Osage youth win big at Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

Tara Madden
Osage News

Students and their families woke up extra early on April 6 and 7 to make the yearly trip to compete in the 15th annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair in Norman on April 2.

 Held every year at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma, students demonstrate their indigenous language skills in several categories throughout the two-day competition.

Categories include individual spoken word, spoken song, writing, poetry, poster set context, book and literature, film, cartoon, comic book and short story essay.

“I am extremely proud of my kids, they loved the song when I first sang it to them. We practiced every week in class and I sent the words home with them to practice,” said addie Hudgins. Osage language instructor.

“The first few weeks, I had parents telling me about their kids singing in the car or in the shower at home.” Hudgins said the song the students learned was one her grandmother used to sing to her when she was little.

“The beginning of the song ‘Little boy, little girl’ was of the song my grandmother used to sing when I was little,” she said. “I couldn’t remember the rest of the words so I made up some to go with what we were learning in class.”

The competition draws in more than 600 participants from across Oklahoma as well as neighboring states, and more than 20 Native American Languages.

“Since January, the children worked hard preparing their Language Fair projects e.g. poster, comic, book, movie, and practicing their spoken language performances. I want all of them to be proud because, in Osage, ‘The children die their boats’ and that is all I ask them to do,” Hudgins said.

See LANGUAGE

—Continued on Page 8

Osage Congress to consider legislation to allow same-sex marriage

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon Edwards filed legislation on April 17 that will amend the Nation’s current statute on marriage, changing the language that specifies marriage is between a man and a woman.

“I believe marriage is a moral commitment which is unrelated to whether one gets a companion pass on an airplane, a tax break, or can inherit from a long-time partner without a monetary penalty,” Edwards said. “I think some

See SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

—Continued on Page 4

Harold Bighearth Smalley American Legion Post 198 had Osage beginnings

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

Harold Bighearth Smalley American Legion Post 198 was the first U.S. sailor killed in the Battle of Java Sea, 1944, on Midway Island in WWII. He grew up in California but his people were Osages from Bartowville, Okla. Not many people still know he was directly descended from Chief James Bighearth, said Vietnam Veteran John Henry Mashunkashey.

“When the post was formed his name was selected. The American Legion has to have names, his name got voted in as Post 198, that’s how that started,” Mashunkashey said.

The 35 charter members of the Harold Bighearth Smalley American Legion Post 198, mostly Osage veterans, formed the post in 1962, according to their charter that hangs on the wall of the Legion Room in the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center. At the time Post 198 was formed, there were two Legion Posts in Pawhuska, Mashunkashey said. There was Post 197 and Post 198. Post 197 was for white veterans, and Post 198 was for black veterans. The Native American veterans belonged to Post 198 but the non-Native veterans felt the Native American veterans were left out of having their own post since there were so many Osage cultural events they attended and helped with, Mashunkashey said.

Harold Bighearth Smalley was the first U.S. sailor killed in the Battle of Java Sea, 1944, on Midway Island in WWII and was selected as the name of American Legion Post 198 in 1962. The photo hangs outside the Legion Room in the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center.

Held every year at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, students demonstrated their indigenous language skills in several categories throughout the two-day competition.

Benny Polacca Osage News

Osage Nation Attorney General Holli Wells (far end of table) meets with ON Congress unanimously confirms Holli Wells as next Attorney General

Benny Polacca Osage News

After no Congressional discussion on the Attorney General appointment, Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, the Congress voted to confirm Wells on April 9. Wells, a former Oklahoma state judge and environmental law professor, was confirmed by the Congress unanimously during the 2015 Hun-Kah Session.

Harold Bighearth Smalley American Legion Post 198 had Osage beginnings

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Harold Bighearth Smalley was the first U.S. sailor killed in the Battle of Java Sea, 1944, on Midway Island in WWII and was selected as the name of American Legion Post 198 in 1962. The photo hangs outside the Legion Room in the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center.

Post 198 didn’t have many members and one of their veterans offered the Post 198 to the Native American veterans and they took it, incorporating the black veterans into their fold, Mashunkashey said.

They began their meetings.

See POST 198

—Continued on Page 4

ON Congress unanimously confirms Holli Wells as next Attorney General

Benny Polacca Osage News

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Osage language students from Pawhuska and Grayhorses lead the procession of Osage students into the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair in Norman on April 6.
Osage Constitution prevents...
Chief Standing Bear vetoes two Congressional bills

Benny Polacca
Osage News

Two bills passed by the Fourth Osage Nation Congress failed to get the full support of then-Principal Chief Geoffany Standing Bear after Principal Chief Geoffany Standing Bear vetoed both bills during the 2015 Congressional Hun-Kah Session.

As of April 29, Standing Bear vetoed a bill calling for the Nation’s health benefit plan fund to be funded with $1.5 million from the Nation’s permanent fund. He also vetoed a second bill proposing an amendment to the Nation’s gaming law that prohibits the Gaming Enterprise from employing certain tribal officials from its meetings/executive sessions.

ONCA 14-06

The Congress failed to override the first veto bill (ONCA 15-40) during its 27 session, which was also the last day of the Hun-Kah Secession. But the override attempt succeeded by a 5-6 vote, according to the Standing Bear Constituency.

During debate, Congressman Benny Mason three times overrode stating he was concerned the veto message did not assure him the remaining health benefit plan funding is enough to last the calendar year when the Nation budgets on a fiscal year (October-September). Shaw said he also concerned the veto message did not say if the remaining funding is enough to cover the Medicare supplemental benefits available for Osage over age 65.

Standing Bear wrote, “The $1.5 million for the health benefit fund is not a solution, but we are getting close. We are not making any decisions other than this message. I hope this message will be sustained. We are working on this issue.”

Standing Bear vetoed the first bill on April 22 with “no” vote on April 17 to remove the $1.5 million from the permanent fund. The override failed with “no” vote on April 17 to remove the $1.5 million from the permanent fund.

Principal Chief Geoffany Standing Bear vetoed withdrawing its worth. Based upon these objections and justification, Standing Bear wrote, “I am vetoing both.”

The Congress considered a veto override during the 27 session, which was also the last day of the Hun-Kah Secession. But the override attempt succeeded by a 5-6 vote, according to the Standing Bear Constituency.

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In a parking lot, a day or so after the festivities, we drove to a field. The Post 198 moved to a meeting house and then the meeting ended with a song and a benediction. The Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center was built Post 198 moved to a meeting house and then the meeting ended with a song and a benediction. The Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center was built in Pawhuska in the 1980s because after Vietnam he said he didn’t tell anyone they were the same-sex couples “to avail themselves of some of the legal rights afforded to women and men who are ‘married.’”

Neither the United States nor any of its states “to avail themselves of some of the legal rights afforded to women and men who are ‘married.’”

The federal courts have concluded that the Constitution of the United States of America and the District of Columbia “to avail themselves of some of the legal rights afforded to women and men who are ‘married.’”

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** Nation holds Candle Light Vigil for sexual assault victims **

Tara Madden
Osage News

Opening ceremony at the Osage Nation’s Cultural Center held its annual Candle Light Vigil on April 12.

“Sexual assault is one of the most awful crimes committed against an individual, and is also the least reported due to embarrassment and victim blaming,” said LaVaughn Onaiva, OSN Domestic Violence administrator.

The vigil took place under the leadership of Ben Johnson, Cultural Park on Lynn Avenue in Pawhuska.

Pawhuska police Chief Gerdie Standing Bear was the first speaker for the vigil. He spoke of his first few years as a police officer. He saw the effects of sexual violence, violence, alcohol, drugs and the how the terror mail from those situations put pressure on his job.

He said people must be protected, women and children and let people know it is not okay to sexually assault or abuse any woman or child.

**See DOMESTIC VIOLENCE — On Page 12**

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

From Page 2

attorney, addressed the Con- gressional and tribal council members following the vote. “I truly feel my honor to be- come the attorney general of the Osage Nation,” said Matt Jones. “I think that the Osage Attorney General (Jeff) Jones for all he’s done in establishing this position and I know we have been very cooperative as to what it’s all about.

As part of the transition, plans call for Jones to continue

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As part of the transition, plans call for Jones to continue to the tribal court schedule.

Congress approves Osage tribe’s office application

As part of the transition, the Fourth Osage Congress approved an appropriation bill husband adding over $200,492 to the AG’s office budget to pay Jones on contract through summer and for contract work related to water rights. Pending action by Chief Standing Bear’s office, the money will be added to the AG’s budget for professional fees with $200,000.00 designated for the Nation’s contract with low firm Greenon Trousing LLP for water rights matters. On April 27, the Congress passed the bill (OSCA 15-4) sponsored by Congressperson Maria Whitehorn (with a 10-1 vote) for contract work related to water rights.

**MEDICARE**

**Important information about receiving the supplemental coverage:**

May 12, 2015 at 4 p.m. HealthSmart and United American Insurance Company are hosting an informational Medicare Part B Open Enrollment event from 1-2 p.m. and again at the Wah.Zha.Zhi Cultural Center at 5 p.m.

**For more information, call 1-877-722-6975**

**Your coverage will be effective July 1, 2015 if your application is mailed by May 23, 2015**

**Elder Ogoshee and Non-Osage Medigap eligi- ble spouse must be ages 65 years and older.**

**Should you elect the Medicare Supplement Plan F, your coverage will be deemed to have opted out of the Osage Tribe’s limited health benefit as of the date the Medicare Supplement coverage takes effect**

**INITIAL OPEN ENROLLMENT**

**Effective Date Enrollment Period Application Due by:**

July 1, 2015 May 23, 2015

August 1, 2015 July 15, 2015

**ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT**

**Application Effective Date Enrollment Period Application Due by:**

September 1, 2015 December 7, 2015 August 15, 2015

**SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS**

Qualifying Event Enrollment Period Application Due by:

Elder Open Enrollment Medicare Part F

Medicare Part F, if within 30 days before or after your Medicare Part F

Enrollment will be effective the 1st of the month.

Involuntary Loss of Current Coverage: Outside of these other circumstances, send in your enrollment form 90 days before or after your involuntary loss of coverage. Document of your involuntary loss must be provided.

**From small town to world traveler, Branstetter sails the Mediterranean**

Tara Madden
Osage News

A small town boy with the hopes of traveling the world is now captain of a private yacht in the French Riviera. Tony Branstetter, born in Pawhuska and raised in Bunn- adel, visited a friend in Europe in 1989 and never looked back.

“I don’t wish to move back to the U.S., France has become home,” Branstetter said. “I do like to come back and visit my family, of course.”

He was in Pawhuska recently, visiting family and friends and stayed in the Drummond Bed and Breakfast on Indian Avenue.

Branstetter is employed by a large, wealthy Asian family that consists of seven brothers and sisters, who have access to the yacht whenever they want. He cannot reveal the identity of his employees due to contractual agree- ments. He has worked for them for the past five-and-ahalf years.

He is thirty with an 11-year-old daughter Jasmine and for contract work related to world traveler, Branstetter says he has worked for them for the past five-and-ahalf years.

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Kathryn Red Corn, long-time Osage Tribal Museum director, retires

Osage News

The first thing Kathryn Red Corn said she was going to do is take a trip to Kentucky after her retirement.

“I’m going to the races,” she said.

After 17 years of serving as the director of the oldest tribe-ally owned museum in the country, she retired on March 31. Her friends and family held a Roast and Retirement Party on April 11 at The Water Bird Gallery in Pawhuska.

Red Corn will keep working on museum projects she initiated and will continue on as a contractor for the Nation. Projects like the popular Osage Weddings Project she is working on in conjunction with the Sam Noble Natural History Museum. She is also an elected Osage Minerals Councilwoman, and she will serve out her term, which ends in 2018.

A request

Red Corn’s career at the Osage Tribal Museum began with a request from a good friend. Rosemary Wood, longtime Osage activist and former Osage Tribal Councilwoman who served on the 29th and 30th Osage Tribal Councils, called on her to save the museum.

Wood said after the turbulent times in the 1990s when the Osage government was upheaved time and again, first becoming the National Council in 1994 and then in 1997 the U.S. Court of Appeals over-turned the decision, reverting back to the Osage Tribal Council. She said during that time programs and departments within the tribe had suffered just as much as the court battles had made the people suffer.

“It was a physical manifestation of the tribe’s disrupted organization and structure. These times: The staff had to disassemble itself and reassemble itself; rework itself; rework itself; rework itself. The museum needed workers to clean, move, and store cultural materials; with knowledge of the care and handling of art and artifacts; skill identifying, coding and inventorying vast amounts of information; ability to organize methods of procedure and materials."

She said most importantly, they needed an Osage person with tribal knowledge of the old and the new.

“I knew Kathryn Red Corn to be such a person. As is our custom, in important matters, I went to her home to discuss my concerns. I explained that the museum was in complete See RETIREMENT —Continued on Page 12

4th Osage Nation Congress

2015 Hun-Kah Session

Legislation Tracking as of April 27, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Resolution Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-58</td>
<td>An Act to authorize the Osage Nation to invest in real property in the original Osage Reservation Area for purpose of: to create a real property purchase fund; to authorize and appropriate the sum of one dollar ($1) to the real property purchase fund; to declare an emergency and establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Superw</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-16-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-62</td>
<td>An Act to amend the open records Act at 15 ONS §8-102 to include Osage Nation enterprises, including limited liability companies, corporations and any other business entity of the Osage Nation in the definition of a government entity; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Superw</td>
<td>General Order Day 3 4-27-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-81</td>
<td>An Act to amend the Open Meetings Act at 15 ONS §7-104, to allow for training and planning meetings by Members of Congress without holding an official committee meeting; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Buffalohead</td>
<td>Withdrawn by Sponsor 4-1-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-82</td>
<td>An Act to amend 19 ONS §§1-103 and 1-104 within The Osage Preference in Employment Law; to include spouses of members of the Osage Nation and guardians of Osage children as part of the preference; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Buffalohead</td>
<td>Tabled in Gov Ops 4-15-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-86</td>
<td>An Act to authorize and appropriate one million five hundred thousand dollars ($1,500,000) in carry over funds be placed in the Permanent Fund; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>VETOED 4-24-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-89</td>
<td>An Act to establish by law the Legislative Branch in accordance with the Osage Constitution, to authorize organization within the Legislative Branch of the Osage Nation; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Tabled in Governmental Operations 4-15-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-90</td>
<td>An Act to establish by law the Executive Branch in accordance with the Osage Constitution, to authorize organization within the Executive Branch of the Osage Nation; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Tabled in Governmental Operations 4-8-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-94</td>
<td>An Act to authorize and appropriate one million seven hundred thousand dollars ($1,700,000) for unencumbered funds that carry over from fiscal year 2014 appropriations.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Referred to Appropriations 9-26-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 14-95</td>
<td>An Act to authorize and appropriate three million eight hundred sixty eight thousand three hundred eighteen dollars ($3,868,318) to the Osage Nation Higher Education Scholarship Fund; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-21-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-10</td>
<td>An Act to establish the Freeman Monument Fund as a revolving fund; to authorize and appropriate ten thousand dollars ($10,000) to the Freeman Monument Fund; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Superw</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-16-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-21</td>
<td>An Act to amend Title 26, the Osage Nation Revenue and Taxation Act, to allow for 100% disabled veterans to receive a sales tax exemption; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Norris</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-10-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-22</td>
<td>An Act to amend 26 ONS § 2-114 of the Osage Nation Revenue and Taxation Act to allow a larger percentage of the state tax rebate collected by the Nation to be returned to licensed wholesalers on behalf of the retailers or to retailers directly; to set a termination date for the fund; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Whitehorn</td>
<td>Second Reading 4-27-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-23</td>
<td>An Act to amend and restate the law governing special session of the Osage Nation Congress, 15 ONS § 1-102 through § 1-105 to define national emergency; to require legislation to be filed three (3) business days before the first day of the special session; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Whitehorn</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-23-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-24</td>
<td>An Act to authorize and appropriate four hundred thousand dollars ($400,000) to the Capital Asset and Improvement Fund for purchase of real property in Skiatook; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Superw</td>
<td>Failed Congress 4-22-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-25</td>
<td>An Act to amend the Osage Nation Gaming Reform Act of 2007 as amended at 14 ONS § 12-103(c) to prohibit certain elected officials from being excluded from executive sessions; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Superw</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-23-15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BENNY POLACCA/Osage News

Former Osage Tax Commission board member Milton Labadie (center) is honored with a citation from the Fourth Osage Nation Congress on April 27. Congressmen Archie Mason (sponsor) and James Norris (co-sponsor) presented the citation to Labadie after Congress passed a resolution for the honoring.

ON Congress passes resolution honoring Milton Labadie

The Fourth Osage Nation Congress honored former Tax Commission board member Milton Labadie with a citation for his years of service during the final day of the 2015 Hun-Kah Session.

On April 27, the Congress voted unanimously on a resolution to issue the citation to Labadie who was present in the chambers that day.

Congressman RJ Walker praised Labadie and said "he’s a good man and he stands true to his convictions, it’s been a pleasure."

"It was very enjoyable because I was surrounded by very good people," Labadie said of serving on the Tax Commission. A former chief executive officer of Osage Federal Bank, Labadie credited late Osage attorney Browning Pipestem for his work in writing the rules and regulations before serving on the board for 20-plus years. Labadie also praised the Tax Commission staff present for their work.

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Osage language immersion program in development
Shannon Skaw Day

Principal Chief Govdeevf Standing Bear said the only way to save the Osage Language is to begin a new immersion program for children ages 6 to 5 years. “The purpose is to provide education to the children in the Osage language so the children can learn it in Osage and English and well prepared for elementary school,” Standing Bear said. “As we progress, we will add older children.”

The pre-kindergarten, enrollment details, initial start date, budget requirements, are all still being developed by the Education Task Force. Standing Bear said the Education Department will administer the immersion program and the Osage language teachers will teach the children and their families.

The goal is to produce conversational speakers, fluent speakers, but especially children who are comfortable and speak the language as their first language, he said. There is a debate on who the last person was who spoke Osage as their first language but many say it was a man named Charlieᵘⁿdsworth who passed away two years ago.

“As you know, for several years the Language Department Director [Herman Maylim] was instrumental in changing the Osage Congress Cultural Committee that the Osage language is a ‘viable language’ in that we have lost all fluent first language speakers of the daily language,” Standing Bear said. “It is up to the Osage Tribe to revive the language and make it part of a group which words or phrases they may wish to use to supplement the language. The Ponca Nation has four to six fluent first language speakers still alive and the Omaha have a dozen first language speakers.”

“These two languages are closely related to the Osage Language. The other two closely related languages of the Kaw and Quapaw people no longer have fluent first language speakers.”

The Osage, Omaha, Ponca, Kewa and Quapaw all speak a similar language to make up the Dhegiha Language family. Osage Language Department Director, Herman “Maylim,” Lookout, was an instrumental force behind the annual Dhegiha Gathering that began six years ago. The Gathering brings the five tribes together in efforts to save the languages and teach best practices in language instruction. Standing Bear has also been in contact with New Mexico Tribes to discuss their immersion programs. Many of their programs begin with total immersion in the classroom and at home.

Omaha Tribe

On Feb. 19, a delegation from the Omaha Tribe visited the Osage Nation. Standing Bear had already visited the Omaha Tribe prior. According to an Omaha Tribe press release the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center hosted a small traditional Osage-style dinner for the Omaha visitors. Representatives from the Omaha included Alice Sunnomici, language instructor at the University of Nebraska, Frank and Vicki Nebl, her son Tom “Lager” Sunnomici, also an instructor, Michael Berger, a grant writer for the language immersion programs, and Wyan Thomas, Director of Native Studies at NCC.

Hudgins said in the release he feels the Osage language can be supplemented—stretched—that the Omaha language and English to fill in the blanks in the language. Osage language has been lost by Native Americans in the United States. The Osage orthography developed by the language department will be used in the immersion program and that the immersion program is not going to interfere with the current Osage Language Department classes, Standing Bear said.

Osage language department

Currently, the Osage language department has increased its enrollment by 10 percent from last year and has a total of 480 students enrolled, said Janis Carpenter, Osage language instructor who also teaches in the high schools. A large part of that success is the popular online classes taught by Veronica Pipistock, which has about 800 students from all over the country.

As far as the immersion project, Carpenter said Lookout didn’t know what role the language department would play but they wanted to be a part of the project. She commented on Lookout’s behalf to the Osage News since he was preparing for his family’s spring Native American Church meeting and event ceremony this week.

“As far as we know, the plans are being made right now and are in development for the child’s immersion program— we aren’t sure how we’re a part of that but of course we want to be a part of it and help as much as we can,” Carpenter said. “Right now we don’t know what the language department’s role will be.”

The Osage language department currently has two children’s classes, beginner classes, advanced classes, online classes, they teach at the ON head starts, and they also teach in the Pawhuska High School. Due to budget constraints, the language department won’t be taking its students on their yearly language immersion to Colorado this year.

Language classes are winding down for the spring semester and will be going on summer session. Lookout’s advanced class will be switching to Tuesdays during the summer as his class goes round. The children’s classes will be having events during the summer.

Check in with the language department on their web page at https://www.osagningen.org/language/education/language-department or call at (918) 287-5547 for upcoming events and class information.

Osage Youth Language Fair winners

Pre-K through 2nd grade poster contest:
• 1st place: Elementary Honorable Mention: Ann Cox
• 2nd place: Jonathan Ryder Riddle
• 3rd place: Alex Elizondo

Comic Books and Cartoons, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: Jonathan Ryder Riddle “Watchman Spiderman”

Comic Books and Cartoons, 3rd-5th grade:
• 1st place: Tabitha Duty “Talk Osage News”
• 2nd place: Henry Pratt “The Race”

Spoken Language Traditional Song, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: Leighton Shaw, Danna Long, Clifford Robertson, Kellan Rumideno, Wyatt Joseph Cox, Chloe Olivia Cox, Anna Rose Cox, Alex Elizondo, Ramsey Rose Elizondo

Spoken Language, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: Leighton Shaw, Danna Long, Clifford Robertson, Kellan Rumideno, Wyatt Joseph Cox, Chloe Olivia Cox, Anna Rose Cox, Alex Elizondo, Ramsey Rose Elizondo

Modern Song, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• Honorable Mention: George Shaw, Jack Duty, Meg Rumsey, Jessie Leah, Lily Jones, Kyndal Belof, Signy Belof, Rose Yarbrough

Individual Spoken Language, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: George Shaw and Jack Duty, title “Dinner Blessing”

Small Group Spoken Language, 3rd through 5th grade:
• 1st place: Michaels Pratt and Tabitha Duty, title “Playtime”

Small Group Spoken Language, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: Alex and Emillie Elizondo, title “Osage Prayer”

Individual Spoken Language, 3rd through 5th grade:
• 2nd place: Jason Duty, title “Dinner”

Individual Spoken Language, 9th through 12th grade:
• 1st place: Jude Jones, title “Prayers”

Poster and Comics, 9th through 12th grade:
• 1st place: River Riddle

Honorable mention in the classroom and at home.

LANGUAGE—Pre-K through fifth grade performed on the first day of the fair showing skills in language and art with their poster and comic book entries winning prizes in each category, all winning trophies and medals. The theme for the poster contest was “One Voice, Many Voices.” Participants were to create a drawing using the theme or their own ideas using language in their own way to express themselves.

“It makes me happy to know these kids are learning and absorbing what I teach them in class,” Hudgins said. “The Osage language is a hard language to learn, but it is great Osage, an identity. It is part of what makes us who we are.”

—Addie Hudgins

The Osage Nation Language department is having a bones dinner to celebrate their students and parents on May 3 at the Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center at 2 p.m.

For more information to enroll in Osage language classes, call (918) 287-5547 or email Danielle Wood at dwood@ osagningen.org.

Osage language teachers to determine as a group which words or phrases they have learned,” said Lookout. “Osage children, especially the younger ones, have done well. The fair asked me to judge six years ago and I have been a judge ever since. I enjoy doing it and they never let me forget how much they appreciate me helping them out.”

“Spoken Language, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: Michaela Pratt and Tabitha Duty, title “Playtime”

Honorable Mention: George Shaw, Jack Duty, Meg Rumsey, Jesse Leah, Lily Jones, Kyndal Belof, Signy Belof, Rose Yarbrough

Individual Spoken Language, Pre-K through 2nd grade:
• 1st place: Jonathan Ryder Riddle, title “Wazhazhe Spiderman”

“Ozark language is a hard language to learn, but it gives us, as Osages, an identity. It is part of what makes us who we are.”

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Adeline Wilson Choi, one of the Osage Nation’s remaining full bloods, was born in Grayhorse, Okla., in November 1930 to Theodore and Clara Wilson. She was raised by Wilson and Edith Kirk, a cousin to her mother, because of her mother’s extended illness. She attended school in Pawhuska at Immaculate Conception Catholic School until the fifth grade when her family moved to Colorado Springs, Co. She attended St. Mary’s Catholic School and attended high school at Haskell Indian School in Lawrence, Kansas. She attended college at St. John’s nursing school in Tulsa, Okla., and served in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Air Force. She married Ronald Choi and had three children: Carol Arata, Kurt Choi, and Steve Choi. She has four grandsons. She currently resides in Stockton, Calif., and they attend the Northern California Osage meetings.

Osage News: What are the major values or principles you live by?
Adeline Choi: “My Catholic faith and the importance of prayer.”

ON: Do you like the new Osage government?  
AC: “I’m very happy with Chief Standing Bear. I think he and the Council are doing a good job.”

ON: What District are you from? What is your Osage name?  
AC: “I’m from the Grayhorse District. I started dancing when I was about 12 years old. My Osage name is Wah-Konta-Mae.”

ON: What was your favorite thing about the In-Lon-Schka?  
AC: “I was always proud to see my mom Clara Wilson and other family members dressed in their Osage clothes and participating at the dances and other Osage festivities.”

ON: What is your favorite Osage food?  
AC: “Meat and gravy and meat pies.”

ON: Who are your Heroes?  
AC: “Saint Kateri Tekakwitha.”

ON: What were your favorite things to do for fun when you were growing up?  
AC: “I went to elementary school (up to fourth grade) in Pawhuska at Immaculate Conception. I remember going to Lazo’s for chili. My friend’s parents owned the café. We used to go to the movie theater to watch cowboy movies. For 25 cents, you could get admission, popcorn and a drink. We also used to go roller-skating at the Armory on Saturdays. Other favorite restaurants in Pawhuska were a Chinese Restaurant (can’t recall the name) and the Pig Stand, west of town, that made good sandwiches.”

“Other fun memories were playing hand games with my friends and cousins for small change. My Grandma Hunkahappy lived in Grayhorse and I would visit her frequently. She didn’t speak English and I didn’t speak Osage but it was still fun visiting with her. She would sit in her bedroom sewing. She made all of her own moccasins.”

ON: What was your favorite decade and why?  
AC: “I really liked my high school years (1940’s) since it was a lot of fun attending Haskell. I really enjoyed meeting students from different tribes. I belonged to the Indian club. We would go to different schools and perform.”

ON: What World events had the most impact on you?  
AC: “I remember World War II – the food rationing. We ate eggplant as a meat substitute. The government rationed meat, sugar and many other items. My dad Theodore Wilson was drafted but didn’t end up serving. The war ended right before he was ready to board the train.”

Adeline Choi, far right, poses for a photo at the Osage Tribal Museum when she was a little girl. From L to R: Delores Lookout, Beverly Mills, Jake Burrs, Addie Cunningham and Choi. Choi said she remembers posing for the photo.
During World War I and after, Native American soldiers could not be buried in national cemeteries, even though they had served in the U.S. military. Native Americans didn’t become U.S. citizens until 1924.

In an effort to provide grieving families a place to bury their sons, WWI veteran Pierce St. John and his wife Opal, set aside one acre of their land in 1918 to provide such a place. Before Opal passed, she sold the acre to the federal government in 1935 so the cemetery would not be lost.

Today, his great-grandson, William St. John, is now the caretaker of the Pierce St. John Cemetery, located southeast of Pawhuska, just off of the intersection of Highways 11 and 99. “About 54 people are buried here, not all veterans. Some are family, friends to the family, and some are straight up veterans,” St. John said. “We’re keeping the tradition going, allowing Native American veterans if they need to be buried, if they need a plot, they would have a place to be at peace.”

One such veteran was Gary Elsberry, who died one year ago after losing his battle with cancer. Elsberry served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War era and was stationed in Germany. His funeral instructions included being cremated with his ashes placed in an ammunition can. His brother, Harry Elsberry, who also served in Vietnam in the U.S. Marines, was executor of his estate and after Gary passed he contacted St. John. He said they were treated with courtesy and respect. Harry dug the plot for his brother’s ashes and buried them, along with a beaded hatchet. After the gun salute he took the brass and put it in the grave with his brother.

“He was so, so great, no problem, whatever I wanted, he said fine,” Harry Elsberry said of St. John. “They were fantastic, I went to William and said Gary died and William said whoever he’s ready it’s there for him. That really, very thoughtful, and compassionate. It was a free burial, no charge, I gave him a blanket because that’s the custom.”

The cemetery, 40 feet by 50 feet, is currently full. St. John said it was his great-grandmother’s wish to expand the cemetery to a full acre and after doing so, the Pierce St. John Cemetery underwent expansion.

William St. John stands next to a statue his great-grandfather Pierce St. John had commissioned from France. It’s of a WWII Doughboy and was brought to the cemetery by horseback.

Osage Tribal Princess Candidates 2015-2016

Billy Cunningham

“I am a reflection of my Osage people and will represent them through our traditions to the best of my ability throughout Oklahoma and across Indian Country.”

Aliya Elamot

“I am a proud member of the Osage Nation. I love our traditions and culture. I will work to the best of my ability to represent the Wah-Zha-Zhi people throughout the year.”

Lolita Perrier

“I am excited about the opportunity to serve my tribe and if crowned Osage Princess, I will do my best in representing the Osage people with integrity.”

Leah Walker

“If I am elected as your Osage Tribal Princess, I hope to serve and represent our fellow Osage people, from our Elders to our young generation with dignity, respect and the integrity they deserve.”

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2015 In-Lon-Schka Dates

Grayhorse June 4-7
Homing June 11-14
Pawhuska June 25-28
Mashunkashey to be honored at State Capitol on May 4
Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage Veteran, John Henry Mashunkashey, was select-
ed Veteran of the Week by the Oklahoma State Legisla-
ture and will be honored at the State Capitol on May 4.

Mashunkashey joined the U.S. Marines right out of high
school, enlisting in 1965 and served in the Vietnam War.
He served until 1969 until he was honorably discharged
as a Corporal (E4) Rifleman. He was wounded on May 28,
1968 in the Battle of Khe Sanh where he served in the First
Corps. He was shot twice and survived a napalm explosion
where he suffered severe burns, injuries and brain trauma.
He spent a year-and-a-half in an Illinois military hospi-
tal and went through extensive physical therapy to use his
legs to walk.

Of the experience he said, “Hey, I’m alive and that’s all
that counts.”

See MASHUNKASHAY —Continued on Page 12

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- Additional eligibility criteria do apply

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to attend two testing sessions (approximately 4-5 hours/session).
$200 compensation ($100/day) is provided. Depending on dis-
tance to/from the University of Tulsa, you may be eligible for mile-
age reimbursement.
Osage campus nearing completion

Shannon Stave Duty

There are huge amounts of glass that will allow for natural light into the building which will aid in the saving of electricity for lights (which I believe will be LED) thereby saving on cost and energy. I love the old southwestern style architecture that is found throughout Osage County; however, much more thought went into this design and contrast out of respect for our history and cultural context.

Seattle-based architecture and design firm CollinsWoerman, selected by the Gray Administration in October 2009, held community meetings and collected input from the Osage Nation community in order to design a building that would blend in with the surrounding landscapes.

“We’ve experienced a few delays with construction, school- ing and we think we’ve created some of the needed for the expansion of the contract dates,” Case Johnson commented. “We feel like the project’s progression is pretty well.”

“The Third Osage Nation Congress voted to appropriate $13 million toward building phase one of the new government campus master plan on April 18. The design of the buildings has received public criticism on Osage community. Focusing on schools, some say the designs don’t represent Native American culture and the roofs slope inward to collect water. "The roofs will allow the rainwater to flow down into a cistern system, that in turn will run through a geothermal heating system, which in turn will heat water into the buildings in a radiant floor system which can be controlled in many zones as opposed to one or two big zones thereby saving money and energy,” John said.

“In addition, excess water will be used for some of the things the Assistant Chief Officer can only comment on while speaking of. We are also looking at a flush-less urinals that many college campuses and businesses have gone to. Due to high winds, candles were not lit for safety reasons. For more information contact the ON Counseling Center at (918) 287-5422 or email counselingcenter@osagenews.org.

“Twenty-one of our 39 tribes have domestic violence programs in Oklahoma. We want to make our program stronger, and we want to help other tribes, especially those that do not have a domestic violence program,” Standing Bear said. “We look forward to doing this kind of work roll day to day in and out day, to erase this scourge from our society.”

Keynote Speaker for the event and Executive Director for the National Domestic Violence Hotline, Dawn Stover, was honored with a Pendleton blanket.

Wall of Heroes’ planned for Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center

Shayni Stave

The Department of Oklahoma Marine Corps League of the Third Osage Nation and Standing Bear said, "There are huge amounts of glass that will allow for natural light into the building which will aid in the saving of electricity for lights (which I believe will be LED) thereby saving on cost and energy. I love the old southwestern style architecture that is found throughout Osage County; however, much more thought went into this design and contrast out of respect for our history and cultural context."
Brock Moore was elected as Barns- dall's mayor on April 7. Moore is an Osage tribal member.

Moore elected as Barnsdall Mayor
Tara Madden
Osage News

Osage tribal member Brock Moore is the City of Barnsdall's new mayor as of April 1. He will begin his term on April 20.

He beat two-term incumbent J.D. Cole for the office. Moore worked with Cole for the past six years as a City Councilman and felt like it was a time for a change. He decided to run for Mayor in January.

"I have nothing but respect for J.D. Cole," he said. "I've known J.D. for 36 years and he's a great friend."

Moore is a lifelong resident of Barnsdall and wants to see changes in the infrastructure problems the town suffers from. He would like to fix the town's water issues. He said the waterlines are old and rusted and leak, causing outages and costly repairs. He would also like to fix the roads that are overlooked through out the town. He also said the town's sales tax in the town by one percent would go to help with these repairs, he said. The town's sales tax has not been raised since the early 1990's.

"I don't want the town to dwindle and I want the people that live here to stay here," he said. As mayor he will preside at meetings of the council and certify the correct enrollment of all ordinances and resolutions passed. The mayor is not considered to be a member of the council for voting purposes but he may vote if the council is equally divided.

Moore graduated from Barnsdall High School in 1996 and will be attending a mandatory class about city government upon getting sworn in to his newly elected position.

Moore is a member of the Barnsdall Chamber of Commerce as well as vice president for the Barnsdall Community Lions Club. While working with those entities he helped the town get a Dollar General Store for the community.

To prepare for the election,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Resolution Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-42</td>
<td>An act to authorize and appropriate two million five hundred thousand dollars($2,500,000) to the Treasury for debt payments already distributed to the Master Campus Plan Loan; to ratify the Master Campus Loan debt payments made by the Treasurer; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Supernaw</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-23-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-43</td>
<td>An Act to amend 15 ONS § 2-304 to remove the requirement of five (5) years government fund accounting experience; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Buffalohead</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-24-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-44</td>
<td>An Act to amend ONCA 15-40 to require Osage applicants to be funded first and then Native American preference applied to the remaining applicants; and to provide an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Buffalohead</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-27-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-45</td>
<td>An Act to set fiscal year 2016 General Appropriations, Direct Assistance, Land Acquisition, Capital Improvement and Permanent Fund spending limits.</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>Referred to Gov Ops 2-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-46</td>
<td>An Act to amend ONCA 15-19, the law establishing the Osage Commercial Property Fund; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Referred to Appropriations 4-2-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-47</td>
<td>An Act to amend ONCA 15-45 to provide a supplemental appropriation to the Osage Gaming Enterprise Board for fiscal year 2015 in the amount of thirty three thousand four hundred seventy dollars ($33,470); to provide a supplemental appropriation to the Osage Health Authority Board for fiscal year 2015 in the amount of one hundred forty thousand three hundred sixteen dollars ($140,316); to provide a supplemental appropriation to the Osage Nation Energy Services, LLC Board for fiscal year 2015 in the amount of forty thousand six hundred seventy two dollars ($40,672); and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-9-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-49</td>
<td>An Act to authorize persons under the jurisdiction of the Osage Nation to legally change their names with certain limitations; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Buffalohead</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-23-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-50</td>
<td>An Act to amend ONCA 15-62 to provide a supplemental appropriation to the Osage Nation Matching Grant fund; to authorize and appropriate five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000) to the fund; and to provide an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Pratt</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-24-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-51</td>
<td>An Act to restrict employment contracts for executives, professional services and consultants to a term of three (3) years; to exempt vendor contracts from this Act; to amend 14 ONS § 12-105(D)(1) as amended, to make contracting limits consistent with this Act; and to establish an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Buffalohead</td>
<td>Sent to Chief for Signature 4-24-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-52</td>
<td>An Act to amend Chapter 4 of Title 19, the Osage Nation Worker's Compensation act to be consistent with current practices and changes in law; and to provide an alternate effective date.</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>Tabled in Gov Ops 4-20-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-53</td>
<td>An Act to authorize funding levels for the Higher Education Scholarship categories.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Referred to Education 4-17-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCA 15-54</td>
<td>An Act to amend 9 ONS § 2-101; to change the definition of marriage; to repeal 9 ONS § 2-104; to amend 9 ONS 3-126 to allow a spouse to restore a maiden or former name upon divorce.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Referred to Gov Ops 21-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCR 14-18</td>
<td>A Resolution to provide for an election to amend Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Osage Nation.</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>Tabled in Governmental Operations 4-15-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCR 15-04</td>
<td>A Resolution to provide for an election to amend Article IV, Section 3(G) of the Constitution of the Osage Nation.</td>
<td>Whitehorn</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-16-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONCR 15-07</td>
<td>A Resolution to authorize and support the implementation of a Page Program within the Osage Nation Congress for the benefit of Osage Nation Youth.</td>
<td>Whitehorn</td>
<td>ENACTED 4-10-15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Osage Nation government reorganization approved

Bonnie Polack

An Osage Nation government reorganization impacting four departments and budgets in four divisions nearly took place during the Constitutional Hun-Kah Ses in April.

Presented by the Executive Branch to the Congress in four sections, the reorganization impact on Osage nation government operations, Governmental Operations; Child, Family, and Senior Community Services; Land, Commerce and Public Safety; and Health, Fitness and Wellness, the reorganization impact includes the shifting of selected programs and budgets of three departments pending in effect in June after Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear approved the bills on April 24.

Those reorganization bills passed by majority vote are ONCA 15-35, ONCA 15-37, ONCA 15-38 and ONCA 15-40. In total, four reorganization bills were filed with the Congress, but the fifth bill presented to the Congress on April 16 by Tribal Cultural Preservation, Arts, History, and Tribal Preservation group, was vetoed down. That bill (ONCA 15-34) proposed hiring a cultural department director to oversee the Osage Tribal Museum, Wakan Wakan Cultural Center, Historic Preservation Office and the Language Department.

After debate on the timing of reorganization, information available on the proposal and the roll call vote, the Congress on April 16 in total, four reorganization bills were voted on and passed with tie-breaking ‘yes’ votes from Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn.


The Congress voted down ONCA 15-34 by majority. The vote failed with nine ‘no’ votes and three ‘yes’ votes passed from Maker, Hamilton and Mason.

The vote on the five reorganization bills occurred in the second week of the business day of the 24-day Constitutional Hun-Kah Ses and was tabled the bills several times pending receipt of more information on the Nation’s finances and program reorganization during the bills before the bills were passed out of their respective Congress committees for final passage by the Congress on April 24.

ON government reorganization

On April 24, the Executive Branch sent an organization chart to Congress showing the reorganization changes which include:

- Moving the Tribal Development Division into the Tribal Economic Development Department to the Government Operations Division from the Land, Commerce and Public Safety.
- The Housing Department is dissolved and the programs formerly managed by it will be moved including: Senior Housing, United Housing and the Oktaha (Rehab) will be moved to the TribalWorks Department.

Retirement

From Page 13

disarray with old documents, photographs, and painting, about, exposed to light and dust,” Wood said. “There were ceremonial clothes of cloth, ribbons, work, finger-woven yard ties and belts hanging on tables and chairs. There were fans and sticks and flutes and drums and paintings and posters and announcements of days gone by and things I didn’t know where to start. There was a photograph of my great-grandmother’s second head. It looked as though a village had been attacked and every one had to leave in a hurry. Wool said Red Corn’s personal and professional experiences leading up to her taking the post at the museum had made her ready for the job. She had lived in the Pawhuska Indian Village most of her life, so as a child and as an elder and her family has been participants in In-Lon-Schlukkus, the Kanza brought the Drum to Wa.Ka.Ko.Li’n, she said. Red Corn had also founded, co-founded and organized many national Indian youth organizations. She had worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Education.

She also said Red Corn worked extensively with scholarship programs familiarizing her with students, their needs, inventory and code items so they would not be stolen. She also asked her to develop a procedure to accept new objects into the collection. “On April 25, Kathryn knew that it was a request not to be taken lightly. She was well aware of the amount of time that would be required. But she agreed. She volunteered. She went to work and accomplished the request I had made of her,” Wood said. Those activities were absolutely necessary to the protection and preservation of the Osage Tribe, Osages, their people, to their education and their culture.”

Wood asked Red Corn, on a voluntary basis, to store and display collections so they would not deteriorate, to identify, and codes so they would not be stolen. The bill (ONCA 15-34) proposed hiring a cultural department director to oversee the Osage Tribal Museum, Wakan Wakan Cultural Center, Historic Preservation Office and the Language Department.

Those reorganization bills passed by majority vote are ONCA 15-35, ONCA 15-37, ONCA 15-38 and ONCA 15-40. In total, four reorganization bills were filed with the Congress, but the fifth bill presented to the Congress on April 16 by Tribal Cultural Preservation, Arts, History, and Tribal Preservation group, was vetoed down. That bill (ONCA 15-34) proposed hiring a cultural department director to oversee the Osage Tribal Museum, Wakan Wakan Cultural Center, Historic Preservation Office and the Language Department.

After debate on the timing of reorganization, information available on the proposal and the roll call vote, the Congress on April 16 in total, four reorganization bills were voted on and passed with tie-breaking ‘yes’ votes from Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn.


The Congress voted down ONCA 15-34 by majority. The vote failed with nine ‘no’ votes and three ‘yes’ votes passed from Maker, Hamilton and Mason.

The vote on the five reorganization bills occurred in the second week of the business day of the 24-day Constitutional Hun-Kah Ses and was tabled the bills several times pending receipt of more information on the Nation’s finances and program reorganization during the bills before the bills were passed out of their respective Congress committees for final passage by the Congress on April 24.

On government reorganization

On April 24, the Executive Branch sent an organization chart to Congress showing the reorganization changes which include:

- Moving the Tribal Development Division into the Tribal Economic Development Department to the Government Operations Division from the Land, Commerce and Public Safety.
- The Housing Department is dissolved and the programs formerly managed by it will be moved including: Senior Housing, United Housing and the Oktaha (Rehab) will be moved to the TribalWorks Department.

A Resolution to authorize and adopt the Articles of Organization for the limited liability company, Talgrass Company, LLC, as amended under the Osage Nation Limited Liability Companies Act.

A Resolution to adopt the Articles of Operation for the limited liability company, Talgrass Company, LLC, as amended under the Osage Nation Limited Liability Companies Act.

A Resolution to request the Osage Nation Executive Branch to establish a registry for the voluntary identification and registration of Osage veterans.

A Resolution to express confidence in the ability of the Osage, LLC Board to restructure and build the non- gaming businesses interest of the Osage Nation.

A Resolution to commend Kathryn Red Corn for her leadership, dedication and service to the Osage Nation with thanks; and, directing distribution.

A Resolution to request the form and amount of budgets for the fiscal year 2016 to assist the Osage Nation Congress in its Constitutional duty to appropriate funds to operate these projects.

A Resolution to authorize and direct the Office Of Attorney General to produce a revised Osage Constitution incorporating the constitutional amendment.

A Resolution to support the Wah. Zh.Ih. Youth Council as an affiliate of United Nations (UNITY) and its mission to foster the spiritual, mental, physical and social development of American Indian and indigenous youth.

A Resolution commending Milton Labadie for his dedication and service to the Osage Nation through its Tax Commission and the community at large; and, directing distribution.

A Resolution to set the compensation and reimbursement allowance for the members of Executive Branch Boards of the Osage Nation for October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017.

STLBJ worked in close coordination with the planning committee to involve the Osage in the 250th Anniversary.

Osage Ballet: museum resources, staff and promotion helped launch the Osage Ballet.

Osage Weddings Project: a program with the Sum Namal Natural History Museum on gathering projects for an exhibit on Osage Weddings.

Over the years the museum has hosted lectures and speakers of Osage history, book signings and readings for Osage authors, historic sites and gatherings for Osages and Osage officials, and continues to increase the museum’s collections and paintings.

Lou Brock, interim curator and a museum employee since 2005, said working with Red Corn has always been inspirational and a blessing. Her presence at the museum will be missed but he has a sneaking suspicion she won’t be far. “She has been the family matriarch since 1998. This place really needed her loving care and she exceeded all expectations,” Brock said. “She made me love it just as much as anybody else and we just did what needed to be done and this is the way to do – and that’s a good thing.”

4th Osage Nation Congress

2015 Hun-Kah Session

Legislation Tracking as of April 27, 2015

Bill Number| Bill Title| Sponsor| Status
---|---|---|---
ONCR 15-08| A Resolution to authorize and adopt the Articles of Organization for the limited liability company, Talgrass Company, LLC, as approved | Edwards| Second Reading 4-27-15
ONCR 15-09| A Resolution to adopt the Articles of Operation for the limited liability company, Talgrass Company, LLC, as approved | Edwards| Second Reading 4-27-15
ONCR 15-10| A Resolution to request the Osage Nation Executive Branch to establish a registry for the voluntary identification and registration of Osage veterans | Edwards| Referred back to Appropriations Committee 4-23-15
ONCR 15-11| A Resolution to express confidence in the ability of the Osage, LLC Board to restructure and build the non- gaming businesses interest of the Osage Nation | Edwards| 4-22-15
ONCR 15-12| A Resolution to commend Kathryn Red Corn for her leadership, dedication and service to the Osage Nation with thanks; and, directing distribution | Mason| 4-22-15
ONCR 15-13| A Resolution to request the form and amount of budgets for the fiscal year 2016 to assist the Osage Nation Congress in its Constitutional duty to appropriate funds to operate these projects. | Mason| 4-22-15
ONCR 15-14| A Resolution to authorize and direct the Office Of Attorney General to produce a revised Osage Constitution incorporating the constitutional amendment. | Mason| 4-22-15
ONCR 15-15| A Resolution to support the Wah. Zh.Ih. Youth Council as an affiliate of United Nations (UNITY) and its mission to foster the spiritual, mental, physical and social development of American Indian and indigenous youth. | Mason| 4-22-15
ONCR 15-16| A Resolution commending Milton Labadie for his dedication and service to the Osage Nation through its Tax Commission and the community at large; and, directing distribution. | Mason| 4-22-15
ONCR 15-17| A Resolution to set the compensation and reimbursement allowance for the members of Executive Branch Boards of the Osage Nation for October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017. | Mason| 4-22-15

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Basketball and soccer at Bacone College is helping Hight reach his dreams

Tara Madden
Osage News

William “Wilson” Hight III was named to the Red River Athletic Conference Champions of Character Team by the conference’s head coaches as a post-season award winner of the 2014 MRI Men’s Soccer All-Conference team.

Hight is a member of 31 games for us last fall and started in four. His size and foot speed make him a solid Center Back,” said James Carter, Bacone’s head basketball coach.

“Being a kid since he was three years old. He is a member of the Pawhuska District and has participated in the In-Lon-Schka dances since he was three years old. He is a member of the In-Lon-Schka dances since he was three years old.

“Though he did not play as a senior, Treyton Redeagle has a never-give-up attitude and is the mindset that soccer was in his blood. He is the grandson of the late Wilson Unruh, head basketball coach of the Eagles.

“Hight is a member of the Danese family and has been an active member of the Danese family since the age of three years old. He is a member of the Danese family since the age of three years old.

“Treyton Redeagle signed a full basketball scholarship with Oklahoma Wesleyan University on April 23 at the Pawhuska High School on the weekends and some weekdays, as well as having to attend all of his classes every day.

“Redeagle is a basketball player who can be a threat on the court or field at the moment that he is in the zone. He is in the zone.

“Sports has given him the chance to make friends from all over the globe from England, Mexico, Belize, Ethiopia, France, as well as Panama and people from all over the United States.

“Hight is from the Hominy District and has been dancing in the In-Lon-Schka dances since he was the age of ten. He enjoys dancing every June.

“Treyton Redeagle is a senior at Pawhuska High School and was named for the game is why he was successful at the next level.

“Redeagle has played basketball for as long as he could walk. He said throughout his college career to never give up on it no matter the circumstances that other athletes would have to be my role model, someone who plays in front of the defense.

“Redeagle played guard and forward and led the Eagles in scoring and rebounds this season. He said he knew he had some fight in him and the mindset that soccer was in his blood.

“His father was his role model, someone who plays in front of the defense.

“Treyton Redeagle is a senior at Pawhuska High School and was named for the game is why he was successful at the next level.

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Osage College Graduates for the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 semesters. The list of graduates was compiled by the ON Education Department. These graduates requested an Osage Nation sash to wear at their graduations.

PRODUCERS

Osage County is under attack as the pain they are in is that the BIA is basically trying to get� them under the gun for writing a letter that this is the way they’re doing it,” he said.

Negotiated Rulemaking

It’s not the Environmental Assessments required by the BIA. The idea of the Montana Negotiated Rule that would overhaul oil and gas regulations in the Osage, and Minerals Council woman Cynthia Rose, and she said, “It will get you before it gets worse. At some of the problems she has with the negotiated rules is they changed them without the OMC to consult with the OMC. The flow chart model is a nightmare, excuses are the ac- cessory requirements will be a nightmare for small produc- ers, and the list goes on.

“The beginning has guidelines and small producers can’t do it, but a bigger system will be so onerous that they’ll have to hire someone to do it and they can’t afford it,” she said.

“Is me it’s a scary time for our headright owners because of the uncertainty of our min- e...”

BANISHMENT

On March 15, 2013 the Second Osage Minerals Council voted to banished the negotiated rules, they fired their attorneys and asked the BIA for an ex- tension of time for the negoti- ation and rules process. They were ignored, she said.

“in my opinion, there was just too much against this. I really think that the very beginning, right down to the formation of the committee,” Bone said. “We could have, had businesses, oil produc- ers and it was just too weak. And it was three OMC members.

The bureau showed that whole process down our throats and said this is the way it’s going to be.”

An interview request with OMC Chairman Everett Waller was not returned.  

Looking at all the time and im- proved all the time. We have a Prevention Program, they can do that, but incorporate into this law? I just think it’s not necessary – We need to build a strong message to those who are selling drugs on the stand, that this government will not allow.

The OMC is not a viable punish- ing a monopoly on ego- nistic self-image, and I think they have posi- tive self-images.

In his final debate time, Brian Sykes cheered up by whatever it was the good road to recovery or come back (to court) to shorten sentences. “How do we know how long it has to be for it to be con- sidered a monopoly on ego- nistic self-image, and I think they have posi- tive self-images. I think it should be reconsid- ered rules process. They were ignored, she said.

“in my opinion, there was just too much against this. I really think that the very beginning, right down to the formation of the committee,” Bone said. “We could have, had businesses, oil produc- ers and it was just too weak. And it was three OMC members.

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The OMC is not a viable punish- ing a monopoly on ego- nistic self-image, and I think they have posi- tive self-images.
On the last day of the Hun- kah Roshun, the Fourth Osage Nation Congress reelected Ma- ria Whitehorn as Speaker and elected Otto Hamilton as Sec- ond Speaker.

The April 23 elections oc- curred during a day-long ses- sion that included setting the eight Congressional com- mittees and these committees then elected their of- ficers.

For the Speaker and Second Speaker elections, the 11 Con- gress members present voted for the nominees by raising their hands and Congress at 8:30 a.m. The voting was followed by the presentation of credentials within 90 days of the session.

For Second Speaker, Buf- falohead nominated Prat- thaw; Whitehorn nominated Har- rison. Buffalohead, Whitehorn and Har- rison nominated incumbent Buf- falohead. Hamilton will serve his first term as Sec- ond Speaker after winning six votes from himself, Edwards, Shaw, Superkew, Maker and Whitehorn. Buffalohead re- ceived two votes from Walker and Pratt and received three votes from herself, Buf- falohead and Mason. Also that day, the Congress members signed up for the eight committee, which ini- tially considered legislation and other matters brought to the Legislative Branch’s attention. Those committees also selected their officers including chair- men and vice-chairpersons with the year’s Cultural Cul- tural Committee chairperson election taking nume- rous ties, prompting the tie break

Whitehorn reelected Speaker; Hamilton elected Second Speaker

Angela Cecilia Clavier Robinson

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The Cultural departments’ reorganiza-
tion in ONCA 15-36 drew Con-
gressional members’ attention during commit-
tee meetings because the pro-
posed new cultural department di-
rector position would be drawing an
$80,000 annual salary, which would be
$28,000 with benefits, according to
the Executive Branch.

Reorganization bills debated
On April 24, the Congress members debated the pros and cons of the re-
organization bills before the 7-6 votes. Buffalohead said she supported the Executive Branch’s right to reorganize, but said “now is not the time,” citing budget concerns. Buffalohead said “the main rea-
son I am against every right now is because we don’t know what the
numbers are going to look like in the
fall.” She said she preferred the Execu-
tive Branch handle the reorganization and any cuts without Congressional permission then present the plans in a summer special session or during
the fall Tzi-Zho Session and then she
would support it.

Edwards voiced concerns with the Nation’s finances and available fund-
ing and also questioned the timing of the reorganization since it required moving budgets around. Edwards also agreed with Buffalohead regarding the reorganization stating “there is no reason that the Executive Branch cannot reorganize (reorganize and eliminate jobs) without the vote of the Congress.”

Walker said he would vote “no” for ONCA 15-36 but would support the re-
moving four bills. He said the cost in savings for the Nation by passing the four bills would be $300,000-$300,000 of all pass.

Hamlin said he supports the reorganiza-
tion bills, adding “nobody likes bureaucracy, but there’s bureaucracy in every program and I believe these reorganization bills are taking
the walls for efficiency and the Chief has a vision and I support that.”

Buffalohead said she did not believe she had a “full picture” of the reorganiza-
tion if it occurs in modules. “It’s the Chief’s right and his duty to run and
run the Executive Branch … It’s our
duty to make sure we understand how
Osage Nation money is being spent be-
cause it’s tight right now and I don’t
agree with after hearing details during
discussion meetings.”

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Congressional committee there will be
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Osage News • osagenews.org May 2015 19

May 18th is the
deadline for all submissions
for the June Issue of the
Osage News

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Edison: Mason (chair), Hamilton (vice chair), Edwards, Maker, Buffalohead and Pratt

Commerce and Economic De-
velopment: Supervisor (chair),
Jech (vice chair), Pratt, White-
head, Buffalohead and Walker

Governmental Operations: Walker (chair), Buffalohead (vice chair), Shaw, Pratt and Supernaw

Cultural: Pratt (chair), Hamilton (vice chair), Supernaw, Norris, Maker and Buffalohead

Health and Social Services: Shaw (chair), Norris (vice chair), Mason, Pratt, Jech and Walker

With the 7-6 vote, the four bills ONCA 15-36, 15-75, 15-88 and 15-86 will take effect in June since the bills passed with no immediate/emergen-
cy alternate date. All bills passed by Congress become law 60 days after enactment or if an alternate date is writ-
ten in the bill, according to the Osage Constitution.
TRACY LAWRENCE
FREE CONCERT
FRIDAY, MAY 1 • 9 PM
DOORS OPEN • 6:30 PM
OPENING ACT TRAVIS KIDD • 7:30 PM
Tickets are first-come, first-served at the Osage Casino Box Office in Tulsa. Must be 18 to attend.

FREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS
GATES OPEN • 5 PM
OPENING ACTS • 7:30 PM
HEADLINERS • 9 PM
RAIN OR SHINE
All ages welcome. Bring your own chairs. No outside coolers, food or drinks allowed.

— BARTLESVILLE —
GENE WATSON
SATURDAY, MAY 9 • 9 PM
OPENING ACT DANIEL COLE BAND • 7:30 PM

— PAWHSUKA —
GUITARS & COUNTRY STARS
TY HERNDON, JAMIE O’NEAL & ANDY GRIGGS
SATURDAY, MAY 16 • 9 PM
OPENING ACT THE FORERUNNERS • 7:30 PM

— SKIATOOK —
MARSHALL TUCKER BAND
SATURDAY, MAY 23 • 9 PM
OPENING ACT DUSTIN PITTSLEY BAND • 7:30 PM

— HOMINY —
ROOTS & BOOTS
SAMMY KERSHAW, AARON TIPPIN & DARRYL WORLEY
SATURDAY, MAY 30 • 9 PM
OPENING ACT MICHAEL TODD ACOUSTIC • 7:30 PM

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