Nez Perce settlement concludes with payment of over $8M

(OKLAHOMA CITY) On the morning of March 2, 2017, federal Judge Thomas Hogan, of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, entered a joint stipulation of dismissal between the United States and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. The order brought to a close the 10-year-long case that began December 2006, when the Nez Perce tribe and several similarly situated tribal nations (including the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes) filed suit against the United States in the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia.

The tribes sought to hold the United States accountable for mismanaging tribal trust resources, including tribal trust accounts and leases of tribal lands. It seemed an anti-climactic ending to the extraordinary effort of the Obama Administration to acknowledge the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ (BIA) responsibility in the mismanagement of tribal trust resources of over 40 tribes, in some cases for over a 100 years.

In November 2006, shortly before the case was filed, the C-A Tribal Council authorized the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) to represent the Cheyenne-Arapaho tribes’ interests in the matter for 10 percent contingency fee, later approving settlement in the amount of $8,396,000. Internal tribal political strife broke out a short time later, preventing the settlement efforts from moving forward. During that period, the Tribal Council authorized the governor to remove NARF from the case and, when a dispute as to the validity of that removal ensued, the settlement effort languished. As the leadership dispute raged over the next few years, state banks froze millions of dollars of Cheyenne and Arapaho’s tribal government funds, the BIA erroneously released three-quarters of a million dollars in per cap funds to an account opened at Citizens Bank of Ada by Leslie Harjo, who refused to transfer the funds to the tribes, and the BIA withheld a lucrative lease approval worth nearly $3 million dollars in additional per cap payments to tribal members. As Governor Eddie Hamilton explains, “It was a mess when we came into office. The tribes had nearly $7 million dollars in funding we were unable to access for tribal services. We had a federal case against the BIA for releasing funds it shouldn’t have and the case was going nowhere. With all the litigation Nez Perce settlement negotiations concluded the Nez Perce settlement negotiations. (Submitted photo)
Eating healthy, staying active
Cheyenne and Arapaho Youth Day Out a Success
By Latoya Lenolige, Staff Reporter

Spring Break is a time for students to relax or travel for their short vacation from school but for others it’s an opportunity to get actively involved in healthy education.

The first ever Spring Break from March 15, programs within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes joined together to promote health and wellness for the youth.

Youth Day Out was held at the Watonga Multi-Purpose Center in Watonga, Okla. for one day. The day long event the health and wellness initiative for the Cheyenne and Arapaho.

Newspaper works with the Green House Project, they are going to plant jalapenos and cilantro and basil and we will be sending them home with a salsa recipe, so once their plants start producing they can utilize their vegetables and fruits. The IHS program is providing pamphlets and doing a demonstration on how to wash your hands spread germs.

The Diabetes Wellness program, with Tara Conway, is playing a game with the kids that have nutritional facts on it. The kids are eating and playing the trivia game.

Kathy Richardson, Food Distribution Center clerk, said, “Along with the activities planned for that day, door prizes were given away to students as an appreciation for participation.”

“We just really wanted to give them something to come out and enjoy so they’re not just sitting at home playing video games, we got them to get up and active and also try to help them make healthier choices in their eating patterns,” Richardson said.

As the goal of creating healthier choices highlighted the day, the youth also had comments of their own in appreciation for the day.イスカイ, 14, from El Reno, Okla., decided to participate during his spring break.

Garcia said he enjoyed the plant part of the event the most, “I liked the table tennis and the plants, I was kind of thrown into this but I had fun,” Garcia said.

Kendall, 12, attended with her twin sister.

“I liked the table tennis and the plants, I was kind of thrown into this but I had fun,” Kendall said.

Kendall’s sister, Jaylan Garcia, 14, said, “I’d probably just be sitting at home on the couch watching TV.”

As far as being productive, the Garcia sisters came to the event in the hopes of staying active with others, as well as having fun at the same time.

“We’re just trying to enforce in their minds that there’s more variety out there of foods to eat and we hope that they make those choices so that way they’re giving their body all the nutrients and everything they need to grow up and be healthy and strong,” Richardson said.

With the help of other programs, the youth day out was seen as a success by Richardson, “You’ve got to take the good with the bad,” Richardson said.

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune

Election Commission announces candidate registration information for 2017 Primary and General Elections

1) A candidate for the Office of Governor and Lt Governor shall submit copies of his or her Federal Income Tax for the previous five years and provide a written list of all of his or her personal and property income tax returns.

2) No person convicted of a felony within the last ten years shall serve as Governor or Lt Governor. This includes anyone who has been previously convicted of a felony.

3) A candidate for the Office of Governor and Lt Governor cannot own any money or owe any debts to the Tribes.

4) A candidate for the Office of Governor and Lt Governor shall submit copies of his or her Federal Income Tax for the previous five years and provide a written list of all of his or her personal and property income tax returns.

5) A candidate for the Office of Governor and Lt Governor cannot own any money or owe any debts to the Tribes.

The minimum qualifications for District Legislative Candidates are as follows:

1) The candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor Candidates are as follows:

- The candidates for Governor and Lt Governor shall be enrolled members of the tribe at least 30 years old; and
- Each person must have a Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited school.

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between the two prior administrations and the BIA, the Bureau of Indian Affairs was already operating under an extremely difficult operating environment at the time. The BIA was faced with a number of competing responsibilities and priorities, including the implementation of new and updated regulations and policies, the enforcement of existing laws and regulations, and the provision of essential services to Indian tribes and their members. The BIA also had to address the challenges of limited resources and budget constraints, which made it difficult to deliver the services and programs that were needed by Indian tribes and their members.

In addition to the over $8 million received from the Nez Perce settlement, the tribes were also awarded reimbursement of $125,000 for funds spent attempting to recoup funds released to Harold Harjo by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (unsubstantiated photo).

The Nez Perce settlement, reached in May 2016, resolved a long-standing dispute between the Nez Perce Tribe and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) over the mismanagement of trust funds. The settlement amounted to over $8 million and was the result of a lawsuit filed by the Nez Perce Tribe against the BIA for failing to properly manage the tribe's trust funds.

The lawsuit, known as the Nez Perce Trust Fund Case, had been ongoing for over 20 years and involved a variety of issues, including the mismanagement of trust funds, the lack of proper oversight and accountability, and the failure to address the needs of the tribe.

The settlement was reached following a series of negotiations between the Nez Perce Tribe and the BIA, which had been ongoing for several years. The settlement included a financial compensation for the tribe, as well as a commitment by the BIA to improve its oversight and management of trust funds in the future.

The settlement was hailed as a significant victory for the tribe, which had been fighting for the proper management of its trust funds for many years. The tribe had been seeking compensation for the mismanagement of its trust funds, which had led to a loss of more than $10 million over the years.

The settlement also included a commitment by the BIA to improve its oversight and management of trust funds in the future, which was seen as an important step in ensuring the proper management of trust funds for Indian tribes.

The settlement was a significant milestone in the tribe's fight for justice and fairness, and it was seen as a win for the tribe and for Native American rights.
EMPLOYMENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

QUALIFICATIONS:
Completion of Master’s Degree in Social Work or related field and demonstration of professional competence in the use of techniques, methods, theory and practice of social work. Must possess a working knowledge and understanding of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, rules and regulations. Ability to work flexible hours, willing to travel. Must have knowledge of governmental laws, rules and regulations. Posse communication skills, written and oral, to relate to clients and work as effectively with Indian and non-Indian communities, other agencies and the general public. Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality on all client matters and other matters protected by the Privacy Act. Knowledge of the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Knowl-
edge of various laws, rules and regulations governing accounting activities. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver’s license to operate a govern- ment owned vehicle. Pledge knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal History. Ability to work with difficult clients with various social problems and challenges. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver’s license to operate a govern- ment owned vehicle. Pledge knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal History. Ability to work with difficult clients with various social problems and challenges.

SALARY: Negotiable

CAREWORKER

QUALIFICATIONS:
Preferred bachelor’s degree in social work or related field and/or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Requires one year of experience in professional related capacity. Knowledge of and com-
dom drug testing. Must be able to work flexible hours, willing to travel. Must have knowledge of governmental laws, rules and regulations. Knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal History. Ability to work flexible hours and ability to work other than normal working hours including weekends and holidays. Ability to work flexible hours and ability to work other than normal working hours including weekends and holidays. High school di-
gla or GED equivalent. Must be able to work flexible hours, willing to travel. Must have knowledge of governmental laws, rules and regulations. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver’s license to operate a government owned vehicle. Pledge knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal History. Ability to work with difficult clients with various social problems and challenges.

SALARY: Negotiable

CLINIC OFFICE MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS:
Knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal History. Ability to work flexible hours, willing to travel. Must have knowledge of governmental laws, rules and regulations. Knowledge of various laws, rules and regulations. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver’s license to operate a government owned vehicle. Pledge knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal History. Ability to work with difficult clients with various social problems and challenges.

SALARY: Negotiable

LAWS

LEGAL NOTICES

The Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Johnson O’Malley Program awarded first semester grades and attendance to the following students:

All As: Adeline Tabletchappyihi 45 Jacen Bear $50 Mayanama Narcosy 50 Anana Bear $50 Daniel Thompson $50 Calli Thompson $50 Evan Roman $50 Carver Roman Sioux $50 Bryce Black $50 Zaina Williams $50 Amethyst Tripp $50 Vicente Baxachery $50 Yaremi Baxachery $50 Jack Baxachery $50 Anna Caliva $50 Saniya Byrd $50 Bryleigh Burns $50 Elizabeth Yellowbear $50 Ayla Bruner $50 Hunter Thompson $50

OKLAHOMA INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

Will be conducting a Free Wills & Estate Clinic For Low Income Tribal Members of Native American descent of Oklahoma and have Tribal Land

9-10 a.m. 10-11 a.m. 11-12 p.m.

2100 EAGLE PRESS RD. CLEVELAND, OK 73601

Call to schedule an appointment at 405-242-0417 or via email cilm@oilsonline.org

ATTENTION: Any Native land owners within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Nation's Tribal Land Buy Back Program contact us at 405-422-7403 or by email cilm@oilsonline.org

HARMON OUSTANDING STUDENTS

The Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Johnson O’Malley Program awarded first semester grades and attendance to the following students:

All As: Adeline Tableychaptihi 45 Jacen Bear $50 Mayanama Narcosy 50 Anana Bear $50 Daniel Thompson $50 Calli Thompson $50 Evan Roman $50 Carver Roman Sioux $50 Bryce Black $50 Zaina Williams $50 Amethyst Tripp $50 Vicente Baxachery $50 Yaremi Baxachery $50 Jack Baxachery $50 Anna Caliva $50 Saniya Byrd $50 Bryleigh Burns $50 Elizabeth Yellowbear $50 Ayla Bruner $50 Hunter Thompson $50

Wal-Mart gift card and re- ceived a t-shirt or hoodie. We would like to con gratulate all our tribal stu dents for doing a job well done.


“Wal-Mart gift card and re-ceived a t-shirt or hoodie. We would like to congratulate all our tribal students for doing a job well done.”


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Wal-Mart gift card and re-ceived a t-shirt or hoodie. We would like to congratulate all our tribal students for doing a job well done.
Clinton Indian Health Center celebrates 10 years of service

On March 10, the Clinton Indian Health Center (CIHC) celebrated their 10th year anniversary. Many joined and came together to commemorate the celebration. The CIHC was originally known as the Clinton Indian Hospital, built in 1933. In 2007, the hospital became officially known as the Clinton Indian Health Center, Health officials, along with public invites, were enlightened on what it took for CIHC to become what it is known today.

“It think today is really an understanding and acknowledging where we used to be, where we came from in essence, to recognizing that we have this new facility, let us look back and see how much we have increased, how services are getting better, we're expanding those services and really looking at the health care needs of the tribal population,” Nicolas Barton, Cheyenne and Arapaho Health Department executive director, said.

Through partnerships and collaborations, CIHC has become a well-developed health care facility, with hopes to expand its services. While the building itself has remained standing for years, Barton said that it is not about the building itself.

“The building is nice, its been 10 years, its been remodeled since then but it's so much more than that, it’s the spirit of partnership and collaboration with IHS,” Barton said.

The celebration also recognized changes CIHC went through. The new CIHC, since 2007, has expanded in services over the years, adding new equipment and bringing in new employment opportunities for qualified people. Some of the new additions to CIHC are radiology services, pain management and physical therapy.

“Coming into this new clinic, there’s room and potential for expansion and IHS has done that. Such as expanding radiology to include a CT scan, before we had to be referred out through the Purchase and Referred Care, or Contract Health as it used to be called. So now we’re saving those service unit dollars on that referral by taking it in-house, another one is pain management and physical therapy. The service unit is able to save those referral dollars by hiring qualified staff, expanding the service department here and really investing and keeping our tribal members here local to have that rehabilitative care,” Barton said.

While the services in CIHC are growing and expanding, CIHC also acknowledged the importance of partnerships and collaborating with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

“As the Clinton Service Unit values all of the collaborative relationships we’ve formed with our community and tribal partners. We are so blessed and thankful for the relationship we have with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, in particular the relationship we’ve fostered with the programs within the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes’ Department of Health,” Kristie Purdy, CIHC Public Information Officer, said during the ceremony.

With hopes of expanding services in the future, the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes Health Department hopes to further their partnership success with IHS.

“I want the tribes to be successful and continually engage with IHS as long as we have them as our provider of choice, to really work that partnership and work together to reduce health disparities, if we can overcome diabetes and other chronic diseases such as the disease of the heart or diabetes, kidney failure, if we can address those problems, we’ll be a better nation and we’ll have a better health system because of it,” Barton said.

By Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter