Chief Red Eagle meets with President Barack Obama

Red Eagle among 12 tribal leaders chosen to meet with Obama in the White House Dec. 15. Red Eagle gave opening prayer

By Shannon Shaw
Osage News

It was 3:19 p.m. Dec. 15 when an e-mail began circulating the Osage Nation campus that read, “Chief Red Eagle just sent a text that he is in the White House now.”

Dec. 14 is when Red Eagle’s administration had sent out a bulletin that Red Eagle had been one of 12 tribal leaders chosen who would get to meet with President Barack Obama in the White House the day before the start of the annual Tribal Nations Conference Dec. 16.

Obama met with the leaders to hear directly about their policy priorities and concerns, according to a prepared White House release.

Chief Red Eagle gave the open-
Minerals Council, Office of the Chiefs meet with BIA

Entities met in Minerals chambers Jan. 5, details from meeting have yet to be released

By Shannon Shaw
Osage News

The Osage Minerals Council, Chief John Red Eagle, Assistant Chief Scott BigHorse, Minerals Council liaison Everett Waller, Bureau of Indian Affairs Superintendent Melissa Currey and some oil producers all met in the OMC chambers Jan. 5.

As to what the entities discussed at the meeting, took action on, or resolved is unknown. Minutes of the meeting have been requested, questions have been sent to the OMC, the Office of the Chiefs and BIA Superintendent Currey. Only the Office of the Chiefs has responded.

“First of all, this meeting was called by BIA Agency Superintendent Melissa Currey and was not a Minerals Council meeting, per se,” said Chris White, Executive Director of Governmental Affairs.

“In other words, this meeting was not called by the Minerals Council. A notice of the meeting reportedly was posted on the BIA [Congress] side of the building.”

True, there were no notices of the meeting posted at the OMC chambers, on the front of the chamber windows or on the OMC Web site, since the meeting was allegedly arranged by the BIA, but by the time this story was published Currey had not returned repeated phone calls to concur with White.

“(Chief Red Eagle, Assistant Chief BigHorse and OMC Chairman Dudley Whitehorn] stated that the subject matter consisted of information presented to the oil producers and others in attendance about the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Underground Injection Control Program and its permitting process,” White said.

‘Minerals Council meeting’

The Osage News, while seeking comment from Chief Red Eagle on a story about the Osage trust case the morning of Jan. 5, learned Red Eagle was in a “Minerals Council meeting” and couldn’t comment according to an e-mail from White. The Osage News checked the OMC Web site and saw the next posting for a meeting was Jan. 14.

The Osage News arrived at the OMC chambers at 11:20 a.m. and saw that indeed a meeting was taking place. OMC council members, sans Joseph “Sonny” Abbott, were in attendance and sitting in their usual meeting places. The chiefs were there, as were Currey and another BIA employee and a couple of men who the Osage News later found out were oil producers. From what oil companies the Osage News has not been told.

The Osage News entered the OMC offices and were told by OMC staff members, who wished not to be named, to “please come back later” and that this meeting is closed.

The Osage News then went inside the OMC chambers and took a photo of the proceedings, in which an enthusiastic Dudley Whitehorn waved for the camera.

The Osage News requested a copy of the OMC bylaws to check if any actions were taken at the meeting, because if there weren’t then it was an informal gathering. However, there are no meeting minutes to tell what happened at the meeting.

The Osage News then called Osage Nation Attorney General Jeff Jones. Jones initial reaction was that the OMC was in violation of the Nation’s Open Meetings law and said he was going to call the OMC’s attorney to ask, “hey, what are they doing over there?” and see what they could do to rectify the situation.

However, after reviewing the Osage Constitution and the open meetings law, Jones is now unsure whether he has jurisdiction over the OMC since the Constitution says the OMC is an independent agency. Jones also wanted to know if any actions were taken at the meeting, because if there weren’t then it was an informal gathering.
Speaker Branstetter brings new direction to Osage Congress

By Shannon Shaw
Osage News

A difference can be seen in Osage congresional sessions and congressional meetings, they move along quickly and the process has become routine. Many are crediting the new Speaker of the Congress Jerri Jean Branstetter.

“She’s done a good job of getting us ready for sessions, and also done what’s necessary to keep the legislative process moving in a way that’s time-efficient,” said Raymond Red Corn, Osage Nation Congressional Second Speaker. "She’s been direct, candid, and not without an opinion on matters. At the same time, she’s been mindful of member’s opinions, and kept her door open. That’s not an easy balancing act to pull off.”

With the first four years of the First Osage Nation Congress out of session like old pros last September. Not an easy feat since the Tzi-Zho session usually means marathon committee meetings pouring over the Nation’s more than 40 budgets. But it all seemed effortless.

“This isn’t the same congress,” said Branstetter, who is technically the Nation’s second female speaker in its history. The first is former Congresswoman Faren Revard Anderson who was speaker for roughly two months in 2010. Anderson is now the Senior Executive Adviser to Chief John Red Eagle.

“I think everyone for once had an understanding of what the goal of the Tzi-Zho session was,” Branstetter said. “Previously, we had never been told what the intent of the session would be.”

The Speaker for the First Osage Congress was Congressman Archie Mason, who along with Branstetter, is serving a six-year term. Branstetter said Mason did an excellent job while he was Speaker but congress can benefit from her direct style.

“Being Speaker is a lot of responsibility and either you can be successful or you can fail,” Branstetter said. “It was frightening to think of failure, so failure was not an option.”

As part of her responsibilities as Speaker, Branstetter sits on the Osage Trust Team, made up of Branstetter, Chief Red Eagle and three members of the Osage Minerals Council: Chairman Dudley Whitehorn, Councilwoman Cynthia Boone and Councilman Galen Crum. The trust team is responsible for the directions the Nation takes in trust matters, including the Osage trust case that has just seen its biggest victory.

“In the last few days she’s shown leadership qualities that I think benefit the Congress and the Nation. She’s not bashful about speaking her mind,” Red Corn said.

History in the making
Branstetter, 65, is the highest-ranking female in the Nation’s government and has had more influence in the matters of the Nation than any other female in the tribe’s history. When asked to contemplate that statement Branstetter hesitates.

“I haven’t really thought about that,” Branstetter said. “My grandmother was a very traditional person and she came from a family that was very strong in her traditions. Her brother was a [Peyote] Roadman and it helped the family follow the traditions and stay together.”

Her grandmother was Nellie Morrell Roubidoux and her grandfather was George Pratt. Her mother, Angela Barnes, was also a strong female influence in her life. Branstetter watched as her mother went back to school late in life and became an LPN, which was always inspirational and a testament to her mother’s strong will to succeed, she said.

“I thought that was very courageous of her,” Branstetter said. “We had a lot of fun growing up and my mother was very active in everything we did.”

Branstetter herself is a mother and grandmother. Her son, M.L. Clark, is a former Drumkeeper of the Hominy District and is the father to her two grandchildren.

She grew up in Hominy, graduated from Hominy High School and has always participated in the In-Lon-Schka. She spent most of her career in the Department of Corrections, “where there’s policies and procedures in everything you do and you better know them.”

In her spare time, when she has some, she reads and sews Osage clothes. She remembers growing up and sewing with her aunts and three sisters.

“I’ve always worked on my life,” Branstetter said. “I’ve always enjoyed working. I’m very regimented and I like things to be correct and follow policy.”
ing prayer to the meeting. Also in the meeting was Attorney General Eric Holder, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett, White House Domestic Policy Council Director Melody Barnes and other administration officials.

The 12 leaders present, chosen to represent their geographic diversity of the country, were Red Eagle, President Joe Shirley of the Navajo Nation, Chairman Black Eagle of the Crow Tribe, Chairman Smith of the Pala Band of Mission Indians, Chairperson Edwards of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Chairman Barby of the Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe, Chairman Hall of the Three Affiliated Tribes, Chairman Wright of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Chairman Hayes of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Chairman Cladoosby of the Swinomish Tribe, President Thomas of the Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska and Chairwoman Diver of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Red Eagle addressed the president, asking him to continue supporting the efforts of trust responsibility and he thanked him for supporting the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. Red Eagle asked Obama to continue to fund the act as advancing medical technologies can be costly to tribal nations.

Red Eagle said that Obama re-committed to a nation-to-nation relationship between the federal government and tribal nations. Tribal leaders in the meeting asked Obama to consider a cabinet level position for Indian Affairs and Red Eagle said Obama was non-committal with his answer but said he would take it under consideration.

The Tribal Nations Conference began around 9 a.m. Dec. 16 and Obama gave opening remarks to the approximately 500 attendees, including more than 320 representatives from federally recognized tribes, administration officials and members of the U.S. Congress.

“I want to hear more from you about how we can strengthen the relationship between our governments,” Obama told tribal leaders. “Whether in education or health care, or in fighting crime or in creating jobs.”

Obama said his administration is committed to providing better roads, more protection, better schools, health care, clean energy and technology to Indian Country. He also noted that with the recent signing of the Cobell settlement he is dedicated to seeing the settlement of long standing trust cases.

“I also want to note that I support legislation to make clear—in the wake of a recent Supreme Court decision—that the Secretary of Interior can take land into trust for all federally recognized tribes,” Obama said. “That’s something that I discussed yesterday with tribal leaders.”

Obama ended with these remarks: “And what I hope is that we are seeing a turning point in the relationship between our nations. The truth is, for a long time, Native Americans were implicitly told that they had a choice to make. By virtue of the longstanding failure to tackle wrenching problems in Indian Country, it seemed as though you had to either abandon your heritage or accept a lesser lot in life; that there was no way to be a successful part of America and a proud Native American.

“But we know this is a false choice. To accept it is to believe that we can’t and won’t do better. And I don’t accept that. I know there is not a single person in this room who accepts that either. We know that, ultimately, this is not just a matter of legislation, not just a matter of policy. It’s a matter of whether we’re going to live up to our basic values. It’s a matter of upholding an ideal that has always defined who we are as Americans. E pluribus unum. Out of many, one.”

### Damages Awarded

Federal Judge Emily Hewitt issued a 95-page opinion Dec. 29 that states the Nation proved in trial that the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ failed to collect all the royalties owed from oil leases on the reservation from 1974 to 2000 and that the tribe’s estimates of damages were reasonable due to the disarray of the BIA’s tribal trust accounting system, according to a prepared release. She also ruled that the tribe’s estimates for the government’s failure to properly credit interest income to the Osage tribal trust account from 1973 to 1992 were reasonable.

The opinion followed a series of court decisions and a trial held on June 30 and July 1 of last year in Washington, D.C., in which experts for the federal government in tribal trust accounting and oil royalty calculation testified in the 10-year-old case, according to the release. The Nation presented testimony from its oil royalty expert and from Koch Industries, Inc. about oil accounting and pricing. The prices Koch offered for oil in Kansas and Oklahoma in the 1981 to 1990 period were a key issue in the trial, according to the release.

The Nation’s 10-year-old trust case seeks an accounting of 140 years of mismanagement of the tribe’s oil royalty payments and other alleged malfeasance. There is a total of three Tranches for the Osage trust case. Tranche One is now over.

The Osage Trust Team is made up of Red Eagle, Speaker of the Congress Jerri Jean Branstetter, Osage Minerals Council Chairman Dudley Whitehorn, OMC Councilwoman Cynthia Boone and OMC Councilman Galen Crum.

‘a source of concern’

Judge Hewitt not only ruled against the United States but also disapproved of the United States’ litigation tactics, according to the release. In an earlier opinion in 2010, the Court expressed concerns about its delaying tactics.

Dollar amount

Judge Hewitt has not yet announced a specific dollar amount for damages but the Nation and the United States were ordered to file specific damages amounts by Jan. 13. The Nation is expected to file a damages amount of approximately $310 million, according to the release. This does not include possible damages awards for claims on the remaining claims in the cases – Tranche Two of the case.

Judge Hewitt has asked for scheduling proposals from both sides for Tranche Two of the case and is expected in the near future to set a date for a trial to address those remaining claims in the case, according to the release.
Questions unanswered

According to the open meetings law, there is no clause, sentence or provision that says if a meeting is called by another entity a quorum of elected officials can meet in their chambers, not take minutes or keep any record of what happened and be exempt of the open meetings law. The law applies to all boards. The question is, how independent is the OMC and whose jurisdiction do they fall under? Can they meet informally every day as long as they say there were no actions taken?

Why was the meeting not advertised? Why won’t the parties involved divulge what happened at the meeting? Why were there oil producers there? Are there developments in leases or contracts with those producers? Isn’t that minerals business? Why was the meeting not broadcast on the OMC Web site since it was in the OMC chambers?

Jones said he will be looking into the situation and contacting all entities involved. By the time this story was published the OMC still declined to answer any questions involving the meeting.
ON Congress passes amendments to gaming law

Fifth Congressional Special Session starts Jan. 24

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

The Second Osage Nation Congress passed a bill amending the Nation’s gaming laws during its single-day Fourth Special Session on Dec. 13. The amendments to the gaming laws serve as updates for the Nation to comply with National Indian Gaming Commission regulations.

The Congress voted unanimously 9-0 on the bill (ONCA 11-09) to amend the Nation’s gaming law after it was fast tracked through the legislative process, which included a Congressional Commerce and Economic Development Committee meeting where discussion on the bill took place.

Revising the gaming law, as recommended by the NIGC, was to keep another recent gaming-related change on track for implementation this month. Congress passed an amended bill (ONCA 10-73) to expand the Nation’s Gaming Commission from one to three members on Oct. 4 during the 2010 Tzi-Zho Session.

The amendment to increase the Gaming Commission from one to three members is subject to the approval of the NIGC before the end of January 2011. Congressman Mark Simms sponsored ONCA 10-73 as well as ONCA 11-09.

Congressman Geoffrey Standing Bear addressed ONCA 11-09 on the Osage Shareholder’s Association blog on Dec. 9. He posted part of an e-mail written by NIGC Staff Attorney Dawn Sturdevant on the issue.

“In order for the NIGC Chairwoman (who is currently Tracie L. Stevens) to approve the pending amendment,” wrote Sturdevant, “the (Osage Nation) will need to adopt an additional amendment to incorporate the new privacy act and false claims act notices as required by a change in NIGC regulations last year.”

The additional amendments are included in ONCA 11-09, which was written by attorneys for both the legislative and executive branches.

Once ONCA 11-09 is passed, “The Chairwoman has 90 days in which to approve or deny an amendment (which is ONCA 10-73) and in this case those 90 days will expire on January 20, 2011,” according to Sturdevant’s e-mail.

Included in the amendments passed in ONCA 11-09:

Those who must obtain gaming licenses are: any management entity or controlling shareholder; all primary management officials and key employees; suppliers or vendors of gaming goods and services; and any other employee or class of employees as determined in the Gaming Commission rules.

The Gaming Commission is authorized to create a less stringent vendor licensing process, including a due diligence check rather than a full background investigation. The Gaming Commission may investigate such vendors when appropriate and may conduct audits and monitor gaming enterprise purchases.

The Gaming Commission is also allowed to reconsider a gaming license application if the NIGC objects to the application. If new evidence is provided by the NIGC which was not available during the initial review/approval process, then the Gaming Commission would be allowed to evaluate whether the NIGC’s original decision should stand.

Also among the amendments is a new subsection allowing the Gaming Commission to hold hearings behind closed doors if needed. The original law called for all hearings under Chapter 5 to be open to the public.

Congressman Raymond Red Corn questioned whether the Gaming Commission is exempted from the Nation's open meetings law during the Commerce and Economic Development committee meeting.

“Hearings are not subject to the open meetings law, that’s my take,” said Terry Mason Moore who is legal counsel for the Executive Branch. Loyed “Trey” Gill, who is the Legislative Branch’s attorney also agreed.

According to the Nation’s Open Meetings Act (ONCA 07-53), “all public bodies of the Nation shall adopt by-laws for its internal governance which shall include rules for conducting meetings. Such rules shall not be in conflict with any provision of this Act.”

Executive sessions by the Nation’s public bodies are permissible to discuss matters including personnel issues, legal advice (including pending litigation), criminal matters (which could threaten effective law enforcement if disclosed), inter-governmental relations and real property purchases.

ONCA 11-09 passed with nine votes. Congressmen Standing Bear and John Free and Congresswoman Shannon Edwards were absent for the special session.

Once ONCA 10-73 passes, Principal Chief John Red Eagle will be charged with appointing two more gaming commissioners. He appointed Matthew Shunkamolah for one gaming commissioner spot on Dec. 2.

Congressional Speaker Branstetter calls for a Fifth Special Session in January.

Congress will meet Jan. 24 for its next special session at 10 a.m. in the Congressional Chambers.

Speaker Jerri Jean Branstetter issued a written legislative proclamation for the Fifth Special Session on Dec. 16. The Legislative Branch has the power to call a special session with the written request of two-thirds of Congress, according to the Constitution.

The Congress will consider budget modifications to the Nation’s 2011 budget as well as a new budget parameter bill, according to the proclamation.

The next regular Congressional session is the Hun-Kah Session, which starts March 21.
Jeff Jones takes oath as Osage Nation Attorney General

Jones is the first AG in the history of the new tribal government

Osage News

Jeff S. Jones took the oath of office Jan. 4 as the Osage Nation’s first ever Attorney General.

He was sworn into office by ON Chief Justice Charles Lohah at the tribal courthouse in Pawhuska in front of friends, family and elected and appointed officials from the executive and legislative branches.

After being sworn in, a smiling Jones said, “I’ll just say I’m excited to be here. I appreciate the opportunity the tribe has offered me. I plan to be here a long time.”

Principal Chief John Red Eagle said, “On behalf of the Osage Nation, we’re very proud to have Jeff” join the tribal government.

Assistant Principal Chief Scott BigHorse said he used to work with Jones when Jones was First Assistant District Attorney for Osage County and BigHorse worked in the correctional facility sector. He praised Jones’s arrival. “He is a fine outstanding gentleman and we are very fortunate to have him on board with us.”

Jones said his office will be temporarily located in the Language Department’s building on Main Street while a permanent location is being fixed for him.

Chris White, executive director of governmental affairs, said the Nation is in the process of arranging a permanent location for the AG’s office on the government campus.

Osage Alzheimer’s caregivers invited to take part in study

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

Those taking care of Osage relatives and patients living with Alzheimer’s disease or those experiencing symptoms of dementia are invited to participate in a study which will examine how people cope and handle caring for those affected in Indian Country.

J. Neil Henderson (Choctaw), who is a professor at the University of Oklahoma’s Health Sciences Center, is leading a study on caretaking among Native American families which includes focuses on taking care of patients living with Alzheimer’s disease and memory loss problems.

He is seeking interested caregivers for interviews which will touch on their patient care.

“We’re trying to understand, from a realistic viewpoint, how caregivers take care of elders who are experiencing memory loss,” Henderson said. He notes the longevity rates for Native elders is rising, which could increase the numbers of those having memory loss.

“There is a developing problem in Native America,” said Henderson, “people who are living longer could be subject to memory loss.”

Alzheimer’s disease is the most common type of dementia which mainly affects older people, according to the 2010 World Alzheimer Report conducted by Alzheimer’s Disease International. After age 65, the likelihood of developing dementia roughly doubles every five years.

According to the Alzheimer’s Association, there are about 5.3 million Americans living with the disease and every 70 seconds, someone in America develops Alzheimer’s. The association predicts there will be a half-million new cases of Alzheimer’s this year and by 2050, there will be nearly a million new cases of Alzheimer’s every year.

To help address the issues of Alzheimer’s disease and memory loss problems in Oklahoma’s Indian Country, Henderson is conducting the study – with the focus on caregivers – to offer solutions and education to those who could be looking after Native elders in the future. This study is being funded through a grant from the Alzheimer’s Association, Henderson said.

“Our purpose is to bring the information (conclusion/recommendations from the study) to the tribes for their use so we can all use it,” said Henderson who has a doctorate in medical anthropology and teaches OUHSC courses on topics including Native American health and social and behavioral sciences. He is also the director of the OUHSC’s American Indian Diabetes Prevention Center.

For the study, Henderson and his wife, Carson Henderson, an assistant professor at OUHSC whose research interests include gerontology, will personally visit with the caregiver, as well as the caregiver’s most frequent helper, and the patient (if possible) for interviews.

Neil Henderson said the interview questions will focus on topics including: the level of the patient’s memory loss (i.e. mild, severe); how do the caregivers prepare for elder care; and what type of resources are needed for caregiving.

Eligibility rules for participants are: the caregivers must be over the age of 18; at least one of the caregivers must be Osage or member of another Native American tribe; the caregivers and patients must be Okla-
Osage Nation donates more than $27,000 to candidates in 2010 races

Red Eagle and Gray administrations made donations to state, federal office candidates, including two Osages

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

In the 2010 general election, the Osage Nation donated $27,700 to candidates who ran for public office, which included donations of $7,500 apiece to Republican and Democratic organizations, as well as equal amounts to selected candidates who ran against each other.

The Nation made equal donations of $200 each to the two main Oklahoma gubernatorial candidates’ campaign, according to information released by Principal Chief John Red Eagle’s office. Republican Mary Fallin defeated former Democratic Lt. Gov. Jari Askins in the Nov. 2 election and took oath as the state’s first female governor on Jan 10.

But exceptions were made in some races, including those with Osages running for office. In the race for District Attorney of Oklahoma District 10 (which covers both Osage and Pawnee counties), the Nation contributed three times to the campaign of Jeff Jones (Osage) who lost the race to Rex Duncan.

Jones received a total of $4,000 in campaign contributions from both Principal Chiefs’ administrations last year. Jones, a former assistant district attorney for Osage County, was appointed the Nation’s first Attorney General by Principal Chief John Red Eagle and was sworn into office earlier this month.

The $27,700 in campaign contributions came from both of the Executive Branch’s 2010 and 2011 fiscal year budgets, according to Chris White, the executive director of government affairs for Red Eagle’s office. The 2010 donations list includes 15 donations, which started May 11 while former Principal Chief Jim Gray was in office and ends with seven donations made on Oct. 18 – over two months after Chief Red Eagle was sworn into office.

“We want to support the political process,” White said of the Nation’s campaign contributions. “Other tribes make donations as well, we’ve got to support where we can.”

Most of the campaign contributions were made around the closing of the Nation’s 2010 fiscal year (Sept. 30). The Osage Nation Congress passed the budgets for FY 2011 during its Tzi-Zho Session, which includes the Office of the Chiefs budget. Red Eagle signed his office’s 2011 budget into law on Oct. 4.

With the timing of the general election occurring close to the ending and beginning of the Nation’s fiscal years, White said the Nation did its best to donate in the short window of time before voters hit the polls. “We didn’t have the money at the time (to make several campaign contributions), but after 2011’s budget was approved, we felt we had done what the tribe could do,” he said.

When Gray’s 2010 office budget (ONCA 10-23) was approved by the First ON Congress in January 2010 (following three-plus months of budget debate between the two government branches), $40,932 was allocated for donations. In Red Eagle’s office budget (ONCA 10-94), $100,000 is allocated for donations and awards this fiscal year.

In the race for Oklahoma State House seat for District 66, Osage candidate Eli Potts received a contribution of $1,000 on Oct. 18. That donation was one of seven campaign contributions the Nation made that day. Potts lost the race to fellow Sand Springs resident Jadine Nollan.

The $4,000 in campaign contributions made to Jones included one donation of $2,500 on June 1 while Gray was still in office and two from Chief Red Eagle’s office with a donation of $500 on Sept. 29 and $1,000 on Oct. 18.

Also on Oct. 18, the Nation donated $7,500 each to the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. White said political party preferences did not play a role in decisions made about political donations.

“We support those who support us,” said White, “We don’t make donations to buy any influence or anything like that.”

White referred to former Oklahoma state Representative Ken Luttrell (Cherokee), who lost his re-election bid in November, as an example. Luttrell received a $500 donation from the Nation on Aug. 10.

White noted that Luttrell, who was a member of Oklahoma’s Native American Caucus for the House, assisted the Nation when it was seeking a letter of support regarding the ongoing reservation status lawsuit against the Oklahoma State Tax Commission, which is being appealed by the Nation at the U.S. Supreme Court level.

Non-Osage rancher Eddie Fields,
Osage Nation Language Orthography Chart

**Primitives – Osage Vowels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( Λ )</td>
<td>'aw sound' as in the word <strong>aw</strong>some</td>
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<td>( Ω )</td>
<td>long e sound as in the word <strong>ee</strong>p</td>
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<td>( Ω )</td>
<td>short e sound as in the word <strong>egg</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>( Λ )</td>
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**Nasal Sound**

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**Diphthongs**

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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( Α + Ω )</td>
<td>blend of Α + Ω = Α</td>
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**Modifiers – modify primary sounds**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( Σ )</td>
<td>English <strong>S</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( Σ )</td>
<td>English <strong>H</strong></td>
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<td>( Σ )</td>
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<td>( Σ )</td>
<td>English <strong>M</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>( Σ )</td>
<td>English <strong>N</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>( Σ )</td>
<td>English <strong>Z</strong></td>
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**Between**

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<tr>
<td>( Α )</td>
<td>between the <strong>k</strong> and <strong>g</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( Α )</td>
<td>between the <strong>t</strong> and <strong>d</strong></td>
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**Blends**

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<td>( Α )</td>
<td>blend of <strong>s</strong> + <strong>h</strong> as in the word <strong>sh</strong>ip</td>
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<td>blend of <strong>t</strong> + <strong>r</strong> together</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>blend of <strong>s</strong> + <strong>k</strong></td>
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This is not an alphabet. The symbols represent sound only. Practice writing and pronouncing these symbols everyday. For more information, please contact the Osage Nation Language Program at (918) 287-5505 (Pawhuska), (918) 642-3185 (Fairfax), (918) 287-5583 (Hominy), (918) 287-5547 (Edmond), and (918) 287-5547 (Skiatook) or visit us on the Web at http://www.osagetribe.org/language.
Political leaders join Chief Red Eagle for ‘Day of Unity’

Red Eagle: ‘when you network together with a common goal, then that goal is going to be envisioned’

By Benny Polacca
Osage News

Area residents – Osage and non-Osage – joined Principal Chief John Red Eagle and other political leaders from the Osage Nation and across Oklahoma to celebrate a day of “Unity” on Dec. 10 in an effort to create “a better future for all who share in this great land.”

A written proclamation signed by Red Eagle and Assistant Principal Chief Scott BigHorse declared the day as the “Osage Nation Day of Reconciliation and Unity” in which he called on “all Osage citizens and our neighbors who share this great land to join in the commemoration.”

“You made the effort because that’s what’s going to network us together and when you network together with a common goal, then that goal is going to be envisioned,” Red Eagle said.

Elected Osage government officials including: BigHorse; ON Congress Speaker Jerri Jean Branstetter; Congressmen Archie Mason, William “Kugee” Supernaw and Eddy Red Eagle; Osage Minerals Councilmen Galen Crum, Myron Red Eagle, Joseph “Sonny” Abbott and Chairman Dudley Whitehorn; and Osage Nation Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles Lohah were in attendance at the Osage County Fairgrounds south of Pawhuska.

Elected officials from state, federal, local and other tribal governments also attended including: Eddie Fields (R-Wynona), who was elected District 10 State Senator in November; Osage County Commissioners Bob Jackson, Scott Hilton and Jim Clark; Ponca City Mayor Homer Nicholson; Tonkawa tribal President Don Patterson; Kaw Nation Chairman Guy Munroe; and city officials from Hominy, Pawhuska and Barnsdall.

“I think we’ve got everybody but Santa Claus,” Mason said smiling after introducing the elected officials in the audience, which took nearly 20 minutes. He was the master of ceremonies for the day. This event comes four months after Red Eagle took oath as Principal Chief and said he would “call for a day of reconciliation” in his inaugural address.

“Initially, what will come out of the Unity Day event is a mutual effort by all reservation communities to share in ideas, effort, and planning to take advantage of opportunities that will improve the quality of life on the reservation for all its citizens,” said Chris White who is the Executive Director of Government Affairs for the Nation.

In an e-mailed statement, White said: “The Chief’s office has already discussed exploring an idea to sponsor summit-type meetings that will examine our mutual needs and desires for more jobs, better health care delivery systems, and enhanced educational opportunities. Already, there is a scheduled meeting between Chief Red Eagle and the three Osage County Commissioners and it has been agreed that future meetings will be on a quarterly basis. Again, this is just the first step.”

Jennifer Tiger, director of the Nation’s Strategic Planning and Grants Management office, was project manager for the seven teams that organized and planned the event. She said preparation took six weeks and more than 25 people to make the event happen with a budget of about $12,000. The funding for the event came from the Office of the Chiefs, she said.

“I was up there when (President Barack) Obama made that decision. He said: ‘well, I’m going to compromise so we can help this person.’ And I looked at that decision and the compromise that he made and he was criticized for that. But he did it for a purpose. The event is ‘a day of reconciliation’ where it’s going to help our people,” Red Eagle said.

“The’s been the leaders of this Nation, I’ve seen the leaders of the Indian Nations and we’re all striving for one thing: we’re striving for unity. We’re striving for that effort where we can make a decision where it’s going to help our people,” Red Eagle said.

“I’ve seen the unity theme during his recent visits to Washington D.C.

“Unity speeches

Red Eagle opened his remarks by citing Holy Scripture, which calls for people to live in unity with their “brethren.” He reminisced about Pawhuska during his youth when the streets and stores would be filled with people on Saturdays and everybody knew everybody. He also noticed the unity theme during his recent visits to Washington D.C.

See Day of Unity
—Continued on Page 11
Non-Osage Rancher Frederick Drummond addresses the attendees of Unity Day Dec. 10.  

Day of Unity

because [a] family would have security,” said Red Eagle of Obama’s bipartisan tax-cut compromise.

Red Eagle’s older brother Congressman Red Eagle also took the stage during the “Day of Unity” and shared Osage history with the attendees, mentioning the tribe’s names used by ancestors including “Wah-Zha-Zhi” and “Ni-o-ka-ska,” meaning “children of the middle waters.”

“We’ve been very fortunate in our tribe, as my brother said,” said Chief Red Eagle, “Since we crossed that Kansas border from that time... from the natural resources all the way to the rolling hills, our people were blessed with this type of land and they benefitted from it, we see that benefit today.”

Red Eagle invited long-time family friend and non-Osage rancher Frederick Drummond to address the crowd in which he described the region as “a mystic place, a beautiful country.”

“I think this is something that is really important,” Drummond said of “unity” as a concept. “You’re blessed with so many wonderful things here... natural resources, the minerals... there are 45,000 people that live in Osage County, work in Osage County and to include them in the vision that the tribe has for the betterment of all is the thing that makes it a wonderful recommendation for the vision and the leadership of your tribe.”

The “Day of Unity” event also featured songs from Osage singers and drummers. The American Legion Post 198 of Pawhuska posted the flag colors and the day included lunch and network time for all the visitors.

Alzheimer’s Study

—Continued from Page 7

“We find (in the study) will be put into a training manual for the public to help” and educate the public, Henderson said. “These are the things we cope with everyday.”

For more information on Alzheimer’s disease, visit the Alzheimer’s Association Web site at www.alz.org.

For more information or to participate in the Henderson study on Alzheimer’s disease/ memory-loss problems, caregivers and interested parties can reach Dr. Henderson at (405) 509-1945 or e-mail at neil-henderson@ouhsc.edu.

Toys for Tots

—Continued from Page 5

1,000 toys for children ages 0-14 which is close to the amount the detachment received last year.

The MCL Osage Detachment is in its third year of distributing toys as part of the nationwide Toys for Tots program. The detachment, which has 60 members as of December, works with the Anti-Tank Training Company in Broken Arrow to collect the toys for distribution at Christmastime.

Toys for Tots, a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve program, was founded in 1947 and focuses on distributing toys to underprivileged children nationwide.
Woodland Cougars win Class A State Championship in overtime

By Sterlin Harjo

The Woodland Cougars left Stillwater and the Boone Pickens stadium as champions after the dramatic victory against the Stratford Bulldogs on Dec. 11.

The two teams were as evenly matched as you can get for a high school championship game. They may have been too evenly matched as both teams rarely got the ball into the opposing team’s 20-yard line, turning the face-off into a defensive bout that sometimes felt like a ping-pong match as defense shut down offense on every series. The ball changed possession, on fourth down, for four quarters without a single touchdown or field-goal. That’s not to say that the game was boring, it was anything but. Exciting moments and big plays abounded, but neither team could deliver the knockout blow and get the ball into the end zone. It left many people on the sidelines scratching their heads.

Lead by quarterback Bartlett, the Cougars offense drove up and down the field against the Bulldogs, but as was the case with Stratford’s offense, the Cougars couldn’t close the deal in the end zone. Bartlett was able to connect with Goodeagle on a long pass and Hillsberg and 42 Willie Zachary were breaking through the defensive line for gained yardage, but for the most part both teams had shut the other down by the time they headed into the locker rooms for halftime.

After the half, the Bulldogs stopped the Cougars in the first series and led an impressive drive deep into the Cougar’s territory. Aside from a tackle in the backfield by Cook and a couple of crucial stops by Bartlett and Hillsberg, the Bulldogs’ Chamberlain and Ardery seemed to be heading effortlessly toward 6 points for Stratford. Chamberlain handed off to Ardery near the Cougars 40 yard line and Ardery exploded past the line of scrimmage into the Cougar’s secondary only to fumble the ball. Goodeagle was on top of the ball and ultimately stopped the Bulldogs from scoring what might have ended up being the winning touchdown.

The fumble recovery didn’t result in a touchdown for the Cougars, but it was that stand against the Bulldogs that shifted momentum from Stratford to Woodland. Momentum, though, exchanged hands between the two teams so often that fans on both sides, rather than risking frostbite in the below freezing winds, remained on their feet to cheer on their hometown boys. Throughout the rest of the game Bartlett and the Cougar offense played an aggressive, inspired game, often getting down to the Bulldogs red-zone only to fall short because of a dropped pass or outstanding coverage by the Bulldogs secondary.

During a fourth quarter drive Bartlett completed a long pass to Tracy Wilson, which brought the Cougars into Bulldogs territory. The drive was stopped short inside the 30-yard line when Bartlett fumbled on a quarterback keeper. The Bulldogs answered by driving down to the Cougars 11-yard line only to be stopped short by a Cougar goal-line stand. After another drive back toward the Bulldogs end zone, time ran out with the score still at 0-0, bringing the game into overtime.

The Bulldogs took possession first at the 20-yard line in what promised to be a dramatic ending to a gridlocked game. Chad Rogers stopped Chamberlain short on a quarterback keeper for no gain in the first play of overtime. In the second play of overtime the Cougars’ Curtis Edens and Hillsberg stopped Chamberlain on another quarterback keeper. In what may be the biggest play of the game, the Cougars win — Continued on Page 15
Students experience culture first hand

By Avis Ballard, JOM Coordinator

November is a flurry of activity for the Native American students in Osage County. The Osage Nation Johnson O’Malley (JOM) parent committees of Skiatook, Hominy and Pawhuska hosted their cultural events in November to celebrate Native American Heritage month. These annual events are planned to promote cultural awareness and pride within the communities.

The Skiatook JOM committee held their seventh annual contest powwow on Nov. 6, 2010. Young dancers came from many areas to participate in the event that featured youth and adult contest dancing and an Indian taco dinner. The parent committee also crowned a new princess, Jessica Cryder. She is Osage and a junior

Pawhuska JOM Native American Heritage Dance.

at Skiatook High School. Her family felt proud of this honor and gave out Pendleton blankets and gifts to the head staff and committee. This powwow is now a tradition for the Skiatook community and the JOM parents are pleased to host this annual event.

Pawhuska JOM parent committee hosted their Native American Heritage dance the following Saturday at the Wakon Iron Hall in Pawhuska. It began with a gourd dance and the crowning of their new princesses: Autumn Williams, Denver Wahwassuck and Aydan McCartney. Anthony Kemble, an Osage student from Hominy, agreed to be their head singer and brought his family along with their drum.

“It was a proud mama moment,” said Andrea Kemble, Anthony’s mother. “Every time he started a song I held my breath.” This was his first time to be head singer although he’s been singing at the drum for many years.

The following afternoon several Osage students and their families traveled to the elementary school in Pawnee for a handgame challenge. Andrea Kemble, Hominy JOM chairperson, was asked to start the game by guessing which hand held the bead.

“Do you have a stick or something I can use to guess with,” she asked the Pawnee host.

“No, we aren’t fancy like that. Just use your hands,” he replied with a laugh.

The Pawnees won the game;

See JOM Events —Continued on Page 15

Congratulations to the Indian Camp Warriors

Congratulations to the 6th grade Indian Camp Warriors basketball team who placed third in the Pawhuska youth basketball tourney.
Contributions — Continued from Page 8

who was elected State Senator of Senate District 10, received two donations totaling $1,000 from the Red Eagle administration. A $500 donation was made to the Wynona resident on Aug. 31 and the second $500 donation was reported Oct. 18.

Fields, a Republican, beat non-Osage Dale Christenson, a Democrat and Pawhuska resident, for the State Senate seat. Christenson also received $1,000 from the Nation with two $500 donations made on the same day as Fields’s donations.

Other donations made to 2010 candidates

U.S. Rep. Dan Boren (D-Okla.) received a $2,400 donation on Oct. 18 from the Nation during his successful re-election campaign.

U.S. Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) received a $2,400 donation from the Nation on May 11. He is Chickasaw and has been in office as a U.S. Congressman since 2003. According to his Web site, Cole is the only Native American currently serving in Congress.

Letters to the Editor Submissions

If you’d like to submit a letter to the editor, mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 109 E. 6th Street, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or email sshaw@osagenews.org. Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

Osage Nation LIHEAP

(Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

Currently assisting eligible households by one of the following:

- Paying heating bills / expenses
- Repairing or replacing heating units
- With 110 Heaters
- With Home Weatherization Kits

You may qualify if you:

- are a resident of Osage County / Osage Reservation
- possess a tribal C.D.I.B.
- qualify by 150% Poverty Income Guidelines
- or receive TANF, SSI, or Food Stamps

Please contact the office below to obtain an application or arrange an appointment to come in the office.

Osage Nation Housing Department
Amy Dobbins, Intake Specialist
P.O. Box 147 • Hominy, Oklahoma 74056
Toll Free (800) 490-8771 • (918) 287-5310 • Fax (918) 287-5568
www.osagetribe.com/housing

Please act quickly while funding is available!

Take The First Step

Be an Adoptive or Foster Parent for Osage Children

"Why?" you ask. Because...
"Childhood can’t wait!"

For more information, please contact
Rebecca Fish
ICW Adoption Specialist
(918) 287-5338
Cougars Win

—Continued from Page 12

Bartlett intercepted a pass in the end zone forcing the Bulldogs to give up possession.

There was a short silence before the celebration as players, coaches, and the crowd (as well as the media) were in so much shock that they didn’t register what just happened as Willie Zachary ran the ball around the end and dived into the end zone for the winning touchdown. Zachary seemed to score with such calculated ease that it was easy to forget the back and forth of the first four scoreless quarters of the game.

The Cougars played the game well; they played smart and confident from the coaches to the players on the field. Both teams exhibited a great deal of talent and composure on every down throughout the championship game, but the Cougars ultimately brought home the well-deserved win.

[Editor’s Note: This story was originally published in The Bigheart Times and is used with permission.]

OSAGE TRIBAL MUSEUM

World War I Exhibit

The Osage Tribal Museum is currently having a new exhibit created for Osage WWI Veterans. If you have a WWI Veteran in your family please go online or come by the museum to verify that he is on our list of Veterans. Then you can contact the Osage Tribal Museum to be sure we have a photograph of your Veteran that is acceptable to the family.

This exhibit will be permanent and needs to contain the best and highest quality photographs available. Please help us construct this exhibit to honor our Osages who served the United States and the Osage Nation in WWI.

JOM Events

—Continued from Page 13

however, the Osage students enjoyed themselves and felt pleased to visit their neighboring tribal community.

During the last week of November the Hominy JOM parent committee held their annual Heritage Day Handgame demonstration at the public school. They began at the elementary in the morning and ended at the high school in the afternoon. This Osage handgame featured traditional singing, handgames and fun activities for the kids to enjoy. The parent committee likes to host a handgame as their cultural event because it allows everyone a chance to participate and doesn’t require traditional clothes to dance or enjoy the fun.

The students at Skiatook, Hominy and Pawhuska enjoyed these cultural events and the parent committees look forward to hosting more in the future. At each event the students experienced Native American culture first-hand and this helps to keep those traditions strong. Please call Avis Ballard at (918) 287-5545 or email aballard@osagetribe.org for more information about this program.

Send your donations to:
Osage Tribal Museum
PO Box 779
Pawhuska, OK 74056

If you are sending a check or money order, please make it out to the “Smithsonian Institution” (not “Osage Tribal Museum”) and please put “The Osage Ten” in the memo section. Thank you.

OSAGE TRIBAL MUSEUM

819 Grandview Avenue, Pawhuska, OK 74056
“Oldest Tribally-Owned Museum in North America”
www.osagetribe.com/museum
918.287.5441

“The Osage Ten”

Between now and 2010, a major project, entitled “The Osage Ten,” will allow us wonderful additions to our ever-growing museum.

You may recall that we have a bust of Albert Penn, located in the east wing, which was donated by the Smithsonian, back in 2005, and Shun-Kamolah was just unveiled at the museum’s 70th anniversary on May 2, 2008. We are asking for your help in having all ten busts completed.

The people who had casts made for them are: Albert Penn, Shun-Kamolah, Fred Lookout, Charley Wachrici, Henry Pratt, William Fletcher, Wah-Hrah-Lum-Pah (Margaret Dodd), Charles McDougan, Che-Sho-Wa-Ke-Pah (Fidelis Cole) and Ah-Hu-Shin-Kah (Little Wing).

A plaque will be placed under each bust for those who have donated.

Send your donations to:
Osage Tribal Museum
PO Box 779
Pawhuska, OK 74056

“Oldest Tribally-Owned Museum in North America”
www.osagetribe.com/museum
918.287.5441

“Oldest Tribal Museum in North America”
www.osagetribe.com/museum
918.287.5441

If you are sending a check or money order, please make it out to the “Smithsonian Institution” (not “Osage Tribal Museum”) and please put “The Osage Ten” in the memo section. Thank you.
Health Benefit Card re-enrollment forms ready

From the Office of the Principal Chief

The re-enrollment request forms for the 2011 Osage Nation Health Limited Benefit Plan are now available to tribal members who wish to continue coverage. The re-enrollment forms are available for download at the Osage Nation website: www.osagetrebe.com. They can also be downloaded at the end of this article.

The plan, approved by the Osage Nation Congress, allows for a maximum of $500 towards eligible medical expenses for plan participants. According to Chief John Red Eagle’s office, this year there is no requirement for participants to complete a health survey, as was done in the past.

For those tribal members who already have a health limited benefit plan card all that is required on the form is your name and tribal membership enrollment number. If there has been a change of address since the 2010 enrollment, then the new information will need to be added.

The 2011 funds will be automatically placed on participant cards. Tribal officials remind 2010 participants that there is no “roll over” of funds from the previous year on their cards.

If a tribal member was not enrolled in the 2010 plan, they are asked to please contact Osage Nation Constituent Services at 918-287-5662, or toll free at 800-320-8742 and request an initial enrollment packet.

Eligible Medical Expenses

- Abdominal supports
- Acupuncture
- Air conditioner (when necessary for relief from difficulty in breathing)
- Alcoholism treatment
- Ambulance
- Anesthetist
- Arch supports
- Artificial limbs
- Autoette (when used for relief of sickness/disability)
- Birth Control Pills (by prescription)
- Blood tests
- Blood transfusions
- Braces
- Cardiographs
- Chiropractor
- Christian Science Practitioner
- Contact Lenses
- Contraceptive devices (by prescription)
- Convalescent home (for medical treatment only)
- Crutches
- Dental Treatment
- Dental X-rays
- Dentures
- Dermatologist
- Diagnostic fees
- Diathermy
- Drug addiction therapy
- Drugs (prescription)
- Elastic hosiery (prescription)
- Eyeglasses
- Fees paid to health institute prescribed by a doctor
- FICA and FUTA tax paid for medical care service
- Fluoridation unit
- Guide dog
- Gum treatment
- Gynecologist
- Healing services
- Hearing aids and batteries
- Hospital bills
- Hydrotherapy
- Insulin treatment
- Lab tests
- Lead paint removal
- Legal fees
- Lodging (away from home for outpatient care)
- Metabolism tests
- Neurologist
- Nursing (including board and meals)
- Obstetrician
- Operating room costs
- Ophthalmologist
- Optician
- Optometrist
- Oral surgery
- Organ transplant (including donor’s expenses)
- Orthopedic shoes
- Orthopedist
- Osteopath
- Oxygen and oxygen equipment
- Pediatrician
- Physician
- Physiotherapist
- Podiatrist
- Postnatal treatments
- Practical nurse for medical services
- Prenatal care
- Prescription medicines
- Psychiatrist
- Psychoanalyst
- Psychologist
- Psychotherapy
- Radium Therapy
- Registered nurse
- Special school costs for the handicapped
- Spinal fluid test
- Splints
- Sterilization
- Surgeon
- Telephone or TV equipment to assist the hard-of-hearing
- Therapy equipment
- Transportation expenses (relative to health care)
- Ultra-violet ray treatment
- Vaccines
- Vasectomy
- Vitamins (if prescribed)
- Wheelchair
- X-rays

Eligible Over-the-Counter Drugs

- Antacids
- Allergy Medications
- Pain Relievers
- Cold medicine
- Anti-diarrhea medicine
- Cough drops and throat lozenges
- Sinus Medications and Nasal sprays
- Nicotine medications and nasal sprays
- Pedialyte
- First aid creams
- Calamine lotion
- Wart removal medication
- Antibiotic ointments
- Suppositories and creams for hemorrhoids
- Sleep aids
- Motion sickness pills

Ineligible Over-the-Counter Drugs

- Toiletries (including toothpaste)
- Acne treatments
- Lip balm (including Chapstick or Carmex)
- Cosmetics (including face cream and moisturizer)
- Suntan lotion
- Medicated shampoos and soaps
- Vitamins (daily)
- Fiber supplements
- Dietary supplements
- Weight loss drugs for general well being
- Herbs

Health Expenses

Eligibility Index

The following is what Osages are eligible for with their $500 health benefit card. Due to new IRS federal regulations, over-the-counter items must be paid for upfront and reimbursed.
Jalyn Bradford crowned Hominy 2010 Football Homecoming Queen

Jalyn Danelle Bradford was crowned the Hominy Bucks 2010 Football Homecoming Queen. The coronation was held before the Hominy/Barnsdall Football game.

Jalyn is the daughter of Shannon Mitts and Jason Bradford Sr. and is big sis to Jason Jr. and Jacob. Grandparents are Gail and Cecilia Passmore and the late Linda Mooney. Great-grandparents are Olita Mitts and the late Connie Dyer. Jalyn has participated in tennis, softball and newspaper. She was also voted Junior Buck Attendant and Buck Princess. She has enjoyed her years at Hominy High School and is looking forward to representing it as this year’s Queen.

Jalyn plans to attend NOC next fall but for now is enjoying her senior year and would like to thank the Hominy Bucks football team for this honor.

Crown Bearer is TJ Piearcy, son of Courtney and Terence Piearcy and the brother of Sophie Piearcy of Hominy. He is the grandson of Sherry and David Standefer of Yale, Stacey and Mike Harlow of Hominy, Tim Piearcy of Tulsa and the late Brad Dailey of Hominy. TJ attends Dimples and Smiles Daycare where he enjoys playing with his friends. Some of his favorite things are wrestling with Dad, racing cars with Sophie and watching the movie Transformers. TJ would like to thank his Bubba Tono and Jalyn for this honor. GO BUCKS!!

Flower Girl is Kinlee Star Fields, daughter of Ashlee Cowan and James Fields and granddaughter of Gail and Cecilia Passmore, Gary Cowan, John Fields and Dana Whiteshirt. Kinlee is 3-years-old and attends Hominy Head Start. She loves playing dress-up and telling everyone else what to do. She would like to thank Jalyn and Tanner for choosing her as Flower Girl.

Save the Date!

Local Events Calendar

FEBRUARY
Sunday, February 20
Osage Shareholders Association Meeting
Where: Dave Landrum Community Center
Starts: 1 p.m.
Friday, February 25
ESPN2 Friday Night Fights Juan Carlos Vurgos vs. Cristobal Cruz
Where: Osage Million Dollar Elm Casino - Tulsa
Time: 7 p.m.
Main Event fight televised live

MARCH
March 6
Osage Nation Youth Prevention Powwow
Where: Osage County Agricultural Building
Starts: 2 p.m. Gourd Dance
Supper: 5 p.m.
Grand Entry: 7 p.m.

General admission $35
Tickets go on sale Jan. 18
Call casino box office for tickets (918) 699-7667

Anytime
Osage Language Classes
Starting at various locations
When: Now
Enroll: Anytime
Contact: Rebekah Horsechief, (918)287-5683

March 6
Osage Nation Sovereignty Day

March 26
Osage Tribal Princess

Save the Date
—Continued on Page 19
Births and Celebrations

It’s a boy!

Lawrence and Ninetta Potts welcomed the birth of their great grandson, Silas Paul Stewart, son of Anthony Chase and Cristy Renee Stewart of Franklin, Tennessee, born November 24. Anthony Stewart, son of George and Jan (Potts) Stewart, is a grandson of Lawrence Potts, formerly of Pawhuska, whose mother Fannie Potts Roberts, deceased of Fairfax, was the daughter of Agnes (We-heh) Drum Rogers, an original allottee.

Congratulations!

Kingston Pipestem has been chosen to play in the Oklahoma Coaches Association All-State Football Game on the Class 5A East team. Kingston started at strong side linebacker on the Bulldog “blackshirt” defense and at wide receiver. Pipestem had 102 tackles for the year; he was player of the week when the Bulldogs played Tulsa Washington; he contributed to the Bulldogs first showing in the playoffs in seven years; and he will be playing linebacker for the All-State Football Game.

Pipestem is the son of Rock and Jackie Pipestem and the grandson of Sharon Pipestem and the late Browning Pipestem. He is also proud to serve as a waterboy in the Grayhorse I-Lon-Schka.

It’s a boy!

Keaton Jeffrey Toehay-Tartsah was born on Nov. 17 at 12:55 p.m. at Comanche Memorial Hospital in Lawton. He weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

His parents are Chalene Toehay and Dustin Tartsah. His maternal grandparents are Jeffrey and Candy Toehay. His maternal great grandmother is Dolores “Dee Dee” Goodeagle. He is the great great grandson of the late Mary Osage Green.

Numerous family members welcomed him into this world that day.

Anniversary Celebration

David R. Herard and Carol Charlene Lynn were married December 23, 1950 in Sedan, Kansas.

January 24th is the deadline for all submissions for the February issue of the Osage News. Mark it on your calendars!
Births and Celebrations

—Continued from Page 18

Carol works as a substitute teacher in the Bartlesville School District.

They are the parents of seven children who have blessed them with 20 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Happy 60th Mom and Dad!

Happy Birthday!

We’d like to wish our Dad, David Herard a very Happy Birthday!! He will be 79 on Jan. 25, 2011.

Happy Birthday!


Happy Birthday!

Gina Rennick, Jan. 31; Madison Quinton, Jan. 23 and Henry Rennick, Jan. 20.

Happy Birthday!

Mary Katherine Jake will be 62-years-old on Jan. 3. We love you.

Save the Date

—Continued from Page 17

Does your organization have an upcoming event? Let us know and we’ll publish it in Save the Date! Send your correspondence to the Osage News, Attn.: Save the Date, 109 E. 6th Street, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or email it to osagenews@osagetribe.org. Send just the pertinent information, such as date, time, location, Web site (if applicable) and any contact information required for the event.

Jacquelin Boulanger of Tallahassee, Flor., has been awarded a fellowship by the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA). Jacquelin Boulanger is one of eight artists who will receive fully funded residencies supported by a grant from the Artists Communities section of the National Endowment for the Arts. The VCCA is located near Sweet Briar College in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in rural Virginia. Boulanger will be among the approximately 25 Fellows focusing on their own creative projects at this working retreat for visual artists, writers and composers.

Boulanger is an Adjunct Instructor in the College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance at Florida State University and is the daughter of Edward E. and Frances Boulanger of Pawhuska.
5th Annual OSAGE NATION SOVEREIGNTY CELEBRATION DANCE

Friday March 11, 2011
Osage County Fairgrounds • Ag Building
Pawhuska, OK 74056

More details and flyer in the Osage News February issue.

The Osage Nation is calling you to a new career.

Now’s your chance to return home to the friends, family and place you love. Osage Nation is growing and has immediate openings for tribal members ready to begin a rewarding new career. From managers, supervisors and security to restaurant personnel, guest services and dealers, the perfect opportunity is waiting for you.

Check out our benefits! Individual health, life, dental and vision programs, matching 401(k), competitive pay, accrued personal paid time off, excellent management and many opportunities for advancement.

Must be at least 21 years old.
Vacancy opens on the ON Gaming Enterprise Board

Gene Big Soldier resigned from the board

Osage News

A vacancy opened on the Osage Nation’s three-person Gaming Enterprise Board last month after Gene Big Soldier resigned.

Gaming board Chairman Frank Oberly said Big Soldier resigned as board treasurer during the board’s Dec. 15 meeting, according to meeting minutes reported by the Gaming Enterprise. No reason or date for the resignation was listed.

The Osage News inquired with the Executive Branch about the gaming board resignation/vacant position. A response was not received before this article was printed.

Big Soldier (Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma) was appointed to the gaming board by Principal Chief John Red Eagle on Oct. 12. He has served as the Iowa Tribe’s Secretary and served on the Tonkawa Tribal Gaming Commission, the Osage News previously reported.

Oberly and Vice Chairwoman Stacey Laskey serve on the gaming board; both were confirmed by the ON Congress to the board last year.

The third board member will be subject to the appointment, confirmation and gaming license process, according to the Nation’s Gaming Reform Act. Any vacancy on the gaming board must be filled by another Principal Chief appointment within six months, the law states.

Letters to the Editor Submissions

If you’d like to submit a letter to the editor, mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 109 E. 6th Street, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or email sshaw@osagenews.org. Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

January 24th is the deadline for all submissions for the February issue of the Osage News

Mark it on your calendars!
Obituaries

Stanley “Tony” Smith
A Man of Faith, and proud member of the Osage and Pawnee Nations

STANLEY LINFORD SMITH, 52, passed away Monday, December 20, 2010 at his home in Hominy.

Stanley was born May 30, 1958, to Linford “Doc” Smith and JoAnn Shunkamolah. He loved to attend church, and was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church and Friends Church, both in Hominy. He was blessed with countless relatives and many friends, all whom which he cherished and loved to be in fellowship with. He was also blessed with a new home in 2008, where he was known to open his doors to anyone in need. Stanley was proud of his heritage, and chose to carry on with the traditions that his ancestors passed along to him by dancing and taking part in the In’lon’ska dances, where he held a continual position on the Zon Zo Li District Committee.

Although Stanley attended school at Tulsa Tech for auto collision repair, he loved to cook; and chose to practice his abilities by opening his own restaurant in Downtown Hominy, specializing in Traditional Indian Food. The Ribbon Work design that he placed on the glass of the location (which is currently a second hand store) is said to still be there. Over the years, he would usually be seen around Hominy selling his meat pies.

Surviving are: His son Jonas Smith; His daughter Elizabeth Irons; His niece Junitress Smith; And a host of other family and friends. Stanley was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Karen Kelly Smith.

Rosary was recited on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 8 p.m., at the Hominy Indian Village Community Center. Traditional Indian services were Thursday, Dec. 23, at 9 a.m., also at the Center, officiated by Everett Waller. Mass followed at 10 a.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hominy, officiated by Father Bruce Brosnan. Interment was held in the A.J. Powell Memorial Cemetery, Hominy. McCartney’s Johnson Funeral Home of Pawhuska was in charge of the arrangements.

The family of Tony Smith would like to send a special Thank You to everyone who supported us during this rough time. Whether it was with your presence anytime during the services, prayers, food, or money, we are deeply grateful. We hope and pray that God blesses each and every one of you and your family members in this New Year.

Osage Nation Burial Assistance Application Process

- Submit an application within 30 days of time of death
- Provide CDIB or Membership Card that verifies Osage Indian Blood for deceased individual
- Provide a copy of a death certificate for the deceased individual
- Provide a copy of an itemized Funeral Home statement of the deceased individual

The application is complete when all pertinent documentation is received by this office; once the application is complete a letter of approved funds and check will be mailed to the funeral home. Notice will also be sent to the applicant informing them of the amount being paid to the funeral home.

- Allow 10-14 working days for completed application to be processed and a check issued.
- Reimbursements checks will only be issued to funeral home and designated grocer only; individual expenses will not be reimbursed.

For more information, questions, or concerns please contact the Osage Nation Constituent Services Office

Osage Nation Constituent Services Office
Attention: W. Jacque Jones, Administrator
621 Grandview • Pawhuska, OK 74056
Phone: (918) 287-5662
Fax: (918) 287-5221 • Fax: (918) 699-5221
Email: jjones@osagetribe.org

Correction

In the Letter to the Editor section of the December issue of the Osage News there was an error in the letter from the Osage Minerals Council. In one sentence, instead of the word headright, the word headlight appeared. The Osage News regrets the error and regrets using the auto correct function on the computer.
Letters to the Editor

Response to Dudley Whitehorn’s Response to John T. Edwards Letter

This letter is in response to Chairman Whitehorn’s response to Mr. Edwards’ letter to the Osage News of Nov. 11, 2010. At first I would like to say that I too wrote a letter on the Council’s action, as did Mr. Edwards. I was very pleased to read that Mr. Edwards points of concern were the same as mine with the exception that he had more backup information with which to support our similar points of possible irregularities in the work being taken on by the Council.

With that said, I will move on to Chairman Whitehorn’s rebuttal. I am not sure whether Chairman Whitehorn or which Council members have previous experience of being on and making decisions while sitting on a political body, in this case the Osage Minerals Council (OMC). Having worked for the County of Los Angeles for 40 years, I have learned some basic lessons of government. They are: political battles are chosen very carefully; make sure your sources of information are non-disputable and the information is based on fact, not opinion; every editorial challenge doesn’t need to be answered and as an elected office holder for the Osage Tribe, insulting the writer, in this case an Osage Shareholder, for taking the time to respond to some very delicate issues that come before the Osage Minerals Council is never done. I would end with the statement that I am very pleased that Councilmen Abbott and Yates had the good sense not to follow Chairman Whitehorn’s lead, which was to approve a number of very questionable items without the advice of legal counsel. I respectfully remind the OMC members of the importance of their responsibilities to the Osage Tribal Shareholders and to be extremely vigilant to not let their egos get in their way. I would also ask OMC members to remember that there are Osage Shareholders all over the globe and although we are not in Pawhuska, we are concerned and taking note of your actions.

–Gregory Woodell
Win a $5,000 furniture gift certificate!

Make a fresh start with new furniture during Rock Your Room! On January 22, we’ll hold half-hourly cash drawings from 6pm–9pm at all locations. Then at 10pm, we’ll announce 7 winners of furniture gift certificates valued at $5,000 each across all 7 locations! Enter with every 20 points earned on your Guest Rewards card through Electronic and Table Game play between January 10–19. Start your new year in style with Rock Your Room only at Osage Million Dollar Elm Casino!