FAIRFAX, Okla. – If a film is being made about the systemic murder of Osages from the Grayhorse District, then that story should be told by Grayhorse Osages. That was the message from an Oct. 13 meeting attended by 85 people from the Grayhorse community.

Organized by Osage-Ourson-Missouria attorney Wil- len Pipetem and others, many attendees gave their opinions about the best-selling book by David Grann, “Kills of the Flowers Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI.” Some individuals spoke about how the book affected them, how the upcoming film will change the Grayhorse community and some expressed concern about the process the filmmakers have taken in telling their story.

As the film is currently in pre-production, some of the attendees voiced their objections to Osages from the Pawhuska and Hominy districts working with filmmakers. They claim the Grayhorse community’s voice has not been heard.

“If this story is to be narrated by an Osage woman, a woman from Grayhorse, then they don’t need to be speaking with people from Pawhuska, with all due respect,” Pipetem said. That “Osage woman” is Melodie Burt, whose sisters Anna Brown and Rita Smith were murdered by white men who carried out a plot to kill Osages for their headright money by their uncle William Hale. Brown’s killing is the first murder described in the book. Pipetem stressed he had the utmost respect for his “relatives” from Hominy and Pawhuska, but it is Osages from Grayhorse who should help shape this story.

“We do think of writing a letter to Martin Scorsese and we all sign it tonight,” Pipetem said to cheers and clapping.

At the culmination of the nearly three-hour meeting, Pipetem began drafting the letter to Scorsese that requests a meeting with the Grayhorse community. He also asked all the attendees of the meeting agreed to sign the letter. They also agreed to meet again in one month.

Grayhorse District involvement

Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear appointed two ambassadors to work with filmmakers, Chad Renfro and Adilee Roanhorse. Both Renfro and Roanhorse are from the Pawhuska District. Both Renfro and Roanhorse have Grayhorse relatives and Roanhorse is a direct descendant of the Pawhuska woman from Grayhorse.

Rendro said that from the attendees from

See GRAYHORSE

---Continued on Page 4

The Osage News offices in downtown Pawhuska on the Kihekah street.

Amendments to strengthen the Osage Nation’s Independent Press Act signed into law

By a 10-1 count, the Osage Nation Congress approved ONCA 19-28 on Sept. 27, thus amending the tribe’s Independent Press Act to establish a shield act, create alternate seats on the editorial board and guarantee a continued funding source for the newspaper.

“I had to think about this for a long time,” the bill’s sponsor, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards said. “If something were to happen, the newspaper would be the first to go. It’s a communi- cation to our members. For some, it’s the only way they find out what’s going on here.”

Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent. Citing concerns about a provision that obligates the legislative branch to provide sufficient funding to maintain Osage News operations, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent. Citing concerns about a provision that obligates the legislative branch to provide sufficient funding to maintain Osage News operations, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent. Citing concerns about a provision that obligates the legislative branch to provide sufficient funding to maintain Osage News operations, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent. Citing concerns about a provision that obligates the legislative branch to provide sufficient funding to maintain Osage News operations, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent. Citing concerns about a provision that obligates the legislative branch to provide sufficient funding to maintain Osage News operations, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards was absent. 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Standing Bear line-item vetoes Regional Gathering Fund and ON Foundation

Shannon Duty
Osage News

Two line-item vetoes were issued to the Sixth Osage Na- tion Congress from Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear on Sept. 30. The first veto redacted an appropriation to the Regional Gathering Fund by $10,000. The second line-item veto re- dacted an appropriation to the Osage Nation Foundation by $300. The veto messages were read on Oct. 5, the last day of the Tri-Zho Session. OMCA 19-088, approved by Congresswoman El Pitts, appropri- ated $20,000 to the Region- al Gathering Fund. The fund aids those Osage organi- zations that meet outside of the Nation's historical bound- aries. The money can be used for things such as building rentals and food for the gatherings. Standing Bear wrote in his veto message he was reduc- ing the amount of $20,000 to $10,000 because there is an existing balance in the fund of $34,000, which he said “should be sufficient for the upcoming fiscal year.” Congressman Shannon Edwards argued, “The gathering fund is for Osage Nation members to gather at different regional places to visit. All Osages are allowed to attend those meet- ings and they’re cultural, for the most part, and during elec- tions they vote candidates to the forum,” he said. She said those organiza- tions that utilize the fund are entitled to as much as $7,500 each year and if such organi- zations were to request the max- imum amount available, the fund would run out. She also pointed out that 2020 is an election year.

Congressman Alies Good-

The 2020 fiscal year budgets for the Grayhorse, Hominy and Pawhuska villages were approved by the Sixth Nation Congress during the Tri-Zho Session in September. The Congress unanimously passed legislation that was ap- proved by Congresswoman El Pitts, the Appropriations Appropriations Chairman), which is referred to as the 2020 fiscal year Village Committee Funds Appropriation Act. The bill contains the three respective village budgets spanning from sept. 20 to 2020 with the Grayhorse Village budgeted to receive $13,500 and Hominy Village will receive $50,000. The Pawhuska Village, which is not included in the budgeting of the revenue generated at the Pawhuska Osage Casino location, is budgeted on the village property, is budgeted to receive $305,200, according to the bill. Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear signed the bud- get bill one day after its ap- proval on Sept. 29. Pitts noted the Congress passed separate legislation during the 2019 Hun-Kah Session to establish revolving funds for the three villages so the village funds would be able to continue to function. See VEToes — Continued on Page 8

The Sixth Osage Nation Congress discussed and considered Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear’s two line- item vetoes on Oct. 1, the last day of the Tri-Zho Session.

Osage Congress passes FY 2020 budgets for the three villages

Dennis McAuliffe, author of “The Deaths of Sybil Bolton,” is a 1994 nonfiction book by journalist Dennis McAuliffe, Osage. A full-length play about the 1994 book “The Deaths of Sybil Bolton,” a true story about a brutal he is, it sneaks up on you. You see him as a bumbling fun- ny so that when you see just how cold-hearted and brutal he is, it’s too late. We need to tell this story to the world to show what's going on. I think this is a story that needs to be told. We need to tell this story; that you need to tell this story. It’s a story about an Osage’s death. Nation settles 2015 lawsuit against former Osage LLC management

Lacey Pavich-Burton Osage News

The Osage Nation has set- tled a 2015 lawsuit stemming from the former management of Osage LLC.

In April 2016, a jury was instructed to consider fraud charges against four individuals for their roles in the operations of Osage LLC. The lawsuit was filed by Tanyah Ross, a former Osage LLC board member and the 2015 candidate for Osage Nation President.

As a result of the settlement, $50 million will be paid to the tribe, while the remaining $10 million will be distributed to a class of plaintiffs, including current and former Osage Nation employees.

The settlement agreement also includes provisions for the tribe to receive an additional $10 million from Osage LLC over the next five years.

The settlement agreement is subject to approval by the Osage Nation Congress and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. The agreement is expected to be formally filed with the court on Nov. 12.

According to the documents filed with the Osage County District Court, the case was formally dismissed with prejudice on Oct. 11 due to the set- tlement.

Among the individually named defendants are former Osage LLC CEO Carol Lawes, former Osage LLC CFO Benny Polacca and former Osage LLC controller TeraDact Solutions LLC and its CEO and presi- dent, Christopher Schreiber.

According to the pleadings, Lawes and Petre left out key details about three companies New Market Technology Fund I, New Market Technology Fund II and TerraDact Solutions — when they presented to the Osage LLC board of directors and the Osage Na- tion Congress in 2010 that a $1 million investment would be a sound investment and a way to enter into government contracting.

Osage LLC purchased shares during summer 2010 at $50,000 each, when the stock price dropped soon there- after. That investment was later characterized as a loss, although terms were never set. Despite annual reports to Osage LLC board to the con- trary, financial statements fea- tured in the three companies for both 2010 and 2011 showed six- and seven-figure losses. Figures over the same period for the third company, New Market Technology Fund I, were not made available until 2013 and also showed substan- tial losses while part of the Osage LLC portfolio.

The Sixth Osage Nation Congress discussed and considered Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear’s two line- item vetoes on Oct. 1, the last day of the Tri-Zho Session.

Osage News Editorial Board Members Jerri Jean Benatarret Teresa Trumby Lamamy Tara McLain Manthey Staff Photographer Cody Hammer Osage News Editorial Board Membersjerri Jean Benatarret teresa Trumby Lamamy Tara McLain Manthey
Osage artisans needed to be at the ready. Costume designers for the film, "Killers of the Flower Moon," based on David Grann's book, have been working on Osage clothing details. According to WCC Director Addie Hudgins, the films are trying to make the traditional clothing needed for the Osage Nation Museum for an exhibit that opened Oct. 22 and said the museum wants to make the traditional clothing needed for the film and they need those traditional clothing for the Flower Moon," costume designers Sandy Powell and David Davenport.

WCC employee Sammy Lookout modeled Osage men’s clothing and for almost two hours. She wore old photographs and Osage clothing, and even tried on.

WCC Director Addie Hudgins explains Osage clothing to the costume de-

Author draws parallel between Osage Reign of Terror and the Tulsa Race Riot

Louie Kirushie-Barton

TULSA, Okla. — The parallels between the Tulsa Race Massacre and the Osage Reign of Terror are undeniable to David Grann. Near the end of his remarks at the University of Tulsa’s Presidential Lecture Series Oct. 22, the author of “Killers of the Flower Moon” pointed out the connections between the two that are separated by about 60 miles.

Also known as the Tulsa Race Riot, the massacre of May 1921 was the result of a race riot that occurred in Tulsa, Okla. The massacre was the result of a white mob storming the segregated community's thriving black commercial district, also known as Black Wall Street, as well as predominantly black neighborhoods. Almost 200 black-owned businesses were destroyed, along with more than 1,200 homes.

Both the riot and the Osage Reign of Terror, Grann observed, were long excluded from public discussions of history and stemmed from similar crimes that ultimately led to millions of dollars in losses. “It’s the same period,” he said.

The massacre has garnered new interest in part due to its inclusion in an HBO television show, “Watchmen.” As is the case with the Osage Reign of Terror, the official number of recorded fatalities associated with it is thought to be substantially lower than the actual body count. At least 200 people were killed.

“Both involved people with money who were seen as less than human. It’s the same toxicity,” he said.

According to IMDB.com, Powell is a three-time Academy Award winner for Best Costume Design for "Shakespeare in Love" (1998), "The Aviator" (2004), and "Titanic" (1997). She has also worked on other films with director Martin Scorsese, including "The Wolf of Wall Street" (2013), "Hugo" (2011), and "Gangs of New York" (2002).

Osage Nation Museum exhibit honoring Osage veterans opens Nov. 14

Benny Polacca

The Osage Nation Museum in Pawhuska is opening its latest exhibit on Nov. 14 honoring Osages who served in the military. To Honor and Remember Osage Veterans and the U.S. Military features a history of Osage involvement in the armed forces with photos, historical artifacts, uniform clothing, dance clothes and art, according to a news release.

Veteran information featured in the exhibit is the result of a museum call for stories, photos and biographies earlier this year.

On Nov. 14, the museum will host an opening of the exhibit starting at 5 p.m., which includes a lowering of the U.S. flag by the Harold Bigheart

See EXHIBIT—Continued on Page 17.
PATTERSON from Page 1

officials present, Chief Trial Court Judge William Oldfield administered the oath that día that Earlybird had been appointed.

In a statement, Patterson said that he had been invited to run by Chief Standing Bear’s appointment as the Nation’s lawyer general under the Nation’s 2006 re- formed government. Patterson continued his work with the AG’s office when Wells was appointed by Standing Bear to serve in 2015 and later con- tinued by Congress. According to Osage law, the Attorney General’s office is charged with taking action “to preserve the peace and well-being of the Nation in the Tribe and to carry on the business of the Nation.” The Attorney General is authorized to give legal advice to the boards and commissions, to represent the Nation in legal disputes and relations with other branches of government, and to enforce the provisions of the laws of the Nation. Patterson also authored a number of articles and essays on the history of the Osage Nation and its legal system. He has been a member of the Tribe since 2010 and has served in various capacities within the Tribe, including as a member of the Tribal Council and as a member of the Osage Nation’s Office of the Attorney General.

Patterson worked as the First Assistant Attorney General, assisting him in his duties.

Patterson started working for the Nation as an Associate Attorney General in 2013, while Jeff James served as the Associate Attorney General under the Nation’s 2006 re- formed government. Patterson continued his work with the AG’s office when Wells was appointed by Standing Bear to serve in 2015 and later con- tinued by Congress. According to Osage law, the Attorney General’s office is charged with taking action “to preserve the peace and well-being of the Nation in the Tribe and to carry on the business of the Nation.” The Attorney General is authorized to give legal advice to the boards and commissions, to represent the Nation in legal disputes and relations with other branches of government, and to enforce the provisions of the laws of the Nation. Patterson also authored a number of articles and essays on the history of the Osage Nation and its legal system. He has been a member of the Tribe since 2010 and has served in various capacities within the Tribe, including as a member of the Tribal Council and as a member of the Osage Nation’s Office of the Attorney General.

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A collection of Osage films is on exhibit through Oct. 20 at the University of Denver in Colorado for its first appearance outside of the Osage. “Voices From the Dust: An Osage Collection” features traditional Osage drums painted and positioned by Osage artists from across the nation. An opening reception on Oct. 16 featured Osage Ronnie Bachman, Yatika Fields and drum maker Rock Pipistem.

The artists shared their creative process in the creation of their pieces, as well as the ways the project has impacted their lives. Pipistem, who created each of the 19 wood and buffalo-hide drums by hand, said the project has brought “massive blessings” to his life and helped him become a better drummer and teacher of Osage culture and tradition. The reception featured a film on the history of the Osage Nation’s music by filmmaker Buffalo Nickle Creative. The event was curated by Ben Jacob, Osage, owner of Tocahle, an American Indian Enteiry in Denver, Jacoba attended the reception with his family.

A project of the Osage Nation Foundation, the exhibit was invited to be part of the Indigenous Film and Arts Festival in Denver. David Conrad, Osage, is on the board of the festival’s parent organization, the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management. Conrad asked Sharon Baldwin, General Counsel for the institute, if the drum exhibit could be featured in the festival with the partnership in the creation of the Osage Nation Foundation. The foundation’s executive director, Bill Webb, said transporting the large drums to Denver was a significant logistical challenge but well worth the effort. The foundation hopes to bring the collection to other venues to build awareness and understanding of Osage culture and tradition. The pieces are part of the Osage Nation’s permanent art collection.

Osage Nation’s Health Advisory/Authority member of the Osage Veterans Memorial Commission. The purpose of the commission is to follow the Osage Nation tradition of honoring Osage veterans, providing a physical representation of contributions and sacrifices of Osage veterans and their families. As commission chairman, Mr. McKinley oversees the commission’s history and current year’s Osage Nation Memorial Awards.

Franklin McKinley, a U.S. Navy veteran and founding member of the Osage Veterans Memorial Commission, said he was elected to the commission to follow the Osage Nation tradition of honoring Osage veterans, providing a physical representation of their contributions and sacrifices.

Mr. McKinley said he was pleased to see the project continue its work on issues affecting Native American veterans and families by working with health and education providers to build awareness of Osage veterans and their contributions.

Franklin McKinley, Riai Super- naw Proctor, Dr. Ron Shaw, Marvin Stephon and Cecelia Tallchief were all honored on Oct. 1 at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. According to AARP Oklahoma, more than 500 people attended the event. The event honored 32 Indian elders, including Pawhuska resident Jeri Red Cora, the wife of late Osage author Charles Red Cora. The Osage Nation said Vice Chief Steev Vokshul of the Indian Elders Honor is the largest gathering of its kind in the state and, perhaps, in the nation. Vokshul said he was pleased to see the project continue its work on issues affecting Native American veterans and families by working with health and education providers to build awareness of Osage veterans and their contributions.

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Osage Nation Legislative Branch
Legislation Tracker for the 2019 Tzi:Zhø Session – Day 22


DHA-52 10 Millicent L. (D) An Act to amend and authorize 2018 O.S. 11:35-5:3 and to establish an adequate effective date. Print 10/18/2019 10/17/2019

DHA-00 18 Bobby J. (I) An Act to amend the Corporation Building Act to 2019 O.S. 11:35-3:12 to authorize the amendment of governmental agency, and to establish an adequate effective date. Print 10/10/2019 10/09/2019

DHA-53 10 Millicent L. (D) An Act to amend and modify the 2019 O.S. 11:35-3:12 to authorize the amendment of governmental agency, and to establish an adequate effective date. Print 10/10/2019 10/09/2019

DHA-58 18 Bobby J. (I) An Act to amend and authorize the Osage Nation Health Board, 2019 O.S. 11:35-3:12, to perform the duties and obligations of the 2019 O.S. 11:35-3:12, to authorize the amendment of governmental agency, and to establish an adequate effective date. Print 10/10/2019 10/09/2019

DHA-42 10 Millicent L. (D) An Act to amend and authorize the 2019 O.S. 11:35-3:12 to authorize the amendment of governmental agency, and to establish an adequate effective date. Print 10/10/2019 10/09/2019

DHA-44 10 Millicent L. (D) An Act to amend and authorize the 2019 O.S. 11:35-3:12 to authorize the amendment of governmental agency, and to establish an adequate effective date. Print 10/10/2019 10/09/2019

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Osage Nation Legislative Branch
Legislation Tracker for the 2019 Tzizhô Session – Day 22

Osage News • osagenews.org November 2019
Standing Bear wrote in his veto message the Foundation would not receive a second. “I am certain any funds from the Osage Foundation would be appreciated by the Osage Nation Foundation, but I have not state any reason why any amount should be appropriated,” Standing Bear wrote.

We will use the funds to purchase textbooks for math and reading, as well as needed supplies for teachers. It was a very generous donation and we appreciate they’re help,” Martin said. In 2013, Enbridge launched its Flanagan South Pipeline project, which consisted of a nearly 600-mile pipeline starting in Illinois and ending at Cushing, Okla.—which is southwest of the Nation. According to the Enbridge website, its investment and sponsorship opportunities are considered for communities near the company operation pipelines and pipelines and emergency services, education providers and environmental/ safety agencies.

Daposka Ahnkodapi received $5,000 from Enbridge Gas.

Osage Nation Legislative Branch
Legislation Tracker for the 2019 TziZho Session – Day 22

**VETOES**—from Page 1

Standing Bear wrote in his veto message the Osage Nation Education Department did not request additional money from his office. He said any amount the Congress approved at to appropriate to the Foundation was “arbitrary.” He reduced the amount to $130,000.

Osage News 2018 File Photo

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National Indian Taco Championship brings crowds to Pawhuska

The winner of the 2019 National Indian Taco Championship is Ramona “Monie” Horsechief of Pawnee, Okla. This is her sixth time to win the championships.

Second place went to Strike Axe Indian Tacos, which is made up of Osage cooks from the Strike Axe family of Pawhuska. Third place went to Francis Soxie. This year’s People’s Choice Award Winners were Strike Axe Indian Tacos, which has won the award numerous times.

There were nine contestants in total from the different Native American tribal cultures in Oklahoma.

Winners of the 2019 NITC Powwow:

Senior Women’s Cloth
1) Alissa Hamilton
2) MyKayla Williams
3) Aliyah Wahwassuck

Senior Men’s Straight
1) Anthony Kemble
2) Joseph Pratt
3) William Tsosie

Senior Men’s Fancy
1) Ryland Moore
2) Wyatt Patty
3) Sly Isaac

Ramona Horsechief won the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Strike Axe Indian Tacos won Second Place and the People’s Choice Award at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Frances Soxie won third place at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

An Indian Taco from Ramona Horsechief’s stand at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Two young boys watch their mother get fed by their grandmother at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Deda Lookout Oliver cooks frybread at her stand at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

A young woman works with frybread dough at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Osage women help at the Strikeaxe Indian Tacos stand at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Two young boys watch their mother get fed by their grandmother at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Fancy dancers contest at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.

Straight dancers contest at the 2019 National Indian Taco Championships on Oct. 5 in downtown Pawhuska.
Osage Nation Prevention Powwow

All photos by CODY HAMMER/Osage News

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: ON Prevention Powwow Head Lady Dancer ON Congresswoman Angela Pratt, dances on her special on Oct. 26 at the Osage County Fairgrounds.

Erin Casoose braids her mother’s hair at the ON Prevention Powwow on Oct. 26 at the Osage County Fairgrounds.

ON Prevention Powwow Head Lady Dancer ON Congresswoman Angela Pratt and Head Man Dancer ON Chief of Police Nick Williams on Oct. 26 at the Osage County Fairgrounds.

All photos by CODY HAMMER/Osage News

Osage community participates in Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities

Osage News

Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center employees and the Public Health Nurse hosted events for the community in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month on Oct. 11 and Oct. 17.

Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center employees and the Public Health Nurse hosted events for the community in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month on Oct. 11 and Oct. 17.

Oct. 11 employees and community members enjoyed a 5k Breast Cancer Walk and children from Daposka Ahnkodapi joined in on the fun. Then on Oct. 17, the WHC hosted its first TaTa’s and Tea Party. Catered by Ah-Tha-Tse Catering, guests enjoyed hors d’oeuvres and tea while taking advantage of same-day mammograms and check-ups offered by the WHC.

Osage Nation employee Anthony Gray walks in a tutu to bring awareness to men’s breast cancer during the walk in Pawhuska on Oct. 11.

Attendees line up for snacks during the TaTa’s and Tutu’s Tea Party event in Pawhuska on Oct. 17.

Attendees line up for snacks during the TaTa’s and Tutu’s Tea Party event in Pawhuska on Oct. 17.

All photos by CODY HAMMER/Osage News

Construction work continues on the new and larger Grayhorse Village community building on Oct. 23. The multi-use building is scheduled for completion before the district’s 2020 Inlon-shka dances.
November 14, 2019 – March 14, 2020

To Honor And Remember:

OSAGE VETERANS
and the U.S. Military

To Honor and Remember represents the unique history of Osage involvement in the armed forces through photographs, historical artifacts, uniforms, dance clothing, and art.

OPENING RECEPTION:
Thursday, November 14, 2019

5:00-5:30pm:
Sunset Ceremony, flag lowering by the American Legion Post 198 Color Guard. Presentations to follow.

5:30-7:00pm:
Exhibition viewing and reception.

819 Grandview Ave. Pawhuska, OK 74056
(918) 287-5441
Tribal communities celebrated throughout state on Native American Day

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

TULSA, Okla. — Dozens flocked to the Guthrie Green to celebrate Tulsa’s third annual Native American Day on Oct. 14.

Along with dance and drum exhibitions, attendees were treated to a parade through downtown Tulsa, a performance from the Cherokee National Youth Choir and a screening of “Osiyo: Voices of the Cherokee People.” Participants also had the option to help make a community mural with local Indigenous artist Yatika Fields.

At the request of the Greater Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission, Tulsa made the switch in 2017 from Columbus Day to Native American Day with unanimous support from its city council. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Cherokee Nation, Osage Nation and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians all lay claim to part of the Tulsa city limits.

Calling it an obvious move that should have happened years ago, Tulsa Mayor GT Bynum called the celebration an acknowledgement of the city’s history and position within Indian Country.

“There are few cities with such a great opportunity like Tulsa,” he said. “We’re at the intersection of three great tribes: the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Cherokee Nation and the Osage Nation. As they grow, Tulsa grows. We’re one and the same.”

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear echoed Mayor Bynum’s comments, emphasizing the economic partnerships that have developed over the years between the city and area tribes.

“The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Cherokee Nation, Osage Nation and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians all lay claim to part of the Tulsa city limits,” Standing Bear said. “Many of our employees are not Native. We’re contributing to the community through jobs.”

Indigenous People’s Day celebrations were also observed in Oklahoma City. Mayor David Holt, a citizen of the Osage Nation, read a formal proclamation at Oklahoma City University’s Chickasaw Sculpture Garden to kick off the day. OCC also hosted a drumming and dancing exhibition, lunch, a social stickball game and a panel on the LGBTQ and two-spirit experience.

Oklahoma City began observing Indigenous People’s Day in 2018 after Holt signed a proclamation to enact the change. The Oklahoma City City Council previously rejected two requests on the matter, with objectors claiming that the issue is one that needs to be decided at the federal level rather than the local level.

Other Oklahoma communities observing Indigenous People’s Day include Anadarko, Lawton, Muskogee, Norman, Okmulgee and Tahlequah. In April, Gov. Kevin Stitt signed Senate Bill 111, formally moving Oklahoma’s Native American Day from the third Monday in November to the second Monday in October.
Legislators question funding for Osage Ahnkodapi fourth grade teacher

Lenzy Renkivel Burton

At least for now, the Osage Nation Immersion School remains on track to add another grade during the 2020-2021 school year. On Sept. 30, the Tai-Zho Session’s final day, the Appropriations Committee narrowly rejected a budget amendment that would have cut $15,000 from Osage Ahnkodapi’s budget as part of an effort to offset a budget shortfall. Those funds were earmarked for the first two months’ salary of an as yet unnamed fourth grade teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. “This will not inhibit the school from doing what’s laid out in program reports,” Congresswoman Maria Whitehouse said.

“All that it does is take out $15,000 from an unfunded position that will not be filled until August and September 2020. We all know sitting here at this table is key to what some of the issues are here in this budgetary session and having revenue to cover all the needs of our people.”

With the committee deadlocked 5-5, the amendment failed. Along with Whitehouse, Congresswoman Shannon Edwards and Congresswoman Ki Perie voted in support of the amendment. Legislators Ed Walker, Scott Big Horse and Paula Stabler voted against the proposed cut.

Previous announcements have ruled for the school to add a grade each year, but until recently, did not incorporate standardized testing or other academic benchmarks to document the students’ progress, thus prompting additional hesitation.

School leadership announced in early September that the school has started incorporating progress reports, report cards and standardized testing, prompting concerns from at least one member of Congress about the potential reduction in funds.

“If we cut this money out of here, there are children who’ll need help to pass this grade coming next year,” Congresswoman Big Horse said. “If we put them in there and cut their funding, they won’t be able to complete that part of the education process.”

Osage Congress approves $700K toward new Wakon Iron building costs

Benny Polacca

During the 2019 Tai-Zho Session, the Sixth Osage Nation Congress approved $700,000 toward costs to build a new Wakon Iron Community Building in the Wakon Iron Village.

On Sept. 25, the 12-member Congress passed a General House bill (ONCA 19-39, sponsored by Congresswoman Paula Stabler), which appropriates $1,000,000 to the Nation’s capital asset fund for constructing a multi-pur- pose building. The money will come from the Nation’s retained revenue fund, according to Stabler.

This is the second appropriation approved this year toward costs to plan and build a new Wakon Iron Community Building to replace the current aging structure.

During the June special session, the Congress approved a $250,000 approval bill (ONCA 19-39) for architectural and engineering costs toward the new building.

Osage News

Osages Around the World!

Osage citizens Thomas Filer and Christine Byers read their Osage News while on vacation in the Greek Islands. In this photo, they are reading their newspaper in Rhodes, Greece off the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.

The Osage Nation Election Office posted the results of the 2019 Pawhuska Village Council election on Oct. 21 following an initial election and a run-off election for the Fifth spot on the Village Council due to a tie between two candidates.

The results were posted at 8:10 p.m. that night.

Winning her first village election, Schutz joined the Village Committee (also called Five-Man Board) in 2018 to fill a vacancy after Paula Stabler resigned following her election win to the Sixth Osage Congress. Cherokee Cheshewalla serves on the committee after winning the 2015 village election, but later resigned due to family reasons.

Red Eagle is serving his first term on the Village Committee and also serves on the Osage Minerals Council.

On Oct. 24, the newly elected Village Committee met to elect officers with the committee voting Williams as chairmanwoman, Fawn Cheshewalla as vice chair, Christy Schutz as treasurer; Schutz issecretary and Red Eagle will serve as an at-large member.

“I think the women (serving on the committee in recent years) have done a tremendous job and I want to help them continue” photos and future projects, Red Eagle said.

“I’m humbled I got nominated and voted for the committee. I’m here to serve the village the best way I can,” Schutz said.

“I honestly was pleasantly surprised about winning. You never know in the elections as I didn’t know what to expect,” said Christy Schewewalla. “I am just wanting to see what the board and residents are wanting to focus on before just jumping into anything. However, I would like to see that the residents are able to get mail delivered in the village if they want. I know that has been an issue for several years... Other than that I am just wanting to continue the efforts of the previous board and work together as a team to make the village the best it can be.”

Three Pawhuska Village Committee members re-elected, two new members elected

Benny Polacca

Pawhuska village residents re-elected three fellow Osages to the Village Committee and two members will serve their second four-year terms after winning the 2019 election held Oct. 21.

Maryjane Williams and Fawn Cheshewalla were re-elected on the Village Committee and also winning that night were Cherokee Cheshewalla, Theresa Tinker Schutz and Myron Red Eagle.

The Osage Nation Election Board assisted with the Pawhuska Village election as it has in recent years and counted the votes for the posted results that night.

Outgoing Village Committee members are Patrick Luey and Kathryn Redcorn.

The one-night village election process started with the Village Council calling for nominees as the village residents gathered inside the Wakon Iron Community Building.

The residents voted for up to five names on their paper ballots, which were then turned into a locked metal box provided by the Election Board and monitored by an OSO police officer that night. Afterward, Election Board members Shannon Lockett, Tony Ha- zen and alternate board member Anita Fields counted the votes since Finance opened the metal box to retrieve the ballots at 7 p.m.

Williams won the most votes with 22; Schutz won the second highest vote count with 16; and Red Eagle and Cherokee Cheshewalla both won 15 votes.

For the fifth spot on the Village Committee, there was a tie between nominees Fawn Cheshewalla and Carter, Pickey told the residents, which resulted in a run-off election between those two candidates only. In the initial election, both nominees received 13 votes.

Afterward, the Village Committee members and the Election Board voted to have the run-off election for the two tied nominees after approximately 10 minutes to allow residents to call neighbors and family members back to the building who may have left early to vote again.

The run-off election resulted with Fawn Cheshewalla winning with 12 votes and Carter received nine.
In the past two months, my husband and I drove something like 5,000 miles across the continent from our house along the lower Columbia River to the Midwest, where my husband’s Norwegian family were early (say, the first) settlers in a township about 120 miles from Minneapolis.

We rolled across the West re-creating the historic and national monuments at places like Devil’s Tower, first called Mato Tipila or Bear’s Lodge.

In some places, historians and curators are trying to balance the absence of Natives with a more truthful representation. In the museums across the country, I saw exhibits featuring full-size Indian figures, often women, sitting in the dirt beside a lodge staring down.

We drove for hours between fields of sunflowers with their bent heads, passed through towns celebrating pioneer history and through small centers, which was the model for Sinclair Lewis’ satirical novel Main Street.

The farming communities and homesteads nestled between hush hillsides dotted by one Lutheran church after another, created a wholesome America, where lives, at least from the outside, looked ordinary and regimented. But when we spoke to people, I heard about a family struggling to hold onto a farm that was too large for them. They’d had it for fifteen years, but they couldn’t keep up with the work. The animals, sheep, chickens, a pony, an orchard, were too much since all but one of their children had grown and left home.

After miles and miles of Middle America, we were driving near the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation, home of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, when a DJ speaking Dakota introduced his sets with Oglala.

The Native American Journalists Association Conference was held on Native ground at the Mystic Lake Conference Center, owned by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, located south of Minneapolis-St. Paul. It felt like home to be among Native writers.

In what Northwesterners consider punishing humidity, we made a pilgrimage to Birchbark Books in Minneapolis, an independent bookstore owned by the beloved author Louise Erdrich, an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. The store is not to be missed.

To stand in a good-sized bookstore devoted to books by Native authors, surrounded by recent releases, as well as classics for both adults and children is unusual. The store’s website welcomes “indigirati — literate Indians” with the promise of sunflowers with their bent heads.

There’s energy and pride in the area, and for a community that is so often invisible, it’s refreshing. There are murals with historic (1960s, 1970s) imagery as well as the area’s newer immigrants’ residences.

I now have a T-shirt from Pow Wow Grounds that strangers think is a marketing effort commemorating a Native community. Banners are usually Chambers of Commerce inspired efforts to increase business with images tied to an upcoming holiday, not indigenous people with a complex history. There’s energy and pride in the area, and for a community that is so often invisible, it’s refreshing. There are murals with historic (1960s, 1970s) imagery as well as the area’s newer immigrants’ residences.

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The Native American Community Development Institute describes the project as an opportunity “to refound the traditional heart of the city’s Native American community as a place where both Indians and tourists can enjoy Native American food, art, and culture on Franklin Avenue and in the Phillips Neighborhood.”
SPORTS

Huskie sophomore selected for U.S. national football team

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Lesharo Wildcat is hitting the road to do some hitting.

Three Osage women are now serving on the Osage Nation Tax Commission, the Tax Advisory Board.

Brenda Brownfield, Trentessa Rutherford and Rhonda Wall will each serve terms on the advisory board during the 2019 Tax Commission. In October, all three took their oaths of office at the ON trial, administered by the Osage Code talkers.

All three women previously served on the Osage Nation Tax Commission and will now serve duties to study and advise the 12-member Board and the Congress on tax policy, regulations and best practices, per Osage law establishing the new advisory body.

Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear appointed all three to the board for confirmation consideration after the 12-member body.

Brownfield is a retired Crown Point Court employee and Rutherford worked as a computer programmer

Back row, from left: Judge Marvin Stephan (left), Congressional Speak- er Joe Sibley, Speaker Hillary Sibley

Front row, from left: Rhonda Wallace, Teresa Bates Rutherford and Brenda Brownfield. At Oct. 15, the Osage Nation Tax Commission will begin its work on the newly built Commission.

Three Osage are among the top 15 percent of the player pool.

In order for qualify for the team, Wildcat had to participate in two rounds of tryouts earlier this year, as well as provide documentation of his commitment to academics. Among the first five solo hits as part of Pawhuska’s 46-12 win.

I’m really proud of him,” his mother, Mary Wildcat, said. “He’s worked as hard year-

round, not just with his teammates, but on his own as well.”

He’s worked hard in school to make good grades, as he realizes that’s a big part of it all. “We’re just really proud of him for that.”

Through eight games, Wildcat averages one tackle per game for the undefeated Huskies this season. During the annual Battle of the Pawhuska on Oct. 17, he had 11 tackles, including five solo hits as part of Pawhuska’s 46-12 road win.

Osage Tax Advisory Board project moves toward its oaths

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

TULSA, Okla. — When it comes to facilitating broad access across Osage Nation, helping Osage LLC get its foot in the door. As a former Pawhuska Village Council President, Molly Franks advised the board that her office is working with the nation to expedite the work on federally grant-funded broadband projects.

Byron Bighorse is OSU’s 2019 Distinguished Alumni

Grayhouse broadband project moves toward its oaths

Back row, from left: Judge Marvin Stephan (left), Congressional Speak- er Joe Sibley, Speaker Hillary Sibley

Front row, from left: Rhonda Wallace, Teresa Bates Rutherford and Brenda Brownfield. At Oct. 15, the Osage Nation Tax Commission will begin its work on the newly built Commission.
OSAGE NATION JOBS: To apply visit OsageNation.gov to apply. For more information or questions, email Human Resources at support@job-postings.org.

Business Analyst - Bartlesville, regular full time. This position is responsible for supporting the business, assisting in the planning and execution of projects to optimize all network communications, and applying technology to solve problems. The Business Analyst must have a thorough understanding of the overall business strategy. This individual will apply skills in business, analytics, and problem-solving to maximize the benefit of Information Services (IS) and the benefits to the Osage Nation Business Management (BNM) and the Osage Nation. This position will establish a relationship between IS and the BNM to increase the value realized from IS investments and capabilities. The Business Analyst must have a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, Computer Science, Information Technology, or a related field with at least two years of experience in managing scope, cost, and schedule for projects and programs and outside vendors, and contractual agreements. This position must have a knowledge level of BNM’s policies and procedures, and the ability to communicate effectively with both IS and the BNM. This position will be responsible for understanding the business processes of IS and the service businesses.

Security Officer – Bartlesville, regular full time. Protects company assets, maintains order and discipline, supervises the overall activities of the casino. Responsible for providing safe and secure environment for employees and company assets. Must have a minimum of an Associate’s degree in security or a related field and experience in managing security operations. Must be proficient in the use of their final 9 weeks of vocational instruction and have completed 1,500 hours of on-site, in-school, and off-site training required by the state guidelines. Must be able to maintain a professional presence, establish a positive rapport with the public, and ensure that the standards of courtesy, respect, and honesty are maintained. The Security Officer will be responsible for assisting in the overall maintenance, plumbing, and electrical aspects of the casino building. Responsible for managing, planning, and performing all activities associated with actions taken by the Tourist/Tribe/Staff. Works in a professional manner with maximum guest satisfaction. Responsible for furnishing clean and orderly service to all customers and providing a safe and hospitable environment for our guests. Responsible for furnishing clean and orderly service to all customers and providing a safe and hospitable environment for our guests. Responsible for furnishing clean and orderly service to all customers and providing a safe and hospitable environment for our guests. Responsible for furnishing clean and orderly service to all customers and providing a safe and hospitable environment for our guests.
On Friday, December 11th, the Osage Nation Museum will present the dedication and opening of a new exhibit, “Honoring Songs at Home: U.S. Military History of the Osage People.”

The exhibit explores how songs present an important component of Osage culture, which has been utilized to create a sense of community and solidarity among Osage veterans and their families during and since various military conflicts. The exhibit includes personal stories, letters, military service records, photographs, and other objects to highlight the experience of Osage veterans and their families. The exhibit also features a recording of songs performed at the dedication ceremony.

The exhibit is open to the public from December 11, 2020, to March 13, 2021. It is located at the Osage Nation Museum, 310 Skyline Drive, Pawhuska, OK 74056. The museum is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, visit osagenation-nsn.gov/museum/.
OBITUARIES

Charles Friend Sego

Charles Friend Sego was a dedicated worker. Born in October 1934, he graduated from the University of Oklahoma, graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. He was married to Frances Tabor on January 20, 1960, in Tulsa. He retired from the federal government in November. Sego was a lifelong sports enthusiast and excelled in track during his sophomore and junior years. In outdoor track during his sophomore and junior years. His junior year, he qualified for State, that will be held this weekend, at Blue River Cross Country courses, where a moment of silence will be held for those who have lost their lives. Sego also excelled in track.He qualified for State indoor cross country courses, and junior years. In outdoor track during his senior year, he qualified for the state 3200-meter record. Sego was a respectful and wonderful individual, who contributed to the fullest extent with faith, family, friends, education and sports. A Celebration of Life will be held on November 20, 2019, at 2 p.m. at the Fayetteville High School.

Martha Mae Cecilia Woods

Martha Mae Cecilia Woods, 98, died on October 26, 2019, at her residence in Waldron, Arkansas. Memorial services were held on October 22, 2019, at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church, Waldron, Arkansas. Funeral services were held on October 20, 2019, at Waldron High School. Martha was a member of the Baptist Church. She was married to her childhood sweetheart, and they remained married for over 70 years. She was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She is survived by her son, David Woods; her daughter, Linda Woods; her grandchildren, Bethany Woods and Ben Woods; her great-grandchildren, Benjamin Woods and Anna Woods; and her great-great-grandson, Henry Woods. She was preceded in death by her husband, David Woods, and her parents, John and Mary Woods.

Oil and Gas Summit to be held Nov. 14-14 in Tulsa

The agenda is taking shape for the 2019Oil and Gas Summit. Scheduled for Nov. 14-14 at Osage Casino Tulsa, the two-day event will include networking sessions and presentations focused on the Osage Mineral Estate and petroleum production areas.

The event also has multi-ple events. Its purpose is to bring together key stakeholders to discuss and explore ways to improve information and transparency for the American burying beetles. The event will include presentations focused on the Osage Mineral Estate and petroleum production areas. The event will include presentations focused on the Osage Mineral Estate and petroleum production areas. The event will include presentations focused on the Osage Mineral Estate and petroleum production areas. The event will include presentations focused on the Osage Mineral Estate and petroleum production areas.
Letters to the Editor
Without Reservations

Cultural abuse is an important topic among the Osage

I am writing to you on behalf of the article, “Cultural Abuse,” written by Last Jump-Starchante in August 31, 2018. I wholeheartedly agree with the issues that are consecutive to this form of spiritual abuse. StrongHearts provided examples of what the abuse entails which I believe are relevant for our own tribal community. This abuse that causes irreparable damage is an issue, but I think it’s time to start focusing on cultural abuse between tribal members overall.

Many Osage citizens would agree that our ceremonies are essential for who we are. Our Inlonshka and other fellowship dances vary greatly. For example, the requirement of an Osage of those committees would agree that the main elements of their mentoring which many don’t comprehend. If you wouldn’t want to be mistaken as teasing. There’s a fine line between teasing and torturing your entire life? I’d like to also point out that this abuse is often felt like I don’t care about living anymore. Could you imagine if you wouldn’t want your own family members being talked to in that way, then it’s apparently not okay.

Our entire nation has gained strength in many ways, but we’ve yet to change how we treat one another. We’ve been bashed by judiciously, hate, and rather gossip about one another. We’ve become hypocrites in the sense that we praise our way of life being utterly without flaws. We believe that we know everything and that makes us better than others. This abuse is a direct outcome of colonization and I wish to see our nation to let go of this mindset.

I believe that cultural abuse can be a toll on those who are trying to do what’s right. I’ve been highly shame on different occasions because I don’t speak Osage fluenty but I’m a woman. Reflecting on those shameful experiences is painful. To be absolutely transparent, that pain has made me to feel like I don’t care about living anymore. Could you imagine being detached from your own tribe when that’s all you’ve known your entire life? I’d like to also point out that this abuse is often mistaken in teasing. There’s a fine line between teasing and torturing which many don’t comprehend. If you wouldn’t want your own family members being talked to in that way, then it’s apparently not okay.

All of our families have different ways of taking care of our own ceremonies. We are split into three different districts and each of those districts committees work on them and their ad- diances vary greatly. For example, the requirement of an Osage Nation passing on of the dance when we’re dancing during such sessions, and even how we dress ourselves. Unfortunately, those differences cause more harm than good. So before you think to judge, tease, or be hateful, think about the repercussions of your actions. Think about how your own kin would feel if they were talked to in that way.

Katelynly Pippenat, St. Louis, Mo.
We’re Giving Away

$249,000

In Cars & Cash

November 23, 2019

Start earning entries November 3

$500 Cash Drawings
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10PM

Osage Casino Hotel

See Player Services for Details.

Criss Angel Raw

December 8, 2019

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