



Judge approves nearly \$1B settlement between US and tribes

By Mary Hudetz
Associated Press

A judge has approved a nearly \$1 billion settlement between the Obama administration and Native American tribes over claims the government shorted tribes for decades on contract costs to manage education, law enforcement and other federal services.

Attorneys for the tribes learned Wednesday that a federal judge in Albuquerque approved the agreement, about five months after the Interior Department and tribal leaders announced they had reached a proposed \$940 million settlement in the class-action lawsuit.

The judge's approval filed late Tuesday starts a process to release payment to the tribes that an attorney said could take several months. The ruling also authorized a \$1.2 million reimbursement for lead plaintiff's costs, and an agreement for attorneys to receive 8.5 percent of the final settlement amount.

"The end result was there were no objections to the settlement and no objections to the fee request," said Michael Gross, an attorney for the tribes. "This showed a unity among Indian tribes that is absolutely astounding."

Nearly 700 tribes or tribal agencies are expected to claim compensation, with amounts ranging from an estimated \$8,000 for some Alaska Native villages and communities elsewhere to \$58 million for the Navajo Nation.

Some underfunded federal contracts in the case reportedly dated back to the 1970s, when a policy change allowed tribes to gain more oversight of federal programs meant to fulfill obligations established through treaties and other agreements.

Val Panteah, governor of Zuni Pueblo, described "a financial death spiral" that came as his government tried to offset losses from the contracts in New Mexico. Other tribal leaders described trying to stem losses from the underfunded contracts with painful budget cuts as they tried to meet critical needs in their communities.

The case was first filed in 1990 by the Ramah Navajo Chapter, a community of about 4,000 that became the case's lead plaintiff, along with the Oglala Sioux Tribe in South Dakota and Zuni Pueblo.

In 2012, the case went before the U.S. Supreme Court, which sided with the tribes and sent the case back to the lower courts before the Interior Department announced a proposed settlement in September.

Since the Supreme Court ruling, Congress has appropriated hundreds of millions
See **Settlement** pg. 8

Cheyenne & Arapaho Lieutenant Governor speaks at Native American Caucus



On March 8, 2016 Cheyenne and Arapaho Lt. Governor Cornell Sankey was invited to speak at the Oklahoma House of Representatives Native Caucus luncheon held at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

Sankey shared his experience after discharging from the U.S. Marine Corp. and the issue of homelessness among veterans.

"I wish there were programs back when I was a homeless veteran like HUD-VASH. I see homeless everyday

among veterans and it is heartbreaking. I know how it feels to have lost hope and to be isolated. I have made changes in my life and have sought help thru the VA medical facility. I have used my G.I. Bill to help complete my B.B.A. and now my tribes are helping me attain my MBA. I have come so far but something in the back of my head keeps telling me it could all go away," Sankey said as he spoke to state representatives and guests. "I am thankful and I love the United States Marine

Corps for saving my life. I am thankful for the help the VA has given me, but it's the other Native American veterans that I am so concerned for, the ones who never ask for help. There is a stigma among us veterans in general, we feel ashamed to ask for help, after all we served in the most powerful fighting force in the world. This stigma has created barriers for us all that we need to overcome. I know today that there is nothing more courageous than asking for help."

Meetings of shareholders provide opportunities for information

By Rosemary Stephens, Editor-in-Chief

Hosting quarterly shareholder meetings has been the practice of Governor Eddie Hamilton and Lt. Governor Cornell Sankey since taking office in 2014. Following that practice the executive office hosted their first 2016 quarterly shareholder meetings during the months of February and March.

Meetings are scheduled at different communities throughout the year, with the first quarter meetings being held in Canton, Kingfisher, Clinton and lastly Oklahoma City.

During the March 8 meeting held at the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City, Department of Administration Executive Director Teresa Dorsett opened the meeting by asking elder Bill Tallbear Sr. to offer prayer. A practice that is common before many of the meetings.

"Tonight marks our fourth meeting and last meeting for this session (quarter) and will start up again in a couple of months. The meetings have been good, we are providing a lot of information, financial information is mostly from the 2015 year, and how the tribes are spending the money. As a result of the meetings and the result of us providing information we have gotten a lot of good questions, which is the purpose of these meetings to provide and share information and answer the questions you all have. If we can't answer them, then we need to go back and find the answers to those questions. On behalf of the executive office, Governor Eddie Hamilton and Lt. Governor Cornell Sankey we

welcome you to the Oklahoma City shareholder meeting," Dorsett said in her welcoming remarks. "We would like to point out that number one how important it is to have these meetings, to share information with you and to get community tribal member input about what happens at the tribes. These meetings, we consider them similar as tribal council meetings where we can come together and provide information, ask questions, debate, have dialogue on whatever it is that you feel like you want to talk about and provide feedback on the information we share here tonight."

Dorsett narrated alongside a Powerpoint presentation, with the first slide stating, 'What is a Shareholder?'

"A shareholder is an owner of shares in a company. Shareholder responsibilities include engaging in the process and providing input into the future planning for the tribes ... we all have a voice."

Below is a break down of information provided under each department.

Department of Administration
Elder Care Program

Elder Care Program assisted a total of 1,600 tribal elders with monthly food cards totaling \$2,892,000. They also assisted elders with the 2015 summer cooling/heating assistance totaling \$555,326.

The Helping Our People Excel (HOPE Program) following their program guidelines assisted tribal members with a total of \$558,206.
Economic Development



Photo by Rosemary Stephens
Governor Eddie Hamilton addresses questions and concerns during the March 8 shareholder meeting in Oklahoma City.

The Economic Development (ED) program is operating from principles of the 2011-2016 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan (CEDS) and in the year 2015 ED rebuilding the framework for efficient/effective management of current resources which included priorities of building the capacity for the tribes' farm and ranch business, develop construction services as a business and develop agricultural production capability on tribal reserves.

The ED 2016 goals and priorities include developing opportunities on tribal property along the I-40 highway, incorporate community input in economic development

planning, acquire necessary work equipment to perform efficient business operations and establish a tribal business development corporation to own and manage tribal business entities.

"Nathan Hart, (director of Economic Development) has put together a PowerPoint presentation that details all of the land that the tribes own, what the status of that land is, if it's being leased out and if so for how much, what would be the best business development ideas for various tracts of land. I am hoping we can eventually start some economic development community meetings because I feel that would be a good way

to update our economic development needs and wants and show you what our resources are so tribal members can share some input on those," Dorsett said.

Department of Education, Executive Director Carrie Whitlow

Tribal students and members were assisted with school supplies for children through the Johnson O'Malley program totaling \$103,401.

Higher Education provided college scholarships totaling \$507,238.

The School Clothing Program provided vouchers in 2015 totaling \$538,200.

See **Shareholder meeting** pg. 4

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Obama names National Advisory Council on Indian Education members

Dahkota Kicking Bear Brown youngest advisor ever appointed

By Rosemary Stephens, Editor-in-Chief

When most 17 year olds are planning what they will wear to their junior/senior prom and their summer activities, Dahkota Kicking Bear Brown will be focused on what he can bring to the table to improve Indian education in the U.S.

President Barak Obama recently named Brown as one of four new members of the National Advisory Council on Indian Education (NACIE). At 17 years of age he is the youngest member of the council to ever be appointed. The other three named were Phyllis Anderson, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians' tribal chief, Joely Proudft, California State University, San Marcos associate professor and Mandy Smoker Broaddus, director of the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

Brown is most noted for being one of five Champions for Change recipients in 2013 for his after school study group entitled Native Education Raising Dedicated Students (NERDS). And he is quite comfortable in the company of President Obama and first lady Michelle Obama, having already met the president five times and even hugged Michelle.

One of his responses about his appointment was, "I love that this advisory council exists, however it's a little disappointing that I am the first youth because being that this is Indian education the focus should be on the youth."

Approximately two years ago President Obama put out a call to service for the NACIE seeking nominees and applications to serve on the council of 15 when Brown jokingly told his family he was thinking of applying because he had things he wanted to discuss with the Secretary of Education, who at that time was Arne Duncan.

"Apparently, my older brother Dahilton took me serious or at least thought it would get me a nice letter from the president thanking me for being nominated, because without my knowledge he did just that and nominated me," Brown said. "Dahilton is 22 and attending Stanford University where he graduated last year with a B.A. in Native American Studies and Interdisciplinary Honors in Education. He is currently at Stanford Graduate School of Education where is he will graduate in June with his Master's in Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies. He is my biggest inspiration and the co-founder and my partner for NERDS. It is because of him I was contacted last year to submit an application."

Brown's idea for NERDS was due to his concern for the well-being of his fellow students that were failing and drop-



Dahkota Kicking Bear Brown meets first lady Michelle Obama on one of his five trips to the White House. (Courtesy photo)

ping out he said.

"Native American youth have the highest dropout rate and are the least represented in college. Also, we have a higher rate of alcoholism versus non-Natives, the highest incarceration rate and currently one in three Native women suffer a sexual assault," Brown said. "One in five Native young men suffer a hate crime beating and all of these lead to the highest rate of teen suicide. We're also one of the only races still depicted as a mascot where our cultural identity is being stripped daily."

Combining all of these issues he said the mission of NERDS is to decrease the dropout rate among Native American high school students through peer-to-peer mentoring.

"To date NERDS has a 100 percent success rate in enabling students to graduate. Since we introduced NERDS to Argonaut High School, 19 students have graduated high school that were previously failing and struggling. The programming includes 7th - 12th grades in study sessions, peer-led talking circles, cultural gatherings and engagement with positive, sober and educated role models," he said.

With this type of success rate among Brown's after school study program, there is little doubt that he will make a big impact on Indian education with his ideas, visions and proactive stance for improving graduation rates among Native Americans.

"I want a CAN DO attitude, a willingness to create positive change and work hard to bring other youth perspectives to the table while on the advisory council. I want to be the voice of others, there are only 15 See **Dahkota Brown** pg. 4

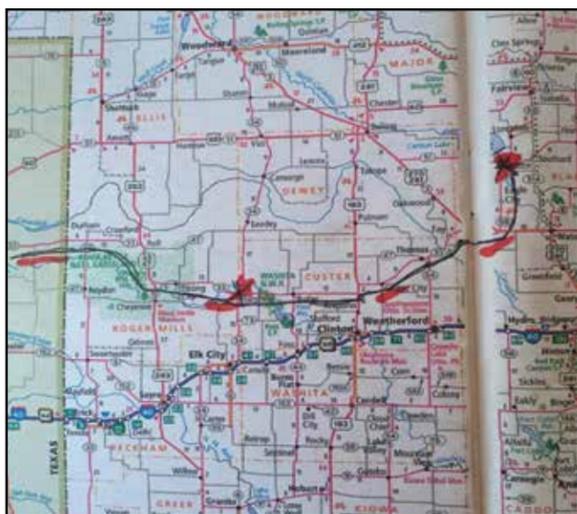
Dennis Banks declares war on drugs with Longest Walk 5

Dennis Banks, a co-founder of the American Indian Movement, will be leading the Longest Walk 5 beginning February 13 at La Jolla Shores in San Diego, Calif. Banks has declared this walk to be a war on drugs.

The first Longest Walk was organized in 1978 to bring attention to 11 bills pending in the U.S. Congress. The Native Americans Equal Opportunity Act would have eliminated all treaties between the U.S. government and tribal nations. This bill did not pass largely due to the attention brought by the walk from California to Washington D.C.

The Longest Walk 2, "All Life is Sacred" was organized in 2008 to bring attention to the need to protect sacred sites on tribal land throughout Indian country. Singer Harry Belafonte attended the rally in Washington, D.C. when walkers arrived.

The Longest Walk 3, "Reversing Diabetes" was organized in 2011 to bring attention to the diabetes epidemic throughout Indian country. Native Americans suffer the highest rates of diabetes, fol-



lowed by African Americans

The Longest Walk 4 was a reverse walk held in 2014. It began in Washington, D.C. and ended on Alcatraz Island. The purpose was to educate Americans about the history of many tribal removals from their homelands due to government policy.

The Longest Walk 5, "War on Drugs" will cover 3,600 miles, and will travel through Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia before end-

ing in Washington, D.C. on July 15.

According to Banks, this walk will be dedicated to finding solutions to the current drug epidemic in Indian country and domestic violence against Native women. Both issues are important to him personally.

The Banks family recently completed funeral services for his beloved granddaughter Rose Downwind, who died tragically in October 2015 as a result of domestic violence. Her remains were discovered in a shallow grave outside of Bemidji,

Minn. The perpetrator is now in prison charged with manslaughter but that doesn't ease the sorrow and pain her family continues to feel over the untimely passing of this beautiful Native daughter, granddaughter, and mother.

"Domestic violence and drugs are the most important issues facing our Native people at this time. I spoke recently with a Native woman who told me that four generations of her family have suffered from domestic violence. I want to find solutions to these problems, no matter how far I must walk to do so," Banks said. "We must help guide our young men back to their own cultural and traditional roots. I do not believe we experienced this much violence historically in our tribes before colonization. It is a direct result of the Christian Church's historic pattern of abuse and colonization. We must find a solution to this continued brutality of our Native women and our earth. Drugs have played a large part in making domestic violence even more brutal and widespread."

All along this 3,600-mile

See **Longest walk** pg. 4

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IT'S THAT TIME - CELEBRATING GRADUATES
The Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes' Annual Graduation Banquet - May 5, 2016
Frisco Center - Clinton, Okla.

2016 Annual Graduation Publication will be published June 1, 2016
IF GRADUATES ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND BANQUET - PHOTOS WILL BE TAKEN AT THAT TIME
IF NOT - PLEASE SUBMIT A GRADUATION PHOTO ALONG WITH NAME, SCHOOL, DEGREE (IF APPLICABLE)

Photos may be emailed to rmstephens@c-a-tribes.org
Mailed to Tribal Tribune, PO Box 38, Concho, OK 73022 or
Delivered to Tribal Tribune office - Bldg. 1 - Concho

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PHOTOS MAY 16, 2016

Cheyenne & Arapaho College 2015 Graduates

College & High School Graduates

Cheyenne & Arapaho High School 2015 Graduates

Cheyenne & Arapaho Head Start 2015 Graduates

Head Start Photos will be taken by Tribal Tribune

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Program
Easter Egg Hunts

Inviting Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Members - Youth and Elders!

March 26, 2016 @ 11:00 a.m.
Concho Ball Fields & Clinton Respect Gym

Egg Hunt Categories
4 & 11
5 - 7
8 - 10
11 - 14
15 - 18
Elders

Best Decorated Egg Contest

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The original American Indian Exposition – 1935 Charter

On Sunday, Oct. 25, 2015, 250 plus tribal members, 13 tribal directors representing their respective tribes, voted to elect an executive board of directors to serve on the board of the 'Original American Indian Exposition.' The following tribal representatives were elected into office:

J.T. Goombi - President
Arthur Schrock - Vice-President
Wilson Daingkau - Secretary

Alan Yeahquo – Treasurer
The following tribes were represented by their tribally appointed directors and their princesses, Apache, Arapaho, Caddo, Cheyenne, Comanche, Delaware, Ft. Sill Apache, Kiowa, Osage, Otoe, Pawnee, Ponca and Wichita. Since that time we have had three additional tribes join the active ranks of the 'Original American Indian Exposition' as well as several other tribes calling and giving notice of their intent to join the organization. We will be visiting them very soon to finalize their request.

As you have noticed, we promote ourselves as the 'Original American Indian Exposition.' We make this distinction for the public to clarify the fact the 'Original American Indian Exposition' was the initial Oklahoma State Charter establishing the not-for-profit organization, American Indian Exposition on Aug. 22, 1935.

Since this time there have been five other American Indian Exposition corporations formed in Oklahoma, four of which are still in existence and one that has expired its status.

The following is a list of the American Indian Expositions:

tion corporations:

American Indian Exposition - Charter of Aug. 22, 1935

JT Goombi, President
Anadarko, Okla.

American Indian Exposition – Charter of July 29, 1936

Tulsa, Okla.

The Former American Indian Expositions (Inactive) – Charter of April 10, 1973

Princess Sorority (Inactive)

American Indian Exposition of Tourism Development, Inc. – Charter of Nov. 19, 1993

(Inactive)

The American Indian Exposition of Oklahoma, Inc. – Charter of Jan. 22, 2008

Rudy Tartsah, President
Demoted to Vice-President (date of action unknown)

Cache, Okla.

The American Indian Exposition of Oklahoma, Inc. – Charter of Sept. 6, 2011

(Expired)

Only one other corporation, The American Indian Exposition of Oklahoma, Inc., located in Cache, Okla., is operational and we have no idea what they are doing, but they have a right to do something. In fact, anyone with the reactivation fee can reactivate any one of these charters listed above or simply file another charter. We went back to the original charter and reactivated the Charter of 1935 and have the documents to verify us as legally renewed.

The original Oklahoma State 1935 Charter of the American Indian Exposition has posted a 2016 Regular Meeting Calendar as follows:

Jan. 17, 2016
Feb. 21, 2016
March 6, 2016
April 17, 2016
May 22, 2016
June 26, 2016
July 17, 2016
Aug. 21, 2016
Sept. 18, 2016
Oct. 16, 2016
Nov. 20, 2016
Dec. 11, 2016

The 2016 American Indian Exposition will be held Aug. 1-6, 2016 at the Caddo County Fairgrounds in Anadarko, Okla.

As of Feb. 21, 2016 the board of directors, by resolution, unanimously combined and created the Secretary/Treasurer position to remove the former Treasurer Alan Yeahquo for failing to fulfill board obligations.

The Executive Committee of the Original American Indian Exposition is as follows:

J.T. Goombi, President
Arthur Schrock, Vice-President
Wilson Daingkau, Secretary/Treasurer

Miss American Indian Exposition 2014-2016

Sydney Prince Morgan, Wichita tribal member

Below is a list of Board of Directors and Princesses:

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma

Tribally Un-Appointed, Director

Mariah Houze, Princess
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma

Dana Medina, Director
Samantha Guy, Princess

Comanche Nation of Oklahoma

Donita Sovo, Director
Kelsey Codynah, Princess

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Karen Yeahquo, Cheyenne Director

Evana Wilson, Princess
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Dara Franklin, Arapaho Director

Emma Washee, Arapaho Princess

Delaware Nation of Oklahoma

Lauryn French, Director
Debbie Echiwaudah Jr., Princess

Ft. Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma

Adrian Gooday, Director
Haylee Buckner, Princess

Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma

Jolene Beartrack, Director

Theresa Kiley, Princess
The Osage Nation

Chalene Toehay-Tartsah, Director

Alissa Hamilton, Princess
Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Tribally Un-appointed Representatives

Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

Tom Morgan, Director
Sky Seeing Leading Fox, Princess

Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Jenny Rush-Buffalohead, Director

Lexia Leney Kent, Princess

Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma

Tribally Un-appointed Representatives

Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma

Tara Tartsah-Clark, Director

Charlie McAdams, Princess

American Indian Exposition, PO Box 1003, Anadarko, OK 73005

George Hawkins Memorial Treatment Center
10320 North Airport Road, Clinton, OK 73601

The Substance Abuse Program can be contacted at (580) 331-2370 or by dialing toll free (800) 247-4612 extension 32370.

For information by e-mail Director Harold Spradling at hspradling@c-a-tribes.org.

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Sometimes All a Child Needs is an Outstretched Hand to Hold Onto

Spiritual Health & Nutrition Month

Friday, March 25, 2016
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
El Reno Indian Baptist Church

Invited Guests:
Pastor Willie Doyeto—"Spiritual Health"
Kerri Felmlee—"Nutrition"
Deborah Ellis—"Health Education"

CHR's will be screening for:
• Blood Pressure Check
• Blood Sugar Check

For More Information:
Clifton Ellis, CHR or CHR Program (405) 422-7670

Light Lunch will be provided by A2 & C2 Legislators

Door Prize drawings

2016 Miss Indian World Pageant now accepting applications

(ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.) The 33rd Annual Gathering of Nations, the world's largest gathering of Native American and indigenous people, announces it has begun accepting applications for the 2016 Miss Indian World competition.

Every year, Native American women representing their different tribes and traditions compete for the title of Miss Indian World in the areas of tribal knowledge, dancing ability, public speaking, essay, and personality assessment.

The 2016 Miss Indian World will serve as a cultural goodwill ambassador for all native and indigenous people on behalf of the Gathering of Nations for one year.

In order to compete for 2016 Miss Indian World, candidates must meet specific criteria. The pageant is open to any single woman who is between the ages of 18 years old to 25 years old, has never been mar-

ried, has no children, and has knowledge of tribal traditions. The application includes a personal essay, two letters of recommendation, a current photograph, and proof of tribal affiliation. All current tribal royalty and all young native ladies are encouraged to apply. Applications must be received by March 20, 2016 at 3301 Coors Road NW, R300 Albuquerque, NM 87120, or sent by fax to (505) 839-0475.

Once selected, contestants will compete in a traditional talent presentation representing their tribe, public speaking ability, private interviews with the judges, a dance competition through powwow music based on expression and individual interpretation of the song.

The Miss Indian World pageant begins with the talent presentations on Thursday, April 28 at 7 p.m. at the Albuquerque Convention Center's Kiva Auditorium in Albuquerque and continues throughout the

Gathering of Nations taking place at The University of New Mexico's Wise-Pie's Arena (known locally as "The Pit") in Albuquerque, N.M.

With much fanfare, the new Miss Indian World will be crowned on Saturday, April 30 at 8:30 p.m. at the powwow. This year's Miss Indian World Pageant will be hosted by Lisa Meeches, executive producer of Eagle Vision Inc., Meeches Video Productions from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and Jason Whitehouse, a performer from the Native American Dance Theatre in Madison Heights, Mich.

This year's event will also feature a special performance by Samantha Crain, a folk-rock singer, songwriter from Shawnee, Okla. who has recently gained international attention as a musician.

Tickets to the Miss Indian World talent presentations are \$15 at the door and can be pre-purchased online at www.gatheringofnations.com



Cheyenne Brady
2015 Miss Indian World

www.gofnations.com/now-available-2016-gon-advance-tickets/.

For more information about the Miss Indian World Program and for the online application, please visit www.gatheringofnations.com/miss-indian-world-information.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune
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2010-2015 NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALIST ASSOCIATION MEDIA AWARD WINNER & 2012-2015 AWARD WINNER OF THE OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

Shareholder meeting

continued from pg. 1

Department of Housing (DOH), Executive Director William Tallbear Jr.

The DOH is now under the control and management of the tribes. Their services will resume as normal.

The DOH received the Tribal HUD-VA Supportive Housing Program grant in the amount of \$272,016.

DOH offers emergency home repairs to qualified tribal members and is providing elderly lawn services that will be contracted out with tribal members to perform the work.

In 2015, the DOH held an inaugural Home Fair with over 150 participants. The 2016 Home Fair is scheduled for April 16, 2016 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla.

Department of Social Services, Executive Director Nikki Factor

In 2015, the Department Social Services assisted families that met the guidelines for the LIHEAP Program with blankets, heaters and air conditioners.

With a CSBG grant, Social Services offered further assistance for families in need with reconnection fees for electricity and food assistance.

Department of Health, Executive Director Nicolas Barton

They are partnering with TSPF, Culture and Heritage and the R.E.Sp.E.C.T. Program to provide Family Cultural Nights, being reported as being well received throughout the communities.

“Along with many of the programs at the tribes, I think we have all been looking for ways to be more efficient and to make better use of our funds and reach out more to our tribal members; and one of the things that Culture and Heritage program has done in particular is to provide these craft nights in connection with other tribal programs. A lot of the money is being spent on buying the supplies that they can actually take to these communities and to help them to learn

make regalia or moccasins or whatever it is. From the pictures I see on Facebook they are very popular classes and I think they are going in the right direction with that,” Dorsett said.

They are organizing the Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, March 22 to be held through the service areas.

Diabetes Wellness is providing health screenings in local schools.

The DOH is continuing to partner with the Clinton HIS on the El Reno Indian Clinic expansion and community baby shower that will be held on May 12.

EMS is offering CPR and First Aid training and DOH is applying for two grant opportunities to study and improve health disparities related to obesity and tobacco consumption.

Department of Enrollment, Interim Executive Director Jeffrey Elizondo

The Department of Enrollment reported paying out \$788,379. for funeral assistance in 2015. They provided meals and transportation assistance totaling \$99,030 and head stone assistance totaling \$26,304.

Following along with the PowerPoint presentation tribal casino management was introduced as:

General Manager Mannix Barnes

Assistance General Managers

Tracer Hamilton, Concho Vanessa Pedro, Concho Travel Center

Robert RomanNose, Clinton

Chris Derenzo, Watonga Hannah Littlecoyote, Canton

Jason Goodblanket, Hammon

Total year casino distributions to the tribes were displayed as follows:

2009 - \$29,439,133.60
2010 - \$30,148,654.00
2011 - \$27,055,010.41
2012 - \$31,038,946.66
2013 - \$29,098,254.86
2014 - \$41,989,587.07
2015 - \$42,168,640.04

Next Dorsett ran through the breakdown for the Tax Commission revenue. All figures are from 2015.

Severance tax totaled \$2,184,773.

Cigarette tax totaled \$13,922.

State Tribal Compact Stamps totaled \$142,873.

Motor Vehicle Tax totaled \$243,839.

Gaming License Fees totaled \$232,950.

Business – Vendor – License totaled \$3,500.

Sales Tax totaled \$67,651.

“On a side note, money that had been held by BIA Superintendent Betty Tippeconnie was released last year on May 28, however, that per capita payment had already been paid out to tribal members by use of a loan from the tax commission, so once the tribes received that money from the BIA it was paid back to tax commission. The amount totaled \$4,223,702.05,” Dorsett said.

Oklahoma Tax Commission Motor Fuels Revenue, by quarters.

1st quarter - \$92,050.

2nd quarter \$84,162.

3rd quarter \$98,630.

4th quarter \$88,292.

2015 Motor Fuels to Programs totaled:

Roads – \$90,784.

Health - \$90,784.

Education \$90,784.

Security - \$90,784.

A slide within the presentation broke down the 2015 Tax Commission appropriations by general categories, which included electrical upgrades to tribal complex, education HVAC system/roof, tribal program special projects, EMS roof replacement, community hall parking lots, powwows, head start IPADS, master students lap tops, HIS electrical repairs/upgrades, school clothing, Concho land clean up, language program app, Sand Creek monument/transportation, storm shelters, Nez Perce Settlement, and other projects that were detailed within a handout provided to tribal members,



Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes' Department of Administration Executive Director Teresa Dorsett walks through a Powerpoint slide show during the March 8 shareholders meeting providing information to tribal members at the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City.

totalled \$3,347,669.86.

The 2016 Gaming Per Capita breakdown was as displayed as distribution totals for July 2015 – January 2016 totaled \$20,410,069.84 times 20 percent equals \$4,082,013.97 available, to date, for the 2016 gaming per cap payment. Divide \$4,082,013.97 by 12,740 eligible tribal members and if per cap payments were sent out now, the amount would be \$320.41.

Minor Gaming Per Capita Breakdown

Last year 199 tribal minors turned 18 years of age, receiving \$2,586.65.

This year there will be 203 minors who will age out and be paid \$3,145.25. These would be minors whose birth range from Aug. 1, 1997 through July 31, 1998.

“The tribes are working with a third party partnership with Providence First Trust Company based out of Scottsdale, Arizona to help manage the minor’s trust accounts. Providence will be able to provide bi-annual statements to the address the Department of Enrollment has on file to our tribal youth informing them of their current account balance and they are hoping to get this process going by early 2017 and the tribal leadership will keep you updated on the progress of this,” Dorsett said.

Currently the minor trust accounts are being managed

by Edward Jones Investments.

“The last thing we want to talk about is the Nez Perce because tribal members know we will be getting the Nez Perce settlement or at least in the process of getting the money to the tribes. There has been a lot of discussion on how the tribes will spend that money, and it is the belief of our tribal leadership that this decision will be made by our tribal members. This slide is just an example of what some of this money could be spent on,” Dorsett said as she pointed to the last slide in the presentation. “This is just eight of a 100 things the money could be spent on and it’s not telling you that these things are what it’s going to be spent on, but just meant to let you know that one, the money is coming, and two that our tribal leadership believes dialogue/discussion is needed about how this money will be best suited for our tribal members now and in the future.”

The options listed as possible options for discussion for the Nez Perce settlement included:

New tribal administration building

Community facilities

Economic development/business developments

Per capita payment

Concho medical/health facility

See **Shareholder meeting** pg. 7

Dahkota Brown

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spots at this table but I want my one voice to reflect that of thousands. I am in awe of the other members on NACIE, they have incredible stories of success, hard work, education and unique backgrounds as members of different Tribal Nations, so I am bringing an eagerness to learn from them all as well as sharing my own experiences of the past 13 years in Indian education!” Brown exclaimed.

Brown said his entire Native community has inspired him throughout his young life and specifically the people within his immediate family.

“My father fought his entire life to overcome poverty, homelessness, abuse and lack of educational opportunities. In doing so, he has taught me to be a man by instilling work ethic, values and teaching our customs and traditions like hunting and making my great-grandmother’s fry bread. My older brother has inspired me with leadership skills, lessons of responsibility and the habit to push me in bettering myself. My mother is the most important person, because she’s the backbone of our family and keeps me feeling loved, organized and always wanting to better the world we live in by striving for education,” Brown said. “My exposure to many people

and events has helped shape me and now my passions are many. I’m a proud California Miwok committed to my culture and thanks to my auntie Darlene Brown who helped me make my first set of riggins, I love attending ceremony to dance and pray for our people.”

Brown believes his appointment to the NACIE is not just his accomplishment but a message for all of Indian Country.

“I personally believe a new chapter has begun in which youth voices will make an extreme impact. We as an entire Nation, not just in Indian County, can benefit from listening to students and youth voices. This accomplishment shows youth everywhere that if you apply yourself, set goals, obtain them and speak up that influential people want to hear from them. I am honored to be chosen as the first youth ever appointed to a Presidential Advisory Council, but it’s not just about me. It’s about creating a better future for our youth and I want to be the voice for Native youth across the country ... a voice I plan on using often.”

Brown has set up an email specifically to hear from Native youth about Indian education and ideas to present to the council, Dahkota.nacie17@gmail.com.

Longest walk

continued from pg. 2

journey Banks plans to work with communities to collect information on ways to heal the people and the earth. The organizers plan to host forums and gather information from community leaders, law enforcement, clergy and drug program directors in each Native community they travel through, in order to find solutions to drug abuse and domestic violence.

“The issues facing our people and the issues facing our earth are connected. They both are from thinking that does not value people or the earth. As Native Americans, we say that all life is sacred and we will speak as the conscience of our earth as we journey across the United States,” Banks said.

Registration for all walkers, runners and volunteers was held on Feb. 12 at Barona Reservation in Lakeside, Calif. Events planned for the day included a sunrise/sunset sweat lodge, honoring drum songs, bird singing and dancing, desert songs, speakers and raffles were held throughout the day,

There was also kids jump house, games and prizes for children, and food and beverages were provided.

All walkers, runners, and volunteers met at La Jolla Shores on Feb. 13. Participating tribes in the San Diego area include Barona, San Pasqual, Rincon, Pauma, Pala, Pechanga, Soboba, Morongo, Palm Springs, and Torres Martinez. Walkers and runners left California to travel to Yuma, Ariz. While in Arizona, the group planned to visit the Oak Flat community and offer support as they battle against the sale of their sacred lands to a foreign mining company.

For information about registration, contact Bobby Wallace, Kumeyaay, at 619-318-2643 or Emily Burgueno at 619-550-7701.

For more information about the Longest Walk 5: War on Drugs contact National Coordinator Orlando Vigil at 619-820-5945.

Information can also be found on the Longest Walk’s website and Facebook page.



Dennis Banks shakes the hands of supporters as they set out on their Longest Walk 5. (Courtesy photo)

Around the world in two hours

By Rosemary Stephens, Editor-in-Chief



J.R. Lonelodge puts the thumbs up as he waits on the student travelers to make their way around the world. Lonelodge explained each detail of his regalia before performing the men's fancy dance. (Photos by Rosemary Stephens)

Passports in hand, Edgemere Elementary students excitedly make their way around the world, one booth at a time.

Edgemere Elementary hosted Multi-Cultural Night, Celebrate Diversity on March 3 to give students a chance to experience cultures and worlds beyond their own.

"This was actually an idea that our PTA moms and board members came up with. There has always been a conversation of how do we teach our students that there is a great big world out there and that there are all types of people in the world. We have a quote on the board up front that says, 'If we were all just the same wouldn't we all just be so boring.' We want our students to experience the flavors and the music and the art and just the different type of people and cultures in the world. We have great support tonight, I think there are samples of food touching every continent, there are several great representations and even Oklahoma is being represented here with our rich Native American culture and history," Colin Strickland, Edgemere Elementary Community School Coordinator said.

Starting at the passport booth students had their photos taken and pasted into a replica passport. Leaving the passport area students carried their passports, laughing, talking and pointing as they made their way to their first country of Poland and their first taste of a polish dish called bosni.

"I actually come from country of Poland. I moved here nine years ago and I teach special education at Edgemere. My students worked really hard to help me prepare all presentation for tonight. I can say education saved my life because I come from poverty in a fairly large city, and if I had not moved here and got my education I would still be in Poland living in poverty. I was able to come here and now I have two degrees, I am an educator and I want to do the same things for my students to help them to have a better future," Joanna Eldridge, Edgemere Elementary Special Education teacher said.

From Poland students and their families made their way to India where a young lady was demonstrating the art of using Mehndi (henna) to draw designs on the hands and palms of the students. Mehndi is a paste that is bought in

a cone shaped tube and is made into designs drawn on the palm's of predominantly women for festive occasions such as weddings, traditional ceremonies and religious events.

Traveling along their journey the students experienced foods, music and games from Africa, Mexico, Europe, making their way to the Cheyenne and Arapaho booth where world famous fancy dancer J.R. Lonelodge shared information about the culture of the Cheyenne and Arapaho.

"Well tonight I am showcasing some of our culture for the kids. I have my bustles up here on stage and am talking to them about how the fancy dance originated and hopefully have a good time," Lonelodge said.

At the end of their world travels, the students enjoyed a performance by Lonelodge and a group of Hispanic singers.

Edgemere Elementary, named in 1912 for its position on the edge of Oklahoma City, is one of the first community school in the city with neighbors and area organizations who are working together to transform the school into a thriving learning environment for its students, most of whom live in poverty.

A trend that is growing nationwide, community schools act as hubs of the community, offering services not only to students but also to residents who live near the schools. Each community school is as unique as its neighborhood. Some with onsite clinics open to the public offer primary medical and dental care. But community schools don't have a universal checklist of amenities. Each tailors its efforts to its community's needs.

According to a recent article published in the Oklahoma State's Dept. of Education newsletter David R. Lopez Community School at Edgemere Elementary was named after the former Oklahoma Secretary of State and interim superintendent of Oklahoma City Public Schools, a key figure in the school's transition from a traditional to a community model. Prior to Lopez and others' involvement, a negative reputation and low-test scores plagued the school. There is a significant amount of low-income housing in the area, and 94 percent of students qualify for Title I services.

Edgemere owes its success to an unlikely group of supporters called Friends of Edgemere, a group started in 2007 by residents without children in the school who wrote the initial proposal to create the community school.

"I hope that we can have more schools take our approach and pave the way for the school to become more of a collaborative community effort than the district going it alone. A lot of times, people think the school district has a job to do, 'They teach our kids, and that's all they need.' That's not the way a school works. A school is a lot more than just teachers, principals and administrators teaching kids," Brian Wilks, a part of the Friends of Edgemere group said. "If you're not involved, it's too easy to say, 'I'm going to accept the fact that those kids are never, ever going to succeed, and that's just the way it is.' That's something I refuse to accept. The more capable people are when they graduate, the more vibrant our community will be."

Edgemere Elementary is located at 3200 N. Walker Avenue in Oklahoma City.



Students stop along their world travels to visit India where a young lady was demonstrating the art of using Mehndi (henna) to draw designs on the hands and palms of the students.



The first stop for Edgemere students is the passport station to receive their passport for travel. Fourth grader Jalen Wallace smiles for the camera as he gets his passport photo taken.



Two-year-old Olivia Thompson tries out a Mexican maraca.

National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2016

Submitted article

National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is designed to bring HIV awareness on prevention, testing and knowledge of personal status to Native Americans. The actual day designated for this observance is March 20. The date was specifically chosen because it is the first day of spring. For Native American tribes, the first day of spring is symbolic to a new beginning. The message of awareness is geared towards Native Americans.

The message awareness includes learning how to prevent HIV infection and learning your personal status by getting tested for HIV. According to the Center for Disease Control website, the acronym HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. A person can be infected the transfer of body fluids like blood, semen, vaginal fluid and breast milk. The majority of the time it is transferred during sexual activity, however HIV can be transferred through the sharing of needles, from mother to child and blood transfusions. When a person is tested for HIV, they can learn whether or not they are per-

sonally infected.

In addition, the Oklahoma State Health Department states on the report, *Prevalent (Living) HIV/AIDS Cases Diagnosed in Oklahoma by county of Residence, 1982-2014*, that Oklahoma County and Tulsa County have the highest reported number of HIV diagnosis. The report does not list the county where the person resides from. The counties in the Cheyenne and Arapaho service areas report low numbers as compared to Oklahoma and Tulsa counties. It is possible that many of these diagnoses came from people who reside in other counties like Canadian or Custer counties. There is such a stigma associated with an HIV diagnosis, most people will seek out the anonymity that a big city like Oklahoma City brings.

On Tuesday, March 22, the employees from the Health Education Program and the Community Health Representatives Program will set up a health information booth at eight different locations from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Canadian, Custer, Blaine and King-

fisher County health departments are providing HIV testing where sexual transmitted disease (STD) testing is available also. At these locations, the participant will need to return in one week to get their results. Test results cannot be given over the phone or mailed.

The Oklahoma State Health Department HIV Division will be providing the rapid HIV testing at the Seiling and Canton community centers. The Caring Van from the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board will be set up at the Seiling Community Center in Seiling, Okla. to help bring privacy during the testing. The test results are known within 20 minutes.

The Clinton Indian Health Center will provide rapid HIV testing. The hours in Clinton, Okla. are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All testing is confidential. Each person who gets tested will receive a t-shirt.

For more information, please call the Health Education Program at 405-422-7674.

Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2016

Tuesday, March 22, 2016
10:00am - 4:00pm

LOCATION	LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT
EL RENO	Canadian County Health Department 100 S. Rock Island El Reno, OK
YUKON	Canadian County Health Department 1023 E. Vandament Yukon, OK
KINGFISHER	Kingfisher County Health Department 124 East Sheridan Courthouse Annex Room #101 Kingfisher, OK
WEATHERFORD	Custer County Health Department 220 North Bradley Weatherford, OK
WATONGA	Blaine County Health Department 521 West 4th Street Watonga, OK

Special Note - Participants at the county health departments will need to return in one week for test results

LOCATION	TRIBAL COMMUNITY HALL
CANTON	Canton Community Hall 206 N. Jefferson Canton, OK
SEILING	Seiling Community Hall 411 W. Main St. Seiling, OK

Testing at tribal community halls will be provided by Oklahoma State Health Department

LOCATION	INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
CLINTON	Clinton IHS Clinic 10321 N. 2274 Road Clinton, OK 9:00AM-3:00PM

Education on HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C

- ✓ Confidential HIV Testing
- ✓ Information Handouts
- ✓ Healthy Snack
- ✓ Brown Bag Special
- ✓ Incentive Items
- ✓ T-shirt

• To encourage Native Americans to get HIV tested and know their status

• To teach how to prevent HIV infection

• To raise awareness on the silent epidemic of Hepatitis C

For more information, please call the Health Education Program at 405-422-7674 or 405-422-7676

BRIEFS AT A GLANCE

The 34th annual National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

April 3-6, 2016 in St. Paul, Minn. For more information or to register visit www.firstnations.org.

The 41st annual Indian Law Conference

April 7-8, 2016 at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.fedbar.org/Education/Calendar-CLE-events/41st-Annual-Indian-Law-Conference.

al-Indian-Law-Conference.

Developing Tribal Youth Summer Camps and Programs

April 12-13, 2016 at the Embassy Suites in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

NAFOA 34th annual Conference

April 17-19, 2016 at the Gila River Community's Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information

or to register visit www.nafoa.org.

The eighth annual Tribal Public Health Conference-Create, Inspire and Empower Healthy Native Communities

April 19-21, 2016 at the Grand Hotel in Shawnee, Okla. For more information on registration call 405-652-9214 or email pyarholar@ocaithb.org.

Employment Law for Tribes and Tribal Organizations

April 25-26, 2016 at the National Indian Program Training Center in Albuquerque, N.M. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Supervision and Management Skills: Leadership in the Tribal Workplace

April 27-28, 2016 at the Double Tree Hilton in Albuquerque, N.M. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 2016 Amerind/National American Indian

Housing Council Conference & Trade Fair

May 8-11, 2016 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort in Honolulu. For more information or to register visit www.naihc.net.

Indirect Cost Basics for Tribal Organizations

May 16-17, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Native American Student Advocacy Institute's Many Nations, One Vision

Conference

June 6-7, 2016 at the Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.nasai.collegeboard.org.

The 2016 Native Innovation Education Technology Conference

June 10-11, 2016 at the Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort in Flagstaff, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.nativeinnovation.com.



Class A girls basketball: No. 2 Seiling rolls past No. 3 Pond Creek-Hunter to championship

By Jacob Unruh

Seiling senior Taylor Hedrick exited the game Saturday with 1:10 remaining until her team would receive a long-awaited gold ball, and the emotion of the moment proved overwhelming as tears formed.

Two frustrating years of making the state tournament and leaving empty handed came to mind, particularly a loss to Pond Creek-Hunter two years ago in the championship game.

"We've worked so hard for so many years just for this one goal, and we finally met it," Hedrick said. "It's something I've dreamed of since I was a little kid and it's just as great as I figured it would be."

Hedrick and No. 2 Seiling finally accomplished the goal that had eluded the school for more than 20 years as they rolled No. 3 Pond Creek-Hunter 53-29 for the Class A state championship at State Fair Arena.

The title is the school's first since back-to-back titles in 1993 and 1994.

"It means so much to our program," Seiling coach Brady Hamar said. "I've been there 14 years and we tell them to continue to commit, get in the gym in the summers. Finally it feels like it finally paid off."

Hedrick was the team's steady leader throughout the tournament.

Saturday, she scored 16 of her 20 points in the first half as Seiling built a 31-14 halftime advantage. She made six of her nine shots, including four 3-pointers.

"Unbelievable in the first half, hit every shot it seemed like, made huge and deep 3s," Hamar said. "That got us going. Sometimes when shots go down it helps you keep your defensive intensity and I think that helped us keep going de-

fensively. It was a big deal to hit those shots early."

Seiling freshman Macy Gore also scored 20 points, slashing to the basket where she either finished at the rim or kicked out to another guard for a 3-pointer.

Seiling (28-2) finished the year on a 16-game winning streak and beat all three state tournament opponents by an average of 65-36.

Pond Creek-Hunter (28-3) knew all too well about that winning streak. It lost three times, including Saturday, to Seiling in that stretch.

Pond Creek-Hunter junior Tyra Peck and sophomore Brooke Rayner scored eight points apiece. Senior point guard Tiarra Davis was held to five points and no assists. The team also committed 15 turnovers that led to 25 points.

"We finally cut it loose for a full game," Hamar said. "We've had lots of stretches we've played very good, but I don't think we ever put together a full defensive game like that."

Jacob Unruh is a graduate of Northeastern State Univer-



Courtesy photo
sity. He was born in Cherokee and raised near Vera where he attended Caney Valley High School. During his tenure at NSU, Unruh wrote for *The Northeastern* (NSU's student newspaper), the *Tahlequah Daily Press* and the *Tulsa World*. From there, Unruh spent three years at the *Lawton Constitution* covering prep sports and Oklahoma football before joining *The Oklahoman* sports staff.

EHS driving their way to the big house in Oklahoma's 5A basketball state playoffs

By Wade Wallace, Sports Writer

With an overall 21-7 season, the EHS Indians continue to fight for their spot at the state's championship game Saturday, March 12 in Tulsa.

"The character this team shows says it all ... it's character and that's what we have talked about all year," Rodney Haydon, EHS basketball coach said. "We have a strong offense and defense, and we have guys that can come off the bench, play hard and when we put it all together, well its just good character is what it is."

El Reno High School Indians got off to an early 10-point lead in their basketball playoff game against Lawton 'Ike' Eisenhower March 4 in Mustang, Okla.

Ike's pressure forced the Indians into four straight turnovers which lead to their own 10-0 run to tie it 17-17. Kate Owen, #23 for El Reno was able to hit a lay up late to make it 19-17 as the buzzer sounded in the first quarter

In the second quarter, El Reno's zone, led by Callen Haydon, #4, slowed Ike's run game down a bit and helped spark a 10-2 run to start the second quarter. Ike was able to crawl their way back with some terrific defense and good free throw shooting, tying the score 31-31 at half-time.

Opening up the third quarter, Haydon and #44, Christian Wassana scored El Reno's first seven points, but #20 Darius Roy from Ike scored eight points of his own.

Going into the fourth quarter Ike pulled to a four-point lead led by Roy. Ike stretched their lead to eight but with a min-

ute and 38 seconds left in the game El Reno cut Ike's lead down to three.

El Reno was forced to foul and Ike hit their free throws late in the game to pull away with a final score of 67-58.

On Saturday, March 6 El Reno continued to fight their way to the championship round by defeating Ardmore in the area consolation game 78-66 in Choctaw, Okla.

The El Reno Indians continued their journey in the semi-finals defeating Coweta 56-42 in Catoosa, Okla., but fell short of making an appearance at the state championship game with a loss to Carl Albert 80-62 on Friday, March 11.



Indians versus Bison in 3A basketball playoffs

By Wade Wallace, Sports Writer

Riverside Indians led by Coach Patrick Moore took on Coach Garrette Mantle and the Centennial Bison in a fast pace competitive 3A playoff game March 10 at Yukon High School in Yukon, Okla. Though a neutral site, home court advantage definitely leaned towards the Indians as the 3400 seat stadium filled with Riverside fans.

It didn't seem to faze Centennial as they capitalized right out of the gate on four Riverside turnovers resulting in nine points for Centennial before Riverside answered back with four points of their own.

Amidst the thousands of screaming Riverside fans, both teams utilized their deep benches to maintain a fast paced hectic pace up and down the court. Centennial's continued pressure proved to be the difference allowing them to stretch their lead to 14-points over

Riverside ending the first quarter 29-15.

Second quarter was much of the same with both teams getting up and down the court. Riverside, led by #23 Draven Hickman, was able to cut Centennial's lead to within nine points with four minutes left before the half. Missed opportunities plagued Riverside in the second quarter, as Centennial was able to hold them at bay, pushing their lead back to 14 with a half-time score of 51-37 Centennial.

Entering the third quarter, Riverside's foul trouble began to mount as Centennial pushed their lead to 18, forcing Coach Moore to call a time out with four minutes left to play in the third quarter. Riverside made a run coming out of the timeout to cut the deficit to 12 before the end of the quarter with Centennial still winning 68-56.

Riverside came back out



in the fourth quarter with a vengeance going on a 6-2 run, to cut Centennials lead down to eight. Hickman led his team scoring all six points, but Centennial answered back to push their lead back up to 11 before Riverside called a 30 second time out with 4:27 left in the fourth quarter.

But as they did most of the night, Centennial was able to hold off Riverside with a final score of 94-82, clinching Centennial's advancement to the state semi-finals as they attempt to march towards their third State Championship.

45th annual Trail of Tears Art Show opens April 9

TAHLEQUAH — The longest-running Native American art show in Oklahoma returns to the Cherokee Heritage Center, with the 45th annual Trail of Tears Art Show April 9 through May 7.

Artists compete for more than \$15,000 throughout various categories, such as painting, sculpture, pottery, basketry, graphics, jewelry and miniatures.

"The Trail of Tears Art Show brings together talented Native American artists from various tribal nations throughout the country," said Candessa Tehee, executive director of the Cherokee Heritage Center. "As a juried art show, we truly have the best of the best on display, which creates the perfect environment for artists, collectors and art enthusiasts alike."

Those looking to submit artwork must be a citizen of a federally recognized tribe and enter before the March 23 deadline. All entries must be submitted to callie-chunestudy@cherokee.org by 5 p.m. CST. A \$10 submission fee is charged per entry to help support art show expenses.

A photograph of the completed work, entry form and fee must be submitted at the same time or the entry will be disqualified. A list of accepted art-

work will be posted on the Cherokee Heritage Center website on March 25.

An awards reception is slated for April 8 from 6-8 p.m. to recognize the winners in each category.

The Trail of Tears Art Show began in 1972 as a means of fostering the development of painting as a form of expressing Native American heritage. Initiated before the completion of the museum, the art show was held in the rain shelter of the Tsa-La-Gi theater. In 1975, it became the first major exhibition in the present museum.

The 45th annual Trail of Tears Art Show is made possible by Cherokee Nation Businesses, Chickasaw Nation, Bank of Oklahoma, Rabbit Studios and the Garner-Cottrell Family.

The Cherokee Heritage Center is the premier cultural center for Cherokee tribal history, culture and the arts. It is located at 21192 S. Keeler Drive, Park Hill, Oklahoma.

For information on the Trail of Tears Art Show, 2016 season events, operating hours and programs, please contact the Cherokee Heritage Center at (888) 999-6007 or visit www.CherokeeHeritage.org. It can also be found on Facebook by searching "Cherokee Heritage Center."

Karen Cissy Nieto volunteers at L'Arche Belfast in northern Ireland

(Elgin, IL) — Karen Cissy Nieto of Cochiti Pueblo, N.M. has recently undertaken a Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) assignment with L'Arche Belfast in Northern Ireland.

Karen's assignment to Northern Ireland followed an orientation based at Camp Ithiel in Gotha, FL where a group of six volunteers came together from all over the United States. For three weeks, they lived together as a community and studied topics of nonviolence, peacemaking, globalization, and simple living. They also gained first-hand volunteer experience working with local organizations in Orlando, Apopka, and St. Petersburg, FL. Orientation builds community spirit among participants through personal sharing, fellowship and increased knowledge of the world.

Karen is taking part in a long standing tradition of ministry through service. BVS, established in 1948, works at advocating justice, peacemaking, serving basic human needs, and maintaining the integrity of creation. Approximately 60 current BVSers in the U.S. and abroad work with various peace and social/economic justice organizations. They focus on many current social needs including care for children, youth and senior citizens; ecological issues; homelessness; refugee assistance; domestic and international peacemaking; and



general community services. In exchange for their work, volunteers receive room, board and a small monthly stipend from their project. Brethren Volunteer Service, a program of the Church of the Brethren, is open to any person 18 years or old.

Karen is the granddaughter of Harry and Daisy Behan, daughter of Deacon Gerald and Opal Chavez. She was born in Watonga, Okla., lived in Chicago till 1971 when she moved with her family to New Mexico. She has lived throughout New Mexico and currently resides in Cochiti Pueblo. Karen is the mother of four children, one daughter and three sons, grandmother to 10 grandchildren, five girls and five boys. She is sister to Debra Allrunner and Marty Chavez, both residing in Oklahoma. Her commitment to family and love of God is her inspiration for her desire to serve. Karen can be reached through the BVS office at 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin IL 60120.

Shareholder meeting

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ships funds for Indian students and that's the source for those funds. They are not funds that actually came to the tribes' to do something with, and I hope that helps you out and answers your question about that. The last two years hopefully you have seen a stable government. We haven't held out, starving out legislators, there was no question of can we get along? Since January of this year that's been a little hazy. Someone asked about the new gym and the justice center ... those were passed back in December, but the new legislature came in and decided to repeal those projects, so that's where those projects are at right now. I vetoed those bills and I guess we will see at the next regular session if they are going to override those vetoes and see if those projects are going to get done for the tribal members," Hamilton said.

He addressed the elder care issues and the decision that was made to pay a percentage of heating cost that came from electric heating sources.

"The money that goes into elder care, like the \$150 a month for food vouchers each month, that \$2.8 million was spent just on that and then there is money spent on helping elders with their heating and cooling bills. I have always been taught and told that this money that comes to help our people is supplemental, it's not intended to pay for all your bills every month. I look at my mom for instance, she lives in a house in Thomas and she has stuff not plugged in and lights turned off, so what are you doing at your home to help make sure your bill isn't going to be that high. It works both ways, but we are making sure the supplemental funds are there to help," Hamilton said.

Hamilton discussed the oil bust and how the decline in the oil industry is going to affect the tribes as well as the entire state, while also addressing questions regarding casino employees.

"When you look at the casinos and you see people that are being let go or being put on call, almost half of those people being let go at the casinos are no call no shows. They don't want to come in to work. They don't want to earn their paycheck. Work ethic, which most of us have, we know we have to provide for our kids or our grandkids, but yet you come to the casinos and it's supposed to be an entitlement just because you are a tribal member. That regardless of what you do or how you act while at work you should be allowed to continue to be employed there. It doesn't work that way and it shouldn't work that way. Our people should be the main ones working in the casinos, being happy while people are coming in spending money in our casinos. That's where our money comes from is people losing money in the casinos ... gambling ... that's the money that helps the tribes, but yet most of our people don't want to come to work and some that don't want to be in compliance with their job and they keep getting written up and over time they eventually get terminated. It's not just our tribal members, its non-tribal members, spouses of tribal members, it happens to them just as well," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said he knows that he can't please everybody and that there will always be unhappy people regarding decisions on some issues versus decisions on other issues, "but decisions have to be made. We try to look at things by think-

ing about future generations and the legacy we are going to leave. All branches of government need to work together to make sound decisions not just now but in the future."

Hamilton asked William Tallbear Jr., to address the concerns and questions pertaining to the Housing Authority now being under the umbrella of the tribes.

"In 2014 the housing bill was resolution passed by the legislature to take over the management and control of the Housing Authority. There were some compliance regulations that had to happen because the Housing Authority is chartered under the state of Oklahoma but the tribes have always been in the driver's seat and has always been tribally driven. The commissioners has always been appointed by the leader of the tribes and the Business Committee prior to 2006 has always confirmed every commissioner for the Housing Authority, because I was a commissioner from 1997 to 2000 and from 2010 to 2011," Tallbear said. "Talking about due process and not having a commissioner's board anymore ... the commissioners played a very crucial role to the Housing Authority by managing the director and in turn the director would manage the staff and execute all the actions needed to run a housing authority entity chartered under the state of Oklahoma. What happened in 2012, there was a monitoring review by our funding agency, which is HUD and based on that review the tribes' were on the hook for about \$2 million of disallowed costs. The Board of Commissioners possessed a rubber stamp, checks were made out to themselves, stamped by themselves, which all of these activities were brought out in the monitoring report as being disallowed."

Tallbear said that over a year of work went into clearing up all of that money and all of those findings with the exception of approximately \$250,000.

"Because there were expenses made that possessed no documentation whatsoever, and because the board, acting with the director at that time allowed this to happen. So the Housing Authority was in real jeopardy and this is very difficult to talk about because we stand up here and we say we are here to serve our people, but are we really serving our people when a board of commissioners allow this happen that could possibly affect 300 families in our program," Tallbear said. "These are the kinds of things I inherited as a director. I think it was a good idea that the Housing Authority came under the tribes because there is more oversight and more eyeballs to look at documents and things can't just disappear like they did in the past. We are working very diligently to succeed. Due process, that is afforded every tribal member in our Constitution and our housing bill that was passed last December there are provisions in there that any grievances that any one of our participants have will be heard in district court ... that's due process. Is it perfect, is the Department of Housing perfect, no. We talk about all these issues we have and I want to say I am proud to be a part of an administration that promotes transparency, promotes inclusiveness to our people. I know at some point in time this ride will be over as a director and the ride will be over for these two men here (pointing to Hamilton and Sankey) and we are going to be able to walk away knowing we helped our people and we did our best."

FAMILY CULTURAL DAY

The Culture & Heritage Program invites you to a day of traditional crafts & fellowship
Thursday March 17 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
at the Hammon Community Center
Learn how to make moccasins, bandoliers & chokers ... yours to keep
Lunch Provided

FAMILY CULTURAL NIGHT

Sponsored by R.E.Sp.E.C.T., SPE,
Language Program and Culture & Heritage

Tuesday, March 22 from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Concho Community Center
Learn Peyote Stitch beading & keychains
Children will be doing similar, but safer project.

HOPE PROGRAM
HELPING OUR PEOPLE EXCEL

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ALL MEETINGS ARE 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.

Wednesday March 16
Hammon Community Center

Wednesday March 23
Selling Community Center

Wednesday March 30
Watonga Multi-Purpose Building

Parenting classes to be held March 29-31

Having a family with children is something many of us wish for and cherish as being a parent can be very rewarding but challenging too.

The Adult Education program of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, Department of Education will be conducting a 12-hour parenting course entitled *Positive Indian Parenting* March 29-31 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla.

The presentation is based on the National Indian Child Welfare Association's *Positive Indian Parenting* curriculum.

Our goal is to provide a brief but compact, practical and culturally specific training program for Indian parents while identifying personal attitudes, values and skills through our culture and developing those skills for today's parents.

There are many challenges that parents face today. Understanding the physical, social, emotional and envi-

ronmental effects of child rearing can empower parents to handle situations appropriately and preventatively.

This program is not a definite answer to all challenges faced by parents but may be looked upon as a resource and tool to address some parenting concerns and may alleviate anxiety or feelings of uncertainty. Our goal is to promote positive growth and well-being of our Indian children through positive parenting.

We would like to extend a special invitation to expecting parents-to-be, parents and grandparents to join us in this event.

On the last day of the seminar we will have a resource fair for participants to become familiar of other resources within their community that can help them and their families.

For more information or to register please contact the Office of Adult Education at 405-274-2982 or 580-331-2412.

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Adult Education presents

Positive Indian Parenting Workshop
March 29-31, 2016

All sessions will be held at the Clinton Community Center
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Lunch provided

March 29
Traditional Parenting
Lessons in Storytelling
Traditional Behavior Management

March 30
Lessons of the Cradleboard
Harmony in Child Rearing
Lessons of Mother Nature

March 31
Praise in Traditional Parenting
Choices in Indian Parenting

Positive Indian Parenting is designed to provide a brief, practical, culturally-specific training program for Indian parents.

For more information or to register, call
1-800-247-4612 x. 27564 or 27918
or 405-422-7564
Participation certificate awarded to training session participants

Future authors receive certificates at Canadian Valley Vo-Tech

Submitted article

On Wednesday, March 2, certificates of completion were received by students of the Write, Publish, & Market Your Book class at CVTech in El Reno, Okla.

As instructor Andrea Foster said to the students and on Twitter, "The class may be ending, but this is just the beginning."

The four students completing the course are Rodney Candyfire, Rosemarie Durgin, Julie Marquardt, and Sue Smith. Each student came to the class with a writing project and hopes that his or her book will be finished, published and sold.

"In this class at CVTech, I teach students how to finish and make their books ready for publication. Then we decide which format of publishing is best for each project and how to accomplish that. Finally, I teach them how to market and sell their books, which includes use of social media," Foster said.

Foster has spent more than 35 years in various aspects of the book publishing industry and has worked with such well known people as President Jimmy Carter and astronaut Buzz Aldrin.

"These students are all gifted writers and have books that could easily be submitted to traditional publishers, meaning that they will get paid for their book instead of having to pay someone to publish them," Foster said. Foster is referring to the very common trend nowadays of authors who self-publish but have to pay to see their projects completed.

Each CVTech student has a unique story to tell. Candyfire, who is Cheyenne-Arapaho, has written a novel with a theme of Native American spirituality. Durgin's tale is based on her own childhood about a group of German children trying to survive in World War II without parents. Marquardt writes haiku poetry and has a young adult story about a young girl from the 1800s smitten with brig-



CVTech Write Publish & Market Your Book Class (l-r): Julie Marquardt, Rodney Candyfire, Rosemarie Durgin, Sue Smith and instructor Andrea Foster. (Submitted photo)

antine sailing ships. Smith has authored a dramatic romance/mystery set in France.

"Now we are going to follow up by perfecting their works, preparing them for submission and then watch what happens. One of the ladies in my last class, Debbie Fogle, has heard back already from a publisher about re-submitting her book as a screenplay. Book success can come in many forms. I can't wait to see what happens with these gifted writers!" Foster exclaimed.

CVTech, formerly known as the Canadian Valley Technology Center, has a new facility on Route 66 and Evans road. The facility was rebuilt after the May 2013 tornado. It is now outfitted with world class tornado shelters, offers the eight week Writing and Publishing class twice a semester in the evenings. The next class begins on Wednesday, March 30. (Telephone: 405.262.2629)

Foster also teaches as an adjunct instructor of Composition I & II at Redlands Community College, and she collaborates with the El Reno Carnegie Library to teach Creative Writing (for adults) there for free. She offers a free Teen Creative Writing Class at the library every Wednesday afternoon.

To register for the next Writing and Publishing class at CVTech call 405-262-2629.

For information on the free classes at the library call 405-262-2409.

Settlement

continued from pg. 1

of dollars to fully fund contract support costs for tribes.

The settlement is the latest in a recent string of major agreements between the Interior Department and tribes to resolve legal disputes that languished for years. In the largest agreement, the government agreed to pay out \$3.4 billion to resolve claims over royalties owed to generations of individual

landowners.

"It just shows the Obama administration has been working throughout two terms to stop litigating with tribes," said Kevin Washburn, who recently resigned from his post as Interior Department Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. "Now, even in the last year of the administration, they're getting this lengthy case settled."



Cheyenne & Arapaho Labor Day Powwow Committee

The Cheyenne & Arapaho Colony Labor Day Powwow Committee is asking for donations and volunteers at their benefit dances. They are currently fundraising and have a long way to go to reach their goal.

"We appreciate all the support and the pow-

wow committee wants to make the Annual 105th Cheyenne & Arapaho Labor day Celebration the most excellent one yet."

Ho hou

Chairman Eddie "High Chief" Henry
Cheyenne_Arapaho_powwow@yahoo.com
405-618-7798

EATING healthy for DIABETES

Spring cleaning 101

Kerri L. Felmlee, MS, RDN, LD
C&A Diabetes Wellness Program

Spring is just around the corner, which means flowers, warmer weather and of course spring cleaning.

Spring cleaning is a great opportunity to give the kitchen a good food safety check and cleaning, especially refrigerators and freezers where raw meat, poultry and seafood is stored. Here are some simple steps to help reduce cross contamination in the kitchen and minimize the risk of food poisoning.

Kitchen Surfaces

Illness-causing bacteria can survive in many places around the kitchen, not just on hands alone. Unless people wash their hands, utensils and surfaces the right way they could unintentionally spread bacteria to their food and family.

Keep countertops clean by washing with hot soapy water before and after preparing food. Clean surfaces and utensils with a solution of one tablespoon of unscented liquid chlorine

bleach per gallon of water.

Keep kitchen surfaces, such as appliances, countertops, cutting boards and utensils clean with hot, soapy water after preparing each food item. Keeping cutting boards and surfaces clean and following proper sponge safety helps prevent cross-contamination.

Refrigerator

Everything that comes in contact with food must be kept clean all year long to reduce cross-contamination, including the refrigerator. Spring is the perfect time to set regular cleaning routines.

Check that the refrigerator temperature is set to below 40°Fahrenheit. Keep the refrigerator clean at all times. This is a good time to look for unnoticed spills and remove lingering odors. Wipe up spills and clean surfaces with hot, soapy water and rinse well.

To keep the refrigerator smelling fresh and help eliminate odors place an

opened box of baking soda on a shelf. Avoid using solvent cleaning agents, abrasives and any cleansers that may impart a chemical taste to food or ice cubes, or cause damage to the interior finish of your refrigerator. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Shelf Life

Whether in the pantry or refrigerator it's important to make sure food items haven't spoiled. Remember, when in doubt toss it out!

This is a good time of year to use or throw away foods that are losing their quality or have spoiled for both refrigerated and non-refrigerated items in the pantry. For a detailed listing of the shelf-life of foods, as well as a kitchen safety quiz, download the free *Is My Food Safe* app.

Make spring the time to begin new food safety habits. Once a week, make it a habit to throw out perishable foods that should no longer be eaten.

Double Tree by Hilton - Warren Place 6110 S. Yale Ave. Tulsa, Oklahoma	Tuesday April 12 8:30 am - 4:45 pm	Wednesday April 13 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	Thursday April 14 9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Registration is free of charge! Special lodging rate available for conference attendees
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**9th Annual
PREPARING FOR THE 7TH GENERATION
Conference**

Registration Open!

To register for the conference, and for lodging information, please scan the QR code below or go to <https://goo.gl/D6rDP7>. You may also contact Stephen Weaver for registration information or questions about the conference.
StephenW@health.ok.gov - (405) 271 5170

Conference Sponsors: BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma, AARP, and others.

Commodity Cheese Pizza



3 cups baking mix
1/4 cup water
1/2 can (15.5 ounces) spaghetti sauce

2 cups grated cheese
Combine baking mix and water. Pat dough mixture with greased hands onto a greased pizza pan or cookie sheet.

Pour sauce over crust. Sprinkle with cheese and optional toppings.

Bake at 450 degrees until golden brown

Optional toppings: cooked ground beef, sausage, ham, onion, green peppers and mushrooms.



POWWOWS & EVENTS CALENDAR

2016 Youth Rally

March 17-19, 2016 at the Indian Baptist Church, 916 W. 7th Street in Elk City, Okla. Thursday and Friday 7 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. Speaker will be Ponce.

Sponsored by youth leaders Junior and Erma 580-339-3230.

Honor Dance for Veteran and Chief Tulane Wilson

March 19, 2016 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Gourd dance 3 p.m., dinner 5 p.m., grand entry 6:30 p.m. C&A Post 401 Colorguards.

MC Eugene Blackbear Jr., HS Jason Goodblanket, HLD Nelsie Redbird, HMGD Alex Akoneto, HLBD A.J. Reynolds, HLGD Emillie Harrison, Honored Elder Marybelle Lonebear, Host Redmoon Gourd Clan, ADS Roy Bates and Billy Young-

bird.

Barefoot Powwow Benefit Dance

March 19, 2016 at the Canton Community Center in Canton, Okla. Gourd dance begins at 3 p.m., supper at 5 p.m. with dance to follow.

MC Burl Buffalomeat, HS Tim Mosqueda, HMD Roy Dean Bullcoming, HLD Bobbie Hamilton, HLB Halo Fierro, HLG Kynlee Hart, AD Mark Haigler.

For more information call 580-791-2156.

Memorial Dance for Alondra L. Sankey

April 2, 2016 at the Canton Gym in Canton, Okla. Supper at 5 p.m. with dance to follow.

MC Burl Buffalomeat, HS Frank Mosqueda, HMD David Reyes, HLD Penney Scaper, HLB Douglas Keesie, HLG Kynlee Hart,

Honored Elder Viola Hatch, Honored Family Diane and Judy Lime, AD Daryn West. Sponsors include Angie Sankey, Scott Sankey, Danette Hook and Corbin Sankey.

For more information call 580-313-3567.

Graduation Honor Dance for Alicianna Martinez

April 9, 2016 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Program starts at 2 p.m., supper at 5:30 p.m., evening program to follow.

MC Eddie Wilson, HS Kendall Kauley and Steward Candy, HMD Mark Quintana, HLD Susan Arkeke, Honored Veteran Harry Walker Honored Elder Merle Big Medicine-Lopez, Honored Educator Mike Burgess, Co-Host Red Moon Gourd Clan, ADS Billy Youngbird and Jon Henson. Contests are elder prettiest shawl and

mens best vest. For more information call Eloise Rice at 405-206-5402.

2016 Graduation Honor Dance for Lorraine Jackson, Ivan Levier and Arrow Jessepe

April 9, 2016 at the PBP Bingo Hall, 12681 Q Road, Mayetta, Kansas. Gourd dance will begin at 1 p.m., supper at 4 p.m. and grand entry at 5 p.m.

For more information, call Rosanna Jessepe at 785-966-2670 or Jodi Jessepe at 785-506-6879.

2016 Chilocco Annual National Association Reunion

May 26-29, 2016 at the First Council Casino in New Kirk, Okla. and the Chilocco campus.

The Chilocco Reunion will be honoring the golden class of 1966 for its 50th year

anniversary. Members of the class of 1966 are encouraged to attend.

Registration contact is Emma Jean Falling, evening telephone 918-266-1626. Contacts for the class of 1966 are Clarence Johnson, 918-752-9512 or Pauletta Elephant Johnson 918-812-8603 or 918-366-6158.

Honor Dance for Moses Starr

March 26, 2016 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Gourd dance at 3 p.m., supper at 5 p.m.

MC Burl Buffalomeat, HS Creg Hart, OT Sankey, Max Ruben and Michael Watan, HMD Deswood Koshiway, HLD Viola Hatch, HTG Neosha Bullcoming, HLB Damars Ellis (2), HLG Danika Bullcoming (8), AD Roy Bates, Honored Veterans American Legion Post 401,

Honored Elder Belva Hicks, Honored Family Hoffman family.

Comanche Little Ponies 48th annual Celebration

May 7, 2016 at the Comanche County Fairgrounds, Expo Center, 920 S. Sheridan Road in Lawton, Okla.

Free and open to public. Please bring own chairs. All singers, dancers, princesses and drum groups are cordially invited. Arts & crafts vendors, concessions stands and raffles all day.

MC Wallace Coffey, HS Robert Tehanuno, HGD Baliente Herrera, HLD Erin Yarholer, HWD J.T. Liles, Host Drum Young Buffalo Horse, ADS Travis Codynah and Sam Howell, Color Guard Comanche Little Pony Veterans.

For more information call 580-583-5279.

Happy Birthday To You



Happy 6th Birthday
March 8
Braden David
Charley
Love mom, Regan,
Charley & the Pratt
Family



Happy 1st
Birthday
Jeff Davidson
March 9
And many
more to come!
Love mom,
dad, aunts
and
grandparents



WISHING ALL THE BEST
TO YOU SEAN. MAY GOD
BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU
SAFE ALWAYS.
KEEP SMILING!
MUCH LOVE FROM MOM,
JEMERSON, AND ALL THE
REST OF YOUR FAMILY



Happy 12th Birthday
Carlina Angel baby
Hamilton
March 13, 2004
You have grown into a
beautiful young lady and I
am so proud of you!
Stay in school and con-
tinue on to great things in
life! You are my sidekick and
my day one girl.



The Morton Fam-
ily would like to wish
He'she'she'wa Mor-
ton-Hatten a Happy
26th Birthday



Welcome to
Cali Pynez

Alvin Basil Pollock and
Georgia Black would like
to introduce you to their
newest addition to their
family, a beautiful baby
girl, Ms. Cali Pynez

Cali was born on Feb.
24, 2016. She weighed
8lbs and 14 oz and was 21
inches long.



VOTE FOR JADEN 'EMILLIE' AURELIA HARRISON
FOR THE 2016-17 CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO LABOR
DAY POWWOW JUNIOR PRINCESS



E-peheve-eseeve Jaden
"Emillie" Aurelia Harrison
na-hesevehe Na'Tsista, Hi-
nono'ei.

It is a good day! My name
is Jaden "Emillie" Aurelia
Harrison. I am Cheyenne and
Arapaho and I am running
for C&A Labor Day Chey-
enne Jr. Princess 2016-2017.

I am the 10 year old
daughter of Miles and Jisse-
na (Fulsom) Mott of Clinton,
Okla. and Kyle Harrison of
Enid, Okla

My maternal grandpar-
ents are Verl and Velva Ful-
som of Clinton, Okla. My
great-grandparents are Ervin
and Bernice Bull of Clinton,
Okla., and Joe and Jean Ful-
som of Dexter, Kansas.

I am an enrolled member
of the Southern Cheyenne &
Arapaho Tribes of Oklaho-



ma. I am half Cheyenne and
one-quarter Arapaho.

I enjoy dancing at pow-
wows and benefit dances. I
love to sing and read books.
My favorite subjects in
school are math and science.
I hope to one day become a
physicist.

I would like to say
Nea'ese and Hahou for your
donations. If chosen for the
C&A Labor Day junior prin-
cess I will uphold my title to
the best of my ability with
respect and dignity for my
family, my people and the
powwow committee.

Nea'ese,
Hahou and
Ne-sta-eve-hose-voomatise,
Heetce'neehobe3enee!
Thank you and
I will see you all again!
Jaden Harrison

Happy 21st
Birthday
William Joel
Littlebird
We love and miss
you everyday.
Love always, mom,
Natasha, Jordan, Josh,
Berkeley and Jon

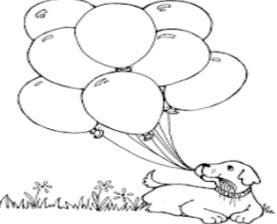


I will always be here for
you no matter what. I love
you beyond infinity times
1000. Your brothers and
sister look up to you so set it
right! I know you will.
Wherever you go and
whatever you do in life just
know that I am behind you
all the way. Make momma
proud. It's been an awesome
12 years and I can't wait for
the rest to come!!

Bixoo3e3en forever,
Your momma Leah, lil' sis
Cayli and your brothers lil
GP, King, Alex and Jr.



Happy Birthday
Frank Robles
March 11
From all your
friends and
compadres



CONGRATULATIONS JULES EVELYN BLACK



Jules Evelyn Black was
inducted into the Nation-
al Junior Honor Society on
February 29 in Hinton,
Okla.

Jules Evelyn Black is 12
years old in the 7th grade at
Hinton Middle School. She
is the class treasurer and en-

joys playing basketball and
softball.

Jules is the daughter of
Valerie Smith and the grand-
daughter of Gloria Smith.

She plans on attending
The University of Oklaho-
ma and pursuing a career in
the medical field.

CONGRATULATIONS ANDREA CURTIS



Andrea Curtis is a stu-
dent of the Anadarko Mar-
tial Arts and received her
First Degree Black Belt on
Saturday, March 5, 2016.
Her test consisted of a
three mile run, 500 push-
ups, 500 V-sit ups, 500 leg
lifts, various kicks, various
blocks, 2 black belt forms,
one weapon demonstration,
25 self-defense techniques,
5 rounds of fighting and 3
back-to-back board breaks.

Andrea has been with
my program since she was 8
years old and is now 15. She
has a lot of Tae Kwon Do
knowledge. She is a good
student in class and outside
of class.

"I am very proud of her
and this is quite an accom-
plishment for any young
woman," Cheryl Kline-
kole-Gomez, Anadarko
Martial Arts head instructor
said.

JOM Honor Club recipients

The Cheyenne & Arapaho
tribes Johnson O'Malley (JOM)
Program has an Honor Club that
awards Cheyenne and Arapaho
tribal students with a Wal-Mart
gift card and an Honor Club
t-shirt. Awards are presented
to students who make all
As, A-Bs, perfect attendance,
and Honor Society Awardees
for first or second semester
during the school year.

For more information,
please contact the JOM Pro-
gram at 405-422-7658 or
405-422-7566.

January 2016

- Jacen Bear - \$50, all A's grades
- Joshua Bear - \$25, A&B's grades
- Andrew Duran - \$25, A&B's grades
- Jeremiah LittleThunder - \$25, A&B's grades
- Kobe LittleThunder - \$25, A&B's grades
- Nakai Fourhorns - \$25, A&B's grades
- Sariah Vargas - \$25, A&B's grades
- Solomon Vargas - \$25, A&B's grades

- A&B's grades
- Kristina Harjo - \$25, A&B's grades
- Kayden Harjo - \$50, all A's grades
- Virginia Delagarza - \$25, A&B's grades
- Kali Delagarza - \$50, A&B's grades & perfect attendance

February 2016

- Anna Galaviz - \$75, A&B's grades & perfect attendance
- Hunter Tsatigh - \$75, Honor Society for North-west Technology Center-Fairview
- Jayci Bear - \$25, A&B's grades
- Dominic Washington - \$25, A&B's grades
- Stephen Mosqueda - \$125, all A's & Elk City High School Honor Society
- Lexi Mosqueda - \$150, all A's, Perfect Attendance, Elk City Jr. High Honor Society
- Charles Braydon Woolworth - \$50, all A's grades
- Jacie Murray - \$25, A&B's grades
- Alexus Meat - \$25, A&B's grades

- Meghan Meat - \$25, A&B's grades
- Liliana Roberts - \$50, all A's grades
- Caden Hooten - \$50, all A's grades
- Bailey Hooten - \$50, all A's grades
- Ambre Birdsheed - \$50, all A's grades
- Caleb Hulbutta - \$25, A&B's grades
- Ryun Hulbutta - \$25, A&B's grades
- Hunter Tsatigh - \$100, A&B's grades, Canton Public School Honor Society
- Elmer Tsatigh - \$100, A&B's grades, Canton Public School Honor Society
- Shelby Bates - \$25, Perfect Attendance
- Nathaniel Bates - \$50, A&B's, and Perfect Attendance
- Justine Smith - \$25, A&B's grades
- Julian ScabbyHorse - \$25, A&B's grades
- Lizeth Van Pelt - \$25, Perfect Attendance
- Morgan Coppage - \$25, A&B's grades

JOM trip to Washington, D.C.



Students Bobbi Botone, Michael Beaver, Justine Smith, Julian Scabbyhorse, Regina Toahy, Claire McWilliams and Leona Keesie, along with JOM staff and volunteers during their JOM sponsored trip to Washington, D.C. (Submitted photo)

CLASSIFIEDS

Employment: Submit a tribal application, resume, diploma(s), transcripts, valid copy of Oklahoma state driver's license and a copy of CDIB to Personnel Department, PO Box 38, Concho, OK 73022 or email atisdale@c-a-tribes.org.

Reporter/Ad Sales Tribal Tribune/PIO
Closing: Until Filled

Transit Driver II On-Call Status Tribal Transit
Closing: Until Filled

Warehouse Tech I Food Dist. - Watonga
Closing: Until Filled

Surveillance Operator Clinton(2) Hammon (1) Gaming Commission
Closing: Until Filled

****ATTENTION ALL ELDERS****

The Cheyenne & Arapaho Department of Housing will be accepting applications for the Elder lawn program for the summer of 2016. We will be accepting all applications, to receive the lawn services, until Friday April 15th 2016. To qualify you must be a tribal elder in our C & A service area and own your home. NO rental properties will be considered. You can receive an application from the

Cheyenne & Arapaho Department of Housing
2100 Dog Patch rd. / P.O. Box 1357
Clinton OK 73601
PH: (580)331-2400 Fax: (580)323-7036



Qualifications:
Must have experience in journalism, photojournalism and would prefer experience in photography and graphic design. High School diploma required. Prefer bachelor's degree in related field, however will strongly consider years of experience in the industry in lieu of degree. Must have strong writing skills. Must be experienced with Macintosh platform (utilizing programs such as InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Adobe PDF). Also must be familiar with Microsoft Office on Mac platform. Must be familiar with social media apps such as Twitter and Facebook and maneuvering around the Internet. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license and have dependable transportation. Must be willing to work a flexible work schedule, which will include nights, weekends and holidays. Must be familiar with Native American traditions and cultures, be outgoing, professional and interact well with both Native and non-Native communities. Must be able to multi-task and work effectively under high stress situations. Tribal preference.

Qualifications:
Valid Oklahoma Class D driver's license. Must possess or be willing to obtain CPR certification. Transit drivers must pass a pre-employment drug screening process and are subjected to random drug testing. Must be able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds with no physical barriers. Applicant must be able to communicate effectively to patrons and supervisors any findings or incidents. High school diploma or GED equivalent is required. Cheyenne-Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

TRIBAL TRIBUNE DEADLINES

At 3 p.m. every 8th and 23rd of the month. Unless the 8th or 23rd falls on a weekend, it will be the Friday preceding.

Qualifications:
High school graduate or GED required. Must be able to do moderate to heavy lifting. Must pass a physical examination. Must have demonstrated ability to operate PC Computer. Oklahoma CDL preferred, forklift operator's license. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Qualifications:
Maintain constant surveillance of Lucky Star premises. Work in an enclosed environment for extended periods of time. Maintain required record keeping reports. Possess the ability to comprehend the overall security mission. Monitor all security and safety electronic systems. Maintain constant vigilance of surveillance camera system. Must be able to sit at console for extended periods of time, visually observing a multitude of areas consisting of customer activities and employee functions. Must be courteous to all customers and co-workers. Must be able to comprehend the approved SICS, TICS and MICS set forth by IGRA, NIGC, Gaming Commission and the state. Must pass pre-employment drug test. Must be able to qualify and maintain a Cheyenne-Arapaho gaming license.

SALARY: Negotiable

FOR SALE
2001 Dodge Ram 1500 Pick Up
Good engine, makes a great work truck.
\$2,000 OBO
Contact Matt at 405-887-4995

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
ELDER CARE PROGRAM
APRIL 2016 FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**The food cards/accounts will be issued before 7:30 after noon on the day of the distribution. Please plan accordingly.
**You are to pick up your food card from which your office you receive services from.
**If your computer is in the Concho Office, you will need to go to the Concho Office to pick up your food card.
**Please keep all documents (Affidavits, Residence Verifications, License, utility bills, etc.) updated with your information.
**If you have any further questions, please call Matt.

Please update 2016 Affidavits and Residence Verifications!

Friday April 1, 2016	Monday April 4, 2016
Concho - 9:00am-4:00pm	Geary - 9:00am-12:00pm
Large Conference Room	Geary Community Hall
Clinton - 9:00am-4:00pm	Watonga - 9:30am-4:00pm
Elderly Nutrition Center	Watonga Community Hall
	Clinton - 9:00am-4:00pm
	Elderly Nutrition Center

Tuesday April 5, 2016
Seiling - 10:30am-2:30pm
Seiling Community Hall

Holiday Closure
The Cheyenne & Arapaho tribal offices will be closed March 28 in observance of Easter. Offices will reopen on March 29, 2015 at 8 a.m.

LEGAL NOTICE

Through the California courts Phillip R. Saal has been granted temporary custody of his grandson Breyden Kyle Michael Thompson and is requesting that his father Reginald Bearshield, his mother, Shenandoah D.M. Wassana and grandparents to please contact Phillip R. Saal concerning permanent guardianship.

There will be a hearing on this matter in San Diego, Calif. on at 8:30 a.m., May 11, 2016 at 1409 4th Avenue, San Diego, Calif.

Phillip Saal may be reached by mail at 739 S. Anza Street, El Cajon, CA 92020 or by phone at 619-441-0353 or by email at psaal542@aol.com.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of: }
R.L.W., Jr., DOB: 11/18/74 } Case No. PG-2-016-15
T.R.W. DOB: 12/29/12 }
F.L.W. DOB: 12/19/12 }

Minor Children Under The Age Of 18 Years

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAR 2 2016
IN THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK
Rebekah Trojan, DEPUTY

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: RENA EDGE
RAMONE LEE WEBSTER, SR.

You are hereby notified that Linda Zolich has filed in this Court a Petition For Guardianship of the persons and/or estates of R.L.W., Jr., T.R.W. and F.L.W. minor children, and that said Petition is hereby set for a hearing in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 16TH day of MARCH, 2016 at 10:00 A.M., at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 2nd day of MARCH, 2016.

Rebekah Trojan, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne-Arapaho District Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAR 02 2016
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of: }
J.L.A. DOB: 03-16-05 } Case No: PG-2016-0907
A Minor Child }

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: MARY GOMEZ

You are hereby notified that CORY VAUGHAN has filed in this Court a Petition For Appointment Of Guardianship of the person and/or estate of J.L.A. minor child, and that on 2nd day of MARCH, 2016, the petitioner, CORY VAUGHAN was granted Temporary Guardianship of the minor child, and that said Petition is hereby set for a hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 15th day of JUNE, 2016 at 10:00 A.M., at which time you may appear and show cause why said Guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 2nd day of MARCH, 2016.

Mary Gomez
Trial Witness, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

Petitioner:
Cory Vaughn
1308 S.W. 11
Lawton, OK 73501

Office Hours: 8am - 5pm
Store Hours: 9am - 3pm
Office Phone: 405-422-7873
Fax: 405-422-8261
Toll Free: 1-888-747-9520

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

NUTRITION ED. DEMO:
COMMODITY CHEESE PIZZA
Makes 8 pieces of pizza

3 cups of baking mix
1/4 cup water
1/2 can (15.5 ounce) can spaghetti sauce
2 cups grated cheese

- Combine baking mix and water. Pat dough mixture with greased hands onto a greased pizza pan or cookie sheet.
- Pour sauce over crust. Sprinkle with cheese and optional toppings.
- Bake at 450°F until golden brown.

Optional: cooked ground beef, sausage, or ham; onion green pepper, mushrooms

Recipe: A River of Recipes

Cheyenne & Arapaho Food Distribution Program March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Peanut Butter Day	2 NUT. ED. FOOD DEMO Potato & Cheddar Soup	3	4	5
6	7	8 Clinton I Tailgate	9 Seiling Tailgate	10 Hammon Tailgate	11	12
13	14	15 Clinton II Tailgate	16	17 Elk City Tailgate	18	19
20	21	22 American Diabetes Alert Day	23 NUT. ED. FOOD DEMO Commodity Cheese Pizza	24	25 Good Friday	26 Spinach Day
27	28 Closed for Holiday	29	30 Closed for Inventory	31 Closed for Inventory	CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES	

In Loving Memory



John Keith Bearbow
Oct. 6, 1965
March 4, 2016

Wake services for John Keith Bearbow were held March 8 at the Parks Brothers Funeral Home in Okemah, Okla.

Funeral services were held March 9 at the Prairie Springs Indian Baptist Church in Okemah, followed by an interment at the Snake Creek Cemetery in Seminole County.



Ardena Kay O'Neal
Aug. 6, 1968
March 8, 2016

Wake services for Ardena Kay O'Neal were held March 11 at the Cooper Funeral Home in Tecumseh, Okla.

Funeral services were held March 12 at the Middle Creek #2 Indian Baptist Church in Holdenville, Okla., followed by an interment at the Middle Creek #2 Cemetery.



Lorenzo Douglas Red Nose
April 10, 1945
Feb. 26, 2016

Wake services for Lorenzo Douglas Red Nose were held March 10 at the Concho Community Center in Concho, Okla.

Funeral services were held March 11 at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Kingfisher Cemetery.



Javell Ernest Sanders
Nov. 30, 2015
Feb. 21, 2016

An all night wake service was held for Javell Ernest Sanders on March 2 at the Concho Community Center in Concho, Okla.

Funeral services were held March 3 at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Kingfisher Cemetery.

Department of Social Services

JOB FAIR

This job fair is free and open to the community. Candidates of all ages, and experience are encouraged to attend. See yourself as the face of exciting new opportunities!

Date:
April 27th, 2016

Location:
Canton Community Hall
206 N. Jefferson St.
Canton, OK 73724

Time:
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES

If you have any questions, you may contact the Social Services office at 405-422-7476.

ATHLETES SPOTLIGHT

By Glen Miller, El Reno Tribune

There's no place like home



Playing close to home has allowed Halfred, leaning forward, to watch her alma mater play this season with her mother Rosa (r) and cousin, Christian Wassana (far right). (Photo by Glen Miller)

Coming out of high school, El Reno native Lexus Halfred admits she had a few reservations about the short hop up Country Club Road to start her college basketball career.

"At first I didn't want to stay in town because my league coach was telling me that if I got the chance to leave that I should because it's a big world and I didn't need to stay in one place," said Halfred.

However, as Redlands Community College begins its run in the NJCAA Region 2 Championship in Shawnee, Halfred now knows without hesitation that she made the right choice to sign with the Cougars and head coach Jay Niehues.

"If I had gone away I would have been missing my family every day. Being a freshman in college, there is a lot of stuff to do just in the classroom and then coach Jay makes us do three hours a week of study hall.

"Then there is basketball on top of that, so it's been good having my family around because they help,"

said Halfred.

Halfred, one of two post players for RCC in her first season with the Cougars, says it does help having her family and mom Rosa in the stands for home matches as well as her extended family like cousin Christian Wassana – a star guard on El Reno High School's boys team.

"I like having my family there. Some of my teammates don't have their families there. We've got two players from Switzerland and another from Puerto Rico and they hardly ever see or hear from their families," said Halfred.

Halfred does, however, try to make staying at home be more like college life if she was far away from El Reno. She lives in the Cougar Crossing Apartments and eats most of the time with her teammates.

"Coach Jay asked me if I wanted to live at home and I told him that I would rather get out of the house so he gave me a full scholarship. I wanted it to be like college life, just not so far away," said Halfred.

Adjusting to college live, for Halfred, also meant getting past the stigma that junior college basketball is not as good as the brand played on the NAIA or NCAA levels.

"Coming in here I thought that junior college was going to be a lot easier. I've been doing well but I didn't realize how good my teammates were. I had to get used to not being a big fish in a little pond.

"I started all the time in El Reno, but now my whole team has talent and I had to get used to being a role play-

er," said Halfred.

She also had to get used to not being able to get away with either missed assignments or bad play due to the lack of bench depth like in high school.

"If I don't go post up or go outside when coach Jay tells me, I know that I'm going to get pulled because there is someone else that will do it and I had to get used to that.

"It's more of a job and you have to put more time into it, especially with the school work. You've got to make a schedule each day to get it all done," said Halfred.

Halfred said it's a mistake to think that junior college basketball, on and off the court, is easy in any way. Redlands finished third in the Oklahoma Collegiate Athletic Conference standings despite posting an overall record of 22-7 and a 13-5 mark in league play.

"It's not easy. Everyone we play has players that were stars in high school and if you don't contain them, they are going to hurt you. You can't overlook any team because of their record.

"We went into some games thinking that and we had to pick it up and play from behind in those games," said Halfred.

Halfred said she has also had to retool her game.

"I've had to get more focused on defending my person. In high school I would be able to float around and help. But on this level most post players can step out and shoot the 3-pointer. I've got to pay attention to my defense and the girl I'm guarding and not let her get away," said Halfred.

She's also had to get used to being a backup to her former AAU club teammate Brooke Irwin of Mustang, who transferred to Redlands after one season at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

"When I signed with Redlands, I thought I was the only post player coming in, but I had known Brooke after playing three years together on our club team.

"I had to get used to her starting over me but I was not going to let that break up any friendship. We can both get physical with each other in practice and we have gotten into arguments but nothing that would end our friendship over," said Halfred.

Halfred has played in 29 games, starting in one, but has played a total of 81 minutes. She's shooting a solid 41 percent from the floor, having made 64-of-156 shots. Mixed into those numbers is a 12-of-47 effort from the 3-point line for 25.5 percent, and 25-of-33 free throws for 75.8 percent. She has scored a total of 165 points for an average of 5.7 per game

The freshman has collected 19 offensive boards and 105 on defense for a 124 total or an average of 4.3 per game. Halfred has added 40 assists, 15 steals and 33 blocks to her regular-season totals.

Those are solid numbers for a first season in college hoops, and she plans on increasing those figures next year as a sophomore for Redlands. She hopes two solid years on the NJCAA level will translate into a scholarship and a four-year



Halfred throws a hip into an opposing player in a scramble for a rebound. (Photo by Glen Miller)

program.

"I would like to go on. Coach Jay has told me that I've gotten a few letters from schools from just this season. I'm happy I went the junior college route, both school-wise and basketball, because

I didn't know how much time I would have to put into both.

"I know I will get more letters, but I'm going to wait until after next year to think about all that stuff," said Halfred.

C-A Team wins Handgame tournament

Submitted article

On Saturday, March 5, 2016 Handgame teams from across Indian Country converged on Lawton, Okla. To compete in the fourth annual Handgame tournament sponsored by Comanche Nation. The tournament was held at Watchetaker Hall on the campus of Comanche Nation.

A total of 21 teams signed up, which included four Cheyenne and Arapaho handgame teams, MAGIC, Challengers, Arapaho Nation and Oklahoma Indians.

The remaining teams came from New Mexico, Colorado, Lane Deer, MT, Haskell, Kansas and western Oklahoma.

At the end of the day, the Oklahoma Indians under the leadership of Mary Beaver was named the 2016 Comanche Nation Handgame champions winning the grand prize of \$8,000.

The second place winners was Red Thunder from Anadarko, Okla. And third place went to another Cheyenne and Arapaho team, MAGIC under the leadership of Pete Bearshield. Fourth place winner went to the Southwest Comanche team from the Lawton-Cache area.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho handgame teams wish to thank Culture and Heritage director Max Bear for the assistance to attend this tournament.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Superstars participated in their first handgame tournament at the 2016 Youth Handgame tournament sponsored by Comanche Nation in Lawton, Okla. Although they didn't place this year, they had fun and enjoyed the day. The superstars want to tank Max Bear, Culture and Heritage Program for the meal they provided.



The Cheyenne and Arapaho Superstars participated in their first handgame tournament at the 2016 Youth Handgame tournament sponsored by Comanche Nation in Lawton, Okla.



Oklahoma Indians Handgame Team won first place during the fourth annual Handgame Tournament in Lawton, Okla. Pictured l-r: Brandon Wermey, Marcus Bennett, Joesetta Roman Nose, Allen Sutton, Steven Benson, Mary Beaver, Betty Roman Nose, Leonard Bearshield, Caroline Red Bird. (Submitted photo)

2016 Winter Heating Assistance Elder Care Program Application Deadlines:
February - March 31, 2016
March - April 29, 2016

For information on obtaining application call 405-422-7763

Concho Office
 P.O. BOX 123
 (405) 422-7411 Office
 (405) 422-8230 Fax

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes
Elder Care Program

Clinton Office
 P.O. BOX 714
 (580) 311-2118 Office
 (580) 311-2117 Office
 (405) 422-8229 Fax

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Office Hours: 8:00am-4:00pm

2016 WINTER HEATING ASSISTANCE

***Effective February 2, 2016**

Print Name: _____ Always provide your CDIB# 2801A

Date of Birth: _____ (NEW to the program, submit copy of your and DL or State ID. (please do not fax))

Spouse Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Phone () _____

SAMPLE ONLY

I UTILITY HEATING ASSISTANCE FOR YOUR PRIMARY HOME:

- ✓ We will assist with current amount ONLY, NO PAST DUE balances.
- ✓ If you have a "ZERO" or "CREDIT" balance, NO payment will be required.
- ✓ Must submit your complete current utility statement each time you apply. If the bill is not in your name, you must submit a completed 2015 Residence Verification Form.
- ✓ Maximum allowable amount is up to \$300.00 on current bill only (Pre-paid capped at \$200.00)
- ✓ One (1) request per household.
- ✓ This is in addition to your regular 90-day Elder Care Assistance.
- ✓ This will exclude "yard lights" or "Security lights" on electric bills if they are to be paid.
- ✓ If you are on Average billing or Budget billing then that is the amount we will pay. We will NOT pay the current amount if you are on Average or Budget billing.

****FINAL DISCONNECTION NOTICES OR RE-CONNECT FEES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED****

X _____
Tribal Member Signature

MM/DD/YY

Please select the month in which you are applying for the Winter Heating Assistance Program:

February 2016 March 2016

Final Submission dates for this assistance are as follows:
February 2016 - last day we will take utility bills and applications will be **March 31, 2016**
March 2016 - last day we will take utility bills and applications will be **April 29, 2016**

ALL bills and Applications MUST be in by the dates listed above, NO EXCEPTIONS
 Please allow additional time to process check requests, up to 21 days from the date application is turned in to the Elder Care Program

Study says the 'drunken Indian' a myth

By Tanya H. Lee

Native Americans do not use or abuse alcohol more than whites do. In fact, exactly the opposite is true.

Researchers at the University of Arizona have found that Native Americans abstain from alcohol far more often than do whites, that fewer Native Americans than whites are light or moderate drinkers and that the two groups engage in binge and heavy drinking at pretty much the same rates.

This is the first study to look at drinking in the American Indian population as a whole. Other studies have focused only on specific tribes or places, such as a particular urban area, says lead author James K. Cunningham, a social epidemiologist with UA's Department of Family and Community Medicine, Native American Research and Training Center.

Looking at responses from more than 4,000 Native Americans and 170,000 white Americans who took part in a federal government survey between 2009 and 2013 pertaining to their alcohol use in the past month, the study found that almost

60 percent of Native Americans abstained from alcohol, compared with 43 percent of whites; 14.5 percent of Native Americans were light or moderate drinkers, compared with 32.7 percent of whites; 17.3 percent of Native Americans were binge drinkers, compared with 16.7 percent of whites; and 8.3 percent of Native Americans were heavy drinkers, compared with 7.5 percent of whites.

Erroneous beliefs about excessive drinking among American Indians go back at least as far as the late 1700s, when the Catholic priest Abbé Belmont described the Ottawa as "passionately attached" to brandy, according to the study.

And the bias continues to this day in movies, television and newspaper articles, extending even into the Indian Health Service, says Cunningham. The study quotes a 2015 IHS Behavioral Health Fact Sheet: "The high rates of alcohol and substance abuse... in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities are well documented."

This study, in conjunction

with a dearth of positive evidence for a genetic vulnerability to alcoholism among American Indians, could revolutionize both popular and medical thinking about drinking in Native American communities.

The health care implications cannot be overstated. "There are reports, for example, of higher liver disease mortality among Native Americans. We wanted to see if higher drinking rates could explain that disparity. Our study doesn't indicate that," says Cunningham.

"It does underscore the importance of realizing that when you're looking at health disparities oftentimes the explanation is complex. The study should provide an impetus for taking a more complex and realistic view of what the causes of health disparities really are," he continues.

Teshia A. Solomon, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is director of the UA Native American Research and Training Center and a co-author of the study. She points out similar rates of alcohol use do not necessari-

ly result in the same rates of alcohol-related health problems. "Native Americans as a group have less access to medical care, safe housing and quality food, which can amplify health problems connected to alcohol," she says.

UA Family and Community Medicine Department Head Myra Muramoto, the third study author, says, "Negative stereotyping of groups of people who have less access to health care creates even more health disparities. Based on a false negative stereotype, some health care providers may inaccurately attribute a presenting health problem to alcohol use and fail to appropriately diagnose and treat the problem."

"The problem with stereotypes," says Solomon, "is that they can get in the way of finding the real causes of problems."

The social implications of these findings are equally profound. For instance, a person may hesitate to seek alcohol treatment because she thinks she will be stereotyped. Or, "If you're apply-

ing for a job and the employer thinks that you're from a group that has extraordinary alcohol use, you may be less likely to get the job," notes Cunningham.

The idea that Native Americans have a particular vulnerability to alcoholism, says Cunningham, is long-standing, but probably inaccurate. "There was one study some years ago which seemed to find some evidence that American Indians and Alaska Natives [might have a genetic predisposition to alcoholism]. But the bulk of the research since then has not been able to demonstrate that. And in the field itself it is fairly accepted that there is no real data to back that notion up at this point in time. For some reason this information has not gotten out to the public; I don't know why."

But, says Solomon, "alcoholism does exist in communities regardless of race or ethnicity. Getting rid of the stereotypes will help ensure people get the kinds of care they need to overcome that serious issue. There's a real need for culturally-competent care for alcoholism in Native American communities."



Teshia A. Solomon, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is director of the Native American Research and Training Center at the University of Arizona.

The study, "Alcohol use among Native Americans compared to whites: Examining the veracity of the 'Native American elevated alcohol consumption' belief," is published in the journal *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*.

Lucky Star CASINO

CONCHO • CLINTON • CANTON • WATONGA
CONCHO TRAVEL CENTER • HAMMON TRAVEL CENTER

There's No Limit On Luck!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
PLAYER'S CHOICE 10AM - 11PM	PLAYER'S CHOICE 10AM - 11PM	PLAYER'S CHOICE 10AM - 11PM	\$10 MATCH PLAY 10AM - 11PM	EARLY SPECIAL 2 FOR \$10 10AM - 2PM	EARLY SPECIAL 2 FOR \$10 10AM - 2PM	SUNDAY FUNDAY Under 55+? \$10 with 10 pts earned Mon-Sun 55+ Club 55+ GETS \$10 (EXCLUDES CONCHO)
HAPPY HOUR HOT SEATS 2PM - 4PM	HAPPY HOUR HOT SEATS 2PM - 4PM	HAPPY HOUR HOT SEATS 2PM - 4PM				
LAST MAN Standing 6PM - 11PM	STARSTRUCK 6PM - 11PM	HI-LOW 6PM - 11PM	PIUNO 6PM - 11PM	\$50 STAR PLAY HOT SEATS 5PM - 12AM	\$50 STAR PLAY HOT SEATS 5PM - 12AM	BIG DICE GAME 6PM - 11PM

Lucky Star CASINO

Hawaii Five-000

WIN A TRIP FOR 2 TO HONOLULU, HAWAII THIS MARCH AT CONCHO, CANTON AND CLINTON!

GIVEAWAY MARCH 25TH!

Earn Entries Now - March 25th at any location.
EVERY 5 POINTS = 1 ENTRY

HOT SEAT DRAWINGS Every Half Hour from 11AM to 11PM
WIN \$50 STAR PLAY! STARTS MONDAY, MARCH 21- FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Concho Travel Center entries included in Concho giveaway. Watonga entries included in Canton. Hammon entries included in Clinton. See Player's Club for details.

Lucky Star CASINO

SMARTSHELTERS
TORNADO SHELTERS INC.

GIVEAWAY

CONCHO, CANTON AND CLINTON
MARCH 30 AT 8:30PM
EARN ENTRIES NOW THROUGH MARCH 30TH AT CONCHO, CANTON AND CLINTON

WATONGA, CONCHO TRAVEL CENTER, AND HAMMON
MARCH 31 AT 8:30PM
EARN ENTRIES NOW THROUGH MARCH 31ST AT WATONGA, CONCHO TRAVEL CENTER AND HAMMON

Earn 1 entry per day with 5 points earned.

WIN A SEVERE WEATHER BACKPACK KIT! HOT SEAT DRAWINGS FROM 12PM TO 11PM AT EACH LOCATION ON GIVEAWAY DAY!

See Player's Club for details.

St. Patrick's DAY

Thursday, March 17
\$10 FREE PLAY for ALL

See Player's Club for details.

NOW HIRING!
ALL LOCATIONS!

Visit our website:
www.luckystarcasino.org/employment
for more information!



LuckyStarCasino.org | See Player's Club for Details.

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