



THE

FEBRUARY 1, 2020 | "HOTVLE HVSE" WIND MONTH | VOL. 50, ISSUE 3

MVSKOKENEWS

PRODUCED BY  MVSKOKEMEDIA

LEGISLATION APPROPRIATES FUNDS FOR MCN AG TO JOIN THREE OTHER TRIBES IN THE FEDERAL SUIT

GOV. STITT RAISES THE ANTE



Recent legislation approved by MCN National Council passed in Extraordinary Session on Jan 21. will appropriate \$500,000 to the budget of the MCN Attorney General. The money will make the MCN a one-fourth stakeholder in the legal suit filed in federal court asking for ruling on the tribes gaming compacts. (MN File Photo)

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—Oklahoma State Governor Kevin Stitt has filed an injunction in federal court seeking to prevent the tribes from conducting Class III gaming in Oklahoma.

Just before the New Year the Choctaw, Chickasaw and Cherokee Nation filed a federal suit in the United States Court for the Western District asking for judgment on gaming compact renewal and seeking remedy from Governor Stitt's inference in tribal business.

With appropriations passing through the MCN National Council the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be financially set to join the lawsuit and pick up a portion of the legal fees.

In an Extraordinary Session held on Jan. 21, legislation introduced by the Office of the Principal Chief, and sponsored by National Council Speaker Randall Hicks asking for an appropriation of \$500,000 for the Attorney Generals 2020 budget passed unanimously.



MCN's newly elected leaders make good on a promise during the Executive Branch Inauguration. MCN Principal Chief David Hill stated the Muscogee (Creek) Nation would stand united with other sovereign nations of Oklahoma. Recent legislation presented by the Executive Branch prepares funding to make good on the pledge by tribal leaders by appropriating funds to join the gaming lawsuits. (Photo Provided)

'The National Council's approval of the budget request once again solidifies the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's unified support of the legal action taken by our fellow Nations,' a statement from the Office of Chief and Second Chief said. 'Requesting a federal judicial decision on Gov. Stitt's dispute of our compact renewal ensures a swift resolution for all involved.'

'It is unknown when the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will join the Chickasaw, Cherokee and

Choctaw Nations as an intervener to the Federal lawsuit filed on Dec. 31, 2019.'

According to the legislation, Oklahoma's Gov. Kevin Stitt's position that Tribal Gaming Compacts are now expired 'has made it necessary for Tribes including the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to enter the lawsuit.'

'The Nation must act to protect its gaming compact by intervening in litigation filed

GAMING – 2

DISCOUNTED PROPANE OFFERED TO MCN CITIZENS

ONEFIRE PARTNERS WITH HOPKINS PROPANE TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL RATE

Gale Post oak
INTERIN

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—OneFire Holding Company has recently partnered with Hopkins Propane to provide propane at a special rate.

Mvskoke Propane is offering a special discounted rate for propane tanks to citizens for propane fueled utilities as well as the option for payment plans.

"We are excited to offer value and service to our MCN citizens," said Eli McIntosh Director of OneFire Holdings.

"Rates are \$1.57 per gallon, a savings of 23 cents per gallon at the current rate," said McIntosh.

"We also receive 6 propane tanks a year to provide to citizens whose tanks are un-repairable or not safe," said McIntosh.

The program is separate from the MCN LIHEAP program as well as the Tribal Energy Program, which assists low-income households toward cooling and heating bills.

PROPANE – 2

SCOTUS ASKED TO DECIDE MURPHY

OKLAHOMA PETITION IN MCGIRT APPEAL ASKS FOR MURPHY DECISION

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court has yet to make a decision on the question brought before the court in the case of Murphy vs. Sharp. That case has not made its way back onto the Supreme Court case roster.

McGirt vs. Oklahoma has been accepted for review by the U.S. high court. Much like the Murphy case, at the core of the McGirt case is a question about tribal jurisdiction and the jurisdiction of the State of Oklahoma.

The new case is a review of an appeal from Jimcy McGirt, who was convicted of child sex crimes. McGirt was convicted of first-degree rape, lewd molestation and forcible sodomy in 1996 while having prior convictions and offenses.

McGirt was sentenced to 500-year sentences and a life

MCGIRT – 2

ART COUNCIL FUNDS AIHC ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

CENTER FOR TRIBAL STUDIES PRESENTS NSU 48TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Lani Hansen
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—The Northeastern State University Center for Tribal Studies (CTS) and American Indian Heritage Committee (AIHC) are preparing for the 48th Annual Symposium on the American Indian.

The AIHC is made up of students leaders, faculty and staff at NSU.

According to a press release from CTS, the Symposium on the American Indian will be held April 13-18, 2020, centered on the theme, "Visionaries of Indian Country." The meaning of the theme is American Indians who carry with them the knowledge, traditions and language of their ancestors as they serve as leaders within their family, tribe and community. These visionaries are not just focused on the here and now, but are cognizant of how deci-



The NSU Symposium Powwow wraps up their week long festivities with gourd dancing. (Submission)

sions made today will impact future generations. This concept of the seventh generation is a way of life for many indigenous people, a method of integrating the past, present and future. The visionaries of Indian Country are vital to the preservation and sustainability of our languages,

community, environment and sovereignty.

Each year the committee selects keynote speakers who are supported by the Oklahoma Humanities Council.

"We usually discuss who our keynote speakers will be for the coming

Symposium a year in advance," Alisa Douglas CTS Coordinator for Students Programs said.

The keynote speakers for the Symposium include: Mark Trahan (Shoshone-Bannock), editor of Indian Country Today and board Chair for Vision Maker Media; Adrienne Keene (Cherokee), assistant professor of American and Ethnic Studies at Brown University; and Kainoa Embrnate (Ōiwi Hawaiian), founder of Hālau Ōlelo, an online school for the Hawaiian Language.

"Mark Trahan will be speaking about Native voice and literature in media and how it affects our future generations," Sara Barnett Director of Center for Tribal Studies said. "Then Adrienne Keene will be speaking about her efforts to address cultural appropriation and mainstream society in media, and talk about the importance of accurate, respectful and appropriate represen-

AIHC – 2



McGirt
Continued from Page 1

imprisonment sentence for forcible sodomy.

McGirt’s appeal argues that the state did not have authority to convict him.

He claims the jurisdiction should have been handled by federal courts due to the fact the crime took place within tribal jurisdiction boundaries.

Nothing in McGirt’s appeal shows evidence that the crime took place on restricted land.

McGirt’s case presents the opportunity for all nine justices to hear and give opinion on the case.

In the last session, Justice Neil Gorsuch did not participate on the Murphy case opinion leaving eight justices to hear the case.

The high court did not render an opinion and instead on Dec. 4, 2018 the court directed the parties, Solicitor General and Muscogee (Creek) Nation to present supplemental briefs addressing two more questions for the court.

The questions were, ‘Whether any statute grants the state of Oklahoma jurisdiction over the prosecution of crimes committed by Indians in the area within the 1866 territorial boundaries of the Creek Nation, irrespective of the area’s reservation status’ and ‘Whether there are circumstances in which land qualifies as an Indian reservation but nonetheless does not meet the definition of Indian country as set forth in 18 U. S. C. §1151(a).’

Supplemental briefs were filed Dec. 28, 2018 however; the case has not appeared on the courts roster this session. The last action on the Murphy case was when the, ‘record from the U.S.C.A. was

returned,’ on Aug. 5 2019.

The State of Oklahoma has filed brief in the McGirt case saying that the outcome of McGirt is contingent upon the outcome of Murphy.

‘Petitioner in this case, who claims to be an enrolled tribal member, sought release from incarceration by arguing that the state lacked jurisdiction to convict him for sex crimes committed against a child within the historical Creek boundaries,’ Oklahoma’s brief stated.

‘The court below affirmed the denial of his post-conviction petition as premature pending this Court’s decision in Murphy.’

Ian Gershengorn, who has familiarity with the Murphy case having made oral arguments in Nov. 2018, is representing McGirt’s appeal.

According to the State of Oklahoma the cases of McGirt and Murphy pose an ‘identical question.’

The question listed on the petition filed for McGirt states, ‘Whether Oklahoma Courts can continue to unlawfully exercise, under state law, criminal jurisdiction as ‘justiciable matter’ in Indian country over Indian Country over Indians accused of major crimes enumerated under the Indian Major Crimes Act- Which are under exclusive federal jurisdiction.’

The question posed in the Murphy case asks the court, ‘Whether the 1866 territorial boundaries of the Creek Nation within the former Indian Territory of eastern Oklahoma constitute an ‘Indian reservation’ today under 18 U.S.C. § 1151(a).’

The MCN has not filed briefs in the McGirt case.

Gaming
Continued from Page 1

by the Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw Tribal Nations in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma,’ the legislation said.

The legislation further states that the funds, ‘represents an anticipated one-quarter of the total litigation costs shared with the other gaming tribes involved in this litigation.’

With those projected calculations it could mean that Oklahoma tribes entering the lawsuit would collectively be spending approximately \$2 million to defend their gaming rights.

So far, the tribes that offer gaming have stood in solidarity rejecting the Governors claim that gaming compacts expired on Jan. 1.

Many officials such as former Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry, who had a hand in negotiating the compacts under his administration, have come forward stating the compacts renew.

Part of the reason Henry gave for such auto renewals was the difficulty in finding the right fit for all the parties and stakeholders represented in the compacts.

In the climate fostered by Gov. Stitt’s stance on gaming compacts, Secretary of Native American Affairs Lisa Billy, tendered her resignation on Dec. 23,2019.

Her letter of resignation cited ‘unnecessary conflict and lasting damage to state-tribal relationship and to our economy,’ as reason for the resignation.

Oklahoma tribes have reported they will continue to pay exclusivity fees to the state despite the lawsuit.

Propane
Continued from Page 1

In order to receive the contract price for MCN members, the following eligibility requirements must be on file with Hopkins Propane of Eufaula before the order is dispatched.

Citizens wishing to utilize Mvskoke Propane must provide a copy of their MCN citizen-

ship card and a valid driver’s license and utility bill all with the same address as their citizenship card to Hopkins Propane.

For those interested in enrolling in the program, contact Hopkins Propane Eufaula dispatch at: (918) 689-7808 or Hopkins-Eufaula@okfuels.net.

For more information, visit: www.onefireholding.com/mvskoke-propane

FORMER PRINCESS SERVES AS COLLEGE TEACHER

FORMER MCN PRINCESS HELPS WITH A LANGUAGE DOCUMENTARY AND TEACHES MVSKOKE LANGUAGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Lani Hansen
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma–Mvskoke Media continues the series of “Former MCN princesses: Where are they now?” with series seven featuring Melanie Frye. Frye served as Muscogee (Creek) Nation Princess in 2006-2007.

When Frye competed in 2006 for the title, she knew what to expect. She competed in the pageant the previous year which was her first time and said she was nervous.

Frye enjoyed the pageant and meeting new people. From her experience the committee taught the contestants how to sit, walk and present as the princess.

During her reign Frye was a student at the University of Oklahoma (OU), but as princess they kept her busy with traveling and attending events. A couple of the events she attended was Gathering of Nations and Council Oak.

“I had an unofficial and official crown,” Frye said. “So I would always use my unofficial crown to go to events around here (Okmulgee), or when someone asks me to speak I would go to those places as well.”



Former Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Princess Melanie Frye. (Submission)

She traveled to a lot of places during her reign, but one place she loved was Gathering of Nations.

According to Frye, when she served as Miss MCN there was also a Jr. Miss, Sr. Miss, Little Miss Division one, Little Miss Division two and Little Miss Division three. Being Miss MCN princess helped Frye come out of her shell as a shy girl, and talk to others.

“I also was hoping to get more

emphasis in language, because that was my platform,” Frye said.

After passing down her crown, Frye continued working and recently went back to school to finish her Master’s. She was working in a language program, because her emphasis is on language and revitalization for the Mvskoke language.

“After my reign was over, I helped with Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association as a chaperone for their Miss’

and Jr. Miss for about a year or so,” Frye said.

Frye is currently teaching the Mvskoke language at OU, and helping with a language documentary project.

“A fluent speaker and I go over some of the films that have been transcribed, and do final touches on them,” Frye said.

Stay tuned on Mar. 1 issue as we find out where the next former Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation is now.



Tara Houska, Couchiching First Nation National Campaigns Director was one of the keynote speakers from 2019 NSU Symposium. (Submission)

AIHC
Continued from Page 1

tation of Indigenous people. Kainoa Emberate will be talking about his work with the Hawaiian language and how he developed an online platform so individuals could learn the Hawaiian language.”

Symposium presentation topics include: sustainability, cultural preservation, environmental justice, tribal sovereignty, community building, Indigenous leadership, history

(from an indigenous perspective), indigenous knowledge, anthropology, language revitalization, art and literature.

A set agenda for the 48th annual Symposium will be posted soon. Some activities listed are a film series showing at the beginning of the week, opening of the Symposium will be on Wednesday which the keynote speakers will present Wednesday through Friday, and on Saturday will be the Symposium Powwow.

The Symposium on the American Indian is a community event, there is no registration fee and events are open to the public. Funding has been provided by the Oklahoma Arts Council and Oklahoma Humanities Council.

For more information, visit cts.nsuok.edu and follow the link to the NSU Symposium. Individuals may also contact the Center for Tribal Studies for more information at tribalstudies@nsuok.edu or 918-444-4350.

THE MVSKOKE NEWS

Rita Courtwright, Managing Editor | rcourtwright@mvskokemedia.com

Angel Ellis, Reporter/Layout | aellis@mvskokemedia.com

Lani Hansen, Reporter | lhansen@mvskokemedia.com

Dallas Huelster, Reporter | lhansen@mvskokemedia.com

Gary Fife, Contributor | gffife@mvskokemedia.com

Breanna Dawson, Advertising & Sales | bdawson@mvskokemedia.com

Gale Postoak, Intern, | gpostoak@mvskokemedia.com

**MVSKOKEMEDIA**

Like MM on Facebook:
[Facebook.com/MvskokeMedia](https://www.facebook.com/MvskokeMedia)

Follow MM on Twitter:
[@MvskokeMedia](https://twitter.com/MvskokeMedia)

Follow MM on Instagram:
[@MvskokeMedia](https://www.instagram.com/MvskokeMedia)

Visit MM online at:
MvskokeMedia.com

**NAJA**
Native American Journalist Association
Members of the Native American Journalists Association

The Mvskoke News is an editorially independent publication. Its purpose is to meet the needs of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to The Mvskoke News unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in The Mvskoke News, guest columns and readers’ letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Mvskoke News, its advisors or the tribal administration and are subject to editorial discretion. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication. Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. The Mvskoke News reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate The Mvskoke News in any regard.

The Mvskoke News is mailed from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled Muscogee (Creek) citizens’ households upon request. Inquiries should be directed to Mvskoke Media.

To submit a change of address or a letter to the editor, call: 918-732-7720 or email: info@mvskokemedia.com.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS DUE MAR. 31

YOUTH THROUGHOUT THE MCN BOUNDARIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE THROUGH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Lani Hansen
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma- Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Summer Youth program are now accepting applications.

The summer youth program employs youth ages 16-21 and receives an incentive pay through the program.

Applicants must be members of a federally recognized tribe and live within the MCN boundaries. Income guidelines are required for non-Creek citizens.

The Summer Youth Employment program is eight weeks that gives Native American youth work experience.

In an interview with Mvskoke Radio, Mia Hoskison youth coordinator of Summer Youth Employment program said, they strive to provide job and career opportunities, as well as give them opportunities to do career exploration over the summer.

“It is getting them prepared for the work force and we do know that for most of our youth, summer youth is their first job opportunity so we try to mentor



MCN Employment and Training provide eight weeks of work experience to youth. (Submission)

them,” said Hoskison.

Employments support checks of \$150 will be provided for those who need to purchase clothing or safety goggles depending on the workplace.

“We really try to guide our youth to go towards worksites and apply for jobs that are within their field of interest,” said Hoskison.

The program has already been receiving applications, but deadlines for youth are Mar. 31.

“There are mandatory orientation dates that they have to attend prior to starting work, life skills workshops they’ll attend as well as our Fun day which is mandatory, but it is fun,” said Hoskison.

For more information contact MCN Employment and Training at eta@mcn-nsn.gov

OKLAHOMA’S PINNACLE BASEBALL FAMILY

MUSCOGEE CREEK CITIZEN FAMILY THE ONLY OKLAHOMA FAMILY TO HAVE TWO-GENERATIONS PLAY MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Dr. John Winters
SPECIAL TO MVSKEKE NEWS

DEWAR, Oklahoma-For decades, Wiley Ryal, proud Muscogee Creek Nation citizen and Dewar native, had led countless young men and women and his family as one of Oklahoma’s most decorated high school coaches. All the while, Coach Ryal garnered many community, state and national coaching accolades for coaching and mentoring many eastern Oklahoma children and his own children to sport championships and productive lives.

Coach Ryal has been named to five Oklahoma halls of fame and won state high school championships for over 30 years with stops at Dewar, Inola, Henryetta and back to Dewar. In Wiley’s playing days, this Creek citizen was one of the most heralded players in eastern Oklahoma. After completing high school at Dewar High School, Wiley graduated from Northeastern State University and was a leading student-athlete on the men’s basketball team.

At Dewar, Ryal coached his son Mark who played professional baseball for eight years after being a third-round pick by the Kansas City Royals. At Henryetta, Ryal coached future Dallas Cowboys’ great Troy Aikman. The Ryal family is now Oklahoma Baseball royalty and joins the great Allie Reynolds as among the greats of the Muscogee Creek Nation sport celebrities that brings great pride to the Muscogee Creek Nation and the state of Oklahoma.

Mark Ryal, the son of Dewar coach Wiley Ryal started his 16-year major league baseball career in 1982 when he played for the Kansas City Royals. That was followed by the Chicago White Sox (1985), California Angels (1986-87), Philadelphia Phillies (1989), Pittsburgh Pirates (1990) and even the Chunichi (Japan) Dragons. He also served one season as a scout for the Royals in 2005.

In 2019, Mark was inducted into the Buffalo Bisons (AAA) Hall of Fame. Mark Ryal delivered Buffalo’s only American Association batting title, pacing the circuit with a .334 average that still ranks as the third-best single-season mark in the team’s modern era. Ryal added 34 doubles, nine home runs and 49 RBI in 109 games during his year that garnered him both midseason and postseason All-Star nods as well as the Bisons Stan Barron Most Valuable Player award.

Rusty Ryal, son of Mark and grandson of Wiley Ryal, extended the Ryal family baseball excellence with his career that also

ended in professional baseball. While in high school, Rusty began to be noticed by college coaches and professional scouts playing at Perry (OK) High School. Rusty finally considered Oklahoma, Fresno State, SMS and Wichita State before selecting Cowley County (KS) Community College.

He played two seasons at Cowley County Community College and a NJCAA second team All-American in 2003. He continued his baseball career at Oklahoma State University where in 2004 he started 54 games and hit for a .300 average, 7 HR, 43 RBI for the Cowboys. Rusty Ryal in the 2005 MLB Amateur Draft was selected with the first pick of the 14th round by the Arizona Diamondbacks. Five years later, Rusty made Oklahoma baseball history making his Major League Baseball (MLB) debut August 10, 2009, for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

In Rusty’s first MLB at-bat that day he got a pinch hit single off Elmer Dessens in the 8th inning against New York Mets. Rusty’s professional baseball career spanned over ten seasons through 13 stops in the minor leagues, foreign leagues in Japan and Venezuela, and the major leagues with the Arizona Diamondbacks organization.

On that day in August 2009, Rusty thrust the Ryal family into Muscogee Creek Nation and Oklahoma baseball history making the Ryal family the first Oklahoma native family and Muscogee Creek citizen family the only Oklahoma family to have two-generations play Major League Baseball.

Mark and Rusty credited their excellence to the family patriarch, Wiley Ryal.

“My dad instilled the knowledge and will power in me to reach my potential in all things in my life. And I tried to instill the same in my son, Rusty,” said Mark.

It is time to declare this Creek Nation family as gem in the crown of Oklahoma baseball royalty. No other Oklahoma family has achieved such generation excellence as the Wiley Ryal family. This family has reached great heights in baseball and continues to make positive contributions to the communities in which they live today.

Wiley has retired to Henryetta, Mark is currently the head softball coach at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas and Rusty is a successful business entrepreneur in Edmond now. So, it is time to salute this family and help them take their proper place in Oklahoma baseball history as Oklahoma Baseball royalty as “Oklahoma’s Only Generation MLB family”.



Left to Right are Wiley Ryal, Mark Ryal and Rusty Ryal. (Submission)

The Carson McCullers

Literary Festival



CSU's Carson
McCullers Center and
the Chattahoochee
Valley Libraries
Present

US Poet Laureate
JOY HARJO:
Reading – Fri., Feb. 21,
7:30 p.m.
A Talk with Joy Harjo –
Sat., Feb. 22, 10:00 a.m.
Riverside Theatre
Complex Main Stage
CSU RiverPark Campus
Columbus, Georgia

Additional readings and master classes by novelist Melissa Pritchard and poet Sandy Meek.

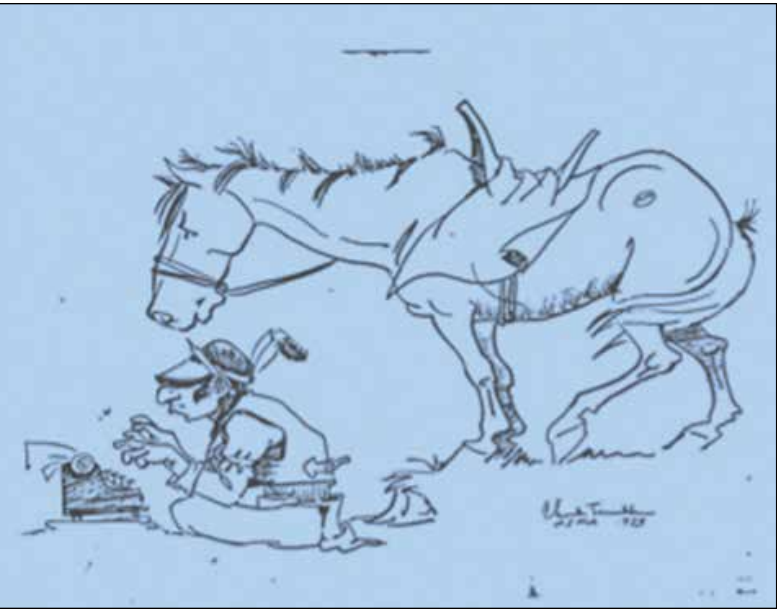
This event is sponsored in part by the Columbus Cultural Arts Alliance, the Muscogee County Friends of Libraries, and the National Endowment for the Arts. NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

mccullerscenter@columbusstate.edu

www.mccullerscenter.org

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
for the ARTS
NEA BIG READ
Managed by Arts Midwest

COLUMBUS
STATE
UNIVERSITY



NEW LEADERS, COUNTING NATIVES, BRAIDS AS REINS

NEW CHIEFS, CENSUS, NATIVE WOMAN’S BRAID, EAGLE FEATHERS IN CANADIAN COURTS, OPRAH

Gary Fife
RADIO SPECIALIST

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma— We got past the last election season, finally. New leadership for the Mvskoke tribe has taken over the reins of government and they have their hands full with at least a couple of huge challenges: sovereignty being questioned in the U.S. Supreme Court and gaming revenues being eyed by the Oklahoma governor. As of the end of January, there was no word when the high court would take up the “Murphy” case that was supposed to be heard last year that would have determined the status of Creek lands as a reservation.

As far as the gaming question, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt maintains the gaming compacts with state tribes have expired and must be re-negotiated and he wants

more money. But, some members of his own staff disagree to the point of withdrawing from the action. Attorney General Mark Hunter has dropped out and the Secretary of Native Affairs, Lisa Billy resigned saying the Governor is wrong in antagonizing tribal governments.

Word has it that Stitt is using gaming bucks to fund his lawyers. See Gov, you do have a great need for Indian gaming revenue.

Tribal governments say no deal and have filed suit against the governor. It will probably be for another court to decide. A Ponca man wrote in a recent letter to the editor in the Tulsa World, that perhaps language should be inserted in the compact that reads: ““So long as the grass shall grow, so long as the rivers flow.”

What a way to begin their new administration. Good

luck, guys.

If you haven’t noticed already, there is a lot of new information regarding the 2020 Census beginning to pop up. The feds say they are really trying hard to get an accurate count of Native Americans across the Nation.

The process has already begun and it started with first Americans in Alaska. The tiny village of Tooksook Bay is the starting point. Press coverage talks about how hard it is to get around the place and get a good and accurate count of the over 600 residents. You better catch ‘em now before the fishing and hunting seasons scatters residents.

Speaking of which, it’s probably a good idea that we get an accurate count of the Mvskokvlke. Federal program funds are tied to the numbers of tribal residents and our programs can always use some extra toknawv—money.

With the latest 2020 national college football championship finally determined there were other honors announced at the game. ESPN announced that Sac and Fox football legend Jim Thorpe was named as the fifth player on the list of “150 Greatest Players in College Football’s 150-year History.” Thorpe played for the Indian boarding school, Carlisle, from 1907 to 1912.

He may be ranked fifth on the list, but remember, that’s above 145 other incredible names that played the game.

News sources across the nation reported that an incident happened to a Native woman and her hair that has the hair on the back of my neck standing up in anger.

An Ojibwe woman, Tara Houska is an activist and attorney who flies frequently for speaking engagements and rallies. She wears her hair in a traditional long, braided fashion and it was during the secu-

rity check that the incident occurred.

A Transportation Security Administration officer at the Minneapolis-St.Paul International Airport said to Houska that she needed to pat down Ms. Houskas’ braids as part of the security check. The officer pulled the braids behind Houskas’ back and said, “Giddyup!” and laughed while pulling them like reins on a horse.

Houska was angered and posted a message on Twitter saying that she was humiliated and that the agent’s action was disrespectful. The incident wound up with the TSA confirming that the incident did happen as Houska reported and “apologized for the agent’s action and insensitive comment.”

On to a couple more positive things.

In Canada, the Globe and Mail reported in November 2019, that eagle feathers are being recognized as a proper instrument on which to swear an oath in Alberta courts.

Common practice has been to use a Bible or other appropriate religious text for the ceremony. It has been the topic of various discussions over the last year, according to Cana-

dian court officials. The Alberta Justice and Solicitor-General spokesman Teigan Lawton noted that there are 122 feathers in every court location and that the legal system’s action, “bridges that gap to reconciliation and that people are feeling the justice system is making these important steps.”

Mid-January, celebrity and entrepreneur Oprah Winfrey stopped by to lend some recognition to a Native women’s group in Minnesota. As part of Winfrey’s “2020 Vision: Your Life in Focus” tour, she visited the Kwe-Pack, a running group of Native American women from the Fond du Lac Reservation in northern Minnesota. The group encourages a healthy lifestyle.

Winfrey surprised the runners by joining them in -20 degree temperatures on a morning run. Runner and artist Sarah Agaton Howes presented Oprah with a blanket that she had designed, making Winfrey a lot warmer and very happy.

Reports say Oprah let out a big celebrity LULU (after she was taught how).

Stay warm and get ready for those Tafvmpuce (Wild Onion dinners) coming up this spring.

Hvtvm Cerecares—I’ll see you again.



Private Collections, located in the Studios at North Gallery and Studio, has partnered with A Chance to Play to help provide musical instruments to students who can't afford them. (Shutterstock)

NEW ART GALLERY ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Gale Postoak
INTERN

Oklahoma City–Private Collections, located in the Studios at North Gallery and Studio, has partnered with A Chance to Play to help provide musical instruments to students who cannot afford them.

A Chance to Play originated from OKC Public School band directors, who recognized students in need who wanted to play instruments but who had no means to obtain them.

Jim Barnett, who is a partner in private collections along with Allan and Cheryl Harder, is the founder of A Chance to Play. The non-profit accepts donations of used band and stringed instruments, which are refurbished by Larsen music at no cost and distributed to schools across Oklahoma.

“We are also working to assist in the rental process of instruments,” said Barnett.

The Mountain Smoke Band, a bluegrass band from Oklahoma as well as other musicians contribute by having concerts using venues to ask people to contribute used instruments to students in need.

Cheryl Harder said “We want to promote Native American art, and I try to have a different artist in each month,” said Cheryl Harder.

Muscogee (Creek) citizens Dana Tiger and family were the guest artist for the month of December.

“It is a joy to spend time with collectors who love Tribal fine arts,” said Dana Tiger.

BancFirst of Oklahoma has also partnered with a Chance to Play and has collection boxes set up at inner city locations in OKC.

“We want to promote artist work that is why we invite artist to The Studios, so they can get more exposure and grow their network. A huge room displays different mediums to choose from. Sculptures, alabaster, pottery, baskets, shields, drums, with lots of original work as well as prints which include abstract and contemporary art,” said Cheryl Harder.

The Studios at North Gallery and Studio located at 12100 N. May Ave. Suite L, has a large gallery room along with a group of studios for artist to create and demonstrate their work.

“As for partnering with A Chance to Play charity, we do not want to see music die,” said Allan Harder.

“We also make arrangements to have musical instruments shipped or picked up,” said Cheryl Harder.

For more information or to drop off a musical instrument contact Cheryl Harder at 405-615-4566.



2020 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION Scholarship Pageant

Now Accepting Applications!
DEADLINE: April 20th, 2020

Divisions

Jr. Miss: 14-17 yrs (High School Student)
Miss: 17-24 yrs (Attending/Enrolled in Higher Education)

Prizes

- Jr. Miss: \$1,500 Cash Prize
- Miss: \$2,500 Scholarship
- Beaded Crown
- Cedar Crown Box
- Woven Basket Purse
- Traditional Clothing

- Two Matching Sashes
- Personalized Luggage
- Flower Bouquet
- Plaque
- Pendleton Blanket
- Traveling Opportunities

The Miss & Jr. Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty serve as goodwill ambassadors for the Nation and its people. They promote the Nation throughout their year-long reign through cultural, social, and public appearances. The experience allows young women to expand their cultural knowledge of Mvskoke history and traditions.

Phone: 918-549-2601 | Email: MCNpageant@mcn-nsn.gov
Website: mvskokeroyalty.com



A PROGRAM THAT WILL SECURE CITIZENS IN STORM SEASONS

MCN SHELTERS PROGRAM GOING ON THIRD YEAR OF INSTALLING BELOW AND ABOVE GROUND SHELTERS FOR CITIZENS

Lani Hansen
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources is bringing back their Storm Shelters Program for the third year.

According to an interview with Mvskoke Radio, Amy King Manager of MCN Storm Shelters Program said this program is not based on first-come, first-serve but it is based on a point preference system.

“MCN elder citizens who are 65 years and older are given a point, 75 and older are given another point,” King said. “Anyone that has been diagnosed with an ambulatory disability is another point. Also an applicant who is Muscogee (Creek) and takes care of a citizen that is disabled will receive a point. If someone lives in a rural area that is another point, mobile home, veteran receives a point.”

King said everyone is encouraged to apply if a person is a citizen living in MCN jurisdiction. Applications for a storm shelter are only available during the month of August. Those who are not accepted for the current year must reapply to be eligible the next year.

According to King, applicants must also own their mobile home with their name on the deed and own their property, spouses names must

be on the forms too. If the applicant is part of MCN Housing they will need to get a document from Housing. The program does not have income limitations to apply.

The program installs either a below-ground shelter or above-ground shelter. If an applicant requested an above-ground shelter they would need to provide documentation of physical limitations.

King said they typically award 25 to 35 citizens yearly, with the first year being the largest year.

“There was over 500 applicants that applied, this year we had somewhere around 450. This year it scaled back a bit,” King said. “We were not able to do a whole lot of advertising. This next season we hope to get our advertising out so everyone knows to come and apply, we are ready to go.”

This past year MCN citizen Pearl Thomas was approved to have a storm shelter installed on her land. As a former council member, she stays connected to what goes on at the Nation and she also attends community meetings where she first learned about the storm shelters program.

“I filled out an application the first year and since it is a point system I was not eligible the first time,” Thomas said. “Then I was told to reapply, so that is what I did and I was eligible for it by my age, and I had open heart



MCN's Storm Shelter Program installed a below-ground shelter for MCN Citizen Pearl Thomas. (Lani Hansen)

surgery. I did not think they counted all that when I filled out the application.”

After applying the second year, Thomas said it was not too long after she got accepted when they came out to look at her place to see where they could put it.

“It only took a few weeks for them to come out and install the shelter,” Thomas said.

Thomas has already used her storm shelter twice after she received it. She keeps a chair in there for her to sit in and makes sure she has a lantern to use for lighting.

Having a storm shelter in her yard makes Thomas feel safer. Before having one she would

have to drive all the way to the other side of town to the hospital to take shelter.

“If they are offering the program again, people need to apply for it and have to be patient,” Thomas said.

For more information about the Storm Shelters program, contact Amy King at 918-549-2555.

MUSCOGEE CREEK COACH RODNEY NICHOLS LEADS TEAM TO SILVER AT STATE

ONE DOES NOT HAVE TO LOOK FAR TO FIND GREAT ATHLETES AND COACHES EMANATING OUT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

CEDRIC SUNRAY
SPECIAL TO MVSKOKE NEWS

EDMOND, Oklahoma—One does not have to look far to find great athletes and coaches emanating out of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Allie Reynolds is a former New York Yankee baseball player and standout college football and track star at Oklahoma A&M.

There are many “Allie” prototypes across Creek Country from the most rural of communities to the most inner city of locales.

Some are a combination of both.

In this latter category, one will find Oklahoma Christian School cross country and track coach Rodney Nichols, whose roots are rural, but whose current world is more urban.

North of Okmulgee, west of Beggs and east of Haskell, one will find the township of Natura, Oklahoma.

It was here that Flora Brown, the great-grandmother of Coach Nichols, would raise her children on her Indian allotment in the heart of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Rodney knew her affectionately as “granny” and only wished she had been in his young life for a longer period of time prior to her passing.

Coach Nichols would grow up in Oologah and attend Oologah High School (now Oologah-Talala High School) where he would graduate in 2000.

During his junior and senior high school seasons he was named his school’s Track Athlete of the Year and these accolades led him to signing with Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Bacone, the nation’s oldest continually operational Indian school, was where his great-grandmother Flora Brown had attended and where his family legacy had been strongly influenced.

Unfortunately, due to a serious injury in his freshman season, he moved away from competing on the course and track and set his sights on

coaching in order to fulfill his competitive nature.

In order to begin his journey, he eventually transferred to OSU where he would earn his bachelors degree in secondary education in 2004.

Soon he began teaching at Bethel High School for a year prior to accepting teaching and coaching positions at Stillwater Junior High School at first. Then later he went on to coach at Stillwater High School where he coached track, cross country, volleyball and basketball.

His next move was to Brooks Middle School in Kansas for a year before returning to Oklahoma and teaching and coaching for two years at Northeast Academy in OKC.

Like many coaches, his career had taken him on a circuitous route.

After two years of coaching in OKC and the completion of a masters degree at OSU, Coach Nichols accepted head cross country and track positions, as well as a teaching position, at Oklahoma Christian School in Edmond. Edmond was the hometown of his wife Erika, with whom he parents their nine year-old-daughter Emily.

In his first year at the helm of the OCS program, he had three boys and one girl come out to compete.

By year end the one girl remained, but the boys’ side had increased to seven.

The following year, Brandon Weaver (Wichita/Cherokee Nation/MOWA/Choctaw) would come on as the school’s athletic director, adding another Native connection.

In Coach Nichols’ sixth year of coaching at OCS, he has two full squads of both girls and boys along with a 2019 State Runner Up trophy in 3A Boys Cross Country.

His class is filled with Indian student-athletes from Sequoyah High School in the East to Riverside Indian School in the West, along with many rural schools with large Indigenous populations.

With a cross-country team with numerous high school freshmen among its State final-



Pictured above is Rodney Nichols (Mvskoke) with the 2019 3A State Runner-up trophy. (Oklahoma Christian School Athletic Department)

ists, Coach Nichols is poised for another attempt at a State Championship.

When asked why he chose running as his primary area of participation and coaching, he remarked, “The competition and the fact that you can get better every day,” Nichols said. “If a person can just survive a couple of miles today, that is a win.”

“You can always find something positive every day when you run.”

His sentiments echo back to the analogy that ‘running is ceremony’ in Indian Country.

There is an innate connection to this lifeway that is enjoyed throughout Indigenous communities and that ties Indian people to the land.

From the twenty-seven straight years of consecutive state championships enjoyed by the cross-country program at Hopi High, to exploits of Billy Mills (Lakota) and more contemporary superstars such as collegiate All-American Mackenzie Wahpepah-Harris (Kickapoo), running is literally a cultural way of being.

While Coach Rodney Nichols’ fifteen years of coaching persistence can certainly be in part credited for the success of his team, it would seem that a fuller story of resiliency of the Muscogee Creek Nation which dates back countless generations may also be a contributing factor.

A resiliency where our ancestors walked hundreds of miles to Indian Territory, then were tested on wooded allotment lands in rural Oklahoma and which now manifests itself in a descendant of those people whose forced walk, has enabled him an opportunity to teach others to run.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held Jan. 15 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MNN File Photo)

MENTORING PROGRAM LEGISLATION PASSED

MCN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOCUSED ON PATIENT SATISFACTORY

Lani Hansen
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held Jan. 15.

All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session Jan. 25.

HEW addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 20-001 Execute a certain vizient letter of participation to access committed tier pricing on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Sponsored by Rep. James Jennings. Passed 4-0.

The resolution will allow access to a pricing schedule of medical supplies purchased for MCN Department of Health.

TR 20-002 Execute a certain subscription agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Uptodate, INC. on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Department of Health. Sponsored by James Jennings. Passed 4-0.

The resolution is a software application requested from physicians to use that was bought with a grant fund by Behavioral Health. Uptodate, INC. allows doctors to use a 'cheat sheet' for Up-to-date treatments.

TR 20-003 Execute a certain lease agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Pitney Bowes, INC. on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Sponsored by James Jennings. Passed 4-0.

The resolution will allow the MCN Department of Health to utilize the mailing services of Pitney Bowes, INC.

TR 20-004 Execute a memorandum of understanding between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Oklahoma State Department of Health for the McIntosh County community assessment project Bridging the Gap. Sponsored by Rep. Anna Mar-

shall. Passed 4-0.

The resolution will allow the Oklahoma State Department of Health to continue to work alongside the public health nurses in McIntosh County with patient surveys.

TR 20-005 Execute a memorandum of agreement with Wetumka Public Schools to provide mentoring services to eligible Muscogee (Creek) youth. Sponsored by Anna Marshall. Passed 4-0.

The resolution will allow MCN Youth Services Program to use facilities at Wetumka Public Schools for mentoring services.

Mentoring Services will begin in February and end in May. Will start back in August and end in May. These services will be for MCN youth who are eligible.

NCA 20-001 Authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from Oklahoma State University Office of Rural Health for the small hospital improvement program (ship) grant to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Sponsored by Rep. Mary Crawford. Passed 4-0.

The law is a grant that Okemah Hospital receives every year from Oklahoma State University Office of Rural Health, and this year MCN Department of Health would like to expend for use of patient satisfactory.

NCA 20-002 Authorizing the expenditure of the Tribal Self-Governance Program: planning and negotiation cooperative agreement funds awarded from the Indian Health Service. Sponsored by Mary Crawford. Passed 4-0.

The law of the grant funds will allow MCN Department of Health to support planning and coordination activities with Claremore Indian Health Services for 18 months.

For audio of committee meetings visit: www.mcnn.com



Pictured above is MCN District Court Judge Jeremy Pittman who was sworn into office on Dec. 27, 2018. Legislation was brought up in a full council meeting on Dec. 21, 2019. TR-19 126 confirming Pittman as Civil Trial Judge for the MCN Judicial system failed to garner the 2/3 votes for his reappointment. (MN File Photo)

PITTMAN JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT FAILS IN DEC. FULL COUNCIL

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—Tribal Resolution 19-146, a resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation nomination of Jeremy T. Pittman to serve as an MCN District Trial Court Judge of the Civil District Trial Court Law Division failed to garner the required 2/3 votes in full session on Dec. 21.

Without the 2/3 support for the bill, MCN District is left with two Judges.

Pittman was first appointed as the Civil Trial Court Judge in Dec. 2018. Over the past year, his docket included Bruner cases along with civil matters.

The resolution was sponsored by Rep. Travis Scott and was seconded by Rep. Randall Hicks, who is now Speaker of the National Council.

Reps. Pete Beaver, Joyce Deer, Johnnie Green, James Jennings, Adam Jones, and Darrell Proctor voted against the resolution to confirm Pittman to another term.

Reps. Travis Scott, Del Beaver, Patrick Freeman, Randall Hicks, David Hill, Robert Huft, Thomasene Yahola-Osborn, Mark Randolph, and Rufus Scott voted in favor of the nomination of Pittman.

The vote came just days after Pittman ruled to dismiss one of several charges filed against Bim Steve Bruner.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held Jan. 16 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MNN File Photo)

MCN OFFICIALS TO SERVE THE INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL

MCN RENEWING MEMBERSHIP IN THE NCAI

Lani Hansen
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held Jan. 16.

All passed legislation went before the full Council during the regular session which was held Jan. 25.

BFJ addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 20-020 Establishing Tribal membership in the National Congress of American Indians. Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe. Passed 4-0.

The resolution will allow further membership with the National Congress of American Indians

(NCAI).

TR 20-021 Execute an engagement letter with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP. Sponsored by Rep. Adam Jones III. Passed 4-0.

The resolution will allow a limited waiver for Tribal Utility Authority with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP.

NCA 20-003 Amending MCNCA Title 25 subsection 2-102, entitled "Delegation." Sponsored by Adam Jones III. Passed 4-0.

The law lists the delegation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma.

1.) Principal Chief, 2.) Second Chief, 3.) Speaker, 4.) Second Speaker, 5.) Supreme Court Justice, District Court Judge

For audio of committee meetings visit www.mcnn.com

APPROPRIATIONS FUNDED BRIDGES AND COUNTY ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

AIR STUDY LEGISLATION PASSES THROUGH COMMITTEE

Dallas Huelster
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held Jan. 14.

All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session Jan. 25.

LNC addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 20-006 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee Creek Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a programmatic agreement among the Tennessee Valley Authority the Advisory Council on Historical Preservation, and the State Historic Preservation Officers of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, and Federally recognized Indian Tribes, regarding undertakings subject to Section 106 of The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Sponsor: Mark Randolph Passes 4-0

The resolution authorizes an agreement between the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). TVA is a federal agency of the United States created to foster the social and economic welfare of the people in the Tennessee River Valley to promote stewardship of the regions nat-



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held Jan. 14 at the National Council Chambers in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MN File Photo)

ural resources, provide low cost energy and improve flood control and navigation of Tennessee River and it's tributaries. TVA will consult, on government-to-government basis, with the Nation when it has a claim of interest in the TVA's power service area.

TR 20-007 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement with the United States of America, Tennessee Valley Authority, and federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes for reburial of cultural items including those repatriated under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Sponsor: Mark Randolph Passes 4-0

The resolution authorizes an agreement between the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). TVA is a federal agency of the United States created to foster the social and economic welfare of the people in the Tennessee River Valley to promote stewardship of the regions natural resources, provide low cost energy and improve flood control and navigation of Tennessee River and it's tributaries. The legislation authorizes the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement with the United States of America, TVA and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes for reburial of cultural items including those repatriated under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

TVA is in the process of repa-

LNC CONTINUED —7

WEDNESDAYS @ 10AM CST

FM 106.3 // AM 1240 // 1240THEBREW.COM

LNC
Continued from Page 6

triating cultural items that were excavated from real property belonging to the U.S. on behalf of TVA, during construction of TVA reservoir dams, power plants and other projects.

TR 20-008 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, for improvements to Greenleaf Church Road Sponsor: Thomasene Yahola Osborn Passes 4-0

The MCN and Okfuskee County have been collaborating on obtaining satisfactory road conditions for Okfuskee County. The agreement would allow MCN to engage in a project, which includes the full reconstruction of .9 miles of roadway and replacement of an existing bridge. The Greenleaf Road Project would be planned by MCN Transportation Department with a coordinated effort with the Okfuskee County Commissioners. Okfuskee County will be responsible for the maintenance, upkeep and repair of the roadway and bridge upon completion of the project. Estimated cost of the project is \$1,140,354, which will be reimbursed to the County through federal funding from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Programs. The funds are available for the project through Federal Highway Administration funds.

TR 20-009 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, for the Ash Road Project Sponsor: Mark Randolph Passes 4-0

The MCN has identified a need for reconstructing deficient and hazardous bridges throughout the Nation's jurisdictional area. One such project is the Ash Road Bridge Project located in Okmulgee County. MCN Transportation department will prepare the plans, specifications, estimates and environmental assessments for the project. Okmulgee County will be required to maintain, upkeep and repair the roadway and bridge upon completion. The estimated cost of the project is \$905,871, and the Nation will reimburse the county through the Nations Tribal Transportation Program Funding. MCN will submit a funding application to Special Bridge Funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Bridge Program for the construction of the Ash Road Bridge.

TR 20-010 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Creek County, Oklahoma for the Bridge 00388 Project Sponsor: Joseph Hicks Passes 4-0

The MCN has identified a need for reconstructing deficient and hazardous bridges throughout the Nation's jurisdictional area. One such project is the Bridge 00388 Project, located in Creek County. MCN Transportation department will prepare the plans, specifications, estimates and environmental assessments for the project. Creek County will be

required to maintain, upkeep and repair the roadway and bridge upon completion. The estimated cost of the project is \$810,000, and the Nation will reimburse the county through the Nations Tribal Transportation Program Funding. The legislation authorizes the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Creek County.

TR 20-011 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Separate Memorandum of Understanding with three Oklahoma cities for the maintenance of roadways and associated right-of-ways constructed or improved by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program Sponsor: Thomasene Yahola Osborn Passes 4-0

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a separate memorandum of understanding with the cities of Checotah, Kiefer and Okmulgee for the maintenance of public roadways associated with rights of way constructed by the MCN Tribal Transportation Program. The tribal program has funds available to make improvements to various public roadways/bridges.

TR 20-012 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the improvement of maintenance of a roadway within Wagoner County, Oklahoma, by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program Sponsor Charles McHenry Passes 4-0

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of understanding with Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the improvement and maintenance of a roadway within Wagoner County. The Nation and ODOT have agreed that if the Nation contributes to the improvement of a section of roadway in the county, the ownership and maintenances of the section of roadway will remain the responsibility of ODOT.

TR 20-013 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Separate Memorandum of Understanding with two public schools for the improvement of roadways and associated right of ways by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program. Sponsor: Thomasene Yahola Osborn Passes 4-0

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a separate memorandum of understanding with Bearden and Schuler School to improve road and rights-of-way. MCN will enter agreements with both schools separately.

TR 20-014 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Separate Memorandum of Understanding with eight Oklahoma counties for the maintenance of roadways and associated right-of-ways constructed or improvement by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program. Sponsor: Thomasene Yahola Osborn

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a separate memorandum of understanding with eight Oklahoma counties for maintenance of roadways and rights of way. MCN Tribal Transportation Program has funds available to make improvements to various public roadways. The legislation will give the Principal Chief the ability to make agreements with Creek, Hughes, Mayes, McIntosh, Okfuskee, and Okmulgee Counties.

TR 20-015 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Construction Contract with Machill Tribal Construction, LLC on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing. Sponsor: Thomasene Yahola Osborn Passes 4-0

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a construction contract with MacHill Tribal Construction, LLC for the rehabilitation of 64 apartments located in Eufaula. MCN Department of Housing was awarded the 2018 Indian Community Block Grant.

TR 20-016 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute all necessary documents to transfer a certain platted 17.58 acre, 86 lot real property Residential Community, known as "The Club East" back to the Muskogee (Creek) Nation from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing. Sponsor: Thomasene Yahola Osborn Postponed Indefinitely

The legislation would have authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute documents to transfer the general warranty deed of Okmulgee Golf Club LLC, a tract of land including a platted 17.58 acre, 86 lot real property residential community know as "The Club East," from the MCN Department of Housing back to MCN. Previous

ous legislation had transferred the property to MCN Department of Housing but the Housing department was unable to develop the property. The legislation to transfer the property back to the MCN was postponed.

TR 20-017 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a transfer of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a transfer agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Indian Health Service on behalf of the United States of America for Indian Health Service Project OK 10-S15. Sponsor: Darrell Proctor Passes 4-0

The legislation authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute an agreement between the MCN and the Indian Health Services regarding the provision of satisfactory sanitary sewer facilities to serve home located within the community of Misty Valley in McIntosh County.

TR 20-018 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Programmatic Agreement among the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, Tulsa County Drainage District Number 12, the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Officer, the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and the Osage Nation regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Tulsa and West Tulsa Levees Feasibility Study in Tulsa County, Oklahoma. Sponsor: Mark Randolph Passes 4-0

The legislation authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute an agreement, which provides that if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) determines that the undertaking of improvements to Tulsa and West Tulsa Levees could have an

adverse effect on historic properties, then the USACE will consult with the Nation to seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects.

TR20-019 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a mutual agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") for the implementation of Natural Resources Management and Conservation Programs of the United States Departments of Agriculture to Protect, Improve and maintain Tribal Natural Resources. Sponsor: Mark Randolph Passes 4-0

The legislation would have authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute a mutual agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to protect, improve and maintain tribal natural resources. The Nation wishes to renew the mutual agreement.

TR 20-024 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cherokee Nation, on behalf of its environmental programs, for the purpose of providing a site for placement of ambient air quality, monitoring equipment on Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trust or Private Land. Sponsor: Darrell Proctor Passes 4-0

The legislation would have authorized the MCN to enter into an agreement allowing air quality monitoring through equipment placed on MCN tribal, trust, or private land. The equipment will be used throughout 2020 to collect data. The agreement requires a waiver of the MCN sovereign immunity by subjecting the Nation to the laws of the United States where applicable. MCN will also be required to hold Cherokee Nation harmless claims through a memorandum of understanding.



Life will take her
amazing places.
We'll help you be there for the journey.

When you quit tobacco, you earn more time with the people that make life special.

FREE help to quit tobacco is available 24/7 from the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline. Choose from Quit Coaching, text and email support. Plus, get your pick of free patches, gum or lozenges.

Call 1-800-QUIT NOW or visit OKhelpline.com to get started.

MVSKOKEVISION

SATURDAYS @ 1PM ON

CH. 19 TULSA THE CW

FIND US on YouTube

NO JUDGMENTS. JUST HELP.

Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

1-800-784-8669 OKhelpline.com

A Program of

TSET



MENTORING PROGRAM LEGISLATION PASSED

MCN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOCUSED ON PATIENT SATISFACTORY

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Quarterly Session meeting was held Jan. 25. All members of the council were present. MCN Principal Chief Hill delivered his State of the Nation address at the meeting. His speech can be viewed on the Mvskoke Vision youtube channel.

The full council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 20-001 Execute a certain vizient letter of participation to access committed tier pricing on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Legislation was sponsored by Rep. James Jennings. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution will allow access to a pricing schedule of medical supplies purchased for MCN Department of Health.

TR 20-002 Execute a cer-

tain subscription agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Uptodate, INC. on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Legisla-tion was sponsored by James Jennings. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution is a soft-ware application requested from physicians to use that was bought with a grant fund by Behavioral Health. Upto-date, INC. allows doctors to use a ‘cheat sheet’ for up to date treatments.

TR 20-003 Execute a cer-tain lease agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Pitney Bowes, INC. on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Legisla-tion was sponsored by James Jennings. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution will allow the MCN Department of Health to utilize the mailing services of Pitney Bowes, INC.

TR 20-004 Execute a mem-

orandum of understanding between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Oklahoma State Department of Health for the McIntosh County community assessment project Bridging the Gap. Legislation was sponsored by Anna Marshall. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution will allow the Oklahoma State Department of Health to continue to work alongside the public health nurses in McIntosh County with patient surveys.

TR 20-005 Execute a mem-orandum of agreement with Wetumka Public Schools to provide mentoring services to eligible Muscogee (Creek) youth. Legislation was sponsored by Anna Marshall. Legisla-tion passed unanimously.

The resolution will allow MCN Youth Services Program to use facilities at Wetumka Public Schools for mentoring services.

TR 20-006 A Tribal Reso-lution of the Muscogee Creek Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a pro-grammatic agreement among the Tennessee Valley Author-ity the Advisory Council on Historical Preservation, and the State Historic Preservation Officers of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, and Federally recog-nized Indian Tribes, regarding undertakings subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Legisla-tion was sponsored by Mark Randolph. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution authorizes an agreement between the Ten-nessee Valley Authority (TVA). TVA is a federal agency of the United States created to foster the social and economic wel-fare of the people in the Ten-nessee River Valley to promote stewardship of the regions nat-ural resources, provide low

cost energy and improve flood control and navigation of Ten-nessee River and its tributaries. TVA will consult, on gov-ernment-to-government basis, with the Nation when it has a claim of interest in the TVA’s power service area.

TR 20-007 A Tribal Resolu-tion of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Prin-cipal Chief to execute a mem-orandum of agreement with the United States of Amer-ica, Tennessee Valley Author-ity, and federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes for reburial of cultural items including those repatriated under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Legislation was spon-sored by Mark Randolph. Legisla-tion passed unanimously.

The resolution authorizes an agreement between the Ten-nessee Valley Authority (TVA). TVA is a federal agency of the United States created to foster the social and economic wel-fare of the people in the Ten-nessee River Valley to promote stewardship of the regions nat-ural resources, provide low cost energy and improve flood control and navigation of Ten-nessee River and its tributaries. The legislation authorizes the Principal Chief to exe-cute a memorandum of agree-ment with the United States of American, TVA and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes for reburial of cultural items including those repatriated under the Native Amer-ican Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

TVA is in the process of repatriating cultural items that were excavated from real prop-erty belonging to the U.S. on behalf of TVA, during con-struction of TVA reservoir dams, power plants and other projects.

TR 20-008 A Tribal Resolu-tion of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Princi-

pal Chief to execute a Memo-randum of Agreement with the Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, for improvements to Green-leaf Church Road. Legislation was sponsored by Thomasene Yahola Osborn. Legislation passed unanimously.

The MCN and Okfuskee County have been collaborat-ing on obtaining satisfactory road conditions for Okfuskee County. The agreement would allow the MCN to engage in a project, which includes the full reconstruction of .9 miles of roadway and replacement of an existing bridge. The Greenleaf Road Project would be planned by MCN Trans-portation Department with a coordinated effort with the Okfuskee County Commis-sioners. Okfuskee County will be responsible for the main-tenance, upkeep and repair of the roadway and bridge upon completion of the project. Esti-mated cost of the project is \$1,140,354, which will be reim-bursed to the County through federal funding from the Nation’s Tribal Transportation Programs. The funds are avail-able for the project through Federal Highway Administra-tion funds.

TR 20-009 A Tribal Resolu-tion of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Prin-cipal Chief to Execute a Memo-randum of Agreement with the Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, for the Ash Road Project. Leg-islation was sponsored by Mark Randolph. Legislation passed unanimously.

The MCN has identified a need for reconstructing defi-cient and hazardous bridges throughout the Nation’s juris-dictional area. One such proj-ect is the Ash Road Bridge Project located in Okmulgee County. MCN Transportation department will prepare the plans, specifications, estimates

QUARTERLY–9

A SAFE ALTERNATIVE or a NEW PATH TO ADDICTION

“Which do you believe?”

My e-cigarette journey

The electronic cigarette (e-cig) was first commercially introduced in 2003 by Hon Lik, a 52-year-old pharmacist, inventor and smoker (1). He created the “like smoke” device after his father, a heavy smoker, died of lung cancer (5). It took a few years for the e-cig trend to pick up steam but once it did it took off.

My first experience with an e-cigs was in 2010 when a gentleman walked in the store, I was working, with this black device puffing indoors. I informed the gentleman of our no smoking policy, and he replied “it’s okay, it’s an e-cig, it’s not real smoke”. This was an unfamiliar concept to me. I did not understand how you could smoke and not have smoke, only vapor.

A couple of years later, I did something I told myself I would never do, I smoked a cigarette. My reasoning for crossing this line was I was stressed and feeling overwhelmed and I was told it would calm my nerves. I didn’t feel too guilty at the time, because I knew I wouldn’t get hooked. After a short period of bumming cigarettes from coworkers I started to buy more and more packs. My onetime event turned into a 3 pack a week habit. Though I did not want to admit, I was addicted. When a coworker told me about e-cig I thought this will save me and my smoking addiction would soon be gone. The e-cig was the solution to healthier smoking and helped some smokers stop or at least that is what the commercials said. At last all my smoking problems would soon vanish. I could get my nicotine fix without worrying about damaging my health, not smell like cigarette smoke, could taste my food, and not have to go outside in the cold or rain to smoke. What a relief! or so I thought.

A few years later my glorious e-cig and all its wonderful aspects started to show cracks. More businesses were writing policies banning or limiting use to back out in the cold and rain with the other smokers. Articles were starting to be published on the negative effects of vaping and potential explosions. Costs were rising as demand increased. But I chose to believe the commercials marketing tactics and tell myself it’s all good.

Sometime later I began experiencing shortness of breath walking up the stairs and occasionally would wake up with a sharp pain in my lungs. Even with these warning signs I chose to ignore them because I’m a healthy guy. I work out a couple time a week and am active. This has to be a fluke or something not related to my e-cig. **Denial is a powerful thing. It makes you believe the lie and convince yourself you are right.**

- I held onto my denial for a couple more years until I could not deny reality anymore. My reality that made me finally realize I had to quit was when...
- I learned about the negative effects of the chemicals in the liquid I was vaping. Turns out, some of the chemicals are so toxic that employees are suited up in HAZMAT protection and not allowed to touch it. Also vaporized oil, which is used to add flavor, is not good for your lungs.
 - Money was tight at times and I realized just how much money is was blowing on my habit. There were so many other meaningful things I needed.
 - I did not want my child to be a statistic and become a smoker because she sees me vaping.
 - I accepted the fact that my vaping was causing my shortness of breath and other health problems.
 - There’s no studies on vaping and the long-term effects. I don’t want to be one of those commercials you see on TV 10 years from now about I have COPD from vaping.
 - I was tired of hiding my habit from some of my family members and feeling ashamed when they would find out.
 - I got tired of being played for my money by big tobacco. I fell for their commercials and they made money off of me.
 - I have to have nicotine to manage my feelings, give me energy, wake me up, get me going or keep me going. I used that excuse too long. I don’t need it to help me manage my feelings. I can learn how to do that on my own.
 - I was tired of constantly trying to convince myself that the lies were truth. I do not have to have nicotine. It’s a choice and I chose to take care of me and the truth.

Some days, especially when stressed, the lie tries to come back but I repeat the truth out loud to myself and keep moving forward. For more information about good self-care and mental health, contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health at 918-758-1910. If you’re thinking about quitting smoking/vaping, call 1-800- QUITNOW. Mvto! Text “Creek” to 741-741 if you or someone you know is in a crisis. Or call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline Number at 1-800-273-8255.

Sources:
<https://www.insider.com/history-of-vaping-who-invented-e-cigs-2019-10#in-2000-a-tabletop-volcano-vaporizer-entered-the-market-it-was-not-really-designed-for-tobacco-though-7>
<http://www.casaa.org/historical-timeline-of-electronic-cigarettes/>

Quarterly Session

Continued from Page 8

and environmental assessments for the project. Okmulgee County will be required to maintain, upkeep and repair the roadway and bridge upon completion. The estimated cost of the project is \$905,871, and the Nation will reimburse the county through the Nations Tribal Transportation Program Funding. MCN will submit a funding application to Special Bridge Funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Bridge Program for the construction of the Ash Road Bridge.

TR 20-010 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Creek County, Oklahoma for the Bridge 00388 Project. Legislation was sponsored by Joseph Hicks. Legislation passed unanimously.

The MCN has identified a need for reconstructing deficient and hazardous bridges throughout the Nation's jurisdictional area. One such project is the Bridge 00388 Project, located in Creek County. MCN Transportation department will prepare the plans, specifications, estimates and environmental assessments for the project. Creek County will be required to maintain, upkeep and repair the roadway and bridge upon completion. The estimated cost of the project is \$810,000, and the Nation will reimburse the county through the Nations Tribal Transportation Program Funding. The legislation authorizes the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Creek County.

TR 20-011 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Separate Memorandum of Understanding with three Oklahoma cities for the maintenance of roadways and associated right-of-ways constructed or improved by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program. Legislation was sponsored by Thomasene Yahola Osborne. Legislation passed unanimously.

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a separate memorandum of understanding with the cities of Checotah, Kiefer and Okmulgee for the maintenance of public roadways associated with rights-of-way constructed by the MCN Tribal Transportation Program. The tribal program has funds available to make improvements to various public roadways/bridges.

TR 20-012 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the improvement of maintenance of a roadway within Wagoner County, Oklahoma, by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program. Legislation was sponsored by Charles McHenry. Legislation passed unanimously.

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of understanding with Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the improvement and maintenance of a roadway within Wagoner County. The Nation and ODOT have agreed that if the Nation contributes to the improvement of a section of roadway in the county, the ownership and maintenances of the section of roadway will remain the responsibility of ODOT.

TR 20-013 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Separate Memorandum of Understanding with two public schools for the improvement of roadways

and associated right-of-ways by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program. Legislation was sponsored by Thomasene Yahola Osborn.

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a separate memorandum of understanding with Bearden and Schuler School to improve road and rights of way. MCN will enter agreements with both schools separately.

TR 20-014 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Separate Memorandum of Understanding with eight Oklahoma counties for the maintenance of roadways and associated right of ways constructed or improvement by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Transportation Program. Legislation was sponsored by Thomasene Yahola Osborn. Legislation passed unanimously.

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a separate memorandum of understanding with eight Oklahoma counties for maintenance of roadways and rights of way. MCN Tribal Transportation Program has funds available to make improvements to various public roadways. The legislation will give the Principal Chief the ability to make agreements with Creek, Hughes, Mayes, McIntosh, Okfuskee, and Okmulgee Counties.

TR 20-015 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Construction Contract with Machill Tribal Construction, LLC on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing. Legislation was sponsored by Thomasene Yahola Osborn. Legislation passed unanimously.

The legislation allows MCN Principal Chief to execute a construction contract with MacHill Tribal Construction, LLC for the rehabilitation of 64 apartments located in Eufaula. MCN Department of Housing was awarded the 2018 Indian Community Block Grant.

TR 20-017 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a transfer of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a transfer agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Indian Health Service on behalf of the United States of America for Indian Health Service Project OK 10-S15. Legislation was sponsored by Darrell Proctor. Legislation passed unanimously.

The legislation authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute an agreement between the MCN and the Indian Health Services regarding the provision of satisfactory sanitary sewer facilities to serve homes located within the community of Misty Valley in McIntosh County.

TR 20- 018 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a Programmatic Agreement among the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, Tulsa County Drainage District Number 12, the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Officer, the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and the Osage Nation regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Tulsa and West Tulsa Levees Feasibility Study in Tulsa County, Oklahoma. Legislation was sponsored by Mark Randolph. Legislation was postponed indefinitely.

The legislation would have authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute an agreement, which provides that if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) determines that the undertaking of improvements to Tulsa and West Tulsa

Levees could have an adverse effect on historic properties, then the USACE will consult with the Nation to seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects.

TR20-019 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Execute a mutual agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) for the implementation of Natural Resources Management and Conservation Programs of the United States Departments of Agriculture to Protect, improve and maintain Tribal Natural Resources. Legislation was sponsored by Mark Randolph. Legislation passed unanimously.

The legislation authorized the MCN Principal Chief to execute a mutual agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to protect, improve and maintain tribal natural resources. The Nation wishes to renew the mutual agreement.

TR 20-020 Establishing Tribal membership in the National Congress of American Indians. Legislation was sponsored by Rep. William Lowe. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution will allow further membership with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI).

TR 20-021 Execute an engagement letter with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP. Legislation was sponsored by Rep. Adam Jones III. Legislation passed unanimously.

The resolution will allow a limited waiver for Tribal Utility Authority with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP.

TR 20-022 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Prin-

Principal Chief to submit a grant application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development 2019 and 2020

placed on MCN tribal, trust, or private land. The equipment will be used throughout 2020 to collect data. The agreement requires a waiver of the MCN sovereign immunity by subjecting the Nation to the laws of the United States where applicable. MCN will also be required to hold Cherokee Nation harmless claims through a memorandum of understanding.

NCA 20-001 Authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from Oklahoma State University Office of Rural Health for the small hospital improvement program (ship) grant to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Sponsored by Rep. Mary Crawford. Passed 15-0.

The law is a grant that Okemah Hospital receives every year from Oklahoma State University Office of Rural Health, and this year MCN Department of Health would like to expend for use of patient satisfactory.

NCA 20-002 Authorizing the expenditure of the Tribal Self-Governance Program: planning and negotiation cooperative agreement funds awarded from the Indian Health Service. Legislation was sponsored by Mary Crawford. Passed 15-0.

The law of the grant funds will allow MCN Department of Health to support planning and coordination activities with Claremore Indian Health Services for 18 months.

NCA 20-003 Amending MCNCA Title 25 subsection 2-102, entitled "Delegation." Legislation was sponsored by Adam Jones III. Passed 15-0.

The law lists the delegation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma. The delegates will include Principal Chief, Second Chief, Speaker, Second Speaker, a Supreme Court Justice and a District Court Judge.

FREEDMEN CASE DISMISSED IN MCN COURT

JUDGE CITES MCN SUPREME COURT DECISION AS REASON FOR CASE DISMISSAL

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—MCN District Court Judge Greg Bigler dismissed the Freedman civil suit filed in the courts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on Jan. 21.

In the orders, Judge Bigler cites the MCN Supreme Court ruling that overturned a 2006 MCN district court decision as a reason for the dismissal.

In a court hearing held on Jan. 8, Ron Graham, asked the Court to hear this case considering the law of the 1866 treaty exclusively.

Graham is the plaintiff in the case. He serves as President of the Muscogee Creek Freedmen Band and is second Vice President of the Okmulgee Chapter of the NAACP.

Graham’s petition to the MCN District Court claimed, ‘The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board acted contrary to the law in regards to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 1866 Treaty.’

Graham claims that the 1979 constitutional reorganization and series of subsequent referendums disenfranchised Freedmen, causing them to lose citizenship, voting rights, and access to federally funded programs and identity.



Pictured above is Ron Graham who appeared in MCN district acting on his own behalf in a civil suit asking the courts to consider his citizenship case. MCN District Court Judge Greg Bigler dismissed the Freedman civil suit filed in the courts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on Jan. 21 (Submission)

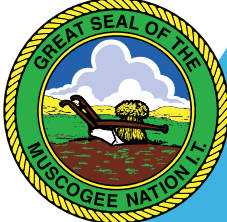

Supreme Courts.

Bigler’s ruling dismissing the case said, ‘This Court is bound by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court’s decisions once that Court has spoken on the issues in question.’

‘Thus, this Court must defer its own opinion to that of the Supreme Court, which has final, binding word on interpreting Muscogee Law,’ the ruling said. ‘The Supreme Court’s holding is binding unless or until the Supreme Court reverses it[s] prior ruling.’

According to the MCN AG’s petition, Graham applied for citizenship with the tribe three times the first beginning in 2001. The Citizenship board denied that application in June of 2002 according to the Nation’s motion.

The AG’s documents state Graham filed again in Dec. 2002. That second denial was then litigated in the tribal district court and appealed to the MCN Supreme Court. Records reflect those proceedings spanned from 2003-2007.



TCE Tax Outreach

Tax Counseling to Elderly

Free Tax Preparation and E-file of Federal and State Taxes
Household income of \$54,000 or less (age 60 plus)


7 Locations/Dates:

- Friday, January 31, 2020 - Okemah Indian Community, Okemah, OK
- Monday, February 3, 2020- Okmulgee Indian Community, Okmulgee, OK
- Friday, February 7, 2020- Glenpool Indian Community, Glenpool, OK
- Monday, February 10, 2020- Koweta Indian Community, Coweta, OK
- Friday, February 21, 2020- Checotah Indian Community, Checotah, OK
- Friday, February 28, 2020- Muscogee Indian Community, Muskogee, OK
- Friday, March 6, 2020- Bristow Indian Community, Bristow, OK

Taxes will be done from 9AM until 3PM at these sites. First come first served, no appointment necessary for the outreach days.

Regular TCE appointments are also available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from January 28 through April 15, 2020
Site Location will be MCN Department of Commerce.
call 918-549-2607 to schedule an appointment.

www.MvskokeLoanFund.org



LEGALS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOCREE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
K.L.; DOB: 12/21/2015) Case No.: JV 2020-01-SP
C.K.L., Jr.; DOB: 11/13/2018)
C.T.; DOB: 10/01/2014)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOCREE NATION to: Unknown Father

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an Amended Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named children are deprived children and that, as the parent of said children, C.K.L., Jr. and C.T., you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Amended Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 14th day of April, 2020 at the hour of 9:00 AM for an Adjudication Hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Amended Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 21st day of January, 2020.

[Seal] Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOCREE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
K.L.; DOB: 12/21/2015) Case No.: JV 2020-01-SP
C.K.L., Jr.; DOB: 11/13/2018)
C.T.; DOB: 10/01/2014)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOCREE NATION to: JOHN THOMAS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an Amended Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child, C.T., you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Amended Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 9th day of April, 2020 at the hour of 9:00 AM for an Adjudication Hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Amended Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 21st day of January, 2020.

[Seal] Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOCREE (CREEK) NATION
SUPREME COURT
FILED
JAN 23 2020
COURT CLERK
MUSCOCREE (CREEK) NATION

IN RE:)
SUPREME COURT ADMINISTRATIVE)
OFFICERS FOR CY 2020)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-01

1. While in regular session on January 22, 2020, in accordance with Article VII, § 4, of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, the Court selected a Chief Justice to serve as the Court’s administrative officer for calendar year 2020. Justice Richard Lerblance was unanimously selected by the participating justices to serve as Chief Justice for calendar year 2020.

2. While in regular session on January 22, 2020, in accordance with long-standing custom, the Court also selected a Vice-Chief Justice for calendar year 2020. Justice Amos McNac was unanimously selected by the participating justices to serve as Vice-Chief Justice for calendar year 2020.

ALL JUSTICES CONCUR.

DONE AND ORDERED: January 22, 2020.

Richard Lerblance
Chief Justice

CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY

I hereby certify that on January 23, 2020, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Administrative Order was hand-delivered to the following Muscogee (Creek) Nation government officials: Principal Chief, Second Chief, National Council, District Court Judges, Attorney General, and Human Resources. A true and correct copy of the foregoing Administrative Order was also e-mailed to the Mvskoke Media and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer on January 23, 2020.

Laura Marks
Deputy Court Clerk

Page 1 of 1
Administrative Order 2020-01, Supreme Court Administrative Officers for CY 2020
Filed January 23, 2020



ANONYMOUS TIP LINE

918.777.3429



OBITUARIES

JAMES ALLEN FIELDS

James Allen Fields, 59, of Oklahoma City, passed away on Monday, January 6, 2019 in Eufaula. James was born on January 2, 1961 in Oklahoma City to Sonny and Mattie (Francis) Fields. He graduated from Southeast High School in Oklahoma City. James worked at Fred Jones Auto, before retiring at the age of 38. He attended and was very active with Victory Church in Oklahoma City and even helped with going to Fall's Creek. James enjoyed fishing. He was an avid OU fan and loved his dog, Tickle/Pickles.

Survivors include: his son, Justin "Sonny" Foster and wife, Kamber Noel, of OKC; sisters: Betty Barnett and Louella Downing, both of OKC; brother, Timothy Wayne Fields; of Colorado; two granddaughters: Mackenzie and Leah Foster; and two brothers in-law, Sampson Barnett and Leroy Austin. He is preceded in



death by his parents, Sonny and Mattie Fields; brother, Richard Fields; and two sisters: Wilma Austin and Christine Johnson.

A funeral service was held at the Artussee Baptist Church with Brother Ray Breeden officiating. Burial followed at Charles Cemetery under the direction of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences may be made at www.hbmfuneralhome.com

PATRICIA ANN SLOAN

Patricia Ann Sloan, 73, of Eufaula, passed away Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at the St. Francis Hospital of Muskogee. She was born on June 26, 1946, the daughter of Freeland and Maybelle (Starr) Moore.

Patricia attended Connors State College in Warner. She worked at the Eufaula Dormitory for fifteen years. Patricia married John Albert Sloan in 1997 at the Stidham Public School.

Survivors include: her husband, John, of the home; her daughter, Rachel Eden and husband Freddie of Antlers; her brothers, Johnny Kilgore and wife Jeanie of Texanna Road, Michael Smith and wife Connie of Sapulpa, Mike Moore of Oregon; her sisters, Linda Cummings and husband Washington of Eufaula, Ricky Post oak and husband Paul of Wewoka and Betty Jean White of Oregon; six grandchildren, Teresa Dominic, Freddie Eden, Jr. Victoria Eden, Jacob Eden, Johnathan Dominic and Alexis Dominic. She is preceded in



death by her parents, her sister, Sharon "Ginger" Mustin and Mary Ann Day, her brother, Bob Goad, and her son, John Freeland Dominic.

A wake service was held at Kelley Memorial Chapel. The funeral service was held at Little Coweta Baptist Church. Burial followed at the Morrison Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Hunn, Black, & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.hbmfuneralhome.com

JEREMIAH LEWIS

Jeremiah Lewis, 84, of Eufaula, passed away Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at the Eufaula Manor Nursing Home. Jeremiah was born on October 14, 1935, in Eufaula, Oklahoma the son of Frank and Elizabeth (Narcomey) Lewis.

He attended Eufaula High School. He then joined the United States Army on December 8, 1954. He served during the Korean War and received the Good Conduct Medal. He was honorably discharged on November 30, 1956.

Jeremiah was employed at the Indian Health Services for thirty-five years. Jeremiah was a member of the Eufaula VFW and the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guard. He was a member of the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. One of Jeremiah's favorite things to do was to go to auctions. His whole world was his three boys and his grandchildren.

Survivors include: his sons, Jerry Lewis, Michael Lewis and wife Stephanie and Lance Lewis and wife Heather; his brother, Clifford Lewis of Edmond; his sisters, Christine McIntosh-Breeden of Eufaula, Shirlene Lewis-Ade of Wetumka, Augustine Lewis-Williams of Muskogee and Remona Hill of Nashville, Illinois; eleven grandchildren and



one great grandchild. He is preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Phillip Lewis and a sister, Frankie Carr.

A funeral service was held at North Fork Baptist Church with Reverend Sidney Lee and Reverend Jake Jackson officiating. Pallbearers were James Lewis, Andrew Jeremiah Lewis, Jackson Jeremiah Lewis, Lee McIntosh, David Ade and Jay Duncan. Honorary pallbearers were the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guard, Bud McCombs, Axel Lewis, Jacob Maddox, Dan Coachman, Michael Ramsey and Tristan Ramsey. A burial with military honors followed at the Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of Hunn, Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.hbmfuneralhome.com

Submit Obituaries to Info@mvsokemedia.com

MCN CITIZEN INDUCTED INTO OSU DIVERSITY HALL OF FAME

CITIZEN OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DR. JOHN CHANEY, REGENTS PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY WAS RECENTLY INDUCTED INTO THE OSU HALL OF FAME

Gale Post oak
INTERN

STILLWATER, Okla- Citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Dr. John Chaney, a Regents Professor of Psychology was recently inducted into the OSU Hall of Fame. The OSU Diversity Hall of Fame recognizes alumni and university supporters who have significantly contributed to the advancement of diversity and inclusion at OSU and who have distinguished themselves in their particular field or profession and the betterment of their community. The Hall of Fame was established by OSU's Division of institutional in 2015.

Dr. John M. Chaney, has taught at OSU since 1991 after earning a clinical psychology doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia. With more than 125 publications, Chaney has conducted numerous studies examining psychological adjustment to a variety of adult and pediatric chronic medical illnesses. He directs the American Indians Into Psychology program, one of only three Indian Health Service-funded programs in the country that promote Native students pursuing advanced degrees in psychology. The program has provided opportunities for more than 200 American Indian graduate and undergraduate students through scholarships and academic enrichment programs and has produced 36 American Indian PH.D.s in psychology.

Chaney, is also the recipient of the 2017 Award for Distinguished Contributions to Diversity in Pediatric Psychology from the American Psychological Association's (APA) Society of Pediatric Psychology. The award honors a pediatric psychologist who professionally promotes understanding and respect for diversity in research, policy or practice within a field of pediatric psychology.

"It is quite an honor to be recognized nationally for your



Pictured above is Ron Graham who appeared in MCN district acting on his own behalf in a civil suit asking the courts to consider his citizenship case. MCN District Court Judge Greg Bigler dismissed the Freedman civil suit filed in the courts of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation on Jan. 21 (Submission)

investments in diversity-focused training and research over the course of your career, and I am grateful," Chaney said.

"At the same time, I think it is equally important to acknowledge this individual award is the result of a team effort and a dedicated supporting cast."

Chaney said the APA award was made possible by the American Indians Into Psychology program he directs, which has helped 25 American Indian students receive their doctorates at OSU. The program, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary this fall, has become an integral part of the OSU Psychology Department, contributing to an inclusive environment that

embraces cultural diversity. "The program's success would not have been possible without the ongoing support of the OSU administration and the psychology department's faculty and staff," he said.

Dr. Larry Mullins, associate dean for research in the College of Arts and Sciences and Vaughn Vennerberg II Chair of Psychology at OSU, nominated Chaney for the award.

"Dr. Chaney has been a champion for diversity his entire career," Mullins said.

"His research, teaching, leadership and advocacy, in the context of diversity, are exceptional and unparalleled by anyone I know in the field of pediatric psychology."

SUBMISSIONS

TCIC Bingo Night

Bingo and Food Sale on Friday, February 7th at Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 8611 S. Union Ave, Tulsa, OK. The Food Sale begins at 6 p.m. and Bingo is at 7 p.m. The cost to play Bingo is \$12 for 10 games and 2 Specials. Concession provided by Tulsa Indian Club, menu: Indian Tacos, Desserts, and Drinks. For any information contact the TCIC office at 918-298-2464.

Bingo and Food Sale

Springfield United Methodist Church will be hosting Bingo and a Food sale on February 15th at the Wetumka Indian Community Center, 608 N. Creek St, Wetumka, OK. The Food Sale begins at 10 a.m. and Bingo is at noon. The cost to play Bingo is \$20 for a packet. For any information contact Gina Berryhill at 918-623-7097.

Kickball Tournament

Springfield United Methodist Church is hosting a Kickball Tournament on March 14th at Wetumka Indian Community Center, 608 N. Creek St, Wetumka, OK. The tournament begins at 8 a.m. and the entry fee is \$70 for 8-man roster. First place team will win t-shirts. For more information contact Gina Berryhill at 918-623-7097.

Thlophlocco
Citizens Meeting

A Thlophlocco (Creek) Tribal Town Citizen's meeting has been scheduled for Saturday February

15 at 4PM at the Alabama Quasarte Community Building. Family and friends are welcome and potluck is encouraged. We will review our recent motion filed in the MCN District Court (MCN Case # CV-2007-39 & CV-2011-08) & discuss raising money for our legal team. For more information contact Nathan Anderson at 405-220-5887

VITA Tax Program

This free tax preparation is by appointment only. Please call the MCN Department of Commerce at 918- 549-2607 for more information or to schedule your appointment.

Summer Youth
Accepting Applications

The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training are taking applications for students ages 16-21. To apply to be a summer youth worker, go to: <http://bit.ly/MCNSY2020> Applications will be taken until March 31. For more information call 918-732-7773.

Tax Counseling
for the Elderly

Free tax preparation and E-file of Federal and State Taxes will be completed for elderly age 60 or over with a household income of \$54,000 or less. Taxes will be done from 9am until 3pm at the following sites on a first come, first served basis. Consultation dates throughout Feb., to the first week of March are available. Consultations locations include Okmulgee, Coweta, Checotah, Muskogee, and Bristow.

Monday, Feb. 3-Okmulgee Indian Community, Okmulgee, OK

Monday, Feb. 10-Koweta Indian Community, Coweta, OK

Friday, Feb. 7-Glenpool Indian Community, Glenpool, OK

Friday, Feb. 21-Checotah Indian Community, Checotah, OK

Friday, Feb. 28-Muskogee Indian Community, Muskogee, OK

Friday, March 6-Bristow Indian Community, Bristow, OK

For more information contact the Mvskeke Loan Fund at 918-549-2603.

Open Mic Night

Wetumka Indian Youth Council will be holding an Open Mic Night on Saturday, February 29 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Wetumka Indian Community Center located at 608 N. Creek Street, Wetumka, OK.74883. This event is open to all ages to join in and share comedy, poetry, language, dancing or other talents and is free to the public to attend.For more information contact Eric Yahola at 405-380-8357

Attention California
Mvskeke Citizens

We are excited to announce California Mvskeke Connection.

Our mission is to advocate for California At-Large Community citizens, building a deeper connection with Muskogee (Creek) Nation to uphold our culture, language, and ensure services, preserving the legacy of strong Mvskokvke! Please visit our website at www.californiamvskekeconnection.com or like and share our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Californiamvskekeconnection>



NATIONAL EAGLE REPOSITORY-US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REVISED POLICY

TRIBES ARE NOW ABLE TO RETAIN BALD EAGLE REMAINS

Gale Postoak
INTERVIEW

WASHINGTON-In a monumental decision that underscores the agency's commitment to honoring the wishes of Federally Recognized Tribes, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has revised its policy regarding the retention of eagle remains on lands within Indian Country.

Federally recognized Tribes are now able to retain bald and golden eagle remains found on these lands under certain conditions and with the proper permits.

In 2017, the USFWS hosted numerous in-person and telephone consultation opportunities for Tribes in the United States.

During these consultation sessions, Tribal members requested the ability to retain bald and golden eagle remains found on their lands. The USFWS has revised its policy to accommodate this request in 2019.

The updated policy has three goals: authorize the retention of eagles found by a Tribe's members in Indian Country, enhance eagle conservation on these lands, and avoid unnecessary human health or safety challenges that some deceased eagles pose.

According to a press release from USFWS Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson said "We are honored to have the ability to support Tribes' spiritual, religious and cultural pursuits by authorizing the retention of eagle remains found by federally recognized Tribal members on their lands.

By working together, we

hope to conserve bald and golden eagle populations for future generations."

"The Trump Administration is proud to acknowledge the significance of the eagle in many Tribal cultures," said Joe Grogan, Director, White House Domestic Policy Council. "This new policy honors that significance as well as the commitment Tribal governments have displayed leveraging their sovereignty, in concert with the United States, to safeguard the bald eagle and other eagle species of religious importance in Tribal communities.

"It also cuts back needless bureaucratic red tape. The White House thanks the Department of the Interior for leading the way to this sensible new policy."

Under the updated policy revised in August, 2019, a federally recognized Tribe must receive a permit prior to possessing eagle remains found within Indian Country.

When a Tribal member or an employee of a Tribe discovers eagle remains, he or she must report it immediately to Tribal or Service Law enforcement officials.

"Because of its intrinsic beauty, skill and courage, the eagle is a valued symbol of America and has long been venerated in many Tribal cultures throughout Indian Country," said John Tahsuda, Interior Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs. "Indian Affairs staff have worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Tribal nations on a common-sense approach to the handling of bald and golden eagle remains found on Tribal lands. This updated eagle remains

retention policy respects Tribal cultural and religious practices while protecting eagle populations now and in the future."

Eagle remains found and reported may be eligible to return to the Tribes for religious purposes after the USFWS completes any activities it deems necessary for law enforcement or for scientific management reasons.

If the USFWS or Tribal law enforcement officer designated by the USFWS determines that an eagle was not taken intentionally and human health risks are not suspected or known it may be transferred directly to the respective Tribe as long as the proper permits are in place. So long as the Tribe reports the remains to the agency and applies for a permit at no cost, the remains can stay in the community following confirmation by law enforcement.

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Lacey Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Certain activities like harassing, killing or selling these species are strictly prohibited.

Eagle feathers cannot be sold, only given as gifts from a tribal member. Eagles that are unlawfully taken, diseased, poisoned or part of an ongoing investigation will not be eligible for distribution.

The idea for the policy came about when the agency engaged in outreach with Indian Country in 2017, officials said.

Tribal leaders cited a need to be able to obtain eagle feathers and eagle parts from sources other than the National Eagle Repository, a federal facility in



Federally Recognized Tribes Can Retain Certain Eagle Remains On Their Land. (Shutterstock)

Colorado.

It can take years for tribal citizens to obtain feathers and parts from the facility. The wait for a whole bird or whole tail is the longest, with the agency quoting 2 years for parts from an adult bald or golden eagle, and even up to 5 years for parts from an immature golden eagle.

But if the same items were found in Indian Country, the new policy eliminates any lengthy waits.

All that is needed is the permit, along with an investiga-

tion by a federal agent or a designated tribal law enforcement official, in order for the eagle to stay on the reservation or tribal land instead of being sent elsewhere.

Previously, such remains had to be turned over to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or to other authorities

More information regarding the Service's eagle retention policy update can be found <https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/eagle-retention-policy.html>

keep on



RUCKIN'

2020

WIN A 2020 CHEVROLET® TRUCK

OR ONE OF FOUR \$1,000 CASH PRIZES | FEB 29 | 10PM

Saturdays in February

\$500 Cash Drawings | 8:30PM–10PM

\$250 Cash Drawings | 6PM–8:15PM

Random \$25 Rewards Play Winners | 6PM–10PM



Earn one entry for every 50 points. Entries carry over weekly. Guests may win one Rewards Play and cash drawing per day. Must be present to win. Make, model and color of actual vehicle may vary. See Players Club for details.