Nation to receive $7.4 million in Cobell Land Buy-Back program

Shannon Shaw Day Osage News

The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations has come to the Osage and the federal government is proposing $7.4 million to buy back fractionated land interest from individual tribal members.

According to Bruce Case, tribal development and land acquisition director, who is working with Osage attorney Terry Mason Moore on the project, there is roughly 64,000 acres with 680-690 in individual landowners the Nation will be contacting about the program.

Those eligible for the buy-back program are individuals who own an interest in a parcel of land with multiple owners. There must also be a clear land title, and all estates and probates will not receive offers. The BIA has already been working to identify those individually eligible for offers, Case said. A majority of the fractionated land lies in the southeastern part of Osage County.

“What we want to do is use this opportunity of the Cobell buy-back program to identify what’s [available land] and see what and how much money we can within the buy-back program guidelines line to make the purchase,” said Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear. “Then we’ll approach our [Osage] congress and say here’s the other two-thirds, and we would like to buy these as well. It’s all dependent on people wanting to accept the appraised price.”

The Office of Appraisal Service for the buy-back program will be on site and performing appraisals to determine fair market values, as well as land appraisers from the Osage BIA Agency, Case said. The Nation is looking at seeking offers to tribal members by mid to late summer. The program will take 18 months to two years to implement from the initial date of signing the cooperative agreement for the buy-back program. The cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior will detail how the Nation will implement the buy-back program. The program and what resources will be used for outreach and education. The Nation will have temporary full time staffers to coordinate mail out, social media, advertisements, and community meetings, Case said.

Once appraisals are completed the “first wave” of letters will go to all individuals receiving an offer with a 45-day window to reply, said Morgan Rodman, Senior Adviser – Tribal Relations for the buy-back program. If all goes well, the DOI hopes to get all individuals to accept the offer in the first wave so all individuals can be paid fairly. Individuals who choose to sell their interests will receive payments directly in their Individual Osage Money accounts. Since there is a cap on the money given to the Nation, it is important for individuals to reply as soon as possible to ensure payment for the buy-back program. If all goes well, the DOI hopes to buy these as well. It’s all dependent on people wanting to accept the appraised price.

Rodman said the Crow Nation in western Montana, Oyate reached the cap on the money given to them within the 45-day window of the first wave because of the high re-estates and interest by state, as provided by DOI: 45-day window. The Osage Nation has been working to identify what’s [available land] and see what and how much money we can within the buy-back program guidelines line to make the purchase, said Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear. “Then we’ll approach our [Osage] congress and say here’s the other two-thirds, and we would like to buy these as well. It’s all dependent on people wanting to accept the appraised price.”

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Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear
meets with President Obama

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

The most impressive thing President Barack Obama said about Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear during his meeting with President Barack Obama was the power of culture and the talent of the Osage people. Standing Bear was invited to meet with Obama, along with 10 other tribal leaders, at the White House on Dec. 2, a day before the annual White House Tribal Nations Conference. The meeting with the president and other tribal leaders was given 45 minutes with the president to discuss issues facing their respective tribes and nations.

Standing Bear is a paralegal and has received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma. During his college career, he played basketball at the University of Oklahoma and was named Most Valuable Player for Oklahoma. He is a member of the Standing Bear family, which is the first family to serve in Congress. Standing Bear is a great-grandson of Red Corn Standing Bear, the first Osage man to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Standing Bear is a very talented speaker and was able to communicate his ideas to the president and other tribal leaders. He presented his ideas on the importance of education and the need for federal assistance to help tribes in their efforts to address the needs of their people. Standing Bear also discussed the need for federal assistance to help tribes in their efforts to address the needs of their people.

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**Justice Department audit says Nation owes more than half a million dollars**

Stassahn Shaw Duty

The Justice Department’s Inspector General released an audit on the Nation’s use of three grants from the Office on Violence Against Women in January.

“...we found that Osage did not comply with essential award conditions in the areas of internal controls, grant expenditures, including salaried and fringe benefits, reporting, property management, and management and control related to the audit, which covered years 2007-2012. ...specifically, we found that weak internal controls resulted in unallowable costs charged to the grants ... Overall, we identified $222,532 in net questioned costs.”

The ON Counseling Center, Private Residential Treatment (PRT) program, and the Nation’s Domestic Violence program all utilize grant money from the Department of Interior Tribal Governments Program. The grants are to increase violence crime against Indian women, strengthen tribes’ ability to enforce sovereign authorities, and ensure perpetrators of violent crimes such as child abuse, domestic abuse, and sexual abuse are held accountable.

According to the audit, a total of $88,987.97 was drawn down from the grants 2007-2008: RG-8-00029 and RG-8-00029 and 2011: WC-15-00009 and WC-15-00009 - the Nation’s Counseling Center has a high turnover rate of personnel, without a director, Principal Chief Geoffroy standing in the director’s role. The Dental Department was led by Shonna Bryant who quit in July 2015 after she stole furniture from the center. Eight months went by and Suzanne Hart, who was hired in March 2016, filled the vacancy. She served in the lead role from September 2012. The position was vacant for six months. On April 28, Suzanne Hart took the position from Orlene Cockrell.

“...So all the people that were in charge during this time period, it's just me. I'm trying to find out through the Federal checks and balances they had that I inherited, and Orlene said: ‘It looks like we'll be paying the price for actions that took place before 2013 and after that. The current director came in September and her name is Brooke Ashlock. The Osage is doing very well, and this was the time frame of this audit.”

Gray is no longer employed by the Nation.

**Overview**

In terms of oversight of grants awarded to the Nation, the Nation has a contract with the director, Standing Rock, of a consultant to assess the topic Planning and Project Management assistance. The Nation had oversight but not of the day-to-day operations.

The audit notes that when I first got here, there was no communication and cooperation between the compliance staff and the PRT program management, Standing Rock said. “...But we have changed that now. We are now, every program, now working on this program. A program that has a grant or is working on a grant is required to coordinate with strategic planning and project management. The NATION had no documentation of this before. That’s the number of problems.

**Problematic areas pointed out in the 24-page audit:**

- Internal controls
- As a result it was found for 2011 in the amount of $60,525 Nation paid the amount of $60,525. No one at the Nation knew of this.
- $60,525 in unreported salaries and fringe benefits.
- Activity reports were not reviewed to determine if they split their time working for the Nation or grants. The reports were not used for any cost allocations.
- The Nation office is not using one grant at a time.
- $249,330 in unsupported programmatic costs for Grant No. RG-8-08-0029.
- Unallowable expenditures related to supplies, travel, training, equipment, contractual, and other costs.

“...Wishes the Nation to conduct a comprehensive financial audit on the Nation’s use of federal funds. The audit was part of the national audit of 2011.”

**Recommendations**

- Remedy the $60,825 in unreported salaries and fringe benefits.
- Remedy the $37,175 in remaining unallowable costs.
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- “...Wishes the Nation to conduct a comprehensive financial audit on the Nation’s use of federal funds. The audit was part of the national audit of 2011.”

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**Louis Gray, who is a member of the Osage Nation and former Osage News columnist, was arrested on Jan. 23, 2016 on a warrant for theft of Osage Nation funds. The warrant states that Gray will appear in Kay County District Court on March 10, 2016 on a 22-year-old woman in her care.

A 22-year-old woman in Ponca City with an alleged incident occurred Dec. 30 for an incident of battery Dec. 30 for an alleged incident occurring in Ponca City with a 22-year-old woman in her care.

There is no longer works for the Nation.

Gray, 61, who unacquiescently ran for the Osage Tribal Council in 2015, was in jail this week for a warrant issued by the County Jail on Jan. 23, 2016. He was charged with theft of Osage Nation funds, a $15,000 bond. His initial court date was Jan. 6, 2016. He is scheduled to appear in Kay County District Court at 6 p.m. in Ponca City.

**Former ON Counseling director charged with sexual battery**

Louis Gray, a former counselor for the Nation’s Counseling Center, was charged with felony sexual battery Dec. 30 for an alleged incident occurring in Ponca City with a 22-year-old woman in his care.

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The Osage Nation, a sovereign and tribal nation located in Oklahoma, has announced plans to buy back parcels of land from private owners. The Buy-Back Program aims to return land to tribal members, many of whom own a fraction of land that was allotted to their ancestors but later sold or transferred to non-Indians. The Osage Nation has set aside $47.5 million for the program, which is expected to take several years to complete.

The program was established in response to a 1982 Supreme Court decision that allowed non-Indian owners to sell land to other non-Indian buyers, thereby diluting the Osage Tribe’s land base. The Osage Nation argues that the land is a vital part of its cultural heritage and that the buy-back program is necessary to protect its sovereignty and economic stability.

To participate in the program, tribal members must apply and submit documentation verifying their ownership of land. The Osage Nation will then appraise the land and offer to buy it back at a price determined by the appraisal. Once the land is bought back, it will be held in trust by the tribe and owned by the tribe.

The buy-back program is expected to benefit not only the Osage Nation but also the Native American communities in the region. It is hoped that the program will help to regroup and strengthen these communities by returning land to its rightful owners.

In conclusion, the Osage Nation’s buy-back program is a significant step forward in the nation’s efforts to reclaim and protect its cultural heritage. By returning land to tribal ownership, the Osage Nation is ensuring the survival of its culture and ensuring the future of its people.


**GROCER**  
*From Page 1*

Owens Logan Moore is the company's president and CEO. He said new store equipment improvements from several companies and will open the store in 2013. The store has been furnished and stocked with food merchandising. New equipment on the way includes cash registers, scanners, scales, shelving and new energy efficient display fans, he said.

In the meantime, efforts are underway to hire store employees and a Facebook page has been created for the new Osage Venture Foods. Moore's son, Logan Moore, will be the company's general manager and was in Fairview handing out job applications on Jan. 30, Logan Moore said.

Photos of the older store also are removed from the building were posted to Face-  

book on Jan. 16, with a thank you acknowledgment to Osage Nation maintenance workers who helped with the clean-up.

During his first visit to the building, Moore said he left leftover food still sitting on the shelves, which needed to be thrown out. Mouses were also left with carbonated soda bever-  

ages exploding and spilling on the floor, he said. During the tour of Feb. 4, Moore said he plans to start painting the building's interior.

Formerly known as Palace of the Osage Grocery, the store has set a target date of March 2013 for the building, which includes the purchase of new equipment after passing on a appropriation bill (ONCA 1400) during its November 2012 special session. ONCA 15-01 authorizes appropriating the $300,000 from $13 million originally earmarked for the store to Rick Parker of Farm-  

ers and child care center. Bids for the building project are expected to go out in March.

Fairfax residents applauded this idea of the Nation investing in the store during the session, saying, "I think the best way to proceed is to get the customer, we will get it. We’re not big but we do the best with what we’ve got and customer service is No. 1," he said.

Pending receipt of all or  

part of appropriated funds, Moore said the earliest he believes Fairfax Venture Foods will be open is mid-March. Check back to www.osagenews.org or the newspaper’s Facebook page for any updates.

**Basketball**  
*From Page 1*

His older brother Michael Big-  

heart taught him how to play,  

teaching him the basic funda-  

mentals, which he practiced by himself on every other basketball court. He plays now small forward for Haskell Indi-  

ans in the NCAA and has been enrolled in Law-  

sence, Kansas.

"I like playing for Haskell, it is a rich traditional environ-  

ment, where you have a lot here with Native American students, and it is a very posi-  

tive place to play," he said.

An Osage tribal member who grew up in Hinton and attended Haskell, Moore plays a key role in the Cowboys Basketball Team Training course at Kansas University. He hopes to be able to walk-on for the Cowboys' football team and after red, the football season he was able to walk-on for the basketball team.

"Basketball to me is a ther-  

aputic sense of feeling, it is an oppor-  
tunity to live your life, he said. "When you're in the zone, there is no other problem in the world, you are just living the life you create for your opponent."

On the court he is a stand-  

out player at the two-  

guard position. He also plays point and shooting guard for the Cowboys basketball team. Moore was a starter for the Cowboys basketball team and is expected to be a key player.

In 2014, Moore was de-  

scribed as a part of a very special team that went on to win another national title.

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ON Congress passes bill to appropriate Pawhuska village lease revenue

Benny Pulicha

The Congressionl Commerce and Economic Development Committee meets with the ON Gaming Enterprise Board on Jan. 14 regarding the annual plan of operations for the Osage Casino seven properties. The Congress directed ON Congress to pass a resolution supporting the plans. At the far end of the conference table is [L to R] Wilson Pipettrey, attorney for the ON Gaming Enterprise Board, Osage Casino CEO Byron Bighorse and Gaming board Chairman Mark Simms.

"We've had a lot of obstacles," Bighorse said during her special session address. "Our link into our operations – the way we get to see how our funds, how our enterprise, grow our business and it's the one time of year that that body takes a look into that to see how our funds, how our revenues... come to us." 

Despite the confidential nature of the plan to remain competitive with other gaming tribes, some details have been publicly discussed – in general – including the plans for the larger Flagship Osage Casino in Tulsa.

Osage Casino CEO Byron Bighorse told the Congress and Commerce and Economic Development Committee which has initial jurisdiction on gaming and business matters the proposed Tulsa casino plans are scaled down from an initial plan that prepared a $408 million property under the management of former CEO Neil Cornelius.

"What we've done is back, pared it down," Bighorse told the committee on Dec. 12. "We feel that this proposed concept is the best business decision we can afford, we have several options – I don't think..."
Osage-owned flower shop comes to Hominy

Tara Maddox, Special to Osage News

Osage tribal member Doug Cowan and his wife Marty have brought Sweet Stems Floral to Hominy.

The couple, who opened their flower shop on Feb. 1, planned their store opening just in time for the most romantic holiday of the year. With Valentines Day upon us, the people of Hominy won’t have to go far for that perfect gift for their loved one.

“I am excited they are putting a flower shop in Hominy, we really need one,” said Janet Johnson, a Hominy resident. “Everyone should come and see it.”

Sweet Stems Floral will be located at 121 South Price in Hominy. The shop will offer a wide array of flowers, flower arrangements and arrangements, vases, plants for planters, balloons and gifts.

“Our family likes to give back to the community and we have been inspired to make different ideas daily,” Marty Cowan said. “The floral shop so far has been a fun and exciting place to be, so we are turning our hobby into a business and will be open to try all and ideas to better our shop daily.”

The Cowans said since the store is locally owned and operated, they will commit to offering the finest and freshest floral arrangements and plants that residents won’t have to travel outside of town or order online.

“We guarantee to offer fresh and quality flowers and plants and to help our customers decide what’s best for them. We will always have a smile and an open mind to meet each customer’s needs,” she said.

The Cowans will be using vendors from Tulsa to fill their store.

The store will deliver flowers in the cities limit of Hominy for free, and anything outside of city limits will be charged a $5 fee, unless some other arrangement is made.

The Cowans are also offering five percent discount to Osages who are ordering arrangements for funerals. The tribal members must show a tribal membership card to receive the discount.

“This will be a needed business for our community. As a living resident of Hominy I see that the more businesses we have to offer the better Doug Cowan said. “We will serve all districts and strive to meet each customer’s needs, and to help our customers decide what’s best for them.”

Hearing set in wind farm case for Feb. 26 in Tulsa

Osage News

The battle continues for the Osage Nation against the wind companies Osage Wind, Enel Kansas, and the city of Hominy.

At issue is the latest legal response from the United States on Jan. 22 against the companies Osage Wind, Enel Kansas, and the city of Hominy.

Osage mother and daughter receive awards from OCIE

Avri holds a 3.2 grade point average and plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma in the fall. She is going to study Sports marketing and has participated in interviews with an ESPN reporter and Thunder’s marketing team for a special project. She is in charge of editing and photography for the Santa Fe High school’s newspaper and will participate in the sports and entertainment competitions for the state of Oklahoma, which will be held in February, 2015.

Avri Benton is the grand daughter of Paul Cowan (Osage) and William Redbird.

2014 Indian Parent of the Year

Rhonda Benton is very active in Native youth activities and sits on the Edmond Indian Parent’s Parent committee. She attends the student’s service as a chairman and helps out with classes of Native education, as dinner, hands games and other activities. She is also a member of the Indian Education parent committee.

“Rhonda has contributed as a parent to the Edmond Schools Indian Education program,” said Sydney Yellowface, the Osage Indian Education Coordinator for the Edmond School District.

Osage Casino reports employee turnover rate drops after management change

Benny Palencia

TULSA, Okla. – With new management now overseeing the Osage Casino operations, casino officials are reporting a decrease in employee turnover rate – and former casino employees are interested in returning.

At the Osage Nation Gaming Enterprise Board’s Jan. 21 meeting, Osage Casinos Human Resources Director Kyle Revard said that the turnover rate at the casinos had dropped since the new management team took over the casino two general manager posts. “Other corporations see an increase in turnover, but what we saw was a decrease in our turnover,” he said.

Bend reported the casino’s average monthly turnover rate is 3.54 percent, but in December the casino’s turnover rate dropped to 2.1 percent. He also reported, “Not only that, our Osage recruitment went up.”

On average, the Osage Casino workforce is 10 percent Osage citizens, Revard said and adding “as the month of December, that went up to 1 percent.” He said that increase equates to seven new employees in the casino.

In the past few months since Osage Casino leadership changed, Revard said the Osage hiring trend for the casino is up 9 percent, something he said he would like to see that month you’ll go up again … Now that we’re under new leadership, the morale at all properties has significantly changed,” he said.

“Everyone should come in and see it.”

“Well of course, I love the special memories that we’ve made and the special things, but the osages are the people who they are interested in returning,” said Revard.

The turnover report comes nearly three months after Ren- ron Bighorse was named interim casino CEO before the gam- bling license expired last November, and former casino Chief Operating Officer Joe Ozie, who was hired interim CEO after Cornes left, surrendered his gaming license and resigned in October amid allegations of wrongdoing and an ONG Gaming Enterprise Board investigation.

Four other Osage Casino management-level employees were terminated in October, including Robert Baskett who held the HR director post now occupied by Renard. On Okla- homa State University graduate, Revard previously worked for Osage Gaming in Edmond, and is a former training and technology specialist, according to his LinkedIn profile.

The next major report due from casino officials is the an- nual safety report preparation typically delivered annually in March.

For updated job postings with Osage Casinos go online to www.osagecasinos.com/careers.

Avri Benton, the named 2014 Stu- dient of the Year by the Oklahoma Indian Education Board.

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T.J. Osage News

Rhonda Benton

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Avri holds a 3.2 grade point average and plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma in the fall. She is going to study Sports marketing and has participated in interviews with an ESPN reporter and Thunder’s marketing team for a special project. She is in charge of editing and photography for the Santa Fe High school’s newspaper and will participate in the sports and entertainment competitions for the state of Oklahoma, which will be held in February, 2015.

Avri Benton is the grand daughter of Paul Cowan (Osage) and William Redbird.

2014 Indian Parent of the Year

Rhonda Benton is very active in Native youth activities and sits on the Edmond Indian Parent’s Parent committee. She attends the student’s service as a chairman and helps out with classes of Native education, as dinner, hands games and other activities. She is also a member of the Indian Education parent committee.

“Rhonda has contributed as a parent to the Edmond Schools Indian Education program,” said Sydney Yellowface, the Osage Indian Education Coordinator for the Edmond School District.

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Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center
Spring Classes

Open Studio
(to provide more time in the studio to finish projects)
Monday and Wednesday
10-2 p.m.
No registration required drop in at your own convenience and stay as long as needed
supplies will be provided.

Beadings

Peyote Stitch Tubular
Pawhuska Classes
Wednesdays in January and February
6-8 p.m.
Hominy classes
Tuesdays in January and February
6-9 p.m.
supplies will be provided

Sewing 101

Thursdays in January and February
6-8 p.m.
Learn the basics of how to use a sewing machine
limited to 8 students
supplies will be provided.

Peyote Medallion
Pawhuska Classes
Wednesdays in March
6-8 p.m.
Hominy Classes
Tuesdays in March
6-8 p.m.
class limited to 15 students
supplies will be provided.

Shirt Making

Learn to make a men’s or ladies shirt
two sessions will be offered
Men’s shirts
Session one
Tuesdays in March
11-1 p.m.
Session two
Tuesdays in April
6-8 p.m.
Ladies Shirts
Mondays April 27 and May 4, 11-15
limited to 12 students
supplies will be provided.

Loom bead work
Pawhuska Classes
Wednesdays beginning April 15 to May 6
6-8 p.m.
Hominy Classes
Tuesdays beginning April 14 to May 5
6-8 p.m.
class limited to 15 students
supplies will be provided
classes taught by Jared Buffalobead

Finger Weaving
Learn the basics of traditional Finger weaving
Pawhuska classes
Tuesdays in January through May
6-8 p.m.
Fairfax classes in the Language Center
Thursdays in January through May
6-8 p.m.
supplies will be provided

Shawl making
Learn to make a shawl from start to finish
two sessions will be offered
Session one
Tuesday Feb 10, 17, 24 and March 3
11-1 p.m.
Session two
Monday March 2, 9, 16, 23
11-1 p.m.
limited to 12 students
supplies will be provided.

Osage Style Moccasins
Learn to make a pair of moccasins from start to finish
two sessions will be offered
Session one
Thursday February 19, 26 and March 5, 12
6-8 p.m.
Session two
Thursday April 23, 30 and May 7, 14
6-8 p.m.
limited to 12 students
supplies will be provided.

Osage Nation
Language Department
2015 Spring Schedule
January 12- April 24

**PAWHSUKA**

- **Tuesday**
  - Children’s Osage II
  - Cameron Pratt @ WCC
  - 5-6:30 p.m.

- **Wednesday**
  - Lunch with Language
  - Stephanie Ropp
  - Noon-1 p.m.

- **Thursday**
  - Elder’s Osage
  - Addie Hudgins
  - 1-2 p.m.

**GRAYHORSE-FAIRFAX**

- **Monday**
  - Osage I & II
  - Donna Barrone
  - 5-30 p.m.

- **Tuesday**
  - Children’s Osage New
  - Donna Barrone/Tracey Moore
  - 1-2 p.m.

- **Wednesday**
  - Advanced Osage
  - Tracey Moore
  - 6-30 p.m.

**HOMINY**

- **Monday**
  - Osage I & II
  - Roman Huchens
  - 6-8 p.m.

**SKATOOK**

- **Tuesday**
  - Osage I & II
  - Roman Huchens
  - 6-7 p.m.

**EDMOND**

- **Tuesday**
  - Osage I & II
  - Addie Hudgins
  - 6-8 p.m.

- **Wednesday**
  - Osage I & II
  - Magi’ Lookout
  - 6-8 p.m.

**TULSA**

- **Tuesday**
  - Osage I & II
  - Jocelynn Delong
  - 6-7 p.m.

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For more information on classes
contact Rebecca Brave at (918) 287-5539
or by email
rbrave@osagenation-nsn.gov

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Spring Break will be the week of March 16-20 and NO classes will be in session.
NO classes will be held on MLK Day 1/19/15, Presidents Day 2/15/15 and Good Friday 3/13/15

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Site Listings

- **Pawhuska**
  - 222 West Main St. • Pawhuska, OK 74056 • (918) 287-5505

- **Grayhorse-Fairfax**
  - 260 N. 2nd St. • Fairfax, OK 74437 • (918) 287-5611 or (918) 642-3210

- **Skatook**
  - 315 E. Rogers • Skatook, OK 74070 • (918) 287-5505

- **Hominy**
  - 207 E. Main St. • Hominy, OK 74035 • (918) 287-5505

- **Edmond**
  - 215 N. Boulevard • Edmond, OK 73034 • (405) 726-3300

- **Tulsa**
  - 2224 W. 51st St. • Tulsa, OK 74107 • (918) 287-5505

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Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center (WCC) Pawhuska, OK
Osage Nation recognized as a Certified Healthy Oklahoma Business

The Osage State Department of Health has recognized the Osage Nation as a Certified Healthy Oklahoma Business.

Recognized for its "positive impact on the health of its employees," according to a press release, the Osage Nation Communities of Excellence and Skiatook Head Start will accept the certification on behalf of the Nation at a luncheon at the Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center in Norman on Feb. 9.

Other factors for recognition are employee health screenings, workplace health education, opportunities for physical exercise activities, management support for healthy workplace environments, and sharing wellness activities within their respective communities.

Osage News

Returning to Our Native Roots Through Gardening


d for the December Extravaganza event at the Cultural Center and over 400 hugs of treats were handed out. Pumpkin and squash, and beans when planted together are a natural combination. The stalks of the corn allow the vining beans face of support. The leaf structure of the squash provides shade. The food is easy to store and keep for long periods of time. Then of course there is the nu-tritional value of each item.

Beans are a good source of protein, fiber and carbohydrates, which are needed for energy and brain function. Pumpkins are low in calories, rich in fiber, vitamins and minerals. The seeds also are a good source of protein. Corn has a unique role, in that, eaten off the cob it is considered a vegetable, but when the kernels are dried they be-come a grain. And the inclusion of corn in one’s diet is beneficial.

The Communities of Excellence pro-gram is beginning the planning stages of this year’s gardening endeavors. There is the acreage of 1st and Prudom Streets which is being returned to the Osage Minerals Estate. Another keurion is the small hopi garden at the WARDAHDI Cultural Center which will only be planted with corn this time. The garden is shorter than the average plant and with small ears. Bird Creek Farms will also be available for planting, [and more about that when we will grow in another ar-ticle]. Similar to the old ways where the tribe worked together to maintain a reliable food source, the communities with the Ta-Wa AmeriCorps team will also be joined by other Osage Nation depart-ments and personnel. It takes many in-dividuals to do this hard work, but all teams are excited to get started.

To learn more about Communities of Excellence and to participate in this year’s gardening projects contact their office at (918) 287-3267.

Enel Green Power North America, which has been going back and forth with leg-islative efforts on the Centennial Wind Project, is starting a construction process.

"Defendants contend their laches defense is barred by the 5-year period as well as any long delay in filing, they said. The Plaintiff, the U.S., and that Defendants owe the Osage Nation a partial summary judgment against Defendants," according to the U.S. "Defendants have been going back and forth with legislation. While the Plaintiff, the U.S., is asking the court to grant a partial summary judgment against the company for damages and harm to the Osage Nation, the defendants have been exercising due diligence and are not bound by state statutes of limitation. They have been waiting for the legislation to be passed in order to move forward with the project."
Time is running out!

Osage County Mineral Holders

EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION IN OSAGE COUNTY HAS COME TO A SCREECHING HALT!!!
BIA IS CHANGING RULES TO MAKE PRODUCING AND DRILLING UNECONOMICAL TO OPERATORS

In the summer of 2013, a draft from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (NEGREG’s) was submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Department of Interior for approval. These regulations will be impossible for many small producers to remain in compliance. Approval of these NEGREG’s is imminent.

THE DONELSON LAWSUIT, FILED BY GENTNER DRUMMOND LAW FIRM, THREATENS VALIDITY OF ALL PERMITS AND LEASES

Last summer, a lawsuit (a.k.a. Donelson suit) was filed against 28 operators and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) over alleged non-compliance with certain environmental regulations (a.k.a. NEPA regs). In a knee-jerk reaction, the BIA panicked and mandated EA’s (environmental assessments) for ALL permitted operations in Osage County. As a result, there are ZERO drilling rigs (versus 200+ elsewhere in Oklahoma) that are operating in the County.

THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS, MANDATED BY THE BIA, HAVE STOPPED ALL PERMITTING FOR DRILLING AND LEASE PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENTS

The new EA submitted by the BIA is 72 pages in length and has 64 regulations that are financially ruinous to Osage Producers making less than 5 BOPD on a single lease

Low oil prices have added fuel to the fire
National companies (e.g. EnCana, Devon, National OilWell Varco) have pulled out. Other businesses, service companies, suppliers, restaurants etc. have seen a dramatic drop in customers

WELLS AND PRODUCTION TERMINATED DUE TO THESE FACTORS WILL BE LOST FOREVER

PLEASE contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Osage Minerals Council, your State and Federal representatives and other governmental officials to demand that the BIA REJECT the pending NEGREGs and eliminate the new EA requirements.

The survival of Osage County, as we know it, is at stake.

Osage Producers Association
Osage JOM wins second place at Battle of the Plains

Tara Madden
Osage News

The Osage Nation Johnson O’Malley program placed second at this year’s Battle of the Plains competition in Dewey.

“The best reason for a youth powwow is to encourage young people to dance and show them how fun it is, in the hopes they will continue,” said Avis Ballard, Osage Nation JOM Coordinator. “The Osage JOM students came to the event with their families and spent the day in a positive atmosphere. Hopefully everyone will have good memories that will make him or her want to dance again.”

Battle of the Plains is a youth dance competition between JOM/Indian education students from different areas. The competition was formed in 2001 to be a dance competition between Operation Eagle dancers of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and the Royal Valley/Prairie Band of Potawatomi dancers of Mayetta, Kansas. After a great response of participants in initial years, other schools decided to join the competition and the Osage was one of them.

“I really liked Battle of the Plains because I get first place and I really like winning first place,” said seven-year-old straight dancer William Hamilton. He competed in the ages 5-7 straight dance contest.

The “Battle” is meant to showcase the Native youth in their prospective age groups with four groups to separate the older dancers from the younger ones. The groups were boys and girls ages 5-7, 8-10, 11-13 and 14-18. All kids danced their style of dance in contests to earn points for their dance group. The school with the largest accumulation of points wins the competition. The school with the largest accumulation of points wins the competition. The school with the largest accumulation of points wins the competition. The school with the largest accumulation of points wins the competition.

To Participate, You Must:

- NOT currently have chronic pain or take pain medications
- NOT have high blood pressure or take anti-hypertensive medications
- NOT take anti-depressant or anti-anxiety medications
- Additional eligibility criteria do apply.

Healthy Research Participants Needed

This study is safe and non-invasive. Participants must be able to attend two testing sessions (approximately 6-7 hours total).

$200 compensation ($100/day) is provided. Depending on distance to/from the University of Tulsa, you may be eligible for mileage reimbursement.

About the study
The University of Tulsa, Psychophysiology Laboratory for Affective Neuroscience is conducting an IRB-approved research study aimed at assessing pain processing in Native Americans. The goal of this study is to identify potential markers of risk for chronic pain in healthy (currently pain-free) Native American individuals.

Get in Touch Now!
(918) 631-2175 or (918) 631-3565 | http://orgs.utulsa.edu/psychophys
Mulated points is announced the winner. Each child that participated received $2 and a participation ribbon. The FKLOGUHQZKRSODFHGÀUVWVHF cond or third received a ribbon. Each dance group either won a participation trophy or the trophy for one of the top three winning spots.

Preparation Ballard prepares for Battle of the Plains in advance and provides incentives to those who participate. She usually has gift cards to the Chili’s restaurant and Walmart and in past years provided hoodies to the participants to their parents. She feels the kids deserve something for their effort and spending the day at the competition, which started at 1 p.m. and lasted till 7 p.m. “We had a great time, we always look forward to this dance. All the kids really try their best. All the kids are great competitors. I don’t think they liked getting second place this year but they tried their best and that’s what is important,” said Dana Daylight.

This year John Star Bighorse Jr. was the head boy dancer at Battle of the Plains. John had knee surgery two weeks prior to the competition and Ballard said he did an excellent job as head boy and did not let his injury or recovery stop him from giving his best. “John Bighorse did a really good job. During one of the contests, some of the younger boys didn’t know how to dance during a trot song and John tried to show them. I was proud of him for being a good role model that they can look for guidance,” Ballard said.

The Osage JOM is in constant battle against Royal Valley at the Battle of the Plains and this year was no different. The Osage lost by 6 points. Osage JOM consists of 43 students from the Osage Nation and Ballard hopes that number will grow.

This year there were eight dance groups participating with a total of 130 dancers from Owasso, Operation Eagle, Osage Nation, Iowa JOM, Royal Valley School (Mayetta, KS), Sand Springs, Oklahoma City Metro, All Nations Indian Youth (Tulsa).

To learn more about Battle of the Plains visit their official face book page at www.facebook.com/pages/Battle-of-the-Plains-Youth-Competition/107781289283958 or call Operation Eagle Indian Education at (918) 337-0130. Contact Osage Nation JOM Coordinator Avis Ballard at (918) 287-5545 or by email at aballard@osagenation-nsn.gov.

An Osage girl dances at the Battle of the Plains Powwow held every year in Dewey, Okla., at the Washington County Fairgrounds.

Osage Congresswoman Alice Buffalohead, her husband Jarod and son Joseph Goodfox dance during an intertribal at the Battle of the Plains Powwow held every year in Dewey, Okla., at the Washington County Fairgrounds.

All Photos TARA MADDEN Osage News
The newly crowned Skiatook JOM Princess Rachel Wynn.

Tanya Tot winners line up for their prizes at the 2015 Skiatook JOM Powwow at the Skiatook High School, Jan. 10.
A Closer Look At Mental Health and Breastfeeding

Mallory Black
Native Health News Alliance

DETROIT – Although scientific studies have linked breastfeeding to physical health benefits for years, researching its effect on mental health is relatively new. That’s because the relationship between breastfeeding and mental health is a complex one, says Dr. Ruta Nonacs, a psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Women’s Mental Health. Psychological bonding between mom and baby and the boost to a new mom’s self-confidence are just some of breastfeeding’s mental health benefits.

“There are also some aspects of breastfeeding that decrease the level of anxiety and stress,” says Nonacs, who treats women with mood and anxiety disorders during pregnancy and post-partum. “That might have long-term benefits since post-partum isn’t necessarily a stressful event, which could [otherwise] trigger other depression-ary anxieties.”

Some of the most conclusive research to date, however, found that women who were depressed during pregnancy were less likely to breastfeed or nursed for a short period of time.

See BREASTFEEDING — Continued on Page 17
Fourth ON Congress meets for two-day special session

Benny Polacca
Osage News

After several hours of committee meetings to consider legislative matters, the Fourth Osage Nation Congress adjourned its special session after two days, approving a total of 10 pieces of legislation, which Principal Chief Geoffrey Whitehorn signed into law.

Principal Chief Whitehorn spoke in his address. “A lot of work needs to be done,” Standing Bear said.

“Now that we have the appropriate language in the bills, we have to make sure the Executive and what should come back to the Congress for approval,” Standing Bear said in his address. “A lot of this has to do with budgeting ... you’re going to be looking at budget issues which the treasurer or the staff in the executive determined under the existing budget laws, we have to come back to the Congress for approval and as long as the laws are on the books, we’re going to try to get our house to function.”

In his legislative address, Congressional Speaker Maria Whitehorn worked with Standing Bear that the laws regarding special sessions should be looked at and the law considerations would be picked up during the 24-day Hun-Kah Session. “I think there should be debate between both branches to ensure what works for us and how we’re going to move forward with that,” she said.

Standing Bear signed into law a total of 10 pieces of legislation, which Principal Chief Geoffrey Whitehorn passed. The 12-member Congress issued an executive proclamation for the special session held March 30. He also noted the Hun-Kah Session starting following the 2014 Tzi-Zho Session in October will look at and the laws considered with the (Nation’s) pursuit of the (Nation’s) business. The law still prohibits sale and possession of fireworks for sale leading up to the July 4 holiday. The law is intended for sale leading up to the July 4 holiday. The amount of two hundred thousand dollars ($200,000). The $200,000 is outside grant money awarded to the Nation’s Prevention Programs.

Benny Polacca
Osage News

When the Fourth Osage Nation Congress convenes for its 2015 Hun-Kah Session in March, a new face will be among the Congressional offices staff after Patrick Lewis stepped down from the sergeant-at-arms post.

Since 2010, Lewis served as sergeant-at-arms whose primary duty was to enforce order during the Congress sessions. He made sure all attendees were not disrupting sessions with loud talking, noises, other potential disruptions or interacting with Congress members after the Congress. Lewis was looking for a break from the sergeant-at-arms post.

Patrick Lewis
Osage News

Citing family obligations, Lewis resigned his position in a 2014 Tzi-Zho Session in October leaving a vacancy to be filled by the Congressional Affairs Committee. The committee, chaired by Second Congress Speaker Alles Buffalohead, is considering applications for the part-time sergeant-at-arms position at its scheduled Feb. 13 meeting.

Lewis, who lives in Bristow, also looks after his parents who reside in Tulsa. As time passed, Lewis’ parents’ need increased care, requiring his presence — and driving time — which left him with a difficult decision to make.

“I had to retire, (my parents) are requiring more and more of my time,” Lewis said. “I had to make a decision I didn’t want to, but family comes first.”

Buffalohead and the Congressional Affairs Committee will consider applications filed by the Jan. 29 closing date with ON Human Resources. “He’s going to be tough to replace,” she said of Lewis.

When the sergeant-at-arms position is required to work during the two regular 24-day sessions held annually with the Hun-Kah Session in spring and Tzi-Zho Session in fall. In addition, either the Congress or Principal Chief may call the Congress into a special session at any other time, according to the 10-business day advance notice. Special sessions may last up to 10 days and all sessions may be extended by three days, if needed.

See LEWIS — Continued on Page 19
When I was a child I wondered why some people could play Hand Game better than others. It had always seemed simple enough to my childhood mind that everyone playing the game should be equally skilled at pointing the Guessing Stick at either the right hand or the left hand, you should get it right at least half of the time.

For those who are not familiar with the game Indians call Hand Game, let me explain. Also, I should note that not all tribes play Hand Game the way Osage play it.

To begin, let me say a Hand Game happens when Indians have a need to celebrate something. That could be a birthday, or a graduation, or the returning of a military person, or returning from or entering service to our country. In other words, when Indians have a need to honor someone and want to do it by giving gifts, including the gift of money. Friends and relatives are invited to attend. There are both Men and Women involved, and the Men players can hold their own with the Women. It just seems to me there are normally more Osage Women players than are Osage Men Hand Game players.

There are two sides competing for the win. Those are normally held in a large room, and people are seated. Sitting at a table are the two score keepers. Half of the people are on one team, and the other half are on the other team.

The event is set with a background beat of a drum that always adds a great deal to any event. The basic thought behind the game is a simple guess of which hand one person is holding a small article. The article being held is normally a small piece of bead work, about an inch long. The guess of which hand holds the button is a simple guessing of the Sticks at the left or right hand.

The score is kept by laying ten beautiful sticks on a Score Keepers Table. Five sticks in one bunch and five sticks in another bunch. When one team scores a point by avoiding being guessed which hand holds the button, one of the opposing team’s sticks is moved to the other side.

I have mental images of those Older Women with their solemn expressions. In my memory those Ladies are wrapped in beautiful fringed shawls and they are holding a Guessing Stick. The expressions on their faces will tell you nothing of what they might be thinking. Certainly, those expressions will tell you nothing of which hand you should point the stick at, the right hand or the left.

It has been several years since I thought that all Hand Game players are created equal. I now know that, more than likely, there is a great deal of insight into human nature that makes a Great Hand Game Guessor. I should also point out that, over the years, I have talked to members of several tribes, and what I learned is that every Tribe has a little different way of playing Hand Game. The truth is there are some Indians who are very good at fooling other people. There are also those individuals who are very good at reading the expressions of others. My child hood mind also understood that those same Indians who are better at guessing are also the ones who are better when it comes hitting the button. Either the right hand or the left hand, it does not matter.

About the author: Charles H. Red Corn, Osage, is the author of “A Pipe for February” and various other published works. Red Corn received his B.A. in Psychology and his M.A. in Education Administration from Penn State. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army, and resides with his wife in Norman, Okla. He is the Osage News culture columnist.

Charles Red Corn

When all of the sticks are on one side or the other, that game is over.

Osage youth to wrestle in Oklahoma Kids Wrestling State Championship

Wrestling isn’t just for the big boys it is also for small competitors too. Elijah Waller-Gilley, an eight-year old from Hominy, is headed to Oklahoma Kids Wrestling Association Novice State Championship Jan. 30-31.

A first-year wrestler who wrestles for the Cleveland-Takehoma Club for the Oklahoma Kids Wrestling Association, Waller-Gilley has placed in every tournament he has participated in and recently placed fourth at Tulsa National for his division.

The Oklahoma Kids Wrestling State Championship is hosted in Oklahoma City at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, Jim Norick Arena, from 2-4 p.m.

“Elijah is a straight A student,” said Elijah Waller-Gilley.

A Straight A student in a Straight A school district.

Elijah Waller-Gilley

Sponsoring this event is the Osage Nation Constituent Services Office.
Congratulations!

Frankee Ann Cunningham was named to the Dean's Honor Roll in the College of Liberal Studies. Cunningham transferred to OU from Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

MARCH

March 7

Dining on Native Girls Traditions Workshop
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
For more information contact (405) 5159

March 8

Women's History Month
Oklahoma City
For more information contact (918) 440-7820

March 12

2014 ORC Princess Announcement
Wah-Zha-Zhi Center and Hotel
For more information contact (918) 440-7820

March 14

Mothers and Daughters Dance Society and his Osage
Women's History Month
Washington, D.C.
For more information visit www.naja.com

March 15

Wah-Zha-Zhi Osage Day
Pawhuska, Oklahoma
For more information contact (918) 440-7820

March 20 – April 25

2015 3rd Annual Youth Congress
Congregational Chambers
Pawhuska, Oklahoma

April

April 3

Good Friday – Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

April 7 – 9

8th Annual Preparing for the 7th Generation
Conference NCED Conference Center and Hotel
Norman, Oklahoma
Registration is now open!
For more information contact (405) 271-5170 or Tps7gen@gmail.com

April 11

Stronger Nations Native Girls Traditional Ounce Cooking and Sewing Workshop
Wah-Zha-Zhi
For more information contact (918) 440-7820

April 14

Northern California Ounce Meeting
La Honda, California
Petaluma Community Center
Petaluma, California
For more information contact localcgrp@gmail.com

April 21

Northern California Ounce Meeting
Petaluma, California
For more information contact (415) 5159

May

May 25

Memorial Day – Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

JULY

July 3

Memorial Day – Observance Day
Oklahoma Closed

July 9 – 12

2013 National Native Media Conference
Hollywood, California
For more information visit www.naja.com

SEPTEMBER

September 7

Labor Day – Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

September 26

Northern California Ounce Meeting
Petaluma Community Center
Petaluma, California
For more information contact localcgrp@gmail.com

OCTOBER

October 12

Ounce Day – Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

November

November 11

Veterans Day – Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

November 26 – 27

Thanksgiving - Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

DECEMBER

December 24 – 25

Ounce Day Christmas Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

FRANKIE ANN CUNNINGHAM

Congratulations, Frankie Ann Cunningham, daughter of Justin and Nicholas Thompson would like to congratulate them on a great basketball season! The Canes both play point guards and led the McCurtain High School Lady Indians to a 7th grade point average of 3.5 and 3.4 and a 2-0 district grade during the year. They completed 15 hours with a perfect 4.0 point average for the Fall 2014 semester. Her family is very proud of her.

BREASTFEEDING

“Four in five women who are breastfeeding experience depression during a pregnancy, that’s a risk factor for women who breastfeed their babies. Women with a history of depression, anxiety or ambivalence around pregnancy are likely to try breastfeeding, and that gives them such a satisfaction in the process of bonding and with their infant,” Kushman says. When a woman breastfeeds, her brain releases specific hormones that stimulate breast milk production, go up. Oxytocin helps connect a mother and baby at a social behavior and linked to reduced anxiety and stress, is also produced when a woman nurses or pumps.

“We know that breastfeeding is a good feeling,” says Bethany Moody (Piqua Shaw-Pawnee/Pawnee), a maternal child health nurse visitor and for the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi. “What’s a woman to do when she’s the one, the baby will start crying. If you can just get her to talk her through it, everything starts to flow.”

Moody visits six Potawatomi families across the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi reservations in Michigan. She encourages Native moms to be breastfeeding by giving them education and comfort, and for the next Seven Generations.

“Our goal is not to use just these types of phrases with them, I think there’s that sense of pride, it lift them up,” Moody says. For the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi, the number seven is sacred, representing the four cardinal directions, the earth, the sky, the water and the fire. For Native moms, seven is the circle of life, and for the next Seven Generations.

“But when things don’t go as planned. Moms say it’s a hard to dispel the uncertainty. Women are more than their non-Indigenous peers. This is because we are much more comfortable with taking anti-depressant medications while breastfeeding.”

On Dec. 3, 2014, the U.S. Food and Drug Administra- tion (FDA) approved breastfeeding medicine labeling to provide more information for lactations about the risks of using certain drugs during preg- nancy and breastfeeding.

Drug manufacturers will be required to comply with the new guidelines by March 2015. These changes will include pregnancy- lactation sections - Pregnancy, Lacta- tion, and Females and Males of Reproductive Potential - to describe the drugs in three categories: the benefits, risks and adverse reactions for the mother, the baby and the nursing child, which will take effect at the end of June 2015.

Still, for many pregnant and new mothers, nurses say it is hard to understand the uncertainty.

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Save the Date!

–Local Events Calendar

FEBRUARY

February 11

Twin Dating Violence and Sexual Abuse Awareness Ounce National Counseling Center/ Ounce National Prevention Program Wah-Zha-Zhi
Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center Pawhuska, Oklahoma 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
For more information contact (918) 287-5422

February 15

Ounce National Princess Sorelity Valentine’s Day Room Wagon Iron Hall Pawhuska, Oklahoma 130 p.m. to 6 p.m.
For more information contact (918) 287-5422

February 16

President’s Day – Observed Holiday
Oklahoma Closed

February 17

The Four Nutrition Secrets That Could Help Save Your Life Lecture Oklahoma City Of Reproductive Potential - to description, and Females and Males of Reproductive Potential - to describe the drugs in three categories: the benefits, risks and adverse reactions for the mother, the baby and the nursing child, which will take effect at the end of June 2015.

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Mary Shelby—Slon

Mary Shelby Slon, 58, of Arvada, Colo., passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Friday, June 14, 2014. Shelby was born in Port

and was a very active with the Dance USA Foundation. She volunteered with the Osage Nation Human Resources Department at the Pawhuska Regional Health Center. She was a member of the Osage Minerals Council.

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**Letters to the Editor**

**Without Reservations**

*Wind farm destroys our culture*

Several years ago the giant Italian energy company Enel began developing its small number of greatly oversized wind turbines on federal land near Pawhuska, easily visible to those traveling on the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve. After I alerted the Chief the turbines were built on land that Enel was diggers and using 100% of tons of mineral owned by the Nation, the BIA ordered Enel to cease. The Osage mineral estate includes rock like limestone, not just oil and gas. Enel did not seek BIA or the Osage Nation approval and claims it did not need their permission to use Osage rock for its 90 plus forty story tall wind turbines. When Enel arrogantly ignored the BIA order, the U.S. Attorney in Tulea filed two suits, one to stop construction and one to tear down turbines already built. Enel ignored these suits has continued to build at a frenetic pace. About this time and after much cajoling and one to tear down turbines, one to stop construction, Enel signed leases with a small number of greedy land owners. You can see the turbines from the Osage Preserve.

**LEWIS**

Congressional Clerk Barbers Rice said Lewis was the second sergeant-at-arms to serve the Congress since the new government started in 2008. Lewis started in 2010 after the late Dan Cuba held the position. Lewis previously worked in law enforcement in Creek County and owns his own custom embroidery business, which he also plans to focus on. Since 1996, Lewis has operated his embroidery business with work on Osage dances including the Osage Gourd Clan’s dance suits, moccasins, blankets and hats, and other items. Lewis is a member of the Pawhuska Lis-Len-Schka society and danced in the annual June Jemel ceremonial dances. He is also a member of the Osage Guard Clan and goes on hunts with the clan for deer and turkeys, dances with the Osage Casino central services offices are located. The Osage casino central services offices are located. Standing Bear said the proposed revolving fund for commercial property leases revenue is important because his office is considering uses of tribal land being leased to the airlines and hospitality industry. Standing Bear said he is going to be visiting with Federal Aviation Administration officials and others to see if we can use that air strip for such things as drone traffic. The Osage casino in Naples is proposing to donate $50,000 per year for three years with the money intended for education purposes. The bill on which the turbines are operating was approved of by the Osage Nation to execute the Osage Nation to execute the property lease revenues and to authorize and appropriate money to the fund. According to the bill “the purpose of this act is to establish a revolving fund for lease revenue and expenditures in furtherance of the Nation’s economic development initiatives.”

**SESSION**

Standing Bear said the proposed revolving fund for commercial property leases revenue is important because his office is considering uses of tribal land being leased to the airlines and hospitality industry. Standing Bear said he is going to be visiting with Federal Aviation Administration officials and others to see if we can use that air strip for such things as drone traffic. The Amazon.com proposals to use drones. We’re told the Jones airport in south Tulsa is totally full and they need air traffic space in Tulsa, “Standing Bear told the Congress.

**Nation to accept bids for construction on Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center in March**

The Nation will accept bids for construction on the Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center in March.

**Correction**

The 2015 edition of the Osage News, the photo on page 21 is incorrectly credited to Louise Red Corn Of The Rightheart Times. The photo was taken by Tom Madden of the Osage News.
Win Your Share of
$113,000
IN CASH & PRIZES!

Saturday, March 7
Earn entries beginning February 22

$250 Free Play Drawings  
6 pm – 9 pm

$10,000 Cash Drawings  
10 pm

PLAY AT ALL 7 LOCATIONS!
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