community and getting to know the people in the community and becoming one big family," he said.

Focus on youth

Dannhoff plans to schedule community outreach events at local schools, including basketball camps for children.

"Young kids are so impressionable and really look up to these guys," he said. "They're really good mentors, and they're really good young men to follow. With our players working (the camps), the kids can say, 'I got coached by Deshawn Munson today,' or 'Chuck Guy was helping me with my shot.' We're going to have a lot of opportunity for that as well."

Dannhoff is aware of the complications of growing up in the digital age. He is grateful for the chance to positively impact the community.

"There's just so much that these young kids have to deal with day in and day out, things we never even thought about," he said. "We can give them a release to find something that they enjoy and brings joy to them. Coming to a basketball game, getting autographs or talking to one of the players — just that moment that they can forget about everything else and just enjoy something."

In addition to sharing basketball tips, the Fire players give their young fans an example of how to set goals and follow dreams, Dannhoff said.

"These players played in college, and they can share how they got there. We're here to help young kids pursue their dreams, whatever they may be, whether they want to be the first chair in the orchestra or they want to be a doctor, run their own business, be a basketball player, whatever it may be. We're here to encourage them to follow their dreams and give it their best effort to see where life takes them," Dannhoff said.

The La Crosse, Wisconsin, native and his wife, Chantal, have settled into the community, and they are eager to meet more fans.

"We have been so impressed and thrilled to be here in Shawnee. The people have been so welcoming and sweet to offer up any way they can help us with whatever we need. It's just been a lot of fun, and we're getting to know so many people," Dannhoff said.

The Potawatomi Fire compete in the Central Conference of The Basketball League, a men's professional basketball league with 44 teams across the country. The Fire is the first professional basketball team owned by a Native American tribe in Oklahoma. Find the full season schedule, tickets, merch and more at potawatomifire.com. Follow the team on Instagram [@potawatomifire](https://www.instagram.com/potawatomifire).

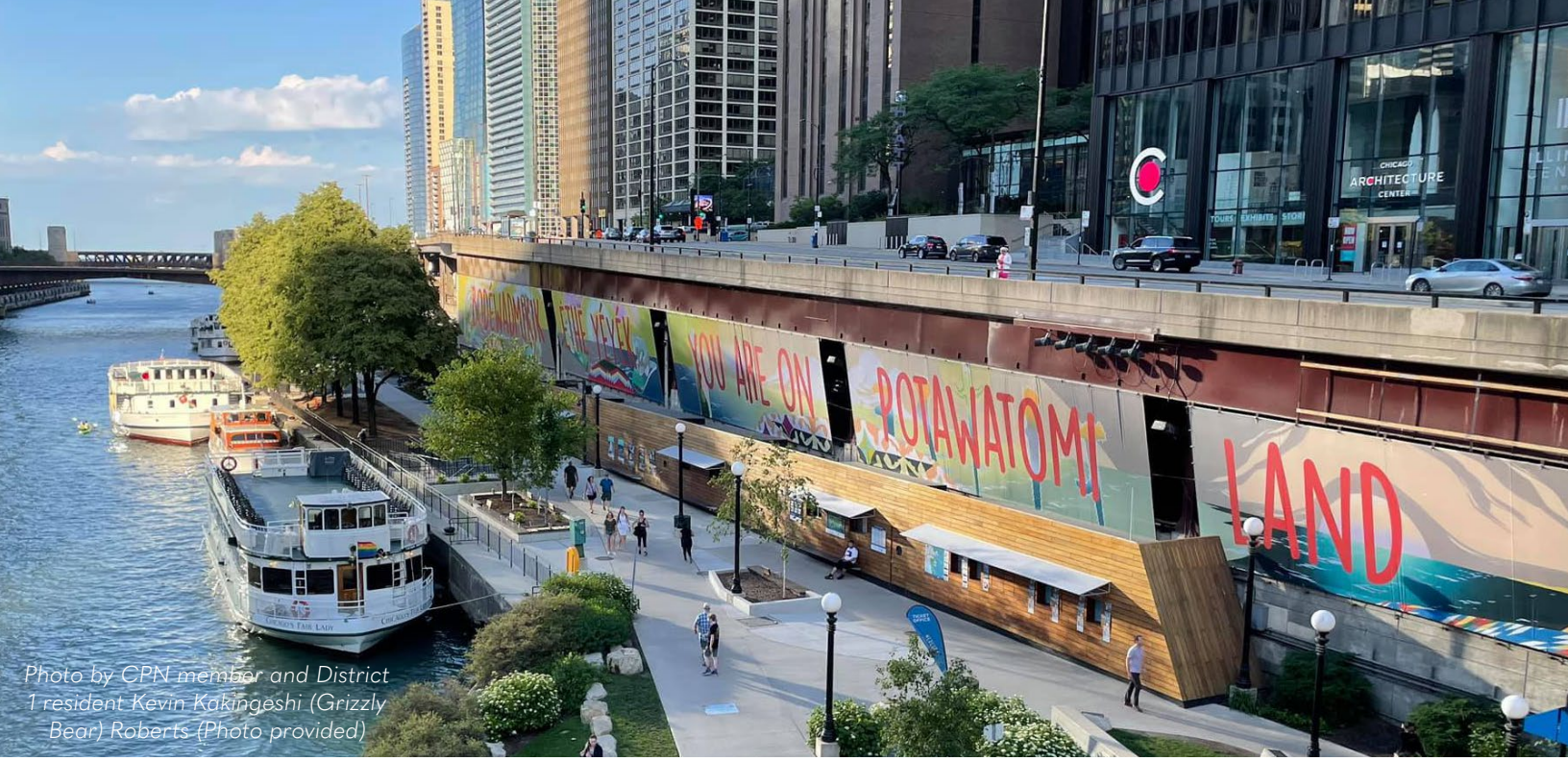


Photo by CPN member and District 1 resident Kevin Kakingoshi (Grizzly Bear) Roberts (Photo provided)

Q&A with Ojibwe artist Andrea Carlson

Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and Chicago-based artist Andrea Carlson made a splash in 2021 when her piece “You are on Potawatomi Land” was installed along the RiverWalk in downtown Chicago. It is comprised of five banners, each 15’ high with a total width of 266’. They read “Bodéwadmikik éthë yéyék/You are on Potawatomi Land” in bright red letters. The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) of Chicago approached her to create a piece of public artwork, which she worked on for a year before installation along the river.

She was inspired after learning about *Williams v. City of Chicago*, a Supreme Court case from 1917, also known as the Sandbar Decision. The Pokagon Band sued for ownership of the shoreline of what is now the Chicago River along Lake Michigan where the banners now sit. The court sided with the city despite metropolitan expansion of the

shoreline into unceded land never outlined in any previous treaty, including the treaties of Greenville and Chicago.

How did you end up creating the mural?

I was considering what, along the river, could be said or what artwork could go in this public space that would have the most meaning. ... and I learned about the *Williams v. City of Chicago* case and that the Pokagon Band had come back for the lake shore that had been filled in and had lost the case in the Supreme Court in 1917. And I think that that is really important is when a Nation comes back for their land that that be remembered and honored.

They had a really strong case. When I decided to put, “You’re on Potawatomi land” in Potawatomi and English there, I was thinking of that particular case. The location is also close to a Blackhawks (Chicago ice hockey team) memorabilia store. It’s the DuSable Bridge (named after Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the first non-Indigenous settler of the area) right there on Michigan Avenue that has an image of a dead Native man on those bridge houses. The location is across the street from Pioneer Park, where du Sable and (his Potawatomi wife) *Kitihawa* lived.

I decided to just make an artwork that would foreground that we are on Potawatomi land — a very simply-put land acknowledgment with this larger history. And I didn’t do “You’re on an *Anishnabe* land” or “You’re on Three Councils land” because I felt that with the Potawatomi coming back for that built-out land, that that was a



Andrea Carlson (Photo provided)

strong enough case. Had they won that court case, we wouldn't question whose land it was. It would belong to Potawatomi and the seven bands that the (Pokagon Band) Potawatomi were suing on behalf of. Also, the language of "You're on Potawatomi land," it's not in past tense. It's in present tense. It's this statement of perpetual belonging.

How did you decide on the look of the mural and how it would use the huge outdoor space?

Because that's a former shoreline that used to all be underwater, I put in a horizon line, a shore, like a seascape. And then I put these different signifiers of Anishnabe folks — some beadwork, mountains and stuff at the bottom. I made sure that the color palette of the paintings that are behind the text would work well with a really bold red font and color for the "You're on Potawatomi land." I didn't want the text to get lost in the imagery. I wanted it to be bold and that you could see it across the river.

When I was designing this, I was very adamant that the Potawatomi goes first, but then when it's outside, it kind of got lost a little bit in the trees. But I think it uncovers itself as you walk along the RiverWalk. You come around the corner, and then you see the Potawatomi language the size of a building. It's remarkable real estate. It's such a huge section of the river because the banners are like 50 feet long each. ... And it's right near where the architecture tours are, where everyone gets on the boat and learns the story of the City of Chicago. And why not start a land acknowledgment there when so many people learn about Chicago there at that docking point for the architectural tours?

How long did it take you to come up with the idea for "You're on Potawatomi land"?

When I was asked, "Do you want to work with these banners?" I knew right away it was going to be "You're on Potawatomi land." And that's why I said yes because I had an idea ready to go. I knew what it needed to say. ... I knew what I wanted it to have on it. I knew I wanted it to have bright red text that was affirmative to Potawatomi belonging in Chicago. But then the background and stuff, I thought, "Oh, this should be like an infinite shoreline. It should kind of repair, show the water there instead of the buildings."

When was it revealed and finally complete?

It was like right in the heart of the pandemic, end of 2020, early 2021. A lot of people weren't outside then, or they were outside to be able to get some fresh air. But the city still seemed kind of a little bit like a ghost town when they went up.

My hope is that through this piece and through other public artworks that people can't afford to be ignorant about Native people anymore. They can't claim that they're not aware that Native people even exist. ... I've

been trying to think of ways where if my work is going to engage publicly where Native people see it and I disappear as the artist, it doesn't matter who the artist is. It's beloved and held by the community in a way where my name could disappear. It stands alone as far as meaning for Native folks. That was part of the goal, and I like that I kind of achieved it. It's a statement of truth and solidarity.



The Dalton family enjoys Andrea Carlson's artwork along the RiverWalk during a trip to Chicago. (Photo provided)

What kind of feedback have you gotten?

I've been told (by Ojibwe and Odawa peoples), "It wasn't just the Potawatomi. We're part of Chicago." And it's like, "Oh, yeah," but when it comes to that case and when it comes to this very particular area of Chicago, there's a history there. ... If you look at the traditional homelands before the Trail of Death and before some really aggressive removal that Illinois did of Potawatomi folks, the very heart of Potawatomi territory is where Chicago is located now.

And of course, the feedback I've loved the best is Potawatomi folks taking selfies in front of it or just gathering around it and being so incredibly proud of it, or seeing conversations online like, "Oh, can you believe that this is here?" That stuff just feeds me. That just makes me feel like it's good to be an artist and it's good to have these stages that we can make meaningful work on.

Is there anything else that you want everyone to know about the banners?

If you're in Chicago, definitely come take a selfie with it. I'm hoping that going forward that that area will always be a place for Potawatomi signage and identity. That's the hope and dream, that it's not about me. It's about a place. It's about land. ... And I want Potawatomi folks, no matter where they live in diaspora, if you're in Chicago, I want you to feel like that's the homeland, that that's the center, that that's a place where Potawatomi people feel welcome. That's the goal in the future is to make sure that Chicago feels like home. 🔥

Kansas CPN veterans receive handmade quilts

A quilting group based in Linwood, Kansas, recently presented Citizen Potawatomi Nation veterans with handmade quilts to honor the veterans' military service.

Peggy Pistora, Navarre family descendant, is a member of the Linwood Community Library's Quilts for Veterans group. She helped organize the Oct. 8, 2022, quilt presentation at the Rossville, Kansas, CPN community meeting.



Neil Petticord, U.S. Air Force, received a handmade quilt to honor his military service. (Photo provided)

Receiving quilts were CPN veterans Max Kennedy, U.S. Marine Corps; Lyman Boursaw, U.S. Army; Paul McGuire, U.S. Marine Corps; Bob Brown, U.S. Army; Joe Wulfkhule, U.S. Air Force; Mike Martin, U.S. Marine Corps; Dave Stadler, U.S. Navy; Neil Petticord, U.S. Air Force; and Jon Boursaw, U.S. Air Force.

Quilting and socializing

"The group meets monthly at the Linwood Community Library," Pistora said. "In total, we have nine members in our little group."

Jean Brown, Deb Cantrell, Kathleen Meyn, Sandy Morgan-Cockrum, Sarah Morris, Bonnie Purkeypile, Kathy Rapp and Virginia Tummons comprise the group's members. However, anyone is welcome to participate, whether they have sewing skills or not, Pistora said.

"We have people who iron the fabric or cut the fabric. You don't have to know how to sew," she said. "We get together just to socialize."

The Linwood Community Library Quilts for Veterans group was formed in 2015 to make quilts for both active duty and retired members of the military, honoring those who served in recent or past conflicts.

"We wanted to recognize that being deployed overseas changes a person and often has repercussions that last a lifetime," Pistora said.

While they take honoring military service members seriously, the group enjoys the social aspect of their meetings as well.

"We originally got together just to enjoy each other's company, to learn quilting techniques from each other and to create quilts to honor our local service men and women," she said.

Quilts for Veterans is currently in their sixth year of crafting and honoring veterans. The Rossville event marked the presentation of their 25th to 33rd quilts, each with a letter that read:

"In appreciation for the service and sacrifice that you and your family have given for our country, we have made this special quilt for you. We have made it with much love and respect, in the hopes that it will provide you with comfort and remind you that your sacrifice and service and very much appreciated.

"Thank you so much for all that you have done to keep our country safe and free. It is our sincere hope that you will enjoy this quilt and let it serve as a reminder that you are appreciated, valued and respected. We hope that you will feel this appreciation, not just today or on Veterans Day, but every day of the year."

Quilting popularity rises

As a craft form, quilting is enjoying a resurgence in popularity. According to a Craft Alliance survey, there are now 85 million "active creatives" in North America, meaning people who have completed at least one creative project in the last year. There are currently 10 to 12 million quilters in the U.S. In 2020, there was a more than 12 percent increase in the number of new quilters.

Putting a quilt together can be either simple or very complex, depending on the design, Pistora said.

"Most of our quilts are fairly simple. They are made typically out of cotton fabric. First, we select a quilt pattern to make, then we normally 'team' together to make the quilt. By that, I mean one person may cut the fabric, another may sew the fabric pieces together, another person might press the sewn pieces, so they lay nicely when the new pieces are sewn to it. Finally, we have quilters who use their long arm sewing machines to make the final product," she said.

They then bind the quilt around the edges. After completion, the quilt is washed in cold water to prevent the fabric from fading. They label each quilt before it is awarded to a veteran.

"Depending on the complexity of a quilt, one quilt may take our little group anywhere from a few months or a year to complete. We typically have four to five quilts simultaneously in progress," Pistora said.

Respect in each layer

Pistora said each layer of the quilt conveys the respect the group has for veterans.

"The top of the quilt with its many colors, shapes, and fabrics, represents the communities and the many individuals we are," she said. "The batting is the center of the quilt and provides its warmth. It represents our hope that this quilt will bring warmth, comfort, peace, and healing to the individual who receives it."

"Finally, the backing is the strength that supports the other layers. It represents the strength of the recipient, the support of his or her family, our communities

and our nation. Each stitch that holds the layers together represents the love and gratitude of its makers and of our fellow countrymen and women."

Veterans who received the quilts were deeply moved by the gesture.

Jon Boursaw served in the U.S. Air Force for more than 24 years and retired at the rank of colonel. He was among the veterans who received a quilt during the presentation.

"Very simply said, I had to grab a nearby chair to steady myself when the blanket was unfolded," he said. "The blanket is absolutely beautiful. It is now displayed in our home on a wall at the end of the hallway that leads to our bedroom. The ladies in the quilting group did beautiful work on all of the quilts that were presented to our veterans."

After the Rossville CPN veteran presentation, Pistora said she was happy the group was able to honor a veteran from each branch of the U.S. military.

"I am humbled to be with the veterans who have served our country, performed their duty and fought for the freedoms we enjoy," she said. 🔥



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ENID OUTLAWS

MARCH 25
LITTLE ROCK LIGHTNING

MARCH 26
ENID OUTLAWS

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APRIL 13
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APRIL 29
ROCKWALL 7'ERS

APRIL 30
WICHITA SKY KINGS

MAY 4
ENID OUTLAWS

MAY 7
PEARLAND TEXAS WARRIORS

MAY 11
SHREVEPORT MAVERICKS

MAY 12
ROCKWALL 7'ERS

MAY 14
ENID OUTLAWS

MAY 19
SE TEXAS PANTHERS

MAY 20
PEARLAND TEXAS WARRIORS

MAY 25
WICHITA SKY KINGS

MAY 27
LITTLE ROCK LIGHTNING

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HOME
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John “Rocky” Barrett Tribal Chairman

Bozho nikan (Hello friend),

Throughout the last three years, we have seen a steady increase in our Tribal membership across the United States. The Potawatomi diaspora brought about by colonization and forced relocations means our Citizen Potawatomi population stretches far and wide, including in all 50 states and 162 countries. While our headquarters are located near Shawnee, Oklahoma, Citizen Potawatomi build community wherever two or more gather.

Participation and Tribal connection are incredibly important to keeping our culture and society vibrant. One area where we lack participation — and one of the most important — is voting. We have a three-branch government, consisting of executive, judicial and legislative divisions. As a Tribe, we voted on accepting a new constitution in 2007 that established legislative districts across the U.S., ensuring each Tribal member, near or far from CPN headquarters, would be represented in government affairs.

Voting is the bedrock of our Tribal sovereignty, allowing us to decide what we want to do and who we want to lead us as a community. It is participation in the Nation at the most basic level, and our absentee ballot voting system makes the process easy from anywhere. We also hold in-person voting each summer at Family Reunion Festival. The last Saturday of June is Election Day, and there is always some issue for every Tribal member to be heard on, whether your legislative district seat is up for election or not.

Despite the Tribe’s best efforts, our voter turnout rate is low. In 2022, out of 29,129 voters, only 1,458 voted on the Tribal budget — that’s a participation rate of 19.98 percent. Only 136 individuals voted in the District 7 legislative race, one of the Tribe’s more populated districts.

This year, two Oklahoma legislative seats are on the ballot, Districts 10 and 11, as well as the Tribal budget and the reappointment of several Tribal Supreme Court justices. The latter two are on everyone’s ballot. The *Hownikan* asks candidates several questions in each edition in the few months leading up to Election Day. Read through your options and become acquainted with your choices so you will be informed in your decision. Each legislative seat is on the ballot every four years.

You will receive your ballot requests from the CPN Election Committee in the mail soon. Don’t wait; it takes less than two minutes to fill out the small application. If you’re coming to Oklahoma for Family Reunion Festival this year, voting will be open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Whether you enrolled last year or have been since you were born, make your voice heard and vote.

As always, it is an honor to serve as your Tribal Chairman.

Migwetch (Thank you),

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

The banner features the Citizen Potawatomi Nation logo on the left, which includes the text "GREAT SEAL OF THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION" and "PEOPLE OF THE PLACE OF THE FIRE". To the right of the logo, the text "THE Hownikan PODCAST" is displayed in a large, stylized font. Below this, a row of icons represents various streaming platforms: Apple Music, Stitcher, Spotify, SoundCloud, Amazon Music, and YouTube.



Linda Capps Vice-Chairman

Bozho (Hello),

The *Hownikan* has a new look. I appreciate getting the type of paper that can be stored more easily. Like some of you, I save every *Hownikan* issue that is delivered to my home. When I begin to add the numbers of the volumes that I have accumulated, it is frightening. Let's see... I have been in office as Vice-Chairman since June of 1990, and I was on the grievance committee since June of 1987. This coming June will make 36 years of collected *Hownikans*. The CPN Public Information Department did not actually produce 12 copies each year for some of the years prior to 2000; however, there were at least six to eight copies produced most of the years. In other words, I may not be able to count every copy that I have stored because I'm sure a few were lost in the shuffle, but I still have over 300 copies in boxes and on shelves — all either in my garage or in a bedroom.

The paper that our *Hownikans* have been printed on in the past easily fades after a few years. The new paper may fade eventually, but that process will take much longer. Please don't misunderstand. The reason that we did not choose a different kind of paper in the past is that we did not have the money to do so. With a change to the *Hownikan* in pages and the continued search for better quality paper at the right price, the new production will come within our original budget for FY2023. The smooth finish is more pleasing to both sight and touch. I applaud Kent Bush's department that did the research in finding the paper at a price that is acceptable for the *Hownikan* budget. The planning has been flawless and in a timely manner since the idea for the change was first discussed.

The history of the *Hownikan* is an amazing story. The very first issue was a one-page information sheet, which was printed and mailed in 1971. In those days, an important topic was news about per capita payments from the 1960s Indian Claims Commission. Throughout the years, the discussion of "when, where, how much... and occasionally if" was finally answered for the membership in editions of the *Hownikan*. The *Hownikan* has been a staple during the years and has been greatly appreciated. In the 70s and 80s, it was basically the only means of communication from the Tribe for a large portion of our Tribal members outside of Oklahoma. With new technology and advanced social media, many Tribal members have other methods to contact headquarters, and for the Tribe to contact the members, but the *Hownikan* remains a favorite.

Up until now, the most positive changes to the *Hownikan* came when Jennifer Bell began working at CPN as the director of Public Information. She designed a whole new look for the paper and improved content to include more widespread information about CPN, Tribal members and the latest progress made by each. Mrs. Bell did an exceptional job for the 10 years that she remained on the job. Then late in 2022, Jennifer had a once-in-a-lifetime offer to take another position. Mr. Kent Bush was considered for Jennifer's replacement. Kent was a person whom many of us had worked with through the Shawnee News-Star, where he was the former publisher. He has worked out well at CPN, and we are pleased to have the type of excellent leadership that we had with Jennifer Bell.

As usual, I cherish the opportunity to serve as your Vice-Chairman.

Migwetch (Thank you).

My best,

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



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From the legislature



Alan Melot District 1

Bozho ginwa (Hello everyone),

Spring is coming soon, and I'm glad for it. These long winter days wear on my soul! I hope this finds you well and prospering.

I'm so proud of the deep talent and capabilities in District 1, and it's a real privilege to share a message from Kaitlin Curtice this month. Kaitlin is an award-winning author, poet-storyteller and public speaker. An enrolled citizen of our Potawatomi Nation, she writes on the intersections of spirituality and identity and how that shifts throughout our lives. She also speaks on these topics to diverse audiences who are interested in truth-telling and healing. Kaitlin and I lived in the same town a just a few years ago and had no idea we were so close to each other! It's amazing how we can be close to kinfolks and not know it, highlighting how important it is to get involved and get in touch when you can. Kaitlin recently shared this message with me:

"In March, I am releasing my third book, *Living Resistance: An Indigenous Vision for Seeking Wholeness Every Day*. Being Potawatomi really helped ground me as I wrote this book, including the cyclical framework I created called the four realms of resistance. Each realm, similar to the parts of the medicine wheel, represents a different season in our lives, a time to focus on ourselves (personal realm), our communities (communal realm), our ancestors and ourselves as ancestors in the making (ancestral realm), and our practices of lifelong resistance and prayer (integral realm). The main point of this book is to explore ways we can care for ourselves, one another and Mother Earth. I am so honored to share my stories and poetry with everyone and hope it encourages you all to continue seeking out the love and gifts of Creator in and around you."

Kaitlin went on to share this poem from the first section of her book:

"What is a poem? It is the quietest, softest part of you, held to an invisible microphone, held up to the light, held up beyond the hustle and bustle of the day and the groaning aches of the night. A poem is the anger that releases itself in your time of greatest need, when you are ready to fracture before you believe again, ready to break open and

receive yourself to yourself. A poem is the whisper that tells everything, the secret that cannot be denied: You are exactly as you've always been — Beloved Word, Spoken Self, Relieved Ache, Tender Child. The poem is you. It always was."

Kaitlin's newest book, *Living Resistance*, is releasing on March 7 and can be found at her website, kaitlincurtice.com/books, and from online bookstores such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble. I encourage you to show your support and order yourself a copy or two!

I'll be sharing more information next month about how you can participate in the upcoming Potawatomi Trail of Death Caravan, an event put together by the Potawatomi Trail of Death Association, following and commemorating the path our ancestors walked when they were forcibly removed from our homelands.

It's an honor to be your Legislator, and as always, reach out if I can be of assistance!

Bama pi (Until later),

Alan Melot | Legislator, District 1 | alan.melot@potawatomi.org | 608 S. Sergeant | Joplin, MO 64801 | 417-312-3307

25 Hownikan March 2023





Eva Marie Carney District 2

Bozho (Hello),

Update on our District 2 meeting in Montgomery, Alabama

We had a terrific and meaningful afternoon together at The Legacy Museum and The National Memorial for Peace and Justice on Feb. 11. Fifteen of us gathered for a good lunch during which new friendships were forged. Two participants, Victoria Rees and Michelle Schmidt, met for the first time and discovered that Victoria's grandfather, Tom De Lonais, was the little brother to Michelle's great-grandmother, Sara De Lonais. I understand that, since the meeting, they have shared more information and photos, fueling that connection. I've agreed to create a separate email group for the folks who attended so they can continue visiting.

After lunch, we fanned out across the museum and memorial to understand, through compelling visual and data-rich exhibits, America's history of racial injustice and its legacy. It definitely was a moving, challenging afternoon. I highly recommend a visit to these sites and believe all who participated will agree! You can learn more at museumandmemorial.eji.org. I've included a photo of our group taken before we entered the museum.



District 2 meeting in Montgomery, AL

95th birthday party for her last year. May her memory be a blessing. I extend condolences to all our family for this loss. Please stay safe and well and reach out to me to visit or if I can be of help.

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

Gas stoves — consumer warning and need for follow up

I recently connected with a fellow Potawatomi who is concerned that the gas stove in the home she moved into is adversely affecting her health. I don't know if you've been following the news/debate about this — if you Google "gas stoves and health," you can read the wide-ranging views of researchers, consumer advocates, government officials and the gas lobby. *The Washington Post* just printed a great graphic illustrating steps you can take to protect your health if you have a gas stove about which you are concerned but aren't able to replace with an electric model. See the illustration at cpn.news/WaPogasstoves.

Loss of our matriarch

My dear aunt and godmother, Agnes Wood Barron, walked on Feb. 7, 2023, at the age of 96. She was so kind and welcoming to all her family members and nieces and nephews. Her daughters hosted a



Bob Whistler District 3

Bozho ginwa (Hello everyone),

Electric service

In 1975, the Texas Legislature created the Public Utility Commission of Texas. At that time, the PUCT acted on the citizens' behalf, and they negotiated the utility rates for the citizens of Texas. In 1999, the Texas Legislature decided to allow the citizens to search for rates for themselves based upon the thought that we citizens could get better rates due to more competition. That program is called Power to Choose. At the time, service went from a single source for electric service negotiated by the PUCT on our behalf to many dozen providers offering fairly competitive rates.

I have used that program up until three years ago. At that time, I found that the rates were just continuing to spiral upward, and there appeared to be very little real competition where you could get lower rates. There were still several counties in Texas that were so small that the Power to Choose

electric providers didn't offer service, and therefore, the state PUCT negotiated the rates that were about half of what I was able to find. At the time, the best rate I located under powertochoose.com was around 8 cents per kilowatt (Kw).

As you may recall from some of my earlier articles, at one time I sold insurance, and I alerted you to the fact that for insurance, you need to find a broker rather than an agent.

So, I had the thought, "Are there any brokers rather than just electric firm providers?" I did determine that there are brokers, but they are not listed under the Power to Choose program. I contacted a broker, and they were able to come up with an electric rate of 6.032 cents per Kw versus the 8+ cents per Kw with Power to Choose.

My current electric policy will expire in three months. I went to Power to Choose to see what they are now offering in the zip code area I live in. The rates offered varied between 10.6 cents per Kw and 14.5 cents per Kw. One point that was very interesting was that most of the plans really had a set of several rates for you that were no doubt season oriented. Meaning if you used, say, only 800 kilowatts, the rate was 10.6 cents per Kw; then, if your usage was 1,500 kilowatts, the rate jumped to 11.8 cents per Kw. If usage is over 2,000 kilowatts, the rate would be 14.5 cents. I didn't see any firm offering simply a flat, non-fluctuating rate.

I went back to my broker, and his firm was able to negotiate a fixed flat rate of 7.978 cents per Kw. Yes, my rate for electric will go up between \$24 and \$60 per month, depending upon my usage.

In closing, for those of you with all-electric homes in Texas, I urge you to search for a brokerage firm who is able to offer lower electric rates for you than what you can find on Power to Choose. I use True Energy, and their phone contact is 469-941-0532. I wish I had a similar message for those using natural gas for heat as no doubt those rates are increasing also.

I want to thank my constituents for electing me to represent District 3. I am your voice to staff, so if you have a question about benefits or services, please call or email me.

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

Bozho (Hello),

Number of students attending Kansas schools with CPN scholarships increases

The number of students attending Kansas universities, colleges and junior colleges with CPN scholarships continues to increase. Tesia Zientek, the Director of the CPN Department of Education, recently provided me with the number of students who attended Kansas schools in the Fall of 2022 with assistance of the CPN scholarship program. I am pleased to report that the total number of CPN scholarships in Kansas schools is now 540.

The following is a breakdown showing the number of students at each of the schools in Kansas receiving CPN scholarships:

- Kansas State University: 122
- Sterling College: 2
- University of Kansas: 121
- Tabor College: 2
- Ft. Hays State University: 74
- Garden City Community College: 15
- Wichita State University: 53
- Johnson County Community College: 15
- Emporia State University: 34
- Coffeyville Community College: 10
- Washburn University: 29
- Butler Community College: 9
- Pittsburg State University: 15
- Washburn Institute of Technology: 6
- Haskell Indian Nations University: 7
- Highland Community College: 4
- Baker University: 4
- Pratt Community College: 4
- Benedictine College: 2
- Seward County Community College: 3
- McPherson College: 2
- Hutchinson Community College: 1

For more information about the CPN scholarship program, contact the CPN Department of Education by email at college@potawatomi.org, by phone at 405-695-6028 or 1-800-880-9880 or at cpn.news/education.

Upcoming CPN Elders' Potlucks

The dates for the next two Elder Potlucks held in CPN Community Center in Rossville at noon are:

- March 10th, Corned Beef and Cabbage. RSVP by the 7th.
- April 14th, Italian, with garlic bread. RSVP by the 11th.

Come join us and bring your favorite side dish or dessert. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Tracy or Brenda at 785-584-6171.

8th Grade student researches Potawatomi Trail of Death

A few weeks ago, I had the pleasure of being interviewed by a middle-school student who was in the process of designing and creating an exhibit that tells the story and significance of the Potawatomi Trail of Death. Her exhibit will be entered in the Junior Division of the Kansas District 3 National History Day competition that is held annually at Washburn University in Topeka. The student, Madison Arnold, is in the 8th grade at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic School in Topeka. After hearing the topic of her exhibit, I was amazed to learn that Madison is not Native American. This then generated the question as to how she knew about the Potawatomi Trail of Death. She responded that during her 7th grade Kansas History studies, she learned about Indian Removal and the impact it had on various tribes, and one of the tribes she learned about was the Potawatomi and the Trail of Death. She went on to say that even though they and other tribes were devastated by their forced removal, she was struck by the Potawatomi's strength and how they persevered through adversity.

Madison told me that participants in the competition get to choose their project's topic, but it must relate to that year's theme; this year's theme is *Frontiers in History*. Throughout the year, she has been researching, analyzing primary and secondary sources, conducting interviews, and designing and creating an exhibit that tells the story and significance of the Potawatomi Trail of Death.

The title of Madison's exhibit is *People of the Place of the Fire: The Trail of Death and 'Permanent' Indian Frontier*. The exhibit focuses on events leading up to the Potawatomi's removal, the Trail of Death, short and long-term impacts, and legacy. She hopes her project helps people to have a better understanding of Native American history, the truth of what westward expansion really cost, and that the Potawatomi have a rich culture that should be celebrated and respected.

Needless to say, I am very impressed with the time, effort and particularly the sincere interest that Madison has put forth in this project. I think we should all express our thanks and appreciation to Madison for her willingness to exhibit such an important part of our history.

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 9-11a.m. | Thursdays 3-5p.m. | Other times as requested



Gene Lambert District 5

Bozho (Hello),

Leaving February behind and moving forward to the month of March is not without acknowledging an abundance of historical events.

We can relate back to the March of years past and recognize it as the official timing in 1987 when the contributions of women in the United States of America was officially identified and celebrated as International Women's Day, March 8.

The idea of International Women's Day is phenomenal, including all women of all cultures.

Then I asked myself, "Why don't men have their day? Only fair, right?" Well come to find out through Google, they do. I am amazed — it was news to me, and maybe you didn't know either. International Men's Day is

Nov. 19, a day celebrating contributions to society from men and boys. It is recognized in most states. I always wondered how there could possibly be one and not the other in gender recognition.

On March 3, 1913, one day before Woodrow Wilson was inaugurated, 5,000 women marched and were physically attacked in Washington, D.C., an event now known as the Woman Suffrage Procession.

Secretary of War Henry Stimson ordered soldiers from Ft. Myer to keep peace and order. I don't think you would want to upset 5,000 women once they have made up their minds and have a goal.

On March 4, 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered his first inaugural address, trying to settle a concerned and fearful country to a state of confidence. This is also where the saying, "We have nothing to fear except fear itself," comes from.

The speech reminds us of where we are today and defines our assured success through our present politics. At the same time, during the Great Depression we have all read about, President Roosevelt appointed the first woman cabinet secretary, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

March 22, 1972, was the introduction of the Equal Rights Amendment. It was successful through Congress and the Senate but failed to ratify. The concerns at the time were questions of the ability to serve equally in the military, combat duty, etc.

March 10, 1862, was the beginning of the currency we know today. The money was released for the first time in \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills. Prior to the dollar bill, notes were written and backed by gold and silver as was the paper in its infancy.

Now, a March 2, 1793, story I found most interesting to me, and perhaps you, is the story of American soldier Sam Houston who lived from 1793 to 1863. Sam ran away and joined the Cherokee Nation, and they accepted him as their own.

He later served as a representative for the state of Tennessee after which he fought in the Battle of San Jacinto, then served as governor and senator for the new state of Texas. He was later removed due to his failure and unwillingness to confirm or support on the side of the confederates.

Taking the time to look at history for the month of March was quite a learning experience for me. The reality of the heroes and stories of past that brought us to where we are today makes life even more celebratory.

The pendulum swings right and left, and with each new beginning, there is chaos. The rollercoaster ride is always worth it when you let your feet touch ground and it is all said and done.

While we celebrate March, let's not forget a major day, today, yesterday and probably always you have that special clover day, March 17.

Wear your green and remember the Irish, the battles they too endured in developing this much-loved country of ours.

Stay in touch and let me know if there is anything I can do to help.

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



Rande K. Payne District 6

Bozho Nikanek (Hello friends),

I hope this month's column finds you and your families well. Hopefully, those of us in California didn't experience too much damage as a result of recent rain events. I'm happy about the rain and snow but sad that our state continues to ignore the need for more water storage.

But California's water crisis isn't what I want to talk about. I want to talk about California's criminal justice reform crisis. And while it mostly affects us Potawatomi living in California, I urge my constituents in Nevada, Utah and Hawaii to pay attention to what's happening in California. I'm guessing that even though you may not live in California, you most likely have family that does. And at a minimum, constituents outside of California may want to ask themselves, "Why does crime

in California seem to be out of control?" It seems logical that law-abiding citizens everywhere would want to feel safe wherever they live, right? I believe that all politics are local and that all elections have consequences.

No matter where you live in the United States, you've most likely heard about the gang-related murder of six people in Goshen, California, two of which were a 16-year-old mother and her 10-month-old baby. The

two suspects in custody charged with their murder are validated Nuestra Familia gang members. Some of the victims were validated rival Mexican Mafia gang members. These horrific murders took place less than 10 miles from my home and less than 3 miles from my place of business. Both suspects in the case have numerous prior felony convictions and both had at least two convictions involving firearms.

Just 30 miles north of me, a Selma police officer responding to a disturbance call was gunned down by a 23-year-old gang member. Under old California law, the suspect would still have been in jail but was instead released into society as a result of criminal justice reform.

These are just a couple of the higher profile crimes that have happened here in my area. There are instances almost daily of repeat offenders committing more crimes and usually more serious or violent in nature. Then the question everyone asks when a repeat offender's criminal record is revealed after killing someone is, "Why was this person out on the street?" My answer to the question is criminal justice reform.

So far, the only response from Sacramento is more gun legislation. Perhaps even worse is our big city district attorneys who continue to push for even more criminal justice reform with total disregard for the safety of law-abiding citizens. The most recent is the proposed requirement for legal gun owners to have to buy gun insurance to compensate anyone or their family in the event they are hurt or killed by a legal gun owner. Yes, if only the guy who killed the police officer would have had gun insurance everything would be so much better for the slain officer's family! And I'm 100 percent sure the gang member who killed the police officer was a legal gun owner, right? Ironically, the gang member that was murdered by a rival gang member might still be alive if he had been in jail where he belonged. I guess catch and release didn't work out so well for him after all. All the while, our political leaders keep telling us that we have a "gun" violence problem in our state. I don't see it that way. I see soft-on-crime policies that cultivate a culture of repeat offenders with escalating severities of crime. In fairness to our politicians, California voters approved criminal justice reform policies such as Prop 36, Prop 47 and Prop 57. More on that next month. I see entire communities living in fear as a result.

You might ask why I would choose to talk about this problem here. It's because I have family that I love and care deeply about who live in this state. I go to church with friends who share the same concerns. I have customers at my restaurant tell me they have family members leaving California because they're afraid. And I represent members of my Tribe that live in this state. I'm fearful that many of you are as concerned about the future of our state as I am. It can be a helpless feeling.

Congratulations to the Kansas City Chiefs on their Super Bowl victory! I'm happy for Creed Humphrey and proud of his performance in helping take the Chiefs to victory!

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the passing of Jim Thunder. I had the pleasure of meeting Jim at a Potawatomi language conference. Jim possessed a deep love for our language and was fully committed to helping with its preservation. He will be greatly missed.

I hate to leave it there, but I've already gone over my space limit. I hope you like the new magazine format. I'm so proud of our newspaper team and the quality of the work they produce. Truly a blessing to our Tribe.

Wisdom from the Word: Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do." Exodus 24:3

Migwetch, bama pi, (Thank you, until later),

Rande K. Payne | *Mnedo Gabo* | rande.payne@potawatomi.org | 31150 Road 180 | Visalia, CA 93292-9585 | (559) 999-5411

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Mark Johnson District 7

Bozho nikanek (Hello friends),

The 2023 Potawatomi Leadership Program application period is now open and closes on April 1. Every summer, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation welcomes eight to 10 Tribal members between the ages of 18 and 20 to learn about the Tribe's government, economic development and culture as part of the program. I would like to encourage our eligible District 7 members to apply for this program to help shape and build the future leaders of our Tribe. If chosen for this very worthwhile program, you will spend six weeks of your summer in Shawnee, which includes the Family Reunion Festival. To apply, visit plp.potawatomi.org.

Plans are currently underway for the Family Reunion Festival to be held in Shawnee again this year from June 23 to 25. The 2023 Honored Families will be Johnson,

Lafromboise, Lareau, Leclaire, Melott, Rhodd, Tescier, Weld and Young. It is never too soon to secure rooms and travel for your trip to Shawnee. Some of the highlights of Festival are always the hand games on Friday night and Grand Entry on Saturday evening, where we honor our families and heritage. The arena has a dress code. Women should keep their legs and shoulders covered by wearing ankle-length skirts and a shirt that conceals the shoulders as well as carry a shawl, and men should wear slacks and a ribbon shirt. Everyone should wear moccasins or close-toed shoes and move clockwise around the arena. It would be great to start working on a set of regalia to wear during Grand Entry. More information can be found on the Tribal website at cpn.news/festival.

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

Migwetch (Thank you),

Mark Johnson | *Wisk Mtek* (Strong as a Tree) | 559-351-0078 | mark.johnson@potawatomi.org



Dave Carney District 8

Bozho, nikan (Hello, friend),

One topic that comes up in both my daily job as a real estate broker and in my legislative role for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is the HUD 184 Loan, also known as the "Indian Home Loan." I sometimes wonder if home buyers want to finance a home with this loan because it is cool and not everyone can qualify, or if the decision is based on the loan being the right option for them. Also, over time, it seems like the loan program has matured and become more available through various lenders. You can find a list of HUD approved lenders that offer the loan in your state at cpn.news/HUDlenders.

The Section 184 loan is designed for American Indian and Alaska Native families. The United States Congress established this program in 1992 to grow homeownership and increase accessibility to home loans in Native American communities. An individual borrower must be

a member of a federally recognized tribe. Hawaiian Natives can access basically the same loan, under the 184a program.

With Section 184 financing, borrowers can get into a home with a smaller down payment and flexible payment options. It can be used, both on and off Native lands, for new construction, rehabilitation, the purchase of an existing home or a refinanced loan. However, the loans are not available in every state. I've included an availability map with this column.

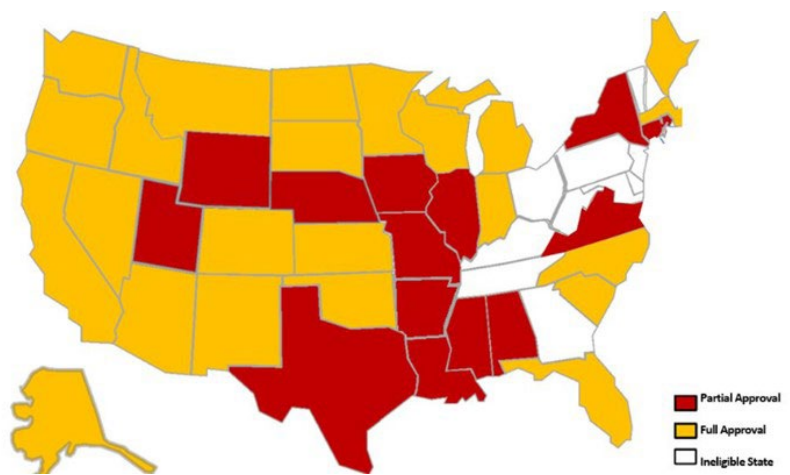
Another available housing program for us as members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is the Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance program.

This is a one-time-only grant for Native Americans with priority given to CPN tribal members. All CPN citizens living in the U.S. may apply. The maximum grant is \$2,125. Mobile homes are not eligible. Please note this point about no mobile homes. I stress this point because I've had folks really angry at me for this being an "only stick built program." It's good to know that upfront. Another point worth noting is that felons cannot occupy the home.

Non-CPN citizens can also apply if they are Native; however, there are more restrictions. For more information, visit cpn.news/housing. This is also a resource for information should you be thinking about relocating back home to our reservation land. There are rental and lease to own options that may be worth exploring.

As always, it is my pleasure to serve you as your legislator,

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





David Barrett District 10

Bozho (Hello),

My article is going to be about the early steps of trying to prevent ever using fentanyl. First, what are opioids? Why do we have them?

Opioids are a class of drugs naturally found in the opium poppy plant. Some opioids are made from the plant directly, and others, like fentanyl, are made by scientists in labs using the same chemical structure (semi-synthetic).

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in the U.S. However, most recent cases of fentanyl-related overdoses are linked to illicitly manufactured fentanyl, which makes drugs cheaper, more powerful, more addictive and more dangerous.

The illegally used fentanyl most often associated with recent overdoses is made in labs. This synthetic fentanyl is sold illegally as a powder, dropped onto blotter paper, put in eye droppers and nasal sprays, or made into pills that look like other prescription opioids. This is especially risky when people taking drugs don't realize they might contain fentanyl as a cheap but dangerous additive. They might be taking stronger opioids than their bodies are used to and can be more likely to overdose.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests the avalanche of overdose deaths is largely driven by the spread of illicit fentanyl. Researchers found a staggering 110,236 people died in a single 12-month period, a stunning new record set in December 2022. In 2021, 107,622 lives were lost in the U.S. due to drug overdoses and drug poisonings. Drug overdoses are the leading cause of death for Americans ages 18 to 45.

Opioids, particularly diverted prescription drugs, enter the community through the medicine cabinet, theft and robbery of local pharmacies and through fraudulent prescriptions. Heroin, fentanyl and fake prescription drugs are also sold by drug trafficking organizations and street gangs already operating in a community. Additionally, many opioids can be purchased via the internet, including social media sites such as Facebook, Google and Craigslist as well as a myriad of sites on the dark web. They are then shipped discreetly via commercial parcel delivery carriers such as the U.S. Postal Service, FedEx, DHL or UPS.

David Trone (D-MD., 6th District) told *The Epoch Times*, "99 percent of the fentanyl is coming from precursor drugs from China, and then it's manufactured by two cartels, the Jalisco and Sinaloa Cartels, and they're the ones that are bringing it across the border."

Just two milligrams of the synthetic opioid — equivalent to 10-15 grains of table salt — is considered a lethal dose. *The Epoch Times* also reported that the Chinese city of Wuhan is known as the fentanyl capital of the world and that the outbreak of coronavirus caused disruption of the production and supply in Wuhan, which set off a chain reaction that caused street drug prices to skyrocket across the United States.

Countless local, tribal and regional efforts, tailored to the specific needs of a community, are underway and supported by national and international efforts. In September 2021, the DEA launched the One Pill Can Kill enforcement effort and public awareness campaign ([dea.gov/onepill](https://www.dea.gov/onepill)).

Please have a meaningful conversation with your family. Reject the notion that it can't happen to you or your family. Talk aloud about the threat opioid abuse brings to your family. Commit to asking the tough questions. You can use the DEA resource "What every Parent and Caregiver Needs to Know about Fake Pills."

Drugs may contain deadly levels of fentanyl, and you wouldn't be able to see it, taste it or smell it. It is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl unless you test your drugs with fentanyl test strips.

Recognizing the signs of opioid overdose can save a life. Here are some things to look for: small, constricted pinpoint pupils; falling asleep or losing consciousness; slow, weak, or no breathing; choking or gurgling sounds; limp body; cold and/or clammy skin; and discolored skin (especially in lips and nails).

What to do if you think someone is overdosing: Call 911 immediately; administer Naloxone, if available; try to keep the person awake and breathing; lay the person on their side to prevent choking; and stay with the person until emergency assistance arrives.

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse the effects of opioid overdose and saves lives. It is available in all 50 states and can be purchased from a local pharmacy without a prescription in most states.

The above facts and materials are from a collaboration from different sources among them are U.S. Department of Justice ([cpn.news/DOJopioid](https://www.cpn.news/DOJopioid)), CDC ([cpn.news/CDCstopoverdose](https://www.cpn.news/CDCstopoverdose)), and National Institute on Drug Abuse ([nida.nih.gov](https://www.nida.nih.gov)) and *The Epoch Times* ([cpn.news/epochJan8](https://www.cpn.news/epochJan8)).

These are some of the things that skim the surface on the poisoning of all people regardless of who they are. I will give myself a D- on trying to research this and fold it into a column. It's here. What are we going to do about this problem? Don't let peer pressure tell you, "Ah, just try it one time." Well, it may be just one time! Because you might be DEAD. THINK, THINK about what you are putting into your bodies. You only have one!

It goes without saying that it is both a pleasure and honor to serve you and our great Nation.

Thank a veteran, first responder or a person in blue.

Migwetch (Thank you),

David Barrett | *Mnedobe* (Sits with the Spirits) | dbarrett@potawatomi.org
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. | Shawnee, OK 74801 | 405-275-3121



Andrew Walters District 11

Bozho (Hello),

We write these articles for the *Hownikan* about a month before they're published. Every month, we write about something that is pertinent, or hopefully will be, 30 to 45 days in the future. That's tough to do, particularly since the crystal ball I bought on Amazon is still in China being repaired. This month though, I don't have that problem. When y'all get this edition, we should be getting pretty close to elections. Yep, it's that time again. Seems like not long ago we went through one that was pretty bad. A lot of name-calling and anger came out. False allegations and sky-high promises flew like crows in a cornfield. Folks, who were not even members of our Tribe, weighed in on Facebook and other social media, giving their 2-cent opinions hoping to influence our election, defame our leaders and tell us our future. It would seem that we're not alone in that trend.

Have you noticed that in elections, in general, no one talks about what they honestly can do? No... that would be too hard, too committal. Rather, folks turn the table and denigrate their "opponent." "Opponent" ...like it's a schoolyard fistfight. Making promises you can't keep. Making promises and proposals that appeal to the voter simply for the sake of getting the vote and appealing to the vocal minority in an effort to silence the majority, obfuscate the issues... that's the way to "win." With all the venom and vitriol flowing, no wonder we can't get people in office that's worth a dang. Who in their right mind would want to run for an office when, first thing out of the box, they have to run a gauntlet of criticism and accusations? We seem to have forgotten the difference between leadership and cheerleading.

I have found and admit we have some issues in the Tribe. Those issues need to be addressed and changes made. Our Constitution needs some amending. The way bills are presented for Legislation needs to be changed. Our Legal Code needs revisions and updates. Folks need to contact their representative Legislators and let their thoughts be heard. Solutions need to be discussed, not just gossiped about by a minority who perceives something as a problem and then complains about it interminably amongst themselves. The true issue, the most key to our future, is participation. We can legislate anything — language, arts, education, reforms — but without participation, it's meaningless. If the majority doesn't participate, then the minority will set the course of our destiny, recalibrate our collective cultural compass and define who we are as a people.

It was decided in our last couple of elections to put and keep good honest people in office that have a proven track record and the experience to run this outfit versus folks that just wanted to profit or play. In the last two elections, the Tribe got it right. Voters looked past the hype and voted their conscience in an educated, thoughtful way. They participated in their citizenship right/responsibility to the Tribe. It is my fervent hope, my deepest prayer, that in this election and our future elections, we have candidates and incumbents that truly want the best for our Tribe. I pray they have good hearts and motives. I urge them to have the fortitude to stand up and let their voice be heard. I expect honor, integrity and cooperation from those running for office. I want candidates who love this Tribe, its people and respect traditions. I want caring people who put the Tribe's, not just the individual's, welfare first. I'm thinking y'all feel the same.

Migwetch (Thank you),

Andrew Walters | andrew.walters@potawatomi.org | nibwemko@gmail.com

Walking On

Elizabeth Ann Brady Young Family



Elizabeth Ann (Marsh) Brady, 78, passed from this life on Nov. 16, 2022, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was born April 11, 1944, in Casper, Wyoming, to parents Guy and Lorene (Young) Marsh. She attended and graduated from Ada Public Schools. She enjoyed 20 years with David Austin, who was the love of her life, until his passing. While raising her three children, William, Larry and Lisa, Elizabeth worked in the real estate business and also was an oil field accountant before returning to college. In her late 40s, she moved

to Idaho where she pursued her nursing degree at Boise State College. She passed her nursing boards at the age of 52. Elizabeth was a member of the Idaho City Historical Society and Tourist Trade. She enjoyed collecting antiques and making pottery and was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Elizabeth also enjoyed hobbies such as crafts, collecting rocks, sky watching and black powder events. Known for her kind, loving and giving heart, Elizabeth was always smiling. She loved all of her children and grandchildren so much.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by her parents; the love of her life for 20 years, David Austin; and son, William Guy Poe. She leaves lasting memories with her son, Larry Brady of Bend, Oregon; daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Bobby Krag; grandchildren, Julia, Patrick, Brandi, Kaitlin and Tyler; and great-grandchildren, Blaine, Caden, Landon, Emmalyn and Harlowe.

Jeanne Labrum Crumbo Family



On Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, Jeanne Marie Crumbo Labrum, loving wife, mother of five, grandmother of 20, great-grandmother of 45 and great-great-grandmother of three, bless her heart, was released from her earthly life at the age of 100 years.

She was born on March 9, 1922, in Fort Duchesne, Utah, the third daughter of the late Albert and Ruby Leona Grimsley Crumbo. She was a member of the Episcopal Church.

She loved her childhood in Fort Duchesne, where the

family home was large and surrounded by large trees and the tennis courts were close by. Her favorite pastime activities were tennis, in which she excelled, and hanging out with her best friend and cousin, Rose. They were often found horseback riding or on the tennis courts. Tennis would remain an important part of Jeanne's life. She excelled scholastically and was senior class president, active in student government and a member

of Altera High School band in which she played the E-flat alto saxophone. Jeanne also possessed a talent for art.

After high school, Jeanne attended and graduated from Stevens-Henager College in Salt Lake City. She was employed at the Ogden Anny Arsenal, Remington Arms and Auerbach's Department Store. During this time, she lived at the Beehive House and Ester Hall, both boarding homes for young women working in Salt Lake City.

Shortly after the end of World War II, Jeanne married Kenneth Labrum on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1945, in her family home. Kenneth and Jeanne resided in Roosevelt and were active in the community. Jeanne worked for Roosevelt City and later the U.S. Forest Service for many years.

After the passing of Kenneth, on Nov. 4, 1981, Jeanne moved to Vernal in 1988 to be near her three sons, Dirk, Craig and Casey. When her health began to fail, Casey moved into her home to help care for her. The three boys became her primary caregivers for much of her later life. She became a resident of the Uintah Basin Villa at age 99 and resided there for 20 months.

She is survived by her five children, Connie de Mik (Robert), Becky Portie (Keith), Dirk Labrum (Shuzhen), Craig Labrum (Michelle) and Casey Labrum; along with 20 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Ruby Crumbo; brother-in-law, Willard S. Murdock; her siblings, Bonnie May Crumbo (1915-1917) and Shirley Lynne Crumbo Murdock (1920-2014); niece, Pamela Ann Murdock Phillips Mueller; son-in-law, Hennan Robert de Mik; and great-grandson, Taegan James Brown.

The Labrum family wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude to the caregivers at the Uintah Basin Villa for the exceptional care they rendered to our mother during her stay.

Services were held Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, at the Stake Center in Roosevelt, including a visitation and Celebration of Life. Interment followed at the Roosevelt Memorial Park, where Jeanne was laid next to Kenneth, her beloved husband of 36 years.

Condolences may be shared at hullingennortuazy.com.

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.



ARE YOU A HOMEOWNER IN NEED OF REPAIRS?

The CPN Housing Department's Elder/Disabled Repair Program can help. It offers assistance with handicap accessibility (ramps, rails, door extension), roof repair/replacement, electrical/plumbing issues, leveling/foundation work, windows and HVAC. (No assistance with weatherization, appliances and aesthetic updates — ex. cabinets or carpet/flooring.)

Applicants must meet all requirements including:

- 1 Member of a federally recognized tribe (CPN tribal member preference)
- 2 Live within CPN tribal jurisdiction/Pottawatomie County
- 3 60+ years of age and/or a disabled tribal member aged 55+ as defined by ADA
- 4 Total household annual income no greater than 80% of National Income Limit for household size
- 5 Current homeowners' insurance with taxes paid up to date
- 6 Primary residence with no reverse mortgage
- 7 No convicted felonies for homeowner/household members

Homeowner must be aware of a possible mortgage placed on their home. (6 months for rehabilitations between \$2k - \$4,999 or 5 years for \$5k+. No mortgage for those less than \$2k.)

Homeowner must complete application with supporting documents for all household members.

Meet the requirements? Have questions?

Contact CPN Housing Department Development Assistant Cindy Anderson at 405-273-2833.

HOWNIKAN

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Hownikan

1601 S Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801

hownikan@potawatomi.org or 800-880-9880

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Send to Tribal Rolls (tribalrolls@potawatomi.org) or log on to portal.potawatomi.org.

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