



HOWNIIKAN

Nmėbnegises | March 2020

Top photo: Warmer weather arrives and flowers begin to bloom around Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

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Walking on



Potawatomi pilot chosen for 2020 Rose Bowl flyover

Stealth bomber pilot and flight instructor Zack Ziegler flew 1,000 feet over the crowds at the Rose Bowl Parade and football game on Jan. 1, 2020. Only a few pilots are chosen for the honor each year, which the Payton family descendant describes as a “great display of American airpower.”

“It’s definitely an honor. It’s a snapshot that reminds me I’m part of something much, much bigger than myself. It’s fascinating to share that moment with everyone in a stadium or an air show,” he said. “I’ve been blessed more than I deserve to represent the freedom and power of our country and my community.”

The Rose Bowl Parade’s 2020 theme “Power of Hope” aligned with Ziegler’s feelings about the opportunity to showcase the aircraft’s abilities.

“(A flyover) is the public’s opportunity to get a glimpse at our mission, which is great,” he said. “It reminds our citizens, their taxes are invested in an advanced defense that is capable of precise employment.”

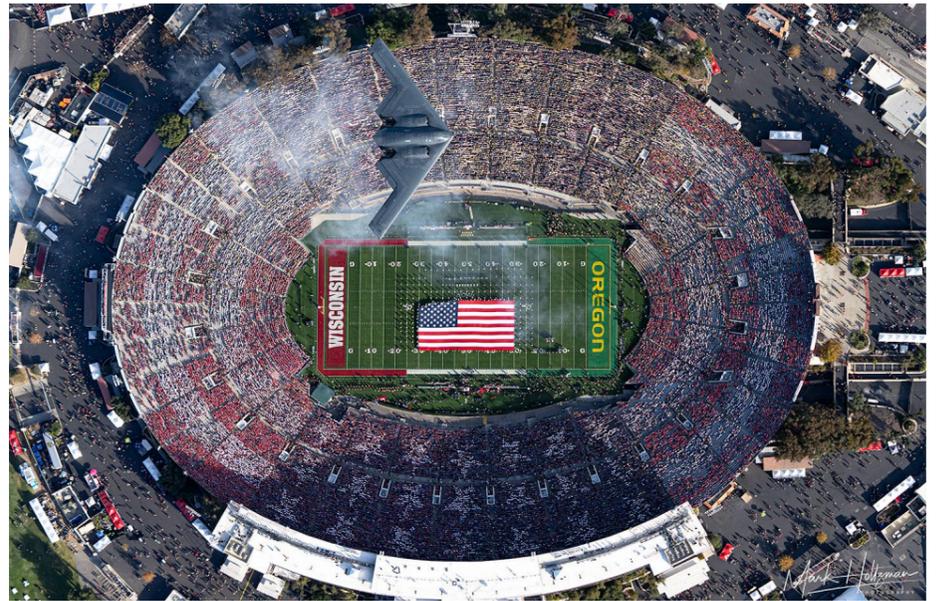
As a member of a two-person crew, Ziegler and his co-pilot took off early that morning from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri. It is the only United States military base with Northrop Grumman B-2 Spirits, strategic bombers designed to move through the sky without detection.

The mission

The goal of the Rose Bowl flyover is to reach Knott’s Berry Farm in Pasadena, California, and fly over the 130-year-old parade at exactly 8:03 a.m. PST. Ziegler’s zest for problem-solving feeds off situations that present unique obstacles, like a celebration featuring blimps, helicopters and more.

“The challenges allow for great training. ... If you look at the terrain, it’s difficult to plan a descent through the valley and arrive at the parade or stadium on time to the second. We stay in communication with crew members on the ground in Pasadena who provide timing updates and situational awareness of local aircraft,” he said.

Following the parade, Ziegler and his co-pilot spent time flying along the California coast and taking in the beautiful view. They needed to remain in the sky until the Rose Bowl football game later, which required the physically demanding task of mid-air refueling. It involved navigating the B-2 in an incredibly narrow proximity to a KC-10 aerial refueling tanker. Ziegler has worked both sides of the interaction as a former tanker pilot.



The B-2 bomber over the Rose Bowl Stadium. (Photo courtesy of Mark Holtzman, West Coast Aerial Photography)

“It’s very difficult putting two big airplanes together, 30 feet apart without colliding. Air refueling allows us to takeoff from Missouri and deliver the B-2 and its weapons anywhere in the world,” Ziegler said.

The crew switched roles between piloting and what Ziegler called “managing the mission.” Both require an incredible amount of focus and precision. After another few hours in the air, they began to descend 15,000 feet, just in time to reach the 2020 Rose Bowl opening celebration at exactly 2:04 p.m. PST. The game featured the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badgers and the University of Oregon Ducks.

“It was just a great way to start 2020, to be able to share that moment with all those people,” Ziegler said.

“(This flyover) is a difficult one, so it took a lot of trust for (my commander) to be like, ‘OK, we want you to do it.’ I appreciate that. That makes me very proud.”

After passing over the stadium filled with more than 90,000 people, they ascended back to 40,000 feet to return to Missouri. It was Ziegler’s first time as a part of a crew for the Rose Bowl flyover, and he has never gone to the parade or game. After this year, he hopes to travel to Pasadena with his wife and their newborn son.

“It is definitely on my bucket list now. Pasadena looks beautiful,” Ziegler said.

Family and service

His wife, Lily, planned to attend the parade as he passed over high above, but she gave birth to their son in mid-December. Motherhood kept her home and even distracted from the TV.

“I think it’s pretty easy to be the guy that goes and flies over the Rose Bowl. But ultimately, my wife is really the one that makes it all happen with our family,” Ziegler said. “I’m very, very thankful for her support. She’s always more excited about these things than I am, and she keeps me honest and reminds me of how lucky we are.”

Fatherhood makes Ziegler think about his youth and family. He wanted to be in aviation since the fourth grade, working hard and perfecting his application to attend the Air Force Academy at 19, immediately followed by pilot training. Ziegler has now flown for a decade. Despite long-duration missions lasting 24 hours and traveling at supersonic speeds, one of the toughest challenges in life remains living up to his grandfather’s example of service.

“People use the buzz word ‘service’ in the military, but when I think of really serving people, it’s him,” Ziegler said. “He really is the person that reminds me of service because he was day in, day out always thinking of how he could make the people around him and his community better.”

Contemplating the future of his military career, serving those around him remains Ziegler’s goal. He considers pairing it with something he loves as well as the honor of flying one of the rarest military planes in the country a bonus.

“I won’t be able to do this all my life. I won’t be able to fly the B-2 all my life. I won’t be able to do an air show all my life,” Ziegler said. “And I feel grateful to be a part of this community and represent our country.”

As for the Air Force’s future participation in the Rose Bowl, “We’re already on the books again for next year.”

Music City, USA's Charles Green

Overseeing Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood's Allentown Studios in Nashville, Tennessee, means every day has its share of eventful moments for Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Charles Green.



Charles Green utilizes nearly 30 years of music industry experience to manage Allentown Studios in Nashville, Tennessee. (Photo provided)

Green is a Bourassa descendant and grew up in Lubbock, Texas. He has worked at Allentown Studios — formerly Jack's Tracks ran by "Cowboy" Jack Clement — since 1991. As the studio manager, he appreciates the chance to work in the industry under Brooks and Yearwood, which many tout as two of the genre's most iconic performers and songwriters.

"You won't meet better human beings. ... They're funny. They're genuine. They just really care about you, and they care about people," Green said of Brooks and Yearwood. "I couldn't have picked better people to work for."

Industry calling

For Green, growing up in Lubbock helped instill a love of all kinds of music, including country.

"The drive to sing was so strong that it just kind of led me this way," Green said. "I think every teenager wants to go off and make their own way. I couldn't wait to leave West Texas. ... My dad was a cowboy and worked horses and cows, and that was something that I had no interest in at all. I thought, 'If I can get to Nashville, I will never have to be a cowboy.'"

After graduating high school, Green decided to study music business at Belmont University in Tennessee with the hopes of eventually working in New York or California.

"I thought that Nashville would be a great place to start off. Plus, it was easy to let my parents agree to let me come to Nashville because it seemed like a

safer option," he said then laughed. "I got to Nashville, and I just loved it."

While at Belmont University, he appreciated the chance to experience the city's music culture and the opportunities to experiment, expanding his skillset and expertise.

"It was a great time in Nashville," he explained. "They call it the 'Class of '88' when Garth Brooks came out, Alan Jackson and all those really big country singers came out in '88, and it changed everything in Nashville. It was always a really exciting town, but once '88 hit going into the '90s, it was just a really great time for Nashville, and it was neat to be able to be a part of it."

During the early 1990s, Green connected with Brooks while working under producer Allen Reynolds, protégé of "Cowboy" Jack Clement. Garth Brooks bought Jack's Tracks after Reynolds began to have health issues and later changed its name to Allentown Studios.

"When Garth bought it, Allen was his mentor, so he wanted to change it to Allentown. Garth is also a big Billy Joel fan, so that was just an added bonus," Green said.

Since accepting his position, Green has experienced success alongside Brooks.

"Garth is brilliant, and you can always see the wheels spinning. Once I started working at the studio, that was about the time Garth's third album had come out, and he was getting huge," he said. "And I was working here, in the middle of it all, and I thought, 'I'd better stick around,' and I am glad I did."

Day to day

On a recording day, Green arrives early in the morning to prep the studio with all the amenities needed including snacks, meals and more. Artists will often have recording sessions all across town, so he coordinates the transportation of instruments and equipment from studio to studio.

"The cartage company will arrive and deliver the instruments and set them up for the session, and usually our recording sessions are done in blocks of three hours," Green explained. "We'll usually start at 10 or 11."

Green also oversees normal office duties like answering phone calls and helping those who enter the studio.

"People know where we are," he said. "We're on all the guided tours, and we're a stop on the guided bus tours in Nashville, so we'll get fans that stop by and people dropping off songs."

Recording sessions often continue into nighttime, but Green enjoys the variety his job provides.

"Even though I have an office and a desk, I am up and moving all the time," he

explained. "There's always something different, and we're also sort of a home base for Garth and Trisha because we do record other people, but mainly them."

The couple uses the Allentown Studios for meetings and preparation space for public appearances such as award shows, photo shoots and more.

"This is a home base for them," Green said. "They'll do hair, makeup, wardrobe styling, and they'll do interviews here. So you never know what each day is going to bring."

Brooks records the hosting dialog for his Sirius XM music channel programming at Allentown. Throughout the past few years, Yearwood has gained notoriety as a cook on her Food Network series *Trisha's Southern Kitchen*. It also offers space for her to record voiceovers.

Although Green is not actively pursuing a personal career in the industry, he has had opportunities to record commercials, demos and background vocals for several of Brooks' songs.

"That's been kind of fun, not like I was really a featured vocalist or anything like that, but that's always neat to be able to do things like that," he said.

"I had so much fun doing all my music, and I am proud of it, but it's hard," Green added. "The older I've gotten, the less energy I have to pursue that and work full-time. Now I just live vicariously through Garth and Trisha."

Green stays connected to his Potawatomi heritage by reading the *Hownikan*, regularly reading content on the CPN website and attending regional meetings. He is proud of his work at Allentown Studios and his Potawatomi roots. He hopes to attend events like Family Reunion Festival and the Potawatomi Gathering in the future. ♡

Educator and minority student advocate fosters love of science

By Paige Willett,
CPN AISES chapter member

Melot family descendant Cheyenne Branscum switches between titles throughout her day, one of which includes being a member of Citizen Potawatomi Nation's American Indian Science and Engineering Society chapter, *Shkodedeajek* (Those Who Carry the Fire in Their Hearts).

She received her bachelor's in international securities from the University of Oklahoma and taught geography at Shawnee Middle School in Oklahoma. But, she always had a passion for STEM fields and often incorporated them into her classroom lessons. Now, she focuses on her role as an advocate teacher for the Society for Science and the Public.

Branscum also created the Geo Team program in 2018, which she continues today. It encourages minority students often not exposed to STEM subjects as academic focal points to lead independent research projects in one of



The Shawnee Public Schools Geo Team. (Photo provided)

the areas. In the last two years, several of her students presented their findings at national conferences, including a sixth grader with the idea to use mushrooms as an environmentally friendly way of cleaning up marine oil spills.

Living in Shawnee, Oklahoma, Branscum encounters many CPN students. She believes science and the scientific method ultimately equate to understanding the world. She developed the Geo Team as a way for

minority students, including Native Americans, to explore this fundamental approach to critical thinking.

As an AISES member for the past eight months, Branscum considers the CPN chapter a productive space to converse about serving Native students. It welcomes not only STEM professionals but also students from all levels, mentors, community members, and educators — even those with no scientific background such as Branscum. Although no longer a teacher, Branscum's legacy and impact on the students continues; the Geo Team plans to expand to Shawnee High School for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Virtual meetings allow all *Shkodedeajek* members to participate, regardless of their location. Join the Facebook group *Shkodedeajek* AISES for updates. ♡

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Creation started with the sound of the *shishigwen*

Before the Creator formed the world, the sound of the *shishigwen* (rattle) filled the void with a steady rhythm. Many Potawatomi liken them with the ability to give life in *Nishmabé* tradition. Rattles imitate the resonance of water, ranging from sprinkles hitting the bark on a tree to a thunderstorm. It all depends on the materials used, the size of the container and the pieces that fill it.

“They all have a different look. They all have a different feel in your hand,” said Jason Wesaw, artist and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi citizen.

He began making rattles 15 years ago, and has gifted and sold hundreds in Potawatomi communities across the continent. Wesaw sticks to the style he developed through practice, and the possibilities keep the process enjoyable.

“I use anything from copper BBs to small little stones that I collect from the shoreline of Lake Michigan — just real tiny little stones,” he said. “You can also use things like beans or corn to fill in the shaker head of the rattle, and they’ll all give you a different sound.”

With a society founded on oral traditions, *Nishmabé* people utilize music as an essential part of ceremonies and social gatherings. Handmade rattles are one of the most common Potawatomi instruments with a rich history.

“Our songs originated out of prayer, out of communication to the Great Spirit, to *Gzhemnedo*,” Wesaw said. “And so that’s where drums and rattles have more of the importance in our traditional culture, where they come in is because they accompany our voice and singing those songs.”

Rattle making

Wesaw learned how to make drums from his grandfather who had a lifetime of experience in the craftwork. However, no one Wesaw knew made rattles, which left him to teach himself. He began studying them during a trip to Canada. Now, no two of his creations look the same.

“That might sound real simple. ‘Oh, yeah. It’s a rawhide rattle, and it’s

attached to the handle.’ But within that, there’s limitless different combinations that you can do,” Wesaw said.

Wesaw’s rattle making instructions:

1. Pick a medium to form the head.

“You can use a lot of different hides. You can use a deer hide, a cowhide. I prefer elk hide because it just has a really nice thickness, and it has a really nice, crisp sound.”

2. Dye the material for the head.

“That could be either commercial dyes, like a RIT Dye that you might find in a store, or you can go out and use natural dyes. That could be berries, could be different roots. There’s even a couple of different barks that you can use and just get really nice, rich, organic colors.”

3. Soak, cut and sew the rawhide.

“I soak the rawhide until it becomes soft and pliable. Then I have different patterns that I’ll set on the hide, trace them out and cut them out, and then I have to prepare it to be stitched. The rawhide is really tough, even when it’s wet and pliable. So I use a hole punch, and pre-punch the holes, and then I sew the rawhide up.”

4. Stuff the rawhide.

“When you stuff it, then all of a sudden, the rattle will take its shape. And so I stuff it enough to get the shape that I’m looking for, then I let it dry.”

5. Unstuff the head and fill it.

“Sometimes you can put a few little pebbles in there, and then we’ll have a real sharp sound. Sometimes you have to put a lot in there to get the sound that you’re looking for.”

6. Attach the head to the handle.

“You can have like a simple oak dowel handle, or I’ve used things like deer antlers. I’ve gone out and collected my own handles out of the forest and made them out of things like red willow, sassafras or maple.”

Wesaw sometimes looks at a few of his fabrications from before he fine-



Each rattle’s sound depends upon the materials used to make the head and fill it. (Photo provided)

tuned his skills and found his style. Seeing them now, he feels less than impressed, but encourages all artists and craftspeople to keep creating.

“What it shows is that I’ve come a long way,” he said. “To continue to make stuff, you continually are refining it, finding better ways to make it, finding ways for it to look a little bit different than the last one, getting faster at making them. Whatever it might be, it’s all like a progression.”

Reconnecting

He now teaches around four rattle-making classes a year in different Indigenous communities. Wesaw enjoys passing on art forms used for thousands of years and inspiring his students to connect with their ancestors.

“You can’t really rescue our language and produce fluent speakers without people having a connection to our ceremonies. You can’t have ceremonies without a connection to our songs,” he said. “All these things are so interconnected

that, you know, sometimes if a person makes a rattle or a drum, that’s kind of like their entryway back.”

Many rattle songs celebrate the time of day, such as the *Morning Song*, or pay tribute to *mbish* (water) or *segmekwé* (Mother Earth). Different events or occasions inspire each one, including some powwow songs. Crafting an instrument for personal use gives participation another layer of meaning, according to Wesaw.

“The most important part is when you do something yourself, whether it’s a rattle or a drum, making your own regalia, composing your own songs — anything that a person does themselves — they’re actually putting their own spirit into that work,” he said.

The Potawatomi Gift Shop carries a limited number of Jason Wesaw’s rattles and smudge bowls for sale at potawatomigifts.com. ♪

Legislative update 2020: First quarter

All CPN legislators were present for the first quarterly legislative meeting of 2020 held Monday, Feb. 17, 2020.

Tribal attorneys presented status updates regarding a lawsuit between the State of Oklahoma and several tribes surrounding the gaming compact. Minutes of the previous meetings held in December 2019 and January 2020 were then approved.

The CPN legislators approved two grant applications, one for the United States Department of Justice’s Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation program funding for fiscal year 2020 and another for the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Indian Community Development Block Grant program funding for fiscal year 2019.

A request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the addition of new

routes to the National Tribal Transportation Field Inventory of CPN was approved unanimously.

Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett received approval through resolution to open one or more interest bearing cash sweep public fund accounts with Bank7. The 2020-2021 annual budget of \$775,000 from the estimated earnings and interest on program money from judgment funds awarded by the United States Court of Claims passed with no opposition.

Nominees for Tribal judicial office prior to election were also approved.

A cross deputation agreement between CPN and the City of Choctaw, Oklahoma, was tabled for later discussion.

All approved the enrollment of 183 applicants into CPN membership. ♪

What is the PLP?

The six-week Potawatomi Leadership Program brings a group of 8-10 promising young Tribal members from around the world to Shawnee, Oklahoma, to learn about the government, culture and economic development of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Where else can you get a crash course on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation? After your time in the PLP, you’ll leave empowered with the knowledge and tools to be an engaged leader of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Application Dates

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Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics student sets eyes on the skies

Although only a junior in high school at the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, Pettifer family descendant Kyla Risenhoover's main career goal reaches outside of earth's atmosphere. She wants to become an astronaut. Studying at OSSM, the state's premier high school for top students in STEM fields, is her first step.

Juniors and seniors comprise the student body that comes from across the state, and a rigorous application process means that the school only accepts half of the students who apply. Prior to transferring, Risenhoover attended high school at the Hydro-Eakly Public Schools, a small district in western Oklahoma. Her older brother attended OSSM as well.

"I didn't really think that it was for me at the time. But then as I got older, at about freshman year I'd say, I got pretty interested. And I realized the academic opportunities there are just so much greater, and the STEM opportunities also there were just so much greater," she said. "I decided I was going to apply."

Studies and more

Risenhoover enjoyed the academic challenges, extracurricular activities, and chances for internships and mentorships during her first semester. It took some time to adjust to moving into the dorms in Oklahoma City, but now she knows she made the right decision.

"I love it. I'm constantly with all my friends, and the support system there is just absolutely amazing," Risenhoover said. "You know everybody else is going through the same academic rigor that you're going through."

She started her junior year with physics, pre-calculus, and what turned into one of her favorite classes, zoology, which included dissection labs. It surprised Risenhoover how much she enjoyed the course, and she appreciated the academic experience unavailable in many rural school districts.

"Growing up, my dad would take me hunting and fishing, so I was used to harvesting animals for meat. And to me, that didn't really bother me very much," she said. "But it also kind of opened me up to understanding how other people



Risenhoover (right) participates in many extracurricular activities while at OSSM, including robotics competitions, student government, rowing and more. (Photo provided)

are, because not everybody is okay with just cutting open an animal. And so that was a very valuable experience to me."

Studying physics expanded Risenhoover's mind to courses of study and job possibilities in the future.

"I really struggled in that class, but I know that it was really worth it. And it was interesting to me because I'd never taken physics before," she said. "It kind of made me question some of my career (choices). Like, do I want to go aerospace engineering? Or would I rather go a more medical route?"

Risenhoover also participates in the FIRST Tech Challenge for robotics. A senior class member selected her as one of the junior captains. While the competitions focus on constructing robots that complete a set of tasks with speed and accuracy greater than the competitors, Risenhoover also learned valuable life lessons.

"I think it's definitely helped me with my leadership skills as well as if something goes wrong, you have to problem-solve... Especially in my position as team captain, I try to keep a positive attitude because if we have a negative attitude, then the team's just not as happy, and

things start going wrong more. But if you keep everyone with good morals, then it just keeps going smooth," she said.

Risenhoover also became a coxswain on the rowing team, a member of the Kind Society and one of two junior delegates on the first OSSM Student Foundation Board, serving as a voice of the student body to the OSSM board of trustees.

Space, influences and the future

Risenhoover's mother, Dorinda, works as the education coordinator for the NASA Oklahoma Space Grant Consortium STEM Engagement Center at Oklahoma State University. Risenhoover said she hopes to continue her mother's legacy.

Exposure to STEM studies started in Risenhoover's childhood, which included a trip to the Sonny Carter Training Facility in Houston and the opportunity to stand on the deck of the pool at the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory. Astronauts train and prepare for flight and work on the International Space Station in the 6.2 million gallon pool that simulates the absence of gravity in outer space.

"That's honestly the top memory of my entire life because I knew my mom's boss, who'd been working

there for 40 plus years, I think, had never had the opportunity to go on the floor of the NBL," she said. "And here I am, 12-year-old me, getting to go on the floor, and it was just an absolutely amazing experience."

One of Risenhoover's most admired scientists is Christa McAuliffe, a teacher and astronaut killed during the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster in 1986.

"Just the passion that she had for her students — I want to be like that someday. I want to make a difference," Risenhoover said. "Also, we've had over 30 African American male and female astronauts. We have had over 20 Hispanic-Latino astronauts, both male, female, and we've only had one tribally-registered male astronaut. So, I would really like to be the first female Native American astronaut in space, let alone on Mars. To me, that's like my dream."

Risenhoover believes the future of humanity expands past earth's atmosphere and onto other planets, which includes new branches of study in botany, physics and energy. Another one of her idols, Gus Grissom, was the second American to fly in space and a member of the Apollo 1 team who died in a pre-launch test flight in 1967.

He said, "If we die, we want people to accept it. We're in a risky business, and we hope that if anything happens to us, it will not delay the program. The conquest of space is worth the risk of life."

Risenhoover agrees. She realizes the frontier of exploration and uncharted territory come with new challenges and hazards. She hopes her time at OSSM leads her on a path to live up to Grissom's words.

"They understand the magnitude of what they're doing, going to space," she said. "That's what they want to do with their life, and so they want us to keep persevering and going through with the experiments and everything that we need to keep doing."

For more about OSSM, visit ossm.edu. Find opportunities with the CPN Department of Education including scholarships, leadership programs and advising at cpn.news/education. 🔥

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CPN Police Department serves and protects the greater community

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department patrols nearly 900 square miles, which includes most of Pottawatomie County and portions of Oklahoma and Cleveland counties. The Nation's emergency dispatch service also serves all of Pottawatomie County, excluding the City of Shawnee, and the cross deputation provides CPN police the jurisdiction to patrol countywide. But no matter where the CPN police patrol or who they encounter, the officers employ understanding and strive to keep everyone safe.

To learn more about the intricate and important role that the CPN Police Department plays, the *Hownikan* shadowed CPN Officer Vicente Teano during a recent shift.

"When I was a child, I always knew I was going to do something to help other people," officer Teano said. Teano grew up on the Hawaiian island of Oahu, but today, he calls Oklahoma home along with his fiancé and two children. Before accepting his current role with CPN, he served as a security guard at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort.

"I used it as a stepping stone to get into law enforcement, and it worked," he explained.

Officer Teano has served as a CPN police officer for two and a half years, and he appreciates the opportunity to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

"It is not always a good feeling to arrest someone, but if it's a big deal you're arresting them for, like drugs or child abuse, you feel a sense of satisfaction knowing you saved that child or whoever from abuse or drugs," he said.

With two children of his own, working child abuse or neglect cases are especially important and close to his heart.

"Getting them out of that environment is one of the best feelings, and eventually when or if Indian Child Welfare has jurisdiction to take over, and they begin working with the family; when you see pictures or you hear good things about the improvement of their living situation, you're just happy," he said.

Dedication

Before each shift, Teano straps on his gear, which includes a sidearm and a



Civil service inspires officer Vicente Teano's work with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

bulletproof vest, adding an additional 22 pounds. In his free time, he trains in his equipment to ensure he's conditioned for the extra weight. He believes being an officer means staying flexible and ready for any situation that may come his way.

"The saying in law enforcement is, 'You have 90 percent down time and 10 percent of chaos,'" he explained.

CPN sergeants work together to develop a weekly patrol schedule, which ensures CPN police's coverage spans across Tribal jurisdiction.

"We constantly patrol our properties to make sure we have a high presence. So, if anybody is thinking about doing something, and they see one of our units, maybe they'll change their minds," Teano said.

The Nation provides 911 dispatching across Pottawatomie County free of charge, and Tribal officers are often the first ones on the scenes in the remote, less-populated areas. Because of this, shift assignments vary from patrolling the district around the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort, near CPN administrative offices, to southern portions of Pottawatomie County and more.

"The southern district is the busiest due to we get county calls and Tecumseh calls," he explained. "I've been down to Wanette on a call, and it's pretty far. It's

crazy because you have to drive so far, but especially if it's an important call, it still can be a 15-20 minute drive."

While on duty, he looks for opportunities to have positive interactions with those he encounters, whether in passing or during a traffic stop.

"It's picking up a common ground with them and just talking," Teano said. "And if they feel comfortable, more or less, people will talk to you."

The Nation hosts large events throughout the year, including the Family Reunion Festival, the FireLake FireFlight Balloon Festival and entertainment events at the various Tribal enterprises. On days with higher traffic, the police department ensures officers are nearby the action to keep patrons, vendors and employees safe.

"We just don't want anyone getting hurt at or leaving one of our events," he said. "We work longer days. We can work anywhere from 16 to 18 hours."

But even when enterprises are not hosting events, Tribal officers patrol CPN-owned businesses and buildings, ensuring the safety of both patrons and employees and preventing after hours break-ins.

The most common calls for both of the Nation's casinos are public intoxications and theft.

"A lot of people forget their phone on a machine and someone takes it within a matter of seconds," Teano said.

Overlapping jurisdictions

The CPN police department strives to act as a good neighbor to nearby municipalities. Many instances require Tribal police and city or county law enforcement to work together.

"As officers, we work well with other agencies," Teano said. "I haven't had any conflict with other officers."

If another department initiates a traffic stop, and "they turn into any of our Tribal properties, whether it be admin or the grocery store, we just have to be present," Teano explained. "We ask them what the initial (probable cause) was for the stop, then we'll ask them if they want us to take over. And sometimes they say no."

However, if the infraction occurred on Tribal property, CPN has sole jurisdiction. Unlike county, municipal or state law enforcement, the Nation's officers learn Tribal law on top of their regular Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training.

"I went to Judge Lujan, and I spoke to him about (CPN laws), and they give us our Tribal books that we are required to study," he said. "We have to study all the Tribal laws, then we take a test to basically graduate from the training process."

After Teano first became an officer, he often worked midnight to 8 a.m. If other law enforcement departments were unable to attend to a call, he stepped up to the plate.

"If (other departments) were tied up, we have to cover calls from here (CPN administration) to Lincoln County," he said.

Tribal police willingly assist when the need arises, and all CPN law enforcement take their roles seriously to protect and serve the Nation and the greater community.

"Helping someone is the best feeling," Teano said.

To learn more about the CPN Police Department, visit cpn.news/police.



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Chisholm starts 2020 as Citizen Potawatomi Nation's new chief financial officer

Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Chief Financial Officer Mary Chisholm moved into the office that matched her new title in mid-August 2019. During her 13 years of employment with CPN, her promotions resulted in progressing up one side of the hallway in the accounting department and down the other.

"I will come out of the restroom and turn the wrong direction still. Old habits die hard," she said and laughed.

Chisholm began in January 2007 as a general ledger accountant for several enterprises, including FireLake Discount Foods and the Grand Travel Plaza. After accepting the position, she dove into learning about the Nation, not only financially but historically and culturally. She took on the role of CFO after Susan Blair retired after more than three decades at CPN.

"I'm up to the challenge because I do feel like it's some more to learn, and I do feel like I'm learning more about what Susan did for 30-something years. That definitely makes every day interesting. Makes you want to get up and come to work," she said. "Not all jobs are that way."

Certified Public Accountant

Although she held a bachelor's degree in accounting from Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Oklahoma, Chisholm began thinking about her larger career goals after several years' experience at CPN.

"I knew that I couldn't really go anywhere as far as sitting for the CPA or any more growth as far as position-wise without going back to school," she said. "So, I decided when my oldest child went to college, I went back too."

She committed to an 18-month graduate program at OBU in 2011 and balanced work, life and school.

"I just kept going until I was finished, and it was interesting," she

said. "I never thought I would go back to school in my 40s."

Chisholm appreciated the unrelenting encouragement she received from CPN while she completed her graduate degree. The Tribe promoted her from accountant to general ledger auditor in 2014, and she later earned her CPA certificate.

"When I was able to pass and get that certificate, there was a sense of accomplishment, not just for me, but for the department cheering me on. Because really, to be honest, if I didn't have that environment, I don't know that it would have been that easy," Chisholm said. "And it really wasn't that easy to start with. That's a very difficult exam."

She now uses her expertise to ask questions from a tribal perspective among colleagues. Constantly increasing her knowledge and love for change keep Chisholm hungry for improvement, both at CPN and in the financial industry as a whole.

"As I've moved up, I've gotten more responsibility, more interaction with different pieces within the Nation. So, I've grown in what I know," she said. "I may go someplace that I've been before and have a different outlook, too, just because I've learned something in the last six months to a year doing some new task that I didn't do before."

Growth and improvement

In the last 15 years, CPN has built grocery stores, added to Tribal services, opened a medical imaging center, and today, remains the largest employer in Pottawatomie County. Leading the accounting department means knowing the Tribe's functions as a government, business and sovereign entity.

"It makes me think of Dolly Parton's *Coat of Many Colors* because if you think of that in your head, there are 50,000 pieces to it, and it all has to be bound together in some manner," Chisholm said. "I



Mary Chisholm

think that would be the best explanation. It becomes a very functional piece."

She enjoys outlining that "functional piece" in the Tribe's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. CPN won the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 31st year straight for fiscal year 2018.

"The CAFR is almost like my pride and joy. ... It's an accomplishment. And it's a toot-your-own-horn type of thing because you get to talk about what the Nation's been doing, what the Nation's planning to do, where we're at financially," Chisholm said.

The growth keeps every year interesting, according to Chisholm, and her pride for the Tribe meets its high standards.

"You see the good that can come from what happens around here. The good for the community, the good for the membership. It's hard to put that into words," she said. "You see it every day, and that's just what it is around here — the positive impact of where I work."

Chisholm realizes the benefits of good leadership as well, something she now considers daily in her new position.

"Part of my goal is to keep a good environment here — a good working environment — because I can't do this on my own," she said. "I want my staff to know that they're appreciated and that I have confidence in their abilities. That's why they're here."

Entering the accounting department 13 years ago, Chisholm did not anticipate the personal or professional development.

"I never even dreamed," she said. "And as far as an opportunity, the Nation gave me an opportunity to grow because of the different jobs that I've held just within this department, and then to succeed. And I think that says a lot for an employer because not every employer is that supportive of advancing their staff."

To read more about the accounting department's achievements, visit cpn.news/accountingaward. ♠

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Potawatomi leader's entrepreneurial spirit and the Oregon Trail

Louis Vieux held a reputation as a keen businessman and Potawatomi leader in the 1800s. He ran a successful ferry along the Vermillion River on the Potawatomi reservation in Kansas where he charged Oregon Trail travelers \$1 per outfit to cross, sometimes making upward of \$300 per day. Before removal west, Vieux and his family were prominent fur traders in the Great Lakes region. They continued pursuing the trading business after removal to Council Bluffs in present-day Iowa, and the family's business ideals followed them to the Potawatomi reservation in northeastern Kansas. Even today, Vieux's influence is not forgotten. The small, rural Kansas town of Louisville bears his name, and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center highlights his impact in its gallery *West of the Mississippi*.

"You really can't talk about that time in the Tribe without talking about Louis Vieux because, quite frankly, he managed to make the most of it," said Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center director. "Yes, there are a lot of other Tribal members who were great business people, but when you talk about who encompassed it the most, it is Louis Vieux."

Born in 1809 near the Great Lakes, Vieux survived the removal west as well as the hardships that followed while the Potawatomi attempted to gain footing as woodland people on the prairie.

"His life kind of bookends these really dramatic, heartbreaking but pivotal moments in our history," she said. "He does make a historical figure who helps wrap up this piece of our history."

Westward expansion

"When they finally made the final move to Kansas, Louis Vieux had his homestead on the banks of the Vermillion River and set up as not only the ferry operator across there — as he saw how many emigrants were moving through heading west — he also supplied a barn, hay and feed as well as supplies for the soldiers who

were moving from Fort Riley to Fort Leavenworth," Dr. Mosteller said.

According to the Kansas Historical Society, approximately 300,000 people passed through the state along the Oregon-California Trail. Because of the Potawatomi reservation's location, many Tribal members, including Vieux, took advantage of the economic opportunities the wagon trains could provide.

"He was very intentionally settling where he settled because that's where the natural ford of the river was anyway," Dr. Mosteller said. "Building his home was not just happenstance. He saw that opportunity."

The reservation's location also served as one of the last chances for travelers to restock supplies before crossing the Rocky Mountains. Vieux often purchased items travelers no longer deemed as necessary to resell for profit, continuing his family's trading legacy.

"The trail was the center of his business. Without the Oregon Trail, there would have been no reason to have a ferry operation on the Vermillion to the extent that he had," she said.

Business committee

In addition to entrepreneurial opportunities in Kansas, Vieux served on the Tribe's business committee and represented Potawatomi in Washington D.C. on numerous occasions.

"As we were being pressured to sign treaties, leaders like Vieux tried to negotiate what those treaties would entail," Dr. Mosteller said. "Oftentimes, it was trying to get the federal government to follow through on promises made in past treaties."

He also helped oversee and coordinate annuity payment processing by working with fellow Potawatomi to ensure all Tribal members received their funds, food and supplies.

"Often the (annuity payments) were delayed and not everything that was promised was delivered," Dr. Mosteller



Louis Vieux's business understanding and leadership qualities played a key role in Tribal politics throughout the 19th century.

said. "There was a lot of work that had to go into just getting the government to follow through on the agreements they had already entered into, much less the pressure to then enter into further agreements."

Citizenship

In the 1860s, a group of Potawatomi businessmen and leaders, including Vieux, saw the chance to become United States citizens and obtain land allotments as ways to provide permanence and stability.

"He understood how to negotiate a deal. He could speak both languages. He was an articulate individual," Dr. Mosteller said. "He dealt with a lot of people moving through and government officials, so he was able to really be a good spokesperson for the Tribe."

Vieux was the first signatory on the Treaty of 1861, which established the Citizen Band of Potawatomi, later named the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. The Citizen Band included those who

wished to receive allotments and the chance to become U.S. citizens, whereas the Prairie Band included those who refused allotments, deciding rather to hold their land in common.

Some Citizen Band were able to achieve success through allotments, but others were not. Federal policies, like taxation and a lack of follow through on treaty obligations, negatively impacted many Citizen Potawatomi. Because of this, just six short years after signing the 1861 Treaty, Citizen Band leaders were looking for ways to save the Tribe and its people once more. The Treaty of 1867 provided an opportunity to sell Tribal lands in Kansas and purchase a new reservation in present-day Oklahoma. However, after obtaining the new reservation, not all made the move south. Numerous Citizen Potawatomi, including Vieux and fellow businessman and Tribal leader Joseph Napoleon Bourassa, stayed in Kansas.

"They were not part of that group that became disenfranchised and lost their land and had nowhere to go," Mosteller said. "But Louis Vieux also had children who opted to move down because they saw conditions that were right for them."

Vieux passed away in 1872, the same year Potawatomi began moving to the Tribe's reservation in present-day Oklahoma. However, his descendants have continued his legacy of Tribal service and leadership in Kansas, Oklahoma and beyond, including Olympian Jim Thorpe, Vieux's grandson.

Although the Citizen Potawatomi headquarters have remained in Oklahoma for almost 150 years, the Nation's connection in northeastern Kansas continues today with Tribal resources, elder housing, events and more on Citizen Potawatomi land in Rossville, which is approximately 20 miles from Vieux's homestead.

Learn more about his Tribal influence and this era in CPN history by visiting the CPN Cultural Heritage Center's gallery *West of the Mississippi*. Find the CHC online at potawatomiheritage.com.

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Curley descendant aims to improve foster family training through prestigious fellowship

AdoptUSKids' Minority Professional Leadership Development Program recently accepted Citizen Potawatomi Nation employee Kendra Lowden into its 2020 class. Although the organization looks for minority professionals or those working with minority populations, Lowden is the first in the program's history to be both an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and also an employee working for a tribal nation.

Lowden serves as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation FireLodge Children & Family Services foster care and adoption manager and celebrates her first anniversary in the department this March. Her position helps keep Citizen Potawatomi children safe and secure by working one-on-one with foster and adoptive families serving CPN children. She previously worked seven years at the Chickasaw Nation and two years with CPN's House of Hope.

"The minority professional leadership development is geared toward minority child welfare professionals working in adoption, so it kind of fit me to a tee," Lowden said. "The thing that interested me the most was that there would be a research project."

The organization held a kick-off celebration and training in Washington D.C. at the end of January 2020, giving Lowden and FireLodge Director Ashlee May a chance to learn more about their field of work.

"I am just incredibly proud of her," May said of Lowden. "She deserves this recognition. The things that she has done for Native American children in foster care and adoption world is just incredible."

Process

To apply for the prestigious program, Lowden drafted an essay, completed phone interviews and put together a research proposal. Since beginning her career in Indian Child Welfare, she realized that many foster parents are not knowledgeable in Native American culture or law. Lowden applied to the MPLD program to help find solutions.

"Approximately one-third of the children in custody of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services are reported to be American Indian, making it extremely likely for foster parents to care for an American Indian child," Lowden said.



The ability to positively impact Potawatomi children and their families inspires Kendra Lowden daily.

Foster parents must attend DHS training before fostering children, but only a short portion of the instruction focuses on Native American culture or the Indian Child Welfare Act.

"The training has less than 10 minutes of the Indian Child Welfare Act included in it, and all that it says is the basis of the law: the placement preferences for Indian children," Lowden said. "And in that time, it is combined with the multi-ethnic placement act, so it's not even fully dedicated to the (ICWA)."

Her research includes determining the effectiveness of current DHS training measures and developing actions to improve them.

"If foster parents have limited training on the history and significance of the Indian Child Welfare Act, they are more likely to not understand the importance of tribal culture for children," Lowden said. "They are also more likely to not understand the tenets of law, particularly why placement preferences provide for the long-term best interest of American Indian children."

To collect data, she will survey non-Native families who are adopting or have adopted Native American children, asking whether the training was beneficial and if they feel equipped to meet their child's cultural needs.

"My project is different from everyone else's because all of them work for state or nonprofit agencies that work

with the state, and they're wanting to change implementation in their own agency. I'm wanting the largest agency in the state — DHS — to make changes to a curriculum that took them years to develop," she explained.

Lowden will present her findings and solutions in Washington D.C. this fall, during which she is eager to address the foster system's disproportionality of Native American children and close gaps. Although Native Americans make up only around 1 to 2 percent of the country's total population, Native children account for more than 33 percent of all youth in Oklahoma DHS custody.

One way she hopes to increase foster family's knowledge and understanding of Native culture is through incorporating new videos into DHS's 27-hour foster training. But in the meantime, Lowden is integrating approaches at CPN to make an immediate impact in the lives of Citizen Potawatomi children and their families.

Potawatomi connections

Lowden and other FireLodge staff created packets to send to foster families that contains a book of Tribal services and programs, information about ICWA and cultural material including a traditional story about rabbit's tail.

"We're trying to reach out and make sure that we make those connections with the families and educate them on what a tribe is because a lot of them don't know anything about tribes," Lowden said. "They get this child that they're told is Potawatomi, and they don't know what to do."

The kits serve as an opportunity to educate and introduce Potawatomi culture, no matter where they live.

"Many Potawatomi aren't very connected or know much about their culture because they grew up away; so, my goal is to make sure that doesn't keep happening," she said.

Lowden looks forward to conducting further research for her project and finds her work in Indian Child Welfare gratifying.

"Being Native is a huge part of my identity," she said. "To come here and to work with Potawatomi kids and to try and help them connect to their culture and their family, for me, it's even more rewarding because that's where I come from. I know the things I was lucky enough to grow up with. I would love for these kids to have the same."

For more information about FireLodge Children & Family Services, call 405-878-4831 or visit potawatomi.org/firelodge.

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Language update

By Justin Neely, Director of the CPN Language Department

Bozho
(Hello),

We recently wrapped up another successful Winter Storytelling event. This was our seventh such event. If you missed it this year, make sure to try and catch it next February. We usually host it in February since we have certain stories that can only be told in the winter, particularly stories involving *Wiske* or *Nanabozho*, the Trickster. We also just wrapped up our second public domain movie, *Gulliver's*

Travels, the 1939 cartoon version. We also started working on our children's show, *Mtek Wigwam*. We do them with puppets, and we have a great crew in the language department who know how to have a good time and are a joy to work with.

We look forward to April when we will be sending our 4-year-old kids to the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair at the University of Oklahoma's Sam Noble Museum. This year, Will Rogers Elementary in Shawnee is sending two groups of kids to compete by singing songs in Potawatomi. We

are also taking our Potawatomi Youth Choir who will be singing *Imagine* by John Lennon in Potawatomi. We are very proud of all the kids and their hard work. If you are interested in getting involved in the youth choir, we meet most weeks on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6 p.m.

Our men's drum group *Sengo Zibiwes* — Squirrel Creek Singers — sang for a special hand game event held at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond on Feb. 14. This was our second chance to play. We also did the *Flag* and *Veterans Song* for the Oklahoma Indian Education

Conference at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort in December. We have been practicing and hope to be able to sing some at our upcoming Family Reunion Festival in June. We also plan to start a new beginners class series this month and an intermediate class. So, look for more information soon. Also, if you haven't checked out our new online dictionary, take a look at potawatomidictionary.com. We add words, audio and example sentences daily. Right now, there are sound files for about 60 percent of the 9,500 words.

Migwetch Jayék
(Thanks everyone) ♡

VETERANS WALL OF HONOR

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

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

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

Michelle Abiri
Benjamin T. Acre Jr.
Hubert L. Adams
James T. Anderson
Ronald Anderson
Cecil Baird
Walter L. Baker
Robert W. Barrett
Bruce I. Bazhaw
Ingram H. Bazhaw
Ralph H. Bazhaw/Bergeron
John T. Bergeron
Thomas M. Bess
William B. Bivens Jr.
Charles D. Blair
Robert G. Bogle
Douglas E. Bourassa
Freeman Bourassa
Jerry D. Bourassa
John A. Bourbonnais
Joshua J. Bourbonnais
Edmund F. Bowles
Andrew E. Bradford
Emery A. Bradford
Charles R. Bromley
James F. Bromley
Carolyn S. Brown
Andrea L. Broyles
Everett D. Brunt
David A. Burnett
Leo Burnett Jr.
Stephen R. Burnett
Joseph H. Burns
Tilden J. Byler
Michael D. Cavender
Mary-Ellen Clinton (Vieux)
Eugene Albert Coder
Adam B. Coe
Michael E. Conner Jr.
Larry O. Cook

Wayne E. Cook
Roy L. Coon
Thomas E. Cooper
Albert W. Copeland
Michael S. Cory
Daniel Crumbo
David A. Cryer
Harvey J.L. Curtiss
Dan Dansenburg
George Dansenburg
Lloyd B. Denton
Lloyd C. Denton
Marvin Derryberry
Forrest J. Desmit
Charles E. Dewitt
Gary E. Dewitt
J.B. Dewitt
Travis G. Dick
Jimmy R. Dike
Richard G. Dike
Dennis D. Dockery
Beverly L. Dodd
Lawrence A. Dodd
Willie O. Dodson
Thomas N. Doyle
John W. Edwards
Charles M. Ellis
John E. Feliciano
Sharold N. Ferris
James B. Fisher
Jerry L. Fitzgerald
Mary J. Foster (Spaulding)
Michael D. Fox
Christina D. Franklin
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Horace D. Gillespie
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Glen A. Goodwin

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Kwek Society recognized with Power, Together award in Iceland

The Reykjavik Global Forum Women Leaders presented The Kwek Society (*Kwek* means “women” in Potawatomi) with the Power, Together award in November 2019. Founded by Tribal member and Citizen Potawatomi Nation District 2 Legislator Eva Marie Carney, the nonprofit was one of 25 organizations recognized for their dedication to ending period poverty during the three-day conference in Iceland.

“The fact that people took the time and the opportunity to travel many miles and come together reflected that everybody there really had a commitment to lifting women up,” Carney said.

“That the forum organizers sought to bring together leaders in our particular movement, to share ideas, collaborate, and establish and enhance relationships beyond the conference, was so heartwarming,” she continued.

Only in its second year, the Global Forum invited attendees to Reykjavik to discuss women’s rights, economics, leadership and more. It referred to participants as “conversationists,” focusing on opportunities for interaction as opposed to listening to presentations or panel discussions.

“You are not just sitting there and being talked to; you’re part of the conversation. Everyone is invited to speak their minds,” Carney said. “Setting the tone for active participation, each conversationist is asked to make a pledge to do something concrete that will create forward momentum and positive change during 2020.”

Founded in 2018, the Kwek Society is still new to the nonprofit world, and many leaders of organizations with the same goals were unaware of its existence.

“Other period poverty activists attending the conference knew each other from varied interactions, but they weren’t familiar with The Kwek Society. When we gathered for an informal dinner before the awards ceremony, other organization leaders were eager to hear about us, since we are new on the scene,” Carney said.



Eva Carney accepts the award for her nonprofit, The Kwek Society. (Photo provided)

“There’s no doubt that we are small potatoes. The caliber of people receiving the Power, Together awards was impressive. Most of them operate on the world stage. Nonetheless, I strove to learn as much as I could from them, to enhance my operation of The Kwek Society to better serve the interests of Native *kwek* (women).”

Carney described the forum as “a happy blur of activity,” and the presence of many young women attending the forum gave her hope for the future.

Goals and connections

The American Medical Women’s Association defines period poverty as “the inadequate access to menstrual hygiene tools and educations, including but not limited to sanitary products, washing facilities and waste management.”

For younger women in remote and/or impoverished areas, the costs that accompany their menstrual cycles could result in missed school days, health threats and embarrassment. The Kwek Society works with Native American communities to provide pads, tampons, liner, underwear, puberty education books and more to partners for distribution.

Carney’s forum pledge focused on the growth of the organization.

“I decided to make our pledge doable, so I focused on expanding beyond the United States to Canada, because I know that there are significant numbers of Native students, including Three Fires students, in Canada who have this need,” Carney said. “And I included in our forum pledge that we would reach at least 50 school programs in 2020.”

The Kwek Society currently works with more than 35 partners in New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wyoming. After the forum, Carney established a new relationship with the Parry Sound High School in Ontario, Canada, assisted by a Potawatomi Wasauksing First Nation elder. Many tribal students attend the school, and they will benefit firsthand from Kwek Society donations.

“By December 2019, we met our goal of being international,” Carney said.

During the Reykjavik forum, other Power, Together award winners brought samples of the period products they distribute. Carney evaluated a range of possibilities, including washable underwear, reusable supplies and ovulation tracking devices.

“I never want to make conclusions for our students that we’re serving as to what they should be using,” Carney said. “Being exposed to options will allow me to intelligently discuss with those we help what’s available, and perhaps move them a little bit toward period products they otherwise wouldn’t consider — especially options that could not only be comfortable but might save students money and protect Mother Earth.”

During the forum, Carney forged a bond with Celeste Mergens. She is the founder and CEO of Days for Girls, another Power, Together award recipient that is a long-established global reusable products supplier. Days for Girls has offered to supply The Kwek Society with thousands of dollars of new underwear, pads and tampons for distribution.

In late spring 2020, Mergens will accompany Carney and a Kwek Society board member residing in New Mexico on their visits to local schools the organization supports. Carney plans to introduce Mergens to the nonprofit’s New Mexico partners and hopes to solidify The Kwek Society’s relationship with the schools and its partnership with Days for Girls.

Carney is also in discussions with I Support the Girls, a nonprofit headquartered in Maryland near her home, regarding distribution of sports bras through The Kwek Society to Oklahoma public schools with significant Native populations. Carney says networking and connections are the “way to be” and that The Kwek Society is “all about ensuring dignity and human rights across our Native communities.”

Carney welcomes all suggestions for schools in need, foundation donors to contact and volunteers looking to contribute. Read more about the Kwek Society at cpn.news/kweksociety and kweksociety.org. Visit the Reykjavik Global Forum Women Leaders online at reykjavikforum.global. ♡

Couponing event instills frugal shopping skills

By Kayla Woody, Citizen Potawatomi Nation House of Hope Prevention Specialist

Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s House of Hope hosted an exciting night of couponing 101 to kick off the new year. The free event was held to teach the community how to shop efficiently and live frugally. The 40 attendees also heard about financial abuse and its effect on relationships, with 52 percent of victims stating that they “simply didn’t have the financial resources to leave the unhealthy relationship.”

The House of Hope’s goal is to educate the community in changing the mindset of individuals in our community and teach methods on how to eliminate intimate partner violence, stalking and sexual assault. The goal is also to assist in safely removing individuals from unhealthy relationships with the planning, resources and knowledge to help them with a fresh start.

Couponing is a great way to help with this process. By teaching our clients



Nearly 40 people gather to learn how to incorporate couponing into their money-saving techniques.

how to coupon, we are helping them save money for necessities such as rent, car payments and day care expenses.

We want to empower our clients to be confident in making their own financial decisions, and when we can help them save money on those purchases, it allows them the opportunity to apply those funds to other areas of their budget. They begin to regain self-confidence that was lost in the abusive relationship.

Through our community engagement, we are encouraging donations of items that are extremely important and increasing volunteer opportunities for not only our organization but other organizations that help those in need.

This was not the only couponing event that the House of Hope will host. The organization plans to hold the same event at the end of the summer prior to the back-to-school season. Keep an

eye out for the event. It is something that you will not want to miss.

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

Citizen Potawatomi Nation improves emergency communications for Pottawatomie County

One day in November 2019, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Emergency Communication Specialist Jody Opel, Emergency Management Director Tim Zientek and firefighters from the McCloud Fire Department piled into their cars and took off in different directions across Pottawatomie County. Their mission was to check the reliability of the Tribe's new emergency communications tower.

"We were bound and determined to find any dead spots that there might be in the area that the tower wasn't reaching," said Rhett Banks, Fire Chief for the City of McCloud. They kept in contact for as long and as far as possible.

"We had communication in every section of our part of the county," he said.

Banks has experienced radio and connection issues since he joined the department in 2005. The dead spots in its 66-square-mile jurisdiction put an undue burden on first responders.

"We would hit those spots regularly in our county, especially in the low-lying areas where we'd have a lot of vehicle accidents, those types of things," Banks said. "So, it would be challenging at times when you're out on a scene trying to communicate with your dispatcher or other units responding to that scene or your ambulance service."

The small community of approximately 4,600 people is one of many rural towns across Oklahoma with the same difficulties. Zientek said the upgrade located near the FireLake Express Grocery store in McCloud was a necessity for public safety and emergency personnel.

"If they roll out to a scene and lose connectivity and can't talk back to dispatch, and there's some type of event happens to them where they're may be stuck in the mud, or there are shots fired, there's additional resources needed, and they can't call back, then that poses a threat to their life," he said.

Long time coming

The lengthy process of building and activating the McCloud communications tower began spring 2013 when a tornado wiped out the Steelman Estates mobile home park near Bethel Acres, Oklahoma. While dispatching to emergencies following the storm, first responders' communications



Workers construct a new emergency communications tower in McCloud, Oklahoma in summer 2019.

with one another overloaded the network, causing it to crash.

"That prompted CPN to, in our unique position as a Tribal government, to go after federal funding to establish an entirely new system that was 100 percent state of the art, but still interoperable, where ... the old system and the new system could function together in unison," Zientek said.

CPN applied for the Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and received funding in 2014, 2018 and 2019 for a total of approximately \$2.4 million. The Tribe paid the additional costs to serve

Pottawatomie County and took steps each year to move the process forward.

"Tim (Zientek) always tells me, 'It's about improving it for everybody.' I said, 'Yes, sir,'" Banks said. "It's a great partnership. I'm very proud to be a part of it."

CPN finished building the tower in August 2019 and began testing it for errors and coverage in October of the same year. After more than five years, Zientek says he is starting to "see an end in sight."

Coverage and cost efficiency

Geographically, the City of McCloud has areas of lower ground, one between two housing editions, and

in the past, weak signals left it as a dead spot. The new tower bridges the area and provides clear audio.

"(CPN) put a lot of thought into it and was able to build it in a place in our community that would reach out to those low-lying areas and build it tall enough to where it would reach those low-lying areas," Banks said.

Bethel Acres also switched to the new system after remaining on an older one until the tower's completion.

"They have radio coverage now where they've never had radio coverage, even inside their fire station," Zientek said. "Walked into their fire station with a handheld radio, and I could talk where, before the tower at McCloud came online, they had to go outside to talk."

The new tower covers the northern section of Pottawatomie County, including the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort, and reaches north into Lincoln County and the three counties south of the South Canadian River. It goes as far as portions of Murray County, a distance of approximately 70 miles.

"It throws a signal a very long distance, and it's digital. So, it's crystal clear. You either have it, or you don't. There's no static," Zientek said. "I've been as far south as Arbuckle Mountains (approximately 90 miles) and talked to dispatch, and that was just with the one tower."

The type of implemented system also uses a LTE signal in addition to traditional bandwidth. Its large capacity gives it the ability to handle the signal traffic that comes with a major disaster. Dispatchers quickly move between various technologies at the Pottawatomie County 911 Dispatching Center, and new compatible equipment for vehicles and personnel costs less for the new system than the previous one. It is the first of its kind in Oklahoma.

"It's rewarding, but it isn't about that. It's about protecting the people and property," Zientek said. "Yes, it's kind of neat that they're looking at us and allowing us to go ahead and build out our system, and then, 'Well, that's working pretty good. We should do that.' But CPN has always been that way. We kind of like to pave the way and break the ground." ♠

2020 POTAWATOMI GATHERING BUS TRIP

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will provide free bus travel to the annual Potawatomi Gathering for Tribal members and their immediate families. A chartered bus will leave the Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive in Shawnee, at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, and the bus will leave to return home on Sunday, August 2, 2020. The bus will arrive back in Shawnee on Monday, August 3, 2020.

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

To reserve a seat on the bus and obtain more information about the hotel room blocks, please call Brandy Oswald at 405-275-3121 or 800-880-9880. You may also send an email to travel@potawatomi.org.

There is limited seating available. The deadline for reservations is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

Hannahville Indian Community at Wilson, MI will be hosting the Gathering this year.

Tribal Candidate Q&As



District 9 – Paul Wesselhöft (incumbent)

Where are you from?

“I’m a fifth generation Oklahoman from the capitol.”

What Potawatomi family are you a descendant of?

“I’m from the Burnett family. I’m the great-great-great grandson of Chief Abraham Burnett. Linda Capps gave me my Indian name, *Naganit*, meaning ‘Leader.’”

Tell us about high school, college and other educational achievements.

Graduate: U.S. Grant H. S., OKC, 1966 | Graduate: U.S. Basic Infantry Training, 1967 |

Graduate: U.S. Radio Relay & Tactical Circuit Controller, 1967

Graduate: 7th U.S. Army Non-Commissioned Officers Academy, 1968

B.A., speech/drama, minors in psychology, sociology and religion, University of Central Oklahoma, 1972

M.A., religion, Southern Nazarene University, 1976 | M. divinity, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Massachusetts, 1979

Graduate: U.S. Army Chaplain Officer School, 1980 | Graduate: Clinical Pastoral Education, 1981

Graduate work: Public Administration, University of Oklahoma, 1982-1983 | Graduate: U.S. Army Chaplain Officer’s Advanced School, 1984

Graduate: U.S. Army Airborne Jump School, 1984 | Graduate: Ranger Indoctrination Program, 1984

Graduate: U.S. Army Advanced Chaplain School, 1985 | Graduate: Emergency Medical Technician Course (EMT) 1985

Graduate: U.S. Army Combined Arms & Staff School, 1988 | Courses: U.S. Army Command & general staff College, 1989-1991

Doctoral work: San Francisco Theological Seminary, 1992-1995

What do you do for a living?

Retired, 20 years, U.S. Army Chaplain & Pastor, Major

Retired, 12 years, Representative, Oklahoma House of Representatives

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe?

“I served and was re-elected to 12 years as a representative in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. I was the chairman of several important committees. This, and my years of experience as a representative in the CPN legislature, position me as an experienced legislator prepared for any resolutions, circumstance or events we face. I have authored many bills and resolutions in the Oklahoma House as well as our CPN legislature.”

Describe your first experience truly appreciating what it was like to be a Citizen Potawatomi.

“I grew up knowing that I was a blue-eyed Potawatomi. It took me a while to get involved with my Tribe. However, when I learned that we were going to vote on a new constitution, I was excited to see the changes. This constitution and the fact that we are the only Tribe with a national legislature persuaded me to give my all to the Tribe. I love my heritage and desire to make a significant contribution to my Nation.”



District 9 – Jay Laughlin (challenger)

Where are you from?

“I live just north of Edmond, Oklahoma, in Logan County. I was born in Duncan, Oklahoma, and moved to Lexington, Oklahoma, soon after.”

What Potawatomi family are you a descendant of?

“My lineage is traced back to *Kesh-now-quah* — Angelique (Afternoon Woman), the daughter of Potawatomi Chief *Waubensee* and Pierre Navarre. Both my father and grandfather were born in Wannette, 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.”

Tell us about high school, college and other educational achievements.

“I graduated high school from Lexington High. After graduating high school, I pursued my degrees at Oklahoma City Community College, the University of Oklahoma, the University of Central Oklahoma, and Oklahoma Christian University. I currently have a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and a Master of Business Administration

degree with an emphasis in finance. I’m licensed to practice biomedical engineering, environmental engineering and petroleum engineering.”

What do you do for a living?

“I’ve worked primarily in the oil and gas industry, 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 the oil and gas industry, focusing on the environmental sector and in the government contracting sector. I’m an engineer, investor, activist and small business owner.”

What experience 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 boards of and supported non-profit organizations, raised children, been married, failed and got up again to succeed.

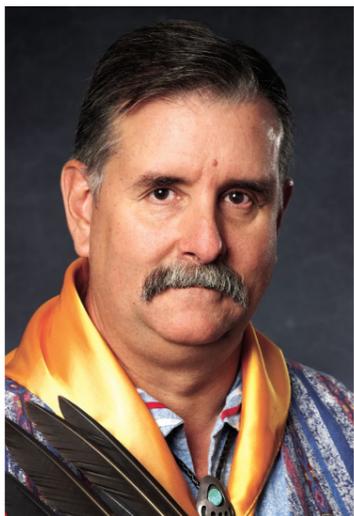
“I have the experience and education needed to move our Nation forward. Most importantly I understand humility. I listen and understand I do not have all of the answers. I’m a team player and know we can and will succeed together. By electing me to District 9, you will bring a fresh perspective to our legislative body.”

Describe what it was like when you first truly appreciated what it was like to be a Citizen Potawatomi?

“When I was a young child (5 or 6), we would drive to an old white school near the town of Pink in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma once a month. We would go there for food, and I was appreciative. At the time, I had no idea that we were picking up commodities provided to Native Americans.

“When I got older, I truly started to understand and appreciate what it’s like to be Citizen Potawatomi. One of these memories was when I first went to our Cultural Heritage Center. I remember feeling proud, feeling strong, and knowing I’m not alone.”

Tribal Candidate Q&As continued



District 12 – Paul Schmidlkofer

Where are you from?

“I was born at Altus Air Force Base in southwestern Oklahoma. My dad made a career of the Air Force after a short stint in the Navy. Because of this, we moved around every couple of years. I spent time in Texas, Oklahoma, Minnesota and Florida. Most of my formative years were spent in Shawnee and Tecumseh, though.”

What Potawatomi family are you a descendant of?

“My grandmother Nellie Tesceir was the daughter of Anthony Tescier and Clarissa Greemore, both Potawatomi. Her grandparents on her dad’s side were Anthony Tescier and Catherine Bourbannais and on her mother’s side Basil Greemore and Catherine Welch, an Ouilmette descendant. There are many other Tribal names that pop up in my family tree as well.”

Tell us about high school, college and other educational achievements.

I graduated from Tecumseh High School in Tecumseh, Oklahoma. After high school, I received a scholarship and went to Oklahoma State University where I received my degree in industrial design. Later, I received a degree in social science from St. Gregory’s University followed by a graduate degree in educational administration from East Central University. Recently, I have taken several post-graduate courses from the University of Central Missouri in engineering education for my current job.”

What do you do for a living?

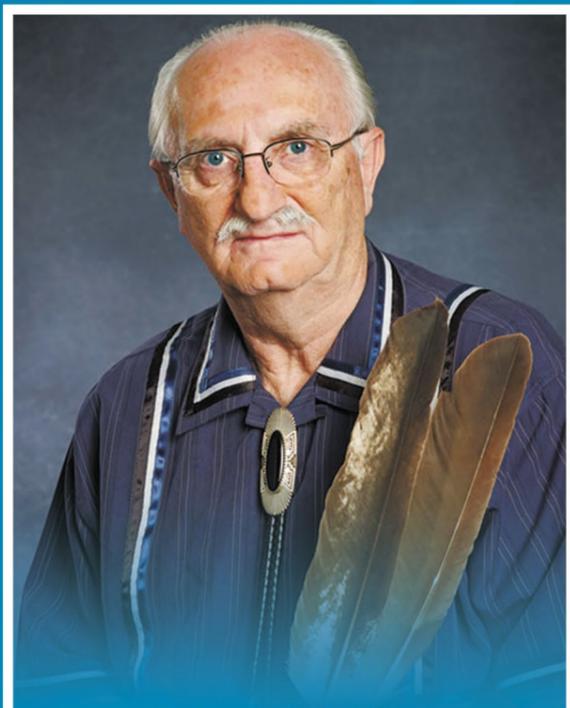
“Currently, I am an instructor at Gordon Cooper Technology Center in their Pre-Engineering Academy. Before going to work there, I held the position of associate mechanical design engineer at Seagate Technologies Inc. in Oklahoma City.”

What experiences do you have that can be applied to a legislative position with the Tribe?

“My Tribal resume by today’s standard is quite varied. My first position was an elected member of the old Grievance Committee where I served for five years. More recently, I served as a member of the Business Committee, the precursor to today’s Legislative committee member, which I now serve as. In total, I believe I have 22 years of elected service to the Nation. Add to that my many years of involvement as a Tribal member.”

Describe your first experience truly appreciating what it was like to be a Citizen Potawatomi.

“I spent a good portion of my youth living right down the road from the Tribal complex. So I was exposed from an early age to my Tribe. This is different from so many of our members who may not even have been to our land. I grew up watching us grow from the small humble beginnings. I watched as we tried to create opportunity for so many years. I also watched as we began the growth we have experienced. It was a long process. I took advantage of the cultural aspects of living close. I was able to participate in the old powwow we had. I was involved in the arts and crafts program. The year I turned 18, I voted in the old General Council meeting format. Many know my father was chairman of the Tribe for a couple terms, and because of this, my brothers and I spent a considerable amount of time volunteering around the old complex working on maintenance issues. We also became quite well versed in the happenings around there. I guess the best I can remember I have always been Potawatomi.”



RE-ELECT
PAUL WESSELHÖFT
DISTRICT 9

- Vietnam Era and Desert Storm Veteran
- State and Tribal Legislator
- Fifth Generation Oklahoman
- Descendant of Chief Abraham Burnett



ELECT
JAY LAUGHLIN
MILOT/WEDDLE
DISTRICT 9
LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE

ABOUT ME

- **Family** - Married with four children.
- **Education** - BS in Engineering and MBA with an emphasis in Finance.
- **Occupation** - Engineer/Investor/Activist/Small Business Owner.

KEY INITIATIVES

- **Culture** - Protecting and nurturing our culture, spiritual beliefs, and historic values.
- **Economic Prosperity** - Greatly expanding our economic presence while maintaining a balanced portfolio.
- **Education** - This is key to our success through scholarships, internships, and re-entry programs.
- **Elders** - Promotion and expansion of our daily activities and services focused on those 55 and older.
- **Environment** - Ensure the water we drink, the air we breathe, the foods we eat, and the animals are protected for generations to come.
- **Healthcare** - Substance abuse, physical fitness, assistance with paperwork requirements, emotional health, and remote access services.
- **Tribal Alliance** - Building and strengthening our relations with Native American Tribes for a United Oklahoma.
- **Youth** - Our youth are the future. The stronger our youth, the more developed our Nation will become.

VOTE! INTEGRITY | PROSPERITY | HOPE

JayLaughlin4CPN | JayLaughlin4cpn@gmail.com

USMCA Agreement will bolster intertribal trade in North America

International trade across North America will soon get a boost following the passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement from the U.S. Senate. Following overwhelming bi-partisan support from both houses of Congress, USMCA's provisions will update areas that the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement lacked.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Planning and Economic Development Director, James Collard, Ph.D, told *The Journal Record* newspaper that the agreement will also help the Nation market Iron Horse Industrial Park to international partners.

"All (the) adjustments (made in USMCA) are improvements (that) serve to make the state of Oklahoma, Iron Horse, Citizen Potawatomi Nation and all tribal endeavors much more competitive," Collard told *The Journal Record's* Daisy Creager.

According to the piece, "Provisions most significant for Iron Horse are the establishment of a more predictable trade framework, inclusion of tribal governments as eligible public entities, updated rules of origin and simplification of administrative work, making it easier for small businesses to participate."

Additionally important, Article 1.2 of the USMCA affirms the existing rights and obligations of past treaties,



USMCA solves some of the deficiencies within the former North American Free Trade Agreement.

specifically the 1794 Jay Treaty and its Article 3 Provision concerning inter-tribal trade between Indian nations across the U.S.'s northern border.

The treaty, originally crafted by Alexander Hamilton and negotiated by John Jay said, "It is agreed that it shall at all Times be free to His Majesty's Subjects, and to the Citizens of the United States, and also to the Indians dwelling on either side of the said Boundary Line freely

to pass and repass ... and carry on trade and commerce with each other."

Iron Horse's magnet site designation under the Port of Oklahoma City's Foreign Trade Zone No. 106 allows manufacturers involved in import/export activities to pay lower tariff rates. A Canadian pipeline manufacturing firm celebrated its fall 2019 groundbreaking and became the park's first partnership. As more manufacturing and industrial

enterprises take up tenancy, higher paying jobs and a boost to Pottawatomie County and Oklahoma's economy will follow suit.

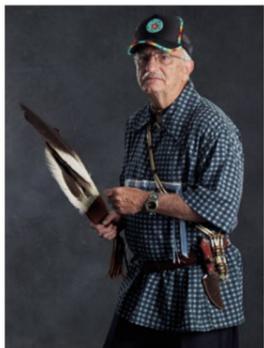
"Iron Horse is good for Oklahoma, good for the other tribes. Everybody wins on this one," Collard said.

Read the full article from the Journal Record at cpn.news/natrade.

To learn more about Iron Horse Industrial Park, please visit ironhorsecpn.com. ♠

RE-ELECT PAUL WESSELHÖFT

DISTRICT 9, OKLAHOMA



Fifth generation Oklahoman
M.A. in Religion, M.Div. in Theology
Married 44 years to Judy – son Justin and daughter Holly
Great-great-great grandson of Abraham Burnett
Native American Name: *Neganit*, meaning Leader

Retired Chaplain, U.S. Army Major
Airborne Ranger, First Ranger Battalion
Served in Army during the Vietnam War era
Served in combat in the First Persian Gulf War



Elected 12 years to the Oklahoma House of Representatives
Chairman of the Joint House-Senate Committee on Tribal Relations
Organized the first committee/forum on Tribal Relations
Debated and voted on thousands of bills, authored many
Authored bill honoring Oklahoma's Billy Walkabout, most decorated Indian soldier in the Vietnam War



Elected Oklahoma Representative in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's National Legislature, discussed and voted on hundreds of Resolutions
Elected Delegate to National Congress of American Indians, 65th Congress

Author of two books: *The Redfeather Pentalogy* (fiction) about a Potawatomi boy growing up in Oklahoma, and *Eros: Penultimate Love* (poetry). Next book: *Native* a collection of articles, essays and poems about Potawatomis.
"I'm legislatively experienced and committed to making our nation responsive to members, economically prosperous, and culturally great! I will represent you. Please vote for me."

Author intricately welds together horror and Christian themes in new book

While mixing dark, dramatic subjects with evangelistic hope may not be a literary norm, Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Trenton Guthrie artistically melds the two styles in his first book, *The Red Man: A Collection From The Pit*.

The novel's main character, The Traveler, compiles letters, stories and poems while secluded in a pit against his will by the antagonist known as The Red Man.

"It's interesting because thinking Christian, whether it's a novel, movie or TV show, whatever it may be, horror is never really a genre that mixes in with it," Guthrie said. "For me, a lot of people say, 'It doesn't work that way. You can't mix horror with Christian,' and I said, 'Watch me.'"

As a senior English major at Rogers State University in northeastern Oklahoma, Guthrie has worked diligently to finesse his writing skills and style throughout college. But his interest began in childhood.

"I was writing random stories when I was younger," he explained. "I had a giant children's poetry book that I carried everywhere I went."

Inspiration

Before Guthrie began college and became a Christian, he was always drawn to dark subjects. He strives to

find ways to incorporate his interests and religion into captivating pieces.

Writing muses for his book *The Red Man* included Steven King's attention to detail, author Frank E. Peretti as well as C.S. Lewis's book *The Screwtape Letters*.

"I really like that it is a Christian fiction novel that's not so — and I like to put this lightly as possible — cheesy and predictable," Guthrie said. "That was one of the reasons why I wanted to write Christian fiction was a lot of Christian fiction has just been so predictable and not all that interesting. They kind of blend together as the same, and I want to do something different — something unique and unpredictable."

During his last semester of studies, Guthrie is helping develop a church in Enid, Oklahoma, where he also holds a part-time barista job at Da Vinci's Coffeehouse and Gelateria. His work boosts his creativity by giving him an opportunity to reflect while also meeting and conversing with customers from a variety of backgrounds.

"I think that's honestly the best way to do something creative is to take time to think," he said.

Finishing projects requires self-discipline, and setting daily writing goals helps Guthrie stay motivated.

"It challenged me to stay in the groove of writing, but also not to give up but to keep going," Guthrie said.

Hope

Although *The Red Man: A Collection From The Pit* only took Guthrie five months to write, the idea for its storyline began as a poem he wrote two years ago.

"From there, I just kept writing things based on that poem," he said.

Rather than limiting himself to one specific style, Guthrie's novel incorporates stories, letters and poems.

"It was very weird because honestly, it was kind of an experiment where I didn't know if it was going to work out or not," he said. "I describe it to people as my mad science experiment."



Anderson descendant Trenton Guthrie recently self-published his first novel *The Red Man: A Collection From The Pit*.

He began putting the book's contents together in May 2019, and by November, he self-published *The Red Man: A Collection From The Pit* through Barnes & Noble.

"I wanted Christian readers to kind of take a moment and step back and say, 'Wow, this is very intense,' but the main purposes of this book — and one of the main meanings behind the book — is just hope," he said.

"It's highlighting the idea that no matter how intense life is, no matter how hard, difficult, insane it may be, hope is what's going to carry you through."

Knowing the negative connotations the term "red man" signifies, Guthrie added the subtitle to try and better represent the book's storyline.

"The Traveler, which is the main character who writes everything that you read, he actually talks about how ... in the world that they live in in this book, terms like that no longer exist because there is just one main evil, and that is this red man — this evil entity that's just basically bringing pain and suffering to everyone, despite their individual backgrounds," he said.

While *The Traveler* is held against his will and is awaiting death inside *The Pit*, he writes poems, letters and stories to those on the outside as pieces of faith in a dark, dreadful world.

According to Guthrie's blog, "The reason why *The Red Man: A Collection from The Pit* is so intense, dark, and sometimes horrific is due to the reality of our world. It is intense. It is dark. It is horrific. However, in the midst of a horrific world, we have a terrific hero. ... The intensity of the novel, in the end, correctly highlights the eternal hope in Christ Jesus, the everlasting hope."

The book highlights good and evil, and the antagonist represents Satan as well as the trials that accompany life on earth.

He continued on his blog, "This novel reveals a lot about the monsters under my bed. The ghosts in my closet. The demons inside. This is my expression of it so I could find ways to express it all. It may seem intense to some, being unhealthy to others, but this novel has actually helped me in great ways."

Future

Guthrie currently volunteers with Open Door Church in Enid that began fall 2018 where he is gaining experience as a community leader. He finds serving others through ministry rewarding and is thinking about attending the Southeastern Theological Seminary in North Carolina after he graduates in May 2020.

"I want to go get my master's in theology and then move on to be a youth pastor," Guthrie said. "That's one of the next major steps; I just don't know if that's the next step in my life."

Although he recently wrapped up his first novel, Guthrie's creativity continues to flow, and he is not wasting any momentum. He recently finished outlining his next project, "because a creative mind never shuts off," he said.

Stay up-to-date on Guthrie's latest projects by reading his blog at imaspoon.blog.

To order *The Red Man: A Collection From The Pit*, visit cpn.news/guthrie.



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Tribal Chairman – John “Rocky” Barrett



Bozho nikan
(Hello, my friend),

This spring, Potawatomi from across the country will have the opportunity to attend a meeting within their region. These meetings are possible because of the 2007 constitutional reform that created a Tribal legislature with representation across the United States — the first of its kind in the U.S. I encourage you to attend these meetings and learn about your heritage. At most meetings, your legislator will provide an update about what’s happening with the Tribe and teach you something about Potawatomi history, and you will share a meal with your fellow Potawatomi.

If you can, I also encourage you to travel to Oklahoma in June for the Family Reunion Festival. This year, we will honor the Bruno, Darling, Hardin, Higbee, Lewis, Nadeau, Slavin and Smith families. Per our constitution, the event

is always the last Saturday in June. I encourage you to start thinking about your regalia now so that you can participate in Grand Entry, especially if you’re a member of one of the honored families.

Planning has begun for two other events we host over the summer — a Juneteenth celebration and the FireLake Firefight Balloon Festival. The Juneteenth celebration is a partnership between the Tribe and the Dunbar Heights community in Shawnee. It will take place June 12-14. The balloon festival seems to grow each year and will be held Aug. 7-8. We anticipate that about 40,000 people will visit the festival over the course of those two days.

The Tribes across Oklahoma continue to come together to seek a resolution to the gaming dispute. The case is before the U.S. Western District Court of Oklahoma, and hopefully once the issue is settled, we can continue to work with the state of Oklahoma on a whole host of issues. Speaking on behalf of the Nation, I look forward to a time when we can fully partner with the state and put the legal disputes behind us.

One facet of tribal government spending that the Nation is proud of is our educational support. Whether it’s the Tribal car tag fees we donate to Oklahoma public schools or the gift to Pottawatomie



Dr. Adam Vascellaro, Dr. Kassi Roselius, and CPN Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation West Clinic. Dr. Roselius is being honored in Oklahoma Magazine’s 40 under 40 program.

County public schools each quarter, our Tribe is a proud supporter of education. In that spirit, I want to congratulate a former recipient of our CPN scholarship, Dr. Kassi Roselius. Dr. Roselius is from Choctaw, Oklahoma, and currently serves as CPN Health Services medical professional director and our public health coordinator. In addition to these roles, she finds time to serve as a family physician at our West Clinic. Medical Director Dr. Adam Vascellaro recruited her to CPN Health Services. Dr. Vascellaro has made a significant

effort to recruit Potawatomi medical providers to CPNHS.

Dr. Roselius will be honored in the coming months by *Oklahoma Magazine’s* 40 Under 40 Young Professional Class award. It is important that young people, especially Native Americans, can see people with their shared heritage succeeding and working in their communities. Dr. Roselius’ presence in examination rooms and her interactions as a general practitioner are vital to building trust in the superb levels of care we provide to Citizen

Potawatomi, Tribal employees — and if covered by CPN insurance, their spouses and families — and those members of federally-recognized tribes that live in our jurisdiction.

I had an opportunity to congratulate her in person at a recent health board meeting.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

Vice-Chairman – Linda Capps



Bozho
(Hello),

The annual Pottawatomie County Rural Water District No. 3 meeting occurred on Feb. 4 in the South Reunion Hall on a freezing winter evening. Despite the weather, there were numerous customers of the water district in attendance, plus all members of RWD No. 3 Director Richard Kunze’s staff. After an update on the rural water district’s activities and comments from the audience, there was a discussion about the newest water tower located on 45th Street in Shawnee. It is a beautiful tower, which began operation in January of 2020. After an informative

discussion, a delicious meal was served to everyone’s delight.

Next on the agenda, Mr. Kunze showed an excellent film from the series of *United for Oklahoma* in which Rural Water District No. 3 is highlighted. Mr. Kunze was featured in the film and narrated the portion that told about the water district, which included a short history and showed various pictures of water towers and facilities. The film also featured Charlie Dickinson, superintendent of Dale Public Schools and Travis Hurst, pastor of Faith Christian Outreach Church located on 177 Highway in Shawnee.

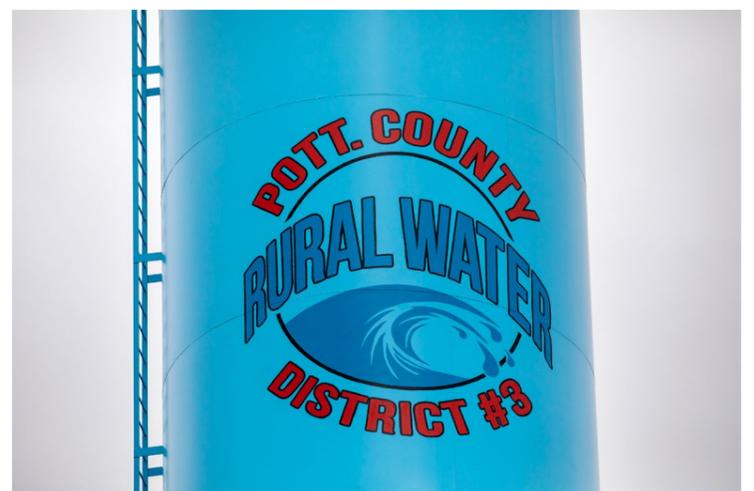
The film portrayed how Rural Water District No. 3 touches the community by providing service to residential customers, Dale Public Schools and Faith Christian Outreach Church. You can watch it online at cpn.news/ufo.

Mr. Kunze told how vital the service was to individual homes within the district due to the lack of quality and quantity of water. Superintendent Charlie Dickinson revealed that it would have been impossible for Dale schools to build new

facilities without adequate water provided by the water district. Travis Hurst gave his account of how the water district provided the lines and water necessary to serve his church’s needs.

As each of the three told their story, beautiful pictures of the water district, school facilities and the new church were shown in the background. It is a stunning film, but mainly it is a beautiful tribute to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation for playing such a huge role in the community by managing Rural Water District No. 3. The Tribe stepped up to the plate to save the water district in October 2007 by infusing resources necessary to keep the water district solvent. Today, the water district serves thousands of people including individual homes, municipalities, Dale schools, our Tribe and several churches. Although the number of meters sold is 1,352, the number of people served is thousands. In addition to what is listed, the water district serves the towns of Asher and Wanette.

The latest endeavor of the water district is to provide



The new Pottawatomie County Rural Water District #3 water tower along 45th Street west of Shawnee.

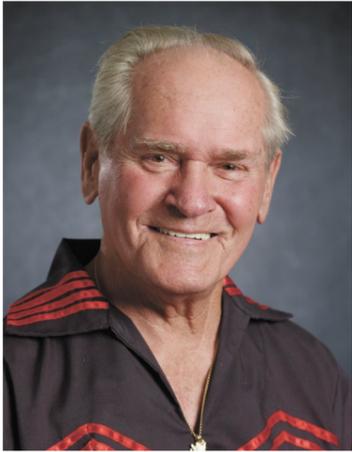
service to Lincoln County. Rural Water District No. 3 coordinated with Lincoln County to obtain official permission for this to happen. I am very proud of the water district that Richard Kunze has managed so proficiently. Kunze’s 15 employees are rarely in the limelight; however, they are champions in providing adequate water to promote the health, convenience and welfare of those served. Hats off to Rural Water District No. 3 for their hard work and dedication!

I appreciate the opportunity to have served you as Vice-Chairman since 1990. I am fortunate to be affiliated with such a great Tribe and so many good people.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

District 1 – Roy Slavin



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

Great time in Kansas City; our Kansas City Chiefs are Super Bowl champions!

Having been season ticket holders in the past makes this even more special. This Chiefs team is a family team and reminds us of our CPN family as they respect and take care of each other. We are proud of them as well as CPN.

We have set the date for our meeting at Notre Dame. Mark your calendar for May 2, 2020. As we make the final arrangements, we will let you know.

We have written many times about traveling to Casino White Cloud on Highway 7 that goes from U.S. Highway 36 to Rulo, Nebraska. Rulo is five miles from Squaw Creek National Wildlife Reserve. In late January and February, the eagles migrate to this reserve, and Squaw Creek offers tours in February to see the eagles. We travel this highway with the anticipation of seeing eagles along the river. On Jan. 25, we traveled to Falls City, Nebraska, for the memorial service for Julia's sister, Erma Menze.

We were returning home driving on Highway 7 from Rulo to the exit to White Cloud, which is about 5 miles along side of the Missouri River. In that five mile stretch, we observed at least 15 bald and golden eagles. There were two and three sitting in the trees, and others were hunting over the river. We of course thought of Bree and Jennifer, who run the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary, and how they encourage us all to take pictures. We took pictures from the car, and using our cellphones, it was difficult. Erma enjoyed

CPN District 1 Meeting

SATURDAY
MAY 2, 2020
10AM TO 3PM

THE MORRIS INN
1399 N NOTRE DAME AVE
SOUTH BEND, IN 46617

Lunch provided
Potawatomi history presentation by Jon Boursaw

RSVP BY TUESDAY, APRIL 28

TO RSLAVIN@POTAWATOMI.ORG, OR CALL 1-888-741-5767 OR 816-741-5767

WE WILL BE HONORING FARTHEST TRAVELLED, WISEST, YOUNGEST AND ALL VETERANS IN ATTENDANCE

reading the aviary articles in the *Hownikan*. We had purchased a subscription for her about three years earlier. We have to say, it was a beautiful sight and a great way to help with the sadness from the earlier event. Our daughter, Verna, granddaughter, Jessica, and great-granddaughter, Mollyann,

also enjoyed seeing the eagles and how many were there.

I close this article, as always, with a plea for your contact information. If you do not receive an occasional email from me, it is because I do not have your email address. Due to privacy standards, Citizen Potawatomi Nation cannot provide it to me.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your representative.

Roy Slavin
Netagtege (Forever Planting)
Representative, District 1
816-741-5767
888-741-5767
rslavin@potawatomi.org
rjslavin@gmail.com

District 2 – Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

As always, it's great to have this forum to share updates and ask for your participation in growing our District 2 community.

Archives visit report

For our latest visit to the Archive Center of the National Museum of the American Indian, there were three of us — MaryRuth Gossett, from Nashville, and MaryRuth's grandson and former Potawatomi Leadership Program student, Kabl Wilkerson, who studies at Texas Tech — and two archivists. Because of our small group size, we were able to pull out drawers and climb ladders to visit with the *mkesinen* (moccasins), bags, breechcloths, woven belts, wooden bowls, spoons and other objects collected from our Potawatomi relatives. Kabl drummed for us, and we were able to smudge in the archive's private ceremonial room before going into the stacks. It was a good day. I've included a few photos.

I just put a request in for the current compilation of information on Potawatomi material held by the Smithsonian. I will share the information to my website, evamariecarney.com, when I receive it. I haven't requested a new visit date as of yet — please let me know if you are planning a visit to the D.C. area sometime this fall or winter, and I can request a date that fits with the majority of folks' schedules.

Upcoming D2 meeting in Clearwater, Florida

I'll host a Family Meeting and Lunch at Moccasin Lake Environmental Center in Clearwater on Saturday, March 28, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Moccasin Lake is home to several injured birds of prey

(including two eagles). Come early or stay late (the park opens at 10 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m.) to explore the park, visit with the wildlife and play on the playground. All details are provided in the invitation printed as part of this column and mailed out to CPN families within driving distance of Clearwater. I look forward to seeing many of you there, and please note that you don't need to have received a postcard invitation or to be in District 2 to attend — you just have to RSVP by Friday, March 20.

Reminder about latest D2 heritage contest

Please send me an account of your (successful) presentation of your ID card — extra credit for funny or oddball stories. I



MaryRuth Gossett and Kabl Wilkerson view Pokagon Potawatomi Brown's strawberry basket at the NMAI Archives.

still enjoy telling the story that I used my CPN ID in 2009 to get into the Mausoleum of Mao Zedong in the middle



NMAI Archives tour January 2020.

of Tiananmen Square to see Chairman Mao's embalmed body. I've attached a photo of the imposing Mausoleum. I can't believe this will be our 10th annual contest!

There will be a drawing from all CPN District 2 entries for a special prize, selected at random. You don't have to live in District 2 to enter, but to win the special prize, you do need to be in the district. The contest deadline is April 15. I will announce the prizewinner and print the prize-winning entry with some of my favorites in future columns. If you are not sure about which 13 states make up District 2, log onto my website, evamariecarney.com, and click on "Our District" — the states outlined in red are District 2 states. You can send your entry by email attachment or in the regular U.S. mail.

Here's one of the first contest entries I received, from Laura Hewuse/Mkoskwe (Little Bear

CPN District 2 Family Meeting and Lunch

March 28, 2020
11:30am-2:30pm

Moccasin Lake Environmental Education Center
2750 Park Trail Lane, Clearwater, FL 33759

We will meet in the Classroom. Please park in the lot at the far eastern end of the park. The Classroom is between this parking lot and the Turtle Pond (be on the lookout for Turtle Pond signs -- and turtles.) You can find a detailed map here: cpn.news/lakemap

Come to learn about Tribal traditions and CPN developments and programs available to you as citizens, and to enjoy the company of other Citizen Potawatomi. A lunch will be served, so please RSVP!

RSVP by March 20 to ecarney@potawatomi.org, evamariecarney@gmail.com or by calling 1-866-961-6988

Woman/Bear Clan), from the Bourassa and Curley/Pappan line. Laura now resides in District 1 (Missouri). *Migwetch* (thanks), Laura for a good grimace/laugh!

After we moved from Tecumseh, Oklahoma, to Lake Tomahawk, Wisconsin, we went to the DMV to get new tags for our autos. I was prepared with all my paperwork. I handed the lady my Tribal ID, the Tribal car title, insurance and such. She looked at me. Looked at the ID. Looked at the title and said, "What's this?"

I told her I needed plates for our cars. She looked at the ID and the Tribal car title again and said, "Do you have permission to be off your reservation?"

Okay, at that point, lots of "things" blew through my mind, and I had to delay my answer because I wanted my tags. My husband, Brian, was tugging on my shirt, and so my reply was simple and brief. I laughed at her and politely told her I didn't need a passport or permission from the Chief to go anywhere in United States. She laughed. I laughed, and she gave

me the tags. I proudly walked out knowing I could've made her day go south within seconds. My mom always told me to kill 'em with kindness, and my dad always said, "Don't take any wooden nickels."

Update on Potawatomi community connections

During 2019, The Kwek Society, which I started to ensure Native students have the period supplies they need to stay in school and ensure their dignity, received a generous grant from the *Pokégnek*

Bodéwadmik/Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribal Council to support students in need of period supplies. Tribal council member Andy Jackson told me recently that she's put in a request for 2020 funding as well. In late 2019, we began sending period supplies to students in the *Oshki Shkodel* Indigenous Studies program — including Potawatomi students — attending Parry Sound High School in Ontario, Canada. We made that connection through Lila Tabobondung, a friend and Wasauksing First Nation elder.

Keeping in touch

If you have questions, comments or ideas to share with me, please reach out. Let's keep on building our CPN community in District 2!

Eva Marie Carney *Ojindiskwe* (Blue Bird Woman) Representative, District 2
2200 N. George Mason Drive
PO Box #7307
Arlington, VA 22207
866-961-6988 toll-free
ecarney@potawatomi.org
evamariecarney.com

District 3 – Bob Whistler



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

Texas government

By the time you receive this month's *Hownikan*, our March 3 election should already have taken place. You may note that there were a number of items that dealt with our constitution on the ballot. Texas' government is basically setup very similar to the federal system. We have the executive branch that includes the Governor and Lt. Governor, the legislative branch that includes our Senate and House of Representatives, and the judicial branch that includes all of our city, county and state judges. Currently, we the people of the state elect each individual for all of the offices in our state government. While none of this was really impacted with the exception of the term limit amendment in this recent election, we do need to keep our eyes open with the next election in November. Some members in the Texas legislature are not happy with the fact that we have the power to elect our judges and want to change this. They have just created a commission to study how they can justify getting the constitution amended so that they appoint rather than entrust us to elect our judges. Under the current policy, we have little PAC impact on the election of judges. Moreover, if we are not happy with their performance, they do not get re-elected. With the legislature appointing judges, there will be cronyism, and one political party potentially can control who will be a judge. In my opinion, we need to keep our current system and be on the lookout for an amendment surfacing on the Nov. 3 ballot giving the legislature the authority to appoint our judges rather than us electing them. I

will bring this up again if I see it as a possibility in November.

Diversity in children's books

In 2018, the Cooperative Children's Book Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison conducted a study on the percentage of books having characters from diverse backgrounds. A recent argument by Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop stated that children's books should show how everyone lives and provides a view of life's experiences for all ethnic groups. The study counted the depiction of characters in nearly 3,200 books, looking at the number of each race or ethnicity represented and the percentage of the total.

Whites	1,558	50%
Animals	884	27%
African Americans	301	10%
Asian/Pacific Islanders	218	7%
Latinos	170	5%
American Indians	23	1%

You may be asking why I bring this up, and the reason being that our children have very little in the way of resources to help them learn about our history and culture. For those of you with children in school, it would help if you worked through the

Parent Teacher Association to get your school library to look into carrying a few of the children's books having Native American characters, such as *In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse* or *Unstoppable: How Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Defeated the Army*, which deals with football. You can also ask your city library if they have any children's books that cover American Indians. If not, ask if they would consider ordering a few. They can find great resources at cpn.news/kidlit and socialjusticebooks.org for book recommendations to improve the library collection's diversity. I just received a book that would be a nice addition to any library that is recommended as a text for students of all ages called *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. It is a paperback edition printed by Beacon Press.

Ethnic studies — Native American

In early February, I had the pleasure of attending a meeting with fellow District 3 CPN citizen Carl Kurtz hosted by the Grand Prairie Independent School District. Carl is a graduate of Texas Christian University and Marine Corps veteran. TCU was one of the sponsors of this meeting along with several others including the leaders of the American Indian Heritage Day of Texas, of which I am an ambassador. The purpose of this meeting had to do with

racial equity. Presently, Dallas Independent School District has created a racial equity in education program called Ethnic Studies — African Americans, which is given in 14 of the Dallas high schools. In 2018, Houston Independent School District created an innovative course: Ethnic Studies — Mexican American Studies (MAS). It was adopted into Social Studies Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for 2019-20 implementation. Grand Prairie also adopted it and is using a course called Ethnic Studies — Mexican American program in two of their high schools. Each program is for a single semester.

We also had guest speakers talk about their programs in Oklahoma and California. In Oklahoma, they have a Sovereignty Community School in Oklahoma City with an Ethnic Studies — American Indian course, and it is taught in several school grades. Our all-day meeting had representatives from various Native American nations as well as educators. Our mission was to have a conversation surrounding Native American studies to help a future group create a similar ethnic studies program that highlights Native Americans for use by the Grand Prairie ISD.

During the meeting, we broke into groups and developed lists surrounding history, geography, culture, economics, government, citizenship, science, technology,

perspective/points of view, contributions, arts and literature, and Native American life. For each topic, we were asked, "What are the most important things that you want youth to know about your nations?"

After speaking with the Oklahoma Sovereignty School's representative, I asked him to forward their presentation on to the Oklahoma Board of Education to us for use in getting our program certified by the state of Texas. One slide of their presentation had a wonderful message by Wilma Mankiller, which is on display within the school: "Whoever controls the education of our children controls our future."

We need to ensure that we see to it that our children and all future Native American generations learn about our past and history so any mistakes that were made are not made again in the future.

Craft workshop meeting

On Saturday, April 18, 2020, I have scheduled a tentative district meeting where we will hold a workshop on how to make regalia. There may be some cost to you associated with this for the materials. The meeting may include some of the TCU Native American students, since one of their alumnus may teach how to make moccasins. Another CPN member has offered to bring sewing machines so that ribbon shirts and shawls may be made; however, this is all tentative. I will email a PDF flyer later as a supplement to the regular mailing that we do that will give more information and the costs and/or where to secure kits for different items.

I am proud of the fact that you allow me to represent you and am here to assist you with any questions about our Nation.

Migwetch
(Thanks),

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He Soars)
Representative, District 3
112 Bedford Road, Suite 116
Bedford, TX 76022
817-282-0868 office
817-229-6271 cell
817-545-1507 home
rwhistler@potawatomi.org
cpn3legislator@yahoo.com

CPN District 3 Regalia Workshop

Saturday, April 18 | 10:30am - 2pm

Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Dallas
Pendleton Room

1283 Record Crossing Rd. Dallas, TX 75135

lunch provided

Join us for regalia making instructions and techniques. Bring your own materials for ribbon shirts, shawls, etc. For more information, email Bob.

RSVP by April 10 to Robert Whistler
at 817-229-6271 or RWhistler@Potawatomi.org

District 4 – Jon Boursaw



Bozho
(Hello),

District 4 meeting in the CPN Community Center

The next District 4 meeting will be held Saturday, March 28, in Rossville, Kansas. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. James Ralston, Ph.D., will speak on the research he has done on the old stone house east of Silver Lake on US-24, also known as the Ogee House. Maria Hrenchir will tell us about her experiences as a 2019 Potawatomi Leadership Program student. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. on March 24 by calling me at 785-608-1982 or email me at jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org. You can also call my brother, Lyman Boursaw, at 785-584-6401. Please indicate which meeting you plan to attend.

District 4 meeting in Wichita

The District 4 Wichita meeting is Sunday, March 29 at the Mid-America All-Indian Center located at 650 N. Seneca St. We will begin the meeting with a catered lunch at 1 p.m. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. on March 24, by calling me at 785-608-1982 or email me at jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org. Please indicate which meeting you plan to attend.

Burnett's Mound exhibit

Don't forget Friday, March 27, at 3 p.m. is the date for

opening the exhibit near the entrance to the park. The county folks have completed pouring the concrete pads for the exhibit panels. The exhibit briefly depicts the history of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Everyone is invited to attend.

Potawatomi Leadership Program

Applications are being accepted now for the Potawatomi Leadership Program with a closing date for submission of April 1. For more information, go online to plp.potawatomi.org.

CPN Graduation Celebration Banquet

The banquet will be held on Saturday, April 25, at noon in the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. This event is for both college and high school graduates. Business casual attire. A student and a guest are free; additional guests will be charged \$10 at the door. Email total number attending, proof of graduation date, and degree earned to channing.seikel@potawatomi.org.

March Elders Potluck in Rossville

The March Elders Potluck will be on Friday, March 13 at noon in the CPN Community Center. Tracy and Sharon plan to serve chicken pot pie as the main course. Please RSVP if you plan on attending by calling 785-584-6171.

April Elders Potluck in Rossville

The April Elders Potluck will be held on Friday, April 10, at noon in the CPN Community Center in Rossville. Tracy and Sharon plan to serve a pasta dish called Greek pastitsio as the main course.

2020 CPN Family Reunion Festival

Don't forget the 2020 CPN Family Reunion Festival will be

held in Shawnee, Oklahoma, Friday, June 26 to Sunday, June 28. The honored families this year are Bruno, Darling, Hardin, Higbee, Lewis, Nadeau, Slavin and Smith.

Storm season

Are you prepared to survive after a devastating storm? As I'm typing this, it is a cold morning in February, but we all know that March normally is the beginning of the severe storm season. Obviously, none of us wants to experience going through and recovering from a damaging storm or tornado. Now is the time to make extra effort to be prepared, just in case. We have all seen or heard about the items you should have stored away in case a tornado hits your home. The following list is far from including many of the items that you may or should have in your emergency kit, but rather it is a simple list of those items needed to get you started building your kit.

- Drinking water; one gallon per person for three days (Don't forget water and a bowl for your pets.)
- Extra leash(s) for your dog(s)
- Supply of nonperishable food (If in cans, don't forget a manual can opener.)
- Extra food for your pets
- Paper towels and toilet paper
- Paper plates, bowls, cups and plastic utensils
- Change of clothes (Remember, you may be in your PJs when it hits.)
- Special items for infants
- Sturdy shoes for all members of the family
- Towels, soap, extra toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Comb or hairbrush, in case you make the evening news
- Battery-powered radio and lots of extra batteries

Join us for a Citizen Potawatomi Nation
DISTRICT 4 MEETING
SATURDAY, MARCH 28 • 10AM
CPN COMMUNITY CENTER
806 Nishnabe Trail Rossville, KS 66533
lunch provided
RSVP by 5pm on March 24
to ensure we have enough food ordered by calling 785-608-1982, emailing jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org or calling Lyman Boursaw at 785-584-6401

Join us for a Citizen Potawatomi Nation
DISTRICT 4 MEETING
SUNDAY, MARCH 29 • 1PM
MID-AMERICA ALL-INDIAN CENTER
650 N Seneca St., Wichita, KS 67203
lunch provided
RSVP by 5pm on March 24
to ensure we have enough food ordered by calling 785-608-1982 or emailing jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org

- Several flashlights and lots of extra batteries in all necessary sizes
- Anyone wear glasses? Have an extra pair in your kit for all family members
- Cellphone charging cords, if you are lucky and have power
- Prescriptions/other medicine, seven day supply
- Large first-aid kit (You may need more than Band-Aids.)
- Cheap raincoats or ponchos
- Blanket or two for each member of the family
- Small amount of cash and/or extra credit card (You probably won't find your wallet.)
- Backpacks or bags to carry all the personal items in case you have to evacuate

Go online to check out a comprehensive list at ready.gov/kit.

My last thought: your survival kit, regardless of its size, must be stored in a manner that is going to survive the tornado. It isn't going to do you any good if it goes when the house goes.

As always, it is my pleasure to serve as your legislative representative.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

District 5 – Gene Lambert



What does it mean to you personally to be a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation?

I have been asking this question because it is such a spiritual, political, family oriented and practical question!

I remember my own thoughts and feelings on the subject and wondered what it made others think or feel. What was the true reason they enrolled?

Some talked about their grandparents or parents teaching them the importance of their heritage as they were growing up; it was a tradition. It was about grandma and grandpa and what they had shared over the years of experience being Native American. My people said, "Never talk about the Potawatomi part of your heritage," so I did not until I was grown. It is a very common story today.

I am curious if there are those who aren't certain. Maybe others are afraid to show the emotional side of being a

tribal member. It could be an underlying reason even they are not. Nonetheless, it is their right either way.

There were hardships, difficulties and laws pertaining only to the Native people, so why would you want to be a part of that?

How would you like to come home one day and find out someone had taken over your household, or worse yet, your children?

This "I" believe was the common thread that ran through each of us. We have a right to be here! The Creator said so, or we would not be here.

We tried to teach the settlers to farm and exist on the land, and they referred to us as savages. We needed to

band together to survive. The same is still true today.

As they say, we can live alone and survive, but we may not be successful without a group mindset. That statement is true today for all the same reasons. You would think we had progressed with the hundreds of years that have passed. There is progress, definitely, but not equality. Aren't all men created equal? We are still fighting for that statement.

With all individuals and time frames, people look for acceptance over rejection and to belong somewhere rather than be alone. This is why we choose a partner and then decide to have a family. We then have our own little place in the world.

We are stronger in groups with likenesses, weaker when we are alone.

Politically, we belong to different parties because one is the closest to our political beliefs. We join groups of interest because others like to do what we enjoy participating in. Being different certainly doesn't make you wrong; it makes you interesting in my book.

Even though people are capable of living alone and apart from others, they join others because certain groups meet their psychological and/or social needs.

I will share my reasons for enrolling with you, and I would love to hear all of yours. The stories are fabulous, historical and emotional. Seriously, I

want to hear them all. With your permission, my intent would be to share them.

Although I was already enrolled and had attended a few meetings, for a while, I was still standing on the outside looking in, asking myself, "Do I belong here?" I met some nice people, and they all looked like me: light-skinned and questioning!

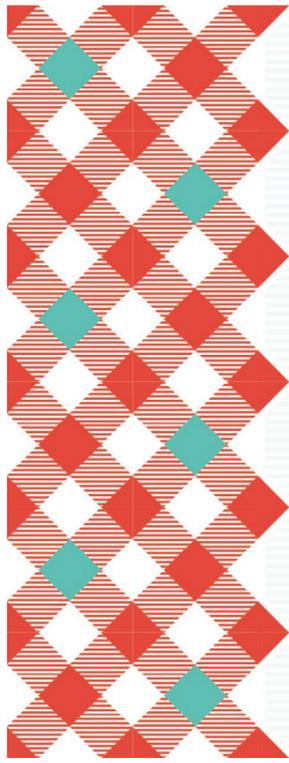
I wasn't raised by my family, so I had nothing to go on except my heritage and my own inner feelings.

I talked to people on the phone with a thousand questions and finished the conversations with more questions that followed the answers. The voices sounded so much like home, and I didn't understand. Was it the voice, the energy, the spirit coming through? Who knew at that stage?

I then decided I needed to go back to Oklahoma and see for myself. So, I did!

First arriving in Shawnee, I couldn't find the headquarters; so, I stopped a police officer to identify where I needed to go. To my amazement, she was a CPN officer and very graciously guided me to the main building. I felt proud to know she was aware, employed by, and very helpful in my pursuit. God knows there were some concerns from the stories you heard from non-Natives in the past.

We were still having the inner-tribal gatherings at that time, so I stayed for the Grand Entry that evening.



Citizen Potawatomi are invited to a DISTRICT 5 MEETING

April 5, 2020 • 10AM-3PM

PIONEER LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM
3901 W Pioneer Road, Phoenix, AZ 85086

A BBQ lunch will be provided, so bring the whole family for a day of sun, fun and Tribal history. Learn about your Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

RSVP no later than March 30

to euniceilambert@gmail.com or call/text 480-228-6569. Leave a message at 480-668-0509.

Wow! I heard the drums, and I saw the dancers; the feelings welled up inside, then I started to tear up. There were chills running up and down my body as I cried. I knew I was home — my home! I belonged somewhere — here, where I was in the moment.

I have been here ever since, and it continues to grow.

Are there some people you wouldn't consider your favorites? Absolutely!

Are we perfect? No! But perfect for me! We can continue to improve as we learn together.

You do not have to agree with everyone on every subject to be a part of a miracle we are still here.

If you have ideas or concerns, do contact your regional representative. We are here to serve *you!* Just know how important you are to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

I tell you this because it is important you know you too belong! If you don't think so or aren't sure, just come to the Citizen Potawatomi Family Reunion Festival, and you will know in your heart; this is home for us all.

Some have avoided meetings because they aren't sure if they would be comfortable in a world they have never been a part of except by blood. It is the blood that will carry and support you.

You will meet other Tribal family members and see how large your family has grown over the years.

You will learn about the support from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation that has been developed with you and your needs in mind

You will catch up on what is going on back home and how you can help or how it can help you.

So please, do attend your district meetings, ask questions, get answers and support. Bring one new person with you that would be someone who has never attended before. Bring the children. We love it. We are one and will survive as one and all.

You will walk away happy you did.

With all this being said, I would like to invite you to our next Arizona District 5 Annual Meeting on April 5, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pioneer Living History Museum, 3901 W. Pioneer Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85086. If you are here visiting, you are certainly welcome to join us. Lunch will be served.

A sign in table and coffee will be ready starting at 9:30 a.m. If you would like to volunteer for the sign in table or help with the children's table, please let me know. I can always use all the help I can get. You are all so helpful.

There will be signs directing you to the meeting space. Let us know if you will be needing assistance. There should be plenty of free parking available. Come early so you can park up front.

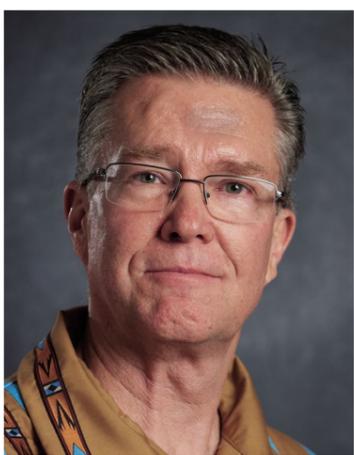
I look forward to seeing all of you, and again please feel free to bring someone who has never attended before. You have plenty of time to think about whom that might be.

Thank you many times over for allowing me to represent you in District 5.

I love you all,

Eunice Imogene Lambert
Butterfly Woman
Representative, District 5
270 E Hunt Highway, Ste 229
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143
480-228-6569
euniceilambert@gmail.com

District 6 – Rande K. Payne



Bozho
(Hello),

Finally! The hard fought battle to prove my U.S. citizenship is over. I feel like I've earned a black belt in navigating federal, state and local government bureaucracy. I am actually in possession of my U.S. passport and Real ID commercial driver's license. I'm glad it's over, but I'll never forget how maddening the process is; it shouldn't be that difficult!



DISTRICT 6 CITIZEN POTAWATOMI

are invited

to a District 6 Gathering in Temecula, CA with Rep. Rande Payne. Learn about CPN programs, culture and history while sharing fellowship with your Tribal citizens. A lunch will be provided; please RSVP to afford proper numbers.

Saturday, April 4 10:30AM to 3PM *Ronald H. Roberts Public Library*
30600 Pauba Rd, Temecula, CA 92592

RSVP by April 2 at cpn.news/D62004

Speaking of licensing, here in California we have vehicle registration, and our vehicles have license plates. Growing up here in the Golden State, I remember wondering why my parents referred to vehicle license plates and their annual registration renewal as "tags." Later, I learned that it was because that's what

they're called in Oklahoma where they grew up.

Many Oklahoma tribes have their own tag agency, as is the case with CPN. Too bad we're not able to run CPN tags on our cars here in California. Tribes in California are not allowed to have their own tag agencies, which I think is very unfortunate.

However, on Sept. 27, 2019, California Native American Day, the California Department of Motor Vehicles and the California Native American Heritage Commission launched a special interest vehicle license plate program called "Protect Native Culture." Proceeds from the program will help fund work NAHC does to preserve and protect California

Native American cultural resources that are protected under California law.

By November 2019, 1,000 pre-orders for the plates were placed. Ultimately, the DMV must have a minimum of 7,500 pre-orders in order to manufacture the plates.

There are a wide range of programs dedicated to preserving California Native American Cultural interests that operate under NAHC. For more information, visit the California Native American Heritage Commission website at nahc.ca.gov.

To learn more about and place your pre-orders for plates, you can go to the "Protect Native Culture" website at protectnativeculture.com. For those that are active on social media, I would encourage you to check out the "Social Media Toolkit" link on the website for shareable social media resources. Protecting Native culture is something that all Americans can participate in. Show your Native pride, and encourage family and friends to get involved as well. *Chi migwetch*

(many thanks) to the Tule River Tribe just down the road from me for their rattlesnake basket image on the plates. The image was licensed in perpetuity and gifted to the NAHC.

In addition to the added revenue to help fund NAHC programs and really cool plates for your car, the program

will help expand awareness of Native American cultural preservation among Native's and non-Natives alike, and that — I believe — is priceless.

I would like to remind everyone planning to attend the Temecula event to register if you haven't already done so. In last month's column, I listed the start time

as 10, but It's actually 10:30 a.m. You should have already received your invitations by now with all the correct information. If not, the invite is in this very column.

Potawatomi word of the month

Debanawen – Love

Wisdom from the Word

“If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.” 1 Corinthians 13:1

Migwetch — *Bama pi*
(Thanks — Later),

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

District 8 – Dave Carney



Bohzo nikan
(Hello friend),

It seems like it has been a tough winter this year. I've had so many District 8 citizens

request information about Tribal burial assistance for loved ones as well as details about the Nation's health care clinics in Oklahoma, Indian Health Service clinics in our area and the Health Aid Program. While these programs may not completely fill a need, members appreciate the assistance that they provide.

One of my favorite questions to ask at a district gathering is how many people have ever made it out to the Nation's Family Reunion Festival in June. The response is always surprising; it seems like more and more folks from around the country are putting forward the effort. It is always the last Saturday in June;

this year it will be Friday, June 26 through Sunday, June 29.

The founding families that will be honored this year are Bruno, Darling, Hardin, Higbee, Lewis, Nadeau, Slavin and Smith. While it is always great for folks to come and participate, it is even more special to come during a year when your family is celebrated. Among the special activities for honored families are interviews at the Cultural Heritage Center and a special honor dance at the Saturday night powwow.

Members will occasionally reach out to me to ask about traditional Potawatomi funerals, and I have had to answer

honestly that I have been to several funerals of Potawatomi but am unaware of a traditional funeral service. Most often, I have seen funerals include a prayer spoken in Potawatomi and smudging. I have also heard of people burying eagle feathers, a beloved blanket or medicine bag with their loved one.

I learned something recently about a tradition when a Potawatomi walks on that I want to share with folks. According to Justin Neely, our language director, a traditional way to honor a Potawatomi who has walked on is to start and tend a fire continuously for four days. In the past, the first day was a day of prepping the body.

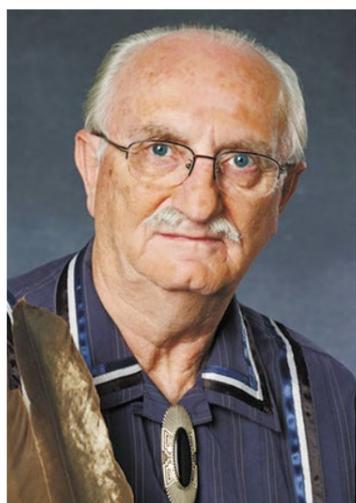
Days two through four, family members and friends can visit with the family, pray and tell stories about the deceased. Also in Potawatomi tradition, the bereaved can put down tobacco and place tobacco in the fire.

As always, it is my honor to serve you.

Migwetch,
(Thank you),

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

District 9 – Paul Wesselhöft



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend),

As some of you know, I have authored two books: *The Redfeather Pentology* (fiction) about a Potawatomi boy growing up with multiple fathers in dysfunctional homes in the 1950s. And *Eros: Penultimate Love* (poetry).

Currently, I am near finishing a third book titled *Native*, which is a collection of articles, essays and poems about Potawatomi. I need to make a decision about this manuscript. Do I include only my writings, or should I include other Potawatomi writers?

If you write creatively and have a short uplifting poem or article pertaining to Potawatomi and would like to see your writings published, let me know at reppaul@gmail.com.

I want to encourage you to write creatively about our Nation, its history and culture. There is so much contemporary and historical information out there to draw from.

If you would like to read one of my books, simply let me know, and I will give you one. I have given away a number of books. The important thing for writers is that they are read.

Below are two examples of writings that will appear in the new collection — *Native*.

Red Blood

On the outside,

Though my skin be so pale

The midday sun,

Burns and pains.

On the inside,

Indian blood churns

And flows through my veins.

The Triumph of a Tribe: Manifesto

Bullets trumped arrows. We lost.

Colonial imperialists clearing out the tall timber could no longer dwell near existing villages — eventually, one had to die a deliberate death, not the pilgrim nor the puritan. Many

native to the land had to learn a new prayer, cut their hair, or remain lost in a new world.

European immigrants, pressing westward, found the frontier inhospitable, and feared the “savage” — one had to die a deliberate death, not the military nor the mountaineer, neither the public nor the pioneer. Long knives, ground sharper, pierced deeper than tomahawks.

Manifest Destiny proved a more lethal doctrine than aboriginal rights, sacrosanct land and inherent sovereignty. Gifts of gin and imbibes of brandy, along with the white forked tongue, proved a more seductive taste than maze and peaceful pipes of tobacco.

Racist palefaces and their unkind policy of genocide rolled with many white wagons across prairies. Bison and those dependent upon the buffalo

were targeted for extinction. Bleached bones of beasts and man strewed the land.

Parchments, inked of broken treaties, were bartered for pressured concessions, quick-fix assurances, and enforced acculturation. Lives and land were lost, lessons learned, dreams dashed, memories memorialized, remnants of a past, a place — ours. However, they are a past, not to be forgotten but a past and a place no longer suitable or salutary to dwell on and certainly not a past or place to wallow.

Character trumped contempt. We won.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

CPN Executive Committee

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The *Hownikan* is published by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and is mailed free to enrolled Tribal members. Subscriptions for nonmembers are \$10 a year in the United States and \$12 in foreign countries. The *Hownikan* is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the *Hownikan*. Editorials/letters are subject to editing and must contain traceable address.

All correspondence should be directed to *Hownikan*,

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

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

Address changes should be sent to Tribal Rolls,

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

District 10 – David Barrett



Bozho
(Hello),

I am so proud to be a Citizen Potawatomi member; I always brag about services that we provide to our Tribal members, other Native Americans and our Tribal employees, and if covered by CPN insurance, their spouses and families.

Over the years, I have been contacted, mainly by seniors and veterans, on what the Tribe can do for them, and I have always tried to steer them in the right direction. What is needed is a pamphlet that outlines what services are available by each department by categories for quick reference.

In the meantime, and after receiving another call from a member, I called Tami Fleeman, RN with CPN Health Services and coordinator for the senior support and the elder center. She was so helpful with answering the questions I presented her that I wanted to share what I learned. This is mainly for Oklahoma residents, but she went further in saying that she invites outside Oklahoma members to contact her at 405-214-5111 if they

have questions. She might be able to give directions on who to contact in their area.

She also told me that CPN is providing legal counsel to Tribal members and employees through Gail Wettstein. I asked both of them what they can do for CPN members in Oklahoma, and I wanted to share each of their responses.

Fleeman wrote, “CPN Senior Support and Elder Center are services that assist Native American Elders living in the CPN service area. An Elder is someone 55 years of age or older.”

Elder Center

The Elder Center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located in the Wellness Center at 2345 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. in Shawnee. Lunch is served at noon with a donation of \$1. Staff serve home cooked meals as well as a salad bar. Activities include dominos, puzzles and crafts as well as access to a computer. Active members take day trips throughout the year to museums, festivals and other points of interest.

Caregiver Program

“We also have a caregiver program for the CPN service area. This program provides funds to pay someone to come in and stay with the family member requiring care. This relieves some of the stress off the caregiver,” Fleeman said. “This respite program gives the caregiver a much needed break from the stressful job of taking care of someone through illness or disability.”



David Barrett, Richard Driskell, Vice-Chairman Linda Capps and Daryl Talbot.

The program can provide funds for 4 to 5 hours of weekly respite care. Reach out to Tami to find out more at fleeman@potawatomi.org.

Senior Support Network

The Senior Support Network is staffed with an RN, an LPN and three Community Health Representatives. Staff assess clients in their homes to evaluate their specific needs.

“Are they homebound and need meal delivery?” Fleeman asked. “Do they need assistance with their medications? Is their home safe? Do they qualify for benefits they are not receiving? Do we need to involve other departments to assist them?”

The community health representative typically makes weekly to monthly home visits, depending on clients’ needs.

“We work with CPN clinic physicians to keep them informed of any change in the patients’ status,” Fleeman said. “They check vital signs, assist them with small chores, help them arrange transports if they are unable to get to appointments. We do a lot of case management to get the Elders what they need — working with physicians, family, and other departments or agencies as needed. We also have one CHR who visits Tribal elders in nursing homes. She advocates for clients and makes sure they are receiving the care they need.

“We keep a lending closet for elders needing medical equipment. Shower chairs, wheelchairs, walkers, and other equipment can be borrowed if we have it in stock. The equipment has been donated to us, so we can let other use it when they have a need.”

For questions or assistance, contact Tami Fleeman at 405-214-5111.

Legal counsel

CPN received a grant to provide legal counsel to CPN members

and employees through Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma, Inc.

“Representation is limited to a wide variety of civil matters that arise in Oklahoma such as divorce, child support and custody, estate planning, probate, and end of life directives, power of attorney, real estate matters, debtor/creditor or tax issues, and landlord/tenant disputes,” Wettstein said. “The grant excludes representation in any criminal matter, or any matter against the Tribe, a Tribal member or a Tribal employee.”

Legal services include everything from advice and referral, to representation in court. CPN tribal court will be the preferred venue for filling cases whenever possible. When a case is filed, the client pays the filing fee.

“LASO is the largest law firm in Oklahoma with 148 attorneys state-wide. LASO partners with several tribes in Oklahoma, but CPN is the only grantor to provide representation for its members and employees in a wide variety of civil matters,” Wettstein said.

I’ve spoken with Ms. Wettstein on the phone, and I think you will enjoy working with her. She served as an administrative law judge for DHS for 15 years and as a special judge in Oklahoma City Municipal Court. She served as the director of Oklahoma Adult Protective

Services for four years, and in that capacity, worked with our own Janet Draper to create a collaborative working relationship between tribal and state adult protective services to benefit our Tribal members.

Ms. Wettstein is learning all she can about Potawatomi culture and is excited to be working with us full-time. She offices at the CPN Workforce building on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and in the Norman Legal Aid Office the rest of the week. She can be reached at 405-488-6753 or gail.wettstein@laok.org.

On Dec. 3, 2019, we had our annual Veterans Christmas Dinner. We had a great turnout of 51 members and guests who enjoyed a wonderful dinner. We had the *Dewegen Kwek* (ladies’ drum group) to drum and sing, plus Justin Neely, director of the CPN Language Department, drummed some and also led our opening prayer in Potawatomi. During the program, we gave away money, hams and beautiful poinsettias. The poinsettias were brought to the dinner by Chairman Barrett and Vice-Chairman Capps.

A special recognition was bestowed to Linda Capps and Richard Driskell (FireLake Discount Foods director) for their longtime support and involvement with our veterans organization. Our Commander (Daryl Talbot) drew caricatures for both of them. His caricatures depict a simple drawing that show the features of his subjects in a humorous way. Daryl, what a great job you did! Thanks.

It goes without saying, thank you for allowing me to represent you and our great Nation.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

David Barrett
Mnedobe (Sits with Spirit)
Representative, District 10
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801
405-275-3121
dbarrett@potawatomi.org

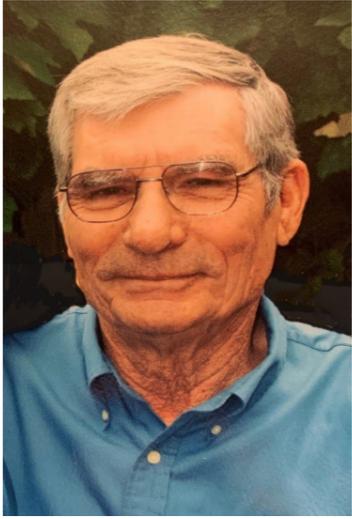


Vice-Chairman Linda Capps’ caricature.



Richard Driskell’s caricature.

Kenneth Madison Kennedy



Kenneth Madison Kennedy was born May 19, 1937, near Geary, Oklahoma, to Thomas G. and Georgia Lillian (Davidson) Kennedy. He passed away Monday, Feb. 10, 2020, at his home in Weatherford, Oklahoma, at the age of 82.

Kenneth attended elementary school at the Bethany Country School. He attended Greenfield Schools from the fifth grade until his graduation in 1955. Kenneth played baseball, basketball and football, and was an active member of the FFA. Kenneth then enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Upon his completion of service, he married Jean Duncan on Sept. 21, 1957, at the Greenfield Baptist Church. The couple made their home near Greenfield and began their farming operation. He and Jean moved to the homeplace west of Greenfield in 1968 and lived there for many years.

They lived in Watonga for 11 years before retiring to an acreage north of Weatherford.

Over the course of his life, he did many jobs, always enjoying being busy, especially in his later years, but he was mainly a farmer and rancher who was devoted to his wife, children and grandchildren. He loved attending his grandchildren's sporting events and activities. Kenneth served on the Greenfield School board or directors for a number of years. He served as a deacon, song leader and Sunday school teacher at the Greenfield Baptist Church, which he was a member of for nearly 50 years. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Weatherford.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Georgia Kennedy; siblings, Thomas G. Kennedy, Jr. and Jesse Glenn Kennedy; mother-in-law, Lillie Johnson; brother-in-law, Ted Duncan; daughter-in-law, Debbie Kennedy; and granddaughter, Kaci Kennedy.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Kennedy of the home in Weatherford; five children, Donita Lucero of Weatherford, Mark Kennedy of Weatherford, Caren Daugherty and husband Jeff of Elk City, Don Kennedy and wife Christie of Broken Arrow, and Teresa France and husband Greg of Watonga; grandchildren, Patrick Lucero, Michael Lucero, Meagan Morgan and husband Rhodey, Matt Kennedy and wife Denice, Taler Broadbent and husband Jared, Branson Daugherty, Christina Sell

and husband Jason, Lisa Thompson and husband James, Sara Westlund and husband Joe, Cole Swaggart and wife Makenzie, Harrison Kennedy, Bryant Eyster, Madison Burton and husband Dillon, Karson Breeding, and Tanner France; fifteen great-grandchildren; two sisters, Maxine Peters of Watonga and Leora Harrison of Prosper, Texas; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Phillip R. Smith



Phillip R. Smith, age 82, passed away on Monday, Feb. 3, 2020, in Wichita, Kansas. He was born Aug. 21, 1937, in Shawnee, Oklahoma, to Violet and O.C. Smith. He grew up in Tecumseh and graduated from Tecumseh High School in 1955.

On Aug. 31, 1957, he married Patricia L. Loftis, and they moved to Wichita. Phillip worked for Boeing most of his life, but during lay-offs, he also worked for Beech and Cessna Aircraft and at times

had to work two jobs to help support his growing family. He retired from Boeing in 1994 at the age of 57. After retiring, he worked part time as a courier to keep himself busy.

After retirement, Phillip and Patricia traveled and made many trips to Hawaii as well as a trip to Europe days after 9/11. They also took several cruises, including to the Caribbean and Alaska, along with several bus tours throughout the United States.

Phillip loved country music (Willie Nelson and Hank Williams Jr.) and watching old westerns on TV. During the summers, he loved to go fishing with some of his granddaughters.

Phillip was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia L. Smith of 55 years; a son, Terry Wayne Smith; and his parents, Violet and O.C. Smith. He is survived by his daughter, Tammy Self (Weldon) of Midlothian, Texas; son, Forrest Smith (Donna) of Wichita; seven grandchildren, Stephanie Stephens (Chris) of Hillsboro, Texas, Joshua Dennis of Dallas, Texas, Ashley Smith (Jeff Reed), Katelyn Schoenhofer (Kyle), Olivia Smith (Trey), Bailey Smith and Sarah Smith, all of Wichita; and seven great-grandchildren.

Phillip was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and a member of East Point Church of Christ.

Memorial donations can be made to the YMCA of Wichita, located at 402 N. Market, 2nd Floor, Wichita, KS 67202.

Lucille H. Dwyer



Lucille H. Dwyer passed away in Portland, Oregon, three days after her 95th birthday. Lucille is survived by her son, Charles P. Dwyer of Portland, Oregon; and her two grandchildren, Devin and Carol Dwyer. She is also survived by her sister, Florence Gress of Yakima, Washington; not to mention a multitude of nieces and nephews and great and grand nieces and nephews.

She was born Lucille Hernandez in Horton, Kansas. The Hernandez family moved to Billings, Montana, where she graduated from high school, then moved on to Yakima, Washington. It was there she met her husband, Patrick J. Dwyer, in 1946. They moved to his home town, New York City. They lived there for 30 years and raised their son. They retired to Yakima, where she was preceded in death by her husband after 52 years of marriage. Lucille was a mother and grandmother, but to most, she was Aunt Lucy. She was dearly loved and will be greatly missed.



A Funeral Prayer

Hau ndenwémagnek
Ho my relatives

Ébyé yak shote gnom
We have come here today

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

Ngom she épam sét ode
Today he walks

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

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

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

Iw énaj moyan
That's all I have to say

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

By Don Perrot

Jessie Joe Nadeau

Jessie Joe Nadeau, 89 years old, passed away to be with the Lord with his loving family by his side at his home in Earlsboro, Oklahoma, on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020. He was born and lived in Earlsboro all his life.

His is survived by his extremely loving wife, Loetta J. Richards Nadeau. They married on June 27, 1950, and were married for 69 1/2 years. His children are Leslie V. Nadeau; Rex A. Nadeau; Wayne H. Nadeau and wife, Carmen Nadeau; and Sherri. J. Butler and husband, Mike Butler. His grandchildren: Carrie and husband, Jarrod Babb; Michael and wife, Mary Nadeau; Ashley and husband, Dustin Acebo; Brianna Nadeau; Nathan and wife, Barbara Nadeau; Nick and wife, Jessica Nadeau; David and wife, Shannon Wheeler; Lakisha and husband, Jesse Meade; Dylan Pittman; Krystal and husband, Tommy Price; Hunter Brown; Ashley Butler; and Zach and Heather Brown; 21 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren. He had several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vincent H. Nadeau and Leila T. Hollingworth-Nadeau; sister, Stella Nadeau-Barnhart; infant brother, Wayne H. Nadeau, Vincent H. Nadeau and Gene R. (Frog) Nadeau, and Johnny Barnhart.

He attended school at Earlsboro and Harjo. He was a rancher, and he also worked in the oil field and Stevenson feed in Tecumseh before retiring from S&S Feed in Shawnee. He is a Citizen Potawatomi

tribal member. He was a member of the Full Gospel Grace Church. He loved all of his family, especially his grandchildren, great and great-great-grandchildren. He loved farming and ranching all his life. He took great pleasure in caring for his cattle and chickens. He would hatch eggs, and when they were born, he would talk to them. He called them "little girls" while they would eat and drink. He would sit for hours watching and talking to them. When it came time for them to join in the hen house with the others, all he had to do was open the gate and say, "Come on, little girls," and they would follow him right to the hen house every time. He will always be remembered for his wonderful smile and laugh. His smile would light up any room; he will be so missed.

Roger Pern Graham

Roger Pern Graham passed into the arms of the Lord on Jan. 11, 2020, at his home in Meridian, Idaho, from complications of diabetes. Roger was born in Boise on Jan. 17, 1941, and was 78 years old. He was the oldest son of Earl and Fern Graham, a brother to Ramona and Leon; loving father to Wray, Carmen, Heidi and Vanessa; grandfather to eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and a dear friend to so many.

Roger spent his youth in Bruneau and was an outdoor enthusiast. On his happiest days throughout his life, you could find him fishing, hiking or hunting, or in his own words, "riding my horse in Owyhee Country with a rifle in one hand and a fishing pole in the other, reared back singing to my horse." He attended Bruneau

schools, and graduated in 1959 as a valedictorian, Eagle Scout and American Legion Citizen of the Year. He attended the University of Idaho where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1964.

In 1964, he married Kristin (Cobbley) Logan, and they were divorced in 1985. Roger thoroughly enjoyed his career as a successful architect, working in his field designing and constructing primarily commercial shopping centers across the United States. He worked for Morrison Knudsen and Albertsons, retiring in 2001 after 27 years.

Roger's Potawatomi given name was *Nawget* (In the Center), and he loved to be in the center of his family and friends throughout his life. He loved to attend Indian festivals and celebrations, family reunions and would always take his children or grandchildren with him.

Roger is preceded in death by his father, Earl Graham and sister, Ramona Church.

Dorothy Mae Shepherd

Dorothy Mae (Yeager) Shepherd was born June 25, 1919, to John Henry and Hester Margaret (Rhodd) Yeager in Harrah, Oklahoma. She passed away on June 26, 2019, in Keota, Oklahoma, at the age of 100.

She married Raymon Lee Shepherd on Aug. 29, 1936. She was a devoted Christian and was a member of Iron Bridge Free Will Baptist Church since 1937. She worked in the county treasurer's office for three years, and then went to

work for Joe Smith and Bobby Short until her retirement in 1983. She worked at the grocery store for 28 years. She was a care giver for several people, baby sat and cooked at the Keota Senior Citizens Center. Dorothy loved to work.

She is survived by her children, Donald Lee Shepherd of Wagoner, Oklahoma, and Ruth Ann (Shepherd) Cole and husband, George (Bud) Cole of Keota, Oklahoma; two sisters, Betty Scoggins of Red Bluff, California, and Juanita Lovett of Sacramento, California; 12 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; and numerous great-great-grandchildren.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Raymon; her parents, John Henry and Hester Margaret (Rhodd) Yeager; four brothers, Everett, Harold, Bill and Murl Yeager; one sister, Mary Yeager Scoggins; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Dorothy loved to cook and was an excellent cook. Her family always looked forward to holiday meals that she prepared.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made in Dorothy's name to Keota City Cemetery, Iron Bridge Cemetery or Iron Bridge Free Will Baptist Church.

Olaf James Seaton

Olaf James Seaton, age 75, son of the late Olaf (Bud) James Sr. and Estelle Coon Seaton, was born Jan. 23, 1944, in Maud, Oklahoma. He attended Maud and Noble schools and spent his free time hunting, fishing,

racing motorcycles with friends, and spending time at the farm with grandpa Johnston.

He was united in holy matrimony to Shirlene Mae Johnston in July 1964. Through this union were born their two daughters, Shirley Dawn and Sherri Mae — their two biggest blessings.

After his schooling, Olaf, "Big O", joined his father in the family masonry business and continued to become a master bricklayer, company partner and owner. He was a Christian man who enjoyed spending time in his workshop at home building wooden furniture, glass objects and wooden toys his grandkids and great-grandsons still enjoy today. Olaf was an avid fan of cowboy Western shows and spending time with his great-grandsons. As a result of his gentle and caring personality he was truly loved by many, and his influence will forever remain in the lives of all who knew him. Olaf peacefully departed his earthly life Jan. 19, 2020, surrounded by his loved ones in Norman, Oklahoma. He was preceded in death by his parents, Olaf and Estelle Seaton, his sister Patricia and brother Dalton as well as his extended family and kin Shirley and Lorene Johnston, Herb and Frances Nickell, and Kenneth Harris.

He was cared for beyond measure and will be cherished forever in the life of his wife of 55 years, Shirlene Seaton; daughters, Shirley Harris, joined by James Barnhill, and Sherri Hunt and husband Sam Hunt; sister-in-law Jean Kobilan and husband Al Kobilan; grandchildren, Shawnie Hunt, Dayton Harris, Bailey Lozano and husband Christopher Lozano, and Shane Hunt; great-grandsons, Carter Dean Harris and Bennett James Hunt; along with a host of devoted nieces, nephews, cousins and adoring friends.

Submitting obituaries

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

hownikan@potawatomi.org

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

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

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

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