Osage Nation celebrates purchase of Bluestem Ranch

Benny Polacca

NORTHWEST OF HOMINY, Okla. – A white covered, air-conditioned tent with a stage, chandelier lighting and hundreds of chairs stood on the rolling hills of the Bluestem Ranch to serve as the venue where the Osage Nation celebrated the 43,000-acre ranch purchase on a breezy and toasty summer day. On Aug. 24, tribal and federal government officials along with the Osage public and fellow community members filled the tent to commemorate the Nation’s historic land acquisition of the ranch. Now the Nation will be one of the largest landowners in Osage County once again, thanks to winning the bid on the ranch previously owned by media mogul Ted Turner.

The Nation is scheduled to take possession of the ranch on Nov. 1, per the agreement. The Nation also secured the water rights to the property as part of the agreement. Turner, chairman of Turner Enterprises, will continue to be a partner in the ranch.

Located northwest of Pawhuska off of Highway 99 on 12.6 acres of restricted Indian land, sits a large two-story house, “the first home to have a swimming pool in Osage,” according to Wilhelm Murg, Jr. “It was purchased by Ted Turner and later he sold it to the Osage Nation.”

The Osage Nation purchased the ranch for $10 million, with the agreement stated in a news release that it’s one of the largest land acquisitions in the history of the Osage Nation.

On Aug. 24, tribal and federal government officials along with the Osage public and representatives of media mogul Ted Turner and the federal government officials in attendance along with the Osage public attended the ceremony. The ceremony is a celebration of the 43,000-acre Bluestem Ranch and will be one of the largest land acquisitions in the history of the Osage Nation.

Osages display at 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market, largest Native art market in the world

Shannon Shaw Duty

SANTA FE, N.M. — In booth No. 508 on Old Santa Fe Trail in downtown historic Santa Fe plaza is Addie Roanhorse and her brother Dante Biss-Grayson. Their bright and colorful paintings stand out in the sea of pottery, sculpture and jewelry. They are a second generation of Osage artists that have made it a tradition to show at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21.

Acrylic and mixed media works by Addie Roanhorse, who showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Left is the portrait of an Osage man. Right is the portrait of Henry Roanhorse who died in 2014.

Left: Work by Dante Biss-Grayson for the 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market. Part of his “Blue Series.” Center: Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptues. Her work is displayed throughout the world. Right: Blair Robbins, Osage artist, showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. A portrait of Osage ballerina Maria Tallchief and an aluminum steel wire sculpture.

Standing in their booth, Dante Biss-Grayson talked about their artwork, their inspirations, and growing up the children of the late famed Osage artist Gina Gray Roanhorse and Biss-Grayson, 39, said he feels no pressure showing and selling his work for market. He said it’s a great and positive atmosphere where he gets to meet people that are interested in Osage history.

Man files ethics complaint on Osage official for harassment and misconduct

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After his father’s death in November of last year, Wilhelm Murg, Jr. became the sole heir to his Osage mother’s estate. Located southeast of Pawhuska off of Highway 99 on 12.6 acres of restricted Indian land, sits a large two-story house, “the first home to have a swimming pool in Osage.”

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Wilhelm Murg, Jr.’s former estate he sold to a Pawhuska resident. He is alleging a Minerals Councilwoman conspired with a BIA employee to buy the house at a low price.

Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear speaks at the Aug. 24 celebration of the Bluestem Ranch acquisition. The event took place in a covered tent on the ranch property northwest of Hominy with tribal and federal government officials in attendance along with the Osage public and representatives of media mogul Ted Turner, who previously owned the 43,000-acre ranch.

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**Wahzhazhe Youth Council held rally in support of Standing Rock Sioux Tribe**

**Congresswoman Angie Pratt sponsors resolution in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe**

Shannon Shaw Duty Osage News

The Native Oklahoma Stands with Standing Rock Rally was held for the purpose of organizing the Osage News to cover the protest on the Standing Rock reservation. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has been fighting against the Dakota Access Pipeline since August 2015 due to the tribe's concern over the safety and environmental impact of the pipeline. The Osage Nation has expressed its support for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and other Native Nations affected by the pipeline.

**Osage Council Resolution**

Osage Nation Congresswoman Angie Pratt sponsored ONCR 16-36, a resolution in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in defense of their sovereign rights. The text of the resolution is as follows:

1. **Resolution**

   The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is opposing the construction of approximately 1,100 miles of pipeline that has the capacity to carry 530,000 barrels of crude oil per day. It will cross the Missouri River, above the Cannonball River as it was a source of life for 6,000 residents, according to the community water system. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is calling upon other Nations to stand with them in opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline because it is an encroachment on their tribal sovereignty and leaves a serious threat to their only source on the reservation and the health and welfare of their people. Pratt said, “As an Osage, I believe that the Osage Nation should answer that call, along with every other tribe that has been impacted. Like the Osage, the Standing Rock Sioux Council has the responsibility to protect their people, land and resources, exercise their sovereignty and preserve the integrity of the environment for future generations and support them in their efforts.”

2. **Agenda as follows:**

   a. **6:45 p.m. to 7 p.m.**
      - Dinner served of Corn Salad and drinks
      - Erika Iron, Osage tribal member, also accepted donations at the event. She spoke about she called upon other Nations to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.
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3. **Dinner served of Corn Salad and drinks**

   a. **8:45 p.m. to 9 p.m.**
      - Speakers from the Osage Nation and community
   b. **9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.**
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5. **Tulipan Delgado, Principal Chief of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, visited with Congressman Frank Lucas on Aug. 9.**

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6. **Standing Bear said the Osage Nation have sovereignty rights and poses a serious threat to their only source on the reservation and the health and welfare of their people. Pratt said, “As an Osage, I believe that the Osage Nation should answer that call, along with every other tribe that has been impacted. Like the Osage, the Standing Rock Sioux Council has the responsibility to protect their people, land and resources, exercise their sovereignty and preserve the integrity of the environment for future generations and support them in their efforts.”**

7. **The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is opposing the construction of approximately 1,100 miles of pipeline that has the capacity to carry 530,000 barrels of crude oil per day. It will cross the Missouri River, above the Cannonball River as it was a source of life for 6,000 residents, according to the community water system. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is calling upon other Nations to stand with them in opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline because it is an encroachment on their tribal sovereignty and leaves a serious threat to their only source on the reservation and the health and welfare of their people. Pratt said, “As an Osage, I believe that the Osage Nation should answer that call, along with every other tribe that has been impacted. Like the Osage, the Standing Rock Sioux Council has the responsibility to protect their people, land and resources, exercise their sovereignty and preserve the integrity of the environment for future generations and support them in their efforts.”**
Osage News

_five Osages appointed to Osage War Memorial Commission

Five Osages appointed to Osage War Memorial Commission took oaths for their service in pursuing a memorial project in Pawhuska.

Appointed by Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, those taking oaths at the ON tribal courthouse in Santa Fe and also served on the Osage War Memorial Commission were: Richard Luttrell, Sr. (middle) was sworn in on Aug. 11 to serve on the Osage War Memorial Commission. He and other commission members were deeply touched by the performance and by the Osage story it told. Approximately 200 children from different Pueblos and southwest tribes were in attendance and must had never seen a ballet, she said.

The Ballet has hopes to perform in Rolla, Mo., in 2017 when they unveil the Osage Legacy statue in nearby Cuba. The Springfield, Mo., orchestra has said it would like to play the music for the ballet, she said.

“Our story touches peoples’ hearts and gives an understanding of what we as Osages have endured and the victories we have had. We are a strong Nation and the ballet has given us an artistic platform to define ourselves,” Tinker-Smith said.

In August 2012, the ballet debuted at Holland Hall in Tulsa and at the Bartlesville Community Center. The ballet performed in March 2013 at the Radio Music Hall at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. In September 2015, the ballet traveled to Philadelphia to perform at the International Festival of Nations where His Holiness Pope Francis was also in attendance.

Smith owns and operates the Dance Maker Academy, a performing arts academy in Pawhuska where she teaches classes for future generations of Osages in ballet.

The academy opened in 2014 with Smith instructing and Randy Tinker-Smith as director. The academy performs a ballet recital each spring to showcase their young ballet students.

The Dance Maker academy is a non-profit organization and donations from the Osage Nation and Osage Nation Foundation and private donors help to keep the ballet traveling to share the story of the Osage people on stage.

“Chief Standing Bear is a wonderful supporter of Osage art. We are so thankful to him, the Osage Nation Foundation, and Nancy Pillaboo Shirley for their continued support,” said Jenna Smith.

For more information about the Dance Maker academy and the Osage Ballet visit www.osageballet.com or follow them on Facebook. You may also contact them at (918) 704-4668.

Surveillance of Osage Casino employees could change hands

Bonny Polacca

Planes are underway to transfer the Osage Casino surveillance functions from the Osage Nation Gambling Commission back to the Osage Casinos, according to an executive order from Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear. On Aug. 10, Standing Bear issued a written executive order stating: “After consultation with the (ON) Gaming Commission, Osage Casinos and (ON) Gaming Enterprise Board, and review of the documentation, it is the finding of the Principal Chief that security and efficiency of Osage gaming will be enhanced by transfer of surveillance functions from the (ON) Gaming Commission to the Osage Casinos.”

See SURVEILLANCE —Continued on Page 5

See MEKONHAU —Continued on Page 3

Wahzhazhe: An Osage Ballet’ awes crowd in Santa Fe, N.M.

Tara Madden

The Osage Ballet performed “Wahzhazhe” twice on Aug. 6 at the Lensic Performing Arts Center in Santa Fe, N.M.

“It was a successful trip, the crowds were really receptive, I get a lot of emails and calls asking when we’re coming back, said Randy Tinker-Smith, the ballet’s director. “It was an especially off-the-charts opportunity for our children to be able to perform alongside such huge talent. Principal Dance Mike Rawamoura from the Oklahoma City Ballet was exquisite. Our male dancers seemed to fly across the stage, their jumps were so powerful!”

The ballet contains songs about Osage customs, social interactions, Indian boarding schools, as well as the harrowing oil crises. They tell the story of the Osage murders — also referred to as the “Reign of Terror” — as well as honoring military veterans and the Osage adapting and walking in two worlds.

Tinker-Smith said five members of the Oklahoma City Ballet joined the performance, including their director Shane Jewell. She said Jewell is a former mentor and has helped guide the ballet evolved.

“The pro-defecntors mentioned our children and showed them the online coming back dance ballet,” Tinker-Smith said. Chief Master Sargent Richard Perrier, Frances Williams, Stepson, John Henry Mashunkashey and Franklin Jewell traveled to Philadelphia to perform at the International Festival of Nations where His Holiness Pope Francis was also in attendance.

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Celebration

President Barack Obama to the Osage on the purchase of the Bluestem Ranch.
The Bluestem Ranch LLC Board meets on July 21 at Pawhuska. Seated at end of table are board members Farris Anderson, Frances Murphy, Jackie Bailey and James Perrier. Attentees at opposite end are Ceci Tallichet and Congress members John Low and Albion. (Staff/ Osage News)

**Bluestem Ranch, LLC board seeks management lease for 43,000-acre ranch**

Shannon Shae Doby

The Bluestem Ranch, LLC, board of directors asked Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear for a lease agreement to manage the 43,000-acre ranch. The Nation will officially take over ranch operations from Tel Turner Enterprises on Nov. 1.

In a two-page letter sent on July 27, the board outlined their proposal. Appointed in April, the board consists of Farris Anderson, Frances Murphy, Jackie Bailey and James Perrier.

The board requested the following:

&bullet; A $1 management lease of $3,000 across from the Osage Nation, known as the Bluestem Ranch. A letter was included so the board can pursue opportunities that could exceed a $1 or 5-year lease, such as selling or leasing horse-related contracts, etc.

&bullet; From the Nation’s assurance in acquiring approval for the lease, the board is considering the need to lease the property to an entity wholly owned by the Nation.

&bullet; The rights to the hunting on the 43,000 acres, with the ability to pursue different methods of management of such rights, as a source of income. For example: Lease to outfitters, third parties, etc.

&bullet; The Bluestem Ranch LLC will pursue owning a cattle herd and a boxer breed and a house.

&bullet; The board is asking for the Nation’s assistance in acquiring approval for third party leases.

&bullet; The board is asking for the Nation’s assistance in acquiring approval for a third party doing a feasibility study for ranch purchase, in the case of pursuing a government contract solicitation subscription for grazing of wild horses.

The board added the time frame to prepare and organize the ranch’s assets before Nov. 1. They said without the lease agreement they would not be able to move forward with any plans they have for the ranch including hiring personnel.

He said the proposed management lease was written in June by the Executive Committee and was sent to the Bluestem Ranch LLC on Aug. 16 that included the Tallgrass Economic Development, LLC, board of Osage Nation Gaming Enterprise and the Tribal Attorney General.

When asked after consulting with his general counsel Terry Perrier said that as the spokesperson of the Nation, they believe the board should “reassess their position with regard to use of property of the Osage Nation.”

Standing Bear recently stated to the Osage Nation has a duty to its members to maximize the use of the ranch, and $1 per year revenue from such entity does not contribute to the prosperity and security of the Nation. Standing Bear said in the statement, “This is not an easy decision, as I have always held the belief that the property is the most valuable asset that the Nation owns.”

Standing Bear said the appraisal of the property was roughly $160 million in 2013.

He said the appraisals for landvalue are still accurate, and he would share those appraisals with the board when the proposal comes before the board. Standing Bear said, “For the Osage Nation, I want to continue to assure that we own our own land, and that the land is being utilized to the best of its potential.”

Standing Bear said that after the appraisal is complete he would update the board on the status of the application at its next meeting.

The Congress approved a resolution (OCRN 16-32) to put the ranch into federal trust on July 19 during its second special session.

“Standing Bear can manage it better than the tribe can,” Standing Bear said in the resolution. Standing Bear also said the tribe’s management of the ranch would cost the tribe more than managing it on behalf of the board.

Standing Bear said the land has the potential to become a world-class attraction for recreational, tourism and cultural activities. Standing Bear also said the tribe has not pursued any management of the land.

Standing Bear said the tribe’s land management has suffered from a lack of planning, and he would like to see a more proactive approach to managing the land.

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Osage Nation donates $10K for Barnsdall ambulance living quarters

Benny Felusca

The city of Barnsdall received a $10,000 donation from the Osage Nation in early August, which was used to purchase a used two-bedroom mobile home that will be used to house on-duty ambulance workers covering the Barnsdall-Avant area.

Candy Thomas, director for Osage Nation's Indian Energy and Economic Development Institute, said the grant was awarded to Barnsdall as part of the Feasibility Study Program. The program will help the Osage Nation identify what regional related industries are potentially viable and what regional and tribal economic benefits could be realized by the development of the Airpark.

Osage Nation is purchasing the 100-plus acres for $2,500. In June, the city purchased the property for $10,000 and used the donation to help ensure an affordable price. There are 179 Osages that live in the Barnsdall-Avant area. According to Fox23, one Osage Nation employee moved to the Barnsdall-Avant area but was unable to find a place to stay. The Osage Nation purchased the 100-plus acres, the property is now located in the Barnsdall-Avant area.

On behalf of the Osage Nation, Raymond Red Corn said the donation would help the community.

Barnsdall Mayor Brock Moore thanked the Nation for the money and acknowledged prior situations where the Nation donated to help the community. The Nation donated $10,000 to help the city purchase the property.

Osage Nation donated $10K for Barnsdall ambulance living quarters

Benny Felusca

Osage News

Osage Nation awarded $55,000 for Tulsa airpark feasibility study

Benny Felusca

The Osage Nation is receiving a $55,000 tribal economic development feasibility study grant from the federal Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development Office to explore potential uses for the Nation-owned Tulsa airpark property.

Located in the Department of Interior, the IEED announced $497,000 in grants will be awarded to 20 federally recognized tribes and two Alaska Native corporations on Aug. 2. These awards from the IEED’s Native American Business Development Institute Feasibility Study Program will enable tribal leaders to better evaluate and identify viable economic opportunities for their communities, according to a news release.

The Nation plans to use the $55,000 grant to study the feasibility of operating the Tulsa Airpark property, the announcement said. In 2009, the Nation purchased the 100-acre former airpark property along West 36th Street, which is eight minutes north of downtown Tulsa.

The airpark—located just inside the eastern Osage County line—is also part of the original allotment of Osage Chief Peter Hitocart.

Candy Thomas, director for the Nation’s Strategic Planning and Self Governance Office, said the Nation is seeking a feasibility study on the property “to determine the best use for the Tulsa Airpark that will create both revenue and jobs for the Osage people.”

Currently, Osage Casino management houses its Central Services Office at the airpark, which is next to the Tulsa Airpark. The management’s Executive Board is also at the property with other unused buildings and aircraft hanger space.

Thomas said “the grant application will fund the retention of a consulting firm (not to be procured) to provide accurate and sufficient data related to which, aviation or aviation-related industries are potentially viable and what regional and tribal economic benefits could be realized by the development of the Airpark. The study will help the Osage Nation to explore economic development opportunities coupled with job creation for tribal members.”

When performed by a reputable, third-party consulting firm, an economic development feasibility study also can be used to help persuade lenders and investors to provide financial backing, the IEED release said.

Osage 11 year old wins ‘County Born and Raised’ at Cattleman Hall of Fame Luncheon

Tara Madden

Annabelle Yates is an 11-year-old fifth grader at Pawhuska Elementary School. She is in her third year showing her cattle at the annual Osage County Livestock Show.

At this year’s show she was awarded Reserve Champion and placed third overall. The other two winners’ cattle were not Osage County born and raised and that bumped her steer up to Grand Champion, Overall Steer, and also earned her the coveted “County Born and Raised” award.

For the honor she was awarded $500 to go toward her next show project and also received a plaque. She accepted the award at the 2016 Cattleman’s Hall of Fame Luncheon at the county fairgrounds on June 17.

“I was very excited to get the award for ‘County Born and Raised’ myself and a lot of other kids worked hard on our 4-H calves and I feel fortunate to win,” Annabelle said. “I would like to thank Annabelle for Barnsdall during 11 urgent cases, according to Fox23. The prior $2,500 donation was also intended to help renovate the first station to provide living quarters for the ambulance crews, but the renovation costs would run over $23,000, according to Fox23. Assistant Principal Chace Raymond Red Corn said the Osage Nation fills an obvious need—a place for the new EMS service to house their on-duty staff.

Red Corn also noted, “We are pleased the city could find such a nice mobile structure for an affordable price. There are 179 Osages that live in the Barnsdall-Avant area. It is a big chapter in Osage history and it will help ensure Osages in all other families in the area have access to timely emergency medical services from providers stationed nearby. On behalf of the Osage Nation, we are happy to help, and congratulate the City of Barnsdall for this new and much needed improvement.”
The Fifth Osage Nation will meet for its first Tri-Zho Session starting Sept. 6 in the congressional Chambers building in Pawhuska.

The 24-day fall congressional sessions are used to consider and approve resolutions and legislation for the fiscal year budget for the next fiscal year. The Nation operates on an October-September fiscal year.

Also the Congress will consider other bills, resolutions and other matters brought to the 12-member Legislative Body.

In July, the Executive Branch submitted the FY 2017 proposed budget to Congress. Congress will have up for consideration and action the Tri-Zho resolutions and legislation filed by ONG Congress members will also be up for consideration during the session.

As of Aug. 31, the following bills and resolutions are filed in the Congressional Office for consideration.

- **ONCA 16-35**: (Buffalohead) A resolution request for the Nation’s Election Office and board. The resolution states: “It is important to maintain or abrogate as provided by law.”
- **ONCA 16-76**: (sponsored by Congresswoman Alice Swauger (Crow)) An act to declare that a marriage is a personal relation between two persons arising out of a civil contract to which the consent of parties legally competent of contracting and entering into it is necessary, and that the marriage relation shall only be entered into, recognized and maintained as provided by law.
- **ONCA 16-78**: (Congresswoman Angela Pratt) An act to amend the Nation’s election code to require candidates requesting an election recount to be present during the recount conducted by the Nation’s Election Office and board.
- **ONCA 16-79**: (sponsored by Congressman Stuart Tate) A resolution for the establishment of a paralegal program and to have rules/ regulations for the program.

The state law also states the penalty for unlawful burning without a permit is punishable by jail imprisonment of up to three years or a fine of up to $250 for the first offense and $1,000 for each subsequent offense.

- **ONCA 16-35**: (Buffalohead) A resolution request for museum and research institutions to require proof of tribal enrollment for artisans who claim Osage affiliation. The resolution states: “It is important to acknowledge the statements of the Osage Nation and our individual members in the artistic, historical, literary and industrial communities by providing options from our unique tribal heritage.

If passed, this resolution “respectively requests that museums and research institutions promoting the history, art, language and culture of the Osage Nation continue to consider the duly enrolled tribal enrollment of individuals who hold themselves out as self-identified Osages and request any professional alliance with said museums or research institutions and prior to any public listing of tribal affiliation.”

The Congress will also hold select and standing committees meetings on various issues, consider the bills, budgets, resolutions and other matters. Filed legislation and reports containing committee and subcommittee meetings are available on the Congressional website at www.osagenation.org/who-we-are/legislative-business.
told Crawford that Boone was going to jail and that she would be at the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2013, and the level of the federal government, it appeared for the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2013, and the level of the federal government, it appeared to prevent it practically in ruins – the home was lost, and now that he finally knew the house was appraised it for a third showing, and Officer Hively met with the two sisters to see if they would ever be allowed to sign in the yard then why did they not act on the property? Crawford put a For Sale sign on the property. Lynn Holloway, an Osage Agency employee in the Realty department, called Murg, he said. "I get a call from Holloway and she's demanding, inside Holloway's office. She knew that there was a real estate law violation; and I should add that anyone else in this situation trying to sell Indian property, they need a realtor. Don't trust the tribe," he said. "My house would have sold to the Osage Nation Title VI Elder Nutrition Program to elders, "I don't know why but this has really gotten out of hand," said Murg's first cousin in Osage Minerals Councilwoman Cynthia Boone when she said that to me. "I get frustrated, it's just insanity. I got tired of the land is in restriction, the property in its current state is ugly to the Agency and to the public. courthouse on July 25 and they instructed the AG’s office or police department on July 25. Officer Hively met with the two sisters to see if they would ever be allowed to sign in the yard then why did they not act on the property? Crawford put a For Sale sign on the property. Lynn Holloway, an Osage Agency employee in the Realty department, called Murg, he said. "I get a call from Holloway and she's demanding, inside Holloway's office. She knew that there was a real estate law violation; and I should add that anyone else in this situation trying to sell Indian property, they need a realtor. Don't trust the tribe," he said. "My house would have sold to the Osage Nation Title VI Elder Nutrition Program to elders, "I don't know why but this has really gotten out of hand," said Murg's first cousin in Osage Minerals Councilwoman Cynthia Boone when she said that to me. "I get frustrated, it's just insanity. I got tired of
Frank Oberly, with his father Acey and one of his older brothers.

Frank Oberly: Make goals and objectives and achieve them. Stick to your goals and objectives and achieve them. Keep your goals and objectives as your core values.

ON: What would you say are the major values or principles that you live by?
FO: Honesty and respect your elders and ancestors.

ON: How has the Osage Nation evolved in your lifetime?
FO: I didn’t grow up in Osage County but when I first got involved in the Osage Nation I was 35 years old and it was because of my aunt Frances, she is the one who got me involved. Once I got involved that was when some of the biggest changes occurred. That was when the government evolved, I was the treasurer for the Osage Nation. I was also chairman of the Gaming Enterprises. Since then there has been quite a bit of change. I don’t see much change in the In-Lon-Schka, just change in the government.

ON: Do you like the new government? What do you think the Osages of your youth would think about the new government?
FO: I think it is good, I think it is good to have a three part government in the Osage Nation.

ON: What are the differences in the In-Lon-Schka today from when you were young? Do you like the changes?
FO: I became involved in 1986 and have been on the Hominy committee since 1990. There have not been any major changes, which I think is good.

ON: What District are you from, what is your Osage name and when did you start dancing at In-Lon-Schka?
FO: Zon-Zo-Li District, my Osage name is Hominy. My Osage name is Kihkahh-Bish, means principal Chief. I have been dancing since I was young but I just started dancing at In-Lon-Schka about 30 years ago.

ON: Who reached you for the In-Lon-Schka?
FO: I believe it was Harry Red Eagle Jr.

ON: What is your favorite memory?
FO: My children and the fellowship of being around family and friends. Playing with my brothers and sisters.

ON: What are you most proud of?
FO: My children and the In-Lon-Schka; our family reunions, getting all three families together, all descendants from John Oberly. The head of the families would get it organized.

ON: What is your earliest memory?
FO: I think we were always outside unless we were sleeping. Playing with my brothers and sisters.

ON: Who or what did you love the most?
FO: Sports, mainly OU football, all of anything OU with a ball in it, I go to all of those. Even when I didn’t live here in Norman I would make the trip to the games.

ON: What was your favorite thing to do for fun when you were a child?
FO: Being an athlete, anything that had to do with sports; football, basketball, baseball.

ON: What was your favorite year and why?
FO: I was 1965 when I graduated from college, had kids and a family. August of 1965 was a very important time in my life.

ON: What world events had the most impact on you?
FO: Changes in Indian Affairs and National Sports with Native Americans in them. Tribal changes and how they have evolved.

ON: How would you like to be remembered?
FO: I would say being an Osage and having a deep respect for my elders and ancestors, and being a CPA.

ON: What would you tell your 20-year-old self?
FO: I don’t think I would change things; I would strive to accomplish what I have accomplished.
LEFT: Acrylic works by Addie Roanhorse, who showed her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Top left is the beadwork from Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear’s red and blue Osage blanket. Bottom left is a portrait of an Osage woman. Right is the beadwork of Chief Bacon Rind’s pipe bag.

RIGHT: Screen prints by Addie Roanhorse, who showed her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21.

Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptures. Her work is displayed throughout the world. Blair Robbins, Osage artist, showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Aluminum steel wire sculpture of Chief Bacon Rind.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Osage artist Anita Fields is known for her contemporary pottery and clay sculptures. Her work is displayed throughout the world. Blair Robbins, Osage artist, showed her artwork at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21. Acrylic, “Thunder of the Flower-fed Buffalo.” Osage artist Addie Roanhorse and her daughter Anya Roanhorse showed her work at the Santa Fe Indian Market for the first time Aug. 20-21.

Osage artist Dante Biss-Grayson for the 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market. Pendleton Woolen Mills is interested in making this into a Pendleton blanket.

Osage artist Dante Biss-Grayson and his wife Yanti speak to a potential customer Aug. 20 at the Santa Fe Indian Market.

Blair Robbins and her father Frank Kimball at her booth on Sheridan street in downtown Santa Fe on Aug. 20.

Work by Dante Biss-Grayson for the 95th Annual Santa Fe Indian Market. Part of his “Blue Series.”
Your Gateway to the Perfect Mortgage

- Down payments as low as 2.25% of sales price (gifts allowed)
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Osage News • osagenews.org September 2016

Get More Than a Paycheck.

When you work at Osage Casinos, you can expect more than a great job. In addition to excellent pay, we also offer the best benefit package in the industry. Apply today and start getting more out of your job tomorrow.

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Osage Casino
osagecasinos.com/careers

About the study
University of Tulsa, Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service, and Cherokee Nation 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.

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 4-5 hours/session). $200 compensation ($100/day) is provided. Depending on distance to/from the University of Tulsa, you may be eligible for mileage reimbursement.

Get in Touch Now!
(918) 631-2175 or (918) 631-3565 | http://orgs.utulsa.edu/psychophys
2016 Congressional Inauguration Photos

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Osage Nation Congressman James Norris poses with his family at the 2016 Osage Congress Inauguration at the Skiatook Osage Casinos on July 6.

Osage Nation Congressman John Maker poses with his family.

Osage Nation Congresswoman Maria Whitehorn poses with her family, including her father Dudley Whitehorn, past Osage Tribal Councilman and Osage Minerals Councilman.

Princesses of the Osage Nation at the 2016 Osage Congress Inauguration at the Skiatook Osage Casinos on July 6.

Osage Nation Congresswoman Angela Pratt and her husband, Skiatook Osage Casinos General Manager Edward Gray.

Osage Nation Congresswoman Joe Tillman poses with his family, including his father, past Principal Chief Charles Tillman.

Osage Nation Congressman Shannon Edwards and longtime partner James Lambertus.

Osage Nation Congressman RJ Walker poses with his family.
Prioritizing physical activity for Native American students

Mallory Black
Native Health News Alliance

Health advocates and educators have long heralded the benefits of physical education for children. From the first Lady’s Let’s Move initiative has challenged schools to re-think physical activity and nutrition as part of their students’ overall lives. But with tightened budget and rigorous assessment standards, some schools have nearly phased out physical education and recess entirely. For schools serving primarily Native American students, the stakes are even higher with childhood obesity and diabetes at near epidemic levels in many tribal communities, and yet playgrounds and parks can be hard to come by if at school.

In a report titled, “Shape of the Nation 2016” released earlier this year by SHAPE America and Voices for Healthy Kids – an initiative of the American Heart Association and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – it found that most states are failing to provide students with quality physical education (PE) programs.

Trisha Moquin (Cochiti Pueblo/Osage/Domínguez/Padilla) is the founder of the Keres Children’s Learning Center, a Montessori Cochiti Keres language immersion preschool near Santa Fe, N.M. Moquin, who has taught in various public, private and Native American education schools, said that when school priorities overtook PE, it created a troubling situation for Native American families and communities.

“Even if the tribe values physical fitness, children can still be in schools that value testing and grading,” Moquin said. “This is really a fundamental issue because how can our children learn, read or write to their potential if they are not feeling good inside?”

Research shows that active kids perform better academically than their nonactive peers. Studies show that when kids participate in physical activity daily, there are immediate benefits to student behavior in the classroom, as well as improved focus, cooperation and learning retention.

“The likelihood for learning to happen is better when children are receiving oxygen to their brain and there’s flow in their bodies,” Moquin said. “It’s only as easy for children to learn, but it’s also easier for teachers to guide their learning because they’re more happy.”

At Keres, students walk up to a mile and a half every day to the local playground for recess. Teachers also incorporate opportunities for students to engage in physical education in lesson plans throughout the day.

In another part of New Mexico, Sambusa Brunch is the principal at Bernallilo Public Schools, which serves a high population of Native students in an area north of Albuquerque. Elementary students engage in one hour of PE weekly and 45 minutes of recess each day. Middle school students participate in a 50-minute PE class daily throughout the academic year.

Brunch said Bernallilo students receive more PE time compared to other schools across the state. But she also estimates that roughly 20 percent of her students would be considered overweight or obese.

Nationally, nearly half of American Indian children are overweight or obese, a rate almost double that of their white peers, according to the 2015 state of Obesity report from Trust for America’s Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Reach added that while the state does encourage PE programs, schools are not required to provide them, and the funding available is insubstantial at best.

“I know for a lot of schools around the state, they’re lucky if they even have a PE teacher,” Brunch said. “Fellow’s frustration we have, it’s re-novating our old PE equipment. I always struggle every year to get what we need.”

Meanwhile in Minnesota, the Natives Awareness Center – an alternative charter school in Minneapolis that serves about 80 Native American middle and high school students each year – lacks gym facilities and a full-time PE teacher.

The state doesn’t perform an annual assessment of equipment or facilities for students to engage in physical education in schools.

To fulfill the need at Center School, school administrators are exploring a possible partnership with the Minnesota American Indian Center (MAIC), which serves the city’s urban Indian community and only blocks down the road.

“Whether we’re hoping for is a way to provide physical education opportunities for kids, not only just for school credit, but also to keep them more active,” said Joseph Rice (Choctaw), the school’s executive director.

There’s an epidemic nation wide of diabetes in the Native American community, and the two modifiable risk factors – physical activity and diet – are activity level and diet.

Similar to Keres, the Center School takes a holistic approach to physical education by weaving nutrition, exercise and health education throughout the students’ day.

While still in the early stages, Rice said collaborating with the MAIC could offer students additional space to play sports, learn traditional Native dances, and participate in fitness courses.

“Another great program is presented as just physical education, like your pushups or running so many miles,” Rice said. “It’s carefully integrated with diet and mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health.”

This story was published in partnership with Voices for Healthy Kids.
How to submit a Letter to the Editor
If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, please mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 619 Kihekah, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or send email to sshaw@osagetribe.org. Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

Osage Nation Energy Assistance (Formerly LIHEAP)

Currently assisting eligible households with the following:

- Energy aid applied to Electric bills
  (NEW INCREASED BENEFIT AMOUNTS)
- Distributing window Air Conditioning units & fans, while supplies last

Eligibility factors include:

- Resident of Osage County/ Osage Reservation
- Native American of a federally recognized tribe
- Household member is a TANF, SSL SNAP or General Assistance recipient
- meet 60% State Median Income guidelines for Oklahoma

(Net income for households, previous 30 days)

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<td>$51,466</td>
<td>$52,374</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Income deductions for enrolled Osages
- Applications must be received 5 days prior to utility due date
- Deposits, disconnect, reconnect or late fees are NOT eligible

To apply contact
Osage Nation Financial Assistance
Welcome Center
239 W. 12th St
Pawhuska, OK 74056
Toll Free 1-888-822-1248
Phone: (918) 287-5325
website: www.osageneration-nsn.gov/financial-assistance

How to submit a Letter to the Editor

Pawnee/ Osage CASA

Save the Date

Birdhouse and Apron Auction

September 10, 2016
6-8pm

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
Parish Hall, Pawhuska

"Help us give a voice to abused and neglected children"

Door Prizes

Dinner Provided

Meet the artists

For more information contact (918) 762-3776
**Wah-Tiah-Kah Scholarship: An Osage Mineral Council Educational Program**

**Rosemary Wood**

Wah-Tiah-Kah was a great warrior, poet and counselor. When he spoke he was wise, and the people listened. It seems fitting that the Minerals Council memorializes him in this fashion.

The purpose of the scholarship program is to provide incentive, encouragement, and financial assistance to Osage applicants pursuing higher education in oil and gas-related fields.

Each year, the Minerals Council awards two scholarships for two students at $1,000 each semester for a total of $4,000 per year. The Wah-Tiah-Kah Scholarship Program is to provide incentive, encouragement, and financial assistance to Osage applicants pursuing higher education in oil and gas-related fields.

**About the author:** Rosemary Wood is a former two-time Osage Tribal Councilwoman and graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Master of Science in Psychology. She has been involved in the Osage community for over 30 years, and has dedicated her life to serving the Osage people.

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**Opening of Osage Nation’s Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center delayed for safety reasons**

**Dugie News**

The Osage Nation’s new dual-use Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center is rescheduling its opening date to complete building modifications for improved fire safety.

The new child care and senior center is fully funded by the Osage Nation and the new opening date will be determined after approval by the State Fire Marshal.

According to the Osage Nation Tribal Development and Land Acquisition Department, the delay is due to needed building designer modifications that must be compliant with Oklahoma State Fire Marshal codes, and to ensure “adequate fire protection for future occupants.”

The new address for the building and location of ongoing construction is 401 S. 8th Street in Fairfax.

The Nation broke ground on constructing the new facility in September 2013. Plans for the dual-use building calls for six classrooms and a common area in the child care center; the senior center side contains a common area, an enclosed playground and two FEMA storm safe rooms. Both facilities will have a commercial-size kitchen in the center of the building to serve meals for both child care and senior programs.

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**Pioneer Woman Mercantile**

**Dugie News**

The Pioneer Woman Mercantile is set to open this fall and there will be plenty of jobs at the destination bakery, deli and general store in Pawhuska.

“We are absolutely thrilled to be opening The Mercantile in our hometown of Pawhuska,” says Ree Drummond, also known as The Pioneer Woman, in an Aug. 19 news release. “We have worked hard to create a welcoming, and truly unique place for both locals and visitors from other areas. From unique goods in the general store to appetizing dishes in the deli to pastries, sweets, candies and cakes made fresh daily in the bakery, there is something for everyone. We can’t wait to open our doors!”

Job fairs were hosted in Pawhuska, Bartlesville and Tulsa, Aug. 27-31. Job opportunities included deli staff, bakery staff, servers, baristas, retail staff, warehouse positions and more.

According to the release: “The Pioneer Woman Mercantile is a place of hospitality, generosity, and joy, where every customer makes themselves at home and where team members thrive in a fun and positive environment. We are looking for team members who are flexible with working hours, positive, and enjoy a fast-paced environment.”

Follow The Pioneer Woman at www.thepioneerwoman.com for ongoing updates on The Mercantile.

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**KITS**

- 12 meals, plus a case of water.
- Title VI was not able to prepare their regular lunch menu due to the lack of clean water.
- Osage Casino also delivered water for elders at the Title VI in Pawhuska after the boil order was issued.

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**The Osage Nation’s Fairfax Child Care and Senior Center opening has been delayed until the new opening date is determined by the State Fire Marshal.**

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**The Pioneer Woman Mercantile, located on the corner of Kihekah and Main Street in Pawhuska, is set to open in the fall.**

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**Pioneer Woman Mercantile hosted job fairs in Pawhuska, Bartlesville and Tulsa.**

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Getting ready for the dance

Charles Red Corn

I remember clearly watching those older Osage men and women dressed in their traditional Osage clothing. There were not very many of the People who dressed that way at that time. They were exciting to watch, getting in or out of their cars at an Osage gathering or walking down the street and going into a store in Fairfax, Hominy or Pawhuska. They moved with such dignity. I was just a child and I think that is a good time in life to remember things like watching those elderly Indians move, walk and know not to stare.

My parents taught us early in life not to stare at people and I am glad that they taught us that.

Thinking about those Osages of at least two, or three, or even four generations earlier than mine led me to remembering the first time my mother prepared my brother C.R. and I to dance.

The first thing she did was to drive out east of Pawhuska to the home my mother had inherited from her mother. There was a small one room house behind the main house. She opened the door to the little house and there were three large trunks. I do not remember any furniture other than that.

My mother opened one of the trunks. It was full of Indian clothing. Band cloth and shirts and blankets. Beaded belts and hand woven belts. Just about everything one would need to dance.

She opened the other two trunks and both of the trunks were full of Osage clothing. She seemed to know where to look because we were not there for very long. At least that is the way I remember it those many years later.

Mom dug into one of the trunks and some things came out and set them aside and would return to them again at some other time. It seemed that she would look at something and hold it for a moment and move on to another item.

We returned to the house in Indian Camp and she had my brother and I stand in front of her and she held the pieces of dance clothing up next to us. She told us that she had time to make us some new things that would not be too big for us.

So, during the week that followed mom studied the ribbon work that was attached to the broadcloth leg-gings, and the size of the shirts and we went to town and purchased the necessary material needed and years later when I asked her about that time period of getting us ready for the Dances she said that she knew she could do it.

I learned that my mother, Emma Louise Gray Redcorn was an accomplished ribbon work artist. I always admired and respected many things about her and Osage Ribbon Work was certainly one of those things.

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 Masters of Education Administration from Penn State.

About the author: Louise Gray Redcorn was an accomplished ribbon work artist. I always admired and respected many things about her and Osage Ribbon Work was certainly one of those things.

Attention!

The Osage Nation Tax Commission has moved to the Welcome Center on the Osage Nation Campus

For more information call Constituent Services (918) 287-5662

How to submit a Letter to the Editor

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, please mail it to the Osage News, Attn: Shannon Shaw, 619 Kilhekah, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or send email to sshaw@osagetribe.org.

Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.
Thank You!
It is with gratitude and thankfulness that Katherine R. Bell acknowledges the Osage Nation Higher Education Scholarship Program and Scholarship America for their help in pursuing the degrees of Master of Music from Pennsylvania State University, in Vocal Performance with a concentration in Voice Pedagogy and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Concentration in Voice Pedagogy and a Bachelor of Music from Peabody Conservatory of Baltimore.

Katherine Bell received her degrees in Vocal Performance with a concentration in Voice Pedagogy and is currently teaching and performing in the Philadelphia and greater Pennsylvania Areas. Thank you, again, for your kindness and generosity in helping to fund her college education. This education would not have been possible without the support of the Osage Nation.

Thank you for your generosity! Katherine Bell would not have been possible for validation if necessary.

For more information contact (918) 287-5482.
For more information contact (918) 287-5538.
For more information contact (918) 403-9605.
For more information contact (405) 744-5328.
For more information contact (918) 351-8577.
For more information contact (918) 287-5328.
For more information contact (918) 287-5563.
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For more information contact (760) 802-7591.
For more information contact (918) 639-7999.
For more information contact (918) 639-7999.
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Norman Ray BigEagle

Norman Ray BigEagle, 95, of Green Oak, OK, passed away on August 2, 2016 in Owasso, OK. He was born on September 17, 1920 in St. Agnes, Kansas to Joseph Leonard Cox, Sr. and his wife, Frances Christine Brown. He was the son of the late Oliver Bennett, as developing the time that his father, and later for Congressman Jim Senator Henry M. Jackson (D-VA) as a Legislative Assistant to Vietnam, he earned eighteen Intelligence. During two tours in worked in highly classified in...
Letters to the Editor

Thank You, Osage Nation

The City of Barnaul would like to thank Chief Standing Bear, Assistant Chief Red Corn, and the Osage Nation Congress for their generosity during the past year.

In May of 2015, the Osage Na- tion donated $2,500 to the EMS Service to Barnsdall and Osage County.

In May of 2016, the Osage Nation donated $75,000 to help the City of Barnsdall purchase a used mobile home to house our newest EMS provider Samarian’s paramedics and staff.

These donations have been very generous and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you again.

-Brock Moore, Mayor of Barnsdall, Okla.

OBITUARIES

Josephine Brave

Josephine Brave Montgomery was born in Helurt, Oklahoma on Nov. 21, 1929, to Charles Brave and Maggie Lena (Wessell) Jackson. She passed away at 86, at Ya Village in Tahlequah, Okla., on Aug. 11, 2016.

She was a graduate of WW Hastings Indian Health Quah in the early 1970’s. She was employed by WW Hastings Indian Health Service for 27 years.

In her spare time she enjoyed working crosswords, quilting, reading, watching television and shopping. She loved to travel with her daughter Sue.

She was baptized into the family of God in 1973 at the First Baptist Church of Tahlequah.

She has been preceded in death by her parents, Maggie Jackson and Charles Brave, a brother, Andrew Jackson, and sister, Naomi Davis.

She is survived by her daughter, Sue Champlain and husband Charlie of Tahlequah, a granddaughter, Jennifer Champlain-Cole and husband Adam of Tahlequah; two brothers, Levi Jackson and Charles Brave, both of Helurt; a sister-in-law, Linda Jackson and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and close friends.

Byron "Kent" Radcliff

Byron "Kent" Radcliff, 78, of Dexter, Kan., passed away Sunday morning, July 24 at William Newton Hospital.

Born December 21, 1937 in Wichi- ta, Kan., he was the son of Byron M. and Beatrice (Hosein) Radcliff. He was raised in Wichita, receiving his early education at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School. He then attended and graduated from Western Military Academy in Altion, Illinois. After high school, Kent attended Oklahoma State University where he received his Bach- elor’s Degree in Animal Husbandry in 1960. He was an active member in Lomdi Chi Alpha and continued to sup- port his chapter. Kent joined his father in the family owned businesses of Val- entine Manufacturing, Interlocking Steve and Radcliff Ranch. His passion for ranching led him to manage the family ranch in Dexter, Kan. He was instrumental in the development of range management and burning in the Flint Hills during the mid 1970’s.

He was united in marriage to Pau- la McMillon on January 19, 1974 in Wichita, Kan. The couple made their home in Dexter, where he continued to manage the family ranch. Kent was involved with the Cowley County Sher- iff’s Department, where he was on ac- tive duty from August 1963 until 1991. He remained as a Firearm’s Instructor for the Cowley County Sher- iff’s Department until 2015. In 1991, Kent and Paula started Fowler’s Instructor Vector Services, a raving coaching company. Kent was a very dedicated and active member of his community.

He remained as a Firearm’s Instructor and was involved in organizing the Cowley Coun- ty Fire District. He was also on the Dexter Township Board for more than 40 years and served as President of Grouse-Silver Creek Watershed for 35 years. He served on the board of Mon- arch Cement of Humbell, Kan., for over 35 years, making him the longest serving board member. Kent served on the Snyder Foundation Board, was a member of the Kansas Masonic Lodge for over 50 years, a legacy member and contributor to the Kansas State and Oklahoma State Riffe Association and was a member of the Osage Nation.

Kent’s family includes his wife, Paula Radcliff and son, by son James Radcliff and wife, Cynthia of Steamboat, Colo.; Robert Kent Radcliff and wife, Amanda of Chicago, Ill.; Byron Travis Radcliff and wife, Deb of Santa Cruz, Calif.; his daughter Neil Rich- ardon and husband Bryan of Winfield, and his grandchildren, Byron William, Trevor, Paige and Jenna.

Kent was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be held on July 29 at the First Church of the Nazarene in Winfield. Internment will be held at the Dexter Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you donate to your favorite charity in Kent’s name or to the Kansas State Riffe Association, Supporting Friends of Cowley County or the Cowley County Fire District.

WALK

registration applications will be accepted through Sept. 20 from enrolled Osages and their families. Attendees and their families are expected to bring camping gear, walking shoes and jackets/hoodies for the cool overnight stay.

“Our mission in offering this event to the Osage people is to bring insight and knowledge of our Osage ancestors as descendants and survivors,” according to a Cultural Walk cover letter by WCC Director Vann Bighorse. “Over several gener- ations, our people walked from the Ohio basin to what is now the Osage Nation Reservation in Oklahoma. We want you to experience a symbolic taste of what those journeys might have been like for our ancestors. We will not endure the hardship they experienced, but we will hold their strong and noble spirits in our hearts.”

The walk event will include discussions by ON historians and cultural staff re- garding the Osage movement from Kansas to Oklahoma. During the walk, there will be displays for attendees to read regarding the historic events of the move to Oklahoma.

For more information and for registration information, the WCC can be reached at (918) 287-5538 or visit the WCC’s website at: www.osagenation-nsn.gov/scho- ol-walk-cultural-center.

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Thank you for submitting a letter to the editor, please mail it to the Osage News, Attn.: Shannon Shaw, 619 Kihekah, Pawhuska, OK 74056 or send email to ashaw@osagenotie.org.

Letters must be respectful and informative to the reader, and may be edited for grammar, clarity and space.

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