



HOWNIIKAN

Bnakwigises | October 2019

Top photo: A bee enjoys collecting pollen from a sunflower at the *Bodewadmi Widoktadwen Gtegan* (Potawatomi Community Garden).

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Walking on



Oklahoma's first Native American Day celebrated in October

Throughout the last decade, states and municipalities across the country began replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day in recognition of colonization's effect on native populations of the Americas. While Christopher Columbus was not the first European to reach North America, his pilgrimages influenced others to travel, bringing diseases and colonization with them.

Following approval in April, Oklahoma Senate Bill 111 officially moved celebration of Native American Day in the state from the third Monday in November to the second Monday in October — also Columbus Day, though it does not replace the latter. Oklahoma City and Tulsa designated the second Monday in October solely Indigenous Peoples' Day in 2018. However, this year is the first time the state government combined the holidays.

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes — the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole tribes — pushed for the measure's signature into law after several years of effort. Citizen Potawatomi Nation provides plenty of ways to appreciate and honor Native culture and history, on not only Native American Day but also every day.

CPN Cultural Heritage Center

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center displays Tribal history, art and culture in an atmosphere that encourages learning with captivating displays and interactive galleries. From discovering the differences in regalia styles to charting out the movement of *Nishnabe* ancestors across the continent, the CHC offers a new experience with each visit.



The CPN Cultural Heritage Center contains a wealth of information celebrating Tribal history and governmental sovereignty.

CPN Language Department

With a cultural structure based on oral tradition, learning Potawatomi remains one of the most significant ways to celebrate and keep *Nishnabe* customs alive. CPN's Language Department regularly holds beginners classes throughout the year, livestreaming them on the CPN Language Facebook group ([cpn.news/langfb](https://www.facebook.com/cpn.news/langfb)) as well. Start Indigenous Peoples Day by learning common words and phrases from the all-new online dictionary at [potawatomidictionary.com](https://www.potawatomidictionary.com).

Bodewadmi Widoktadwen Gtegan (Potawatomi Community Garden)

The CHC *Bodewadmi Widoktadwen Gtegan* (Potawatomi Community Garden) reconnects the effort put into growing and gathering food with the feeling of a full stomach. During Garden Work Parties held regularly, participants plant, tend to the garden and harvest, completing the cycle of sustenance known and created by Native Americans centuries ago. Find the work parties and other garden events at [cpn.news/events](https://www.cpn.news/events).

Elders' teachings

Potawatomi revere and respect elders for their wisdom, knowledge and life experience. In modern society, they are often forgotten or unheard. Indigenous Peoples Day is the perfect time to make a connection with elders in individual families or the larger community. CPN's Elder Program (Title VI) serves Native Americans 55 and

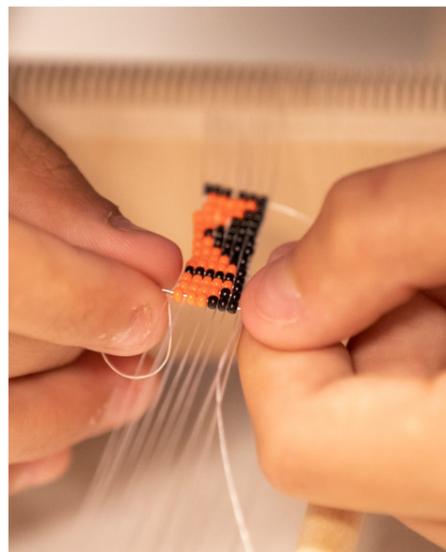
older in the Tribe's jurisdiction with activities, lunch, crafting groups and more. The Elder Center is located at 2345 S Gordon Cooper Dr. in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served daily.

Books by or about Potawatomi

A book by or about Potawatomi exists for any interest. Brandt family descendant Kaitlin Curtice writes about her experiences as both a Native woman and Christian. Amy Rose Herrick discusses sailing, marriage and small business advice as well as writes haikus. Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer highlights food sovereignty efforts, and Chickasaw Nation member Robert Perry dove deep into the life of Potawatomi artist Woody Crumbo. The reading list is only beginning. The Citizen Potawatomi Gift Shop sells books, which can also be found online at [cpn.news/giftshopbooks](https://www.cpn.news/giftshopbooks).

Crafting

Potawatomi handcrafted pieces of regalia and accessories represent high-quality work. Tribal members pass their beading and sewing methods down for generations. However, it is never too late to learn. The Potawatomi Gift Shop offers beading kits, craftwork books, supplies to make aluminum rattles, moccasin patterns and much more. Take on a new artistic hobby to fill the days with a productive piece of culture. The CHC holds crafting classes throughout the year, which can be found at [cpn.news/events](https://www.cpn.news/events). 🔥



Citizen Potawatomi Nation frequently holds classes on traditional crafts including beadwork at the Cultural Heritage Center and during events such as Family Reunion Festival.

Tribal member Mark Jenks' work connects the earth and beyond

Outer space and aeronautics captured the imagination and educational focus of Bertrand descendant Mark Jenks from a young age. He began his career with aerospace company Boeing in 1983, spending time in both the Defense, Space & Security unit as well as Boeing Commercial Airplanes. He now serves as the vice president and general manager of the 737 commercial airliner while overseeing the company's location in Renton, Washington.

"As a kid growing up during the Apollo program and the moon landings, like many other budding engineers of my generation, I always wanted to be an astronaut," he said.

He began engineering school on a Naval ROTC scholarship with hopes of becoming a pilot; however, strict vision tests and requirements forced him to consider other options.

"I figured the next best thing would be to design rockets if I couldn't fly them," he said.

Jenks obtained a bachelor's and master's in aerospace engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York and then attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As part of its Leaders for Global Operations program, he completed both a master's in materials engineering and an MBA.

Throughout more than 35 years at Boeing, Jenks played an integral part in the production and design of International Space Station modules, jumbo jets and military helicopters.

A career of firsts

Boeing's position and function as part of the government space program attracted Jenks. He looked forward to the opportunity to design machinery intended for use beyond earth's orbit.

"It's one of the nice things about a company like Boeing; you have a lot of opportunity to move around," he said. "I always hoped I would get the chance, and eventually I did. ... That was a dream come true."

He moved to Huntsville, Alabama, in 1996 to work on the manufacturing,



Tribal member and Boeing executive Mark Jenks takes a global approach while focusing on the day-to-day tasks of developing and producing some of the world's most popular jumbo jets.

design and testing of U.S. pressurized elements of the International Space Station. He assisted in the development of the connecting module Unity, the first portion of the station designed and launched by America. He also acted as manager for the U.S.-Russian airlock system that allowed astronauts to exit the station for spacewalks.

He worked at Kennedy Space Center where NASA launched the astronauts and original equipment for the Apollo missions. They sent his hardware from the same place.

"I got the opportunity to be in mission control in Houston when it was first operated in orbit. That was certainly one of the highlights," Jenks said. "I think for an aerospace engineer, first flights or first launches are always things you never forget."

After moving into the commercial division of the company in 2001, he worked on the 787 Dreamliner series from concept to delivery, acting as vice president and general manager of the project from 2014 to 2017.

"We've built almost a thousand of them now, and for a little over 10 years

they've been operating," Jenks said. "It's kind of nice to be able to go into an airport anywhere in the world and see something you were a part of."

It was the first passenger plane with a structure composed mainly of carbon fiber composite materials. He watched the 787's first flight in 2009.

"It's really, really gratifying after all the work by all of the people — the huge team that contributes to making all of that come together for a new large, commercial airplane — and seeing that all leave the ground for the first time. It is really hard to describe," he said.

Thinking globally

The major enterprises of Jenks's career utilize worldwide development and production, and the products serve a vast purpose.

"The space station is a very large, very global endeavor. I (also) worked with huge teams distributed around the world as we developed the airplane and then built it and certified it," he said. "So, they're very large, complex aerospace projects. One happens to be in orbit, the other down here."

"I think just for an aerospace engineer, first flights or first launches are always things you never forget."

Mark Jenks

While the environments vary, he finds the work equally as important. People turn to commercial aircraft to travel the world, and Jenks thinks of his work as enriching the lives of millions.

"Commercial airplanes have such a big impact on the world, such a big positive impact on the world that it's a neat place to work," he said.

In July 2019, Jenks accepted his new position as the vice president of the 737

program. He welcomes the challenges of overseeing the maintenance and improvement of the most popular passenger aircraft in history.

"A 737 takes off or lands around the world almost every 30 seconds. It's just incredible what these airplanes do," Jenks said. "I'm looking forward to being able to help build them."

On the ground

In his personal life, Jenks and his wife travel around the world. A few of the countries they have explored include Jordan, Cambodia, Vietnam, Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala. Highlights of their trips include taking an African safari and hiking through the jungles of Central America

"It's the opportunity to see and experience different cultures and people and different perspectives. Different parts of the world, I think, is one of the most exciting parts of my job and also the reason why I like to travel," he said.

They also founded A Child's Notebook, a nonprofit aimed at rebuilding and reestablishing primary schools in impoverished parts of Southeast Asia. The projects began in Laos after they took a trip with a Laotian friend and saw the need firsthand. His wife quickly returned to make contacts and find villages interested in assistance. Since then, the organization expanded, thanks to fundraising, and moved outside of Laos.

His wife retired from Boeing several years ago and wanted to give back. They realize the drastic difference their educations made in their lives and perceive their nonprofit as a way to spread those opportunities.

"Education is critical for people and societies to accomplish great things," Jenks said. "I think the experience I had at MIT was really critical in terms of giving me the foundation to do what I've been able to do through my career."

For more information on A Child's Notebook, visit achildsnotebook.org. They are on Facebook at "A Child's Notebook" and Instagram @achildsnotebook. ♡



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Raptors play a key role in ecological management

While the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary houses both injured bald and golden eagles that cannot return to the wild, other birds of prey also call the aviary home. All residents are raptors, and they share similar sharp, hooked bills and strong talons. These birds of prey also all pursue other animals as their food source.

“The term raptor is derived from the Latin ‘raptare,’ which means ‘to seize and/or capture,’” explained CPN Aviary Manager Jennifer Randell. “Hawks, eagles, owls, osprey, vultures and falcons are all considered raptors even though they have a greatly varied prey base and hunting style.”

The aviary is proud to care for three non-eagles including an augur buzzard named *Nikan*, a peregrine falcon named Lady Z and *Jigwé*, a Harris’s hawk.

Ecological importance

“These birds are part of our education program and help us educate people about conservation and the importance of raptors in the environment and our connection to them,” Randell said. “Having a diverse group of education birds gives people an opportunity to see and appreciate more than just eagles.”

Historically, hawks and other birds of preys’ roles were not understood, and former ecological policies encouraged killing these key predators due to their natural behaviors. When in the wild, these birds help signal an ecosystem’s overall health, and scientists often refer to raptors as an indicator species.

“Birds of prey are apex predators at the top of the food chain and are extremely



Nikan’s favorite activity is nest building with aviary staff.

sensitive to many environmental changes in an ecosystem because they depend on a balance of wildlife as a prey base to support them,” Randell said.

Pesticides and other chemicals build up in our ecosystems, becoming more and more concentrated with each step up on the food chain.

“Researching the population trends of raptors provides a cost-effective and efficient means to detecting environmental change, allowing us to take conservation action that is driven by the latest scientific data,” she explained.

They also help control populations of rodents and other small mammals, but for many years, management approaches ignored the importance birds of prey hold. In the past, the public often blamed them for threatening farm animals.

“While it is true larger eagles may take young livestock like a lamb, we forget that the rancher displaced their natural food source when they introduced livestock,” Randell said.

DDT and similar chemicals used in high levels can cause birds’ eggshells to become thin and brittle; as a result, the frail eggs do not survive incubation. The aviary’s work helps with conservation efforts. Through education, the aviary aims to decrease human’s negative impact on all animals, especially birds of prey.

Nikan, Lady Z and *Jigwé*

The aviary’s augur buzzard *Nikan* is the younger brother of Dots, one of the first birds the aviary took into its care.

“Shortly after Dots walked on, we were made aware that his little brother needed a good home,” Randell said. “Having an augur buzzard works out great for education. He was hatched here in the U.S., but augur buzzards are native to Africa and are like a cousin to our red-tailed hawks.”

Although augur buzzards and red-tail hawks come from other sides of the world, they share related diets, habitats and have similar markings. Instead of being brown and cream like the red-tail hawk, augur buzzards are white and grey.

Before arriving at the CPN Aviary, *Nikan* had some behavioral issues and was not comfortable enough to act on his natural instincts. This instantly changed once he arrived in Oklahoma; he calmed and starting nest building and bonding with the aviary staff.

Jigwé and Lady Z both started nesting for the first time. Before opening the aviary, CPN’s Randell and Dunham trained with staff at, Sia: The Comanche

Nation Ethno-Ornithological Initiative, where they became acquainted with Lady Z and *Jigwé*.

“They both are dominant females and are sure they run the show. For the most part, they are correct,” Randell said. “We love that they are a little spunky and give them that space and time to go through nesting. They both seem content to incubate eggs, and someday maybe they will have the opportunity to be foster parents.”

Although they hold similarities, each raptor is unique and requires specific care.

“From diet to perching, they are all a little different,” Randell said. “Winter months, *Nikan* spends his time in an enclosure that is heated because he is not from this hemisphere, and although he is acclimated to our climate, we prefer to be safe, and he seems to enjoy his warm enclosure.”

Lady Z loves spending time on a high perch, that way she can keep an eye on all of those who enter and leave her space.

“In many areas out west, where they are found, they nest on tall cactus,” Randell said of the peregrine falcon. “They hunt together, will nest cooperatively, and nests may be tended by more than two adults. So they are very social, and she needs to have that interaction.”

Jigwé, the Harris’s hawk at the CPN aviary, is more private than her counterparts are, and because of the long nature of her feet, she prefers a flat perch to a rounded one like the aviary’s other residents.

“She’s very vocal and territorial during nesting season, and we take extra care to give her privacy. So, many months of the year, she does not go out for presentation,” Randell said.

CPN Aviary staff look forward to the chance to educate CPN members and the public on the impact birds of prey have on our livelihood.

“We have a responsibility to care for these raptors, acting as ambassadors to help educate and hopefully inspire others about conservation and how we can be good stewards of our lands and those that we share it with,” Randell said. “They are a vital part of our ecosystem and our family. Sharing that with others helps to reconnect our people to the living eagle and other raptors.”

For more information on the CPN Eagle Aviary, visit potawatomiheritage.com. ♠



Regular activities keep the aviary’s birds strong and healthy, both mentally and physically.

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Former Tecumseh player returns to the gridiron

Peltier descendant Casey White grew up in and around Pottawatomie County where he developed his love for football. As a teenager, he played as wide receiver and safety for Tecumseh High School, and through that experience, he built a lifelong passion for the game. Today, White holds an information technology position at Tinker Air Force Base in Midwest City. However, for the past three years, he has served as a color commentator for radio station 105.9 KIRC, covering the Tecumseh football games every Friday night.

“It’s pretty neat because I was out there at one point, and it’s so surreal because I’m at such a different stage in life,” White said. “It’s just cool because I can relate to those players who are out there while commentating, not just in football but in general ... and knowing what kind of environment they’re in.”

In 2010 during White’s sophomore year of high school, Tecumseh Public Schools unveiled its newly renovated field and football stadium.

“I was one of the very first ones that got to play (on that field) and to experience that, so it’s pretty neat for me,” he said.

On air

White’s radio experience helps promote personal growth. Although he is often nervous about public speaking, he enjoys the opportunity his position as color commentator with KIRC provides to get him out of his comfort zone and learn more about the radio industry.

“I keep up the stats during the games,” White said. “I have an iPad with a



Peltier descendant Casey White engages radio station 105.9 KIRC’s audience throughout Tecumseh’s football season.

program that I use while I talk, but I did do some practice beforehand. I didn’t want to be like super amateur, but I am one to just throw myself out there.”

He assists play-by-play commentator Jeff Thompson with analysis and builds content that engages listeners throughout their program.

“The guy that does the play-by-play with me, he’d never done it before. We’ve definitely grown together doing this. We are a lot better than the first year, for sure,” White said and laughed.

With more than four years of professional information technology experience, White’s skills ensure that all equipment is up and running properly

to broadcast Tecumseh’s football games across KIRC’s listening area.

“Typically the only issue we ever have is getting power. We need that to power the wireless spot and our headsets,” he explained. “Also, the press box room. Because Tecumseh is only 4A, some press boxes are tiny.”

Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association football class sizes range from Class C at the smallest and Class 6A at the largest.

The radio network attends all home and away Tecumseh football games, and White is hopeful the Tecumseh football team will vie for a Class 4A playoff spot this season.

“They haven’t gotten to any playoff games since I started doing this, but this year they are supposed to, which would be pretty cool,” he added.

CPN ties

Like many Citizen Potawatomi, White knew growing up he was a Tribal member, but he did not begin exploring his heritage until recently. In the past few years, he increased his Tribal involvement, looking for opportunities to stay connected.

“Before this year ... the only thing I’d ever really done is get my card,” he explained. “I voted this year and was at the General Council meeting at Festival, and I think that was a great learning opportunity for me.”

White enjoys gaining a greater understanding about his Potawatomi heritage as well as the Nation’s vast array of moving parts that help make it successful. Living just down the road from CPN’s headquarters also offers him an opportunity to introduce his 2-year-old son Decker to their Potawatomi culture.

“Overall, I expect to show him anything in life because not a lot was shown to me,” White said. “I’m happy to be able to show him these things and direct him in the way that he wants to go, whatever way that is.”

Tune into KIRC-FM Real Country 105.9 to hear White as he covers Tecumseh High School football games during the 2019 season or online at kirc1059.com. ♡

Request for statements of intent

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Department is requesting a statement of intent from any interested Indigenous-owned economic enterprises or Native American organizations who wish to submit a bid or proposal for the performance of services related to the carrying out of affordable housing activities. Services and work items include but are not limited to appraisal, building materials, construction, equipment, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, maintenance, inspections, lead-based paint testing and remediation, surveys and legal.

The statement of intent may be submitted to Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Department located at 44007 Hardesty Road, Shawnee, OK, 74801. For more information, contact CPN Development Assistant Tia Stewart at 405-273-2833 or by email at tia.stewart@potawatomi.org.

This request is being offered pursuant to the Indian preference/tribal preference requirements as stated in 24 CFR Part 1000. There is no deadline for submissions. However, submissions not received in a timely manner may prevent an otherwise qualified firm from receiving Indian preference or being able to compete for contract award under certain or previously announced solicitations. ♡

Potawatomi bull rider Colton Jesse travels to PBR Golden Cup

By Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

It hasn’t happened too often, so getting recognized by bull riding fans still catches Colton Jesse off guard.

“I got stopped at Lowe’s the other day,” he said with a chuckle. “That was new. It’s happened a few times, but it’s nice.”

A descendant of the DeLonais family, Jesse was the 2018 runner-up for Professional Bull Riding’s Rookie of the Year. He finished the 2018 season ranked No. 22 in the world, thanks in part to a top 10 finish at his first major event, the PBR Iron Cowboy.

That success on the circuit earned Jesse a spot at the Global Cup earlier this year at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. Billed as bull riding’s version of the Olympics, the Global Cup featured seven-member teams from Australia, Brazil, Mexico, Canada and two from the United States.

Coached by a citizen of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and former professional bull rider Wiley Petersen, Team USA Wolves was an all-Native squad, while Team USA Eagles was open to non-Native riders.

Other members of Team USA Wolves include Cherokee Nation citizens Cannon Cravens and Ryan “Cherokee Kid” Dirteater; Keyshawn Whitehorse, Justin Granger and Cody Jesus from



Bull rider and Tribal member Colton Jesse competes throughout the year, keeping his skills and love of the sport growing since before kindergarten.

the Navajo Nation; and Chippewa/Sioux rider Stetson Lawrence. The all-Native team, a first in any professional sport, was even introduced with fancy dancers on the event’s first night.

“Our intro definitely had people talking,” Jesse said. “The energy about the whole event and the support was just really cool.”

Team USA Wolves finished third at the Global Cup behind Brazil and Team USA Eagles, and Jesse tied for 20th among all 47 riders. The team went

eight for 18 against bulls that had a 66 percent buck-off rate in 2018.

Since the Global Cup, Jesse has gone on to participate at additional PBR events in St. Louis, Missouri, and Sacramento, California. Riding since before he started kindergarten, Jesse says he would not have it any other way.

“It’s in my blood,” he said. “My grandpa and my dad rode. They didn’t push me to that. No one has. My parents gave me the choice to do whatever. Got away from it when I was younger for a year or two, then got back to it. Just been with me — I don’t know anything else, and I don’t want to. It’s what I go to bed thinking about and wake up thinking about it. It’s my livelihood.”

Eventually, the Konawa, Oklahoma, native would like to give back to the sport that has meant so much to him and teach younger generations of riders the basics of bull riding.

“If someone was looking to play basketball for the first time, just given the ball and put up one-on-one against LeBron James, they’re probably going to get discouraged pretty quickly,” he said. “I want to see more kids getting into the sport, because it seems like it’s a bit of a dying breed. There’s a lot of great talent showing up, but I’m just not seeing it in as many kids as when I was young.” ♡

William (Billy) Haltom's career helps build the next generation of Native agriculturalists

Although Navarre descendant William (Billy) Haltom did not grow up on a farm, his participation in the 4-H Club and National FFA Organization inspired him to pursue a career in agriculture. Today, Haltom serves as the youth program manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Agriculture Youth Program, helping introduce the industry's vast opportunities to Creek students across northeast Oklahoma.

"Whenever I got in high school, I joined the FFA, and I knew immediately that agriculture is what I wanted to do," Haltom told the *Hownikan* during a phone interview.

He received his bachelor's from Oklahoma State University, and upon graduation, he taught in Oklahoma public schools for 10 years. This experience gave him an even greater appreciation for FFA and 4-H and the potential these organizations can provide, especially to Native Americans.

"If I've helped one kid, I feel like I have done well," Haltom explained. "I'm just tickled to death to be able to give a little guidance."

Because of Haltom's lifelong dedication to serving students across Oklahoma, the Oklahoma State FFA gave him an Honorary State FFA Degree in 2018. This degree is the Oklahoma FFA Association's highest award that distinguishes those who go above and beyond their normal duties to serve FFA members. Haltom considers this recognition as his greatest career accomplishment.

"The benefits from these two programs is just immeasurable, as far as I'm concerned, when we're talking about training our young people to be better, more productive citizens and community leaders," Haltom said.

Muscogee (Creek) Ag Youth Program

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation offered Haltom an opportunity to work alongside an Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service agent to oversee the tribe's MCN Ag Youth Program in 2012. However, the extension agent accepted another job, leaving Haltom the sole employee for some time.

"It was alright with me because it gave me a chance to do a lot of things that I was interested in that I know helped me when I was growing up," Haltom said. "I thought, 'I'm going to do what I can to try to help Native kids out.'"

Haltom assists Creek youth with fair competitions, animal husbandry techniques as well as preparing for speech contests and other 4-H and FFA events.

Through the FFA, members complete Supervised Agricultural Experience activities for state and national recognition. Growing up, Haltom's SAEs included hogs and cattle.

"I was a big steer showman, or so I thought I was anyway," Haltom said then laughed. As part of his job, he helps students with their livestock projects. In fact, his department's Livestock Assistance Program can provide each qualifying student up to \$500 annually; the only caveat is all the funds must go toward the student's project.

"If their SAE, for example, is pigs, we'll give them up to \$500 to purchase that animal. Say they bought a \$300 pig, they would have \$200 they could use for feed," he explained.

Students can also receive up to \$300 toward leadership experiences, which many use to pay their way to FFA Alumni Camp every year. Haltom has seen firsthand the positive impact these scholarships have on Creek youth.

"I've never had one kid that didn't get to go to all the camps that they wanted to go to and used up all their money," Haltom said.

Since Haltom joined the MCN Ag Youth Program, the number of Creek youth involved in 4-H and FFA increased from around 60 in 2012 to more than 270 today.

"And it just continues to grow," he said. "It's amazing the opportunities that are out there for Native youth in agriculture. So many kids nowadays just really need an opportunity, regardless of their social or economic background."

Typical day

While Haltom offices at Muscogee (Creek) Nation's tribal headquarters, the nature of his job gives him a chance to travel across northeast Oklahoma to serve Creek youth.

"It's part of our agreement if we help fund their project, we're going to come check on it and make sure they're taking care of the animal," he said.

Haltom does wellness checks as well as helps students get their livestock prepared for the show ring, which he said "becomes a game of trying to catch kids in eight different counties to clip and feed."



Every spring and fall, CPN member William (Billy) Haltom looks forward to helping youth prepare their livestock projects for the show ring. (Photo provided)

Although show season can create a hectic schedule, livestock events remain one of his favorite 4-H and FFA activities.

"I've always been a livestock person, and to be honest, I have a great job because I think we're one of the only tribal governments that has this position, period," he said. "I'm really fortunate to be in a position where I can do not only what I love — as far as livestock, shows and that kind of thing — but to be able to help all the young people. It's just a really rare opportunity that you get to do something that you just really want to do."

Legacy

Haltom hopes his career encourages youth to employ hard work to reach their goals, much like his FFA advisors encouraged him.

"There's nothing more rewarding to see a young person that you've seen since they were 12 years old graduate high school, and they've got scholarships," Haltom said. "There's nothing more rewarding for me than to see that happen — especially to see those who people didn't really give much of a chance, but all they needed was a little opportunity and maybe a little motivation."

MCN Ag Youth Program seeks to provide Creek youth with experiences that open their minds to potential as well as the chance to travel and learn more about the world outside of Oklahoma.

"Sometimes they don't get out of a five county era, and very seldom do they leave the state," Haltom said. "Every tribe has

different problems, and we don't realize living here in Oklahoma that problems in North or South Dakota aren't the same problems that we have here."

Haltom and other Muscogee (Creek) Ag Youth Program staff also see their work as an integral component to increasing tribal sovereignty across Indian Country.

"I think that the key to food sovereignty is getting our young kids involved as Native American agriculturalists, and it is a tribal government's biggest way to achieve food sovereignty," Haltom said.

"Every Native tribe in the United States has the opportunity — through agriculture — to achieve tribal sovereignty through being able to feed their own people. But to do that, we have to have Native young people who are interested in agriculture."

Haltom tries to stay connected to his Citizen Potawatomi heritage by attending Family Reunion Festival, reading the *Hownikan*, and fellowshipping with fellow Navarre family descendants. As for advice for Native students, especially Citizen Potawatomi, Haltom said, "They need to look at everything with an extremely open mind, and they need to look. It's hard to beat hard work. If you show me a kid that works hard, I'll show you one that's probably going to be successful."

Learn more about the Muscogee (Creek) Ag Youth Program at cpn.news/mcnagoyouth.

Sacramento Native American Health Clinic Junior Ambassador Bryce McNally

Fifth-grader and Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Bryce McNally explored his interests in school, sports and leadership activities throughout the past two years. He participates in three teams and other programs designed to help him stand out and find what he enjoys. This includes leadership groups such as the Sacramento Native American Health Clinic's Native Youth Ambassadors.

McNally and his mom Dawniell Black attended the Family Reunion Festival in 2016 when their Potawatomi family, the Pappans, were an honored family. McNally learned how to drum that summer, and it sparked his interest in Native culture.

Now, they find ways to engage in the Native American community near where they live in Sacramento, California. McNally joined the ambassadors program in October 2018. It is part of the clinic's Circles of Care, which focuses on providing mental health care and resources to patients.

Connecting

The youth ambassadors assist the health center by aiding in creating programs for those with mental health challenges and hosting supportive events throughout the community. Jeanine Gaines, a SNAHC employee and McNally's aunt, informed Black about the center's positions for younger children — Little SNAHCs or junior ambassadors.

Both of them thought McNally sounded like a perfect fit. He applied

to become a member of the first group of Little SNAHCs at 9 years old.

"My mom told me about it, and I was like, 'Oh, that would probably be good.' So, I thought about it, and then I knew that I was ready to do it," he said.

"I like learning about different things in the Native American community, and I like being around kids and learning about them. It's a good way to meet people."

Black works as the program specialist for curriculum professional learning for the Elk Grove Unified School District. She described the district's Native American education program as "going through transition," and McNally experienced limited interaction with other Indigenous students at school.

"I'm always trying to find ways to help him connect because sometimes that doesn't always happen in the classroom like we'd like it to," she said. "I really think opportunities that you get to meet other kids who you have something in common with but also who are a little different than you is really important."

Participating

As a fourth-grader, McNally ran for student body vice president as a second-year transfer and won. He participated in student leadership activities every week. When Black told him about the ambassador group, McNally decided he wanted to take on another leadership role.

After being accepted, he began attending monthly meetings. He met his mentor,



Bryce McNally and his mother Dawniell Black enjoy Family Reunion Festival in 2016 and celebrate their Pappan family heritage. (Photo provided)

an 18-year-old ambassador named Mison Cadwet, who he admires. His friendships with the older, hardworking participants encourage him to become a leader and attend college.

The ambassadors explain the basics of assisting someone who reaches out with a mental health challenge to the juniors, and McNally understands the importance of offering resources.

"I would help them if they need help on a certain questions or they need help on

certain things," he said. He also focuses on having a positive, inclusive attitude.

McNally enjoys the icebreakers, activities and games the group plays. One of his favorite exercises from his time spent as a junior ambassador is reminiscent of a traditional talking circle; people speak uninterrupted to the group as a feather or some other item moves clockwise through the participants.

"We would pass a ball, and I think we would tell our birthday, our favorite thing and our name," McNally said.

He also learns about Native American history during his time at the SNAHC, which Black appreciates as a former history teacher.

"A lot of times in school, Natives are taught in the past (tense). Being part of this program helps them recognize that it's the present tense, too," she explained. "I think it kind of balances what he's getting or not getting in school."

McNally anticipates becoming an ambassador and mentoring a junior as well as playing basketball, participating in events with the National Society for Black Engineers and learning more about Potawatomi culture.

"It makes me feel good about myself, how I've been working hard," he said. "And it makes my mom proud."

To find out more about the Circles of Care and Native Youth Ambassador program, visit snahc.org/circles-of-care.

ARE YOU A HOMEOWNER IN NEED OF REPAIRS? LET THE CPN HOUSING DEPARTMENT ASSIST YOU THROUGH THE ELDER/DISABLED REPAIR PROGRAM



The program offers assistance with a handicap accessibility (ramps, rails, extension of doors), roof repair/replacement, electrical issues, plumbing issues, leveling and foundation work, windows, and central heat & air.

Repairs we do NOT assist with are weatherization, appliances and updates such as new cabinets, new carpet and new flooring.

APPLICANTS MUST MEET EACH REQUIREMENT

- 1 Homeowner must be a member of a federally recognized tribe. (CPN tribal members are given preference)
- 2 Homeowner must live within our CPN tribal jurisdiction (south of the North Canadian River and north of the South Canadian River, east of the Post Road in OKC, and west of NS 3500 Road that runs north and south).
- 3 Homeowner must be 60 years of age or older and/or a **disabled tribal member age 55 or older as defined by the ADA.**
- 4 Total household annual income **must not** be greater than the 80 percent national income limit for their household size. (visit cpn.news/ihbg)
- 5 Homeowner must have current homeowners insurance with taxes paid up-to-date.
- 6 Must be the homeowner's primary residence with **NO** reverse mortgage.
- 7 Must be **NO convicted felonies for the homeowner and their household members.**
- 8 Homeowner must be aware of a **possible mortgage** placed on their home (six (6) months if the rehabilitation is between \$2,000-\$4,999 or five (5) years if the rehabilitation is \$5,000 or more). **If less than \$2,000, there will be NO MORTGAGE. NO** payments are due unless the homeowner sells or transfers the title of the home during the length of the mortgage. At that point, the homeowner is required to pay back the entire cost of the rehabilitation. Throughout the mortgage, **no** additional repairs are allowed. Once the mortgage has been completed, it will be released and the total amount forgiven.
- 9 Homeowner must complete an application and supply the supporting documents for **EACH** household member.

IF YOU MEET EACH REQUIREMENT LISTED ABOVE AND/OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ELDER/DISABLED REPAIR PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT TIA STEWART, DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT FOR THE CPN HOUSING DEPARTMENT AT 405-273-2833.

Customer Care Manager Kay Bruce sees ‘no boundaries’ for FireLake Discount Foods

FireLake Discount Foods Customer Care Manager Kay Bruce thrives on the store’s fast pace. Watching her work, she fills a request for a local school, helps two employees, places a special order and checks someone out in seven minutes.

“It’s not a repetitive day. There are some things you do, but with the different situations that come to you, everything’s different,” she said. “I love challenges. I love staying busy.”

Bruce’s experience in the grocery business spans four decades. She started as a part-time cashier, and since then, she stocked shelves, acted as assistant manager, ran the front end and bagged purchases at four different establishments. She began working for FDF 16 years ago, and it is her favorite.

“With this store, the sky’s the limit. It’s like progress is coming, and that’s what makes it so challenging, interesting,” Bruce said. “You want to learn more, know more and do more because it’s growing. It’s like it has no boundaries.”

Her face lights up when she talks about taking the business to the next level and watching her employees learn new skills. Others call her “Super Woman” and respect her dedication and contributions; she sets the positive, customer-oriented mood by example every day. However, she would much rather talk about the kindness the baggers show the elderly or how upper management provides a comfortable space for everyone to thrive.

“I don’t think of it as work,” Bruce said. “I think of it as just coming and making sure everything is taken care of, people are taken care of.”

Customer service

FireLake Discount Foods’ slogan is “passionately committed to retail excellence one customer at a time.”

“We say it, we believe it, and we practice it,” Bruce said. “To me, that should



Customer care manager Kay Bruce continues into her sixteenth year serving shoppers at FireLake Discount Foods.

be an everyday thing; that should be effortless. Just do it because that’s what comes natural for us. Without customers, we wouldn’t be here.”

As she paces the front of the building, answering questions, she makes a point of greeting visitors as they walk through the door. “It’s just what I do,” she said.

Bruce knows many of the repeat shoppers’ names, and sometimes they stop to hug her at the front before they head off with their cart. Putting in the extra effort makes her an exceptional employee.

“We do things that I think some stores may not want to take the time to do, and we will follow up on things. We don’t just take it and sit it on a desk and leave it,” she said.

It creates loyalty and provides a memorable experience they pass on to others. Word-of-mouth is a powerful tool, according to Bruce.

“We will take a customer request, and we will try to do the best we can to get that item, if possible,” she said. “You wouldn’t believe how people are so happy when you will go that extra mile for them to try to get something.”

However, the importance of excellent service also lies in human interaction — like providing a bright spot in someone’s day in something as simple as a grocery trip.

“It’s just that personal contact that I think people need because there may be lonely people that come shopping, and we may be their only person that they get to talk to that day. And if we can make their day, so be it. We’ll do it,” she said with a smile.

FireLake family

“I consider this like a second family,” Bruce said. “It’s a FireLake family.”

She calls herself a “working manager” and sacks, collects carts and rings

up consumers like the 70 employees she oversees. She knows all of their names and does not ask them to do anything she would not do.

“I’ve been there, done that, and I feel like we work alongside each other,” she said. “Yes, they are my employees, but I’ll do anything for them in my ability.”

Throughout the last decade and a half, she watched many staff members come and go. For some, FireLake was their first job, while others used their experience as a steppingstone in their career. Bruce’s position allows her to see teenagers grow into professionals, parents and much more.

“They come back, and they see me. ... I think, ‘Oh, look what they turned out to be,’” Bruce said. “It’s so awesome just to have a part of that path that they’re following. So that just makes you feel good.”

Everyone in the store calls her “Miss Kay,” including some employees’ parents she visits with on occasion.

Bruce checks on the employees in difficult situations or with health problems, always lending a helping hand or attempting to make the workplace as amendable as possible. She relies on them and knows they make her job possible.

As both a manager and customer service representative, Bruce keeps others at the forefront of her mind. She believes FireLake does the same as an employer and retail establishment.

“That’s why I like working here because they actually care, and you can tell they care,” she said. “And that means a lot to people.”

Find out more about FireLake Discount Foods and shop online at firelakefoods.com. FireLake is also on Facebook @discountfoods. ♡

Veterans report



Bozho
(Hello),

I’m going to start off with a personal note. My oldest son, who is a CPN veteran, suffered a mosquito bite the other day and has contracted West Nile virus from it. He is recovering, but it will take months or more for a complete recovery. It just shows you how important it is to take precautions during the mosquito season. If this can happen in my family, it can happen in anyone’s.

You can take some measures to protect yourself from mosquito bites. First of all, limit exposure to mosquitoes so that they have no chance to bite you. This sounds like good advice, but most of us do not have this option.

According to the website healthtopquestions.com, you can use some insect repellent products. Also, you can use protective clothing and gear. You can wear:

- Long sleeves
- Socks and closed-toe shoes
- Long pants, possibly tucked into the tops of your socks
- Light colors
- A hat that protects your ears and neck or one with mosquito netting that covers your face

You can also grow some mosquito repellent plants in your garden. What’s more, clean your house and yard. For example, eliminate standing water, which mosquitoes need to breed.

Another effective way to control the mosquitoes around you is with mosquito repellent plants. Here are 12 plants that can help with reducing the mosquitoes that are bothering you: lavender, marigolds, citronella grass, catnip, rosemary, basil, scented geraniums, bee balm, mint, floss flower, sage and allium (these include garlic and onions).

Remember, the CPN Veterans Organization meets every month on the 4th Tuesday at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN and spouse veterans and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.

Miguetch
(Thank you),

Daryl Talbot, Commander
talbotok@sbcglobal.net
405-275-1054

CPN VA Representative:
Andrew Whitham

CPN Office Hours: 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

918-397-2566 ♡

Floral influence in regalia spans time and personalities

Regalia crafted by either its wearer or someone close to them expresses Potawatomi culture, history and tradition as well as that individual's personality. People often pick colors and patterns with special meaning to create a theme that encompasses all of the pieces of their regalia.

In particular, floral patterns have remained a prominent style for hundreds of years. However, as with any clothing or ornamental dress, time influences characteristics and ideas of fashion.

History

Citizen Potawatomi Nation people originated in the Great Lakes region as part of the larger *Nishnabe* society. They held a deep connection with *Sekmekwé* (Mother Earth) and constant consideration for the plant and animal life. The reverence and adoration for the beauty around them shows itself in their ceremonial clothing.

CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Dr. Kelli Mosteller asserted that more often than not, inspiration came from the artist's surroundings.

"It makes sense that woodland peoples do incorporate a lot of floral patterns," she said. "Sometimes being able to obviously tell what the flower is, if it's the maple leaf or the oak leaf or whatever it may be, and then other times just a more stylized floral pattern that incorporates not just the designs but also some of the colors that you would see in a forest setting in a heavily wooded area with a lot of water access."

In addition to maple and oak leaves, Potawatomi also draw inspiration from tulips, water lilies and berries — both the fruit and the plant that produces it.

"When you see the vining floral pieces, you'll have the vine that kind of runs through the design with a few key floral pieces in there," Mosteller said. "And then, there are often those little round dots



Artist Laura Hewuse's beading style aims to make her floral patterns as realistic as possible.

that are meant to signify the berries. That would also be part of the environment."

Tribal member Stephanie Hawk does applique beading and creates jewelry pieces. Some of her favorite patterns include berries and woodland inspirations: strawberry earrings, daisy-style applique pieces for bags and more.

"If you look back at some of the old Potawatomi styles in the northern traditional styles, I just really like those a lot," she said.

Adaptation

The modern-day association of floral patterns with women's regalia developed over the last century. Looking through archive photos, many men wore pieces covered in them — bandolier, bags, vests, breechcloths and more.

"Say you sit down and look at 100 images of Native design pieces," Mosteller said. "The vast majority that you see that are going to be of woodland culture are probably going to have some of that floral element to it."

After forced relocation from the Great Lakes, new artistic inspiration came with the change in surroundings. Many Citizen Potawatomi are now from Oklahoma, which plays a role in designing their pieces. Calico fabrics are often floral, and Tribal members started to make clothing and regalia out of the lighter, cotton cloth in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

"That was what was available. It was what made sense for this climate," Mosteller said. "So actually, having the calico floral in your regalia is something that

you see a lot among Potawatomi people today who are trying to really make regalia that expresses their personality."

As CPN members reconnected with Tribal traditions and their Native heritage in the 1970s and '80s, the violet pattern became popular as people learned to bead and began creating regalia. It remains common. Mosteller's ribbon shirt, skirt and shawl combine the violet pattern with fuchsias and greens that represent Oklahoma's state tree, the redbud.

"I really love being able to see the redbud starting to bloom because that signifies for me that we probably are not going to have any more freezes and that it's really moving into this warmer weather where I just function better," she said. "It's always one of those things that I highly anticipate seeing and I look forward to. So when I was choosing my colors, that's what spoke to me."

Personality

Expressing an individual's personality through their regalia makes each piece unique, despite the overlap in patterns and colors. CPN tribal member and Bourassa, Curley and Pappan descendant Laura Hewuse enjoys bringing plants to life in her creations.

"Each one is special because they're designed around the person who wears it," she said. "I get my inspirations by talking with the individual and asking about they're family patterns, favorite colors, flowers and more — beading those elements into the art."

While Hewuse makes her depictions as realistic as possible, other people

make combinations of colors and flora that only exist in their imagination.

"It is allowing yourself to choose colors that speak to you and put those with patterns that you would see in traditional pieces, and sometimes that means you end up with a white berry and a yellow berry. And it's equally as beautiful," Mosteller said. "I've seen belts and vests and things with maple leaves that are purple. At some point, it's not about the realism."

Hawk considers many different colors and designs when preparing for a new project. She often fades blues from dark to light throughout a piece and uses fire colors. Bright hues signify her style.

"I see different things in the powwow arena ... and I'm like, 'I think I could do something,'" she said. "It's like inspiration; I'm not copying their design, but I want to pull out different aspects from different new styles and old styles and try to blend them together."

However, creating a personal style and learning to bead or stitch takes time.

"Do your research, ask your questions, check out books, you know. Just take that time, but then, come up with something that is yours," Mosteller said.

"When you're trying to dress up and show your best, we do it through our clothing."

The Citizen Potawatomi Gift Shop located inside the CPN Cultural Heritage Center sells regalia pieces and accessories as well as craft items. Visit giftshop.potawatomi.org. 🔥

Language October 2019 Update

By Justin Neely,
CPN Language Director

We have a few new additions in the language department. These include the expansion of our East Child Development Center and West Child Development Center classes as well as additional kids in the afterschool program. Additionally, more Oklahoma high schools now offering Potawatomi for language credit made it necessary to hire a couple of new employees.

We have added Ragan Marsee, a Tribal member and descendant of the Higbee family and Shelby Hobia, a Tribal member and descendant of the Curley family. We also added Robert Collins, a member of the DeLona's family, as a replacement for a staff member we lost. We appreciate these new staff members and their hard work. They have already jumped in feet first and are working hard to learn our language, so they can assist with the teaching of the language.

This school year, we have expanded our online high school course. Currently, it is available anywhere in the state of Oklahoma for world language credit,

which counts toward graduation. We have taught the course the last two years in Wanette, Oklahoma. We also offered a variation of the course at St. Gregory's University until its unfortunate closure. This year, we have added Tecumseh High School and are working also with Shawnee Public Schools to add the course. If you have a student who goes to school in Oklahoma, let your administration know this is available at no cost to the district. The district just needs a place the kids can get on the internet, a teacher who can sit with the kids and contact with us to help them set it up. My email address is jneely@potawatomi.org.

Our new, online searchable dictionary is up and running. We are constantly updating and making improvements to the dictionary. It has over 8,500 words with about 4,000 sound files. We have been working on adding scientific terms to the various plants as well as other audio files, new content and images. It's a big project, and we appreciate the Nation's IT programmers who built the program from scratch. It's quite an awesome tool.

Speaking of awesome tools, if you haven't tried one of our various options for

learning the Potawatomi language online, you are really missing out. We have three different courses on memrise.com. We have an online course at language.potawatomi.org, and we also have two different YouTube channels. We also have a Facebook group, Potawatomi Language, with about 3,600 folks on it where we also share materials and videos as well as host live classes.

New on-sight classes are starting Oct. 3rd at the Cultural Heritage Center from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every Thursday.

Remember to use what you learn.

For some fun phrases to use and to hear the following words, visit potawatomidictionary.com.

Nasena! (Nah suh nah) — Be careful!

Dokem! (Doe kum) — Be quiet!

Nizanzet. (Nee zan zit) — It's dangerous.

Nekshe ibe. (Nuck shay ee buh) — Look over there.

Kyenep! (Kay nup) — Hurry!

Dokin! (Doe keen) — Wake up!

Dokeek! (Doe keek) — Everyone wake up!

Wisnen. (Wees nin) — Eat.

Wisnek. (Wees nuck) — Everyone eat.

Dadokmeben. (Dah doke muh bin) — Behave.

Dadokmebek. (Dah doke muh buck) — Everyone behave.

Ni je ezhebek? (Nee juh ezh eh way buck) — What happened?

Nishokmeshen. (Neeshe oke meh shin) — Help me.

Mishen I. (Mee shin ee) — Give me that.

Migwetch. (Mee gwetch) — Thanks.

Igwien. (Eeg wee in) — Thanks (heartfelt).

Byan shode. (Bee yawn show duh) — Come here.

Byak shode. (Bee yahk show duh) — Everyone come here.

Wijeweshen. (Wee juh way shin) — Come with me. 🔥

What to know about Fostering and adopting Potawatomi children

By Kendra Lowden
Foster Care/Adoption Manager

Many questions surface when families think about fostering or adopting Potawatomi children. We answered some of the questions we are frequently asked by prospective families. Although each and every situation is unique in child welfare, there is some basic information you can use to guide you through the process of deciding to open your home to children in need. For more information, contact FireLodge Children & Family Services at 405-878-4831.

What is foster care?

Foster care is the temporary placement of children and youth with families outside of their own home due to child abuse or neglect. The goal is to provide a safe, stable and nurturing environment.

What is the difference between private adoption and adoption through foster care?

Private adoption is when birth parents voluntarily place their child for adoption with a family of their choice. Children available for adoption through foster care are typically placed into care involuntarily with the goal of reunification with the family. Typically, the relative or non-related foster family will adopt the children when they become legally free.



What assistance is available to adoptive families?

Adoption assistance exists to remove the financial and other barriers that may prevent a family from adopting from foster care. Services available for adopted

children may include daycare assistance, medical assistance, monthly maintenance payments and adoption attorney fees.

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

Our department offers individualized support and training for foster families. Our team is comprised of experienced child welfare advocates focused on providing excellent customer service and emotional support to the families we serve.

Can I adopt a Potawatomi foster child?

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

Will I have to work with the child's parent?

Yes, you should expect to work with the child's birth parent in most cases. Children in foster care have a more positive experience if their birth parents and foster parents work together to ensure the children feel loved and comfortable in their out-of-home placement.

Is there a need for foster parents for sibling sets?

Yes, most children placed into foster care are part of a sibling set. It is vital they are placed together to ensure the sibling relationships are intact and healthy. ♡

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Tribal member Reece now leading CPCDC marketing mission

Amidst more than three dozen Citizen Potawatomi Nation commercial enterprises and governmental programs are hundreds of Tribal members who work for their Nation. Amongst those are team members such as the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation's TaRena Reece, a marketing and facilities manager who has a diverse set of professional experiences under her belt prior to working for the CPCDC.

Staying close to home

Reece has a unique background compared to many fellow Citizen Potawatomi; she was born on the Nation's property in the old Mission Hill Hospital. Her father's Potawatomi ancestors — from the Navarre-Melot families — are from the Wanette area. Reece grew up in Tecumseh, never far from the place where she was born.

Like many, Reece's family knew they were descendants of Potawatomi, but they were far removed from what some could describe as a "traditional" upbringing. She was enrolled as a Tribal citizen at the age of 7 or 8, when her mother also enrolled her younger sister.

"I grew up knowing I was Native," Reece said. "But I didn't learn a lot about my heritage until my late teen, early adult years. That's when my sister and I started asking a lot of questions."

Reece credits her first job, working with current CPN Workforce Development & Social Services Director Carol Clay-Levi, as the main opportunity to learn about her Potawatomi heritage. Enrolled in a program at the then-named employment and training department, Reece used the experience to prepare for nursing school as an opportunity to learn more about her Tribe.

After graduating from Oak Grove Christian Academy in 1995, Reece enrolled at Oklahoma Baptist University.

"Having come from a small private school, I had some catch up to do in learning from a lecture setting model. I was too young to attend state schools after graduating high school, so it was a learning curve at OBU," she said.

She eventually transferred to Seminole State College, where she prepared to be a nurse. While she enjoyed her time there, family circumstances required she move to Florida as her parents took charge of a church there. Three weeks shy of completing the semester, she withdrew from school and the nursing program.

"Life happens," Reece said.

After six months, the family moved back to Oklahoma and she found herself wanting to serve others.

"I'm a people helper," Reece said of her desire to enter the medical field. "I was a science nerd, and while



The CPCDC's TaRena Reece is an example of a Citizen Potawatomi who worked her way up at the Nation through a wide range of career paths.

nursing didn't end up being a path I took, I started doing massage."

Starting massage school in 2001, she worked in the sector for almost five years.

"I loved what I did — absolutely loved it," Reece said. "I had a thriving practice; I enjoyed helping people; and I was still in health care. But my hands started to break down."

She specialized in deep tissue massages, which can result in extreme physical demands on the therapist. A combination of her intensive work habits and the strain from offering the best service possible shortened her career.

"I didn't know how to slow down. You know, people would come in, and they're paying good money. I wanted to provide them good services and not make them come back for 20 trips," she said.

Having to leave the field for her own health, Reece took on a job with the Nation. Not fully sure of what career paths were out there, she ended up in the formerly named CPN Employment and Training as a receptionist.

"There were some challenging people and situations that came in the door I had to deal with as the receptionist," she said. "But it was always busy, and it was working towards a mission where we were helping people."

Reece credits her ability to find new jobs that focus on helping those in need with a trait she got from her grandmother. Reece tells of a funeral during the winter when her grandmother noticed another attendee did not have a coat on despite the frigid temperatures outside.

"Grandma gave her sweater to the lady and then turned to me and asked that I give my coat to the

lady's little girl. Grandma was always helping people, even if she went without. I'm just a people helper, that's where I learned it from."

Reece eventually married and had a child, and she took time away to be a stay-at-home mom. Having a little one is not easy, but Reece and her husband had been foster parents for children since early in their marriage. Describing it as one of the toughest assignments she ever undertook, Reece admitted the challenges also allowed them to help those children at some of the most vulnerable times in their lives.

A back injury left her husband unable to work for a time, so Reece returned to CPN and accepted a position at FireLake Discount Foods as a cashier.

"We needed an income, and living off the system isn't any fun," she said. "I was at the store over a year, and it was actually a very good experience. They were really good with my schedule having a young son, and as an introvert, it helped me get out of my shell and have constant conversations with customers."

CPCDC

She transitioned that customer service experience into a position as a receptionist at the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation. Every office has a staff member who, likely more than they know, is the glue that helps hold together the day-to-day tasks while allowing the rest of the staff to focus on their core missions. Reece started by answering phones and quickly began to fulfill many administrative duties. She became a mainstay in the office and of its mission.

At the encouragement of her colleagues, she began assisting on marketing and communications work. CEO Shane Jett encouraged her as a Tribal member to consider going back to school to finish her degree.

Reece took advantage of CPN's full-tuition scholarship at St. Gregory's University. In 2016, she was amongst the first four CPN graduates to utilize it, completing her bachelor's degree in business before the college closed in 2017.

Her current career is different from what she thought it would be when she first stepped on campus at OBU, the skills and interests she has in telling stories are nothing new.

"I've been playing with words since I was young," she said. "Writing songs, writing poetry, writing short stories ... words are fascinating to me."

Reece put those skills to work at the CPCDC. Today she maintains the informational side of the organization's website at cpcdc.org and writes marketing pieces featuring Native American-owned businesses who use the CPCDC

for commercial lending. However, her forays into online marketing are not her first experience exploring the sector.

Coming from a smaller denomination — Pentecostal Holiness — Reece described a problem-solving tactic she undertook during her college years.

"In our church circles, 20 years ago, people got married a lot younger than they do today," Reece said. "I wasn't married, and I began to notice this social gap where once you and your friends were as thick as glue, but they marry and suddenly move on to other things."

Reece learned some basic coding and design concepts, building a singles site for members of Pentecostal Holiness community. It was just her, a PC, and a lot of starts and stops, or as she described it, "just nerding out in front of a computer until I got it right."

"It never became very big, but it accomplished its goal of bringing an awareness to the singles community in our churches that we never really had before," Reece said. "It was really more for friend making than matchmaking because there was this gap where singles got left out and my goal was to bridge that gap."

It is the skills learned during this experience that Reece used redesigning the CPCDC's website.

"I never dreamed I would ever use my experience with that project for something so important for a program which helps so many people," she said.

Her initiative and acceptance for challenges have come to fruition for Reece, who today is the CPCDC's marketing and facilities manager. In addition to the day-to-day upkeep of their new office along S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Reece organizes and produces the Oklahoma Indian Nations Directory. A legacy project from CEO Shane Jett's time in the Oklahoma Legislature, Reece updates it and helps produce the bi-annual book listing all the information about Oklahoma's 39 tribal nations, including elected tribal government officials, state and county officials and much more.

The CPCDC finances, promotes, educates, and inspires the entrepreneurial growth, economic opportunity, and financial well-being of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Community and other under-served Native populations. Serving Native-owned businesses nationwide, the organization provides a wide variety of services including commercial lending, business development and financial awareness education. To learn more visit cpcdc.org or call 405-878-4697. ♡

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2019

Written with the help of CPN's community garden *Gtegemem* (We Grow It) assistant Kaya DeerInWater. Facebook group: *Gtegemem*:CPN Community Garden — Email: chcgarden@potawatomi.org

fall harvesting guide

Bodewadmi Widoktadwen Gtegan (Potawatomi Community Garden) boasts bountiful harvests each season. During the fall, certain plants complete their growth cycles, providing sustenance and nourishment for the seasons to come.

“For everything that goes on in our bodies, there’s something that the land provides,” said CPN *Bodewadmi Widoktadwen Gtegan* assistant Kaya DeerInWater. “There’s something available to us to compliment that, to balance us out.”

Plants traditionally harvested in the fall have helped Potawatomi live through the cold winter months for a millennium. The natural medicines keep metabolisms in order and help fight the flu and other sicknesses brought by frigid conditions.

four sisters



Walpole flour corn

Walpole white flour corn brings structure to the Three Sisters (corn, beans and squash) area of the garden.

Harvested in the fall, it provides necessary carbohydrates to live through the cold. A food preparation process, called nixtamalization, uses wood ash to make certain varieties of corn more digestible and increases protein bioavailability. It produces hominy for the winter.



beans

The garden's six types of beans provide an abundance of protein, and their roots help convert nitrogen from the air into soil nutrients for the corn and squash. Depending on when picked, some enjoy eating green lima beans or drying them for soups. The larger, “meaty” bear paw beans make a hearty side dish, and tiny cornfield beans grow on cornstalks without straining them.



squash

The garden's two types of squash provide vitamin A and C, fiber and carbs as well as essential amino acids corn and beans do not. Their prickly stems protect the garden from animals and critters, while the leaves create shade to keep the ground moist. The green-striped cushaw squash is bug-resistant and extremely resilient, and the *geteskwesmen* squash dates back centuries.



Seneca sunflower

The Seneca giant sunflower is a welcome addition to the Three Sisters section of the garden. It solidifies the plants' combined architecture and provides shade. Their large, spikey leaves act as barriers to foraging animals and insects while their flowers attract essential pollinators. Edible from root to petal, they also fill in as extra healthy fats otherwise lacking in the Three Sisters.

spices, sweets and teas



sumac and sassafras

Dried and ground sumac berries make a tangy spice particularly delicious on a roast. Boiled down into a tea, they supply plenty of vitamin A and C as well as other antioxidants. Sassafras gave original root beer its signature flavor, and makes elderberry or blackberry cough syrup more palatable when added. Its leaves act as an antibiotic when rubbed on wounds as well.



rosehips

An extremely versatile fruit of the rose plant, rosehips ripen from late summer through the fall. Rich in vitamin C, Potawatomi consider it an immune booster and make rosehip tea during the colder months and flu season. Its beneficial compounds' natural construction make it more bioavailable and useable by the body than manufactured supplements.



hawthorne

People worldwide have used hawthorne berries' medicinal purposes for centuries, especially its antioxidants. Hawthorne's heart-healthy properties may help reduce blood pressure. Tangy and a little sweet, the berries make a tasty syrup when paired with sugar or maple syrup after boiling.



persimmons

Harvesting both of these fruits is time-sensitive. Paw paws ripen from late August to early September; however, they do not continue to ripen after picked. Collect persimmons after the fall's first frost to ensure a full flavor. Their sweetness makes craveable baked goods, especially bread puddings and custards, as well as delicious toppings and sorbets.

fall and winter dishes



pond lily fritters

The roots of the American white water-lily make a good potato substitute. Their rhizomes grow in the muck of a pond and depend on the water. The leaves and seeds are also edible. To make fritters, use acorns as a binder much like flour and some type of ground meat — squirrel, rabbit or even beef. Then, fry them in sunflower oil.



grape dumplings

Possum grapes grow throughout the eastern half of the U.S., known for their smaller size, tart flavor and thick skin. To make a reduction for possum grape dumplings, mash them into a syrup, strain them, add sugar and cook it on the stove, stirring frequently. Make dough balls to pair with the reduction to complete the sweet treat.



curly dock

This common garden weed and member of the buckwheat family matures in heaps. Fall is its second growing season, ending as the weather frosts. Prepare the greens by boiling them twice to reduce acetic acid. Then, saute them with wild onion bulbs, maple vinegar and bacon for a rich, nutritious meal.



soup

A hickory, walnut and pecan soup matches both historic and modern diets. Nuts provide healthy fat, and Potawatomi pick and eat them in the fall and as a winter staple. Acorn porridge is also a key dish for Potawatomi. For a simple nut soup, make the base with nuts ground down and boiled in water with added walnut oil or acorn flour for thickness.

This is in no way a complete guide on the plants featured, which were chosen with Oklahoma's harvesting periods and environment in mind. Please research before growing, collecting, cooking or using these items, and be aware of pesticides usage.

Traces of “Mexican Pottawatomie” in 19th century Texas battle

Members of the Kickapoo and Potawatomi tribes lived near one another in the days of pre-colonial settlements in the Great Lakes region. Those connections continued through the removal period, with both peoples removed to separate states before landing in both Kansas and Indian Territory.

Even today, the descendants of the two peoples continue living close to one another. The headquarters of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma are only a few miles apart, both groups leaving Kansas in the decade after the Civil War while a few holdouts remained.

Another connection between the groups may also exist and hold the key to a curious 1863 Potawatomi census record denoting a particular set of enrollees as “Mexican Pottawatomies.”

Kickapoo Prophet

As the United States emerged as a distinct and unified nation under President George Washington, tribes along the northwestern frontier territories of the current-day Midwest faced collisions with white settlers.

A man named Kennekuk, known as the “Kickapoo Prophet” was believed to have been born near the present town of Danville, Illinois, in the 1790s. Amidst the encroachment of white settlers in the Kickapoos’ traditional homelands between Lake Erie and Lake Michigan, he built a reputation as a religious thinker and developed a unique philosophy for fellow tribal members.

The growth of religious and cultural philosophies across Indian Country to counter the losses experienced as a result of American Manifest Destiny was not unusual. The most well-known example is the uprising of the Shawnee prophet Tenskwatawa, who with his brother Tecumseh, led a major military campaign with members of numerous Indian nations against the U.S., before ultimately failing at the 1811 Battle of Tippecanoe.

A convert to Methodism and an ordained minister in the faith, Kennekuk’s approach mixed some western and traditional beliefs but eschewed Native Americans from educating their children in American schools. He bridged his viewpoints with a foundational principle in the abstinence of alcohol. His concepts drew nearby Potawatomi while still in Illinois, and those connections likely continued during the Kickapoos’ first removal to Missouri, and later, Kansas.

According to a report from Commissioner on Indian Affairs, the tribal leader ingratiated himself by treating the *Nishnabe* converts as equals, writing that “Kennekuk was determined that they should enjoy the same privileges as the Kickapoos. The Kickapoos and Pottawatomies (sic) signed an agreement in 1851 which allowed the sharing of annuities and spelt (sic) out arrangements for equal rights. The two groups intermarried and confused the bureaucrats who now worried about sorting them out for census purposes.”

Because of this, the government cut off annuity payments in 1847 to the Potawatomi who refused to rejoin their tribe’s reservation along the Kansas River. A Potawatomi headman named *Nozhakum* insisted upon remaining with the Kickapoos.

The relationships between the Potawatomi and Kickapoo continued during those times, both with those who lived with the Kickapoo and those in the Mission Band and Prairie Band. Kennekuk’s teachings also forbade selling their lands, instructing that it was a violation of the Great Spirit’s commands. This position likely drew support from Potawatomi who opposed the tactic of accepting U.S. citizenship and individual land holdings. Located near present-day Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, Kennekuk’s band, known as the Vermillion Kickapoo, successfully took up agriculture incentivized under the Treaty of Castor Hill.

The success of those agricultural operations and the group’s prime location as a Kansas waypoint for further American expansion to the West may have led to leadership disruptions. When Kennekuk died from smallpox in 1853, the presence of the Potawatomi likely exacerbated tensions. According to a George Schulz article in *Kansas History*, “It appears that Kennekuk intended *Wansuk*, a Pottawatomie (sic) to be his successor.” Another account by Joseph B. Herring noted that *Nozhakum* inherited the mantle of spiritual leadership after the Kickapoo Prophet’s death. In either case, the accounts demonstrate the enduring ties between the Potawatomi and their adopted group, despite the ties remaining with the other Potawatomi reservations in Kansas.

Like all the tribes in North America, the land assigned to the Vermillion Band came under increasing pressure from white encroachers in the decade before the U.S. Civil War. What was initially a reservation of 768,000 acres dwindled to 150,000 the year after Kennekuk’s



Kennekuk, known as “The Kickapoo Prophet,” led a group of his tribesmen and some Potawatomi converts during the early 1800s. (Photo courtesy of the Kansas Historical Society)

death, leading many of the Vermillion Band to coalesce in a small town named for their leader that was a way station along a route of the Pony Express. By 1862, the once vast Vermillion Kickapoo lands measured only 6 square miles.

Faced with increasing violence between pro and anti-slavery forces in Kansas, along with little help from federal authorities regarding dilution of their lands, a portion of the band resolved to move once again. Around 1862, they went south to Mexico where some of their brethren traveled in the 1830s after losing their original Missouri reservation along the Osage River. These Kickapoo and Potawatomi left Bleeding Kansas behind them, with former allotments and property still held in their names.

Mexican Pottawatomie

Under the leadership of a Kickapoo named Nokoah, the group was relocating south when they passed a small stream near present-day Mertzon, Texas. The group — likely confused with Comanches, the most prominent raiding tribe in Texas before the Civil War — was followed by a unit of Confederate forces and Texas militia.

The resulting engagement became known as the Battle of Dove Creek. Though the Kickapoo and Potawatomi group were peaceful, the Anglo forces mistook their advantage of surprise. In the initial assault on the Indian camp, a frontal assault resulted in the deaths of three officers and 16 enlisted soldiers. According to Nokoah’s

telling in the years after the fight, around 15 from his group perished.

It was a lopsided defeat for the combined Confederate and Texas militia forces, which likely facilitated another decade of cross-border recrimination from the Kickapoo and Potawatomi group once they settled in Mexico.

However, despite their absence, these members were noted as Citizen Potawatomi landholders in the 1867 treaty. Other members took their land holdings via court order. In charge of chasing down those who might have been part of the Mexican-based group was Citizen Potawatomi leader Joseph Napoleon Bourassa.

Bourassa served as a translator, business committee member and treaty signer throughout Tribal affairs in Kansas. He was a prominent player in the Tribe’s history during that era, and it was under his direction that the Potawatomi sought to find out who perished during the battle at Dove Creek.

Correspondence with an officer whose soldiers took part in battle shows Bourassa attempted to track down any casualties inadvertently listed as Kickapoos.

In September 1866, Bourassa, identified as an interpreter for the Topeka Agency, wrote to Colonel John B. Barry, an officer involved in a later engagement following the battle.

“About two years ago, a party of our people went South, or towards Mexico with a party of Kickapoos. And I heard they had a big fight with the Texans (sic), and killed about 60 or 70 of them; though I learned, they fought on the defensive, at that time — And I am informed, that, they came back to Texas, to take revenge of that fight, and they all got killed ... I am the United States Interpreter, and a relative of some, that, are reported to have been killed. It will be a great relief to us to learn the particulars...”

He was, in all likelihood, chasing down the leads of Potawatomi who were listed on the 1863 allotment roll as “Mexican Pottawatomies” (sic). According to Fr. Joseph Murphy’s *Potawatomi of the West: Origins of the Citizen Band*, “These were Indians who, along with elements of the Prairie Band, went off to Mexico with the Kickapoos. The Sac and Fox Agency records, Indian Territory, make it clear that some of these later joined the Citizen Band on the Oklahoma Potawatomi reservation.” ♣

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Dittberner assists police department with new K-9 officers

The following article was written for Leisure World News Magazine in Arizona about CPN Tribal Member Peggy Dittberner. It has been lightly edited and reprinted here with permission from the authors.



Peggy Dittberner with her plaque from the Bismarck Police Department. (Photo provided)

They wanted a new K-9, and Leisure World resident Peggy Dittberner delivered. Peggy, a resident since 1999, is a longtime volunteer of the Bismarck (North Dakota) Police Department. In 2017, after discovering the department needed more dogs, she jumped into action.

“They lost two dogs last year, quite unexpectedly, and they didn’t have the money in the budget to replace them, so I donated \$10,000 for them to buy a new dog,” Peggy said.

“They were elated! Tanner Hersch—the officer who was chosen to receive him—was so appreciative and happy. I’m very fortunate to be able to do this. Now, I have a grand-dog.”

The Gift of Titan

Peggy’s relationship with the police department began several years ago when fellow resident Duane Dehne invited her to Bismarck to beat the heat. Peggy wanted something to do that would benefit both people and animals. The police department was a perfect fit because they use K-9s.

“This is from the heart, the giving from an individual that truly sees a need,” said then-Bismarck Police Chief Dan Donlin. “She could sit there and say,

‘It’s the city’s problem.’ But instead, she focused on providing a solution.”

Peggy gave her donation in January 2018, and the puppy arrived in the United States on May 1, 2018, from Hungary. He’s a beautiful black Dutch Shepherd named Titan. But before he could join the force, Titan—along with Tanner—needed training. For Titan, it was how to be a police dog, and Tanner had to learn how to work with his new partner.

They duo returned to Bismarck the first week of August 2018. Several weeks later, Titan joined Tanner on a police call. They have been inseparable ever since.

A big heart

With a love for animals, Peggy offers her financial support and time to other organizations. While in Bismarck, she organizes special events and works the pancake feed at the Dakota Zoo. She also supports the Best Friends

Animal Society in Kanab, Utah, where every animal is adopted or kept and given the best life possible.

“Best Friends Animal Society is special because they’re a no-kill organization,” Peggy said. “They go anywhere in the country where animals are impacted by hurricanes, fires, or other disasters or are abandoned. They do wonderful things for all domestic animals, not just dogs.”

Peggy loves all animals, but dogs have a special place in her heart. Locally, Peggy provides financial assistance to a rescue organization in Tempe, Arizona, called Lost Our Home Pet Rescue. They help homeless and abandoned pets. But unlike other rescues, they give pet care to people struggling with illness and financial problems.

“Dogs are wonderful,” Peggy said. “And they do so much to help people in the community, such as providing comfort to veterans, disabled people and those suffering from mental health issues.

“I grew up having dogs, but I don’t have one now because I’m so busy. But I’ve dog sat and walked dogs for people at Leisure World, so I get my dog fix that way!”

When Peggy wants to relax and have fun, she plays tennis — a major part of her life since she learned the game several years ago. She was also instrumental in helping the tennis club get a new court, which has her name on it in honor of her \$25,000 donation.

Then there’s her hats.

“They call me the hat lady,” Peggy said and laughed. “I’ve always loved hats. I started my business, Posh Hats, seven years ago. I make 35 hats a year for art and craft fairs. All the proceeds go to Best Friends Animal Society.”

A Passion for Education

Peggy was born and raised in St. Marys, Kansas. She earned her bachelor’s in elementary education at Emporia State University in Kansas. After graduating, she accepted a teaching job in Tucson and earned her masters’ degrees in education and library science from the University of Arizona.

Peggy’s passion for giving people the tools they need to succeed motivates her. During her 34 years in education, she set up libraries in communities around Topeka, Kansas.

“I think libraries are important because sitting down with a child and reading a good book is the best thing you can do to help them learn,” Peggy said. “It’s a lifelong gift.”

Peggy also worked in Tucson for five years as a K-6 teacher and a library media specialist. In 1984, she moved to Mesa where she piloted the first online library.

Although Peggy retired in 2001, she still finds ways to make a difference — as is seen with her numerous endeavors. Her desire to help others and animals everywhere is inspiring. We thank her for her service and making the world a better place. ♡

Youth literacy partnership between Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Pioneer Library System

The days of *Highlights* magazines in the waiting rooms of pediatricians may be long gone. In their stead, several departments at Citizen Potawatomi Nation are partnering with the Pioneer Library System to provide educational reading materials to children visiting select Tribal facilities.

In mid-September, staff from the Pioneer Library System unloaded approximately 1,500 children’s books for youth visiting the CPN Women, Infants and Children office and healthcare facilities.

“This donation is a celebration of our Summer Learning Challenge success,” Pioneer Library System’s Peggy Cook said. “We value the good work that CPN does in providing health services to families with young children, and with education issues. We appreciate the strength of the Nation as a partner, and appreciate that they are interested in helping promote literacy and building pre-school learning skills for young children. And, we’re excited to share free books with young children.”

The books were provided as part of a Pioneer Library System Foundation grant that promotes reading and early childhood education. In addition to the PLSE, the books come from outside donors like the Oklahoma Electric

Cooperative Foundation and Cynthia Cooper. They are intended for children as old as 4 who visit the CPN WIC office and CPN health clinics in Pottawatomie County. Additional non-CPN locations including clinics in McLain and Cleveland Counties also received books.

Cook reached out to CPN Tribal Vice-Chairman Linda Capps and CPN Education Department Director Tesia Zientek to inquire of the Tribe’s interest in being a distributor.

“In Pottawatomie County, the library already has a relationship with the county health department and is already distributing a free health book through an Avedis funded grant, so we were interested in the opportunity to reach more children and share more books with more young children across the county,” Cook said.

Vice-Chairman Capps coordinated with CPN Health Services the and CPN Department of Education to find a way to distribute the donations to youth visiting Tribal properties such as both CPN health clinics, the CPN WIC office and both child development centers.

“I think it’s extremely important to have these books available for children



CPN WIC and health facilities provide children’s books to all patients and visitors under the age of 4 thanks to a large donation by the Pioneer Library Foundation.

who are visiting our health clinics and WIC office,” Zientek said. “We know being exposed to books helps students get a good head start in life, so the earlier they can do that, the better.”

Zientek estimates that the current donation will supply books for the next year. After the early-September delivery, the Tribe immediately began

distributing the books. Workers will hand one out when they encounter a client or patient with a young child. Some non-CPN facilities are receiving some as well, including the health departments in McLain and Cleveland Counties with approximately 2,200 and 350 books, respectively. ♡

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CHC partners with National Park Service helps provide a Native voice in new project

“Remember the Raisin” became a rallying cry for the United States at the Battle of Frenchtown, also referred to as the Battle of River Raisin, in January of 1813. However, history often glosses over Native American influence in the War of 1812 surrounding Frenchtown near present-day Monroe, Michigan.

Knowing this, leaders at the River Raisin National Battlefield Park reached out to Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center staff when they began planning a documentary about the battle. CHC Director Dr. Kelli Mosteller and Curator Blake Norton began collaborating with National Park Service employees, NPS board members, tribes and others on creating a narrative for the video set for release within the next two years.

“They wanted the film to appeal to various audiences by telling the story in a correct way. That’s why we wanted to sign onto it,” Norton said.

Before becoming an official NPS park in 2009, the National Register of Historic Places recognized portions of the original Frenchtown battlefield as a historic landmark. Today, the River Raisin National Battlefield Park remains NPS’ only commemoration of the War of 1812.

“The film intends to provide a holistic look at the battle and correct misconceptions surrounding it that are very similar to the Battle of Fort Dearborn — this can only be done by understanding the perspectives of the tribes involved,” Norton said.

Battles of Frenchtown

As the end of 1812 approached, the English, Potawatomi and other Native allies began employing their final push in the war. Although the British and Native allies lost the initial Battle of Frenchtown on Jan. 18, 1813, they reconvened and launched a surprise attack on the American soldiers.

“With the recapture of Frenchtown in the Second Battle of the River Raisin, many Americans were taken prisoner and marched north to be ransomed. Those with wounds too

severe were left at Frenchtown and killed by Native forces,” Norton said.

The Native alliance moved into Frenchtown and captured the settlement on Jan. 22, 1813, despite the fact the parties agreed to surrender terms. Because of this, many still refer to this conflict as a massacre.

Norton and Dr. Mosteller see the project as an opportunity to educate those making the film about the Potawatomi involvement in the battle as well discuss how word choice can influence messaging.

“It’s just like if you look at the Battle of Fort Dearborn, why is it referred to as a massacre when the Indians win and the white are killed, but it’s a battle when the white folks win and the Indians are killed? It may just be a difference in terminology, but it shapes the way an event is remembered by the public,” Dr. Mosteller said.

Teamwork

“It’s like being able to step back in time and work with allied tribes as one unit — one force to achieve a common goal,” Norton said of the documentary project.

The CHC staff often receives calls about various projects including books, short stories, movies and more, but these requests are not always genuine. However, from the beginning, CHC staff knew that the approach from the NPS varied from prior experiences.

“They wanted our perspective on this period and Potawatomi involvement in the battle,” Norton said. “And of course, we did have to correct a few things. As always, many of our Potawatomi warriors were overshadowed, which provided a great opportunity to introduce Main Poc and the role he played. They were aware of him; they just weren’t objectively capturing who he truly was and his impact during this period.”

Potawatomi Chief Main Poc served as an integral leader during the War of 1812. Although he did not completely agree with Tecumseh and his brother, The Prophet’s, platform, Main Poc



Helping educate the public and tell the stories and history of the Potawatomi people serve as daily inspiration for CHC staff members Blake Norton and Dr. Kelli Mosteller.

encouraged the two Shawnee leaders to move from the Ohio area to his village in Indiana and established Prophetstown.

This project also gave a platform to explain and educate others on the differences between lived events, history and remembrances.

“History is shaping how you’re going to tell the story, where a remembrance is choosing to look at something that happened in the past and couch it in your interpretation that fits your agenda,” Dr. Mosteller said.

Battlefield sites and commemorative statues fall under a remembrance, Dr. Mosteller added, which makes the CHC’s involvement with the documentary’s development even more impactful — it offers an opportunity for the public to learn more than just one side of the story.

“They want their project to have legitimacy, and I think a lot of other organizations could take a note from them,” Dr. Mosteller said.

CHC staff had input on small and large aspects, including voice actors, narrative, imagery and more.

“Talk about inclusive; this was a very democratic process, and they were really good about it,” Dr. Mosteller said. “It wasn’t like if we didn’t reply about one aspect they didn’t include us in the next decision. They kept coming back and kept bringing us back into the fold and were really transparent about the process.”

For those who do not live near Tribal headquarters, visiting sites, like the River Raisin National Battlefield Park in Michigan, can help connect them to CPN’s history.

“To be able to look across the landscape and imagine it — having that resource there and available to them can drive it home in a way we may not have the opportunity down here because of removal,” she said.

Dr. Mosteller and Norton expect the documentary’s release within the next two years.

“It’s almost complete, but the editing process is going to be pretty extensive,” Dr. Mosteller said. “They want us to be included in post-production as well.”

Overall, CHC staff are excited and humbled by their experience working on the documentary.

“The project goes hand in hand with our mission at the CHC, which is to correctly and appropriately educate people on who the Citizen Potawatomi are as *Bodéwadmī* — as *Nishnabe people*,” Norton said.

For more information on the River Raisin Battlefield Park, visit nps.gov/rira.

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Harvest Hustle 5k registration open

By Kaleigh Coots, Diabetic Care Admin Assistant

The Harvest Hustle 5K, hosted by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Diabetes Program each year, promotes diabetes awareness in our community. As many may know, diabetes is a chronic disease effecting many Native Americans. The Harvest Hustle was created to help educate people on this devastating illness and promote health and awareness. The more we know, the better we can take precautions in preventing diabetes. There will be literature available as well as diabetes program staff that are able to answer questions the morning of the race.

We have been hosting the run for five years now, and we like to think it gets better as the years pass. This year, we will be having a photo booth as well as a yummy hot cocoa bar that participants can enjoy before or after the race.

The event will be held at the FireLake Wellness Center on Nov. 2, 2019.

Check in begins at 7:30 a.m., and the race will start at 8 a.m. The crisp air on this November morning can be a little chilly, so prepare to pack some warm clothes as you set out on your run/walk. The Harvest Hustle 5K

shirts are available to all participants who sign up by Oct. 11, 2019.

This event is free and open to the public. You may register online at cpn.news/hh2019 or in person at the FireLake Wellness Center. Registration will be open until the morning of the

race, but participants who do not pre-register are not guaranteed a shirt. We welcome you to join the fun! Please contact Kaleigh Coots at 405-395-9304 ext. 3383 if you have questions.

George Winter's artwork and writing helps tell a more complete story of the Trail of Death

English artist George Winter arrived in the United States in 1830 from Great Britain. Like many other artists of the time, Native America and the changing environment around U.S. Indian Policy inspired him to record a variety of meetings, Native leaders, and eventually, the Potawatomi forced removal on the Trail of Death.

“By luck, the same hotel he was staying at in Logansport was where Potawatomi were meeting with officials to discuss payments and grievances,” said Blake Norton, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center curator. “It was a large trade settlement, and that’s where he established his first studio. Like many frontier artists of his day, he was an explorer — an armchair ethnographer. His writings go hand in hand with his works.” Logansport’s location in northern Indiana was near many Native communities, which allowed Winter an opportunity to meet and sketch neighboring Potawatomi and Miami.

As a miniaturist, he had a keen ability to capture immense detail in a small, limited space. Because his sketches and paintings serve as the only artistic record of any forced removal, Cultural Heritage Center staff chose to use his pieces as key features within the *Forced From Land and Culture: Removal* gallery.

“I’ve often walked through our removal gallery and thought how interesting it is that Winter’s whole specialty is being a miniaturist, and we’ve blown his work up to life size,” said Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Heritage Center director. “It’s compelling, and he probably never thought that his work would be displayed in this way. I think it’s a nice dichotomy.”

While some miniaturists create small, rough sketches, Winter attempted to portray character and provide as much personality detail as possible with each stroke of his pen.

“He really focused on people’s facial expressions,” Dr. Mosteller said. “Instead of focusing on the way that their clothing lays or every strand of hair, it was more about how they hold themselves, their facial features.”

Keewawney

Winter also approached Potawatomi-U.S. relations differently than other artists from this period. Before the forced removal on the Trail of Death, Potawatomi and federal officials met at Keewawney on July 21, 1837, for a discussion. The entrance of the CHC’s *Forced From Land and Culture: Removal* gallery features Winter’s painting of this meeting.

“More than a lot of the other pieces he’s done, Keewawney is a very stylized piece. There are no mistakes,” Dr. Mosteller said. “He made intentional choices in that piece — who is standing where, who is standing in the light, how they’re juxtaposed against each other — to where it almost looks like this side versus this. Everything he did with intention.”

Winter specifically arranged attendees not just to help evoke a certain emotion; he wanted his audience to know and



Winter’s work continues to provide the public a visual representation of the hardships the Potawatomi faced along the Trail of Death.

understand the key figures, who they were and each individual’s platforms.

“His painting of *Keewawney* was a culmination of his skills: field sketches, writing, and rapport with the Potawatomi,” Norton said. “All of that can be seen in the painting. From the stoic placement of leaders with accent lighting to the blasé tribal members shown lying down or leaning against trees.”

The painting depicts that the Potawatomi and Native leaders at this treaty discussion stepped up to represent their communities and provided strong, sound arguments as to why they should be able to stay on their ancestral homelands.

“It’s a very important piece with a lot of meaning behind it that could be lost if you just glance past it,” Dr. Mosteller said. “It’s kind of like *The Last Supper*. At first, it can look somewhat chaotic. You don’t realize until you look deeper there are factions in the painting.”

Although many saw the council as a successful discussion between the federal government and Potawatomi, ultimately, the government forced the leaders and their people to either remove west or move to a tiny parcel of land.

“The end result was the government got what they wanted,” Dr. Mosteller said.

Trail of Death — Art and writings

A little more than a year after the council at Keewawney, those living in and around Chief Menominee’s village near present-day Twin Lakes, Indiana, were forced at gunpoint to begin their 660-mile journey west on the Trail of Death. Winter joined the caravan, sketching and writing about the emigration.

He wrote, “It was only by a deceptive (in a moral point of view) and cunning cruel plan, they were coerced to emigrate. ... By convening a special Council of the principal Chiefs and Head men, at the Catholic Mission at the Twin Lakes, near Plymouth, under the pretence of a Council of Amity, and good will, (Genl. Tipton) secured them as prisoners. A high handed act, for such it was. For its execution, stern necessity, must be the apology. The policy was as painful, as it was successful.”

After the passage of the Indian Removal Act in 1830, many recorded Native American removals in diaries and books. However, Winter’s excerpts, like his artwork, provide much more than just a historical record; they are inclusive to Native Americans, not just the federal officials or white settlers.

“He definitely wrote about them as people and individuals and personalities as opposed to ‘this group’ even more than Father Petit did who was still sort of able to distance himself from the individuals and talked more about ‘the removal’ and ‘the Indians’ and had that little bit of a distance,” Dr. Mosteller said.

Father Petit was a Catholic priest who had been serving the Potawatomi and joined them on the Trail of Death. Petit’s diary of the journey provides insight into some of the hardships the Potawatomi faced. His entries discussed births, deaths, church-related spiritual aspects and more, whereas Winter included the raw emotion he experienced and witnessed.

In one entry, Winter wrote, “Soon the whole nation were seen moving down the hill sides, along the banks of the Eel river, on the way to their westward home. ... Could the poor and degraded aborigine give his history to the world, it could but speak in emphatic language — the continual series of oppressions of the White man, from the day he first put foot upon the aboriginal soil.”

Winter’s time living near the Potawatomi helped him to build personal, one-on-one relationships with them.

In an essay titled *George Winter Mirror of Acculturation*, Dr. David Edmunds wrote, “His paintings and sketches illustrate that most of the Potawatomis and Miamis whom he encountered were not a destitute people. On the contrary, his paintings indicate that they were well dressed, arrayed in clothing that both illustrated their wealth and indicated their degree of acculturation. Most of the Potawatomi and Miami men portrayed in Winter’s paintings are dressed in frock coats similar to those worn by prosperous white settlers on the Indiana frontier.”

He also was mindful when depicting Native women, deciding to reflect

their wealth and acculturation through his images as well.

Edmunds continued, “Winter was very impressed with the women’s colorful, beautifully ribboned garments which ‘could not fail to arrest the eye of a common observer, much less an artist’s ... who must ever be ready to drink in what ever is lovely, attractive, and beautiful.’”

During the beginning of the Trail of Death, Winter placed himself a short distance away and sketched an image that depicts those walking or riding horses along the trail and the spectators who came to watch the Potawatomi forcibly leave their homelands.

“The exodus scene is one of the key pieces. It’s a very impactful visual representation,” Dr. Mosteller said. Within the CHC’s gallery *Forced From Land and Culture: Removal*, visitors can find this image along the exhibit’s wall.

“To our knowledge, this is the only firsthand visual account of a removal,” Dr. Mosteller said. “You couldn’t have staged that better with the long trail and people standing and watching. Some of them probably were glad to see them go, and some of them, maybe from other communities or those who intermarried, understood that this is the end of something.”

The CHC also included an interactive digital display with Winter’s collection as well as other integral events he sketched along the Trail of Death like the Mass scene. During the removal, Father Petit led a catholic service for the Potawatomi.

“The Mass scene is really critical because it’s so conflicted,” Dr. Mosteller said. “Some may have thought it was part of the reason we were forced out, but for some, it may also have been the thing that provided comfort.”

Without Winter’s efforts, any visual representation of the Trail of Death would not exist. His work continues to influence Potawatomi communities today by providing an in-depth look at not just the removal but also Potawatomi ancestors.

“He really tried to provide an unbiased look into life at this time. You can see that in his artwork and read it in his tone and notations,” Norton said. “He takes a name on a treaty or a document, and through art rejuvenates that person, allowing Tribal members to see the faces of their ancestors. Combined with his writings, the idiosyncrasies that made them unique stand out.”

Learn more about the Trail of Death and George Winter’s artwork by visiting the CHC or online at cpn.news/removal.

CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma
potawatomiheritage.com
405-878-5830

Free entry

Aviary's enrichment activities support well-being for resident birds

Offering a natural environment with ample development opportunities for the eagles and other birds of prey that call the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary home is one of the staff's top priorities. Mindful approaches to both the design and implementation of the aviary's enclosures keeps the birds in shape, both mentally and physically.

"Providing them with natural perching, trees and grasses and a running stream is not only good for enrichment but for their overall health," explained CPN Eagle Aviary Manager Jennifer Randell.

Incorporating plants and other natural elements into the aviary's facilities creates opportunities for the birds to maintain their beaks, feet and talons as they would in the wild. It also encourages the birds to practice their natural instincts, like nesting by pulling grass and collecting sticks.

"We make sure to have things that are intended for that purpose and are safe for them," Randell said. "Having different levels and heights for perching with a variety of textures and surfaces offer them challenges and encourages them to move around the enclosure as temperatures and light or shade affect different surfaces throughout the year."

It is also important that birds socialized to people receive regular human interaction.

"The daily feeding is also something that gives them a lot of enrichment," Randell said. "We also work to provide a variety of different food throughout the year."

Aviary staff are conscious of the different needs for the bald and golden eagles in their care, developing activities specific to each.

"Bald eagles are given live fish in their streams, whereas the golden eagles do not eat fish," Randell said. "We have

to find more creative ways to give them enrichment. Again, a natural environment with trees, sticks, rocks and other items they would have in the wild."

Just like humans, the birds' personalities are unique as the tasks they find entertaining.

"Our young bald eagle enjoys carrying the river rocks from the stream all around the enclosure and placing them where he sees fit. Most all of the birds enjoy the misters in the heat. Many of them, even in cooler months, will still go to the misters and wait for us to turn them on," Randell said. "But everyone's favorite activity has to be eating."

The aviary is also home to several birds of prey outside of eagles, including an augur buzzard named *Nikan*, which translates as friend in Potawatomi.

"*Nikan* is what we refer to as imprinted on people and very much enjoys time spent out in the aviary pasture, exchanging sticks and nest building with one of the aviary staff," Randell said. "He also likes some good time spent in the sprinkler during the hot summer months."

Glove-trained birds, like the CPN Aviary's golden eagle *Myanabe*, require additional training opportunities. Due to their social nature, they need more personal, human interaction to help them remain acclimated to a public setting.

"That means continually working with them on the glove," Randell said. "Spending time to reinforce positive interactions with sights and sounds they will encounter during presentations keeps them comfortable."

"Our process of training is more about a relationship and time spent with a glove-trained bird because they are family. Most people can relate to horses and that reciprocity when you work



Glove-trained golden eagle Myanabe enjoys strengthening his brain and mind during exercises with staff.

with them. Raptors are much the same. That feedback loop is important; you get back what you put in, so being mindful of that is always a priority."

Seasons

Weather and temperatures also influence what enrichment activities staff employ. During the summer, the excessive heat can prove difficult for training. Staff are mindful of the added stress heat brings and cannot be as hands on with the birds as they are during other seasons.

"Many people don't know that an eagle's body temperature runs about 106 degrees, so you can imagine how easily they could overheat in our Oklahoma summers," Randell explained. "We turn a misting system on during these hotter months to help them

cool down. Tours and interaction are also limited during the summer."

The most opportune time of year to conduct training and incorporate exercises with the birds is during the cooler months or early spring and fall.

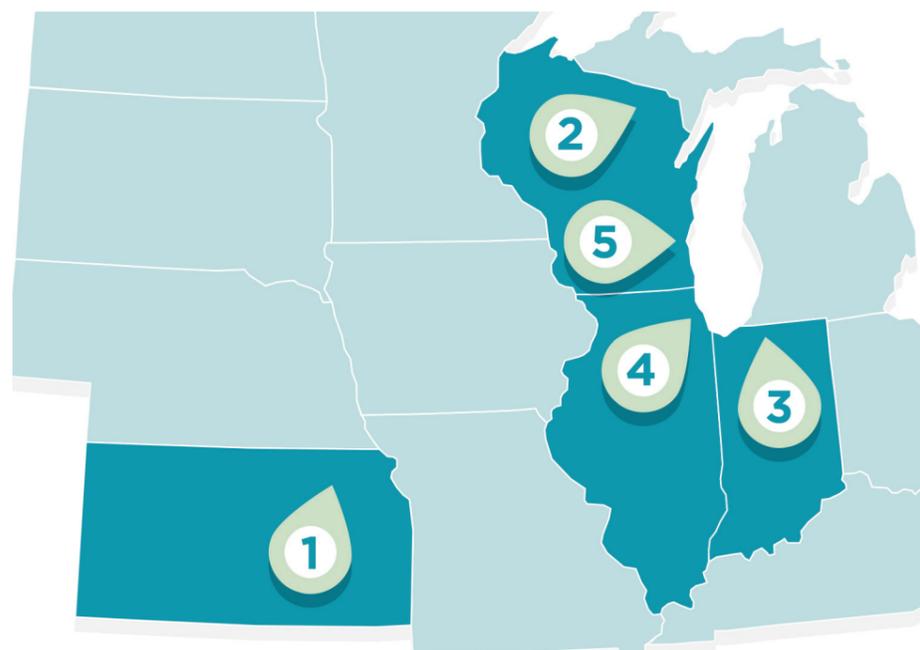
"The first and most important thing is to give these eagles a good life — a quality of life in captivity. The more positive enrichment and daily routine the better," Randell said. "When we take these eagles in, we take them in as part of our family. They have been out there working for us, carrying our prayers and now it is our turn to take care them."

Learn more about the CPN Eagle Aviary and the eagles and other birds of prey that call it home at potawatomiheritage.com. ♡

News around Potawatomi country

1. Wamego, Kansas, played host to a special party on Aug. 9, 2019, as the town celebrated the birthday of one of the country's oldest living Native American veterans, Julia Kabance. A Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation citizen, Kabance celebrated her 109th birthday with family, friends and fellow tribal members. Born on the tribal reservation in 1910, Kabance attended the Haskell Institute and University of Kansas before joining the Women's Army Corps in 1943. Read more about her at cpn.news/pbp.

2. The Forest County Potawatomi are putting \$2.6 million toward two green initiatives on their reservation lands in Wisconsin and privately held property in the city of Milwaukee. Funded via the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy, Forest County will place solar installations that are estimated worth \$200,000 in annual energy efficiency savings for the tribe. Read more from the Wisconsin State Journal at cpn.news/fcsolar.



3. Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Chairman Matt Wesaw gifted \$127,500 to Beacon Health System in South Bend, Indiana, on behalf of the tribe and Four Winds Casinos in August.

This year's proceeds from the Four Winds Invitational at Blackthorn Golf Club will underwrite the purchase of pediatric eye imaging equipment for Beacon Children's Hospital. Read more at cpn.news/4winds.

4. Illinois' Forest Park Public Library recently repatriated artifacts from Potawatomi burial mounds that were removed in the 1960s from a former county cemetery. The Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center, Library and Museum in Wisconsin took back the items, which included pottery shards, stone axes and spear points removed from Potawatomi burial mounds once located on what is now Forest Home Cemetery. Read the full story from the Forest Park Review at cpn.news/fpr.

5. Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, now has an official Indigenous People's Park, after county commissioners voted to update the name to reflect its history as Potawatomi land. The park was ceded to the U.S. in 1833 as part of a treaty with the Potawatomi. Read more about the name change from Urban Milwaukee at cpn.news/ppark. ♡

Tribal Chairman – John “Rocky” Barrett



Bozho nikan
(Hello, my friend),

The governor of the State of Oklahoma is now taking the position that our gaming compact signed 15 years ago does not have a renewal clause and must be renegotiated. It is a money grab. All of the 39 tribes in Oklahoma are alarmed and incensed because the agreement has a clearly stated automatic renewal clause, or we would not have signed it originally. This is an act of extreme bad faith on the part of State of Oklahoma, considering the huge investment made by the tribes in facilities built and services provided in addition to the billions of dollars paid to the state in so-called “exclusivity fees.” These fees were fabricated originally because

federal law prohibits states from participating in gaming profits or taxing gaming earnings. Since virtually every tribe is located in a rural area, gaming has been and continues to be the primary economic engine, driving job and community development outside of Oklahoma City or Tulsa. The small towns and rural communities where Indians are located desperately need this kind of economic stimulus to grow and prosper.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation believes that investing Tribal funds locally is the only way to continue the success of our communities, especially in rural Oklahoma. “Exclusivity fees” from Tribal gaming support services for both our members and non-Native neighbors in Oklahoma. The impact of those dollars has been very evident, despite our state government facing several revenue failures in recent years. Corporate taxes and oil and gas production taxes were cut, so now the state is preparing to blame the shortfall in education funding on the Indian tribes.

Since the Citizen Potawatomi Nation began gaming as we know it today, the Tribe has grown to employ 2,354

people and have a \$537 million economic impact. In Pottawatomie County, we are the largest employer, having created seven of every 10 jobs locally for the last decade. Our economic development has spurred even more job creation. With the development of non-gaming enterprises like Iron Horse Industrial Park, we believe that we will continue that legacy.

Assessing excessive taxes to tribes for gaming, or any other tribal enterprise, will be to the detriment of all Oklahomans. These new taxes will especially harmful to Oklahoma’s rural communities, where schools, city municipalities, churches and citizens have all benefited from the economic impact of tribal nations.

For example, Citizen Potawatomi Nation gifts a half-cent sales tax to schools in Pottawatomie County. That has increased their funding by an average of \$49,000 per quarter. Since July 2015, that total has exceeded half a million dollars. School officials have used those funds to purchase new technology, update and replace school buses, pave parking lots, make infrastructure repairs and more. Through our

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Department of Education, we also provide more than \$6 million in Tribal scholarships each year, the vast majority to students attending Oklahoma colleges and universities.

The dollars from tribal enterprises also support services for non-Native and Native citizens alike. Citizen Potawatomi Nation manages the operation of Pottawatomie County Rural Water District 3. The water district serves schools in Asher, Wanette, Dale and North Rock Creek. School districts, communities and congregations like FaithCo Church of Shawnee — another customer that lies within our jurisdiction that would not have access to clean and safe water if not for CPN.

Since June 2015, Citizen Potawatomi Nation has assumed emergency dispatching and county 911 costs and services for Pottawatomie County. CPN spent \$500,000 upgrading the technology and infrastructure of the dispatching center while hiring the 10 existing county 911 employees. Our 25 CLEET certified officers are cross deputized with the Pottawatomie County

Sherriff’s office, helping to keep Pottawatomie County safe. Law enforcement agencies like the Tecumseh Police Department and sheriff’s department are able to use funds to purchase new equipment and pay for more law enforcement officers thanks to Citizen Potawatomi Nation covering their service fees that fund the 911 center.

None of this would be possible if it weren’t for the success of our Tribal enterprises, the largest of which are our gaming facilities. Higher taxes on tribal economic development in rural Oklahoma is a threat to all Oklahomans — Native and non-Native — and the success and services they depend on.

Please let your state legislators know of the mistake that is about to happen. Please let the governor of Oklahoma know what harm will be done. We need to let them hear our voices.

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

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

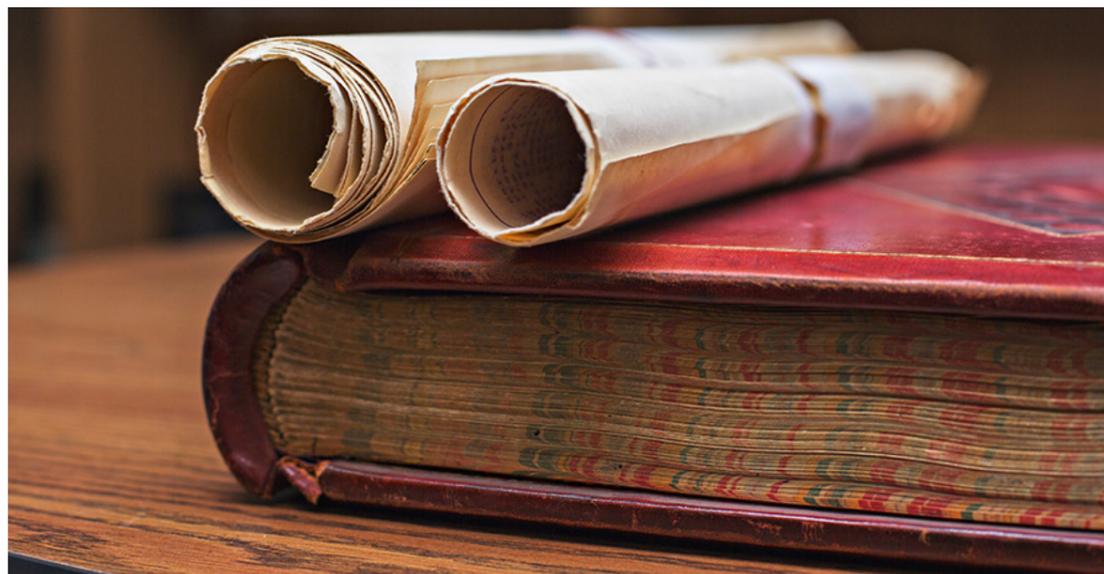
Vice-Chairman – Linda Capps



Bozho
(Hello),

Rarely do we talk about what our constitutional change from 2007 means to the Tribe today. I would like to elaborate on the topic for this column. Our longtime members know of this change and the expanded governmental body that evolved beginning in 2008, but our Tribal members enrolled since that time may know very little of that recent history.

Our secretarial election was held on August 17, 2007. Resolution No. 07-59 was passed by the Nation’s business committee, which proposed the revised constitution. The resolution also requested the U.S. Secretary of the Interior conduct an election to give all the Citizen Potawatomi Tribal members the opportunity to vote on the ratification or rejection of the proposed revised constitution. The process is referred to as the secretarial



election, a process that most federally-recognized tribes must follow to achieve a vote from the entire membership of their tribe. The rules and regulations that govern the secretarial election are detailed and rather extensive. The ratification of the proposed revised constitution would be in effect immediately if a majority vote in favor was achieved, providing that at least 30 percent of the registered voters cast ballots in the election.

It is now accepted history that the guidelines were followed, and the results were clear that our people wanted the change. I cherish the new Constitution Amendment under Article 7 that states, “There shall be a Business Committee, hereinafter called Tribal Legislature, which shall consist of the Executive Officers as provided in Article 6, five Legislators elected for

Oklahoma, and eight Legislators elected from Legislative Districts equally apportioned, within 30 percent by population in the remaining States of the United States. Legislators shall serve four-year terms of office until their successors shall be qualified and installed in office.”

A business committee of five is simply not adequate to help govern such a large and prosperous Tribe as ours is today. Granted, at one time in our history, the five committee members were satisfactory. Our Tribal population today is 34,814 members, and it was approximately 29,790 in 2007. Under our new constitution, we have grown in population, land base, programs, enterprises and resources. Looking back, efforts to expand the governing body was absolutely the right thing to do. Our elected officials

have helped the governmental process immensely by having knowledge of their constituents, perspective of prudent practices and their own vision for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Our vote in elections has increased in the regions and in Oklahoma. I believe a good portion of our growth and success is directly related to our legislator’s outreach and input.

One fact that I am greatly thankful for is the promotions and meetings that our legislators conduct in the regions. Prior to the changed constitution, since 1988 the executive committee consisting of the chairman, vice chairman and secretary-treasurer often traveled to the regions to hold meetings for the members outside Oklahoma. Many of our older member have wonderful memories of the meetings of the past. Thanks to our

constitutional change, our new legislators have stepped in with great ideas and the expertise to conduct their own meetings. By the time you receive this edition of the *Hownikan*, some of these meetings will be imminent, but these are excellent examples for the fall months:

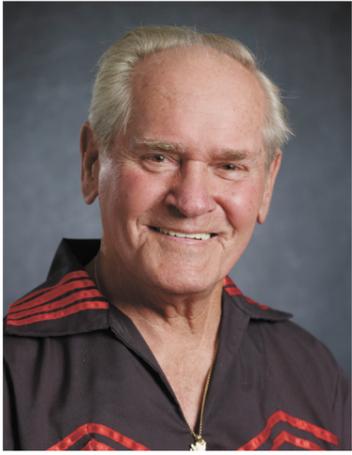
- Oct. 12 – District 5 Gene Lambert in Westminster, CO;
- Oct. 26 – District 6 and 7 Rande Payne and Mark Johnson, Fall Festival in Visalia, CA;
- Nov. 9 – District 8 Dave Carney, Fall Feast in Seattle, WA;
- Nov. 23 – Districts 1 and 2 Roy Slavin and Eva Marie Carney, Fall Feast Arlington, VA.

Once again, I am grateful for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Constitution and Legislative Governing body. Our Nation has done many things right ... with our constitutional change in 2007 being at the top of the list.

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),

We are at the beginning of the flu season. Have you received your flu shot? Doctors are recommending this protection for a lot more people than who receive it. The most reliable data available comes from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They state the shot reduces the risk of flu illness between 40-60 percent in the overall population. They recommend that everyone six months and older should be vaccinated. Their recommendations include

pregnant women. The thought is the vaccine can protect the child for several months after it is born before the baby is old enough to be vaccinated.

They also state that flu viruses are detected year round but are most common during fall and winter, but influenza activity often increases in October. The season usually peaks in February. During the flu season, other respiratory viruses also circulate and can cause symptoms and illness similar to those seen in flu infections. These respiratory viruses, rhinovirus (one cause of the common cold) and respiratory syncytial viruses cause severe respiratory illness in young children. They are a leading cause of death from respiratory illness in adults 65 and older.

Finally, being vaccinated protects everyone you come in contact with, whether they are fellow employees or friends and family. Parents should make sure their children are protected and have their children vaccinated.

Just a reminder of the District 1 and 2 Fall Feast Nov. 23,

Districts 1 & 2 Annual Celebratory Fall Feast
Saturday, November 23, 2019 | 10AM-2:30PM

**Little Falls Presbyterian Church Social Hall,
6025 Little Falls Rd, Arlington, VA 22207**
see littlefallschurch.org/directions.html (Church is about a mile from Rte. 66)

Come ready to craft (if you wish) and share stories/events from your family's year, and please bring a dish (with recipe) to pass. We will provide craft supplies and instruction, and the main courses (one vegan) and drinks.

CPN-THEMED PRIZES!
Wear moccasins in honor of Rock Your Mocs Day 2019. Family members, including children, are very welcome!

RSVP by November 15
to rslavin@potawatomi.org, or toll free at 1-888-741-5767, or to ecarney@potawatomi.org, or 1-866-961-6988
Please include names of guests and ages (younger than high school)

2019, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Little Falls Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 6025 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA. RSVP by Nov. 15.

I will close this article, as always, with a plea for your contact information. If you do

not get the occasional email from me, it is because I do not have your contact information. Due to privacy issues, the Nation cannot provide me with that information. Thank you for allowing me to serve 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),

Upcoming visiting opportunities

Virginia

As you will see by the invitation on this page, the Districts 1 and 2 Fall Feast is set for Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in Arlington, Virginia. We will gather in the Little Falls Presbyterian Church Hall. The address is 6025 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207. See cnpn.news/lfc. The Church is about a mile from Route 66 and a mile or so walk from the closest metro station, East Falls Church on the Orange Line. Visitor and handicapped parking are available both in the front and to the rear of the building.

We hope many of you in Districts 1 and 2, and everyone who can travel to the D.C. area the weekend before Thanksgiving, will join us! Postcard invitations are in the mail, but please know that you are welcome even if you don't get a postcard — you just need to RSVP! We need RSVPs to

ensure we have sufficient food and supplies for all. Please RSVP to Roy Slavin (rslavin@potawatomi.org) or to me with names of guests and ages (if younger than high school age), by Friday, Nov. 15, 2019.

Please come ready to craft (or just visit, if you wish) and share heritage information along with stories/events from your family's year, and please bring a dish (with recipe if you'd like) to pass. Roy and I will supply main dishes (one vegan) and drinks and have craft supplies available for all. Children are very welcome at the feast and to participate, with a parent or grandparent, in the craft instruction. We hope you'll wear moccasins to keep up the celebratory momentum of Rock Your Mocs week, set for Nov. 9-16, 2019. To top off our Fall Feast celebration, there will be CPN-themed giveaways and a prize for best moccasins (awarded by vote of everyone attending).

Maryland, Arkansas and Florida

I will be scheduling another visit to the Archives of the National Museum of the American Indian in Suitland, Maryland, for early in the new year. I also hope to have meetings in Nashville, Tennessee, and perhaps in Tampa or Clearwater, Florida, and in Charleston, South Carolina, or Atlanta, Georgia, during the first half of 2020. If you can assist me with a meeting location in one of these areas — a private room in a restaurant or a church or social hall that fits 60 or so comfortably — please let me know.



The 2018 Fall Feast attendees.

Native-focused Netflix documentary series

The Netflix docuseries *Basketball or Nothing* highlights a Navajo Nation high school basketball team on its quest for victory. I've enjoyed the first few episodes, which give viewers a window into reservation life. I've been particularly interested because the series was filmed in Chinle, Arizona,



Period supplies will make a profound difference in New Mexico thanks to a donation by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and FireLake Discount Foods July 2019.

and environs, not far from the Navajo Nation reservation lands I visited in the spring during our Kwek Society site visit to the 15 schools we support in that part of New Mexico. I encourage you to check out for the series for its storytelling, great music, Arizona scenery and compelling narrative.

Chi migwetch (a big thank you) to Citizen Potawatomi and friends supporting Native students

I want to recognize Barbara Gage, a Citizen Potawatomi living in North Carolina, for her significant contributions of moon time bags (So far, she has sewn 418 bags for us!) and funds to The Kwek Society this year, and to share the note she included in her most recent shipment:

Bozho Eva Marie,

I am excited to read about the new partnerships the Kwek Society has with schools and so grateful to our Nation for providing

pads and tampons. I appreciate your vision for this need!

Blessings,

Barbara Gage

The Kwek Society is blessed to have your support, Barbara, and as she notes, we are blessed to have the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's great support. Stocking 20 of our schools with period supplies through our FireLake Discount Foods will take students through a year of school, and this generous donation has allowed us to continue outreach to new students who also can use the help.

I also want to recognize Citizen Potawatomi Kabl Wilkerson, a recent graduate of Texas Tech and former Potawatomi Leadership Program participant, who helped organize Tech's Raiderland Native American Student Associate (RNASATTU) to hold a period supplies drive on campus. RNASATTU collected 222 pads

and 58 tampons, along with over \$150 in cash donations for students, and wrote the loveliest note to the Wyoming Indian School students to accompany the products, stating in part: "These items were given to us by Texas Techsans from all walks of life as soon as we sent out a request for donations. The RNASATTU is committed to helping Native students reach higher ed and succeed in college." These students' initiative and follow-through make my heart happy! A photo of the RNASATTU students is posted to cpn.news/RNASATTU.

Lastly, I'm pleased to announce that, over the last few months, The Kwek Society has shared ideas with a Shawnee Public Schools School Board member, April Craig Stobbe, for ensuring that Shawnee students have the period supplies they need. In September 2019, we supplied

all Shawnee Public Schools students in the 4th through 6th grades with moon time bags filled with pads and liners. That's almost 600 bags! We also offered best practice guidance and titles of period education books we provide to schools we sponsor to April after she reached out to us to ensure that all SPS students have access to the supplies and period education information they need. As a consequence of our collaboration and that school board member's efforts, period supplies donated locally now are in the restrooms at Shawnee High School, and we are confident that Shawnee Public Schools will grow its period supply and education program admirably!

Keeping in touch

With a new school year already here, I imagine there are folks who have relocated to



The Kwek Society is proud to partner with Shawnee Public Schools with a donation in September 2019.

District 2. For the most current information, I'd ask you to send me your email contact details — I send an email a few times a month — and if you are interested, send me a message through Facebook asking me to add you to the private District 2 Facebook page (private as in only members can read/

access what is posted there). About 200 of us currently are members of that page.

Migwetch (thank you); let me hear from you

It is a privilege to plan and attend events with fellow Potawatomi. Thank you for

these opportunities as your legislator. If you have questions, comments, or ideas to share with me, I hope you will do so through email, phone or letter. Please don't be put off by the distance between us. Building our CPN community and getting to know Potawatomi in District 2, and helping you as needed, continue to be my top priorities as your Legislator.

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

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),

I have an area that needs your attention since we have a federal election coming up in a couple of months.

In June, we held our annual CPN election involving your decision to approve the budget and for those in Oklahoma to decide who would represent them. While the paper showed that the budget was approved, judges chosen and legislators who won, it didn't show you that roughly only 5 percent of the eligible voters control the destiny of how our future is run. Here are the numbers.

Group	Eligible Voters	Ballots Cast	Vote Percent
Total Eligible	26,984	1,369	5.07%
Oklahoma Eligible	9,329	465	4.98%
District 3 Eligible	2,409	102	4.23%

In the forthcoming U.S. election, we have many candidates who are saying, "Elect me president, and I will get you free college education; open borders to allow free, unchecked immigration; free government health care; income equality; and many other items that you believe you not only want but need and that you want the government to basically pay for all of these things."

As a number of us have written about, and history books covered, Native Americans had many promises made in the way of treaties over the past 400 years that were broken. One of the last sets of these involved the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act and several executive orders at that time meant to correct many of the treaty areas that were broken. Since that time, each year Congress has fought that act, and they have basically prevented any of those changes from taking place by doing one thing; they do not fund the areas that they are against. Currently, the tribes in New Mexico and Arizona feel the brunt of this action since it involves payment for their lands and/or recovery of lands that were stolen from

them. This item is covered in The Indian New Deal chapter in the book *The Indians of the Americas* by John Collier.

I bring these two areas up because if we elect the wrong candidates to represent us in the federal government, we could ultimately become a socialist governed country. That concerns me dearly as I look at how that has recently impacted a country that was great just 30 years ago. Namely, Venezuela! Here are some facts about how that country transitioned from being free and similar to ours to a third world country in only one generation of progressive liberal leadership.

1992 — 3rd richest country in South America

1997 — 2nd largest purchaser of the F-150 pickup truck in the world

2001 — Voted for Socialist president to fix income inequality

2004 — Health care completely socialized

2007 — Free higher education for all

2009 — Banned private ownership of guns

2014 — Opposition leaders were imprisoned

2016 — Food/health care shortages became wide spread

2017 — Constitution and elections eliminated

2019 — Many protesting unarmed citizens were killed by the government

In just one generation, after a single election of the wrong candidates, Venezuela went from a thriving country to one where their citizens are leaving in droves to the other countries that border them.

I could give you other examples of what a socialistic-type government encompasses. All we need to do is look 90 miles south of Florida at Cuba. While labeled communist, it is still run on the basis of socialism and total control by their government.

In summary, I ask you to do three things. First and foremost, you need to vote in November and not let a small percentage of the rest of our population determine how you are to be impacted by the government officials elected. Second, learn as much as you can about the candidates, what they promise, and ask who and how those areas are to be funded. Where will the funds come from?

I have read that for free health care, free college education,

open borders, etc., the cost would be equivalent to each US citizen theoretically owing about \$21,000 each year in federal taxes to fund all the programs.

Third, talk to your elders about our history and what they went through during the 1930s and 40s with rationing stamp books to buy common goods such as clothing and food. They can also tell you about what it was like to live through a Depression, with lack of food, housing and jobs. Keep in mind, once a country changes their form of government, it will take years before any other change can evolve, and those in control will block you at every corner, just as they have done to our ancestors and us!

My simple message here is: vote and vote with knowledge!

Bama mine
(Later),

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He Soars)
Representative, District 3
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District 4 – Jon Boursaw



Bozho
(Hello),

Interesting visitors to the office

During the last couple of weeks of August, I had two very interesting visitors to my office in Topeka. Neither were Native American, but both were researching historical topics pertaining to our presence on the Pottawatomie Reservation in the mid-1800s.

James Ralston, a middle-age man who already holds a doctorate, was the first. He told us — I was joined by my brother Lyman — that he has already had a very successful career in the technology industry where he was a systems designer. He is now researching the history of what is now Kansas from about 1820 to 1865, with particular interest in the Native Americans who lived here at that time, and most recently, in some

architecture relevant to that period. For over a year, he has been researching information about the house near Silver Lake (see photo) once owned by Lewis H. Ogee, my great-great grandfather, who according to Ralston, seems to have been an important citizen in the area. Among other things, Ralston was interested in what we knew about who built the house and when. I told him that according to the Kansas State Historical Society, the U.S. Army built the house in 1827. He stated that he had found similar supporting evidence. He went on to say that he had found the location of the quarry from where the stone used to build the house was taken. This site is approximately 8 miles northeast of the house, north of what is now Soldier Creek. He mentioned he had found an entry in a document stating the John C. Freemont, the renowned explorer and surveyor, had etched a large plus sign on one of the house's foundation stones to be used as a survey reference point. With that, he showed us a photo of that stone he had taken while touring the house. He went on to tell about what he had learned about Lewis Ogee. We always thought he had been a member of the Tribe's business committee as well as a ferry operator and farmer, but Ralston told us much more. He found where Ogee operated a saw house and gristmill in

Indianola (now north Topeka), served as clerk and treasurer for the Silver Lake Township, served as probate lawyer, and was Grand Master of his Masonic Lodge in Silver Lake. We agreed to stay in touch and exchange any new information. I found Ralston and this subject matter to be so interesting that I invited James to be a speaker at the District 4 meeting next spring in Rossville, and he accepted. I told him probably 25 percent of the audience would be Ogee descendants.

The second visitor was a young woman from New York City who is a reporter for *The Atlantic* magazine. She is gathering information for an article she is writing that will appear in the December issue. The subject of her article is the founding and growth of St. Marys, Kansas, and the St. Marys Academy and College. When she first discovered that the presence of the Potawatomi was the reason why the academy was originally established at its current location, she went to the St. Marys Historical Society museum to obtain further information. A staff member at the museum then referred her to me as the person she needed to talk to about the history of the Potawatomi in the local area. In my meeting with her, we discussed the forced removal from Indiana to what is now Kansas in 1838 and the establishment



Ogee House.

of the St. Marys Mission led by Father Hoechen and St. Rose Philippine Duchesne on the Sugar Creek Reservation in Linn County, Kansas. We then discussed how the Treaty of 1846, which relocated the Potawatomi from Sugar Creek to the reservation on the Kansas River, also led to the relocation of the Catholic priests and nuns and the establishment of the St. Marys Mission and Academy and the founding of the town St. Marys came shortly thereafter. It will be interesting to see how this part of Kansas history is presented in the December issue of *The Atlantic*.

October and November Elders Potlucks in Rossville

The scheduled dates for the October and November Elders Potlucks, sponsored by the Senior Support Network staff, are listed below. The potlucks begin at noon in the CPN Community Center in

Rossville. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Tracy has asked that you RSVP if you plan on attending; her number is 785-584-6171.

Oct. 11 — German Feast

Nov. 8 — Thanksgiving Feast with turkey and dressing

Honored to serve you

It is an honor to serve you as your district representative. I appreciate hearing from CPN members in Kansas, whether in the form of a letter, email, phone call or in the office. Please let me know how I can be of assistance to you. If you are not receiving emails from me, it is because I do not have your current email address or what I have is incorrect. All you need to do is send me your email address, and I will enter you into my District 4 information file. My contact information is listed below.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

District 5 – Gene Lambert



Bozho
(Hello),

October, everyone.

We all come to times in our lives where we reevaluate what we do, say, why we do it, who we spend our time with, and refile it in the category it now belongs. It wouldn't be workable nor survivable to see and consider at the age of 50 from the view point of a 16-year-old. Now, at 16, there is nothing wrong with seeing things from your minimal life experience and education. It is expected. Although I have to inject here, the 16-year-old of today has much more information flowing to them than when I was 16. Of course, I knew everything at that age anyway.

They say we go through refileing our own life experiences every 10 years or so. That's when everything you think you know falls out of your file cabinet onto the floor and you have to recollect, reevaluate and refile. In so doing, it does not necessarily wind up in the same file.

While in Kansas last year attending Potawatomi Gathering, there were two speakers on such subjects. It was fascinating and right on the money. I really hadn't thought of the matter in these terms. These are new and true concepts from old, old beliefs.

Personally, professionally and spiritually are one in the same. That was the topic, and they began to identify. This was one of my new reevaluation. With that comes a lot of life changes for some of us.

It is you and your integrity. That is the Native way. There is no separation if you are being honest with yourself and others. When we stretch the truth or purposefully leave out some of the details, we aren't being honest.

Lately, in addition to all the reevaluation, I have become a "YouTube Junky" looking at everything from science to religions in the opinions of others. I ran across a former CIA/FBI investigator talking

Colorado Potawatomi, join us for a

CPN DISTRICT 5 MEETING

with Representative Gene Lambert

October 12, 2019

10AM-3PM

Bring your family for a provided lunch, tour of the pavilion and information on Citizen Potawatomi Nation heritage and services.

at The Butterfly Pavilion

6252 W 104th Ave,
Westminster, CO 80020

RSVP by October 8

to Gene Lambert at
euniceilambert@gmail.com
or call 480-228-6569 (cell) or
480-668-0509 (landline)

about how we lie. They say each of us lie at least 10 times a day not thinking of them as lies.

In an article for *Psychology Today*, psychologist Diana Raab, Ph.D said, "There are many reasons *people lie*: to inflate their images, to cover up bad behavior, to gain financially, to humor *people*, to hurt or help others, to be *socially* correct, or to avoid punishment or censure."

We tell stories when it is not safe to tell the truth. Telling the

truth about something might be interesting to dissect given the compartmentalization we just discussed.

How many times have you heard someone say, "That's just business," thus making it OK to stretch the truth or not tell all? That being said, if you lie to a family member, no one likes that, yet it seems acceptable if it is business. It is suggested you not lie to your attorney, another non-survival act. God already

knows the truth so don't even think that possible. The only one left is lying to yourself.

My grandmother, God rest her soul, lied all the time but worded it in such a way she justified it really wasn't an untruth. She continued until the minister from her church gave a complete sermon on the definition of a lie.

"It is leading another to misbelieve or misunderstand," as he went on in detail.

“Oh my goodness,” she said. “I guess I need to rethink this.” She definitely wanted to go to heaven and not have to explain her behavior to God.

You might ask grandma a question like, “Is mother there at your house?” She answers with, “What would make you think your mother is at my house?” Now I am thinking she isn’t there when in fact she is and hiding from the kids. Good ol’ grandma lied to me. Bless her, as she didn’t think she did.

There are things considered socially acceptable. Good lies are OK if it makes someone feel good: maybe yes and maybe no. This is one of those judgments that is completely in your hands.

“No, those pants don’t make you look fat!” Maybe it could be better worded by saying, “Actually, I thought the brown pants were more complimentary.” Now you are avoiding the question. You didn’t lie, but you didn’t destroy the person you’re talking to either. However,

according to the definition, it isn’t the truth either because you lead them to misbelieve. Geez, this can be difficult.

What we have done personally, professionally and spiritually is compartmentalize with the thought that one does not touch the other. It does, another life lesson and a new file.

As I look back over situations, there have been so many times I did all I knew to do, but it wasn’t happening. At that point,

you simply have to trust it will work if it is meant to be. There were so many days I wasted in anguish because I couldn’t let go. There were also times it worked in spite of my efforts.

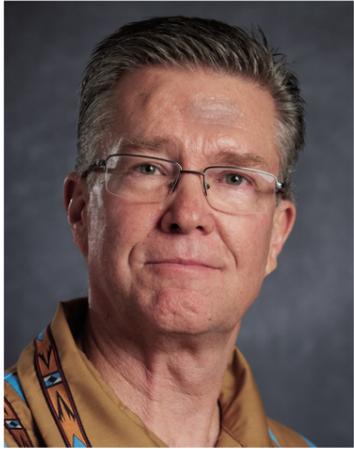
As you proceed in your daily life, notice what you say and do under which circumstance. It isn’t a test. It is for you to see if you are different when you talk to friends, family and business. Hopefully it goes without saying, untruths are not advisable during prayer. He doesn’t like it.

You can’t change yesterday, but we can learn from it and have a better tomorrow.

Love you all,

Eunice Imogene Lambert
Butterfly Woman
Representative, District 5
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District 6 – Rande K. Payne



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

I hope this month’s column finds you well. The summer season this year has been mild with brief periods of intense heat but for the most part very enjoyable. As summer slips away, fall eases in. It’s the time of year to reap what you sow, so to speak. One’s investment of time, labor and resources typically pays off this time of year, if you are in the business of growing food. It might be a season of being able to slow down and enjoy the fruits of your labor, as they say.

I often think of our ancestors — and as I have said before — “What’s to eat?” had to be at the forefront of their world. Try to imagine a world with

Citizen Potawatomi Nation
District 6 Representative Rande Payne
& District 7 Representative Mark Johnson
invite you to the

District 6&7 Heritage Festival

Saturday, October 26, 2019
10am to 6pm

Valhalla at the Grove
31150 Road 180
Visalia, CA 93292

*Learn about your Potawatomi heritage,
CPN programs for tribal citizens and participate
in activities with fellow Citizen Potawatomi.*

Register online by October 20
at cpn.news/dist67fest
with the CPN district number,
name of all attendees, and tribal ID
numbers of CPN members.

no grocery stores, no cars and no government assistance. All you have is your ability to hunt or grow your own food

in order to survive. That might seem primitive and for most people a pretty scary thought, but there is a sweet simplicity

about it. Make hay while the sun shines and all is right with the world. It was a way of life since time immemorial.

Enter Europeans, rock our world! Why was it so hard for us to accept life on the reservation while everything we knew to be true was being obliterated? In my opinion, it was because the natural order of working the land and depending on our Creator to provide sustenance, guidance and direction was taken away and replaced with dependence upon man.

So, that being said, it seems like we’ve ended up with a modern society that’s dependent upon the government for virtually every aspect of our lives rather than the One who’s in control of it all. To think that any form of government not dependent upon the Creator for direction could lead and care for its citizenry might be quite foolish if you are comparing that to what worked for our ancestors for eons. Solutions for today’s challenges might be found in the past.

Heritage Festival

As of the penning of this column, we were at about 65 people registered for the Heritage Festival on

Oct. 26. I’m really looking forward to seeing everyone!

Benefits and services

I am proud of all the services and support provided by the Nation to benefit all Tribal members, including the CPN Burial Assistance Fund. When a CPN member passes, the program provides \$2,000 to help pay for costs associated. For information and instructions to receive the assistance, contact Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email cclark@potawatomi.org. Find the form to apply here: cpn.news/burialfundform.

Potawatomi Phrase of the Month: *Minwewzet* – Be hard working, energetic

Wisdom from the Word: “Those who work their land will have abundant food, but those who chase fantasies have no sense.” Proverbs 12:11

Migwetch! Bama pi
(Thanks! Later),

Rande K. Payne
Mnedo Gabo
Representative, District 6
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District 8 – Dave Carney



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend),

As I have had the pleasure of traveling around District 8 and every summer visiting with folks during the Family Reunion Festival in Oklahoma, I am always struck by the entrepreneurial spirit of our members. I love hearing about their business ventures. Anyone who has been in business knows that entrepreneurs are always learning from others, and sometimes there is as much learned from business struggles as business success stories.

One of my own ancestors was Lois Vieux, who owned and operated a variety of businesses with his wife, *Shanote*, including a trail crossing across the Vermillion River, profiting from white settlers heading west along the Oregon Trail. Being an entrepreneur is just a part of being Potawatomi, as far as I am concerned.

I'd like to highlight two very different businesses owned and operated by Potawatomi in our district:

Eagle's Nest Remodeling LLC is based out of Gresham, Oregon, and is a certified minority-owned enterprise established in 2017 specializing in residential repairs and remodeling. Natalie Mitchell Fuller (Potawatomi name — *Wathchakee*) is the owner. She, along with her husband Kevin Fuller, do some amazing work, and the business is thriving. They are members of the Oregon Native Chamber of Commerce and the Gresham Chamber of Commerce.

Their company recently renovated the Great Spirit Methodist Church, a long-established church in Portland. The space was remodeled beautifully to accommodate drum circles, worship services and various ceremonies. Go to their Facebook page to see photos of their work: [facebook.com/eaglesnestremodeling](https://www.facebook.com/eaglesnestremodeling).

Another entrepreneur I have had the pleasure to meet through my position with the Nation is Joe Clark (Potawatomi name — *Nagmo Mnedo*) and his wife, Brenda, from Somers, Montana. They have started and managed a variety of successful businesses through the years, including a log furniture business, real estate development in Costa Rica, drive through espresso locations and a video production company.

CPN members and family!

**Join us for the annual
CPN District 8 Fall Feast**

November 9, 2019
11:30AM-2:30PM

Kin On Community Center
**4416 S Brandon St.
Seattle, WA 98118**

A BBQ buffet with turkey and beef brisket will be served

Please RSVP to dcarney@potawatomi.org

Their latest endeavor is called Genesis Biochar LLC. It is a FDA organic certified soil amendment and soil conditioner. According to their website, it has numerous other beneficial uses such as drinking water filtration, medicine, food preservation, sanitation of human and kitchen wastes, as a composting agent and much more. All of these uses have been documented in many different pre-industrial cultures, but in recent times, more applications are being discovered, studied and implemented. It is already being used as an absorber in functional clothing, insulation and aggregate in the building industry, as carbon electrodes

in super-capacitors for energy storage, food packaging, wastewater treatment, air cleaning, silage agent or feed supplement, and litter additive.

The science behind the fascinating origins of this product and future applications I will leave to you to discover on their website. Go to [genesisbiochar.com](https://www.genesisbiochar.com).

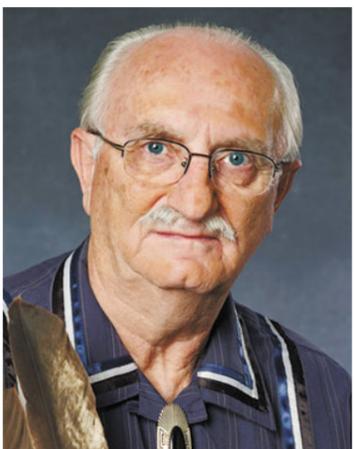
It's become an annual thing you can count on — the District 8 Fall Feast alternates between the two Citizen Potawatomi densely populated cities of Seattle and Portland. This year, we are in Seattle again, and I switched from an evening event to a mid-day gathering. In past years, it

has been an evening event, and the weather has not always made driving possible for some of our elders. This time we are in a modern community venue affiliated with a health care facility, reported to have plenty of parking and being extremely accessible for our members. Please save the date for Nov. 9.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Dave Carney
Kagasghi (Raven)
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District 9 – Paul Wesselhöft



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend)!

Protection of Native American women

This is an important article about good news coming out of Washington D.C.

In an effort to bolster law enforcement efforts to protect Native women from violence, Congressman Markwayne Mullin with a group of bipartisan lawmakers has introduced H.R. 4289 or the BADGES for Native Communities Act.

It addresses issues in federal law enforcement data sharing and increases tribal access to resources. Oklahoma Congressman Tom Cole is part of the group backing the bill. Additionally, the legislation is meant to improve

awareness of missing and murdered indigenous women.

“The silent crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women is wreaking havoc on our families and our communities,” said Congressman Mullin in a recent press release. “All parties have to work together to fight back against this epidemic of violence. Our priority must be to protect native women and children and this legislation will help federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies better coordinate their efforts.”

A press release from Cole says, “The BADGES for Native Communities Act bridges agency

data gaps and ensures safety for native communities by:

- Addressing inefficiencies in federal criminal databases;
- Increasing tribal access to federal criminal databases;
- Improving public data on missing and murdered Indigenous women cases and Indian Country law enforcement staffing levels;
- Promoting more efficient recruitment and retention of BIA law enforcement;
- Providing tribes with resources to improve public

safety coordination between their governments, states, and federal agencies; and

- Mitigating against federal law enforcement personnel mishandling evidence crucial to securing convictions of violent offenders.”

Migwetch
(Thank you),

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

THE Hownikan PODCAST

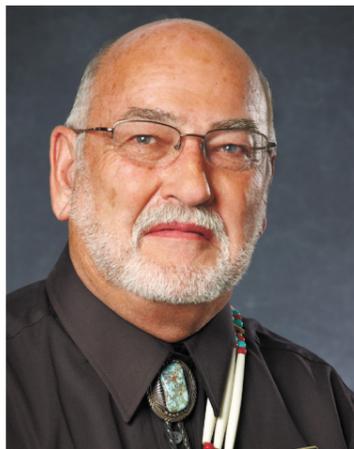
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District 10 – David Barrett



Bozho
(Hello),

What a beautiful trip we had going to Wasauksing for the Potawatomi Gathering this year. I'll be including pictures to show a small glimpse of what we encountered. Wasauksing First Nation is an Ojibwa, Odawa and Potawatomi First Nation band government whose reserve constitutes the Parry Island

in the Georgian Bay on Lake Huron in Ontario, Canada. It is one of the 26,000 plus islands that makes up Parry Sound islands, which had a population of 6,408 as of the 2016 census.

A notable fact about Parry Island is Francis Pegahmagabow, the most highly decorated indigenous soldier in the Canadian Military history, was a legendary Ojibwa sniper and unsung hero of WWI.

But first, I would like to tell you about being lost on the island for 45 minutes with the fear of running out of gas. I wasn't driving, but I was looking on my phone giving directions to Representative Jon Boursaw and trying to get to the Gathering opening ceremony (depot) to bring in our flags at 8:30 a.m. Thursday morning; we still made it, on Indian time. (They were running late also.) We saw



David Barrett (left), Kenny Reed (middle) and Lyman Boursaw (right).



Home along Lake Huron.



The Island Queen Cruise ferry.

parts of the island that most of the locals haven't seen in a while.

Arriving early to the tribal governance table on Friday, I was able to have a one-on-one tour with Wasauksing Chief Warren Tabobondung

about their education on the island. He stated they offered a full curriculum for students from junior kindergarten to grade eight, which the Ontario Ministry of Education inspects and approves. They also incorporate Native languages

into daily curriculum. One thing that I was pleased to hear is that they provide special education assistance for students with learning difficulties. They develop an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for each student with annual reviews.

The island offers several small businesses, including Islands Gas and Variety Centre, and Sugar Bush Maple sales. The Wasauksing Marina and Campground is located at the west end of island; there is a local community radio station, REZ 91.3; and the tribe is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Wasauksing Swing Bridge and the Rose Point Road.

On Thursday evening, Wasauksing Nation scheduled with Island Queen Boat Cruise to tour the Georgian Bay around Parry Island. I think the boat held 500 plus passengers, and they fed us salmon on the voyage. Hope you enjoy the pictures.

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
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ARE YOU GRADUATING IN DECEMBER?

SEND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO GRADUATION@POTAWATOMI.ORG
BY DECEMBER 15 AT 5PM

FULL NAME, HOMETOWN, POTAWATOMI FAMILY NAME, HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE, AND DEGREE TYPE AND MAJOR

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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

Address changes should be sent to Tribal Rolls,

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

Marilyn Jo Bmena Kwe Summerhays



Marilyn Jo Summerhays, a longtime resident of Anchorage, Alaska, passed away peacefully on Aug. 8, 2019, surrounded by her family.

Born on July 16, 1937, Marilyn received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Education from St. Mary's College in 1958 and worked in various nursing fields throughout her career. It suited her servant heart. In her retirement, she traveled around the country with her husband of 57 years, Dave Summerhays. They visited family, friends and places where she could feel the sun and see mountains, rivers, lakes and wildlife.

Marilyn loved to love people. Nothing brought her greater joy than being in a room filled with people talking, sharing stories and eating good food. Her life was a living example of the Bible verse Ephesians 4:32 — "And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ."

She is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Lela Mainey; her son, Robert Summerhays; and her grandson, David Summerhays.

She is survived by her husband, Dave Summerhays; her brother, Joe Mainey; sister and brother-in-law, Jan and Charly Pearce; children, Ron Summerhays and his partner Lori Kimball, John Summerhays, Don Summerhays and his wife Nita Summerhays, and Lisa Summerhays; grandchildren, Jessica Summerhays, Jeff Summerhays, Steven Summerhays, Chad Summerhays, LoraLisa Summerhays, Megahn Reese, Madison Reese, Krystal Cosgriff and her husband Ben Cosgriff, and Rob Boyce and his wife Kristan Boyce; plus eight great-grandchildren. All of these she loved and touched deeply.

A funeral service and celebration of life was held at St. Patrick's Parish in Anchorage, Alaska, on Aug. 31, 2019.

Wilbur Eugene Luthye



Wilbur Eugene Luthye, 94, died May 28, 2019, in Lakewood, Colorado.

Wilbur was born Dec. 28, 1924, in Kiro, Kansas, to Nellie and Walter Luthye. (Walter passed when Wilbur was young.) Out of high school, he knew he'd likely be drafted to serve in World War II. He wanted to be a pilot, but those dreams ended when he learned he was colorblind. He was disappointed, but the unique trait made for a good conversation piece.

In July 1943, he was drafted into the Army's anti-aircraft artillery and served in Europe until the end of the war.

When he returned home, he married his beloved, Jane Cook. They raised a family in Topeka before moving to Colorado in 1968, where Wilbur worked as a stereotyper for *The Denver Post* until he retired in 1988.

Wilbur was a kind, brilliant and compassionate person with a sharp sense of humor and an even sharper memory. He loved *Jeopardy!*, sports, history, cars, reading and had an unquenchable thirst for learning. He always put others first — a trait still evident today, as Wilbur decided to donate his body to the Anatomical Board of the State of Colorado.

He is survived by his daughter, Susan; sons, Ray (Teresa) and Dan (Tina); daughter-in-law, Debby (Carl); son-in-law, John Neben (Joyce); seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He loved his family dearly, and they miss him every day.

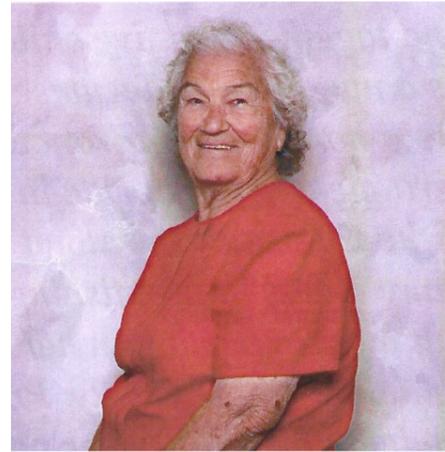
Eventually, Wilbur and Jane will reunite at Fort Logan National Cemetery. They always were — and forever will be — two peas in a pod.

Potawatomi Pride

Wilbur was a proud descendant of Joseph Lafromboise — a Potawatomi chief known as *Wamegose* (Little

Thunderbird). He served as an interpreter in the Black Hawk War of 1832 and signed the 1861 treaty with the U.S., establishing Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Frances L. Lackey



Frances Lackey was born Sept. 5, 1930, to Mike and Era Bruno in Sacred Heart, Oklahoma. She passed from this life in her home on July 4, 2019, in Tecumseh.

On April 8, 1950, she married her husband Junior Lackey, and together they had five children.

She worked as a nursing aid, at Tecumseh schools and was also a homemaker. Frances loved her Tribal heritage and took pride in being a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She enjoyed many things in life including fishing, arts and crafts, but the most important thing in her life was spending time with her family. Preceding Frances in death are both of her parents, her husband Junior Lackey, one son Dale Lackey and one daughter Karen Austin. Left behind to mourn her passing are her three sons, Roger Lackey of Shawnee, Steve Lackey of Bartlesville, and Dave Lackey of Bartlesville, along with several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Her Native American name was Nodahkeeva. She was a best friend, a loving mother and a one-of-a-kind, special person. Frances' grandpa was a restricted Indian. Frances' grandmother, Frances (Shopwetuck), was married to Mr. Bruno. Her sisters were Barbara Brown, Louise Halterman, Jona Gail Smith and Stella Bruno. Her brothers were (Chief) Bill Bruno, Carl Bruno, Leon Bruno, Anthony Bruno, Tom Bruno, Ronnie Bruno and David Bruno.

In memory of Grandma Frances L. Bruno Lackey, she loved to tell stories of her life. Her son Roger took her to Nashville, Tennessee, in Oct. 2019, but they could not find a parking place. She got out of the pickup and directed traffic like a tribal officer would. That was one of many memories of Frances, and is one of many memories that won't be forgotten.

She was one of the last elders by blood on Tribal Rolls and is soaring with eagles now. One day I will be soaring with her too. Your ever loving son, Kokokonene.

Charles Emmitt Anderson



Charles Emmitt Anderson passed away on Jan. 2, 2019, at the age of 86. He was born in Tecumseh, Oklahoma, on April 9, 1931, to Charles Emmitt and Lavina Barnes Anderson.

Charles was very proud to be Native American and took pride in his membership with Citizen Potawatomi Nation. After serving in the United States Air Force, Charles went on to become a butcher. Every Sunday when he was not doing that, you could find him being a Southern Baptist Ordained Minister.

Once he moved to California, he worked as a dispatcher for ABT Trucking. Years later, after opening and closing the family business, Anderson Consulting, Charles enjoyed woodworking and anything Sacramento King basketball and Oklahoma Sooners football related.

He is preceded in death by his late wife, Margye Anderson, and his brother, Jim Anderson.

Charles is survived by multiple family members, near and far: wife, Junea Anderson; and two brothers, Don Anderson of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and Orville Anderson of Vacaville, California. Charles was blessed with one daughter, Judy Hunt (Cameron Hunt) of Colusa, California; and three sons, Steve Anderson of Colusa, Troy Anderson (Denise Anderson) of Valley Springs, and Jim Anderson (Theresa Anderson) of Burr Oak, Kansas; along with eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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.