

THE MVSOKOKE NEWS

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LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD CHAMPS

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS BECOME PART OF SOFTBALL HISTORY

by **Liz Gray**

MANAGING EDITOR

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – For the first time in Little League Softball World Series history, Oklahoma came home with the championship in their premier appearance at the series held in Greenville, North Carolina.

The team stood out not only for their talent, but for the 80 percent Native American roster with players from different tribal nations including Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee, Choctaw and Kiowa.

Players Taylan Starr, Ailanee Hicks and Shianne Dill represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Their journey to the big stage began with an undefeated season, taking them to the Southwest

regional hosted in Texas, where they would come out with a 3-0 record.

During the Aug. 18 LLSWS championship game, Team Virginia scored at the top of the second inning, but an early game error on the play would not keep Team Oklahoma down.

A hit up the middle of the field would even out the score, but Starr would shift the game in Oklahoma's favor with a solid RBI to the right side. The team would eventually answer back with five runs in the bottom of the second.

Oklahoma's defense would hold Virginia at one while they continued to stack runs, ending the game with a final score of 9-1.

The 2021 champs are representatives of Green Country Little League in Muskogee, Oklahoma.



(l-r) Muscogee (Creek) citizens Ailanee Hicks, Shianne Dill and Taylan Starr.

(Submission)

MUSCOGEE NATION TO OFFER EMPLOYEE VACCINE INCENTIVE

EMPLOYEES TO RECEIVE ONE-TIME PAYMENT FOR PROOF OF VACCINATION

by **Morgan Taylor**

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – A Tribal Employee Vaccine Incentive has been passed by the National Council. The legislation states vaccinated tribal employees will receive a one-time payment.

The initial legislation introduced during a Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Emergency Session was sponsored by Representative Charles McHenry, which authorized the expenditure of the American Rescue Plan Act funds for the vaccine incentive.

According to the bill language of NCA 21-093, up to 1,200 Tribal employees would receive \$500 for being fully vaccinated by September 30.

The \$943,050 funding excludes gaming, health and College of Muscogee Nation employees. The legislation passed in a 10-4 vote during the Aug. 12 session.

Representatives Lucian Tiger III, James Jennings, Joseph Hicks, and Adam Jones II voted against the vaccine incentive original legislation.

The representatives expressed concerns about the COVID-19 Individual Relief Assistance of \$2,000.

"I'm not for this bill, I appreciate all our employees and all the risks they take," Rep. Jennings said. "But we have Creek citizens out there that have been vaccinated and your wanting them to get vaccinated that have to go to a job to provide for their families. The ARP funds come from the Department of Treasury for the citizens, so I feel the every day Creek citizen should be included."

Rep. William Lowe agreed with Rep. Jennings.

"Initially when I read this, I thought it was a good opportunity to get our employees vaccinated, stepping back and looking at it I would really like to get our citizens funded before we implemented this program," Rep. Lowe stated.

Rep. Mark Randolph stated in the Aug. 12 Emergency Session that if employees were not able work, then citizens could not receive their



MCN National Council Sessions were held Aug. 12 & 17 to address Employee Vaccination Incentive. (MM File)

ARPA funding.

"If it (COVID-19) broke out here they wouldn't be able to provide the service to citizens to get their distribution," Rep. Randolph said.

Principal Chief Hill stated it is his responsibility to protect employees as well as the citizens.

"We have to help the citizens but the employees are the ones that provide services to the citizens," Hill said.

Secretary of Health Shawn Terry stated at the Emergency Session on August 12, that 90 percent of COVID patient admissions in the Muscogee Nation hospitals are unvaccinated.

"There is only one way out of this and that's to receive this vaccination," Terry said.

He claimed mandating comes with controversial opinions.

"You have people that are anti-vaxxers, people who have religious objections and physical objections," Terry said. "We hope that incentivizing can be more effective than going to the more drastic measures of mandates and we hope it doesn't have to come to that."

According to Terry, 35-45% of citizens within the Muscogee Nation Department of Health System are vaccinated. Hill claimed about 40% of MN employees are vaccinated.

At the time of enactment, the

need to amend NCA 21-093 was discussed in order to separate funding sources due to the Nation having only received ARPA funds for citizens.

However, the Nation received additional ARPA funds Aug. 16 based on tribal employment.

The Council held another Emergency Session Aug. 17, which included additional legislation to amend NCA 21-093.

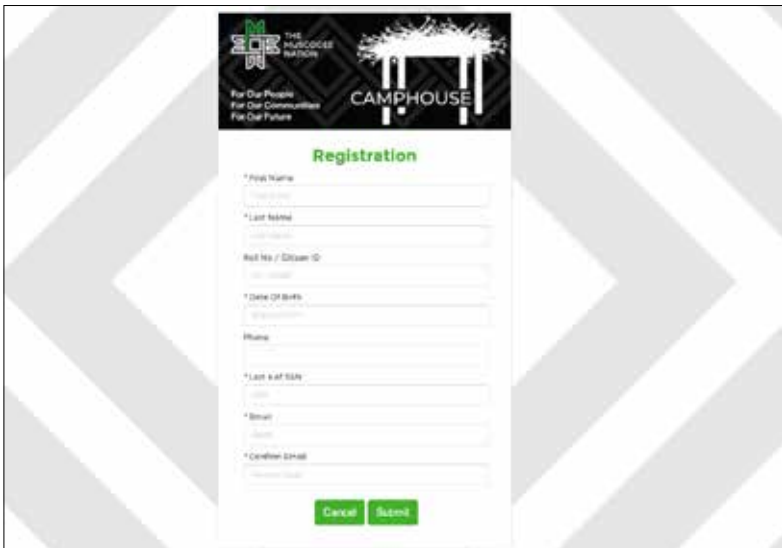
The amendment legislation NCA 21-096 included provisions due to the extra funds received and was passed with a vote of 14-0.

Legislation states any tribal employee or contractor that provides proof of being fully vaccinated by Sept. 30 will receive a one-time payment of \$500. Those who are vaccinated between October 1-December 31, will receive a reduced payment of \$300.

The Council approved a new budget in the amount of \$965,550 for the vaccine incentive to employees. NCA 21-096 also states payments will not begin processing until October 1.

During the Aug. 17 session, Chief and Council both expressed the desire to create legislation for a tribal citizen vaccine incentive, which has not yet been introduced to Council.

To view legislation or listen to the meetings, visit: www.mcnnc.com.



The Camphouse Portal will serve as a centralized document holding system for Muscogee (Creek) citizens and provide a streamline process for applications. (Submission)

CAMPHOUSE PORTAL REACHES FINAL TESTING STAGES

THE PORTAL WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE CITIZENS FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY TRIBE

by **Morgan Taylor**

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Principal Chief David Hill announced the rollout of a system for Muscogee (Creek) citizens designed to be user-friendly and provide a simpler process than previous applications during an Aug. 13 COVID video update.

The Camphouse Portal is currently in the last testing stages of development for usage. Though the webpage can be accessed on the Nation's website, according to MN Press Secretary Jason Salsman, the link is "not live" and is in testing mode.

"We wanted to make sure those developers have had as much time as possible to make this system as perfect as possible," Salsman said.

Due to the inactive status of the portal, Salsman claimed anything entered on the portal at this point will be null and void until the system is fully running.

"There is a lot that goes into that as far as security and making

it user-friendly," he said. "But we are in those final testing stages."

Salsman stated an official announcement will be released about Camphouse going live around the first week in September, possibly after Labor Day weekend before, which will contain the application for the COVID-19 Impact Relief Individual Assistance Program.

According to Salsman, the Camphouse Portal will continue to serve as a centralized data portal for services even after the American Rescue Plan Funds are expended through specific programs.

"We have heard from a lot of citizens that sometimes with the tribe and getting services, it's frustrating to have to always put in information two or three times and why isn't there a centralized location," Salsman said. "The plan was to have this centralized portal entry system, not only for the \$2,000 distribution that the Council mandated

CAMPHOUSE – 2



REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS SCOTT IMPEACHMENT OFFICIALLY UNDERWAY

IMPEACHMENT COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL PROSECUTOR SELECTED

by Liz Gray
MANAGING EDITOR

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Official Impeachment for Okfuskee District Representative Travis Scott has begun.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council held an Impeachment Session Aug. 12 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

When Mvskoke Media previously contacted National Council about the Directive required by MCN Code, the response received by Council was that during the May 22 Emergency Session the motion “Go through the Removal Process of Title 31 for Representative Scott,” was the Directive.

However, during the Impeachment Session, a Directive was approved with a vote of 14-0 and became publicly available with the allegations against Scott.

The cause of removal is based upon review of the witness evidence presented and recommendations from both the National Council’s Internal Affairs Committee and Fact-Finding & Investigations Committee, which presented probable cause for removal of Scott.

The allegations state that prior to his 2017 election as

National Council Seat B Representative, Scott owned “Scott Native Products”, doing business as “Parks Brothers Ace Hardware, with his spouse, ShaRee Scott since 2015.

After taking the oath of office in January 2018, the Directive continues to state how Scott’s business engaged in transactions with numerous MCN business entities from January 2018 until approximately September 2020.

The total amount received by his business through these transactions add up to \$107,584.33; a breakdown of the transactions includes \$70,458.47 with the MCN government, \$36,802.97 with MCN casinos and \$322.89 with Muscogee Nation Businesses referred to as MNBE.

According to the Directive, witness testimony alleged that Scott’s business engaged in illegal business transactions with the Nation and its subsidiaries while Scott was serving his term as a Representative of the National Council in violation of MCN law.

National Council Special Prosecutor Jeff Davis was confirmed in the Directive. Davis will investigate the allegations, prepare information and present evidence to the Special Impeachment Committee con-

sistent with Title 31 of MCN law.

Special Impeachment Committee Selection, drawn at random consists of Representatives Mary Crawford, Joyce Deere, Randall Hicks, James Jennings, Thomasene Yahola Osborn, Darrell Proctor and Mark Randolph. Rep. Robert Hufft is the alternate.

The Directive stated the Committee is to state and report their findings in the matter to the Council within 30 days from the vote authorizing the Directive. The Committee is also directed to report whether they authorize the Special Prosecutor to prepare Articles of Impeachment against Scott.

Scott has filed with the MCN District Court alleging the Council violated his Constitutional Due Process. The filing seeks to obtain court order to reinstate Scott’s monetary compensation and insurance benefits as well as his capacity as a National Council Representative.

Former MCN Judge Jeremy Pittman represented Scott in court, with Jeff Davis representing the National Council during arguments held Aug. 23.

This is a developing story, Mvskoke Media will provide updates as they become available.

MVSKOKE MEDIA STAFF WIN SEVEN AWARDS FROM NAJA

THE NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION VIRTUAL CEREMONY TO BE HELD OCT. 28



Native American Journalists Association presented seven awards to Mvskoke Media staff. (Submission)

by Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Every year the Native American Journalists Association recognizes Indigenous and non-Indigenous journalists from across the country on their excellence in reporting.

NAJA received more than 730 entries this year in categories from student level to professional level. Mvskoke Media received five awards under the Professional Division II – Print/Online, one under Professional Divisions II & III – TV and one under Professional Division II – Multimedia, making a grand total of seven for the newly

reinstated independent tribal media.

Mvskoke Media Director Angel Ellis received two awards in the Professional Division II – Print/Online. Under the category for Best News Story, Ellis placed second for her coverage on “Former MCN Chief sentenced to prison.” Under the Excellence in Beat Reporting category, she placed third for the story, “SCOTUS opinion impact coverage.”

Reporter Morgan Taylor received one award in the Professional Division II – Print/Online. Taylor placed third in the Best Elder Coverage category for the story, “Veteran makes tribute to other veter-

ans.”

Radio Specialist Gary Fife received one award under the Professional Division II – Print/Online. Under the category for Best Column, Fife placed first for “Emvpanayv: One Who Tells the Story.”

Assignment Editor Jerrad Moore received one award under the Professional Divisions II & III – TV for Best Newscast. Moore’s work on “Previously censored interview with Dr. Monte Randall leading a citizen initiative petition to restore free press at MCN,” placed him at third in the category.

Ellis and Moore received one award together under the Professional Division II – Multimedia. The pair placed second for “Anne Townsend Edwards discusses being a Muscogee foster parent.”

Mvskoke Media editorial staff and Mvskoke Creative received first place for General Excellence under Professional Division II – Print/Online for the Mvskoke News.

According to the press release from NAJA, more than 250 awards were distributed to the best coverage of Indian Country.

NAJA usually hosts an in-person conference but in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 National Native Media Conference has been postponed until Aug. 25-27, 2022 in Phoenix. This year, the awards ceremony will be held virtually on Oct. 28 at 3 p.m. Central Standard Time via Zoom.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Galen Cloud



In the Aug. 15 edition on page B-3, the profile of Galen Cloud incorrectly stated he is a member of High Springs Indian Baptist Church. Profile information submitted by Cloud did not list a church.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS’ JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS DECISION STATE EX REL. MATLOFF V. WALLACE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

This morning the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals issued its decision in State ex rel. Matloff v. Wallace holding the United States Supreme Court’s ruling in McGirt v. Oklahoma does not apply retroactively. The United States Attorney’s offices in Oklahoma are reviewing today’s OCCA opinion and

assessing its potential impact on cases previously referred to the United States for potential federal criminal prosecution,” said Acting United States Attorneys Christopher Wilson, Clint Johnson and Robert Troester. “In the interim, our offices will continue to focus on our mission of ensuring public safety and holding defendants accountable for their criminal acts.”

CAMPHOUSE

Continued from Page 1

but also going forward for the future.”

Once the official portal has been deemed safe and open to use, the Nation will eventually use it to streamline services through the portal.

The Camphouse Portal will allow citizens to enter informa-

tion regarding self, household, incomes, etc. and also make changes, when necessary, with a login and password.

Salsman stated only enrolled Muscogee (Creek) citizens over the age of 18 will be able to make a portal login.

For more information, please contact the American Rescue Plans Funds Hotline at: 918-549-2885.



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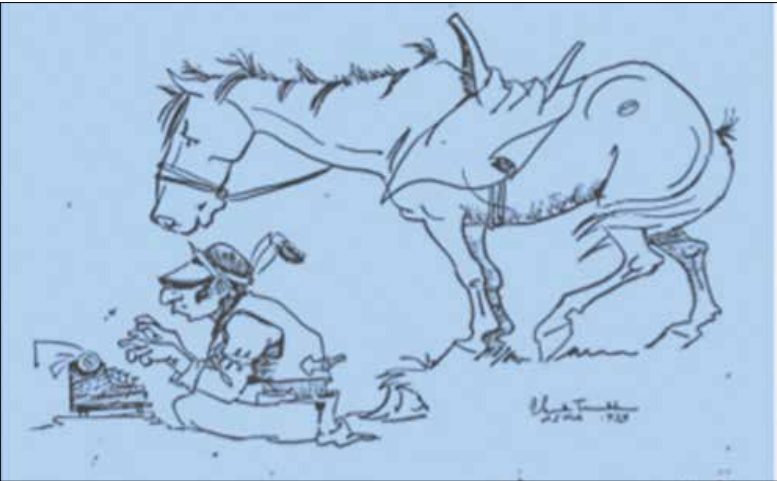

Native American Journalist Association
Members of the Native American Journalists Association

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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.



GREAT TV, MASCOT UPDATE; COLORADO NATIVES TO LIVE

NEW TV SHOW A WINNER; COLORADO LAW ON INDIAN DEATH; MORE MASCOT STUFF

by Gary Fife
RADIO SPECIALIST

Okmulgee, Oklahoma— Reservation Dogs. There, enough said, huh?
Have you seen the new TV show about four ‘Mvskoke’ kids, kicking around rural Oklahoma? It’s the newest production by prolific Mvskoke-Semvnole(Seminole) film producer, writer, comic and cinematic rebel Sterlin Harjo. To top that, Taiki Waititi, the New

Zealand Maori Native is co-producer and brings his internationally recognized genius touch to the show.
It’s the kind of show we’ve been waiting for in terms of real inside Native humor. It’s stuff that we all know from everyday life presented in a quality form we can all appreciate. Even the Estehvtke (white folks) can get some belly laughs. We’ve all seen the lip-pointing and heard the phrase, “Ayy”, in other films, but this goes far beyond any corny shortcuts.

It delivers a precious insight that only another Native person can fully appreciate but anyone can laugh at.
Rez Dogs is a real relief and honest change from some of the other productions that professed to show Indian humor, life and challenges. Surely, viewers will identify with this talented cast and relate to them in a fashion that, in the words of one of the producers, “leaves all the others in the dust.” My dear wife said she nearly died laughing, watching Episode Three of the series. Me, too.
The only downer about this show, is that it is only available on Hulu, a pay-per-subscription channel. But if you buy it, the channel does have a lot of other interesting programs you could watch.
Noted Indian actor Saginaw Grant has passed away. Grant acted in numerous movies and TV program in July. He was an elder of the Sac and Fox tribe.
It’s no longer legal to kill Indians in Colorado under 136-year-old laws. The two 19th century state laws contributed to the atmosphere that led up to the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre of Cheyenne and Arapaho people by the Colorado State Militia and they’ve been recently rescinded.
Native News Online reports

Governor Jared Polis signed an Executive Order mid-August saying two 1864 proclamations were superseded by the state constitution saying, “They therefore remain as a symbol of a gross abuse of executive power during that grave period in our State’s history.” Polis called the law, “shameful.”
Here’s a quick update on the sports team mascot issues. The pro football team representing Disneyland-On-The-Potomac still hasn’t decided on a new name. Indian Country Today reports team officials still haven’t made a final decision, but have narrowed down a list to just two possibilities to replace the ‘R-Skins’ name.
C’m on folks, it’s been a year now.
Speaking of taking a long time, Union High School here in Tulsey-town is supposed to announce a new name for its mascot. By the time this edition of the Mvskoke News is published and distributed, school officials may have made that announcement.
Next, the Kansas City Chiefs say they will not retire the “Chiefs” nickname, but they will retire their horse mascot, “War Paint.” They will ban headdresses, but will allow the ‘tomahawk chop.’
The Cleveland Indians have tried to make the change. The

pro baseball team was planning to be known as the “Guardians.” Fortune magazine said a local roller derby team beat them to the punch about 10 years ago.
A court in Philadelphia has ruled that a statue of Christopher Columbus can stay in a local park there. The judge said that the city didn’t allow adequate public input and overturned a local ordinance requiring its removal. National news source say that city’s population has a major presence of Italian heritage residents, who are ‘ecstatic.’
A Mvskoke tribal member and Tulsa resident has pleaded guilty in federal court to a count of threatening the U.S. President and members of Congress. The U.S. Attorney reported that threatening emails were also sent to KOTV Channel 6 News.
As of this writing, there’s no word on whether or not the 2021 Mvskoke Festival is still on. The resurgence of the Delta Covid-19 virus has raised some questions about large gatherings around the country. Here’s hoping it’s still on.
Enough ‘gossip’, eh?
Hvtvm Cerecares—I will see you.
Disclaimer: The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANT FUNDS

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CEREMONIAL GROUNDS TO BE AMENDED

by Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held August 10 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee.

All passed legislation is subject to the full council approval during the regular session.
LNC addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:
TR 21-114
Authorizing the execution of the

National Park Service Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) Grant Agreement awarding funds in the amount of \$70,175.00 to the Historic and Cultural Preservation Department. Representative Mark Randolph sponsored the legislation, which passed 4-0.
The grant funds will be used to ensure the protection and preservation of valued Mvskoke historic and cultural resources, including sacred places, cultural sites, cultural remains and Mvskoke history, for future generations.
Historic and Cultural Preserva-



Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held August 10 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. (MM File)

2021 PRIMARY ELECTION

NATIONAL COUNCIL SEAT B

DEADLINES

IN PERSON VOTING REGISTRATION

SEPT. 8
5 PM CST

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES

EARLY IN PERSON VOTING

SEPT. 15th & 16th
7 AM - 7 PM

IN PERSON VOTING

SEPT. 18th
7 AM - 7 PM

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ARPA FUNDS TO BENEFIT ELDERLY NUTRITION AND CAREGIVER PROGRAMS

NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY SEEKS TO HELP NATION PROMOTE HIGHER EDUCATION

by Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held Aug. 11 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session Aug. 31. HEW addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21-112

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of understanding between New Mexico Highlands University and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Representative Anna Marshall sponsored the resolution, which passed 4-0. New Mexico Highlands University developed a plan to formalize a relationship between NMHU and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to promote higher education opportunities leading to the recruiting, retention and successful completion of degree programs by MCN student. The memorandum of understanding sets out the terms and

conditions for implementing said plan.

TR 21-113

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a certain agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Change Healthcare, LLC. Rep. Mary Crawford sponsored the resolution, which passed 4-0. The agreement would allow MCNDH access to certain software interface services to fully implement the Epic Electronic Health Record System. The agreement requires NC to waive the Nation’s sovereign immunity, disclaims many warranties by Change Healthcare, imposes an indemnification obligation on the MCNDH, limits some claims and remedies, and requires application of the laws of the State of Georgia.

NCA 21-072

Authorizing the expenditure of the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living American Rescue Plan for OAA Title VI Part C Native American Caregivers Funds for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Jennings sponsored the



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held August 11 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MM File)

legislation, which passed 4-0. The funds in the amount of \$55,340.00 was awarded from the American Rescue plan to MCN Food Services Program would be used to provide supportive services for the administration of the Caregiver Program.

NCA 21-073

Authorizing the expenditure of the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living American Rescue Plan for OAA

Title VI Part A/B Native American Funds for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Services Program. Jennings sponsored the legislation, which passed 4-0. The funds awarded in the amount of \$96,480.00 from the American Rescue Plan to MCN Food Services Program would be used to provide nutrition and supportive services for the administration of the Elderly Nutrition Program.

NCA 21-088

Authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the benefit of the College of the Muscogee Nation. Jennings sponsored the legislation, which passed 4-0. The funds awarded in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Native American Library Services Grant would be used for the College of Muscogee Nation to complete cultural programming/outreach activities, increase number of patrons visiting and utilizing the library, purchase and implement a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math database.

NCA 21-089

Authorizing a budget modification in excess of ten percent (10%) for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health Facilities Management third party budget for FY 2021. Rep. Joyce Deere sponsored the legislation, which passed 4-0. The Department of Health Facilities Management wishes to make this modification of ten percent to help cover construction costs for the Behavioral Health Facility. For audio of committee meetings visit: www.mcnn.com

GOAB SEEKS TO IMPROVE THE EUFAULA CASINO

MCN LIGHTHORSE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONER PASSED THROUGH COMMITTEE

by Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held Aug. 23 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session Aug. 31. BFJ addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

NCR 21-007

Confirming Eric Freeman to serve on the Lighthorse Police Commission. Representative Lucian Tiger III sponsored the resolution, which passed 3-0. MCN Code Annotated Title 50 requires one member of the Lighthorse Police Commission to be selected by NC. The person must be a full MCN citizen unless waived by two-third votes, possess an Associate’s Degree plus 10-20 years of experience in law enforcement, pass a drug test and criminal background check. NC has selected Muscogee (Creek) citizen Eric Freeman, to serve on the Lighthorse Police Commission.

NCA 21-094

Authorizing a budget modification in excess of ten percent (10%) for the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs FY 18 Body-worn camera policy and implementation program grant



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held August 23 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MM File)

funds for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department. Rep. Robert Hufft sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department is requesting a budget modification of its total federal grant budget. MCN Lighthorse Police Department wishes to make this modification in order to reallocate certain funds to enter into an agreement for the purchase, installation and maintenance of 55 body-worn cameras.

NCA 21-095

Amending MCNCA Title 6, substitute 6-232 Entitled “Modification of a Child Support Order.” Rep. Anna Marshall sponsored the resolution, which passed 3-0. Child support orders may be

modified upon a material change of circumstances which includes, but is not limited to an increase or decrease in the needs of the child, increase or decrease in the income of the parents, changes in actual annualized child care expenses, changes in cost of medical or dental insurance or when one of the children in the child support order reaches the age of majority or otherwise ceases to be entitled to support pursuant to the order. A 15% increase or decrease in the income of either party will be considered for a modification. After Nov. 1, 2021 there shall be a rebuttable presumption that an obligor who is incarcerated for a period of one hundred eighty or more consecutive days is unable to pay child support.

TR 21-123

Authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board (“GOAB”) to create an MCNC Insurance Reserve Fund out of gaming profits. Rep. Patrick Freeman sponsored the resolution, which passed 3-0. Before the pandemic River Spirit Casino suffered from the historic 2019 flood of the Arkansas River and was shut down for approximately a month. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the MCN Casinos shut down for several months in 2020. GOAB has determined that while profits are at historic high levels for the entire year despite the past flood and pandemic; and, for purposes of being proactive and to help mitigate a future natural disaster, an Insurance Reserve Fund account should be created.

TR 21-124

Authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board (“GOAB”) to execute the Master Equipment Lease agreement with Video Gaming Technologies, INC. (VGT), and the minimum obligation agreement and First Amendment to Master Gaming Device Purchase and Lease Agreement with Aristocrat Technologies, INC. Rep. Freeman sponsored the resolution, which passed 3-0. The ATI Minimum Lease Agreement, VGT Lease Agreement and ATI Master Gaming Device Purchase and Lease Agreement were approved by TR 16-011. The First Amendment and Second Amendment to the ATI and VGT were approved subsequently.

GOAB desires to enter the First Amendment to the ATI Master Gaming Device Purchase and Lease Agreement; the terms of these agreements are each five years. TR 21-125 Authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board (“GOAB”) to deposit current gaming funds in its Gaming Capital Expenditure account for the Eufaula Casino Project. Rep. Freeman sponsored the resolution, which passed 3-0. The Nation currently owns and the GOAB manages the Muscogee Creek Nation Casino - Eufaula, which is in the vicinity of six other competing casinos within a one-hour drive. In March 2021 feasibility study showed the market analysis for a new casino and hotel in Eufaula would provide both superior visibility and access in comparison to the existing casino and will boost current profits. The Eufaula casino project is estimated to be 48 to 49 million dollars of which the GOAB will ask the NC to approve a withdrawal of 40 million, at a future date, when the legal documents are negotiated and in final form from the revolving line of credit. OTHER BUSINESS: During other business, Rep. Adam Jones III was elected as Vice-Chairman of the BFJ Committee. For audio of committee meetings and full legislation, visit: www.mcnn.com

LNC

Continued from Page 3

tion Department Manager RaelLynn Butler claimed the department will use some of the funds to create an Internship position for a Muscogee youth. TR 21-115 Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement among the MCN, BIA, Okmulgee CO, and the Okla-

homa State Historic Preservation Office regarding replacement of old HWY 75 North bridge over Adams Creek, Okmulgee CO. Rep. Charles McHenry sponsored the legislation. Do pass, 4-0. Road has been identified with MCN National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory as RT 1430 BIA plans to fund the Project through MCN Tribal Transportation Program. NCA 21-090

Authorizing the expenditure of the National Park Service Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) Grant for the benefit of the Historic and Cultural Preservation Department. Rep. Mark Randolph sponsored the legislation. Do pass, 4-0. The grant amount of \$70,175.00 will be used to ensure the protection and preservation of valued Mvskoke historic and cultural resources, including sacred places, cultural sites, cultural remains and

Mvskoke history, for future generations. Historic and Cultural Preservation Department Manager RaelLynn Butler claims they will use some of the funds to create an Internship position for a Muscogee youth. Authorization from Council is required to expend funds. NCA 21-091 Repealing MCNCA Title 5 Chapter 2 entitled “Financial Assistance” creating new law in MCNCA Title 5 Chapter 2 entitled “Finan-

cial Assistance” and amending MCNCA Title 37, Chapter 2, and subchapter 1 entitled “Required Annual Budgets Items.” Rep. Mark Randolph sponsored the legislation. Do pass, 4-0. The financial assistance for ceremonial ground maintenance budget assistance to be amended. The Amendment can be viewed at <http://www.mcnn.com/images/pdf/2021/bills/NCA21-091.pdf>. Meetings and agendas can be viewed at www.mcnn.com.



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Sanitization Agreement approved for the Meat Processing Plant as a part of the last steps for operation. (MM File)

TRIBAL BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM FUNDS APPROVED THROUGH JOINT COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION REGARDING PROPERTY SALE POSTPONED FOR A MONTH

by Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance, and Justice/Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Joint Committee session was held August 24 at the Mound Building.

All passed legislation is subject to the full council approval during the regular session.

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

TR 21-116

Authoring the Principal Chief to execute a First Amendment to the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the sale of the property in Jenks, OK. Representative Joseph Hicks sponsored the resolution. Rep. Jones made a motion to postpone for one month, Rep. Freeman seconded the motion. The resolution was postponed for a month, with a vote of 8-0.

In 2012 the MCN purchased the Riverwalk in Jenks, which lead to a lease agreement between Flying

Tee for the lease of the golf entertainment property. Flying Tee sold their business operations to Golf Suites Tulsa, LLC. The company has offered \$6,500,000 for the property. They have obtained a mortgage financing for \$5,567,500 but are seeking financing through the Nation for the remaining \$1,300,000.

TR 21-117

Authorizing the execution of a Promissory Note between the MCN and Golf Suites, INC. F/K/A KGEM Golf, INC., for the sale of the property in Jenks. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation. Rep. Hicks made a motion to postpone for one month, which was seconded by Rep. Freeman. The motion was postponed until next month, with a vote of 8-0.

The Nation is willing to provide financing to Golf Suites Tulsa, LLC to purchase the property. Golf Suites will pay the Nation an interest rate over the five-year term of the Promissory Note.

TR 21-118

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement for ease-

ments, covenants and restrictions for Riverwalk Crossing located in Jenks. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the resolution. Hicks made a motion to postpone for one month. Rep. Freeman seconded the motion. The resolution was postponed for one month with a vote of 8-0.

The terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement between the Nation and Golf Suites Tulsa, LLC, adopted by TR 20-146 and entered into by the parties on Nov. 1, 2020, provides that the parties agree to enter into an agreement to provide certain access and parking easements over land across the Nation's property for the benefit of Golf Suites property and to set forth the terms and conditions upon which Riverwalk Crossing will be owned and operated and upon which certain common areas within Riverwalk Crossing will be used and maintained.

TR 21-120

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a sanitation contract with Quality Value Experience Sanitation Team for the MCN Meat Processing Plant. Rep. Robert Hufft sponsored the legislation, which passed 8-0.

The Nation desires to have a sanitation program that meets or exceed the sanitation standards of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The company guarantees passage from the USDA. To obtain the services a Sanitation Agreement must be enacted and agreement waives sovereign immunity with Council approval.

TR 21-122

Authorizing Chief to submit a Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Application. Rep. Mark Randolph sponsored the resolution, which passed 8-0.

The Nation has received an award notification from the Federal Communications Commission for 2.5 GHz spectrums in particular areas of the MCN Reservation. The Nation plans to utilize the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program funding to support finalizing project designs, implementing the designs and launching broadband services in critical areas.

Full agendas and meetings can be viewed at: www.mcnn.com.

NCA 21-092

Authorizing an appropriation to the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department for the Fountainhead Golf Course. Rep. William Lowe sponsored the legislation. Rep. William Lowe made a motion to return to the Business, Finance and Justice committee, the motion was adopted 14-0.

Fountainhead Golf Course requested an appropriation in the amount of \$27,300.00 to purchase a new tractor to maintain golf course operations.

NCA 21-093

Authorizing the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury for the MCN Vaccine Incentive for tribal employees. Rep. Charles McHenry sponsored the legislation, which was adopted 10-4 with reps. Lucian Tiger III, Joseph Hicks, James Jennings and Adam Jones voting against the legislation.

The Nation wants to provide up to 1200 tribal employees a one-time incentive in the amount of \$500.00 to each employee that has been fully vaccinated by September 30, 2021 in order to encourage those to protect themselves, their families and Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

Amended at lines 18 and 21 to add: "with the exception of gaming, health, and College of Muscogee Nation employees." The amendment was adopted with a vote of 12-2 with reps. Jennings and Jones voted against the amendment.

A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Emergency Session meeting was held August 17 at the Mound Building Auditorium.

All passed legislation is subject



Two pieces of legislation will be returned to committees for further discussions and documentation support. (MM File)

COUNCIL APPROVES ARPA FUNDING EXPENDITURES THROUGH EMERGENCY SESSIONS

FUNDS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR VACCINATED TRIBAL EMPLOYEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING TO PROVIDE SERVICES

by Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMLUGEE, Oklahoma - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council held Emergency Sessions Aug. 12 & 17 at the Mound Building Auditorium in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

During the Aug. 12 session the Council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21-119

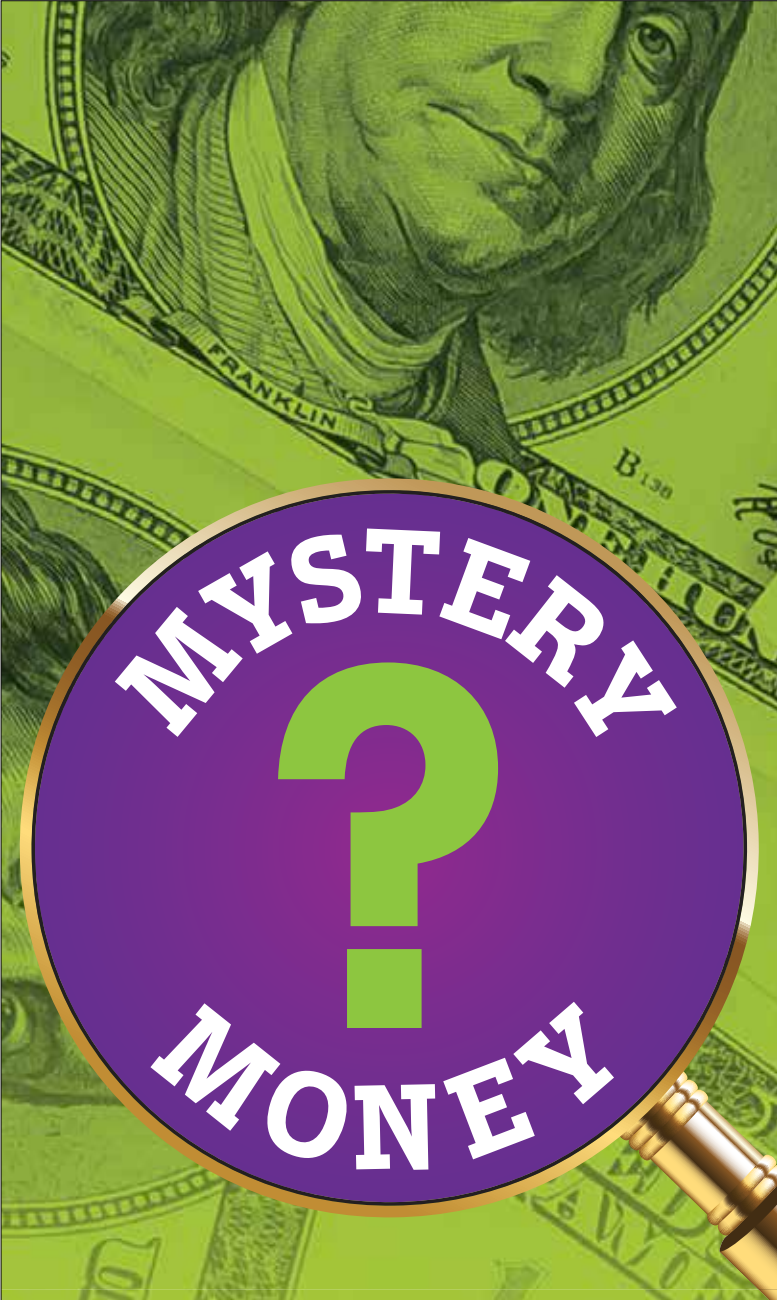
Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service Application for Federal Inspection for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Meat Processing Facility. Representative Robert Hufft sponsored the legislation, which was adopted 14-0.

The Nation desires to have the United States Department of Agriculture, Food Safety & Inspection Service inspect the meat processing operations and the quality of its products. The Council must waive the Nation's sovereign immunity as part of the application process.

TR 21-121

Confirming the nomination of Andrea James to serve on the MCN Election Board. Rep. Thomasene Yahola Osborn sponsors the legislation. Rep. Thomasene Yahola Osborn made a motion to return to the Health, Education and Welfare committee, the motion was adopted with a vote of 14-0.

The Principal Chief has nominated Andrea James to serve Position 5 on the MCN Election Board with the term to begin upon confirmation until May 31, 2026.



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MUSCOGEE (CREEK) YOUTH EXCELS AT SULPHUR SCHOOLS

OWEN WEST SUCCEEDS IN SPORTS AND IN THE CLASSROOM

by Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

SULPHUR, Oklahoma—Muscogee (Creek) citizen Owen West will be starting her junior year at Sulphur High School this fall, where she has remained on the Superintendent Honor Roll since her freshman year and has succeeded in her extra-curricular activities.

The 16-year-old student is the daughter of Leanne and Paul West.

West participates in Student Council, Foreign Language Club and Key Club.

She is a student athlete playing in softball, golf, powerlifting, track and basketball.

“This year I qualified for state in softball, golf and powerlifting,” West said. “I came in second for golf and powerlifting.”

During the summer or outside of school, she plays tournament ball in softball. West



Muscogee (Creek) citizen Owen West. (Submission)

plays for the Oklahoma Angels softball team out of Ardmore, Oklahoma. The organization has six different age groups ranging from eight years and up to 14 and up for fast pitch.

During July, the team won the national softball tournament held in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

West stated playing with the Angels has helped her grow as a person and in teamwork. She said it helped her meet new people and is overall a good organization.

West said her two favorite sports to play are golf and softball. She joined powerlifting in high school, during the 2020-2021 school year where she qualified for state and got runner-up. She and a teammate, who also got runner-up, were the first girls from Sulphur to qualify.

When she is not playing any sports, she likes to do art and play in the band.

Now that school is starting, West is looking forward to growing as a person. Her goal is to continue to keep her grades up and do well in sports to prepare for senior year. After graduation, she is already planning to attend Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and major in Optometry.

ANNUAL HANNA WATERMELON FESTIVAL HELD

HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER AND ITS MEMBERS HELP KEEP TRADITION ALIVE

by Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

HANNA, Oklahoma – The annual Watermelon Festival is a long-standing tradition in McIntosh County. The festival attracts tourists from all over the state and even further to the small community located in the central southern area of the Muscogee Reservation.

No one knows exactly how long it has been going but Muscogee citizen and event coordinator, Kenya Fields remembers going each year as a young girl.

Mayor of Hanna and Chairman of the Hanna Indian Community Center Connie Marez said the event “took a hiatus for a few years,” but has gone on for many years.

The Hanna Indian Community Center sponsored the fes-

tival Aug. 6-7 by providing the funds for outdoor activities and helping to coordinate the event.

The festival used to host contests for watermelon but in recent years it has been about bringing people together more so than the tasty fruit.

“In the past everyone would bring different watermelons and we would do Best Taste or Biggest Homegrown Melon,” Fields said.

Even though the festival no longer has these watermelon contests, Fields said they still hand out free watermelon during the two-day event.

The year’s festival had several planned activities over two days including waterslides, a parade, cornhole tournament, cup pong tournaments, Ride n’ Roll tournament, and live music from Black Ridge Band and Revers-



Muscogee (Creek) citizen Kenya Fields and her children participated in the parade. (Submission)

ing Radio.

The community purchased a Winchester 6.5 Creedmoor for a ticket raffle; the funds are used to help with any extra expenses acquired from the festivities.

According to Marez, the Watermelon Festival keeps Hanna on the map along with their fireworks display.

“We are a small community,” Marez said. “This keeps us known.”

The Hanna Watermelon Festival is the first weekend of August each year.

According to Fields, there are big plans for next year.

FIXICO

Continued from Page 6

Fixico feels like her work at NARF is contributing to what the organization is doing, protecting and serving the rights of individual Indians and tribal nations.

In addition to this program, Fixico wanted to include some information about the Native American Pathway to Law Program.

“The Native American Pathway to Law Program started in

2015, it started with a partnership between ASU, Michigan State Indigenous Law Center, Berkeley Law and the American Indian Law Center. What it does is, all the schools work together and they don’t have any recruitment during this time. They help Native students get ready for law school,” Fixico said.

Emily Harwell from Prague, OK, completed the NARF internship in 2020. She graduated from Dartmouth College, where she served as President of the Native Americans

at Dartmouth student organization. She also served as co-chair of the Dartmouth College powwow.

“I completed my first year of law school in May 2020, which was just after the pandemic hit the United States,” Harwell said. “Because of the pandemic I was able to apply for summer positions. I accepted the summer internship at the Native American Rights Fund. Usually, they do not take first year students, I think because of the pandemic they were willing to expand

their program and include first year.”

During her time with NARF, Harwell worked close to Jacqueline De León, a staff attorney who specializes in Native American voting rights issues. Since the 2020 Presidential elections were about to happen, Harwell was able to assist legal battles De León was fighting.

“We spent the summer either working on lawsuits or projects how they educate tribal communities about ways they can get out and vote,” she said. “As

an intern at NARF, I was not only able to assist members of my own Nation but also many other tribal nations throughout the United States.”

Harwell is currently working at a law firm in New York City, where she is one of a few Native Americans on staff. She has been able to take what she learned from law school and her clerk internship to apply those skills to her work. Aside from working there, she is entering her last year at Cornell Law School.

EMERGENCY

Continued from Page 5

to the full council approval during the regular session.

During the Aug. 17 session the Council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

NCA 21-092

Authorizing an appropriation to the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department for the Fountainhead Golf Course. Rep. William Lowe sponsored the legislation, which was adopted, 14-0.

Fountainhead Golf Course requested an appropriation in the amount of \$27,300.00 to purchase a new tractor to maintain golf course operations.

NCA 21-096

Amending NCA 21-093 (Authorizing the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act

(ARPA) Funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury for the MCN Vaccine Incentive for tribal employees) and authorizing an appropriation for the MCN Tribal Employee Vaccination Incentive. Rep. Lucian Tiger sponsors the legislation. Adopted as amended, 14-0.

NCA 21-093

Authorized expenditure of ARPA funds for purpose of a vaccine incentive for employees.

The Council found that the legislation enacted on Aug. 12 needed to be amended to separate funding sources at the time of enactment because the Nation had received funds for citizens only.

On Aug 16, the Nation received additional ARPA funds, which were based on employment. Amendments were made through out the legislation making the adjustments due to new funding based on employment.

Full legislation and videos can be viewed at: www.mcnnn.com.



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ANNUAL ALL-INDIAN RODEO CONTESTANTS RIDE INTO FINALS

WINNERS WILL COMPETE IN THE INDIAN NATIONAL FINALS RODEO IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

by Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Native cowboys and cowgirls got their boots dirty at the Annual All-Indian Rodeo held at the Claude Cox Omnplex Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena.

According to Claude Cox Omnplex Facility Coordinator Mike Sands, the rodeo attracted around 380 contestants from 39 different tribes. Sands claimed there were contestants all the way from Canada.

“Normally we have over 400 but people are still hesitant to get out,” Sand said.

Due to the pandemic, he said regional rodeos are no longer happening and its strictly tour rodeos.

“The winners are automatically going to the World’s (Indian Nationals Finals Rodeo) in Las Vegas,” Sands said of tour rodeos compared to regional.

Extra prize money was added to the pot to help the contestants from last year’s cancellations. Sands cleared up that contrary to what was announced at the rodeo, the money was not doubled but \$1,000 was added to each big event payout.

Events included Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Steer Wrestling, Calf Roping, Ladies’ Breakaway Roping,



Patrons tip their hats to the flag as it circled around the Arena. (Submission)

Team Roping, Ladies’ Barrel Racing, Bull Riding, Jr Bull Riding, Jr Breakaway Roping, Jr Barrel Racing, Sr Breakaway Roping, Sr Team Roping, Pee Wee Barrel Racing, Mutton Bustin’, Pony Express Race, Ring of Fear and Calf Scramble with over \$64,000 paid out in prize money.

Sands said there are about three more tour rodeos until the World’s rodeo in Vegas.

All tour rodeo winners will compete against one another at the INFR Oct. 19-23 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Results from the event can be viewed at <https://www.infr.org/tour-results.html>.

HENRYETTA MAN FOUND GUILTY BY FEDERAL JURY OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA - The United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, announced today that Kendall Len Burgess, age 22, of Henryetta, Oklahoma was found guilty by a federal jury of Aggravated Sexual Abuse in Indian Country, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1151, 1153, 2241(c) and 2246(2) (B) and Abusive Sexual Contact in Indian Country, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1151, 1153, 2244(a)(5) and 2246(3). The defendant was acquitted on one count of Assault by Striking, Beating, or Wounding in Indian Country. The jury trial began with testimony on Monday, July 19, 2021 and concluded on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 with the guilty verdicts. The defendant is facing imprisonment for not less than 30 years to life for the crimes the jury found he committed.

During the trial, the United States presented evidence that the defendant was romantically involved with the minor victim’s adult sister, with whom he shared two children. During the Spring of 2019, while living with the victim’s family, the defendant perpetrated various sexual acts on the seven- year-old victim. The child’s disclosure of the sexual abuse led to state court charges

being filed against the defendant. The defendant failed to appear to answer those charges and was apprehended by law enforcement after high-speed chases through both Tulsa and Okmulgee County.

The United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Oklahoma ultimately prosecuted the case because the defendant is a member of a federally-recognized Indian tribe and the crime occurred in Okmulgee County, within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and within the Eastern District of Oklahoma.

The guilty verdicts were the result of an investigation by the Henryetta Police Department, Okmulgee County Sheriff’s Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Honorable Ronald A. White, U.S. District Judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma in Muskogee, presided over the trial and ordered the completion of a presentence report. Sentencing will be scheduled following completion of the report. Burgess was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal pending the imposition of sentencing.

Special Assistant United States Attorney L.C. Wright and Assistant United States Attorney Edith Singer represented the United States.

PRINCESS PICNIC TO INSPIRE THE YOUTH GIRLS

MVSKOKE ROYALTY WISH TO INSPIRE YOUNG GIRLS TO BE LEADERS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

by Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Miss Muscogee Nation Claudia McHenry and Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Gabby Noriega held a Princess Picnic for potential Mvskoke Princesses of the Nation.

The picnic included crafts, food, games and Mvskoke Royalty introductions as well as sharing experiences. Girls ages first through eighth grade were invited to the event.

“The purpose of the event is to try to get girls ready for the leadership role that happens when they take on Miss and Jr. Miss,” McHenry said. “Just kind of give them a little inside to what happens if they ever choose that path.”

The royalty encourages young girls to run for the Jr. Miss or Miss Muscogee Nation and to be leaders in their communities.

McHenry tried out for the title three times before gaining the crown. As a 24-year-old college graduate of University of Central Oklahoma, McHenry



The Mvskoke Royalty with the fourth through sixth grade age group during their time with the Princesses. (Clinton Sinclair)

has taken the year to be a full-time princess.

“I’m so thankful to be able to actually win this title and be able to represent even with this time during COVID,” she said.

After attempts at both titles over the years, to finally winning the crown, McHenry said it was her traditional story telling that gave her the advantage.

Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation

Gabby Noriega will be entering her sophomore year at the Eufaula Dormitory. This would be her first try at the title with success.

“I believe it was my confi-

dence that made me stand out, you have to have confidence when you speak,” Noriega said.

McHenry said since coming into the title, she has reflected on her position and decided to take on the big sister role to help lead Jr. Miss.

Since their induction in early June, the pair has attended the At-Large Gathering in Dallas, Muscogee Nation Night Drillers Game, read to children at schools, held a towel drive for the Eufaula Dormitory.

When trying out for the princess titles, the contestants attend a “royalty retreat,” where they learn aspects of Mvskoke culture, language, pageant workshops and other skill building workshops in preparation for the pageant.

According to McHenry in her past experience, it was much different trying out.

“Mvskoke Royalty has improved so much and I can’t imagine what it will be like for the younger generations,” she said.

For more information regarding the Mvskoke Royalty, call: 918-549-2557.



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GIRL WITH THE SWORD

by Glenna Cooper

Women serving in the United States Armed Forces make up 16.5% and one in four women report sexual assault. My story began over a decade ago while I was serving in the military on active duty overseas. It was a cold winter night with snow on the ground and it became the night that would change my life forever. A part of me died that night. In the course of the evening, I was drugged, raped, and the stranger responsible attempted to end my life, but somehow, for some reason, I survived. Sometime afterwards, I began sinking into a dark hole, abusing alcohol, trying to bury the memories. I locked that night away into my soul, I tried running from it, but it began to consume my life. Until one day, almost a decade after, a flash of memories hit me head-on. It felt as if someone had taken a baseball bat and unleashed the consuming pain of that night.

Shortly after, I began prolonged exposure therapy at Veterans Affairs which is approximately 12-15 sessions, one session per week and 90 minutes per session. I sat in a non-descript room with my psychologist and recorded the events of that night that I could recall over and over and nauseatingly over again. It was disgusting, gut-wrenching, exhausting hard work! Most times, I would be drenched in sweat, extremely nauseous, always sobbing, confronting so many emotions and my stomach never failed to make horrible sounds. It seemed to me as if the trauma, pain, memories, and emotions were living and warring in my stomach. Re-living the trauma was extremely depleting and I never left her



Muscogee (Creek) citizen Glenna Cooper shares her experience while serving in the United States Armed Forces. (Submission)

office without feeling exhausted and numb. My homework after each appointment was to listen to my recorded sessions repeatedly as much as I could. And each time I listened to those tapes, the nausea, the grief and the pain would wash over me.

Yet I was determined to finish the therapy. During one session, my therapist told me patients with combat trauma and victims of rape often experience a visceral hatred of God. In the darkest and most vulnerable experiences, where is God? That was my question. As my treatment continued, I began to discover that within the deep recesses of my soul festered a bitterness toward God. This bitterness consumed

me. I began to question why He could let this happen and why He could perform so many miracles and yet (I felt) abandon me when I needed Him the most. By this point, the pain was becoming unbearable, the depression pulling me down into some dark abyss and despair choked the pin-point light of hope.

This is not a fairytale story; it is an ugly, gut-wrenching fight to Never Quit. During my journey over the past several years, I have found peace with God. In my therapy sessions, I began to realize God was slowly, and ever so painstakingly, healing those deep wounds created by the trauma, grief, and pain one layer at a

time, a broken piece at a time. My daughter told me of the Japanese art of Kintsugi, an ancient art of putting broken pottery pieces back together with gold — built on the idea that in embracing flaws and imperfections, you can create an even stronger, more beautiful piece of art. Every break is unique and instead of repairing an item like new, the 400-year-old technique actually highlights the “scars” as a part of the design.

One day while shopping with my sister-in-law at a thrift store, we found two genuine Kutani Japanese lamps and purchased them. On first sight of my lamp and on close inspection, there were tiny,

extensive ‘cracks’ filled with a gold color but as I began to research, I found that these lamps are finished with real gold. I placed my lamp in my room and as the light filtered in from my window the lamp had the most beautiful golden glow I have ever seen. From far away, those miniscule lines or ‘cracks’ were not visible at all. What was most visible was the glow of the gold that filled the lines. So, for me, I have come to embrace and accept the broken pieces. Is my journey complete? No. But there is hope and what I have gained has been more wonderful than I could have ever imagined. I have found my voice and a purpose for the pain.

So, I want to say -- THERE IS HOPE. You are not alone. There is a peace that passes all understanding. And in the darkest moments of life, when the storm rages and your heart breaks, and you are floundering in the fight; as you take labored breaths, steeling yourself to stand and face the wreckage, there is a light that awaits you. There are good plans for you and when you are ready, the pain, memories and the darkness will subside leaving strength forged by fire, mended with gold, shining a bright light into the world. I am not a victim of my past, my traumatic event, nor am I the girl that I once was but, with God’s mercy and help, I will never quit. During my therapy, my therapist gave me the nickname ‘Girl with the Sword’, paying homage to what she saw - the fighter in me. I will always be so grateful for her and for her courage and strength in walking through the pain and darkness with me. She has truly been my battle buddy in this fight. Never quit.

BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM OFFERS FUNDING FOR INDIAN COUNTRY

\$10 BILLION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED TO EXPAND BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

by Jake Wilson
INTERVIEW

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – On June 3, 2021, Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Secretary of the Interior Dep Haaland announced the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program.

The Department of the Treasury was funded \$10 billion to establish the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to provide funding to states, territories, and tribal governments to make changes in America’s broadband infrastructure.

The grant was established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 and authorizes the funds to eligible Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native entities to expand broadband services for access to remote learning, telework or telehealth resources.

Muscogee Nation Secretary of the Nation Terra Branson-Thomas discussed the current process and what the plan is for the nation going forward with this project.

“So we haven’t actually applied for the program yet. Grant applications are due September 1st,” Branson-Thomas said. “We see this grant as an opportunity to meet our requirements under the 2.5 gigahertz SCC licensing that we received earlier this year. We were licensed for 3 channels in February 2021 so we have 4 years from that date to meet the deployment standards set by the agency.”

She stated that the Nation has a few goals in mind for the

grant, first to meet deployment standards and the second is to provide fiber infrastructure to government facilities that currently do not have access to fiber and create spots in Muscogee Nation communities that do not have broadband services.

“And then the third goal really is to own infrastructure that the nation can use year over year to provide broadband directly to homes and commercial facilities primarily through wireless internet services,” Branson-Thomas said.

She said the grant application and the federal agency right now is stating the Nation has one year to do construction on the project. But given the size of the project the National Telecommunications and Information Agency is already anticipating new cost extensions to perform the construction requirements.

Since the tribe would be using federal funds, it would have to meet certain environmental standards. Branson-Thomas said feasibly speaking, not many tribal governments would not be able to meet that one-year construction timeline.

“We understand that construction would probably begin sometime in 2022 depending on the design and when funding is received and then we hope to meet our SCC deployment standards by the beginning of 2023,” she said.

Branson-Thomas said while it does seem that any process on this project is a long way away, it could provide many possibilities for the Nation in the future.

Domestic violence is
not our traditional way.

StrongHearts Native Helpline provides:

- Peer support • Crisis intervention • Safety planning
- Referrals to Native-centered service providers.

 **STRONGHEARTS**
Native Helpline


Call, text or chat online 24/7
1-844-7NATIVE | strongheartshelpline.org

 This project is supported by Grant Number 90EV0459-01-01 from the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

HAVE YOU BEEN CHARGED WITH A CRIME IN TRIBAL COURT?

As a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen with 20 years of Criminal Defense Experience, I can help.

Call Stinnett Law at 918.227.1177

 **STINNETT LAW**
404 East Dewey Avenue, Suite No. 100
Sapulpa, OK 74066
carla@stinnettlaw.com

CARLA R. STINNETT, ESQ.

THREE WORLD PREMIERES TO BE FEATURED IN CREATIONS IN STUDIO K THIS SEPTEMBER AT TULSA BALLET, MARKING THE RETURN OF A FULL SEASON

IMMEDIATE RELEASE from Tulsa Ballet

TULSA, OK – Tulsa Ballet presents Creations in Studio K, featuring all brand new world premieres from three in-demand choreographers, September 9-19, 2021 at Studio K, its intimate performance space on Brookside. After a year of uncertainty and modified performance formats due to the COVID-19, Creations will kick off the start of a full season lineup for the organization.

Yury Yanowsky will return to Tulsa after creating two pieces virtually for Tulsa Ballet II last season, while for Stephanie Martinez and Katarzyna Kozielska, this will mark their first time creating on the company.

Yanowsky, originally from Spain and the Artistic Curator for the Festival Ballet Providence, is known for his visually stunning masterpieces. Kozielska, whom was nominated for “Best Choreographer of the Year” in 2018 by Dance for You Magazine, will be making her American debut all the way from Poland. Plus, Tulsa Ballet will be integrating their second company, TBII, into the Creations program this season with a piece choreographed by multiple award winning choreographer Stephanie Martinez.

“It is fitting for our organization that we open our 65th anniversary season, a season that celebrates our tradition and history, with a forward looking program: a program made up of brand-new works,” says Artistic Director Marcello Angelini. “Performed in a space created around the

proposition of making dance that reflects our times. In this space, our own Studio K, past, present and future blend to celebrate the art form of dance.”

ABOUT CREATIONS IN STUDIO K

Created in 2008 by Tulsa Ballet Artistic Director Marcello Angelini, Creations in Studio K provides a necessary proving ground for the creation of new dance.

Angelini said, “What differentiates a vibrant arts organization from your run-of-the-mill ballet company is its dedication to consistently contributing new works to the national and international market. There are dance companies that are ‘museums,’ just presenting existing works in order to survive. Then, there are dance companies that identify with the importance of contributing to the future of the art form. It is those companies, like Tulsa Ballet, that chart the course of the field for decades to come.”

He asks, “Why is creating new work so important? Because tradition and innovation are one and the same. Giselle, Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty, and others were leading works of their times. Now, those works are the tradition of dance and it falls upon us to create the tradition of the next centuries.”

QUICK FACTS

Creations in Studio K, featuring:

- Untitled World Premiere Yury Yanowsky
- Untitled World Premiere Stephanie Martinez

Untitled World Premiere Katarzyna Kozielska

WHEN AND WHERE:
Thur. September 9, 7:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105
Fri. September 10, 7:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105

Sat. September 11, 3:00: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105 (Socially Distanced)
Sat. September 11, 7:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105

Sun. September 12, 3:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105

Thur. September 16, 7:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105 (Socially Distanced)
Fri. September 17, 7:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105

Sat. September 18, 3:00: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105
Sat. September 18, 7:00: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105

Sun. September 18, 3:00 pm: Studio K | 1212 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74105

TICKETS: \$25 - \$65 | Call the Tulsa Ballet Box Office at 918.749.6006 or visit tulsa-ballet.org. Discounted student tickets available with valid ID.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: tulsa-ballet.org or 918.749.6006

Hi-Res images and interview opportunities available: Bethany Kirby | Marketing Manager
918.392.5949 | bethany.kirby@tulsa-ballet.org

LEGALS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Guardianship of)
Of the Person and Estate of)
G.J.W DOB 8/11/05)
B.L.W. DOB 6/8/06)
S.N.D.W. DOB 6/29/07)
MINOR CHILDREN)

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2021 JUL 27 A 10 39
Case No. GD 2021-28-SP
JUDGE: DONNA BEAVER
COURT CLERK

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

To NATURAL FATHER Zachery Wise, Native American Male and putative father of Minor Children G.J.W (DOB 8/11/05), B.L.W. (DOB 6/8/06), S.N.D.W. (DOB 6/29/07), and all interested parties with whereabouts unknown, take notice that Peggy Powell petitioned for Permanent Guardianship of the minor children on August 19th 2021. You must file a written protest in the above styled and numbered cause prior to the above date with the Clerk of this Court and send a copy to the Attorney of Record, Brenda S. Golden, P. O. Box 741, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Should you fail to do so, the Guardianship Order may be granted as prayed.

Brenda S. Golden
Brenda S. Golden, MCN #792
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 741
Okmulgee, OK 74447
Phone: (918) 304-2066
Fax: (918) 304-2067
E-Mail: brenda.golden@bwsll.com
Attorney for Petitioner

IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:)
CHRISTIE J. HARGIS,)
Petitioner,)
-vs-)
RICHARD HARGIS,)
Respondent.)

Case No. DV-2020-9 SP

ORDER SETTING HEARING

NOW, on this 27th day of July, 2021, upon the filing of the Respondent's Application for Temporary Orders and Combined Response to Petition for Dissolution of Marriage and Application for Temporary Orders and Counterclaim for Dissolution of Marriage, the Court, being fully advised in the premises, finds that the above styled and numbered cause is at issue, ready for hearing and that a date certain should be set for hearing of said cause.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Court that the Respondent's above-mentioned pleadings shall be heard by the Honorable Shannon Prescott, Judge of the District Court on the 5th day of October, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock a.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Courthouse, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.


S. Prescott
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Prepared by:
Robert V. Seacat, OBA #15441
Gabriel Dunbar, OBA #33876
THE SEACAT LAW FIRM
3220 S. Peoria Ave., Ste. 203
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105
(918) 591-2555 – office
(918) 398-6177 – fax
Robert@SeacatLawFirm.com
Gabriel@SeacatLawFirm.com
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

///

IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT

for CRIME VICTIMS on the MUSCOGEE NATION RESERVATION



THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM

P.O. BOX 580 | OKMULGEE, OK 74447

918.732.7979 | 800.482.1979

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is committed to working with State and Federal Partners to ensure public safety on the Reservation. The change in jurisdictional authority and dismissal of cases by State Courts, to be filed in either Tribal and/or Federal Court, is likely to leave victims/survivors/families with many questions. These changes require increased communication amongst Tribal, State and Federal partners and ultimately require increased communication to victims and their families, of which the MCN is committed to providing.

For questions regarding cases, updates, supportive services or other information, please refer all crime victims to:

MCN FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (FVPP)

918-732-7979

Providing confidential services to Native and non-Native victims/survivors of a variety of violent crimes to promote safety, healing and justice.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Assistance with Victim's Compensation
- Assistance in filing protective orders
- Court Advocacy in Tribal, State, Federal Courts
- Accompaniment to and preparation for court proceedings
- Safety Planning
- Supportive services
- Access to civil legal assistance
- Serve as Liaison with courts and prosecutors to keep updated on case status
- Provide access to safe housing
- Referrals for counseling and other supportive services
- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Exams
- Information and referral to meet survivor needs

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

MCN LIGHTHORSE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

MCN DISTRICT COURT



MCN OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

918-732-7800

918-758-1400

918-295-9720

MVSKOKEMEDIA • P.O. BOX 580 - OKMULGEE, OK 74447 • 918.732.7720 • MVSKOKEMEDIA.COM • @MVSKOKEMEDIA



SUBMISSIONS

FROM:
David Ware
Mvskoke At-Large Citizen
TO:
David Hill
Principal Chief
Del Beaver
Second Chief
CC:
Randall Hicks
National Council Speaker
August 19, 2021
I am writing this commen-
dation to express my deepest
heartfelt gratitude to Muscogee
Nation Director of Health
Shawn Terry and his superb
staff. On August 5, 2021, while
on a visit from our residence in
Hawaii, my wife and I were both
tested positive for covid near
my cousins’ home in Grove,
Oklahoma. On August 6, Mr.
Terry mobilized all his medi-
cal personnel to prepare for our
arrival and to provide us both

with urgently needed monoclo-
nal antibody therapy with infu-
sion of Regeneron at the Mus-
cogee Nation Medical Center in
Okmulgee. This therapy, which
had also been recommended by
Dr. Masaki Takai, our doctor at
Kaiser Permanente in Hawaii,
made a tremendous difference
in mitigating the effects of the
covid.
Among those on Mr. Terry’s
staff who were very instrumen-
tal in arranging this treatment
in a timely manner were:
Tim Hicks
Chief Operating Officer of
Muscogee Nation Hospitals and
Clinics
Lindy Bauer
Chief Nursing Officer
Grover Wind
Health Department Chap-
lain & Fellow U.S. Air Force
Veteran
Apparently we contracted

covid during a three-day stay to
see the shows in Branson, Mis-
souri. After driving back to my
cousins’ home in the northeast-
ern corner of Oklahoma on the
Seneca-Cayuga Reservation,
my wife Herminia (Mini) and
I were both diagnosed as covid
positive.
When I contacted my good
friend and fellow Vietnam era
U.S. Air Force veteran Grover
Wind, who currently min-
isters as Muscogee Nation
Health Department Chap-
lain, he immediately notified
his boss Shawn Terry. Veterans
never leave a brother behind.
Under Mr. Terry’s direction,
preparations were immedi-
ately made at Muscogee Nation
Medical Center for us to drive
from Grove to Okmulgee and
to immediately receive the
urgently needed therapy late on
a Friday afternoon.
When we got there, Lindy
Bauer and all her medical per-
sonnel administered the ther-
apy and infusion to both of us.

We were both impressed with
the friendly and efficient ser-
vice of everyone involved from
Muscogee Nation. While I am a
citizen of the tribe, my wife is
not. But, she was also provided
the same quality medical treat-
ment.
During two brief visits to the
ER during our quarantine, Dr.
Kennedy and Dr. Castleberry
both provided follow-up exam-
inations and prescriptions.
Everyone at the ER provided
me with appropriate treatment
as a covid positive patient.
My wife and I both fully rec-
ognize that our speedy recov-
ery from covid is attributable to
the excellent timely care which
we received from Muscogee
Nation Medical Center. Please
convey our deepest gratitude
to Muscogee Nation Health
Department Director Shawn
Terry. None of this could have
happened without his personal
approval and direction.
Muscogee Nation is blessed
to have Mr. Terry and all of his

excellent medical personnel.
It is obvious that the Depart-
ment of Health of our Sover-
eign Nation is administered
in both a medically and finan-
cially excellent manner. All our
Mvskoke people benefit from
this health care.
Mini and I are both now
fully recovered from the effects
of covid. We have expressed
to the Hawaii Department of
Health the fact that our cur-
rent well-being is largely due to
the timely and appropriate care
which we received at Muscogee
Nation Medical Center.
I thank both Chief Hill and
Speaker Hicks for your ser-
vice to our people. I can now
testify from personal experi-
ence that our Department of
Health under Mr. Shawn Terry
is in very capable hands. Please
convey this commendation to
him and his staff.

Mvto,
David Ware
Honolulu, Hawaii

OBITUARIES

TEDDY LEE MCHENRY SR.

Teddy Lee McHenry Sr was
born on 9-25-1935 in Sharon
ok. He departed this world on
8-20-21 at his home in Broken
Arrow surrounded by his family.
He was preceded in death by
his parents Lewis T. and Gladys
McHenry. His son, Teddy Lee
McHenry JR, and Mary Menser
McHenry. His granddaughter
Natalia McHenry. His brother
Lewis Knotchie McHenry. His
sister, Carla McHenry. Broth-
er-in-law Ronnie Williams. He
is survived by his beloved wife
Lydia Frank McHenry of 64
years of marriage and a total
of 66 years together. Sister, Kay
and Lewis Hanna- Carol Wil-
liams. Brother J.D. and Joyce
Mchenry. DAUGHTER- Karen
McHenry of Broken Arrow,
OK. Casey McHenry Wallis
of Broken Arrow, OK. Tracey
and Johnny Smith of Has-
kell, OK. Stacey and Tom Ber-
ryhill of Wagoner, OK. Sons
Kelly McHenry of Lawton,
OK. Robert McHenry of Tale-
quah, OK. Tommy McHenry
of Broken Arrow, OK. Grand-
daughter -Nicole Mchenry of
Broken Arrow, OK. Bonus sons,
Doug, and Pat McHenry. Teddy
has 16 grandchildren and 4
great grandchildren.
Teddy worked as a heavy



equipment operator for many
years for Local Union 627 in
Tulsa, OK until his retirement.
He loved his family and grand-
children very much. At a young
age he had the title of golden
glove boxer. Teddy served in
the Marine Corps for four
years. He was very proud to of
served his country. Teddy met
the love of his life the year of
1957. They began to start their
family in 1959 with the first
of eight children. He enjoyed
doing various things like read-
ing, spending time with family,
making wine, cooking, baking,
attending his grandchildren's
sporting events, and spending
time with his “bride”.

FRANCES JEAN GIRTY (SCOTT)

Memorial Services for Fran-
ces Jean Girty (Scott), were held
Wednesday, March 03, 2021 at
the Lawrence Indian United
Methodist Church, Kansas.
Funeral Services and Burial
took place on Friday, March 5,
2021, at 1:00 pm, at the Spring-
field Indian United Method-
ist Church, Okemah, Okla-
homa. Frances was laid to rest
at the Yarholar – Scott Family
Cemetery @ 3 miles north of
the Springfield UMC under the
direction of Parks Funeral
Home.
Frances was born at home
in rural Okfuskee County,
southeast of Okemah, OK and
died Sunday, February 28th, at
Kansas City, Kansas. Her par-
ents were the Rev. Ellis Scott
and Susie Scott (Looney). She
had 2 brothers, John Scott &
Jesse Scott. Frances was an elder
member of the Muscogee Creek
Nation and of the Deer Clan.
And was an Elder member of
the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.
Frances is survived by her
children, Gary Girty & Loa
(Piedmont, OK), Stephen Girty,
(Lawrence, KS), and Kerry
Cuny & Richard (Okemah,
OK).
Frances has 6 Grandchil-
dren: Logan Girty (Tahlequah,

OK), Garrett Girty and wife
Cheryl (Yukon, OK), Christo-
pher Bowers (Iwakuni, Japan),
Walker Girty (Piedmont, OK),
Aaron Cuny (Rapid City, SD)
and Brenden Cuny (Mesa, AZ).
She also has 1 Great-Grand-
child whom she loved dearly:
Jaelyn Nicole Girty (Tahlequah,
OK). Brothers-In-Law include:
Rufus Girty & Linda (Garland,
TX), George Girty & Peggy
(Tahlequah, OK). Sisters-In-
Law include: Sue Thompson
(Tahlequah, OK), Lorene Bal-
lard & Butch (Tahlequah, OK),
Flossie Girty (Tahlequah, OK),
Judy Whitewater (Salina, OK),
Mary Girty (Hulbert, OK),
Sally West (Weleetka, OK) and
Betty Scott (Okemah, OK).
Nephews include: Travis Scott,
Stacey Scott, Jeffrey Girty, Mat-
thew Girty, Scott Thompson,
Jason Ballard, Brandon Girty,
Greg Girty, & Brent Girty.
Nieces include Stephanie Girty,
Tracey Durman, Carla Stand,
Alicia Fernandez, Sandra Prin-
gle, Suzanne Scott, Beep Harjo,
Alexus Crosley & Ruth Ellen
Bible.
Frances was proceeded in
death by her Parents, Ellis
Scott, Susie Jane (Looney)
Scott; brothers John Ellis Scott
& Jesse Randolph Scott; hus-
band Andy Girty; and daugh-
ter Sherry Ann Girty and other
beloved family members.
Frances attended a one-

BOBBY “BOB” WAYNE RUSH

Bobby Rush’s life began on
October 26, 1927 in Wellin-
ton, KS; the son of Leo and
Lonnie (Evans) Rush. He grew
up at Sedan, KS and gradu-
ated from high school there in
1946. Bobby proudly served his
country in the United States
Army after graduation. He was
united in marriage to Rita Brill-
hart on June 16, 1957 in Erie,
KS. He then went on to grad-
uate from Ottawa University,
with an A.B. degree in 1951. He
graduated from Pittsburg State
University in 1956 with a M.S.
degree and then from the Uni-
versity of Wyoming in 1960
with a Prof. Dip. In Education
(Ed.S). Bobby completed addi-
tional graduate work at Empo-
ria State University. He served
as a teacher and principal in
Humboldt, KS for 15 years and
then moved to the El Dorado,
KS school system where he



served as an elementary prin-
cipal and system administra-
tor for 21 years. Bobby retired
from his administrative posi-
tion in June of 1987.
Bobby enjoyed traveling,
hunting for rocks that he would
polish and set into jewelry; was
a member of the Lions Club;
enjoyed fishing and geneal-

ogy. He was especially proud
to be % Muscogee. Bobby’s
family includes his wife, Rita
of Augusta; and many extended
family. Bobby passed away on
July 10, 2021 at his home in
Augusta. He is preceded in
death by his parents and grand-
parents and siblings Betty Lou
Tower and Norman Donald
Rush. Funeral services will be
held on Wednesday, July 14 at
10 am at the First Christian
Church of El Dorado. Bobby
will be laid to rest at Sunset
Lawns Cemetery in El Dorado.
Memorial contributions in his
name may be directed to the
First Christian Church of El
Dorado, The Salvation Army or
to Interim Hospice. Please sign
his online guestbook and leave
a memory of Bobby at www.
carIsonkirbymorris.com

WILEY HATKEE RYAL

Wiley Hatkee Ryal, a resi-
dent of Henryetta passed away
Wednesday, August 18th, 2021
in Tulsa at the age of 80. He
was born February 1st, 1941 in Tah-
lequah to Willie Ryal and Ruth
(Harris) Ryal.
Wiley married Barbara
Goodman August 31st, 1959 in
Dewar. He was a well known
teacher and coach throughout
Oklahoma. He started the foot-
ball program at Midway School
in Freeman, Missouri where he
was teaching at the time. He
also started the football pro-
gram at Inola Public Schools.
He taught many students His-
tory and Drivers Education at
Dewar Public Schools where he
also coached. The baseball field
at Dewar Schools is named in his
honor, The Wiley Ryal Field. He
also taught for a time at Wynne-
wood and Henryetta. Not only



was he a teacher and coach but a
mentor to many of his students.
He was a member of Dewar First
Baptist Church.
He is preceded in death by his
parents, an infant brother and a
great grandson, Trip Whitlow.
He is survived by his wife of

over 60 years, Barbara Ryal of the
home; One son, Mark Ryal & wife
Renea of Dewar; Karen Milam
& husband Scott of Dewar;
Five grandchildren, Rusty Ryal
& wife Erica, Kaci Ryal & Nick
Whitlow, Karlie Ryal, Ryan
Milam & wife Tanya, Alicia Wil-
liams & husband Jerrod; Seven
great grandsons, Asher, Bowen,
Rocco, Silas, Hudson, Boston &
Maverick; Two brothers, Woxie
Ryal & wife Janice of Oklahoma
City; Doug Ryal of Skiatook; Sis-
in-law, Mary Adams of Kansas;
As a host of friends and other
relatives.
Viewing will be from 3 - 8pm,
Sunday, August 22nd at Integrity
Funeral Service.
Funeral services are sched-
uled for 2:00 pm, Monday,
August 23rd, 2021 at Dewar First
Baptist Church with Rev. Ryan
Wells, officiating. Interment
will follow in Westlawn Ceme-
tery under direction of Integrity
Funeral Service.

room School named Bigham
Rural School and eventually
graduated from Okemah High
School in 1956. After gradu-
ating from Okemah High
School, Frances followed her
brother John E. Scott to Has-
kell Institute in Lawrence, KS.
After completing her post high
school graduate studies cer-
tificate at Haskell, Frances
accepted several jobs, including
working as a Nanny in Chicago,
Illinois, and later working as a
Girls Dormitory Matron at the
Chilocco Indian School near
Arkansas City, KS. Andy and
Frances married on June 25,
1960 at the Haskell Indian Bap-
tist Mission in Lawrence, KS.
Frances started working at Has-
kell Junior College as a Dormi-
tory Residential Assistant. A
job she loved. Her caring nature
made many students refer to

her and Ms. Hermine St.Cyr
as their Dorm “Moms”. Fran-
ces worked at “OK Hall” for the
majority of her 21 years at Has-
kell before retiring. Simultane-
ously, she supported and was
a longtime active member in
the Lawrence Indian Methodist
Church. Working in the church
was her life and she didn’t miss
a service or a meeting.
Approximately 4 years ago,
Frances began her battle with
dialysis. Although it made her
tired and often times ill, she
always had a positive attitude
the following day often times
stating that she feels like a “mil-
lion bucks” and off to church she
went. We are thankful for the
dialysis center and those work-
ing there who made her feel
loved and cared for. In addition
to family, Frances leaves behind
many beloved church members

in Lawrence (Lawrence Indian
UMC) and her church family in
Okemah (Springfield UIMC),
her Mother’s church (Arbeka
Indian Baptist), and relatives at
(Creek Chapel). Also numerous
relatives and too many friends
to count she made over the
years we had her with us.
Mvto to Parks Brothers
Funeral Home, Warren McEl-
wain Mortuary, Muscogee
Creek Nation, Thlopthlocco
Tribal Town, Lawrence IUMC,
Springfield UMC, Davita Dial-
ysis & the many friends and
family who offered condo-
lences to the family during
this difficult time. Memorial
Donations may be sent to Law-
rence Indian United Methodist
Church and may be sent in care
of Warren McElwain Mortuary,
120 W. 13th Street, Lawrence,
KS 66044.

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.

Total received/earned **\$312,684,676.01**

Total expenditures and encumbrances for FY20 and FY21 as of this report date equals, **\$307,524,226.97**

The following report has been submitted for the publication date of **SEPTEMBER 1ST**.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROGRAM NAME/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT BUDGETED	EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	CASH BALANCE
50100	PRINCIPAL CHIEF				
51100	Salary & Wages-PT/Other	86,000.00	86,000.00	-	-
56010	Fringe-PT/Other	10,449.00	10,449.00	-	-
	Donations/Contributions	49,187.20	10,000.00	-	39,187.20
	SECRETARY OF NATION				
53000	Supplies	2,700.00	2,504.00	-	196.00
54000	Contractual	9,245,034.70	8,861,922.14	-	383,112.56
58010	Construction	1,400.00	1,400.00	-	-
59220	Grants	302,610.85	300,114.32	-	2,496.53
	MARKETING & TOURISM				
53000	Supplies	1,537.38	1,537.38	-	-
59050	Food Purchases	681,025.44	670,043.79	-	10,981.65
59440	Incidentals	4,048.79	4,048.79	-	-
	CONTRACTING EMPLOYMENT				
53000	Supplies	1,700.00	1,691.75	-	8.25
55210	Communications - Other	3,000.00	80.40	-	2,919.60
59220	Grants	6,825,910.80	5,051,053.89	-	1,774,856.91
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
53000	Supplies	806,070.56	752,946.19	12,302.46	40,821.91
53010	Software/Licenses	1,207,630.11	1,073,950.12	95,772.84	37,907.15
54000	Contractual	73,594.25	54,626.40	-	18,967.85
55210	Communications- Other	250,620.89	193,943.42	-	56,677.47
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	164,818.95	106,004.76	44,135.93	14,678.26
85500	Equipment	3,535,033.48	3,522,699.81	-	12,333.67
	FLEET MANAGEMENT				
50000	Salary & Wages - FT	5,000.00	1,753.23	-	3,246.77
50020	Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5	25,000.00	16,874.53	-	8,125.47
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	23,291.20	19,102.20	-	4,189.00
51000	Fringe - FT	20,199.00	10,460.82	-	9,738.18
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	2,890.96	2,313.90	-	577.06
53000	Supplies	2,975,827.83	1,503,443.45	251,400.00	1,220,984.38
53290	Postage/Shipping	50,000.00	35,374.69	-	14,625.31
54000	Contractual	12,825.00	-	4,700.00	8,125.00
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	315.00	-	-	315.00
85400	Indirect Costs	-	313.62	-	-313.62
55300	Vehicles	151,476.00	146,021.00	-	5,455.00
85500	Equipment	308,000.00	75,893.00	119,552.44	112,554.56
	SOCIAL SERVICES				
50000	Salary & Wages - FT	94,073.60	93,187.71	-	885.89
50020	Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5	14,175.00	9,404.41	-	4,770.59
51000	Fringe - FT	61,228.22	65,179.10	-	-3,950.88
53000	Supplies	5,502.79	5,466.79	-	36.00
54000	Contractual	465,411.29	456,117.05	9,294.24	-
57000	Indirect Costs	-	15,249.11	-	-15,249.11
59071	Direct Assist - Income Support	56,333,581.41	56,110,500.00	-	223,081.41
59072	Direct Assist - Hardship	35,934,588.07	35,749,400.00	-	185,188.07
	SENIOR SERVICES				
53000	Supplies	200,000.00	185,364.01	-	14,635.99
	FOOD DISTRIBUTION				
53000	Supplies	79,999.64	75,214.69	-	4,784.95
59050	Food Purchases	146,239.79	146,239.79	-	-
85050	Renovations	130,000.00	29,933.00	97,355.30	2,711.70
85170	Construction	493,871.53	310,072.54	181,559.50	2,239.49
85400	Vehicles	63,417.60	63,417.60	-	-
85500	Equipment	525,000.00	262,500.00	262,500.00	-
	ELDERLY NUTRITION				
85170	Construction	540,000.00	167,589.95	324,579.98	47,830.07
	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION				
50000	Salary& Wages- FT	3,018.44	2,610.77	-	407.67
50020	Salary& Wages - O/T over 1.5	73,329.31	39,638.80	-	33,690.51
51000	Fringe - FT	42,925.42	66,214.09	-	-23,288.67
53000	Supplies	779,513.00	545,116.77	-	234,396.23
56030	Stipends/Honorariums	25,000.00	10,000.00	-	15,000.00
57000	Indirect Costs	-	10,770.61	-	-10,770.61
59073	Direct Assistance - Ed Support	2,180,488.29	2,175,981.53	-	4,506.76
	MCN MEAT PROCESSING PLANT				
53000	Supplies	60,000.00	9,407.4500	36,596.00	13,996.55
85010	Architect & Engineering	1,165,012.00	1,118,619.92	46,392.08	0.00
85170	Construction	14,800,000.00	11,525,878.19	3,272,889.81	1,232.00
85500	Equipment	1,274,988.00	1,100,262.18	118,919.13	55,806.69
	REAL ESTATE SERVICES				
54000	Contractual	12,374.00	11,470.83	-	903.17
	CULTURAL PRESERVATION				
59220	Grants	2,189,999.00	2,189,998.95	-	0.05
	TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION				
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	19,234.80	19,234.80	-	-
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	2,337.03	2,337.03	-	-
53000	Supplies	45,683.00	45,683.00	-	-
85010	Architect & Engineering	145,244.88	129,162.23	-	16,082.65
85170	Construction	14,588,142.53	14,423,379.53	4,001.00	160,762.00
85500	Equipment	130,110.00	130,110.00	-	-
	SECRETARY OF INTERIOR AFFAIRS				
58010	Construction	313,297.00	297,631.64	3,460.36	12,205.00
	OFFICE OF JUSTICE				
53000	Supplies	26,799.29	26,799.29	-	-
54000	Contractual	24,738.00	24,738.00	-	-
	OFFICE OF TAX COMMISSION				
54000	Contractual	36,300.00	25,503.00	-	10,797.00
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	340.80	-1,159.20	1,159.20	340.80
85500	Equipment	1.03	-	-	1.03
	CITIZENSHIP BOARD				
53000	Supplies	177,704.50	138,535.80	26,670.00	12,498.70
54000	Contractual	231,500.00	142,900.00	-	88,600.00
	LIGHTHORSE ADMINISTRATION				
85500	Equipment	56,790.00	56,790.00	-	-
	NATIONAL COUNCIL				
53000	Supplies	623.34	623.34	-	-
	DISTRICT COURT				
53310	Equipment Maint/Repair	10,512.00	10,512.00	-	-
85500	Equipment	176,011.68	159,761.68	16,250.00	-
	SECRETARY OF HEALTH				
90110	Transfer Out	-	17,958,502.74	-	-17,958,502.74
	TOTAL	160,506,303.67	168,658,417.32	4,929,490.27	-13,081,603.92