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MVSKOKE NEWS

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PINK PARTY CELEBRATES BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

ANNUAL EVENT HOSTED AT RIVERSPIRIT

by **BRADEN HARPER**
REPORTER

TVLSE, Oklahoma – October marks a critical month of awareness and celebration for breast cancer survivors. Aside from genetic factors, it is a disease with an unknown origin. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriately celebrated those who have fought breast cancer with the annual Pink Party at River Spirit on Oct. 18.

The celebration marked the first time the event had been hosted in person in recent years due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Last year's Pink Party was held virtually.

MCN Health Leaders and Dignitaries all gave remarks on the significance of beating cancer and spreading awareness for preven-

tative services. MCN Secretary of Health Shawn Terry said the core of celebrating the Pink Party is the breast cancer survivors.

"I get the privilege of talking to many of you about your journeys," Terry said to the crowd. "Screening and protecting our mothers and our grandmothers are at the top of our priority. This is a big day for all of us."

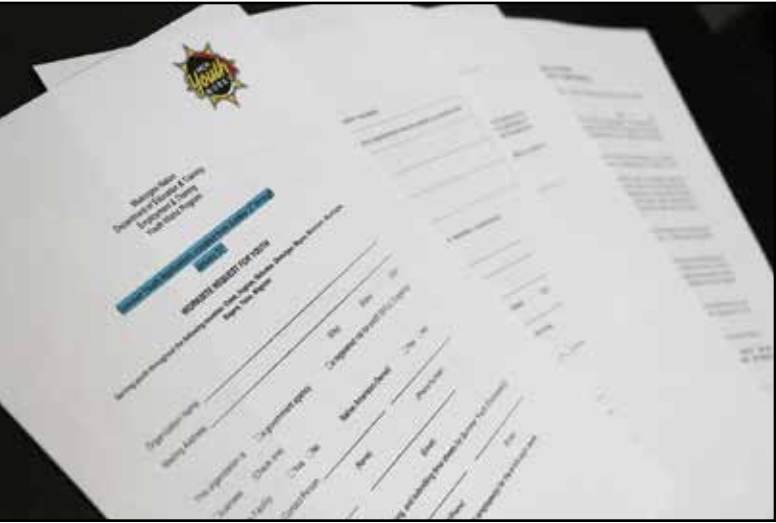
Sunny Hammer is the director of radiology for the MCN Department of Health. She oversees breast cancer prevention services for the tribe. These services include 3D mammograms and breast MRIs. Over the years, she has seen the event grow into what it has become today.

"I remember starting way back with the Okmulgee Clinic,"

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A sizeable pink balloon adorned with gold butterflies lazily floats above the Pink Party at the River Spirit Casino Ballroom. Attendants were treated to an extravagant lunch hosted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. The event was decorated with pink, honoring breast cancer survivors. Tulsa, Oklahoma. Oct. 18, 2022. (Braden Harper/Reporter)



Applications are due by Jan. 31 (Morgan Taylor/Multimedia Producer)

YOUTH WORKS INVITES POTENTIAL WORKSITES FOR THE 2023 SYEP

FORMER PARTICIPANT SHARES EXPERIENCE AT A WORKSITE AND HOW THE SYEP ACCOMMODATED HER INTEREST

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Works Department invites potential worksites for the 2023 Summer Youth Employment Program.

By request only, applications are available for those businesses seeking a free hand for the summer with a deadline of Jan. 31. Any business within the Mvskoke Reservation jurisdictional boundaries can become a worksite. They may have to provide a tax identification number, LLC, or other documentation for proof.

Youth worker Cody Evans said that worksites must be willing to work with "at-risk/high-risk" youth. Business owners must be ready to have placement for participants for eight weeks, starting June 5, 2023, through July 28, 2023. They must be willing to attend one mandatory "worksite orientation" that will be announced later. All worksites, including returning worksites, must complete a new

application.

If students have a place in mind, they can refer the business owners to MCN Education and Training for further information.

According to Youth Specialist Brigham Bert, the program encourages participants to bring a worksite of interest.

"That helps us expand what jobs are in the area," Bert said. "There may be a ma-and-pop business we don't know about."

Bert and Evans still encourage previous program sites to return.

Bert commends Neal's Furniture for being a continuing participant. "I know John personally," he said. "He just likes to provide them a good place to work."

Individuals may be a relative of a business owner and would like to work for the "family business."

"Unfortunately, participants can't be supervised by a family member," Bert said. However, if the supervisor is not a family member, the individual can still partake in the program working

at the family business.

This is important due to the role the supervisor of the youth takes on voluntarily, holding them accountable at the workplace. They are to treat each participant as a regular employee and enforce the rules of the worksite.

"We ask that all worksites treat the students like their own employees, follow that process with them," Evans said. "They follow their rules."

The other thing that the SYEP encourages worksites to do is work with the student's schedule for school activities so that students find a place that can accommodate their needs.

Evans said students could be paid for their time in class as long as their teacher signed their timesheet along with the worksite supervisor.

Participation is mutually beneficial as students gain working experience. At the same time, worksites get to provide the work and placement; all while the MCN SYEP pays wages at no cost to the worksite or business owners.

"I know they get a lot of kids that return year in and year out to them until they cannot be on the program," Bert said. "It helps them build that relationship, and worksites look forward to the same kids they had that previous year."

Citizen Mercedes Dunn participated in the SYEP last summer.

Dunn wanted to find employment at a media/communications type business. She requested this from the SYEP when she was looking for worksite placement. She was given a list of places to choose from in her chosen industry when she decided to take her post at Mvskoke Media.

Dunn took advantage of the program by requesting employment geared toward her preferred career interest.

"I wanted to do something that I wanted to go to college for, and I didn't want to waste my time," Dunn said.

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MVSKOKE VETERANS PARTICIPATED IN THE NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL PROCESSION AND DEDICATION CEREMONY ON VETERANS DAY

AMERICAN INDIAN, ALASKAN NATIVES, AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN VETERANS HONORED WITH THE NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

by **KAYLEA BERRY**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Services Office took 9 Mvskoke Veterans to Washington D.C. for the Native Veterans Procession and Dedication Ceremony on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The Native Veterans Procession and Dedication Ceremony honored American Indian, Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiian veterans and their families. The ceremony included a 0.7 mile long procession along the National Mall from the National Museum of the American Indian to a stage in front of the U.S. Capitol.

The VASO created an application for able-bodied veterans



The Muscogee (Creek) Nation take Veterans Affairs Services Office is taking 10 Mvskoke Veterans to Washington, D.C., for the Native Veterans Procession and Dedication Ceremony on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2022. (Kaylea Berry/Reporter)

to submit in hopes of being selected for one of the 10 slots to participate in the events. An out-

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PRO-BASKETBALL STAR RECEIVES MVP WHILE PLAYING OVERSEAS

SWISS BASKETBALL LEAGUE NAMED BRICE CALIP MVP STATUS FOR THE WEEK

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

Vetroz, SWITZERLAND – Not even a month into her first season as a professional athlete, the Swiss Basketball League named the Muscogee (Creek) player Brice Calip the Most Valuable Player of the Week for Helios v. Pully on Oct. 22.

The Helios point guard conducted the win with a double-double and made 19 points, ten rebounds, eight steals, and six assists. She was the top-performing player in the game.

During her collegiate career,



Brice Calip is the Swiss Basketball League team Helios' point guard. (Submission)

Calip played for the Missouri State Lady Bears, graduating last May 2022, and played in her hometown high school at Sapulpa, Okla.

According to Ozarks Sports Zone, Calip completed her Missouri State career with 122 career wins while playing in a pro-

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PINK PARTY

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Hammer said. A women’s health doctor and her nurses started this on a much smaller scale.”

3D mammograms are offered across the MCN at the Coweta Clinic, the Okemah Community Hospital, and the Medical Center in Okmulgee. According to Hammer, Council Oak Comprehensive Healthcare in Tulsa will also provide 3D mammo-grams soon.

Preventative screenings for breast cancer are not exclusive to MCN Citizens at the Medi-cal Center in Okmulgee and the Okemah Community Hospital. They are open to anyone in the area with a doctor’s order. Breast MRIs are offered at the Medical Center in Okmulgee and Council Oak Comprehensive Healthcare.

While it is unknown what causes breast cancer explicitly, there are ways to detect and prevent it. According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation web-site, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Although men can also develop breast cancer, male diagnoses constitute less than one percent of overall cases.

The risk factors involved with being diagnosed with breast cancer include age, gender and race. According to the Susan B. Komen breast cancer nonprofit website, non-Hispanic Native

American Women pose a ten per-cent lifetime chance of developing cancer.

Tina Mcdowell is one of those brave Native women who has fought breast cancer. She is an MCN citizen and a two-time breast cancer survivor.

According to Mcdowell, she was diagnosed with breast cancer when she was 40, then again 13 years later. She did not know anyone else in her family who had been diagnosed with breast cancer at the time of her first diagnosis.

“I was just shocked. It took a couple of days for it to sink in,” Mcdowell said. “It just didn’t feel real.”

Mcdowell’s treatment involved chemotherapy every three weeks. Each session lasted somewhere between three to four hours. Her chemotherapy treatment went on for three months. After chemo came the radiation treatments. Although the treatments erad-icated cancer from Mcdowell’s body, it came with an exhaustive physical strain.

“Right when I was starting to feel like I could get up and start doing things, it was time for me to go back,” Mcdowell said. “It was a struggle the first time.”

The fight against breast cancer took huge sacrifices for Mcdowell. She had to take a leave of absence from her job during chemo. After returning to her career, she still had to attend radiation treat-ments when she got off work.

“It’s really touching,” Mcdow-ell said. “I wasn’t aware of how many women had breast cancer as I did.”

Hammer stressed that age is becoming less of a factor when it comes to being diagnosed. In recent years healthcare profes-sionals have begun to see younger breast cancer patients.

“You’re not safe from it just being a young person,” Hammer said. “We are seeing it a lot in younger ages now. It’s just some-thing to be careful with.”

According to Hammer, it is essential to self-perform monthly breast exams to be vigilant for any abnormalities, such as lumps or changes. It is also pertinent to be completely transparent with your doctor about the pain you experi-ence and its duration.

“No symptom is too small,” Hammer said. “If you notice any change at all, you need to get into your primary care and let them feel it, let them talk to you about it.”

Upon an early self-examina-tion, Mcdowell said she noticed an abnormal but painless bump on the side of her breast. One of those symptoms could include small lumps within a breast. This led her to get it checked out by the doctor and begin her journey to becoming cancer free.

Mcdowell’s advice is that you can never be too cautious about your health.

“Just get checked when any-

thing shows up, and you’re not too aware of what it might be,” Mcdowell said. “Don’t take any-thing for granted.”

Today, Mcdowell is in remis-sion. While her journey has not been easy, Mcdowell tries to combat it as optimistically as pos-sible. She said she enjoyed getting to mingle at the Pink Party. She even won a door prize.

“Just one day at a time, it’s all you can do,” Mcdowell said. “Just try to stay positive and take care of yourself.”

The fight against breast cancer has seen victories over the past decades. According to the Ameri-can Cancer Society, breast cancer death rates declined by 40% from 1989 to 2016 among women. This

is attributed to awareness and improvements in early detection.

“Many of these women that come in here, I’ve done their mammograms, or I know some-body that has done their mammo-grams,” Hammer said. “To honor these women that have survived is a big deal. It is a big deal to beat cancer.”

Visit the National Breast Cancer Foundation website for more information about breast cancer awareness. Educational resources and support can be found for those with questions about risk factors and preventa-tive treatment. It also provides information on how to donate, volunteer and support others in the fight against breast cancer.

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Seeing the everyday work-place setting and being included in the newsroom helped Dunn get a brief idea of what it would be like working in the media in-dustry.

It was a full circle moment for Dunn when she got the opportu-nity to write an article and be featured in the Mvskoke Media Newspaper.

“I would take advantage of the program,” Dunn said. “If you’re like me and have an idea of what you want to do, you can tell them (SYEP), and they will

accommodate that,” Dunn said.

Previously, Dunn was em-ployed at a dentist’s office through the program. She claims that experience changed her mind about becoming a dentist, and she was able to try a new site the following year.

“I know what I want to do now,” Dunn said.

Currently, Dunn is attending Haskell Indian Nations Univer-sity as a communications major. She hopes to return to her pre-vious work during the summer break through the SYEP.

Applications for individual participants ages 16-21 will be open from Dec. 31-March 31.

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side selection committee of five individuals selected eight males and two females to fill the slots. Those selected included Wilson Bear, Kaylea Berry, Paul Brown, Jim Chalakee, Richard Dick, Da-vid Francis, Megan Lowry, Jackie Miller, Lasley McIntost, and Leon Yahola. Unfortunately, Yahola had to drop out at the last minute be-cause of a family emergency. The VASO went to the National Coun-cil to receive funding for the trip and was awarded the funds.

“It’s something that we felt like we needed to do because this is a dedication ceremony that was supposed to have been done a couple years ago, but with covid they couldn’t do it this last year,” said Grover Wind, MCN VASO

Director. “They’re doing a ded-ication because of all the sacrifice and all of the service and all of the different Native Americans that have served this country in differ-ent uniforms, different times and different eras.”

The Mvskoke veterans chosen to participate in the procession and dedication of the National Na-tive American Veterans Memorial were not only able to be a part of a historical moment but also proud-ly represented the tribe.

The memorial is called “War-riors’ Circle of Honor” and was designed by Oklahoma native, Harvey Pratt (Cheyenne/Arapa-ho). Pratt is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served during 1962 to 1965 in Vietnam. Pratt’s design was unanimously selected by a group of Native and non-Native jurors out of over 120 submissions

from other artists across the na-tion.

Pratt’s design is a raised stain-less steel circle supported by a stone drum with elaborate carv-ings. The memorial gives a lively yet private setting for fellowship-ing, remembering, reflecting, and healing. Incorporated into the design is water for ceremonies, seats for gathering and reflecting, and four lances for tying praying and healing cloths. It is not only a place to remember and honor, but also to educate everyone about Native American contributions and sacrifices. On ceremonial oc-casions, a fire can be lit at the base of the monument.

According to the National Museum of the American Indi-an’s website, “In 2013, Congress passed legislation authorizing the NMAI to create a National Native

American Veterans Memorial to give ‘all Americans the opportuni-ty to learn of the proud and coura-geous tradition of service of Native Americans in the Armed Forces of the United States.”

The celebration continued Saturday and Sunday after Veter-ans Day. The weekend activities included meeting the designer and authors, music and cultural performances, films, and hands-on activities. The activities were open to everyone, and the “Make a Paper Star Quilt for Veterans” and “Storytime” activities were recommended for children 2-10 years old.

The event is open to the public and free of charge. The procession and dedication ceremony were also both livestreamed on the Na-tional Museum of the American Indian’s website.

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gram-record 163 career games, the Lady Bear with the most wins in program history. She also be-came the second to record over 1700 points, 500 assists, and 700 rebounds during her Lady Bear career. She averaged 11.5 points and 5.4 rebounds per game in her final season.

In late spring, Calip signed with the Swiss Basketball League. She reported to the team in early September to begin her first pro-fessional season.

Calip made strides over her collegiate career that s continue to flow over into her professional career.

Follow Calip on Twitter @briceycalip3 or Instagram @brice.calip11.

MEDICATION EVENT COLLECTS UNWANTED PILLS

EVENT SHEDS LIGHT ON PROPER MEDICATION DISPOSAL

by BRADEN HARPER

REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Over time, collecting various med-ications that pile up in the medicine cabinet is normal. However, it can be dangerous if they fall into the hands of a child or someone that might misuse them. That is why it is crucial to correctly dispose of unwanted or expired medications within your household. The Mus-cogee (Creek) Nation Department of Behavioral Health, Oklahoma State University, and the Okmul-gee County Consortium collected unwanted medicines at the medi-

cation take-back event on Oct. 26.

The annual event was open to the public and was located at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. A drive-through booth was set up to collect unwanted pills, capsules, or liquids. The event’s accessibility allowed the drop-off process to be quick and anonymous. MCN Lighthouse Community Outreach Coordina-tor Malissa Beaver was on site to ensure the safety of the medication disposal.

MCN Behavioral Health Proj-ect Manager Tyler Stone said the event is a great way to clean out your medicine cabinet. His team collects anywhere, on average,

from 50 to 75 pounds worth of unwanted medications every take-back event.

“We just want to set up an op-portunity for people who are in the community who have any unused, unwanted medication, or expired medication to have a way to drop it off in a secure and safe way,” Stone said.

After each take-back event, the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics collects and returns the medica-tion to their facility.

While cleaning out your cabi-net is a great way to stay organized, properly disposing of medication can also be a life-or-death situation for children. It is safer not to have unwanted medicines in the house.

“We don’t want kids to get in-volved with finding medications, taking those leading to any kind of fatal poisonings,” Stone said.

The event gave resource guides



MCN Behavioral Health Project Director Tyler Stone stands at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center medication take-back booth. Stone and the Okmulgee County Consortium members collected unwanted medications to be properly discarded. Proper disposal of unwanted medicines is important to keep children safe and protect the environment. Oct. 26, 2022. Okmulgee, OK. (Braden Harper/Reporter)

on how to dispose of medications properly. Medication lock box-es were also handed out, free of charge. Lockboxes allow drugs to be stored to where they can be ex-

clusively accessed so that someone does not accidentally overdose or misuse them.

“They don’t have to worry about if somebody was looking for some of those medications; they’re secured properly,” Stone said. “There may also be some-body struggling with thoughts of suicide; sometimes they may try to find pills to try and take their life.”

Stone said it is best to consult your doctor or local pharmacist if you are unsure whether to keep or toss a medication in your cabinet.

Medication take-back events are held periodically throughout the year. The U.S. Drug Enforce-ment Administration recognizes Oct. 29 as DEA National Rx Take Back Day. Their website even fea-tures a collection site locator that can determine when and where the next medication take-back event will be hosted in your area.

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FIFE WINS LIFETIME AWARD FROM OKSPJ

GARY FIFE WAS AWARDED THE 2022 FRANK GREER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE OKLAHOMA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

by MORGAN TAYLOR
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma—Mvskoke Media’s very own Mvskoke Radio Host Gary Fife was awarded the 2022 Frank Greer Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Society of Professional Journalism.

OKSPJ’s highest award honors the late Frank Hilton Greer, the publisher of the Oklahoma Daily State Capital Newspaper, which was known as the first mainstream newspaper published in the state.

From a green reporter in the late 60s to a seasoned storyteller, Fife has thousands of news stories that bring accuracy to native representation. He has received three legislative citations from the State of Alaska, the Governor’s Community Service Medal, and was the first Native American to receive the Ford Fellowship in 1978 and held an internship as a guest editor of National Public Radio.

With nearly half a century of radio, print, and television experience with over a decade dedicated to reporting from Washington, D.C., to moving to Alaska to partake in the creation of the first Native radio show, “National Native News,” to currently doing local reporting back on his home reservation for the Mvskoke Media. His first show hit the airwaves of 181 public radio stations across the country, winning eight national awards in its first seven years. After a few name changes, it may be known today as American Public Radio.

Fife continues to write an opinion column, “Emvpanayv,”

Mvskoke word for “one that tells the story,” printed in the Mvskoke Media Newspaper, where he also produces a weekly live broadcast on a local radio station called Mvskoke Radio.

“Emvpanayv” is a fitting title for Fife’s article, but one may call that his “Indian name” given the stories he could tell and a way only he can tell them.

The pioneer reporter and national and state award winner has become the subject of multiple articles for his lifelong dedication to Native American news coverage, highlighting some of Fife’s greatest moments.

Fife earned a bachelor’s degree from the Flaming Rainbow Center of the University Without Walls, an affiliate of Westminster College in Missouri. Initially attending Northeastern State University as a petroleum geology major, piquing his interest in the oil industry, driven by the Civil Rights Movement, he suddenly changed his heart and decided to switch his major to journalism.

“Across the nation, many of our minority groups were standing up and saying we got to make things change,” Fife said. “During that period, I was curious, ‘where are our Indian people?’”

Fife saw that the Natives were protesting on Alcatraz Island, desiring the government to uphold treaties and allow the natives to occupy the land for use after the prison shut down. Activists occupied the island for around 19 months before having to return to the mainland ending in 1969.

This “Red Power Movement,” as it was called, lit Fife’s fire.

“I said, ‘ I want to be a part of that somehow.”

That’s when he realized geology and petroleum were not his cup of tea as his interest shifted from oil to news.

“I started developing an interest in how those stories are being told,” Fife said, realizing the lack of accuracy in native representation in the news. “I thought, ‘maybe there is something there for me.”

From there, Fife spread his wings by becoming a part of local groups to get involved in the communities and other advocacy groups. His aim was different from the advocacy groups. “For me, to do something, it had to go far beyond, ‘let’s go get the white man sort of thing. I wanted people to understand both sides of the story. I thought, ‘reporters do this.”

After making his decision, Fife joined the news team at Northeastern as his first introduction to the news. He pledged to the journalism fraternity and stayed in touch with his groups, where he was granted the opportunity to intern in Washington, D.C., with 30 other indigenous students from around the country. He returned to NSU to finish his junior year.

Fife said he joined the University Without Walls movement with a group called Flaming Rainbow. He gained another opportunity to go back to D.C. through the Indian Legal Information Development Service.

“What their function was to examine every piece of legislation that went through Congress and what implications it provided for Indian People,” Fife said.

“I was amazed about how the



Mvskoke Radio Host Gary Fife was recently honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Society of Professional Journalists.

government works and how the government doesn’t work,” Fife said. “

He went back to OK to work for Ladonna Harris at Americans for Indian Opportunity for a short time as an information person before having an opportunity to work for the first native news service, the American Indian Press Association.

“I was amazed and delighted at the reaction we got from Native America about the information coming out,” Fife said. “Accurate, timely with a Native perspective.”

After the IRS shut down the organization, Fife spent time bouncing around the country with different tribal organizations to provide information and news.

Fife had seen several monumental pieces of legislation take effect throughout his career, including the Indian Self Determina-

nation Act and his most memorable, the Taos Pueblo water rights concerning the Blue Lake.

According to Fife, the people knew nothing about the relationship between tribes and the federal government. They believed that most of the coverage during that time was “episodic,” only covering the “dance or dysfunction” of natives.

“This is a chance to educate people about how these things work,” Fife said.

Fife made it his mission to deliver accurate information to the Native American people throughout his career. Fife’s passion drove him to continue his career in all news sectors even when the paycheck did not measure his success.

Fife’s full interview can be viewed on Mvskoke Media YouTube Channel.

MUSCOGEE PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR DISCUSSES NEW BOOK

MARY VANN FRANKLIN APPEARS ON LIVE WIRE TO DISCUSS HER SPOOKY PROJECT JUST IN TIME FOR HALLOWEEN

by JERRAD MOORE
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

& by BRADEN HARPER
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – Mary Vann Franklin is a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen that has over 50 years of experience in the paranormal. She has been involved with thousands of investigations. Recently she sat down with Mvskoke Media on a Halloween-themed episode of Live Wire, dubbed “Dead Wire.” She shared her paranormal experiences and discussed her new book, “The Murder-Suicide House.”

Franklin’s interest in the paranormal links back to her childhood. Growing up, she was surrounded by

ghost-hunting stories. She described her parents as ghost hunters. Her career path did not come initially from a fascination with the dead, as she was skeptical of her parent’s work.

“I heard all kinds of ghost stories coming up, and I told them, ‘you know you’ve got to be a little bit crazy; when I get big enough, I’m going to prove you wrong,” Franklin said. “I ended up eating my words.”

Franklin’s parents would take her along paranormal investigations she described as terrifying. According to Franklin, they would go to family cemeteries and talk to the dead. One experience that stands out in her memory is staying in the home where her sister was born. She said she could hear money being thrown in the house at night.

“I slept with my mom in the



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Mary Vann Franklin sat down with Mvskoke Media for a Halloween themed episode of Live Wire, dubbed “Dead Wire”. Franklin has over 50 years of experience in paranormal investigations. Her new book, “The Murder Suicide House” will hit shelves in Decemeber. Okmulgee, OK. October 31, 2022. (MM File)

bedroom, and a woman sat at the table. All at once, the bicycle we kept inside started rolling and rolling around. There wasn’t enough mattress for me to get under when that happened!” Franklin said while laughing.

Franklin investigated the book’s residential location for nine years. According to Franklin, hauntings are rare. Paranormal investigators may explore one area they will study for the rest of the year.

Franklin gained a clearer picture

of what she was up against as time passed. She said the demonic haunting became more and more terrifying and real. Her team experienced a significant amount of paranormal activity during the investigation.

“Every time I went in, it was something different. Every year it was different with the photos in the house,” Franklin said.

While she does not perform exorcisms, Franklin is a documentarian that records and photographs paranormal activity. Over the years,

Franklin said she has physically experienced paranormal phenomena that can not be explained. Her advice to those working in the field is to be careful.

“Don’t play where you shouldn’t. There is a price to pay,” Franklin said.

These paranormal investigations have taken Franklin around the world. She has investigated paranormal activity in Guthrie, Konawaw, Waverly Hills, and Auschwitz, Germany. She was also part of the Oklahoma City Ghost Club.

Of all the places around the world that Franklin has visited, the place that takes the top spot for most haunted might surprise most people.

“Oklahoma, Oklahoma is haunted; I kid you not. I have traveled the world doing this,” Franklin said. “I have found more paranormal in Oklahoma.”

Franklin’s investigation can be found in her book, “The Murder-Suicide House,” which will be released worldwide in December. It will be available on Amazon and local bookstores. A second book will be released next year.

WILSON TIGERS ARE MAKING HISTORY

THE TIGERS FOOTBALL TEAM WILL PLAYED IN PLAYOFFS FOR THE FIRST TIME

by KAYLEA BERRY
REPORTER

WILSON, Oklahoma - The Wilson Indian Community Center opened up its doors to the Wilson Tigers football team and cheerleaders Oct. 24. The Wilson football team is coached by Mvskoke citizen, Matt LeGrand, and the team has about 10 Mvskoke citizen players and a handful of other tribal affiliated players.

Wilson’s football program started in 2015. LeGrand has coached the team for the last three years, two as an assistant coach and this year as the head coach. This year the team is now ranked 2nd and their record is 8-1, which is a huge turnaround from their 0-10 record last year.

LeGrand talked about each players’ position and how each

of their roles contributes to the team. He pointed out that one of the players had struggled academically at the beginning of the season but has since made a huge improvement.

“Sometimes the kids need football more than football needs them,” LeGrand said. “I have one son, but these 22 players are also my sons.”

Last year the team did not win a single game, but the team only lost one senior and had a few students transfer in from other schools. LeGrand said this year they have come together and started believing in themselves and each other.

“We got better because we came together as a team,” LeGrand said. “When we come together, we can do anything.”

The football players have not only come together as a team but

have also brought the community together.

Rita Williams, Wilson Indian Community member, was proud of how well the team was doing this year and wanted to show recognition for them.

Williams said, “I was excited myself, so I knew that as a community member if I was, then the whole community had to be.”

She wanted to show her and the community’s support by organizing a ceremony for the football team and cheerleaders.

“This was one way that we could show our appreciation and celebrate our high school boys,” said Williams. “We pulled together with the Wilson Indian Community, Wilson Booster Club, Superintendent Andrea James and it just all fell together.”

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief David Hill, Second Chief



Tigers football team pose for a picture with Muscogee (Creek) Nation David Hill, Second Chief Del Beaver, members of the National Council, former Chief George Tiger, and Chief of Staff Jeff Fife after a recognition ceremony for the team at the Wilson Indian Community Center, Wilson, Okla., Oct. 24, 2022. (Kaylea Berry/Reporter)

Del Beaver, members from the National Council, and Chief of Staff Jeff Fife attended the celebration to show their support for the team as they get closer to reaching the playoffs. Former Chief George Tiger was the emcee for the event.

Chief Hill, Second Chief Beaver, and Speaker Lowe spoke to the players about the importance of their time in high school, being a part of a team, how what they have accomplished this far is his-

torical for the school, their own experiences, and being a student first and an athlete second.

The Tigers are ranked 2nd in C District 3 and compete in the first round of playoffs against the Maysville Warriors, ranked 3rd with a 7-3 record. The playoff game will be at Wilson on Nov. 11 at 7:00 p.m. This is the first time in history that the Wilson Tiger’s football team is playing in the playoffs.

DEWAR INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER OPENED ITS DOORS TO THE COMMUNITY FOR ITS “THREE NIGHTS OF TERROR”

HAUNTED HOUSE, COSTUME CONTEST, FACE PAINTING, AND MORE HALLOWEEN FUN IN DEWAR

by **KAYLEA BERRY**
REPORTER

DEWAR, Oklahoma - The Dewar Indian Community Center put on a “Three Nights of Terror” event on Oct. 22nd, 29th and 30th. The event was open to the public and consisted of a haunted house, game booths, face painting, cake walk, chili contest, and costume contests. There were prizes for the contests as well.

As it grew, the haunted house evolved from a private citizens’ garage to the Dewar Indian Community Center. The center has put the Halloween event on for years now. However, this is their first year having it after the pandemic.

“Covid kind of hit us, and we weren’t able to do anything for a couple of years, but now we’re back, and hopefully it’s bigger and better every year,” said Jenny Hunnicutt, Dewar Indian Community Center Vice Chairman. “It’s a lot of work, but it’s worth it when you get those screams and those big scares.”

The center created an activity fund a couple of years ago and used money from that to pay ex-

penses related to the Halloween events.

Shane Holuby, Dewar Indian Community Center chairman, said, “We started buying the props off of people for \$100 or \$150, then people just started donating to us so we could put it on for the whole community.”

Over 860 people attended the events. The haunted house was open all three nights and only cost \$5 a person. The carnival was available on the 30th and was free. Any money collected goes back into the community’s activity fund.

The Indian Community and Dewar Community Volunteers worked together to put the haunted house and indoor activities.

“We have roughly 25 people working the haunted house, including Dewar Indian Community members, spouses, and members of the Dewar Community,” said Hunnicutt. “They’re die-hards, they’re here, and they enjoy it.”

There were also about 16 individuals that helped with the booths inside. Preparation for the haunted house starts about three months in advance. Volunteers

start by donating a few hours on the weekends. A weekday may be needed to complete everything in time as Halloween gets closer.

Their hard work pays off with positive comments and reactions from the community.

“It brings everybody together, and we enjoy making people laugh and something to talk about,” said Holuby. “It shows that as a community, all community centers are important, and we have a lot of potential if we put our minds to it.”

The center plans on participating and competing in upcoming Christmas parades in the local area. The Dewar Indian Community Center meets on the third Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Indian community centers are a great way to stay informed about events and news, build relationships, and give back. The Community Research and Development program can verify centers’ boundaries and which one a Mvskoke citizen belongs to based on their address. For more information about the Community Research and Development Program, please call 918-732-7963.



The Dewar Indian Community Center put on a “Three Nights of Terror” event on Oct. 22, 29-30, in Dewar, Okla. (Kaylea Berry/Reporter)

HENRYETTA PROPERTY DONATED TO MCN

LEGISLATION PASSES COMMITTEE TO FUND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF LAND DONATION



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education, & Welfare/Land, Natural Resources & Culture Preservation Committee was held at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. (MM File)

by **KAYLEA BERRY**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education, & Welfare/Land, Natural Resources & Culture Preservation Committee meeting was held on Oct. 18 at the Mound Building.

TR 22-160

A MCN Tribal resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract accepting a donation of land in Okmulgee County, Okla. Representative Galen Cloud sponsored the legislation, which passed 9-0.

The Nation is given a chance to accept a donation of roughly 0.30 acres of land in Henryetta, Oklahoma, which will expand the Nation’s land base. The property will enable future development consistent with the goals and mission of the Nation’s Reintegration Program.

NCA 22-128

A MCN law appropriating \$20,000.00 to use for transac-

tional costs related to accepting donated real property located in Okmulgee County, Okla. Rep. Galen Cloud sponsored the legislation, which passed 9-0 to BFJ for approval.

Accepting the donated land comes with expenses for title insurance, title opinions, surveys, environmental studies, and appropriate taxes. This law will set aside the money for consideration and other expenditures associated with accepting the donated land.

NCA 22-129

A MCN law authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of \$696,600.00 for the benefit of the MCN Dept. of Housing. Rep. Charles McHenry sponsored the legislation, which passed 9-0.

The grant money will support the program’s administrative costs and provide 50 housing vouchers to qualified Native American veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming so.



Health, Education, and Welfare, along with Business, Finance, and Justice Committees, hold a Joint Committee Session on Oct. 18. (MM File)

TAX SERVICES FUNDED FOR THE UPCOMING TAX SEASON

MCN FUNDS TAX PREP SERVICES WITH GRANT AND TRIBAL FUNDING

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education, and Welfare Committee and the Business, Finance, and Justice Committee held a Joint Session at the Mound Building

on Oct. 18.

All passed legislation will go before the Full Council during the Regular Session held at the Mound Building on the last Saturday of each month.

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

LOOP SQUARE RANCH APPROVED FOR \$1.25M WATERLINE

LIGHTHORSE APPROVED FOR THE USE OF EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING GRANT

by **BRADEN HARPER**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - A joint Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance, and Justice/Land, Natural Resource and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting were held in person and via teleconference on Oct. 24 at the Mound Building.

All legislation will go before the full council during the regular session.

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

NCA 22-130

A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security FY 2022 Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program for the benefit

of the Department of Lighthouse Police Department and Emergency Management Department. Representative Robert Hufft sponsored the bill and approved for do pass 7-0.

The grant will expend \$726,373.00, consistent with the approved U.S. Department of Homeland Security Budget. The funds will allow Lighthouse to purchase a bomb detection robot with bomb technician certification training for four officers. It will also enable the department to buy a CCTV camera system with 15 cameras and four drones with accompaniment training and licensure for six officers.

NCA 22-131

A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the

NCA 22-133

Authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Internal Revenue Services for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce (\$2,300). Representative Randall Hicks sponsored the Act, which passed, 8-0.

The Nation was awarded the Tax Counselling for the Elderly.

NCA 22-134

Authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Internal Revenue Services for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce (\$15,000). Rep. Hicks sponsored the Act, which passed, 8-0.

The grant funds will be used to provide tax services to citizens 59 and younger through the VITA Tax program.

NCA 22-135

Authorizing an appropriation for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of Nation and Commerce (\$15,000). Rep. Hicks sponsored the Act, which passed 7-0.

Additional funds are needed to implement the program and assist with associated costs.

Meetings can be viewed at www.mcnn.com.

benefit of the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Looped Square Meat Company. Representative Galen Cloud sponsored the bill and approved for do pass 8-0.

The grant will expend \$199,932.00. It will increase sanitary processing and packaging capacity, implement food safety measures, and allow separate packaging equipment for cooked and raw products.

NCA 22-132

A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill, which was approved for do pass 8-0.

The grant will expend \$1,256,000.00 and will be used to construct a waterline on Looped Square Ranch.

For video of committee meetings, visit www.mcnn.com.



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A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources & Culture Preservation Committee was held at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. (MM File)

OKFUSKEE CEREMONIAL GROUND TO PURCHASE A TRACTOR

MCN DOT GRANT FUNDS PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATION OF A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN RURAL AREAS

by **KAYLEA BERRY**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources & Culture Preservation Committee meeting was held on Oct. 11 at the Mound Building.

TR 22-152

A MCN Tribal resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a legal services agreement between the MCN and Michael D. Parks to provide legal services for the realty department. Representative Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The MCN Realty Department needs representation to quiet titles and partitions for restricted and trust lands to improve its program and services. It has selected attorney Michael D. Parks to provide legal services.

TR 22-153

A MCN Tribal resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement with the Indian Health Service for Project OK 22-231, which will provide adequate wastewater disposal facilities for eight existing Native American-owned homes in Muskogee County, Okla. Rep. Charles McHenry sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

IHS will fully fund the project for \$178,000.00, and the parties’ responsibilities have been outlined in a Memorandum of Agreement.

TR 22-154

A MCN Tribal resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a 2022 competitive Indian Housing block grant application to the US Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

ment. Rep. Galen Cloud sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The Nation needs energy-efficient, low-rent housing opportunities to support low to moderate-income elderly tribal citizens.

TR 22-155

A MCN Tribal resolution amending TR 19-076 (A MCN Tribal resolution suspending all special appropriations and donations) as amended by TR 20-150, TR 21-080, TR 22-128, TR 22-143 and TR 22-150. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

There is a need to amend TR 19-076 to allow for a special appropriation for the Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground.

TR 22-156

A MCN Tribal resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Coronavirus response and relief supplemental appropriations act agreement between the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the MCN. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

Section 5310 of Title 49 of the US Code Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities authorizes the apportionment of funds for public mass transportation in rural areas to enhance access in those areas for purposes such as health care, shopping, education, recreation, public services, and employment by encouraging the maintenance, development, improvement, and use of passenger transportation systems.

TR 22-157

A MCN Tribal resolution authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a United States Department of Transportation, Federal

Transit Administration grant agreement. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The award aims to ensure the continuity of transit operations and provide greater access to job opportunities, education, healthcare, and other services necessary to tribal citizens and the general public within the Nation’sNation’s Reservation. The Federal Transit Master Agreement waives the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’sNation’s sovereign immunity by subjecting the Nation to numerous federal laws.

NCA 22-120

A MCN Law authorizing the expenditure of 2022 NACD Technical Assistance grant funds awarded from the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) for the benefit of the MCN Conservation District for \$75,000.00. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The grant funds will be used to identify and support citizens who currently have agricultural interests and have not participated in the US Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service Programs to improve participation and service.

NCA 22-121

A MCN Law authorizing a special appropriation to Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground to purchase a tractor and related equipment with \$75,888.00. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground is active and needs a tractor and related equipment to maintain its ground and accommodate its members and visitors in a safe environment. The tractor comes with a six-year war-

ranty, and at its expiration, the Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground will provide maintenance for the tractor.

NCA 22-122

A MCN Law authorizing the expenditure of the National Park Service Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) grant for the benefit of the MCN Historic and Cultural Preservation Department for \$72,214.00. Rep. Galen Cloud sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The grant funds will protect and preserve valued Mvskoke historic and cultural resources, including sacred places, cultural sites, cultural remains, and Mvskoke history for future generations.

NCA 22-123

A MCN Law authorizing the expenditure of funds awarded from the ODOT for the benefit of the MCN’s DOT for \$12,268.00. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The grant funds will be used to provide for the operation of a public transportation system in rural areas.

NCA 22-124

A MCN Law authorizing the expenditure of funds awarded from the USDOT, Federal Transit Administration, for the benefit of the MCN’s DOT for \$899,975.00. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The grant funds will ensure the continuity of transit operations and provide greater access to job opportunities, education, healthcare, and other services necessary to tribal citizens and the general public within the Nation’sNation’s Reservation.

For video of committee meetings, visit www.mcnn.com.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Emergency Session was held on Oct. 24 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. (MM File)

RIVERWALK CROSSING RECEIVED \$2.24M IN COVID RELIEF

MCN AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH GILA RIVER RESORTS & CASINO FOR OUTREACH EVENT

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma – A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Emergency Session meeting was held in person and via teleconference on Oct. 24 at the Mound Building.

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

TR 22-159

Authorizing the extension of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce to continue operations of the OneFire Holding Company, LLC. Representative Patrick Freeman Jr. sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

Under the fifth amended operating agreement and an absence of a duly seated board, the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce will have all board authority until a new governing board is established.

TR 22-161

Establishing tribal membership in the National Congress of American Indians. Speaker William Lowe sponsored the bill unanimously ad-

opted, 14-0.

Tribal funds in the amount of \$30,000 will be used for tribal membership dues.

TR 22-162

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract with Gila River Resorts & Casinos - Wild Horse Pass for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation At Large Gathering.

MCN will waive its sovereign immunity for the State of Arizona to govern the contract, requiring the Nation to indemnify Gila River and pay taxes.

NCA 22-138

A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of fiscal relief funding for OneFire Holding Company, LLC, for assistance with the RiverWalk Crossing Tourism and Recreation Improvements Projects.

This will allow the Principal Chief to authorize an expenditure of \$2,243,090.69 from the American Rescue Plan Act. (ARPA) The funds will aid projects disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

The meeting, agenda, and full legislation can be viewed at www.mcnn.com.

MCN APPROVES \$7.5M GRANT PROPOSAL FOR HOUSING PROJECT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INVESTS \$2.39M IN MVSKE EDUCATION



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held Oct. 20 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. (MM File)

by **BRADEN HARPER**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Quarterly Session was held in person on Oct. 29 at the Mound Building.

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

NCR 22-011

Confirming Cynthia M. Tiger to serve on the Mvskoke Media Editorial Board. Representative Anna Marshall sponsored the bill, which was adopted by a split vote, 8-7. Speaker Lowe was the tie-breaking vote in favor.

Tiger will serve as a board member until the end of her term, Oct. 29, 2025.

TR 22-151

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an Oklahoma State Department of Education Data Sharing Agreement. Representative Mary Crawford sponsored the bill, adopted unanimously, 14-0.

The agreement will establish a data transfer process between OSDE and MCN to monitor pub-

lic school performance and enrollment of children in their tribal nation to provide targeted educational resources and support.

TR 22-152

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a legal services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Michael D. Parks to provide legal services for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Department. Representative Joseph Hicks sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

This will fulfill the MCN Realty Department’s need for legal representation to quiet titles and partitions for restricted and trust lands to improve its program and services.

TR 22-153

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement with the Indian Health Service for project OK 22-231, which will provide adequate wastewater disposal facilities for eight existing Native American-owned homes in Muskogee County, Oklahoma. Representative Charles McHenry sponsored the bill, which was unanimously adopted, 14-0.

The project will cost \$178,000.00 and be fully funded by

the Indian Health Service.

TR 22-154

Authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a 2022 Competitive Indian Housing Block Grant Application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Representative Galen Cloud sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.

MCN will commit the grant totaling \$1,875,000.00 from the Housing Department’s Program Income for the New Construction Housing Project. The grant application will propose \$7,500,000 for the housing project, benefiting low to moderate-income elderly tribal citizens.

TR 22-155

Amending TR 19-076 (A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to suspend all special appropriations and donations) as amended by TR 20-150, TR 21-080, TR 22-128, TR 22-143 and TR 22-150. Representative Randall Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.

The amendment will include a one-time special appropriation for the Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground if NCA 22-121 is enacted.

TR 22-156

Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act agreement between the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.

CRRSAA Section 5310 helps enhance the mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities in rural areas by apportioning funds for public mass transportation. The act will appropriate \$12,268.00 to the MCN Department of Transportation.

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Continued from Page 5

TR 22-157
Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a United States of America Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration Grant Agreement. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted 14-0.
The grant will award the MCN Department of Transportation \$899,975.00 to ensure the continuity of transit operations and to provide greater access to job opportunities, education, and healthcare.

TR 22-158
Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a legal services contract between the Nation and Cody Minyard, Attorney at Law, PLLC, for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Support Enforcement. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.
This will allow Cody Minyard, Attorney at Law PLLC, to provide legal services for the MCN Office of Child Support Enforcement.

TR 22-160
Authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract accepting a donation of land located in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma. Representative Cloud sponsored the bill, which was unanimously adopted, 14-0.
The land is located in Henryetta, Oklahoma, and consists of roughly 0.3 acres. The acquisition will allow for future development consistent with the mission and objectives of MCN’s Reintegration Program.

NCA 22-104
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Office to purchase motorcycles for a military funeral and detail unit. Representative Thomazine Yahola Osborn sponsored the bill, which was adopted with a vote of 11-3.
The bill will provide \$83,691.00 to purchase three Electra Glide Police Motorcycles. They will assist the Veterans Affairs Office in properly escorting military funerals.

NCA 22-115
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention closing the gap with social determinants of Health Accelerator Plans Grant. Representative Robert Hufft sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.
MCN will receive \$125,000.00 from the grant to improve chronic disease outcomes in persons experiencing health disparities and inequities.

NCA 22-116
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the United States Department of Education for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Education and Training. Rep. Hufft sponsored the bill, which was unanimously adopted 14-0.
The MCN Department of Education and Training was awarded \$2,396,214.00 from the Demonstration Grants for the Indian Children and Youth Program Assistance Grant. The funds will build curriculum and education systems, increase American Indian/Alaskan Native Resources, and establish the “Future Mvskoke Educators Student Cohort” to provide teaching career exploration

opportunities to produce new Indigenous Oklahoma educators.

NCA 22-117
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 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. Rep. Marshall sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.
CMN was awarded \$10,000 from the 2022 Native American Library Services Grant. It will be used for programming and outreach activities focusing on Muscogee Culture to increase the number of patrons utilizing the library. It will also purchase additional books and materials to support CMN degree programs.

NCA 22-118
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Revolving Fund for various activities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Services Office. Representative Leonard Gouge sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.
The revolving fund account will not be subject to fiscal year limitations and will be under the direction of the MCN Veterans Affairs Services Office. It will comply with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Procurement Policies & Procedures. The donated funds will be utilized for future activities hosted by the MCN Veterans Affairs Service Office to provide goods and services to the nation’s veterans.

NCA 22-119
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 35, Chapter 3, entitled “Medical Travel Assistance.” The bill was sponsored by Rep. Hufft and co-sponsored by Rep. Gouge, which was adopted unanimously, 14-0.
The law will be updated to account for increased medical traveling expenses for eligible MCN Citizens. It will increase the assistance, including reimbursement for gas mileage, food assistance, lodging, toll, and parking. The annual appropriation will be established at \$200,000.

NCA 22-120
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the 2022 NACD Technical Assistance Grant Funds awarded from the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Conservation District. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.
The grant awarded MCN Conservation District \$75,000 to support citizens who currently have agricultural interests and have not participated in U.S. Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service Programs to improve participation and service.

NCA 22-121
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground to purchase a tractor and related equipment. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.
The bill will appropriate \$75,888.00 to purchase a tractor with a six-year warranty.

NCA 22-122
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the National Park Service Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) Grant for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation His-

toric and Cultural Preservation Department. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.
MCN Historic and Cultural Preservation department was awarded \$72,214.00 from the THPO Grant to protect and preserve valued Mvskoke historic and cultural resources. This includes sacred places, cultural sites, cultural remains, and Mvskoke History for future generations.

NCA 22-123
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of funds awarded from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Department of Transportation. The bill was sponsored by Rep. Joseph Hicks and was unanimously adopted 14-0.
Grant funds from CRRSAA Section 5310 for \$12,268.00 will be used to operate a public transportation system in rural areas.

NCA 22-124
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of funds awarded from the United States of America Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Department of Transportation. Rep. Joseph Hicks sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

The MCN Department of Transportation was awarded \$899,975.00 in grant funds to ensure the continuity of transit operations and to provide greater access to job opportunities, education, healthcare, and other services necessary to tribal citizens and the general public within MCN’s Reservation.

NCA 22-125
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of funds for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Lighthorse Police Department for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services 2022 Cops Office Tribal Resources Grant Program - Equipment and Training. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

The grant awarded \$899,997.00 to the Lighthorse Police Department. It will pay for two employees to attend the CTAS New Grantee Orientation Training, purchase seven pursuit vehicles with accessory packages, eight truck pursuit vehicles with accessory packages, and 71 bulletproof vests.

NCA 22-126
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women FY 2022 Grants to Indian Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Grant Award for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department. Representative Sandra Golden sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.

MCN Lighthorse Police were awarded \$449,976.00 from the grant. It will increase the capacity of the Lighthorse Police Department to gather, analyze, and report data and respond to sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence against Native Women. It will also strengthen tribal justice interventions through law enforcement by hiring an investigator and a Domestic Violence Analyst.

NCA 22-127
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expendi-

ture of the National White Collar Crime Center Grant Award for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department. Rep. Golden sponsored the bill, which was unanimously postponed until the November Regular Session, 14-0.
MCN Lighthorse Police was awarded \$39,060.00 from the grant. The funds will be used to purchase 14 Panasonic Toughbooks.

NCA 22-128
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the transactional costs related to accepting donated real property located in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.
The donated real property is located in Okmulgee County and roughly consists of 0.3 acres. The total transactional costs are \$20,000.

NCA 22-129
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing. Rep. McHenry sponsored the bill ,unanimously adopted, 14-0.
MCN Department of Housing was awarded \$696,600.00 from the grant. The funds will provide 50 housing vouchers to eligible Native American Veterans. The vouchers are for the homeless or those at risk of homelessness, and administrative funding to support the program.

NCA 22-130
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security FY 2022 Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program for the benefit of the Department of Lighthorse Police Department and Emergency Management Department. Rep. Hufft sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.
MCN Lighthorse Police and Emergency Management were awarded \$726,373.00 from the grant. The funds will be used for a bomb detection robot and bomb technician certification training for four enforcement officers. It will purchase a CCTV system with 15 cameras at MCN Reintegration and the Eufala Dormitory. It will also buy four drones with training and licensure for six law enforcement officers.

NCA 22-131
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the benefit of the Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources Looped Square Meat Company. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.
MCN Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources received \$199,932.00 from the grant. It will increase sanitary processing and packaging capacity, implement additional food safety measures, separate packaging equipment for cooked and raw products, and enhance food safety in the facility’s Sanitation Standard Operating Procedure.

NCA 22-132
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

MCN Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce was awarded \$1,256,000.00 from the grant. Funds will construct a water-line located at Looped Square Ranch.

NCA 22-133
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Internal Revenue Service for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill, unanimously adopted, 14-0.
MCN Office of the Nation and Commerce was awarded \$2,300.00 from the grant. It will be used to assist in preparing income tax returns for individuals who are age 60 or older.

NCA 22-134
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of grant funds awarded from the Internal Revenue Service Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

MCN Office of the Nation and Commerce was awarded \$15,000.00 from the grant. The funds will be used to assist in preparing income tax returns for individuals who are aged 59 and younger.

NCA 22-135
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program for the benefit of the Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 14-0.

The requested appropriation is \$15,000.00, which will match the funds from the VITA Grant as aforementioned in bill NCA 22-134. It will also be used to assist in preparing income tax returns for individuals who are aged 59 and younger.

NCA 22-136
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 21-084 (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing MCNCA Title 16 Chapter 4 and creating new law in a new title 50, entitled “Lighthorse Police” and authorizing an appropriation for the Lighthorse Commission) as amended by NCA 21-135. Rep. Osborn sponsored the bill, which was postponed for 90 days by a vote of 10-5.
The bill states that due to the lack of progress from the MCN Lighthorse Commission, there is a need to place the Lighthorse Police back under the executive branch and repeal the law that established the commission.

NCA 22-137
A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 26 § 3-102 D. Entitled “Compensation.” Rep. Osborn sponsored the bill unanimously adopted, 15-0.
The bill will increase compensation for the MCN Supreme Court Chief Justice to \$2,500 per month. The Vice-Chief Justices of the MCN Supreme Court will see a compensation increase to \$2,250 per month. The other Supreme Court Justices will see an increase to \$1,300 per month. The MCN Supreme Court Justices last saw a compensation increase 28 years ago. The bill states the increases are needed due to an increased workload of cases and reviews for new bar applicants.
The meeting, agenda, and full legislation can be viewed at www.mcnn.com.



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COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION SCHEDULE
OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDED, ENCUMBRANCES AND CASH BALANCES BY FUND 4TH QUARTER 2022

College of the Muscogee Nation Schedule of Receipts, Expended, Encumbrances, and Cash balances - By Fund 2022 4th Quarter (Jul - Sep)													
Fund Code	GL Code	GL Title	Budgeted	Receipts	Expended	Encumbered	Cash Balance						
General Fund													
100	4010	Contributions	1,150.00	1,150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	8560	Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
100	4030	Tuition	334,752.50	334,752.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	Grants					
100	4035	Interest Income	25,408.61	25,408.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	4000	Grants	1,786,386.32	1,786,386.32	0.00
100	4037	Vending Machine Incom	525.09	525.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	4035	Interest Income	0.03	0.03	0.00
100	4040	Other	1,572.86	1,572.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5000	Salary & Wages - FT	650,000.00	0.00	559,004.21
100	4100	Resident Units-Rent	123,420.00	123,420.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5003	Salary & Wages - Rege	300.00	0.00	150.00
100	4155	Meal Plans	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5010	Salary & Wages - PT/O	40,000.00	0.00	34,839.33
100	4160	Resident Deposits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5100	Fringe - FT	199,342.64	0.00	113,843.20
100	4161	Key/Badge Fee	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5103	Fringe - Regents	25.00	0.00	13.74
100	4163	Remedial Supplemental	2,608.50	2,608.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5110	Fringe - PT/Other	2,500.00	0.00	1,074.16
100	4200	Sales	6,450.61	6,450.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5209	Travel - Students	962.00	0.00	0.00
100	4201	Books	72,115.46	72,115.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	300	5210	Travel	15,104.00	0.00	3,312.02
100	5000	Salary & Wages - FT	179,400.89	0.00	179,400.89	0.00	0.00	300	5221	Contl/Seminars/Meeting	40,000.00	0.00	38,520.34
100	5003	Salary & Wages - Rege	8,850.00	0.00	8,850.00	0.00	0.00	300	5300	Supplies	210,662.71	0.00	112,190.60
100	5010	Salary & Wages - PT/O	10,932.80	0.00	10,932.80	0.00	0.00	300	5301	Software/Licenses	75,000.00	0.00	3,889.23
100	5100	Fringe - FT	279,876.90	0.00	279,876.90	0.00	0.00	300	5313	Fuel Purchases	500.00	0.00	306.00
100	5103	Fringe - Regents	809.76	0.00	809.76	0.00	0.00	300	5320	Memberships/Fees	1,500.00	0.00	750.00
100	5110	Fringe - PT/Other	3,114.08	0.00	3,114.08	0.00	0.00	300	5325	Printing/Publishing	20,000.00	0.00	0.00
100	5209	Travel - Students	290.00	0.00	290.00	0.00	0.00	300	5327	Advertising	10,000.00	0.00	4,789.00
100	5210	Travel	14,539.15	0.00	14,539.15	0.00	0.00	300	5400	Contractual <\$5K	40,000.00	0.00	3,888.20
100	5211	Mileage	68.13	0.00	68.13	0.00	0.00	300	5410	Contractual>\$5K	100,000.00	0.00	27,815.00
100	5212	Mileage-Regents	211.26	0.00	211.26	0.00	0.00	300	5510	Utilities	100,000.00	0.00	56,008.75
100	5220	Staff Development	297.00	0.00	297.00	0.00	0.00	300	5520	Telephone/Fax on Site	10,000.00	0.00	7,592.00
100	5221	Contl/Seminars/Meeting	3,487.33	0.00	3,487.33	0.00	0.00	300	5521	Communications -Other	5,000.00	0.00	2,517.48
100	5300	Supplies	16,248.87	0.00	16,248.87	0.00	0.00	300	5603	Stipends/Honorariums	800.00	0.00	0.00
100	5301	Software/Licenses	4,986.77	0.00	4,986.77	0.00	0.00	300	5629	Project Success Emerg	2,500.00	0.00	1,926.13
100	5312	Transportation	39.98	0.00	2,054.23	0.00	(2,014.25)	300	5702	Indirect Costs	10,000.00	0.00	4,467.96
100	5313	Fuel Purchases	536.74	0.00	1,248.75	0.00	(712.01)	300	5927	Oklahoma Tuition Aid P	15,000.00	0.00	12,000.00
100	5320	Memberships/Fees	4,426.99	0.00	4,426.99	0.00	0.00	300	5929	Pell Grant	110,000.00	0.00	101,447.27
100	5321	Publications/Periodicals	119.00	0.00	119.00	0.00	0.00	300	5933	SEOG	10,000.00	0.00	6,256.00
100	5324	Bank Charges	486.39	0.00	486.39	0.00	0.00	300	8560	Reserve	117,190.00	0.00	0.00
100	5325	Printing/Publishing	220.00	0.00	220.00	0.00	0.00	Scholarships					
100	5326	Textbooks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400	4005	Scholarships	126,573.58	126,573.58	0.00
100	5327	Advertising	1,483.00	0.00	4,785.00	0.00	(3,302.00)	400	5923	Scholarships	30,000.00	0.00	122.75
100	5328	Cost of Goods Sold	850.00	0.00	850.00	0.00	0.00	400	5925	Scholarships-Other	31,803.28	0.00	7,000.00
100	5329	Postage	0.00	0.00	32.98	0.00	(32.98)	400	5926	Oklahoma's Promise	20,475.00	0.00	20,475.00
100	5331	Equipment Maintenance	539.74	0.00	11,563.75	0.00	(11,024.01)	400	5928	American Indian Colleg	44,295.30	0.00	2,349.00
100	5332	Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	COVID-19					
100	5347	Sales Tax	190.20	0.00	190.20	0.00	0.00	500	4000	Grants	945,079.78	945,079.78	0.00
100	5351	Library Services	1,550.19	0.00	1,550.19	0.00	0.00	500	4030	Tuition	2,941.21	2,941.21	0.00
100	5400	Contractual <\$5K	0.00	0.00	1,181.25	0.00	(1,181.25)	500	5300	Supplies	305,604.92	0.00	165,467.38
100	5412	Legal Services < 5K	416.00	0.00	416.00	0.00	0.00	500	5301	Software/Licenses	150,000.00	0.00	28,242.65
100	5501	Office Rent - Lease Offt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500	5329	Postage	5,000.00	0.00	75.46
100	5521	Communications -Other	492.30	0.00	496.96	0.00	(4.66)	500	5331	Equipment Maintenance	25,000.00	0.00	3,421.99
100	5619	Beta Chi Rho Chapter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500	5332	Equipment	50,000.00	0.00	9,393.81
100	5622	Housing/Student Activiti	155.76	0.00	204.46	0.00	(48.70)	500	5400	Contractual <\$5K	100,000.00	0.00	48,379.37
100	5624	Tribal Leadership Circle	662.75	0.00	662.75	0.00	0.00	500	5410	Contractual>\$5K	35,960.00	0.00	35,960.00
100	5625	Student Senate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500	5521	Communications -Other	926.38	0.00	926.38
100	5626	Training/Technical Assit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500	5530	Buildings	37,088.52	0.00	28,422.27
100	5627	Fall Fest	1,225.00	0.00	11,866.39	0.00	(10,641.39)	500	5532	Grounds Maintenance	31,079.27	0.00	16,094.27
100	5920	Bridge Camp	0.00	0.00	282.24	0.00	(282.24)	500	5540	Janitorial Services	3,811.28	0.00	3,605.30
100	5923	Scholarships	133,690.68	0.00	133,690.68	0.00	0.00	500	5603	Stipends/Honorariums	95,000.00	0.00	62,865.48
100	5924	Tuition/Books/Fees	26,385.98	0.00	26,385.98	0.00	0.00	500	5701	Administrative Costs	108,550.62	0.00	108,550.62
100	5991	Depreciation Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						
100	5992	Cash Over/Short	3.40	0.00	3.40	0.00	0.00						
100	8517	Construction	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						

100	8560	Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grants							
300	4000	Grants	1,786,386.32	1,786,386.32	0.00	0.00	
300	4035	Interest Income	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	
300	5000	Salary & Wages - FT	650,000.00	0.00	559,004.21	90,995.79	
300	5003	Salary & Wages - Rege	300.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	
300	5010	Salary & Wages - PT/O	40,000.00	0.00	34,839.33	5,160.67	
300	5100	Fringe - FT	199,342.64	0.00	113,843.20	85,499.44	
300	5103	Fringe - Regents	25.00	0.00	13.74	11.26	
300	5110	Fringe - PT/Other	2,500.00	0.00	1,074.16	1,425.84	
300	5209	Travel - Students	962.00	0.00	0.00	962.00	
300	5210	Travel	15,104.00	0.00	3,312.02	11,791.98	
300	5221	Contl/Seminars/Meeting	40,000.00	0.00	38,520.34	1,479.66	
300	5300	Supplies	210,662.71	0.00	112,190.60	42,370.98	
300	5301	Software/Licenses	75,000.00	0.00	3,889.23	56,110.13	
300	5313	Fuel Purchases	500.00	0.00	194.00	306.00	
300	5320	Memberships/Fees	1,500.00	0.00	750.00	750.00	
300	5325	Printing/Publishing	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00	
300	5327	Advertising	10,000.00	0.00	4,962.00	4,789.00	
300	5400	Contractual <\$5K	40,000.00	0.00	3,888.20	3,350.00	
300	5410	Contractual>\$5K	100,000.00	0.00	27,815.00	44,370.00	
300	5510	Utilities	100,000.00	0.00	56,008.75	43,991.25	
300	5520	Telephone/Fax on Site	10,000.00	0.00	7,592.00	2,408.00	
300	5521	Communications -Other	5,000.00	0.00	2,517.48	2,482.52	
300	5603	Stipends/Honorariums	800.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	
300	5629	Project Success Emerg	2,500.00	0.00	1,926.13	573.87	
300	5702	Indirect Costs	10,000.00	0.00	4,467.96	5,532.04	
300	5927	Oklahoma Tuition Aid P	15,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	3,000.00	
300	5929	Pell Grant	110,000.00	0.00	101,447.27	8,552.73	
300	5933	SEOG	10,000.00	0.00	6,256.00	3,744.00	
300	8560	Reserve	117,190.00	0.00	0.00	117,190.00	
Scholarships							
400	4005	Scholarships	126,573.58	126,573.58	0.00	0.00	
400	5923	Scholarships	30,000.00	0.00	122.75	29,877.25	
400	5925	Scholarships-Other	31,803.28	0.00	7,000.00	24,803.28	
400	5926	Oklahoma's Promise	20,475.00	0.00	20,475.00	0.00	
400	5928	American Indian Colleg	44,295.30	0.00	2,349.00	41,946.30	
COVID-19							
500	4000	Grants	945,079.78	945,079.78	0.00	0.00	
500	4030	Tuition	2,941.21	2,941.21	0.00	0.00	
500	5300	Supplies	305,604.92	0.00	165,467.38	50,711.22	
500	5301	Software/Licenses	150,000.00	0.00	28,242.65	20,368.76	
500	5329	Postage	5,000.00	0.00	75.46	4,924.54	
500	5331	Equipment Maintenance	25,000.00	0.00	3,421.99	21,578.01	
500	5332	Equipment	50,000.00	0.00	9,393.81	5,735.12	
500	5400	Contractual <\$5K	100,000.00	0.00	48,379.37	7,621.69	
500	5410	Contractual>\$5K\$					