



THE MVSOKOKE NEWS

PRODUCED BY  MVSOKOKE MEDIA

TRIBES UNIFY AGAINST DISESTABLISHMENT

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK), CHOCTAW, AND SEMINOLE NATIONS OF OKLAHOMA UNIFY AS STATE AND CONSERVATIVE ORGANIZATIONS ATTACK SOVEREIGNTY

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — In a joint statement released Oct. 28, three of Oklahoma’s tribes have clarified their opposition to congressional actions requested by Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt following the McGirt Supreme Court ruling. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Choctaw Nation and the Seminole Nations of Oklahoma are unified in support of tribal reservation status. MCN Principal Chief David Hill, Chief Gary Batton of the Choctaw Nation and Chief Greg Chilcoat of the Seminole Nation met to announce their unified stance. According to the statement issued to media the respective leaders have agreed to focus ‘on maximizing sovereignty and self-governance, ensuring public safety for all those living in their communities, and capitalizing on economic development opportunities.’ The announcement came after Oklahoma Governor Stitt’s request for congressional actions and conservative organizations like the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs (OCA) launch a full court



Pictured (L-R) is Choctaw Nation Chief Gary Batton, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief David Hill and Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Chief Greg Chilcoat. (Submission)

press attack on tribal sovereignty. OCPA President Jonathan Small went on record with the Tulsa World asking congress to disestablish the reservations. That organization has launched a fundraising campaign spread their message in a statewide advertising campaign. Over the last several weeks sovereignty attacks have looked like the use of EPA opinions to grant the state environmental powers over tribal lands, state AG Mike Hunter requesting congressional delegation

to introduce federal law to disestablish the reservation of the MCN and the Governors marketing that request as ‘just a fairness issue,’ in his presser on Oct.22. In the face of the possible congressional intervention the three leaders issued statements. MCN Principal Chief David Hill commended his colleagues for standing for sovereignty. I want to commend my fellow leaders for their meaningful stand for sovereignty and for their clear opposition to any and all legislation that would

return us to a broken system,’ Hill said. ‘Tribal leaders around the country have uniformly signaled this moment as one that will resonate long after we’re gone.’ ‘We owe it to the future and the coming generations to meet this opportunity with our greatest efforts, together.’ Choctaw Chief Gary Batton said he was proud to stand with tribal leaders. ‘I am proud to stand united with my fellow tribal leaders of the Creek and Seminole Nation to state we are in agreement that tribes are an oppor-

tunity for Oklahoma, not a problem to be fixed,’ Batton said. ‘The McGirt decision reaffirmed the existence of our reservations.’ ‘There is no need for federal legislation when sitting down and working together is the best path forward for tribes and the state.’ He said tribes have been good neighbors and great partners for Oklahoma for hundreds of years, and will continue to be so. ‘If we all work in a unified

TRIBES- 2

MCN PASSES MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAW

RESERVATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDED MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAW PASSED UNANIMOUSLY MAKING TRIBAL LAW ON MEDICAL USE MORE CLEAR

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation considered and unanimously passed traffic laws that would update the tribe’s criminal and traffic codes in order to close gaps between tribal codes and those administered by the state of Oklahoma since the United States Supreme Court issued its decision affirming the MCN Reservation status. According to a statement from the Office of Principal Chief, ‘This action in lawmaking is credited to the Mvsokoke Reservation Preservation Commission’s recommendation to provide clarity and eliminate uncertainty as to whether the Nation will enforce any criminal law against anyone who possesses a valid medical marijuana license.’ One of the criminal code updates considered by the MCN National Council was the application and limitations of Medical



(Submission)

Marijuana. ‘This is an excellent example of the Nation exercising its sovereignty to amend its criminal law to address public safety issues in the Mvsokoke Reservation,’ Principal Chief David Hill said. ‘Furthermore, this is a pro-business action by the Commission and commitment to individuals and entities licensed in medical marijuana endeavors throughout the reservation.’ In 2018, Medical Marijuana was legalized under State law when voters approved Oklahoma State Question 788 or ‘Medical Marijuana Legalization Initiative.’ This ini-

tiative created mechanisms for oversight of medical use licenses as well as commercial and non-commercial regulation of the substance. However, under the tribe’s older statutes Medical Marijuana was still defined as a controlled substance. This created a gap in the law for tribal citizens, and businesses associated with Medical Marijuana. Without an update to the tribe’s criminal code, many individuals and businesses located on the MCN Reservation who were compliant with state law could have been subject to criminal prosecution under the Nation’s law. The council unanimously approved NCA 20-083, after recommendations of the Mvsokoke Reservation Protection Commission made a recommendation for the law. According to the legislation language the law is meant to serve as an immediate solution to provide clarity as to whether the

MEDICAL- 2

MCN LIGHTHORSE DEPARTMENT SEEKS TO FILL POSITIONS

FUNDING HAS OPENED MANY POSITIONS WITH THE MCN LIGHTHORSE DUE TO MCGIRT CASE FINDINGS

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Representatives from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse Department made an appearance on the Mvsokoke Radio show on Oct. 21 to give an update on the administration. In July, the MCN National Council passed an appropriation (\$2.2 million) for MCN Lighthouse to hire 39 more staff members including 20 officers, ten investigators, six dispatchers, two captains and a records clerk. MCN Lighthouse Chief Daniel Wind said the department quickly needed expansion to respond to the findings of the McGirt case that took place in the early summer. ‘We have needed every cent and every one of those positions,’ Chief Wind said. ‘When McGirt hit we realized that we are going to have to add on. It helped us scratch the surface of what we were needing.’

Department of Justice (DOJ) has also awarded the MCN Lighthouse a COPS grant that will help to hire five more officers. ‘We will be adding a total of 25 officers on to the street,’ Chief Wind said. ‘We are also in the process of hiring for those positions.’ Chief Wind listed Muscogee (Creek) Nation preference for the consideration of these positions. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age and can pass a background check. If chosen, officers will be required to attend a three-month training in AZ. ‘I am looking for career driven people,’ Chief Wind said. ‘The most important thing will be the willingness to serve our people no matter the conditions. I am not looking for someone who just wants a job. I want someone who has dedication to our tribe, who is willing to work nightshift and do what is called upon them to do.’

LIGHTHORSE- 2

TRIBES

Continued from Page 1

approach, we can make the McGirt ruling a positive to attract businesses and to provide jobs to everyone while growing our economy,' Batton said.

Chief Greg Chilcoat was one of the first Chiefs to publicly decry the states attempts to whittle sovereign rights after the McGirt decision. He said that the unification of tribal leaders was important for Oklahoma and all of Indian Country.

'It is an honor to be united with my fellow tribal leaders in advocating and defending the sovereign rights of not only tribes in Oklahoma, but all of Indian Country,' Chilcoat said. 'We stand ready to address any issues following the McGirt ruling through respectful government to government interactions, just as Oklahoma tribes have always done.'

'However, Congressional involvement is unnecessary and undermines the sovereignty of all tribal nations.'

Mvskoke Media will continue to monitor the topic for developments and make updates as they become available.

MEDICAL

Continued from Page 1

MCN will enforce any criminal law against those possess a valid license, and are in compliance with the licensure to use or produce Medical Marijuana.

Documents said that 'the commission will continue to analyze the Medical Marijuana issue to develop in-depth and long-term recommendations to the National Council that will identify possible regulatory and taxation authority, as well as economic

development opportunities in the field of Medical Marijuana.'

The legislation said that classification of "Controlled and dangerous substance," referenced in the code will not apply to marijuana in any form that is grown, processed, dispensed, tested, possessed or used by any person in the Nation's Indian who has been issued a Medical Marijuana license by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, as long as such person is in compliance with all Medical

Marijuana license laws and regulations under Oklahoma State law and any other applicable law of the Nation.

Those tribal citizens who use the substance as medicine, produce, transport, grow or dispense must be compliant with all regulations under Oklahoma State law to avoid prosecution.

Citizens of the tribe who work for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation still need to refer to the employee handbook in order to remain compliant with employ-

ment policy. The law is not effective until Principal Chief David Hill has signed it.

The executive release said that there could be future updates to the code.

'The Commission will continue to analyze the medical marijuana issue to develop in-depth and long-term recommendations to the National Council that will identify possible regulatory and taxation authority, as well as economic development opportunities concerning medical marijuana,' the release said.

LIGHTHORSE

Continued from Page 1

The MCN Lighthouse Communications Supervisor Jeffrey Frank would like to reiterate there are currently four positions for dispatchers open.

"With the hatching of McGirt, we have definitely increased our call volume," Frank said. "On an average day we were handling 200-300 calls in a 24 hour period and now are looking at around 1,100 calls a day."

The McGirt case has opened up more opportunities

for law enforcement agencies to partner with the MCN Lighthouse under cross-deputization agreements.

"We have actually had cross-deputization agreements since 2005," Chief Wind said. "Prior to McGirt we had about 34 agreements already in place, since McGirt different departments have reached out to us and us to them, some we never even had considered."

"The cross-deputization helps fill in any void when it comes to law enforcement," Chief Wind explains. "Say we have an instance at River Spirit

in Tulsa and we don't have an officer there, we can call Tulsa PD. The moment we give them a call, they take off their Tulsa PD cap and put on their MCN Lighthouse cap. So that fills in that gap and it works both ways."

Many agencies within the MCN reservation have made cross-deputization agreements with the Lighthouse Police although Okmulgee and Henryetta Police Departments have not been willing there have been efforts made by the Lighthouse Police Department according to Chief Wind.

"Lighthouse is doing a good job maintaining our job of protecting the Nation and all the communities within," Chief Wind said. "The men and women in our department from officers, dispatchers, and administrative staff are stepping up and taking care of business."

For those looking for a career with the MCN Lighthouse can contact Lighthouse Police Chief Daniel Wind at (918) 759-7415 directly for information as well as find the applications on the MCN website under the employment tab.

MCN OFFERING HUNTING PERMITS ON RESERVATION

DESIGNATED HUNTING LANDS AVAILABLE TO BE HUNTED BY CITIZENS WITH PERMIT

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Wildlife Program is providing hunting permits that will be valid on designated Muscogee (Creek) Reservation property.

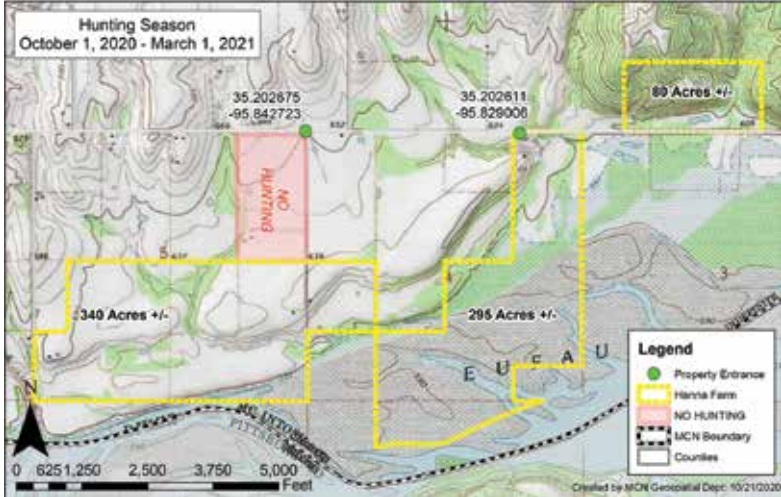
The MCN Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Wildlife Program Coordinator Kathryn Sunny states that MCN wildlife codes require permits to hunt on MCN land.

"This year will be our first year giving permits and enforcing them," Sunny said. "The permits will need to be updated annually."

To receive a permit one must sign a liability waiver and have proof of citizenship via citizenship card. There is no background check required for the permit.

"These particular permits will last until March 1," Sunny said. "There will be an announcement made when hunting permits are available for the Spring 2021 season."

There are four properties located in Hanna, OK that are designated



Map of the designated hunting areas on MCN Reservation Land in Hanna, OK. (Submission)

MCN hunting, fishing, and gathering areas that equal to over 2,000 acres.

"We are treating this like public land but for MCN citizens," Sunny said. "The liability form says if someone puts out a tree stand or camera that if something were to happen to that equipment we are not responsible for it."

The area will regularly be patrolled by MCN Game Rangers. There are signs and fencing indicating boundaries of the land.

"There will be signs at each property stating no trespassing and MCN land for hunting, fishing, and gathering," Sunny said. "You will know

you're at the right place."

Hunters will have to get state licenses and state tags to check in the game.

"If an animal is killed and transported off of MCN land or jurisdiction, it will fall under the state rules and regulations," Sunny said. "If they get pulled over and they don't have a license or tag the state can fine them."

Hunting seasons are set by the state and followed by MCN.

For more information on how to obtain hunting permit call or email Kathryn Sunny at 918-549-2543 and ksunny@mcn-nsn.gov

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS

CITIZEN LANCE SALDIVOR TAKES OVER ELEVATE NUTRITION

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma– If you are interested in living a healthy lifestyle, Elevate Nutrition serves Herbalife shakes and teas.

Elevate Nutrition started a few years ago by Muscogee (Creek) citizen Randy July, and recently went under new management by MCN citizen Lance Saldivor. Elevate Nutrition promotes a healthy lifestyle and encourages nutritional healthy habits. Saldivor is from Sapulpa, and has been connected with Herbalife for three years.

"I started off in Sapulpa with my mom," Saldivor said about working with Herbalife. "I started from the bottom selling to friends, cousins and anybody I could give it too. Eventually I started helping with running shops, the main one was Sapulpa's."

When Saldivor heard about Okmulgee's Elevate Nutrition shop being up for sale about three months ago, he passed up two other shops to manage this one. When he began at Elevate, Saldivor had no idea how the business would be at first. He said taking over a business was scary for him, but he knew people from the Nation, the college and Okmulgee so he felt comfortable coming in.

Business for him started out slow and he came in working long hours. Since the purchase of the



Pictured is Lance Saldivor owner of Elevate Nutrition in Okmulgee. (Submission)

shop Saldivor had to fulfill a reputation of earning people's trust.

"Once I showed consistency with my hours and kept products fully stocked, the business has been growing week by week," Saldivor said.

One of Saldivor's main personal goals is to get to the point where he can pass down the shop to one of his potential distributors. As far as business goals, he wants to reach out to the community as much as he can.

"One of the reasons I chose Okmulgee is Native Americans are very prone to diabetes," Saldivor said about the business. "If I could save someone from

ELEVATE- 3

THE MVSKOKE MEDIA

- Rita Courtwright, Managing Editor | rcourtwright@mvskokemedia.com
- Lani Hansen, Senior Reporter | lhansen@mvskokemedia.com
- Angel Ellis, Reporter | aellis@mvskokemedia.com
- Morgan Taylor, Reporter | mtaylor@mvskokemedia.com
- Jerrad Moore, Multi-Media Producer | jmoore@mvskokemedia.com
- Clinton Sinclair, Videographer | csinclair@mvskokemedia.com
- Gary Fife, Radio Specialist | gfife@mvskokemedia.com
- Chelsie Rich, Mvskoke Markets | crich@mvskokemedia.com
- Breanna Dawson, Advertising & Sales | bdawson@mvskokemedia.com
- Pauline Randall, Project Specialist/Layout | prandall@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](https://www.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.

COMMITTEE APPROVES MEDICAL MARIJUANA CODE

MCN CODE OUTLINING TRIBE’S FIRST MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAW SENT TO FULL COUNCIL FOR VOTE

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-
homa — A Muscogee (Creek)
Nation National Council
Business, Finance and Justice
Committee meeting was held
Oct. 22, remotely.

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

TR 20-174 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation Authorizing
the Executive Branch to pre-
pare and submit grant applica-
tions to federal and state gov-
ernmental agencies and private
foundations for FY 2021 and
FY 2022 and authorizing the
Principal Chief to execute all
necessary grant documents.
Sponsored by Will Lowe. Do
Pass.

If approved the legisla-
tion would allow the Mus-
cogee (Creek) Nation to seek
and obtain funding from var-
ious federal and state funding
agencies through grants. This
legislation would authorize the
Executive Branch to pursue
any and all funding opportu-
nities available from those fed-
eral and state agencies and pri-
vate foundations for both FY
2023 and 2022 and execute
required grant documents.

TR 20-176 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation approving the
United States Department of
Justice special conditions for
the Adam Walsh Act imple-
mentation grant program.
Sponsored by Robert Hufft.
Do Pass.

If approved the legisla-
tion would allow the MCN
Lighthorse Police Depart-
ment to utilize funds awarded
by the Department of Justices
for Adam Walsh Act imple-
mentation. The grant funds
will be used to expand and
enhance the Lighthorse Police
Sex Offender registration and
Notification Act Program
into a sustainable program
that will meeting the needs of
the MCN. It would address
issues of sex offenders not reg-
istering upon entering tribal
property. The grant requires a
waiver of sovereign immunity
by allowing the DOJ to take
other legal remedies that may
be legally available against the
Nation for failure to comply
with the terms and conditions
of the federal awards.

TR 20-177 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee (Creek)
Nation authorizing the Prin-
cipal Chief to submit a grant
application to the U.S. Depart-
ment of the Interior, Bureau
of Indian Affairs, Fiscal Year
2020 Native American Busi-
ness Development Insti-
tute (NABDI) Grant for the
Office of the Secretary of the
Nation and Commerce. Spon-
sored by Will Lowe. Do Pass.

If passed the legislation
would allow the Muscogee

(Creek) Nation to seek fund-
ing from the U.S. Department
of Interior Native American
Business Development Insti-
tute grant for economic devel-
opment. It has been deter-
mined that the tribe can apply
for the NABDI grant and exe-
cute the program. The MCN
will use the results of a feasil-
ity study to identify and sup-
port future economic develop-
ment planning to benefit tribal
citizens and the communities
in which they reside. The leg-
islation would authorize the
Principal Chief to prepare,
execute and submit a grant
application for the grant.

TR 20-180 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee (Creek)
Nation authorizing the Prin-
cipal Chief to execute an Equip-
ment lease agreement, amend-
ment to lease agreement and
related documents with PNC
Equipment finance for Main-
tenance Equipment at Foun-
tainhead Creek Golf Course.
Sponsored by William Lowe.
Do pass.

The legislation if approved
authorizes the Principal Chief
to execute an equipment lease
agreement and related docu-
ments with PNC Equipment
finance for the Fountainhead
Golf Course. The agreement
requires a waiver of sovereign
immunity.

TR 20-181 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation approving the
United States department of
Treasury Community Devel-
opment Financial Institutions
Fund Assistance Agreement
Grant general award terms
and conditions for the benefit
of the Mvskoke Loan Fund.
Sponsored by Adam Jones III.
Do Pass.

If passed the legislation
would allow the Mvskoke
Loan Fund to accept a grant
funds that would provide gen-
eral lending capital in the
amount of \$440,000 and an
additional \$100,00 for lending
capital and technical assistance
to be focused in Okfuskee
County. The terms of the
grant require a conditional
waiver of the tribe’s sovereign
immunity.

TR 20-182 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation confirm-
ing the nomination of Tracie
Revis to serve as the Chief of
Staff of the Muscogee (Creek)
Nation. Sponsored by Robert
Hufft. Do Pass.

If approved the legisla-
tion would confirm the nomina-
tion of Tracie Revis to serve as
the Chief of Staff of the Mus-
cogee (Creek) Nation with a
term beginning upon confir-
mation and ending concurrent
with the term of the current
Principal Chief.

TR 20-183 A Tribal Reso-
lution of the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation Authoriz-
ing the Gaming Operations
Authority Board to Execute
a master sales agreement with

Convereone, INC. Sponsored
by Patrick Freeman. Do Pass.

If passed the legislation
would allow the GOAB to
enter into a sales agreement
with ConvergeOne, INC., for
it’s software, support, products
and services for a three year
term followed by automatic
renewal periods of one year.

NCA 20-080 A law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
authorizing the expenditure
of the Department of Justice,
Office of Justice Programs
support for Adam Walsh Act
implementation grant pro-
gram for the benefit of the
Lighthorse Police Depart-
ment. Sponsored by Robert
Hufft. (\$399,985). Do Pass.

If passed the legisla-
tion would allow grant funds to
be used to expand and enhance
the Lighthorse Police Sex
Offender Registration and
Notification Act into a sus-
tainable program that will
meet the needs of the Nation.

NCA 20-081 A Law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
establishing the Fountainhead
Creek Golf Course revolving
fund for the expenditure of all
departmental income. Spon-
sored by James Jennings. Do
pass as amended.

If passed the legisla-
tion would establish new law per-
mitting the Golf Course
to reinvest the earned reve-
nue year over year for spe-
cial project, including equip-
ment upgrades, changes to the
course, and other operational
expenses.

NCA 20-083 A Law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Amending MCNCA Title
14 Crimes & Punishment
and Establishing New Law in

MCNCA Title 14 SS 2-512
Entitled “Medical Marijuana
Exception; Application and
Limitations”. Sponsored by
William Lowe. Do Pass.

If passed the legisla-
tion would amended tribal code to
reflect that no medical mar-
ijuana license holder will be
subject to any criminal liabil-
ity for growing, processing,
dispensing, testing, possess-
ing, or using medical mari-
juana in the Reservation as
long as that license hold is in
compliance with the paramet-
ers of the license issued by the
Oklahoma State Department
of Health, and for the amend-
ments to go into effect imme-
diately.

NCA 20-084 A Law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Authorizing the Expenditure
of the U.S. Department of
Treasury Community Devel-
opment Financial Institu-
tions Fund Assistance Agree-
ment Grant for the benefit
of the Mvskoke Loan Fund.
Sponsored by Adam Jones III
(\$540,000.) Do Pass

If passed the legisla-
tion would allow Mvskoke Loan
fund to use grants to provide
general lending capital in the
amount of \$440,000 and an
additional \$100,000 for lend-
ing capital and technical assis-
tances that will be focused in
Okfuskee County.

NCA 20-085 A law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Authorizing the expenditure
of the 2020 Native Ameri-
can Agriculture Fund Grant
for the benefit of the Mvskoke
Loan Fund. Sponsored by
Adam Jones III. (\$283,956)
Do Pass.

If passed the legisla-
tion would allow Mvskoke Loan

Fund to use grants to pro-
vide the capital necessary
to continue provide services
and resources necessary for
Native farmers and ranchers
to improve access to credit and
successfully grow their agri-
culture or agribusiness.

NCA 20-086 A law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
amending NCA 20—75 (A
law of the Muscogee (Creek)
Nation approving a continu-
ing budget ordinance and pro-
viding for appropriations and
authorizing for expenditures
for FY 2021. Sponsored by
Adam Jones III. Postponed
indefinitely.

The legislation was post-
poned in committee. The
legislation called for client ser-
vices to be funded at 50% of
the FY 2020 budget requests
in the comprehensive annual
budget. Certain programs
were outlines with various
exceptions.

NCA 20-087 A Law of
the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Repealing Title 22, Chapter
1, entitled “Traffic Code” and
replacing it with a new Title
14, Chapter 3, Entitled “Mus-
cogee (Creek) Nation Traffic
Code.” Sponsored by Patrick
Freeman. Do Pass.

If passed the legisla-
tion would repeal the existing traf-
fic code and establish a com-
prehensive traffic code in its
place. The 92-page legisla-
tion includes various vehicle op-
erational codes, rules and pen-
alties that all persons subject to
the jurisdiction of the Mus-
cogee (Creek) nation Tribal
Court who operate motorized
vehicles within the reservation
boundaries must adhere too.

To hear the meetings login
to www.mcncn.com

The Oklahoma Standard
should mean smokefree
air for all.

When it comes to achieving the Oklahoma Standard, we’ve come a long way. All state property is 100% smokefree, and the age to purchase tobacco is now 21.

However, there’s still work to do...



- Smoking is still allowed in Oklahoma bars and some restaurants.

- Hotels in Oklahoma are NOT 100% smokefree.

- Exposing children to secondhand smoke in cars is still legal.

- Smoking at in-home daycares after hours is still legal.



It’s time to step up to the Oklahoma Standard. Join the fight at

TOBACCO STOPS WITH ME.com

A Program of



ELEVATE
Continued from Page 2

drinking a Dr.Pepper and drink one of my teas, then I feel like I accomplished something.”

Two of Saldivor’s favorite shakes are banana-caramel and chocolate-caramel-cheese-cake. Those two shakes remind him that they are not just protein shakes. His favorite tea would have to be blackberry-lemonade.

Saldivor never saw himself becoming a nutrition business owner. He joined Herbalife three years ago because he had hit a rough patch in his life. He learned about Herbalife from his mom, knowing she went through the

program and it brought her good results.

“Herbalife is more than just a product, you become a member or a distributor. It’s like a second family,” Saldivor said. “When I seen how my mom was successful, I knew I could do it. I started as a distributor.”

The Herbalife group that Saldivor is part of has nutrition shops in Sapulpa, Jenks, Kiefer and Okmulgee’s Elevate Nutrition.

Elevate Nutrition is open Monday and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Elevate Nutrition is located at 118 N Mission Ln, Okmulgee, OK.

 MVSKEKE MEDIA • P.O. BOX 580 - OKMULGEE, OK 74447 • 918.732.7720 • MVSKEKEMEDIA.COM • @MVSKEKEMEDIA



MCN NATIONAL COUNCIL TACKLES LAW ENFORCEMENT

MEDICAL MARIJUANA, TRAFFIC CODES, AND GRANT FUNDING SEEKS APPROVAL OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-homa - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council meeting was held Oct. 31 via teleconference. The National Council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 20-163 Resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Northeastern State University (NSU) for the Mvskoke Nation Youth Services. Sponsored by Representative James Jennings. Motion passed. 15-0.

NSU desires an agree-ment to place interns with the Mvskoke Nation Youth Services to provide for the education and preparation for beginning or advanced level social work practice. Memorandum will include insurance disclosure and confidentiality agreements upon signature.

TR 20-164 Resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Social Work Field Practicum Memorandum of Under-standing between the MCN and NSU for the Mvskoke Nation Youth Services. Sponsored by Rep. Jennings. Motion passed. 15-0.

In order to coordinate intern placement from NSU, a Memorandum of Understanding must be executed and requires approval of National Council. The memoran-dum requires signatures from all parties stating an understanding of the gen-eral policy.

TR 20-165 Resolu-tion approving the United States Department of Health and Human Ser-vices Terms and Condi-tions for the Tribal Opioid Response Grant. Spon-sored by Representative Anna Marshall. Co-spon-sored by Representative Mary Crawford and Rep-resentative Joyce Deere. Motion passed 15-0.

The MCN Department of Health was awarded discretionary grant funds from SAMHSA of \$1,391,971.00 to be used to maintain and expand current opioid use disorder treatment, case manage-ment and community edu-cation efforts. National Council must approve terms and conditions of the grant awards.

TR 20-166 Resolu-tion confirming the nom-ination of Blue Clark to serve on the College of the Muscogee Nation Board of Regents. Sponsored by Rep. Jennings. Motion failed. 3-10-2.

Representatives voting against were William Lowe, Adam Jones III, Charles McHenry, Thom-asene Yahola Osborn, Darrell Proctor, Mark Randolph, Lucian Tiger III, Mary Crawford, Joyce Deere, Joseph Hicks. Abstained votes include Representatives Anna Marshall and Patrick Freeman Jr.

TR 20-168 Resolution confirming the Nomina-tion of Shawn Partridge

to serve as the Secre-tary of Community and Human Services of the MCN. Sponsored by Rep-resentative Randall Hicks. Motion Failed. 6-7-2.

Representatives whom voted against: James Jen-nings, William Lowe, Anna Marshall, Dar-rell Proctor, Lucian Tiger III, Joyce Deere, Mark Randolph. Abstained votes include Representa-tives Mary Crawford and Joseph Hicks.

TR 20-170 Resolu-tion authorizing the Prin-cipal Chief to execute a non-NAGPRA Funerary Objects Transfer Agree-ment with Tennessee Valley Authority, a cor-porate agency and instru-mentality of the United States of America, for the transfer of non-NAG-PRA Funerary objects to the MCN. Sponsored by Representative Charles McHenry. Motion passed. 15-0.

The Tennessee Valley Authority currently pos-sesses funerary objects that it intends to trans-fer to the MCN under a non-NAGPRA Transfer Agreement.

TR 20-172 Resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract with McQuay Construc-tion, LLC for the con-struction of a secondary retaining wall and fenc-ing at the Lvmhe Rental Property in Eufaula, OK. Sponsored by Rep. McHenry. Motion passed. 15-0.

MCN requesting a contract of \$324,534.00 with McQuay Construc-tion, LLC for the pur-pose of construction on Lvmhe Rental Housing in Eufaula, OK.

TR 20-173 Resolution adopting a maintenance policy for Department of Housing NAHASDA Programs. Sponsored by Rep. Osborn.

Revision was made to the current maintenance policy to help promote a decent, safe and healthy environment for homebuy-ers/residents residing in the MCN Housing and to help hold residents respon-sible reducing amount of unpaid services. Motion to postpone until Nov by Representative James Jen-nings. Motion seconded by Lucian Tiger III. Motion postponed. 14-1. Voting against was Repre-sentative Travis Scott.

TR 20-174 Resolu-tion authorizing the exec-utive branch to prepare and submit grant applica-tions to federal and state governmental agencies and private foundations for both FY 2021 and FY 2022 and authorizing the Principal Chief to execute all necessary grant docu-ments. Sponsored by Rep-resentative William Lowe. Motion passed. 15-0.

Allows for Executive Branch to pursue any and all funding opportunities from Federal and State agencies for the FY 2021 and 2022.

TR 20-175 Resolution authorizing the construc-tion of MCN Tiny Home Village/Elderly Emer-gency Housing in Okmul-gee, OK. Sponsored by Rep. Osborn. Motion passed 15-0.

MCN desires to provide safe and reliable hous-ing for the elderly home-less citizens. Through CARES Act funding the MCN plans to construct four tiny homes to be placed on the tribal com-plex near current elderly housing to be used as tran-sitional housing for the homeless elderly.

TR 20-176 Resolu-tion approving the United States Department of Jus-tice Special Conditions for the Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program. Sponsored by Rep. Robert Hufft. Motion passed. 15-0.

The MCN Lighthouse was awarded \$399,985.00 in grant funds to expand and enhance the Light-horse Sex Offender Reg-istration and Notification Act (SORNA) Program.

TR 20-177 Resolu-tion authorizing the Prin-cipal Chief to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fiscal Year 2020 Native American Busi-ness Development Insti-tute (NABDI) Grant for the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Com-merce. Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe. Motion passed. 15-0.

The NABDI grant will measure and study future economic development for the MCN and help iden-tify economic impacts of each county located within the Nation’s juris-diction in order to support further growth and devel-opment in areas.

TR 20-178 Resolution authorizing the construc-tion of Diabetes Modular Building Project for the Department of Health. Sponsored by Rep. Mark Randolph. Motion passed. 15-0.

MCN Department of Health is in need of a mod-ular building to be placed east of the Viersen Build-ing parking lot for diabe-tes services.

TR 20-179 Resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a grant application to the Depart-ment of Energy (DOE), Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (Office of Energy Indian), 2020 Energy Technol-ogy Deployment on Tribal Lands Grant Program for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. Sponsored by Rep. Joseph Hicks. Motion passed. 15-0.

The Nation is apply-ing for grant funding of \$2 million dollars for Phase I of the MCN Tribal Utility Authority (MCNTUA) Substation Project to serve the expanding energy capacity needs of the Nation and those of the surrounding community in Tulsa, OK. The tribe will match fifty percent through appropriation.

TR 20-180 Resolu-tion authorizing the Prin-cipal Chief to execute equipment lease agree-ment, amendment to lease documents with PNC Equipment Finance for maintenance equipment at Fountainhead Creek Golf Course. Sponsored by Rep. Lowe. Motion

passed. 15-0.
Fountainhead Creek Golf Course is in need of equipment. PNC is able to finance equipment.

TR 20-181 Resolu-tion approving the United States Department of Treasury Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Assis-tance Agreement Grant General Award Terms and Conditions for the bene-fit of the Mvskoke Loan Fund. Sponsored by Rep. Adam Jones III. Motion passed. 15-0.

Mvskoke Loan Fund was awarded \$540,000.00 in grant funds for the pur-pose of providing gen-eral lending capital to be focused in Okfuskee County.

TR 20-182 Resolu-tion confirming the nom-ination of Tracie Revis to serve as the Chief of Staff of the MCN. Sponsored by Rep. Hufft. Motion passed. 13-0-2.

Abstained votes include Rep. Marshall and Rep. Deere.

TR 20-183 Resolution authorizing the Gaming Operations Author-ity Board to execute a master sales agreement with ConvergeOne, INC. Sponsored by Rep. Pat-rick Freeman Jr. Motion passed. 15-0.

GOAB has determined the necessity to enter the Master Sales Agreement with ConvergeOne, INC. for software, support, products, and services.

NCA 20-072 Law authorizing the Expen-diture of Tribal Opioid Response Funds awarded form the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Ser-vices Administration for the benefit of the MCN Department of Health. Sponsored by Rep. Mar-shall. Co-sponsored by Rep. Crawford and Rep. Deere. Motion passed. 15-0.

Grant funds will be used to maintain and expand current opioid use disorder treatment, case management and commu-nity education efforts.

NCA 20-073 Law amending MCNCA Title 37 2-119 entitled “Mvk-soke (Creek) Nation Pag-eant and Royalty.” Spon-sored by Rep. Marshall. Motion passed. 15-0.

Legislation will move the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Pageant and Roy-alty to the Mvskoke Youth Services Department who will now oversee the pro-gram.

NCA 20-080 Law authorizing the expendi-ture of the Department of Justice, Office of Jus-tice Programs Support for Adam Walsh Act Imple-mentation Grant Pro-gram for the benefit of the Lighthouse Police Depart-ment. Sponsored by Rep. Hufft. Motion passed. 15-0.

Expending grant funds \$399,958.00 for the expansion of Lighthouse SORNA program to meet the needs of the Nation.

NCA 20-081 Law establishing the Fountai-nhead Creek Golf Course Revolving Fund for the expenditure of all depart-mental income. Sponsored

by Rep. Jennings. Motion passed. 15-0

Fountainhead Creek Golf Course earns rev-enues through member-ships, regular play, mer-chandise, special events, and tournaments. A revolving fund would allow the Golf Course to reinvest some revenue into expenses needed.

NCA 20-082 Law authorizing the expen-diture of grant funds (\$4,371,256.00) awarded from the U.S. Department of Education for the ben-efit of the Department of Education. Sponsored by Rep. Lucian Tiger III. Motion passed. 15-0.

The grant funds will be used to support com-munity efforts to improve educational choice and outcomes for American Indian/Alaskan Native students.

NCA 20-083 Law amending MCNCA Title 14 Crimes and Punish-ment and establishing new law in MCNCA Title 14 2-512 entitled “Medi-cal Marijuana Exception; Application and Limita-tions.” Sponsored by Rep. Lowe. Motion passed. 15-0.

Law allows medical marijuana license issued by the Oklahoma State Department of Health to be valid on the MCN Res-ervation as long as license holder is in compliance with laws.

NCA 20-084 Law authorizing the expendi-ture of the U.S. Depart-ment of Treasury Com-munity Development Financial Institutions Fund Assistance Agree-ment Grant for the bene-fit of the Mvskoke Loan Fund (\$540,000.00). Sponsored by Rep. Adam Jones III. Motion passed. 15-0.

Mvskoke Loan Fund was awarded \$540,000.00 in grant funds for the pur-pose of providing gen-eral lending capital to be focused in Okfuskee County.

NCA 20-085 Law authorizing the expendi-ture of the 2020 Native American Agriculture Fund Grant for the bene-fit of Mvskoke Loan Fund (\$283,956.00). Sponsored Rep. Adam Jones III. Motion passed. 15-0.

The grant funds will be used to provide the capi-tal necessary for the MLF to continue to provide ser-vices and resources nec-essary for Native farmers and ranchers to improve access to credit and suc-cessfully grow their agri-culture and/or agribusi-ness.

NCA 20-087 Law repealing Title 22, Chap-ter 1, entitled “Traffic Code” and replacing it with a new Title 14, Chap-ter 3, Entitled “Musoc-gee (Creek) Nation Traf-fic Code.” Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Freeman Jr. Motion passed. 15-0.

Due to McGirt v. State of Oklahoma findings, the MCN Lighthouse has revised the Traffic Code to establish law and order on the MCN Reservation when it comes to traffic compliance.

Meetings and agendas can be viewed at www.mcnnc.com

SAPULPA INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER HONORS VETERANS

MEMBERS OF SAPULPA INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER FIND ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO HONOR THE VETERAN MEMBERS

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

SAPULPA, Oklahoma – The members of the Sapulpa Indian Community Center brainstormed ways to honor their veteran members despite the COVID-19 pandemic putting a halt to normally scheduled celebrations. The center has been shut down since the beginning of the pandemic and many gatherings and activities have been cancelled. According to Sapulpa Indian Community Center Board member Vicki Tate a

decision was made to construct a quilt of Honor. Tate affirms there is a national program that honors veterans and presents quilts, where the idea came from. “This was our way of honoring at least one Veteran for his or her service from our center because it was not guaranteed they would receive one,” Tate said. The quilt was designed by six Muscogee (Creek) women and members of the center. Edna DeGraffenreid, Ellen Harjo, Anna Jo Fife, Doretha Billy, Darla Copeland, and Vicki Tate.

“Each quilter designed individual patriotic blocks that we then put together for final quilt,” Tate said. “It was quilt of love and gathering of everybody’s minds.” The quilt was given to Paul M. Harjo Marine Corps Veteran. The ladies had gathered discretely on this project and surprised members and Harjo with the gift. “We had about twenty veterans to choose from,” Tate said. “We had them all submit a bio of themselves and it was really hard to choose. We ended up putting all of the names in a hat

and one of the women who helped make the quilt got to draw the name and we selected Paul M. Harjo.” Harjo’s reaction brought tears of joy to the quilters. “The quilt is very nice,” Harjo said. “I appreciate it so much.” Members had hoped to be open to honor veterans with a celebration though that is not the case. “We can’t go into our community center, but we can give a gift to a Veteran,” Tate said. “Even if just one person gets a quilt then we are happy to honor them.”



Paul M. Harjo was the recipient of the Veterans' Honor Quilt made by members of the Sapulpa Indian Community Center. (Submission)



SR. PHOTOGRAPHY

\$100 (\$50 'non-refundable deposit' required for scheduling)

*Only available to seniors ordering announcements through Mvskoke Creative

For more information call (918) 732-7636 or email creative@mvskokemedia.com.

 **MVSKOKECREATIVE**




BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma

Our local Oklahoma experts are here to help you enroll.



SCAN ME



Now through December 15, find the best plan with the largest network and see if you qualify for financial assistance.



CALL:
888-346-9636

VISIT:
BlueNearYouOK.com

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

611320.1020

CITIZEN GRADUATES FROM INFANTRY TRAINING EARNING HIS BLUE CORD

JOHN ZACHARY TAYLOR AND COMPANY WERE FIRST TO COMPLETE TRAINING DURING COVID-19

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-homa- Muscogee (Creek) citizen and Private 2nd Class John Zackary Taylor accomplished Infantry training after his company was hit with COVID-19. Taylor is the grandson of former Second Chief of MCN Shelly Crow.

The Infantry Brigade is to transform civilians into disciplined Infantry soldiers that possess the Army values, fundamental Soldier skills, physical fitness, character, confidence, commitment, and the warrior ethos to become adaptive and flexible Infantrymen ready to accomplish the mission of the Infantry, according to the U.S. Army website.

Taylor added, the Infantry training is a 22-week cycle which is longer than other Army trainings. This training is the hardest physically and demanding.

“The PT test you have to pass is called the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT), and you have to pass the black standard on it which is the hardest,” Taylor said.

During training, Taylor said there was a large number of COVID-19 positive cases in their brigade and he was one. When he arrived at reception he said they had to quarantine for precaution there for about four weeks. Reception is



Pictured is John Zackary Taylor, he earned his Blue Cord from Infantry Training. (Submission)

where they learn many exercises and meet their army values and warrior ethos for a week.

“We went into Basic Training for a week, and my whole company got COVID and we all went into quarantine,” Taylor said.

They were all quarantined for two weeks before going back to training. The Infantry training took place at Fort Benning, GA. According to a statement from the Department of the Army, all future soldiers were tested and screened upon arrival to Fort Benning.

One or more of the soldiers were infected upon arrival, showing no symptoms and tested negative. Not long after, the virus spread within the company causing others to show symptoms and some asymptomatic.

Those affected were moved to quarantine in barracks. There they were

provided with beds, bathrooms, showers, snacks and their cellular devices. They also had internet, board games and other comfort items. Those in quarantine received medical care daily and symptoms were monitored.

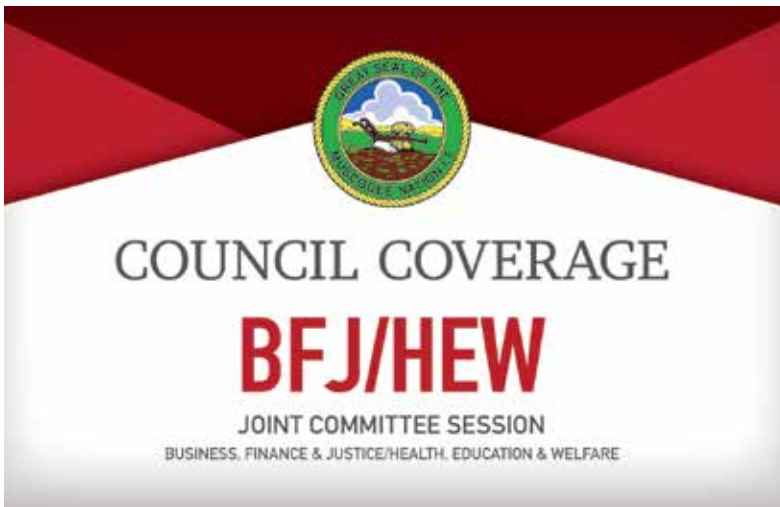
Quarantine did not stop Taylor from pushing forward in training. He called himself a motivated individual who would not quit. He has always wanted to be a part of the military.

Taylor added that choosing Infantry Brigade, he figured it would be a good career path to help him move forward in life. Taylor graduated from Infantry training earning his Blue Cord, or as they call it Turning Blue. The Blue Cord signifies Infantry Soldiers. Earning his Blue Cord, Taylor hopes he can be a role model to other MCN citizens who might think of joining the Infantry.

For anyone who might join Taylor said, “prepare before you do, because it hit me like a brick when I got here. You just have to prepare yourself mentally and physically if you do want to go. I recommend it.”

Taylor is one of 172 Infantry Soldiers who graduated from the Echo Company 2-29 Infantry Class 0045. His next step now will be airborne school.

He hopes to make his family and MCN citizens proud as he continues his journey.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Joint Business, Justice, and Finance and Land, Natural Resource and Cultural Preservation meeting was held on Oct. 27 by teleconference. (MN Photo)

TRIBE TO COMMIT \$2M TO UTILITIES PROJECT

MCN MATCHES \$2M GRANT TO FORM A TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY IN TULSA

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Joint Business, Finance and Justice and Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held Oct. 27 by Teleconference.

All passed legislation will go before full council on Oct. 31.

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

NCA 20-069 A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a grant application to the department of Energy (DOE, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (Office of Indian), 2020 energy technology deploy-

ment of tribal lands grant program for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. (\$2,000,000) Sponsored by Joe Hicks. Do Pass.

The legislation if adopted will allow the tribe to apply for the DOE Office of Indian Energy Technology Deployment on Tribal Lands 2020 grant funding in the amount of two million for Phase 1, of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Utility Authority Substation Project. It will allow the tribe to establish and develop a tribal utility authority and a tribal utility authority substation to serve the expanding energy capacity needs of the Nation and those of the surrounding community in Tulsa, Ok. The grant will require a fifty percent match in funds to be committed by the tribe.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare and Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held Oct. 27 by teleconference. (MN Photo)

JOINT COMMITTEE PASSES CONSTRUCTION FOR MCNDH

TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION PLANS TO BUILD A DIABETES BUILDING IN NEAR FUTURE.

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare and Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held Oct. 27.

All passed legislation went before the full Council during the regular session Oct. 31.

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

TR 20-178 Authorizing the construction of a diabetes modular building project for the Department of Health. Sponsored by Representative Mark Randolph.

The Nation plans to build a Diabetes Service building approximately 3,800 square feet east of the Viersen building that will include staff workstations, meeting spaces and necessary support functions for staff and public. Passed 9-0.

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

CMN ADDS NATURAL RESOURCES BUILDING

WITH THE ADDITION OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM, CMN WILL ADD BUILDING DEDICATED TO PROGRAM

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – The College of Muscogee Nation is looking to add a couple of additional facilities to the campus.

To go along with the recently added program, CMN is currently in the building phase of its Natural resources Building located on the northwest corner of the CMN property just behind the maintenance building on Eufaula street.

According to CMN President Robert Bible, the framework of the building is up.

“We had originally hoped to have the facility up by the end of December,” Bible said. “Realistically we are looking to have it completed by the end of January and to be in use during the spring semester.”

The building is projected to be around 4,500 square feet. It will include



CMN hopes to use building for the spring semester along with bringing students back to campus. (Morgan Taylor)

a lecture room, a lab, two offices, and a safe room.

“Since we are limiting the amount of students for the spring semester due to the COVID-19, we are hoping to use this space to accommodate that amount of students we can take in,” Bible said.

The funding for this building is provided by grants from the USDA tribal land-grant colleges and universities program with a match from CMN Title 3 funds.

CMN applies for this grant program yearly according to Bible.

“We have received anywhere from \$100,000

to \$150,000 each year through this program,” Bible said. “Being the only tribal college in Oklahoma, we don’t take for granted the opportunity.”

USDA has funded projects at CMN that include that walking trail, upgrades to the parking lot, and other various projects around campus.

The CMN will soon be in the process of building the third exhibit/lecture hall.

MCN Tribal Construction is overseeing current and future projects.

For more information on CMN logon to www.cmn.edu

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!
MVSKEKEMEDIA.COM/NEWSLETTER

MCN ADOPTS MASSIVE TRAFFIC CODE UPDATES

MCN APPROVED MORE THAN 90 PAGES OF TRAFFIC CODE THAT WILL BE ENFORCED BY MCN LIGHTHORSE

Angel Ellis
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-homa — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation approved more than 90 pages of traf-fic code on Oct. 12 in an effort to ‘adopt a more com-prehensive traffic code for enforcement within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reservation following the SCOTUS opinion reaf-firming the tribe’s reserva-tion boundaries.’

Since the U.S. high court handed down an opinion in an appeals case that con-firmed that congress had never disestablished the Muscogee (Creek) Nations reservation the tribe has invested millions to improve its oversight of the reserva-tion that spans 11 counties of northeast Oklahoma.

Part of the updates being made by the tribe is updat-ing tribal codes to close gaps and provide clarity on law within its jurisdictional boundaries.

According to a press release from the tribe, ‘Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse Police depart-ment has expanded its traf-fic code to accommodate the increased jurisdictional authority following the McGirt decision.’

The tribes Attorney Generals Office put exten-sive research into expand-ing upon the existing code.

The MCN National Council unanimously sup-



The Muscogee (Creek) National Council approves massive traffic code updates to be enforced by Lighthouse since SCOTUS opinion affirmed tribal reservation jurisdiction. (Submission)

ported the repeal of the existing traffic code to replace it with 92 pages of code that would allow law enforcement and any cross deputized agencies to enforce the code for any persons subject to the juris-diction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

So far over forty agencies in ten counties, three tribes, four taskforces includ-ing the U.S. Marshalls and FBI, as well ass the Depart-ment of Public Safety, and Grand River Dam Author-ity have cross deputized with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The legislation, spon-sored by Patrick Freeman encompasses many aspects of code already familiar to those licensed to oper-ate a vehicle such as licen-sure requirements and vehi-cle operation requirements. The legislation also out-lines fines and fees associ-ated with violations of the

codes.

“The new traffic code is far more comprehen-sive than the existing traf-fic code,” MCN Attorney General Roger Wiley said. “The new code covers areas of the law not addressed by the existing code. Some of these areas include— driving under suspension; traffic signs and mark-ings; bicycles and pedes-trians; unlawful use of a cell phone; required safety equipment, as well as many other topics.”

According to the release, ‘Wiley said other tribal traffic laws as well as model traffic codes adopted by various states were used to develop new code.’

Lighthouse Police offi-cers will be required to become familiar with the various new provisions of MCN traffic law as well as the expanded traffic rules they will be called upon to enforce.

MCN TRANSIT INTRODUCES ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TRANSPORT

MCN CHARTER SERVICES USES GRANT FUNDING TO PURCHASE A CHARTER BUS THAT MEETS EPA GUIDELINES

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-homa – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tran-sit Charter Services was awarded a grant through Volkswagen that allowed the purchase of a new charter bus, 2020 SETRA 417 HDH.

The MCN Charter Services provides transit to large Muscogee (Creek) groups.

According to MCN Transit Charter Services Director Dan Beasley this bus will be much more efficient than the pre-vious 15-year-old char-ter bus that was removed from service after gaining this new bus.

“This new bus falls under EPA guidelines,” Beasley said. “Its what they call exhaust clean friendly.”

The overall benefit of the new charter bus is the reduction in carbon emis-sions.

“We were able to get rid of one of the old busses that didn’t meet EPA guidelines anymore,” Beasley said.

This new environmen-tally friendly charter bus



The new MCN charter bus will provide long range travel while being efficient. (Morgan Taylor)

is supposedly going to get three tanks of fuel equiva-lent to one tank of the old charter bus.

There are no current scheduled trips due to COVID-19 pandemic, but many will be resched-uled with the new charter bus.

The MCN Charter Ser-vices can be acquired by calling the MCN Transit at 918-732-7909 and fill-ing out a charter request form. There are service fee charges including mileage, drivers wage and per diem, as well as over-night charges.

“The bus handles like a dream,” Beasley said. “It’s like driving a Cadillac. We look forward to pro-viding services with it.”



The Straws of Anger

In the last two articles we talked about the importance of recognizing your warning signs “your straws”, blaming statements “it’s others fault and they need to do all the changing not me”, and how to accept responsibility “the only person I can change is me”. When you read the process, it can seem fairly easy but taking the actual steps is much harder. It takes doing something and practicing even when you don’t feel like it. This takes us to the next step of anger management, addressing our habits and feelings.

We are all creatures of habit. We like routine and the benefits of knowing what to expect. In fact, our brain is wired to do most of our daily activities in auto pilot. This frees up our conscious mind to doing tasks that require concentration and thinking. A perfect example of this is driving some-where you have been numerous times. You may recall getting in the car and driving that direction but most of the trip you have minimal recollec-tion and then you are in the parking lot.

This auto pilot is what makes changing a habit hard. In essence you have to stop doing something you don’t realize you are doing. And to make it more difficult the effort to do something different often does not feel normal which causes a feeling of discomfort because it is not a habit. When we are faced with the feeling of discomfort our natural tendency is to return to comfort/the old habit. Thus, our habits and feelings get in the way of making change.

Feelings are powerful. They give energy to an event or situation. We may say we manage them but more often than not they manage us. When feelings manage us, the consequences are often not favorable. So how do you not let feelings manage you but you manage your feelings?

One main area of managing our feelings is we have to learn to control the energy. Anger has a lot of energy and can grow very quickly depending on the type of trigger (straw) that happens. Imagine a balloon filling up quickly and you are trying to keep it from popping. To do that, you will have to lower the pressure faster than the air is being put in it. One of the best ways to do this is doing something physical. Here is a short list how some chose to get their energy out when it is getting high.

- Gym - lifting weights, treadmill, rowing machine, etc.
- Home - Push-up, planks, burpee’s jumping jacks, cleaning, home projects, etc.
- Outside - Mowing the lawn, racking leaves, cutting wood, climbing up and down the ladder, etc.
- Work - Chair pushups, wall sits, planks, brisk walk, etc.
- Sports – basketball, volleyball, running, etc.
- Verbal (if need to yell) – yell in pillow, in crook of elbow, go to car, etc.

Everyone’s list may differ but the important thing is to develop a list.

Frustration, annoyances, stress, pressure, and anxiety can be lower levels of energy, but if not addressed it will add pressure and can lead to a blow up. Learning how to lower emotional energy through calming activities is just as important as the high. This can be through breathing, meditating, praying, time in nature, watching a nature video, memory escapes to a calming place, stretching, yoga, walking, sharing with a friend, laughing, etc.

Making your list and practicing is very important. And like noted in the previous articles, reading them daily brings them to your conscious memory which is a huge part of successful change. Also being aware that change will cause feelings of discomfort because it is outside of your habit. Discomfort can cause most of us not want to practice, read our list daily, answer the questions, do the exercise, or put forth much effort. This is normal but remember that discomfort or the feeling of not wanting to will soon go away and benefits of change will be the new habit.

In the next article I will show you what this looks like.

If you or someone you know would like help with anger, anxiety, worry, fear, stress or depression and need to talk to someone, please contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health at 918-758-1910.

If you or someone you know is in crisis call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline Number at 1-800-273-8255 or Text “Creek” to 741-741.

MVTO

SUSTAINABLE TULSA PRESENTS MCN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WITH THE HENRY BELLMON AWARD

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SCORES BEST AWARD FOR BEING SUSTAINABLE

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-
homa- The Muscogee
(Creek) Nation Environ-
mental Office has suc-
cessfully won the Sustain-
able Tulsa Henry Bellmon
award.
“We will be presented the
award in November some-
time,” Director of Environ-
mental Services James Wil-
liams said. “We’re a part of
the scor3card with Sustain-
able Tulsa, and this year we
achieved Platinum which
is the highest level you can
go.”
Very few companies
reach the Platinum level of
the scor3card, but Williams
said those who achieved
platinum are divided into
three categories: large,
medium and small busi-
nesses. MCN Environmen-
tal Services is placed in the
medium group, they scored
well and were selected to



MCN Environmental Services brings two awards from Sustainable Tulsa, Platinum Level and Henry Bellmon Award. (Lani Hansen)

receive the Henry Bellmon
award.
According to Sustain-
able Tulsa’s website, Henry
Bellmon was a pioneer-
ing champion of sustain-
ability who started Sus-
tainable Tulsa. The awards
raise awareness and recog-
nize the Oklahoma people,
agencies, organizations, or
companies that dedicate
themselves to a balanced
approach toward quality of
life for all, responsible eco-
nomic growth and environ-

mental stewardship.
The first year of scor-
3card, Williams said they
received a participant
trophy, the second year
they got the gold level and
this year they received plat-
inum level. The Environ-
mental Services could not
have done any of this with-
out the help of the tribe
and community.
“We do different out-
reaches with the schools,
elderly, natural resources
group and also our conser-

vation district,” Williams
said.
Even with 2020 being in
pandemic most of the year,
Environmental Services
still went ahead with trying
to be more sustainable.
They had support from the
Secretary of Interior, Chief
and Second Chief, the cab-
inet and National Council.
The pandemic did not
stop them this year, Wil-
liams said they are almost
essential but they follow
under Lighthorse and
healthcare. He said they
still had to go do environ-
mental work for housing
and the tribe. While work-
ing they did follow CDC
protocol such as social dis-
tance, wearing masks and
gloves and setting up hand
sanitizers.
“It’s good to showcase
the tribe, our efforts and
sustainability,” Williams
added about winning the
award. “We couldn’t have
done it without our staff

here. They each wear a lot
of different hats.”
For the future, the com-
munity is able to help MCN
be sustainable year round.
Williams said the com-
munity can recycle, reduce
the use in water and save
energy at home. Environ-
mental Services is in part-
ner with the elderly about
growing their own vege-
tables. They have inserted
elevated garden beds by the
elderly housing. A couple
of other ways to help with
being sustainable is pre-
venting people from open
burning and illegal dump-
ing.
On behalf of the Envi-
ronmental Services, Wil-
liams wanted to thank the
tribal administration, the
employees and citizens that
attend their events.
For events or more infor-
mation about being sus-
tainable contact, MCN
Environmental Services at
918-549-2580.

TRIBE GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

MCN USES CARES ACT FUNDING
TO GIVEAWAY FOOD TO CITIZENS

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-
homa- In case you missed
the first food giveaway,
there are still two more
of these coming up in
November and December.
The Muscogee (Creek)
Nation hosted a drive-thru
food giveaway on Oct.
15 for enrolled citizens.
According to MCN Tour-
ism and Recreation Office
Manager Ryan Logan, in
April the Walmart Cor-
poration donated food to
the Nation and there was
a positive response which
led to the Nation doing
their own food giveaway.
“Since it was a pos-
itive way to give back to
our communities, it was
addressed to doing the
drive-thru the next few
months starting in Octo-
ber through the holiday
season,” Logan said. “We
can help folks in need
because these are unpre-
dictable and trying times.”
The drive-thru food
giveaway is a part of the
CARES Act funding, and
is only for MCN citizens.
Citizens are asked to pro-
vide proof of citizenship
to include your citizenship
card copy or photo copy of
your card. The boxes or
bags are limited to one per
household, but recipients
are able to retrieve and
deliver another house-
hold’s box or bag with
proof of citizenship.
The drive-thru has
eight different sites
located at the Creek
Community Centers, and
they all are ran at the
same time during the day.
These sites are Bristow,
Dewar, Eufaula, Holden-
ville, Muskogee, Okemah,
Tulsa and Mvskoke Dome
at the Claude Cox Omni-
plex.
Many of the commu-
nities, casinos and the
National Council came
together to help volunteer
with the food giveaway.
At each site there was care
packages from the Nation
such as sanitizer and face



Many volunteers help give away food to citizens in need during event on Oct. 15. (Submission)

masks for when volun-
teers had to build the food
bags. Lunch was provided
for those who volunteered.
In October there was
3,000 bags given away,
they took the data from
the April event to prepare
for the October event.
Logan said they have
increased the amount
of bags to giveaway for
November and December
because they believe there
will be a increase of recip-
ients.
“We are looking at
giving away 4,000 boxes
in November and 4,500
for December,” Logan
added. “It just falls in
mind that during the hol-
idays food is always a pri-
ority. Even though these
aren’t built based on holi-
days it is more about feed-
ing people.”
The drive-thru is
modeled from Walmart
pick-up, volunteers loaded
the bags into the recipi-
ents cars for them. CDC
guidelines are still being
followed even for this
event.
“The event went well,
we had a positive response
from the communities,
community chairs and the
general public,” Logan
said about the food give-
away.
The dates for the next
two drive-thru food give-
aways are set for Nov. 19
and Dec. 17 from 4 p.m.
to 6:30 p.m.
If you need food or are
interested in volunteering
contact, Ryan Logan on
his office phone at 918-
732-7992, his cell phone
918-605-4283 or email
RLogan@mcn-nsn.gov

SUPPORT FOR MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN’S HOME

SUPPORT CHILDREN IN TRIBAL CUSTODY BY DONATION
OR VISITING THE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT MURROW

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

MUSKOGEE, Okla-
homa- The Murrow Indian
Children’s Home in Mus-
kogee has an open invitation
to a Christmas Open House
of their Soaring Eagle Gift
Shop.
The dates will be Nov
19-21 with shopping hours
set from 8 am to 6 pm.
The Soaring Eagle Gift
promotes Native Ameri-
can artist and presents art-
works of Dino Kingfisher,
Melvin War Eagle, Smokin’
Designs, Native Anthro,
49 Design, Enoch Kelly
Haney, Talon Kingfisher,
Matt Girty, Brave Hart,
Mahota Textiles, Legacy
Bath and Body, Native Nat-
urals and many more.
The open house will
include refreshments and
door prizes as well as an
appreciation coupon for all
customers at the door.



Items featured in the Soaring Eagle Gift Shop. (Submission)

Murrow Indian Chil-
dren’s Home Executive
Director Betty Martin con-
firms that the gift shop is
the main supporter of the
transitional program at the
Home.
“As a part of the pro-
gram here, it is important
to teach the kids how to
transition into real life once
they leave here,” Martin
explains. “That was the
main purpose of the gift
shop to fund the program
that helps us provide that
service to them.”
As Murrow is typically
a permanent placement
for children in tribal cus-
tody, they typically spend
Christmas in their cottages
[homes].
“We do not have any
extra plans for Christ-

mas this year, just what we
always do,” Martin said.
“Although, we usually have
someone that comes in to
make dinner for the kids
and we probably won’t be
able to do that this year due
to the COVID.”
Currently, Murrow is
housing ten children from
nine to eighteen years of
age.
Martin is taking up a
Christmas wish list from
the kids and taking dona-
tions.
“During the year, we
have missionaries that will
come in and do some work
to the cottages and facilities
and that helps us out a lot,”
Martin said. “However,

this year has been different
in that we have had to pay
out of pocket for repairs and
services due to the COVID-
19 because these entities
haven’t been providing ser-
vices. Anything that anyone
can donate to the kids and
the home is greatly appreci-
ated through the holidays.”
Those willing to donate
items, presents, or even
monetary can do so by con-
tacting the Murrow Home
at 918-682-2586. The needs
list is updated on their Face-
book page of Murrow Indian
Children’s Home often.
“Our Facebook is the best
way to keep up with the kids
and what is going on at the
Home,” Martin said.



ANONYMOUS
TIP LINE

918.777.3429

 MVSKEKEMEDIA

OBITUARIES



Judith Ann Sawyer
October 27, 1931 -
October 16, 2020

Judith Ann Ispocogee Sawyer, 88, passed away Oct. 16.

Judith Ann Ispocogee was born October 27, 1931 at The Morningside Hospital of Tulsa Oklahoma to Sam Ispocogee and Sammie Beaver Ispocogee. She was raised in Tulsa and Sapulpa, graduated from The University High School of the University of Oklahoma in Norman and attended Tulsa

University where she was an active member of Kappa Delta Sorority.

Judith met and married the love of her life, Noah Gus Sawyer, Jr. in Casper, WY and there began an extraordinary marriage until Gus's passing in 2007. During their 53 years together, Judith and Gus lived in Casper, WY; Calgary, AB; Lafayette, LA; and Lake Jackson, TX. In 2008, Judith relocated to Sapulpa and settled in among family and lifelong friends, and those who would quickly become close friends. During the past twelve years, Judith forged many close relationships in the community, especially at her church. She was a faithful member of Dove Ministry in Jenks where she sang with the Praise and Worship team, even two days before her passing. Music was an important pursuit throughout her life. She was a longtime member of the George Espere Madrigal Choir in Calgary and Chorale Acadienne in Lafayette. Judith was a member of PEO and loved her sisters dearly.

She was spunky, vibrant, and fun-loving; a homemaker, friend-maker, outgoing conversationalist who never met a stranger. She enjoyed being surrounded by her family and friends. In Judith's kitchen there was always a pot of dark roast coffee, snacks in the pantry, and conversation and laughs around the table. Everyone was welcome!

Judith had a caring and compassionate heart and was always willing to help others. She loved her Lord and Savior with all her heart. She shared her faith at every opportunity and looked forward to the day she would meet our Father in Heaven face-to-face and bask in His Glory. Judith loved life and will be greatly missed by family and friends alike.

She is survived by two sons, Noah Gus Sawyer, III (Heidi) of Tulsa, OK and John David Sawyer (LeanneTrujillo) of Denver, CO; and one daughter Patricia Louise Leyendecker (Bill) of Lafayette LA; five granddaughters, Eryn Roelli (Matt), Katey Sawyer, Sara Stevens (James),



Kenneth "Dale" Hardin
July 5, 1933 -
October 24, 2020

Funeral Services for Kenneth "Dale" Hardin were held Thursday, Oct. 29 at the Freewill Baptist Church in Okemah, Ok. Interment will follow at the Morse Cemetery in Okemah, Oklahoma.

Kenneth "Dale" Hardin stepped into heaven on Saturday, Oct. 24 at the age of 87. Dale was born north of Okemah on July 5, 1933 to Henry and Mary Deer Hardin.

In 1953 Dale enlisted in the U.S Army and served until 1955. On Valentine's Day February 14, 1955 he married Shirley Harrison of Okemah. Over the course of his life, Dale held many jobs, including working for Douglas Aircraft and working for Okfuskee County District #2 where he retired in 1995.

Dale enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening, spending time with family, especially his great grandchildren, gospel music and bluegrass, reading, and taking care of his chickens.

of Oklahoma City, OK; and sister Mariam I. Bechtel of East Berlin, PA., along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and their families.

A service celebrating Judith's life was held Oct. 24 at Smith Funeral Home in Sapulpa, OK.

He is preceded in death by his father, Henry Hardin, mother, Mary Deer Hardin, one son, Jackie Dale Hardin, one granddaughter, Natasha Michelle Vanderslice 3 brothers, Gerald Hardin, Bob Hardin, and Winslow Hardin, two sisters, Joyce Hardin and Wanda Bouldin.

Dale is survived by his wife of 65 years Shirley Hardin, one daughter, Patricia and husband James of Welty, OK., two grandson's Jarrod and wife Amber Vanderslice of Waynesboro, MS., and Jesse "Dale" Vanderslice of Welty, OK., 3 great grandchildren, Jaylie, Jace, and Johanna Vanderslice; four brothers, Marshall Hardin of Okmulgee, Van Hardin of Okemah and Ronald Hardin of Maude, Oklahoma, Carol Hardin of Wewoka and one sister, Doris Sullivan of Okemah as well as a host of nieces, nephews and dear friends.

MCN CELEBRATES NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

THE BUTTERFLY PROJECT HELPS PROMOTE NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH BY PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL ANGEL TREE PROJECT

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is promoting National Adoption Month for the month of Nov.

According MCN Children and Family Services Administration Certification, Placement, Recruitment and Training Director Robin Wind this is recognized each year.

"Basically, its just to provide awareness to the fact that there are so many kids that need permanent families throughout the United States," Wind said.

MCN CFSA does different things each year with this year being virtual.

"We are going to be having a Zoom Q and A like a round table event," Wind said. "We don't have a date set for that yet but [the MCN Public Relations department] will be putting that out as well as on our Facebook Page, we have the butterfly event, and in years past for example National Council has honored our adoptive families and there is



The Butterfly Project donors on display at MCN Travel Plaza. (Submission)

always a proclamation from the Chiefs office."

According to Wind there are around 800 kids in tribal custody with the MCN reservation boundaries.

"I hate to pin down a certain number because they change day to day," Wind said. "But typically, about a third of those kids are ready to be adopted."

MCN CFSA started promotions for National Adoption Month on Nov 1 with the

Butterfly Project.

Paper butterflies have been made available to purchase in any amount at the MCN Travel Plaza located in Okmulgee.

Once a butterfly is purchased, it is then hung in the store to show one's support for National Adoption Month.

Proceeds help fund the Angel Tree Project.

MCN CFSA Promoting Safe and Stable Families Caseworker Carissa O'Dell explains that this year the Angel Tree Project will be virtual.

"We gather wish list from the children and families and normally hang them up on the Christmas tree in our lobby but our lobby is closed to the public and it's virtual this year," O'Dell said. "We have registration link online for those who would like to adopt an angel."

MCN CFSA is now taking applications and assigning "angels" to applicants.

Once an angel is assigned or adopted, a caseworker will then give the wish list to the applicant. The applicant can make monetary donations for the gifts and go buy them and return them unopened with the MCN CFSA caseworker by appointment.

"There are about 100 children needing help to make their Christmas wishes come true," said O'Dell. "If not for the Angel Tree Project some children could go without presents."


"With the donations, we are able to make the experience a little a better and the children can really feel the love from the community," Wind said. "Some families aren't able to provide the experience for the kids."

In 2019 the Butterfly Project raised \$609.49 donated to the Angel Tree, which served 84 children.

Those interested in adopting an angel can apply online or contact O'Dell at 918-752-5443 or email at codell@mcn-nsn.gov

Those wanting to donate can do so by purchasing a paper butterfly at the MCN Travel Plaza or contact O'Dell.

Contact MCN CFSA at 918-732-7869 to become a foster, adoptive parent or for more information on ways to help advocate for those children in need.



Durango Carl Mendoza
June 23, 1945 -
October 5, 2020

Durango Carl Mendoza, 75, of Urbana, IL, passed away unexpectedly on Oct. 5, 2020. A memorial service attended by family members was held at Renner-Wikoff Chapel in Urbana.

Durango was born June 23, 1945, in Claremore, Okla., to Robert S. and Lucille (Smith) Mendoza. His stepfather was James Bunny. Durango was a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma. He was Fuswlvke (Bird Clan); his Etvylwv was Eufaula Canadian. He attended elementary school in Dustin, OK, and went to high school in Kansas City, MO.

He is survived by his adoring wife of 38 amazing years, Jean Paine Mendoza. He is also survived by his beloved children, Robert (Kristen Stott) of Oswego IL, Aimee (Ben) Lafontaine of Glen Ellyn IL, William (Diana Ingersoll-Cope) of Bellevue, Wash., and Thomas (Flora Denton) of Urbana, IL; and brothers and sisters, Margo Mendoza Smith (George), Robert Mendoza, Elizabeth Bunny Ingram, and Roselyn Bunny-Frye (Bob), all of Tulsa, Okla., and Marion Bunny Frye of Del City, Okla.

He loved and doted on his six grandchildren, Lola, Kaya, Ava, Scarlett, Will, and

Jack, and dozens of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brother Gaines Bunny, mother Lucille Smith Bunny, stepfather James Bunny, and father Robert S. Mendoza.

Durango was a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia and Columbia College in Chicago. He also attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Professionally, he was an administrator for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. After retirement, he worked for the Native American House at the University of Illinois. Throughout his life, he was a tireless advocate for causes of social justice, the arts, and the environment. He was a gifted writer. Four short stories he wrote while at University of Missouri, set in rural Oklahoma, have been published in anthologies and textbooks. They are "Summer Water and Shirley," "The Passing," "The Woman in the Green House," and "A Short Return." He was also a talented photographer, sculptor, craftsman, and artist. His photos and assemblages have been exhibited in places that include Gilcrease Museum and Living Arts in Tulsa. In Illinois, he exhibited at galleries in Chicago, Oak Park, and Champaign-Urbana including the University of Illinois Union, Springer Cultural Center, and Urbana Free Library.

He lived his life with creativity, kind regard for others and the world, and unconditional love for his family. He has left a lasting impression on so many throughout his life as he shared the gifts of his observations, stories, the generosity of his heart and warmth.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarship Foundation or to the American Heart Association. Condolences may be offered at renner-wikoffchapel.com.

LEGALS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT COURT
FILED

2020 OCT 29 P 4:29
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DONNA BEAVER
COURT CLERK
Case No. CV-2020-04

Onefire Holding Company, LLC,
A Muscogee (Creek) Nation Limited Liability Company,
Plaintiff,
v.
Nhan Nguyen and Tien Nguyen,
A married couple and the marital community composed thereof,
Defendants.

NOTICE

TO: NHAN NGUYEN AND TIEN NGUYEN

You have been sued and must answer the complaint filed by the plaintiff, Onefire Holding Company, LLC, on or before December 14, 2020, or judgment in the amount of \$105,209.40 plus pre-and-post-judgment interest and court costs will be rendered accordingly. The court may be contacted at P.O. Box 652, Okmulgee, OK 74447 and (918) 758-1400.

ISSUED this 29th day of October, 2020.

DONNA BEAVER, COURT CLERK

Donna Beaver

SUBMISSIONS

Thank You

On behalf of the family of Danny Powell. The family wants to thank the Mvskoke Creek Nation Honor Guard for the wonderful job of honoring Danny Powell with a 21-gun salute at his burial. Mvto.

Summer Youth Employment Program

Youth ages 16-21 can begin applying for the summer youth employment program, on December 1 through March 31, 2021. For more information contact 918-732-7773 or eta@mcn-nsn.gov

Congrats Graduate

Muscogee (Creek) citizen Twanisha Denise Murphy received her MBA in Business Administration, specializing in HR Management from Columbia Southern University. Murphy is the daughter of Rhonda J. Murphy, granddaughter of Willie B. Murphy Jr. Emma McBride, and great-granddaughter of Mollie Washington.

Conservation District Offering Free Soil, Hay, and Livestock Water Testing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Natural Resource Conservation District is announcing an opportunity for Creek citizens - within the MCN boundary - who would like to have a basic soil, hay or livestock water test on their property. The District will pay for the cost of up to two tests per landowner. Some restrictions apply. Any interested citizen may call for more information and program details. Contact Julie Norem at 918-732-7814.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor;

I wish to publicly address the MCN NC “gag order” and the Freedom of Speech.

Let’s take a gander at the 2020 NC Rules of Procedure Sec. 114 (H) (h): “Use of social media (including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, or similar social media applications) to disparage employees of the Nation or other Representatives of the National Council. National Council Representatives shall refrain from discussion of Nation business or disparagement of National Council legislation via the use of social media unless the particular Representative utilizing social media is the sponsor or co-sponsor of the legislation, and the particular Representative is not permitted to quote or address legislation that is not in its final form (meaning the legislation has not yet been assigned to a committee).”

I have sent several emails to the NC as a whole on various topics none of which pertain to a bill or Resolutions. I have also sent emails to the NC as a whole addressing certain issues regarding MCN’s sovereignty. Now various email correspondence could entail

possible Nation business that I overlooked. However, I fail to see in the NC Rules of Procedure where any and or all NC Representatives are prohibited from acknowledging receipt of my email correspondence. Is Freedom of Speech no longer in existence within our Legislative branch?

I have also sent correspondence to the Editor of the Mvskoke News that I feel should have been printed in the “Letters to the Editor” section of our newspaper but not published. I am aware that the Editor has discretion of what letters are to be printed and acknowledge that duty. Be that as it may, I am aware the MCN has in place an Editorial Board. I am at a loss as to why such a Board exists other than to stifle the Freedom of the Press.

Art. II sec. 2 of the Mvskoke Nation Constitution states that “This Constitution shall not abridge the rights and privileges of individual citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation enjoyed as citizens of the State of Oklahoma and of the United States of America.”

Art. II of the Oklahoma Constitution states “Every

person may freely speak, write, or publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right; and no law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press.”

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

With all of these Constitutional protections in place this citizen must ask “why”. Why is there a necessity for a gag order within the NC rules of Procedure? To have such a gag order in the NC Rules of Procedure violates the Freedom of Speech and, to me, is a form of dictatorship. However, such a gag order in place that protects MCN’s National Security interests is relevant. Further, with such Constitutional protections in place this citizen again asks “why”. Why is there a need for an Editorial Board to oversee The Mvskoke News? Doesn’t the Mvskoke News have an Editor? Who is employed to oversee the newspaper and what is published? If the Editorial Board is to oversee The Mvskoke News what is the necessity of a newspaper editor?

MVTO!
Rick Wilde
Tulsa



MVSKOKERADIO

WEDNESDAYS @ 10AM CST
FM 106.3 // AM 1240 // 1240THEBREW.COM




ROAD TO RICHES

SATURDAYS IN NOVEMBER

HIT THE ROAD IN A 2020 DODGE® CHALLENGER!
GRAND FINALE DRAWING
NOVEMBER 28 / 10PM
2020 DODGE® CHALLENGER!
FOUR \$1,000 CASH PRIZE WINNERS!

EVERY SATURDAY
\$500 Winners every 15 minutes from 6PM–10PM
\$25 Rewards Play Winners
Drawings 6PM–9PM
Earn 1 entry for every 50 points played.

Guests may win one Rewards Play & cash drawing per day. Entries carry over each Saturday for duration of promotion. Winners need not be present at drawing time. Photo may not represent actual vehicle. Make, model and color may vary. See Players Club for details on all promotions. Must be 21 to game.



P.O. BOX 1249 MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA 74402
918.683.1825 • CREEKNATIONCASINOMUSCOGEE.COM

Fiscal Year 2020

In accordance with the following legislation:

NCA 20-050 A law of the Muscogee Creek Nation amending **NCA 20-038** (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditures of **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act** (“**CARES Act**”) funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury to establish the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Coronavirus Relief Fund Program.)

SECTION 7. REPORTING. A report shall be provided bi-weekly by the Office of the Principal Chief to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and Mvskoke Media documenting all expenditures of the CARES Act funds.

First distribution of CRF, received 05-06-2020	\$282,266,728.86
Second distribution of CRF, received 6-20-2020	\$22,958,566.24
Third distribution of CRF, received 6-18-2020	\$7,250,073.54
Interest income as of 8-31-2020	\$141,002.78
Total received/earned	\$312,616,371.42

Total expenditures and encumbrances from the CRF funds as of this report date equals, \$140,154,951.71

The following report has been submitted for the publication date of **Nov. 15**.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROGRAM NAME/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT BUDGETED	EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	CASH BALANCE
	PRINCIPAL CHIEF				
50000	Salary & Wages-FT	47,723.00	-	-	47,723.00
50020	Salary & Wages-O/T over 1.5	19,900.00	-	-	19,900.00
50100	Salary & Wages-PT/Other	1,096,000.00	1,107,500.00	-	-11,500.00
51000	Fringe-FT	38,072.00	-	-	38,072.00
51100	Fringe-PT/Other	129,041.00	130,124.25	-	-1,083.25
	SECRETARY OF NATION				
59220	Grants	95,000,000.00	89,140,328.37	-	5,859,671.63
	TOURISM & RECREATION				
53000	Supplies	30,000.00	26,646.00	-	3,354.00
	CONTRACTING EMPLOYMENT				
59220	Grants	7,500,000.00	674,089.20	-	6,825,910.80
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
53000	Supplies	1,511,100.00	573,203.09	71,826.35	866,070.56
53010	Software/Licenses	2,010,00.00	523,031.39	339,338.50	1,147,630.11
54000	Contractual	935,010.00	244,138.25	27,277.50	663,594.25
55210	Communications- Other	98,661.57	56,627.83	-	42,033.74
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	102,630.43	2,811.48	-	99,818.95
85500	Equipment	4,042,000.00	361,799.20	470,167.32	3,210,033.48
	FLEET MANAGEMENT				
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	50,000.00	3,374.80	-	46,625.20
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	6,075.00	394.66	-	5,680.34
53000	Supplies	3,867,925.00	368,731.97	101,988.58	3,397,204.45
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	1,000.00	685.00	-	315.00
57000	Indirect costs	75,000.00	-	-	75,00.00
	SOCIAL SERVICES				
50000	Salary & Wages - FT	113,107.65	62,624.67	-	50,482.98
50020	Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5	-	1,723.33	-	-1,723.33
51000	Fringe - FT	74,997.53	34,862.80	-	40,134.73
53000	Supplies	4,000.00	2,477.92	-	1,522.08
53010	Software/Licenses	8,000.00	4,000.00	-	4,000.00
54000	Contractual	313,720.00	92,764.09	220,515.69	440.22
57000	Indirect Costs	-	225.65	-	-225.65
59071	Direct Assist - Income Support	36,198,000.00	4,854,000.00	-	31,344,000.00
59072	Direct Assist - Hardship	30,000,000.00	2,942,500.00	-	27,057,000.00
	SENIOR SERVICES				
53000	Supplies	200,000.00	-	176,456.08	23,543.92
	FOOD DISTRIBUTION				
53000	Supplies	530,000.00	42,409.25	-	487,590.75
59050	Food Purchases	450,000.00	248,261.04	-	201,738.96
85170	Construction	50,000.00	11,343.52	-	38,656.48
85400	Vehicles	250,000.00	155,117.61	-	94,882.39
	COMMUNITY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT				
55210	Communications - Other	45,000.00	-	43,093.30	1,906.70
	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION				
50000	Salary& Wages- FT	4,934.00	1,935.56	-	2,980.44
50020	Salary& Wages - O/T over 1.5	133,300.00	18,399.90	-	114,900.10
51000	Fringe - FT	77,825.00	10,324.58	-	67,500.42
53000	Supplies	2,560,000.00	487.00	462,722.16	2,096,790.84
57000	Indirect Costs	0.00	1,982.57	-	-1,982.57
59073	Direct Assistance - Ed Support	9,600.000.00	8,839,100.00	-	760,900.00
	CULTURAL CENTER & ARCHIVES				
53000	Supplies	2,500.00	2,425.00	-	75.00
	TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION				
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	85,608.00	2,401.20	-	83,206.80
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	10,701.00	262.93	-	10,438.07
53000	Supplies	25,000.00	1,025.00	-	23,975.00
57000	Architect & Engineering	844,140.00	711,898.82	132,241.18	-
85010	Construction	14,552,860.00	263,091.29	5,079,386.71	9,210,382.00
85170	Equipment	73,000.00	-	-	73,000.00
	OFFICE OF TAX COMMISSION				
53000	Supplies	12,051.00	12,051.00	-	-
55300	Contractual	50,000.00	13,700.00	-	36,300.00
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	1,500.00	1,159.20	-	340.80
85500	Equipment	11,700.00	11,698.97	-	1.03
	CITIZENSHIP BOARD				
53000	Supplies	350,485.00	14,861.50	82,260.00	253,363.50
53010	Software/Licenses	12,999.00	7,350.00	-	5,649.00
54000	Contractual	551,000.00	500,500.00	-	50,500.00
85500	Equipment	85,516.00	49,258.00	-	36,258.00
	NATIONAL COUNCIL				
50100	Salary & Wares - PT/Other	12,000.00	12,000.00	-	-
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	1,458.00	1,458.00	-	-
	DISTRICT COURT				
53000	Supplies	5,550.00	4,631.77	-	918.23
53310	Equipment Maint/Repair	10,512.00	-	10,512.00	-
85500	Equipment	150,171.68	-	150,171.68	-
	SUPREME COURT				
50100	Salary & Wares - PT/Other	4,500.00	-	-	4,500.00
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	547.00	-	-	547.00
	SECRETARY OF HEALTH				
90110	Transfer Out	-	20,639,179.00	-	-20,639,179.00
	TOTAL	214,026,820.86	132,786,994.66	7,367,957.05	73,871,869.15

Fiscal Year 2021

In accordance with the following legislation:

NCA 20-050 A law of the Muscogee Creek Nation amending **NCA 20-038** (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditures of **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act** (“**CARES Act**”) funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury to establish the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Coronavirus Relief Fund Program.)

SECTION 7. REPORTING. A report shall be provided bi-weekly by the Office of the Principal Chief to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and Mvskoke Media documenting all expenditures of the CARES Act funds.

First distribution of CRF, received 05-06-2020	\$282,266,728.86
Second distribution of CRF, received 6-20-2020	\$22,958,566.24
Third distribution of CRF, received 6-18-2020	\$7,250,073.54
Interest income as of 8-31-2020	\$141,002.78
Total received/earned	\$312,616,371.42

Total expenditures and encumbrances from the CRF funds as of this report date equals, \$30,632,821.85

The following report has been submitted for the publication date of **Nov. 15**.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROGRAM NAME/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT BUDGETED	EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	CASH BALANCE
	PRINCIPAL CHIEF				
50000	Salary & Wages-FT	47,723.00	-	-	47,723.00
50020	Salary & Wages-O/T over 1.5	19,900.00	-	-	19,900.00
51000	Fringe-FT	37,072.00	-	-	37,072.00
51100	Fringe-PT/Other	0.50	-	-	0.50
53000	Supplies	2,500.00	-	-	2,500.00
	SECRETARY OF NATION				
54000	Contractual	9,000,000.00	-	-	9,000,000.00
59220	Grants	5,859,671.63	-	-	5,859,671.63
	TOURISM & RECREATION				
53000	Supplies	3,354.00	-	-	3,354.00
59050	Food Purchases	2,000,000.00	-	-	1,500,000.00
59440	Incidentals	3,500.00	-	-	3,345.20
	CONTRACTING EMPLOYMENT				
53000	Supplies	1,000.00	-	-	1,000.00
59220	Grants	6,825,910.80	301,852.00	-	6,524,058.80
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
53000	Supplies	866,070.56	1,731.52	1,470.97	862,868.07
53010	Software/Licenses	117,128.99	-	39,501.12	77,627.87
54000	Contractual	615,389.00	-	127,896.25	487,492.75
55210	Communications- Other	56,952.26	1,905.36	-	55,046.90
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	99,818.95	-	-	99,818.95
85500	Equipment	1,501,968.61	-	1,371,844.15	130,124.46
	FLEET MANAGEMENT				
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	47,907.00	928.20	-	46,978.80
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	5,828.50	101.64	-	5,726.86
55210	Supplies	3,245,728.45	384,878.68	845,440.82	2,015,408.95
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	315.00	-	-	315.00
85400	Vehicles	75,000.00	-	-	151,476.00
85500	Equipment	-	-	50,012.50	24,987.50
	SOCIAL SERVICES				
50000	Salary & Wages - FT	64,888.78	5,767.68	-	59,121.10
50020	Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5	-	48.01	-	-48.01
51000	Fringe - FT	48,258.48	2,969.36	-	45,289.12
53000	Supplies	5,522.08	-	1,872.59	3,649.49
54000	Contractual	440.22	-	-	440.22
57000	Indirect Costs	-	52.55	-	-52.55
59071	Direct Assist - Income Support	31,342,500.00	3,709,000.00	-	27,633,500.00
59072	Direct Assist - Hardship	27,057,000.00	1,944,500.00	-	25,112,500.00
	SENIOR SERVICES				
53000	Supplies	23,543.92	-	-	23,543.92
	FOOD DISTRIBUTION				
53000	Supplies	487,590.75	2,714.60	31,315.82	453,560.33
59050	Food Purchases	201,738.96	18,313.79	183,425.17	0.00
85170	Construction	38,656.48	-	-	38,656.48
85400	Vehicles	94,882.39	-	-	94,882.39
	COMMUNITY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT				
55210	Communications - Other	1,906.70	-	-	1,906.70
	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION				
50000	Salary& Wages- FT	3,800.58	231.33	-	3,569.25
50020	Salary& Wages - O/T over 1.5	133,166.73	4,657.82	-	128,508.91
51000	Fringe - FT	77,192.13	2,484.85	-	74,707.28
53000	Supplies	1,096,790.84	-	-	1,096,790.84
57000	Indirect Costs	-	-	-	-574.91
59073	Direct Assistance - Ed Support	1,760,900.00	574.91	-	883,700.00
59220	Grants	1,000,00.00	877,200.00	-	1,000,000.00
	MCN MEAT PROCESSING PLANT				
53000	Supplies	100,000.00	-	-	100,000.00
85010	Architect & Engineering	1,000,000.00	-	-	1,000,000.00
85170	Construction	12,000,000.00	-	-	12,000,000.00
85500	Equipment	1,400,000.00	-	-	1,400,000.00
	CULTURAL CENTER & ARCHIVES				
53000	Supplies	75.00	-	-	75.00
	TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION				
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	85,608.00	2,242.80	-	83,365.20
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	10,701.00	245.59	-	10,455.41
53000	Supplies	25,000.00	-	-	25,000.00
85170	Construction	9,210,382.00	-	8,931,854.00	278,528.00
85500	Equipment	73,000.00	-	-	73,000.00
	OFFICE OF JUSTICE				
54000	Contractual	24,738.00	-	-	24,738.00
	OFFICE OF TAX COMMISSION				
54000	Contractual	36,300.00	-	-	36,300.00
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	340.80	-	-	340.80
85500	Equipment	1.03	-	-	1.03
	CITIZENSHIP BOARD				
53010	Supplies	253,363.50	1,080.00	-	252,283.50
54000	Software/Licenses	5,649.00	-	-	5,649.00
85500	Contractual	50,500.00	5,000.00	-	45,500.00
85500	Equipment	36,258.00	-	-	36,258.00
	DISTRICT COURT				
53000	Supplies	918.23	-	-	918.23
	SUPREME COURT				
50100	Salary & Wares - PT/Other	4,500.00	-	-	4,500.00
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	547.00	-	-	547.00
	SECRETARY OF HEALTH				
90110	Transfer Out	0.00	11,279,552.97	-	-11,279,552.97
	TOTAL	118,340,875.85	18,548,033.66	12,084,788.19	87,708,054.00