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The Oklahoma State Legislature successfully overrode Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt's vetoes on tribal compacts. The governor responded with a lawsuit against legislature leaders that will be presented before the Oklahoma Supreme Court. (Shutterstock)

TENSIONS IN OK STATE GOVERNMENT RISE AFTER TRIBAL COMPACT VETO OVERRIDES

GOV. STITT SUES LEGISLATIVE LEADERS OVER TOBACCO AND VEHICLE REGISTRATION BILLS

by **BRADEN HARPER**
MANAGING EDITOR

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. - In a special session The Oklahoma State Legislature voted to override Governor Kevin Stitt's vetoes over tribal compacts, SB 26X and HB 1005X on July 31.

Overrides on both bills, SB 26X and HB 1005X were both

overwhelmingly approved by their respective legislative bodies. SB 26X received 72 yeas, and 16 nays. HB 1005X received 74 yeas, and 11 nays. SB 26X is an extension of state-tribal tobacco compacts, HB 1005X is an extension of existing single motor vehicle license registration.

During a press conference

after the special session, Governor Stitt responded to the overrides with a lawsuit against Senate Pro Tem Greg Treat and House Speaker Charles McCall. In the lawsuit he is calling for the Oklahoma Supreme Court to void the compact extensions approved and overridden by the legislatures.

Governor Stitt claims the tobacco compacts on the table this year are financially identical to last year's tobacco compact. According to him, the disagreement over his compact and the state legislature's compact came down to language over what is defined as Indian Country.

“What does that mean for Oklahomans? That means that with this compact that the legislature just signed that the tribes were pushing is including turning eastern Oklahoma into a reservation. I am very very clear that I do not believe that Oklahoma wants eastern Oklahoma to be turned into a reservation,” Governor Stitt said. “I will fight as long as I’m Governor to make sure that we’re one state with one state with one set of rules, regardless of your race or where you live.”

Governor Stitt further criticized other cases involving Muscogee (Creek) Nation, including the Hooper v. Tulsa case and the

Stroble v. Oklahoma Tax Commission case. He claims these cases are promoting racial preference toward Native Americans if they do not have to follow state laws.

Hooper v. Tulsa, a case that involves the City of Tulsa's authority in issuing traffic tickets to tribal citizens on tribal land, was recently granted a stay until Aug 2. It is set to be presented before the U.S. Supreme Court. In that case a Choctaw citizen contested a traffic ticket, stating the City of Tulsa had no right to enforce the ticket since the crime was committed within the jurisdiction of Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Stroble v. Oklahoma Tax Commission involves MCN Citizen Alicia Stroble, who claims in the suit that she is exempt from paying state taxes because she is a tribal citizen that lives on her tribe's reservation. That case saw support from all Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma. The case is currently in the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

In the same press conference Governor Stitt also claimed that the state has lost \$4.7 million in toll road revenue due to tribal citizens that drive vehicles with tribal license plates. He claimed the new PlatePay system can not read tribal license plate numbers.

Reaction to the Special Session

Oklahoma Senate Pro Tem Greg Treat responded to Stitt's lawsuit in a statement. He expressed that he wants more clarity on legislation regarding tribal sovereignty, and that he is seeking to work with the tribes on compacts that will benefit all Oklahomans, tribal and non tribal. According to Senator Treat, the governor does not have the state's best interest at hand.

“By overriding these vetoes, the legislature gave the governor another avenue and opportunity to negotiate in good faith, as we have done repeatedly. He has never accepted or appreciated our efforts and has turned his back all four million Oklahomans, the legislative process and Oklahoma's tribal partners, costing the state millions in legal fees. This zero-sum game he is playing is a losing strategy and I hope Oklahomans and my fellow lawmakers are paying careful attention.” Senator Treat said.

Leadership from the tribes involved with the compacts expressed their reactions from the special session, including MCN

“TRIBAL COMPACTS” Continued on Page 2

MCN LIGHTHORSE POLICE RESCUES 18 ABANDONED PUPPIES

A TOTAL OF 11 RECOVERED DOGS ARE STILL SEEKING FOREVER HOMES

by **SHAYLN PROCTOR**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla.- A total of 18 abandoned dogs were confiscated in Schuler County in a recent investigation by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police. Of those 18 dogs, four were fully grown pregnant females, one was an adult male. Currently the suspect in this investigation has a warrant out for his arrest for abandoning the dogs, but has not been found yet.

MCN Lighthorse Game Ranger Troy Dodd has been working these animal cases

that deal with domestic abuse, as well as the trapping and removal of animals.

During this rescue process the dogs are taken to a veterinarian to get weighed, identify their sex, identify their breed and make sure they are up to date on their immunizations. According to Dodd, once the department gets approval from a judge, the dogs are then neutered and spayed.

At the time they were confiscated the four pregnant female dogs gave birth to litters, increasing the initial 18 dogs to 32. Dodd believes the

puppies are half bullmastiff and half labrador retrievers. Currently these puppies are being held at the Alta Vista Animal Hospital and Pet Lodge.

Vista's partnership with the tribe began two and a half years ago when they helped Dodd with adopting out and housing 80 dogs. Ever since then he has had them on call. He also partners with the non-profit organization, Oklahoma Animal Alliance and the Tulsa Humane Society.

“Some of these dogs if we can't get them adopted out here we can move them to other states back east,” Dodd said.

Forever Homes

To help find the confiscated dogs forever homes an adoption event was held July 29. The event saw nearly a dozen adop-

tions. Tulsa Humane Society's Gina Gardner took another 10 puppies from the confiscated litters to help them find forever homes. Now there are 11 puppies left.

During the adoption process a Lighthorse official will take down names, birthdates, current addresses and phone numbers. All of this is to ensure that the dogs will go to a good home.

MCN Lighthorse have also adopted out dogs in the past. These dogs would typically be picked up in areas alongside roadways. After they were rescued, the dogs would typically be adopted out to people the officers knew would have the ability to provide a stable home.

Dodd's duties deal with a lot of animals throughout a typical week. He tries his best to



One of the abandoned puppies rescued by Lighthorse Police during a recent confiscation sits for a photo. (Photo Courtesy: MCN LHPD)

find the right place to take the animals and make sure they are well taken care of. Dodd typically receives at least five or 10 calls a week about animals.

ABANDONED PUPPIES Continued on Page 2



Rep. Hufft currently holds the National Council Seat A for Tulsa District. (Courtesy: MCNNC)

by **JERRAD MOORE**
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

TAHLEQUAH, Oklahoma - Mvskoke Media has obtained Cherokee Nation District Court documents showing Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Representative for Tulsa District Seat A Robert Hufft has pleaded no contest to one count misdemeanor assault and battery and one count public intoxication.

According to the filings, the

COUNCILMAN PLEADS NO CONTEST TO ASSAULT AND BATTERY AND PUBLIC INTOXICATION

REP. HUFFT SENTENCED TO FINE AND PROBATION

incident occurred on July 31, 2022 at the Hard Rock Casino. Hufft pleaded no contest to both charges as part of a plea agreement on June 13. Hufft received 90 days unsupervised probation, paid a \$250 fine and was ordered to write an apology letter to the victim.

Mvskoke Media reached out to Rep. Hufft regarding the charges. Rep. Hufft provided the following statement;

“The incident happened a year ago and, on that particular evening, I had a few drinks and acted poorly and out of character. For that, I am deeply sorry to my constituents and my family. At the advice of my attorney, I was counseled to not speak about the incident while it was an on-going matter. It

has been resolved through a deferment of the misdemeanor charges that will be expunged from my record on September 12, 2023, upon good behavior. Since the event, I voluntarily entered a counseling program, which has made a positive impact on my life. I can confidently say I've learned from my mistake. I take pride in serving the people of my district and all districts, and I will continue to serve them to the best of my ability.”

Rep. Hufft is running unopposed for re-election as the incumbent candidate for his current seat. MCN election code states unopposed candidates are already deemed elected or nominated to the office they are running for.



The music video was set in Lance's hometown, entailing important parts of his story. (Morgan Taylor/MM)

LANCE GOUGE SHOTS FIRST MUSIC VIDEO

THE VIDEO WILL BE RELEASED ON GOUGE'S OFFICIAL SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

HENRYETTA, Okla. - Up-and-coming country artist Lance Gouge (Mvskoke) shot his first music video on July 31 to go along with the future release of his new single, “It's been a while”.

The video takes place at

multiple locations in his hometown of Henryetta.

Gouge invited family and friends in the area to join him in filming a tailgating scene at the Cameron Stadium downtown.

MUSIC VIDEO Continued on Page 2

TRIBAL COMPACTS

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Principal Chief Hill. In a social media post Chief Hill expressed his gratitude for the legislature’s actions.

“We applaud today’s vote to override the veto of SB 26X...The issues that our shared communities face can no longer wait to be addressed while we waste time and taxpayer money on pointless legal battles. The message should be clear now, it’s time to work together.” Chief Hill said.

The compact overrides’ void is currently in the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

ABANDONED PUPPIES

Continued from Page 1

Within the past two weeks he has assisted in processing home evictions at MCN houses that involved animals.

In the past Dodd has had people call to make an adoption request. Although these requests are routine, Dodd keeps their phone number on file to contact. This is just in case of an event where the animal’s original owners come looking for them.

“We are 11 counties and I’m the only person that is handling this right now, so I depend on my officers a lot to try to help me out,” Dodd said.

Dodd receives phone calls all the time regarding abandoned animals by Native Americans. In those situations Dodd will try to locate the owner to claim their animal. Since the McGirt decision, he has been dealing with that issue more frequently. “Now we have a lot of counties that are not cross deputized so we get the phone call, like they are owned by a Native so we need you all to come out,” Dodd said.

Dodd does not only handle abandoned dog cases. He has also seen abandoned cattle, cats and horses. If they are on tribal land, Dodd can take on the case. These cases become

costly if they involve larger animals.

The abandoned horses and cattle that have been taken in are currently being held by a tribal citizen. Lighthorse pays that citizen for lodging and care. Lighthorse does weekly checkups to make sure they are being taken care of properly. Dodd also lives in close proximity to the animals which allows him to drop by frequently.

Future Plans

Currently MCN Lighthorse Chief of Police Richard Phillips and MCN Principal Chief Hill are working on getting funding for an area of land where a shelter can be built for abandoned animals recovered within the nation. According to Dodd, this will open jobs for citizens.

Dodd is the game warden for the nation as well, this role is in addition to his duties as an animal control specialist. According to Dodd, once there is a program available to recover abandoned animals it will allow the nation to better tackle the issue.

Dodd stated that when they recover an abandoned animal, if they are only intended to be a pet it will be spayed and neutered. One problem he has noticed is how some people who adopt animals will give them away once they grow bigger. “When you take responsibility for an animal it’s a big responsibility. Some people need to think about it twice before doing it,” Dodd said.

“The populations of dogs and cats is getting out of hand, especially in all these towns and there are rescue places like Oklahoma Humane Society or there’s a humane society in Okmulgee,” Dodd said. “Phone call these people and you can drop your dog off there and

they will adopt them off for you, instead of turning them loose.”

According to Dodd, there are several other humane societies located throughout the reservation and the state.

For those interested in adopting any of the puppies in this story, contact the Alta Vista Animal Hospital and Pet Lodge at 918-576-6496, or call MCN at 918-732-7800. There is no adoption fee, all citizens are welcomed to consider the option of adopting.

MUSIC VIDEO

Continued from Page 1

The scene included his nieces, nephews, sisters, mother, father, and other members of the community to support Gouge on his journey.

Shots of backroads, the old high school auditorium, and the football field will be featured in the video to give fans just a glimpse of Gouge’s story to go along with his new jam.

“It looks really good so far,” Gouge said. “I am really excited to see how it turns out.”

The song talks about coming back to his hometown after being away for some time.

This is something Gouge has experienced since graduating high school just a few years ago. Now he lives closer to the Tulsa area than back home.

Since starting his music career in 2022, Gouge has had an array of performances across the state.

His most recent performances include the Muscogee Festival in June, the Seven Hill Music Festival, the Hanna Watermelon Festival, and the Great Plains Native Comedy and Concert Showcase.

Lance’s father, Geebon Gouge hired Tyler Roberds with Roberds Studios to film and produce the video.

Once the video is com-

plete, Gouge will release the video and the song on major platforms including the Lance Gouge Music Website. The website is the best way to keep

up with all things coming from Lance Gouge Music. It can be found at <https://geebongouge.wixsite.com/lancegougemusic.com>.



The back to school bash is an opportunity for families to obtain school supplies, and fellowship with other members of the community. (Courtesy: Southwest Trading Company)

LOCAL MUSCOGEE CREEK BUSINESS GIVES BACK TO COMMUNITY WITH BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH

EVENT OFFERS GIVEAWAYS, SALES, AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS

by **MEREDITH JOHNSON**
REPORTER

TVLSE, Okla. - The Southwest Trading Company in Tulsa hosted a Back-to-School Bash during business hours on Friday-Sunday, Aug. 4-6. The store is owned by Muskogee (Creek) citizen David Bible and is located at 1306 East 11th Street in the Meadow Gold District of Tulsa. During the multi-day event they offered back-to-school giveaways and raffle tickets. On Saturday the store had free school supplies for the first 50 students, however kids

having a storewide 25% off sale. This excludes Pendelton products. It will include backpacks and other school supplies.“We have backpacks and spirals and notebooks... everything to go back to school,” Bible said.

Meat Pies and Grape Dumplings

Along with the school supply giveaways and storewide sale, Southwest Trading Company is also offering free meat pies and grape dumplings on Saturday, beginning at 11:00 a.m. while supplies last. “We have some good

BRISTOW COMMUNITY CHAIRWOMAN CARRIES THE MUSCOGEE FLAG AT RODEO

STARLA PLUM REPRESENTS THE MCN ON HORSEBACK DURING EVENT

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

by **SHAYLN PROCTOR**
REPORTER

PAWHUSKA, Okla. - Starla Plum (Mvskoke) made her horseback debut after a 28-year hiatus, carrying the Muscogee (Creek) Nation flag during Night of the Native American at the 77th International Cavalcade Rodeo on July 15-23.

The evening is dedicated to giving tribal nations a chance to represent themselves at the annual rodeo.

In the past, Plum noticed dignitaries from multiple tribes, ceremonial performers, and even recalls Miss Muscogee Nation appearing for the special ceremony.

“But I had never seen our flag represented,” Plum said.

As she sat and anticipated the upcoming celebration, Plum remembered the years where she looked for the Muscogee Flag and it wasn’t there.

Plum made a phone call to MCN Principal Chief David Hill, expressing her concern of the lack of representation in the past at the event.

According to Plum, that’s when Hill told her to come grab a flag from him personally, and represent the tribe at the Native Night.

Although Plum saw several tribal leaders, dignitaries, traditional dance performers, and some other speeches and prayers that were given in different languages, she claims to have been the only tribal flag in the grand entry.

“I didn’t see any other tribal flag represented that night,” Plum said.

It wasn’t Plum’s first time to carry a flag on horseback, however, she had taken her last ride at the age 17.

Over the years, Plum dealt with health issues. A couple years ago she had a gastric bypass surgery.

Plum’s family encouraged her during recovery, and incentiv-



Starla Plum (Mvskoke) represented the Muscogee Nation by carrying the Nation’s flag at a rodeo event. (Courtesy: Starla Plum)

ized the idea of being able to ride horses again after 28 years.

“I have lost over 200 pounds in the last two years,” Plum said.

The Bristow Community Chairwoman chased her goals of being able to ride again and even got to share this moment with other community members who joined Plum in representing the Nation.

“We had some community involvement too,” Plum said. “It was a good sense of pride to be able to carry our flag.”

Plum hopes to continue carrying the Muscogee Flag in future rodeo entries as well as continue to strengthen her horseback riding skills.

must have been present. On that day they also offered free meat pies and grape dumplings that started at 11:00 a.m.

Bible, who runs the store with his children and four-year-old granddaughter, expressed this as an opportunity to give back to the local community.

“It’s kind of a pay back to the community because we’ve had great support from all the communities. Wewoka, Beggs, Muskogee, Okmulgee... you know all the school systems come in and pick up supplies or during the school year, especially during graduation, they come in a pick up their graduation gifts for their graduating seniors, Johnson-O’malley Programs, and Indian Ed programs... we kind of just want to give back to those communities and the people that come support us.” Bible said.

The store, which carries a variety of clothing, including jewelry, art, and accessories, is also

cooks in our family and we always try to serve a free meal, or just some food, once a month in the store just trying to give back to the people who come in,” Bible said.

Southwest Trading Company is a family-run business and is a home away from home for Bible and his family. “When we opened up this place...it’s kind of like our home and when people come visit we like to have something to offer, we have coffee here, we have water, popcorn and stuff like that for people. We have a little sitting area for people to sit down and we have a tv on the wall, so it’s a place to visit. We stay up here so much, we like to invite people to just sit down, have a snack, coffee.”

For more information you can go to Southwest Trading Company’s facebook page, SouthwestNativeGoods.

BANNERS, BUSINESS CARDS, PROGRAMS, & MORE!

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SCOTUS DENIES CITY OF TULSA STAY IN HOOPER CASE

TRIBAL AND MUNICIPAL LEADERS REACT TO THE REMAND

by **MEREDITH JOHNSON**
REPORTER

WASHINGTON, DC. - The U.S. Supreme Court denied the City of Tulsa’s application for a stay in the City of Tulsa v. Hooper case in a statement by Justice Brett Kavanaugh on Aug 4. “The application for stay of the mandate presented to JUSTICE GORSUCH and by him referred to the Court is denied. The order heretofore entered by JUSTICE GORSUCH is vacated.”

Justice Kavanaugh’s statement referred to the important jurisdictional questions the case raises and ongoing nature of the litigation as the case was remanded back to the District Court by the Tenth Circuit earlier in July.

Kavanaugh stated the following:

“The City of Tulsa’s application for a stay raises an important question: whether the City may enforce its municipal laws against American Indians in Tulsa. For example, may Indians in Tulsa violate the City’s traffic safety laws without enforcement by the City? The application, however, arises in an interlocutory posture. The District Court granted the City’s motion to dismiss on the ground that the Curtis Act of 1898, see ch. 517, 30 Stat. 495, gives the City jurisdiction over municipal violations committed by all persons, including Indians. But the Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit reversed, holding that the Curtis Act confers no such jurisdiction. The Court of Appeals then remanded the case to the District Court for further proceedings...Moreover, as I understand it, nothing in the decision of the Court of Appeals prohibits the City from continuing to enforce its municipal laws against all per-

sons, including Indians, as the litigation progresses.”

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Hill responded to the SCOTUS denial in a statement made to Facebook;

“The Muscogee (Creek) Nation learned this afternoon that the U.S. Supreme Court denied the City of Tulsa’s application of a stay pending the filing of its petition for certiorari of the Tenth Circuit’s ruling in Hooper v. Tulsa. We are grateful that the Court saw no merit in this procedural attempt to delay the law and Tribal authority while this case is pending. More than enough taxpayer money has been spent on these baseless legal maneuvers. Although this case is not over, we look forward to continued collaboration with our municipal partners to protect public safety across our Reservation.”

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Hoskin Jr. issued the following statement on the denial, stating;

“Today’s news from the U.S. Supreme Court affirms what we have said all along-- the best way forward is through collaboration, not wasteful legal fights. The 10th’s circuit’s Hooper decision upheld tribal sovereignty and settled federal law--reaffirming that states and municipalities do not have criminal jurisdiction over Indians in Indian Country. Once again, we hope elected leaders throughout Oklahoma will join with tribes in meeting our shared public safety goals. I’m calling for collaboration, cooperation and an end to the attack on tribal sovereignty.”

The City of Tulsa issued a statement to the ruling;

Today, the United States Supreme Court issued its order on the City’s Application to Stay



The U.S. Supreme Court remanded the Hooper v. City of Tulsa case to the lower district court. (Shutterstock)

the Mandate in Hooper v. City of Tulsa. While the Court denied the emergency application for a stay, Justices Kavanaugh and Alito issued a statement. First, they said the issue of whether the City may enforce its municipal laws against Indians in Tulsa is an important question. Second, they indicated that the City could raise to the District Court new grounds for continuing to enforce its laws, based on a U.S. Supreme Court decision (Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta) that was issued after the District Court heard the matter. Finally, the Justices stated that “nothing in the decision of the Court of Appeals prohibits the City from continuing to enforce its municipal laws against all persons, including Indians, as the litigation progresses. As indicated by the Justices, the City will continue to seek clarification of these important legal issues with the District Court and, in the meantime, continue to enforce City ordinances against all persons within the City of Tulsa regardless of Indian status. We will also continue to work cooperatively with our tribal partners to protect the health and safety of our shared

constituents.”

Background

In 2018, Choctaw citizen and Tulsa resident Justin Hooper was issued a traffic citation by the city of Tulsa and paid a fine of \$150. He then sought post-conviction relief after the McGirt decision in 2020. Both the municipal and district courts sided with the City of Tulsa and denied his relief and ruled that the Curtis Act of 1898 applied to tribal citizens within municipalities. Hooper then appealed this decision to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled that Section 14 of the Curtis Act gave Tulsa jurisdiction over Native Americans in the city while it was located in Indian Territory, but once Tulsa reorganized under Oklahoma Law in 1908, Section 14 no longer applied. The case was remanded, or returned back to the district court to be heard in light of the Tenth Circuit opinion that the Curtis Act does not apply. Per the SCOTUS statement on Aug. 4, Friday, the case remains remanded to the district court.

MCN ANNOUNCES HEALING AND RECOVERY CENTER PRESS RELEASE

OKMULGEE, OK – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation closed today on the purchase of Saint Francis Health System’s East Campus Hospital located in Muskogee. This 92,663 sq. ft. facility is the Nation’s newest healthcare acquisition and the first step in the creation of the Muscogee Healing and Recovery Center. The Center’s focus will be on behavioral health and substance use disorders.

Concerns about behavioral health and substance use remain at critical levels. The COVID-19 pandemic brought increased rates of depression and anxiety as well as high drug overdose death rates. Coupled with the opioid epidemic, Native Americans and tribal communities have suffered disproportionately. In fact, following the consolidation of numerous lawsuits brought against pharmaceutical distributors and manufacturers for their substantial contribution to the opioid epidemic, the Muscogee Nation, along with hundreds of other tribes, states and municipalities, received settlement funds.

By utilizing funds secured through the opioid settlement to operate this facility, the Nation is demonstrating its commitment to expanding levels of care throughout the healthcare system.

“We’re pleased to see the aggressive approach from our Muscogee Nation Department of Health continue when it comes to expanding our facilities and resources,” Principal Chief David Hill said. “Using funds as a result of our war on the scourge of prescription drug abuse to operate a facility aimed at combating substance use disorders and supporting the healing and recovery of our people, is fitting and appropriate.”

The Muscogee Healing and Recovery Center is scheduled to open in phases.

MVSKOKE ATHLETE GETS ACCEPTED TO SSC TO PLAY BASEBALL

GRAYSON SMITH DISCUSSES HIS NEXT CAREER MOVE



Grayson Smith keeps busy on the baseball diamond and off the baseball diamond with classes, and extra circular activities. (Courtesy: Smith Family)

by **SHAYLN PROCTOR**
REPORTER

TVLSE, Okla.- Grayson Smith (Mvskoke) recently graduated from Bishop Kelley High School, where he played baseball during his time there. He was awarded the President’s Leadership Class scholarship at Seminole State College (SSC) where he will continue his baseball career.

To receive the President’s Leadership Class scholarship there are certain requirements that need to be met, such as a high grade point average (GPA), a high American College Test (ACT) score and involvement with school programs. While attending high school Smith was also a peer mentor.

A few other accomplishments Smith has received in the past were the Tulsa World All-World baseball title, All-State 2023, Five Tool Baseball National Top Plays of the Week 2nd place for the week of April 4, and All district his junior and senior year of high school.

When Smith starts at SSC he will pursue a degree in criminal justice. During his time playing baseball, his primary position will

be pitcher. If he isn’t pitching, you will find him on first base or the outfield.

The reason Smith chose this specific college was due to the fact that he liked the people. It’s also within close proximity to his home and will allow his family to watch him play baseball.

Smith has been playing baseball for 15 years, and has grown a passion for the sport. “It’s not just a game, it’s a community and baseball can teach you about life and it’s a game of failures. If you fail 70% of your time you’re an all time great, it just shows that you can be good if things don’t go your way,” Smith said.

What inspired Smith as a young athlete was his family. They were all involved with baseball, specifically his cousin who currently plays AAA minor league baseball. Smith always wanted to be like him.

While playing baseball Smith said he will always put his education first. “I’m going to sacrifice some sleep for that but just obviously school comes first and then whatever I can do to get better in baseball I’m going to do that,”

Smith said.

Alongside Smith, he does have friends that will or are continuing their education at SSC, some of them will be playing baseball with him.

Smith acknowledged his short-term goals playing baseball at SSC. “I just want to be the best player that I can be and whatever comes with that,” Smith said.

Smith’s goal is to make his family proud and prove his success by playing and going to SSC.

During his baseball career he has learned about his teammates and what teamwork means to him, “I learned that you have to be able to trust other people to get the outcome that you want because there’s 9 people on the baseball field and 1 of them is not going to win your game, to get the outcome that everyone wants,” Smith said.

When he attends SSC Smith knows that it will work out if he trusts his process, “I just want people to be confident in themselves, if they want any goal that they want they can put their head down and work no matter how much it hurts or how tired you are, you can achieve your goal,” Smith said.



Grayson Smith stands at attention, ready to throw a pitch. (Courtesy: Smith family)

FOOD DISTRIBUTION OFFERS MORE FOR CITIZENS

GUIDE RATES HAVE INCREASED FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Okla. - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program has announced an increase in the guide rates and an increase in food options to start on Sept. 1.

According to manager Devin Davis, this is the first time he has seen an increase in the guide rates in almost 20 years working in the industry.

“The cost of living has a lot to do with it,” Davis said.

With the increase in food supplies monthly, participants will be able to afford other living expenses and worry less about food.

Now individuals will receive increased units in proteins, including meat and egg options.

For example, the units of meat will increase from three units to five units per individual household, according to Davis.

Not all, but some meat options are two pounds per unit, potentially increasing the total from six pounds to ten pounds per month.

“Not all our meat is equal to two pounds. The meats that are two for one are hamburger meat, bison, pork chops, canned tuna and canned chicken,” Training and Compliance Officer Anita Watashe said.

Many of the participants live on a fixed income like disability or social security, according to Watashe.

Davis claims he worries about the elders who may have family members in and out of their home who use some of the resources they have. Many of them live on fixed incomes and rely on other programs.

Many participants will try to ration meals to last through the month, which can get difficult.

Food distribution only offers a select amount of items to cover each food group. Participants from time to time may have to purchase other grocery items out of pocket.

With the increases the program will provide even more selection in items. Now included on the menu is bison stew meat, fresh eggs, and frozen strawberries.

For lead inventory Mike Wegley, he claims the increase only applies to certain items, thus the workload does not change too much for his small team.

Overall the crew hopes this increase will help attract more participants.

Davis and Watashe claim the program numbers have still been low since the pandemic started. Many left the program and went to SNAP benefits.

Since the pandemic has ended, many participants have been dropped from the SNAP Program, their guidelines have since gone back to pre-pandemic status.

For the food distribution program, income guidelines remain the same.

According to Watashe, there is no limit on the number of family members in a household for the program, as long as they meet other program requirements. The largest household served has included 10 family members.

The program serves any member of a federally recognized tribe residing within the Mvskoke reservation boundaries.

For more information call 918-549-2401.

“RESERVATION DOGS” SEASON THREE PREMIERES IN MVSKOKE NATION

LOW ROAD MERCH CO. HOSTS FREE WATCH PARTY FOR COMMUNITY



Members from Tulsa and Native American communities bring out lawn chairs to watch the first two episodes of the new “Reservation Dogs” season. (Courtesy: Bobby Orcutt)

by **BRADEN HARPER**
MANAGING EDITOR

TVLSE, Okla. - The season premiere of FX’s “Reservation Dogs” began with a huge watch party celebration on the Mvskoke Reservation at the Low Road Merch Co. on Aug. 2. Although the ground-breaking show’s past two seasons have kicked off with red carpet premieres on the reservation it was primarily filmed on, this year notably did not see a red carpet premiere.

According to Low Road Merch Co. Director Bobby Orcutt, season three of “Reservation Dogs” will not feature a red carpet premiere due to the ongoing Screen Actor’s Guild - American Federation of Television and Radio Artists strike in Hollywood. SAG-AFTRA has been on strike since July 14, coinciding with the Writer’s Guild of America Strike that has been ongoing since May 2.

During an actor’s union strike, under contract members are not permitted to promote their projects, or make appearances at premieres. This has also notably affected the red carpet premieres

of Hollywood films like “Barbie” and “Oppenheimer”.

“Reservation Dogs” first premiere took place at the Circle Cinema in 2021. That premiere was notable for featuring socially-distanced stars spread out on a green carpet. Season two’s premiere in 2022 rolled out a red carpet at RiverSpirit Casino and Resort’s Paradise Cove theater. Season three’s red carpet premiere would have been particularly special, as it was announced this season would mark the last one for the series.

In light of the strikes, Low Road Merch Co. wanted to provide a proper celebration for Native and non Native members from around the community.

Morgan Bible is the owner of Low Road Merch Co., and a citizen of Choctaw Nation. As an Indigenous business owner in the Tulsa area, she is very familiar with the show, “Reservation Dogs” and what it means to the community they serve. Her company provides the merchandise and online fulfillment for Crazy Eagle Media.

“It was smiles all around the

room. The vibes were amazing,” Bible said regarding the event.

The watch party was free to attend, and saw many Mvskoke citizens, among other community members from across the area. It also featured Native vendors including Rock the Native Vote, artists, jewelers, clothing and food trucks.

“Reservation Dogs” actor and musician Gary Farmer was set to make an appearance at the watch party. Unfortunately, due to heat illness he was unable to attend. He is known for playing the eccentric Uncle Brownie in the television series.

Sterlin Harjo Connection

Orcutt originally met “Reservation Dogs” series creator and director Sterlin Harjo (Seminole/ Mvskoke) while working as a bar bouncer in downtown Tulsa.

“I was like ‘hey you’re Sterlin Harjo!’. This was a long time ago when not as many people knew who he was,” Orcutt said. “We struck up a conversation and became immediate friends.”

During that first encounter, Orcutt shared his respect for Harjo’s work, and pitched ideas he had for documentaries. They would go on to work on a documentary on Terlton, the site of one of the worst industrial accidents in the state that involved a fireworks explosion at a plant. Orcutt would also help Harjo scout locations for “Reservation Dogs”.

Low Road Merch Co. did not print the official merchandise for “Reservation Dogs”, however merchandise they did print could be seen worn by cast and crew members on the set. This included a hat with the caption “Catfish is life” and a tee shirt that resembled a question graphic from the game show, “Jeopardy!”. Orcutt said you will even see one of their signature tee shirts appear on screen later on in the season.

Crazy Eagle Media’s orders would begin to see requests from outside the state. According to

Orcutt, while “Reservation Dogs” has a special following to those within the Tulsa and Mvskoke communities, it also has a special following around the world as well.

“The community that supports this show is global, and it’s massive,” Orcutt said. “It’s cool to have that inside view to how big that is.”

For Bible, the show has special meaning in how it exhibits local and Native pride.

“It’s really cool to see people look like people I’ve known my whole life on screen,” Bible said. “And seeing people from the Native American communities and non Native American communities just as excited about the

show.”

Mvskoke Media reached out to Hulu and FX for comment on the absence of a “Reservation Dogs” season three red carpet premiere, and the ongoing SAG-AFTRA strike. Neither company responded before the time this article was published.

The first two episodes of “Reservation Dogs” season three were released for viewing on Aug. 2. A new episode will be released every week following the series premiere for a total of 10 episodes. Bible said Low Road Merch Co. is tentatively looking at hosting another watch party and bringing the community together for the season three finale of the show.



“Reservation Dogs” watch party featured plenty of vendors for people to shop at before the showing started. (Courtesy: Bobby Orcutt)



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MVSKOKE CITIZEN PROVIDES CAN MAKING CLASS FOR CITIZENS

BRITTENY CUEVAS TEACHES HOW TO MAKE CANS FOR CEREMONIAL GROUNDS



Citizens work diligently on their cans at Brittney Cuevas' can making class. (Shayln Proctor)

by **SHAYLN PROCTOR**
REPORTER

MOUNDS, Okla.- The owner of Four Locv, Brittney Cuevas (Mvskoke) is affiliated with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Access Choices in Education (A.C.E.) Program. This program gave her an opportunity to provide a free class for Mvskoke students grades nine through 12. The class was provided at the Mounds Public Library.

“We teach culture services and culture-based lessons. We go around doing activities that kind of touch with the youth and other people to introduce to them our culture,” Cuevas said.

According to Cuevas, this class gave citizens the opportunity to learn how to make stomp dance cans.

Teaching the class is a group effort. Cuevas receives assistance from John Brown. According to Cuevas, this is due to the fact that he has done great work with leather items. She has a full class of seven students.

She hopes that once the students can finish their first cans, they will then be more comfortable with the process by the next class. Cuevas believes most should finish their cans once the class is over with.

It can take up to three hours for Cuevas to make the cans. For this class it was the prep work that took the majority of her time.

“I opened all the tops to the

tomato cans and washed them out, there were 200 cans. It’s been taking me a week to get all of that prepped and cutting the leather, this will eliminate a lot of time but it’s still going to take a lot of time especially, if it’s your first time,” Cuevas said.

Cuevas has been making cans for a couple of years, but this was her first time teaching the class. She has made traditional turtle shells before. According to Cuevas, it is one of the oldest ethnocentric music devices in the world.

“It’s one of the oldest sounds in the world and to continue that, it’s amazing that it’s been here for a really long time. We’re still connected to the Earth,” Cuevas said.

Cuevas’ goal is to help with the culture. She wants to make sure that others are able to fix any problems with their cans if issues arise, such as if a can breaks at the ceremonial grounds. She wants them to gain confidence, to know how to handle these tools. “It’s another thing empowering our youth and giving them a new skill set, everything you learned whether it’s with the tools or anything there’s skills that you can apply to other things in your life,” Cuevas said.

“It’s just another outreach to show them that they can do this, that they can make their own stuff. We do make our own regalia and ribbon skirts so this is just another thing that they will be able to take on,” Cuevas said. “They can share with other people and teach other

people if they learn this skill set.”

Cuevas said it felt amazing being able to help other citizens with something her elders once taught her. “You got to use your gifts, like they say if you don’t use your gifts the Creator can take them away as well. I’m able to use my hands and share our language, if we can talk we can try,” Cuevas said.

Cuevas mentioned she has done leather work. This includes moccasins, buckskin dresses with cans and leather work. Although these projects are different, they are still similar to one another in some way.

“It’s just using your brain on how to put things together and noises. I feel like our Native Americans have an awareness and I feel like stomp dance helps us with that,” Cuevas said.

Growing up Cuevas was not

brought up traditionally until the end of high school. She wanted to find her roots within her culture, and learn more about them. Throughout the years elders have helped connect her with Mvskoke traditions and culture.

“A lot of my elders just picked me up as I went. So it’s not just your immediate family that teaches you, it’s your community,” Cuevas said.

Cuevas wants to give back to her community by teaching them the cultural activities she has learned. Likewise, she wants others to pass it along as well. She knows this knowledge is not hers to keep, but to pass on to others.

“It’s my turn to pass these things on and continue this, it’s been a privilege,” Cuevas said.

Cuevas noticed Native youth struggling with basic skills, such as tying knots, threading a needle, twinning or sewing. “Sometimes our kids aren’t being taught this anymore and the comprehension behind that, we don’t talk about it that much and it’s not brought

up in our history or even our own culture. We made all of that stuff with our hands and that took a lot of time,” Cuevas said.

“It’s trying to connect the dots because when you grow up in these small towns you don’t really get the bigger view,” Cuevas said.

Cuevas is wanting to be more involved with the tribal community, specifically the youth and people who want to learn. “Those that want to learn will show up and that’s what it’s all about,” Cuevas said.

In the future Cuevas wants to do more in-reach methods of teaching. This would allow her to teach more and provide advanced activities at her own site as opposed to outreach methods.

For those interested in Cuevas’ classes or work, text or call her at 918-951-6724. She can also be reached at fourlocv@gmail.com.

Cuevas also has a Facebook page, fourlocv and a website, 4locv.com.



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A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Quarterly Session was held July 29 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee. (MM File)

MCN CREATES NEW CULTURE AND HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

BURIAL ASSISTANCE LAW WILL PROVIDE \$7K TO CITIZENS

by BRADEN HARPER
MANAGING EDITOR

OKMULGEE, Okla. – A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Quarterly Session meeting was held in person and teleconference July 29 at the Mound Building.

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

TR 23-068 A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing contract with Harris Contractors. Representative Galen Cloud sponsored the bill, which was adopted unanimously 14-0.

The \$406,311 contract will construct two homes for the department of housing. It will pull funds from the NAHASDA Homeownership funds.

TR 23-069 A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing contract with McGuire Brothers LLC. Representative Joseph Hicks sponsored the bill, which was

unanimously adopted 14-0.

The \$586,340 contract will provide civil work on Oak Acres for the department of housing. Funds for the contract will be pulled from the NAHASDA Homeownership funds.

TR 23-070 A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the absentee workers for the 2023 Muscogee (Creek) Nation primary and general elections. Representative Anna Marshall sponsored the bill, which was unanimously voted to be postponed to the next regular session in August 14-0.

If adopted, the bill will approve a list of eight absentee workers and two alternates to work in the upcoming 2023 MCN Primary and General Elections.

TR 23-071 A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation confirming the nomination of Zechariah Harjo to serve as the Secretary of the Nation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Representative Thomasene Yahola Osborn sponsored the legislation. It was co-sponsored by Representative Randall Hicks, Representa-

tive Nelson Harjo Sr. and Representative Mark Randolph. It was adopted near unanimously, 13-1.

Harjo will serve as the secretary of the nation beginning upon confirmation and ending concurrent with the term of the current principal chief.

TR 23-072 A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 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, TR 22-150, TR 22-155, TR 22-170, TR 23-045, TR 23-062 and TR 23-066. Rep. Marshall sponsored the bill, which failed to become adopted 6-8.

The bill would have enacted special appropriations to various ceremonial grounds, churches, and other organizations. According to the bill, special appropriations have been suspended due to a temporary closure of River Spirit Casino and Resort, resulting in a reduced 2020 Annual Budget.

TR 23-073 A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a trust application to the BIA to place property in trust for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill, which was unanimously adopted 14-0.

The property is located in Wagoner County and is comprised of 36.5 acres of land. The nation will use the property as an agricultural tract, with hay being used for cattle operations, and possible future economic development, should it be determined suitable.

NCA 23-045 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 16, chapter 1 § 1-02 entitled “The Organization for the Executive Office of the Principal Chief” to organize various cultural and humanities programs by creating a new Culture and Humanities Department. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill. It was co-sponsored by Rep. Gouge and

Rep. Joseph Hicks. It was unanimously adopted 14-0.

According to the bill, this organization will allow for more direct oversight and administration of the various cultural resource programs. These programs include historic and cultural preservation, the Mvskoke revitalization Language Program, arts, archives and museums, the Mvskoke Language Program, Euchee Language, and immersion school.

NCA 23-046 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a new title 16, Chapter 4, entitled “Culture and Humanities Department” and appropriating funds. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill. It was co-sponsored by Rep. Gouge and Rep. Hicks. It was adopted 12-2.

The bill extensively outlines general provisions, jurisdiction, establishment, a cultural review committee, historic areas of interest, and traditional cultural properties for the new department. Notably, it will establish a new secretary of culture and humanities position that is guaranteed a lifetime appointment. This is to ensure “that the decisions the Secretary makes are guided by the utmost importance of protecting the Muscogee (Creek) Nation language, culture, history, arts, humanities and cultural resources”.

NCA 23-047 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to create the Mvskoke Language Liaison Program. Rep. Cloud sponsored the bill. It was co-sponsored by Rep. Gouge and Rep. Joseph Hicks. The bill was adopted 12-2.

The \$325,627 bill will provide funds for liaisons, data collection, intertribal department collaborations and outreach programs.

NCA 23-054 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 35, Chapter 13 entitled “Tribal Burial Assistance and Food for Funeral Assistance Program” and authorizing the expenditure of American Rescue Plan

Act (ARPA) funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury for the fiscal relief funding for burial assistance. Rep. Randolph sponsored the bill. It was co-sponsored by Representative Robert Hufft. It was adopted 14-0.

The \$3,825,000 bill will ensure all citizens receive \$7,000 for burial assistance and \$750 for food for funeral assistance. A total of \$1,275,000 will be used from ARPA funding.

NCA 23-068 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a donation to the Holdenville Fire Department. Rep. Marshall sponsored the bill, which failed to become adopted 4-10.

The bill would have appropriated \$329,500 to the Holdenville Fire Department for a new truck, and other financial assistance.

NCA 23-069 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Support Enforcement for Fiscal Year 2023. Rep. Randall Hicks sponsored the bill, which was adopted near unanimously 13-1.

The \$75,000 contract will be used to cover operational costs and purchase updated equipment to strengthen the existing secure network.

NCA 23-070 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 16, Chapter 8 entitled “Office of the Secretary of the Nation and Commerce” and creating a new Chapter 11 entitled, “Secretary of Commerce”. Representative Osborn sponsored the bill, which was adopted 11-3.

The bill goes into extensive detail outlining qualifications, as well as duties and responsibilities. The position will have oversight of the Office of Self-Governance, planning, grants, contract employment and support office, and the tribal utility authority.

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



The National Council held an Emergency Session at the Mound Building on Aug. 7. (MM File)

ENERGY PROGRAM FUNDING INCREASED

ELECTION ABSENTEE WORKERS APPROVED FOR PRIMARY ELECTION

by MORGAN TAYLOR
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Okla. - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council held an Emergency Session at the Mound Building on Aug. 7.

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

TR 23-070 Approving absentee workers for the 2023 MCN Primary Election. Representative Anna Marshall sponsored the legislation, which passed 10-3.

A list of eight absentee workers and two alternates for the primary election include the following: Ramona Roberts, Holly Dunn, Lynetta Eyachabbe, Cindy Harjo, Lillian Thomas, Mona McManus, Carolyn Billy, Mary Peak, Brenda Hilligoss, Rita Williams, Diana Beasley and Wendy Dunson.

NCA 23-072 Authorizing an appropriation for the MNC Head Start Program. Representative Robert Hufft sponsored the legislation, which passed, 12-0.

The law will provide the program an additional \$350,000 to cover the meals for six centers, feeding approximately 289 students.

NCA 23-078 Authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the MCN Tribal Energy Program for Energy Assistance related services for FY 2023. Representative Joseph Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 12-0.

The law will provide the program additional funds in the amount of \$525,000 to increase the Energy Assistance budget line item. This will provide energy assistance and air conditioners.

For more information visit, www.mcnnn.com.

A portrait of David Hill, a man in a dark suit and tie, standing in front of a building.

Re-Elect

DAVID HILL

For Principal Chief

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The Mvskoke Media logo, featuring a stylized 'M' made of two overlapping triangles, one red and one blue, followed by the text "MVSKOKEMEDIA".



Multiple committee meetings were held on the evening of July 25. (MM File)

MULTIPLE COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD BACK TO BACK

COMMITTEES APPROVE LEGISLATION FOR FULL COUNCIL APPROVAL

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Okla. - A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education, and Welfare and Land, Natural Resources, and Cultural Preservation held a joint committee meeting, as well as single standing subcommittee meetings the evening of July 25 at the Mound Building.

All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session on July 29.

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

TR 23-073 Authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a Trust Application to the BIA to place property in Trust for the MCN. Representative Randall Hicks sponsored the legislation, which passed 3-0.

The Nation has purchased 36.5 acres to be used as an agricultural tract, with hay being used for cattle operations and future economic developments.

TR 23-072 Amending TR 19-076 (Suspend all special appropriation and donation)

as amended by TR 20-150, TR 21-080, TR 22-128, TR 22-143, TR 22-150, TR 22-170, TR 23-045, TR 23-062, TR 23-066. Representative Anna Marshall sponsored the legislation, which passed 4-0.

The amendment will allow for a donation to the Holdenville Fire Department.

NCA 23-045 Amending MCNCA Title 16, Chapter 1, 1-102 Entitled “the organization for the Executive Office Of the Principal Chief” to organize various cultural and humanities programs by creating a new cultural and humanities department. Representative Galen Cloud sponsored the legislation, which passed as a substitute 8-1.

The new department will include Historic and Cultural Preservation, Mvskoke Revitalization Language Program, Arts, Archives and Museums, Mvskoke Language Liaison Program, Euchee Language, and Immersion School.

It was amended to include Vocational Rehabilitation and Education Development Administration under the Education Department. The amendment added Agriculture and Natural Resource Management under Interior Affairs.

For more information, visit www.mcnn.com.

by **SHAYLN PROCTOR**
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla.- Creek Nation Council House offered many different activities throughout the months of June and July. This would typically take place on the lawn of the historic downtown building, depending on the weather. Some activities were held inside due to extreme heat.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Center and Archives Department Program Manager ShaVon Agee (Mvskoke) hosts different programs through the spring and summer breaks. She also occasionally hosts programs in the fall. Her department likes to host the craft-making events between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. to avoid the extremely hot afternoon temperatures.

The craft-making events are open for everyone to participate in, however the department’s target demographic is younger children, teens and adults.

“Last year we had people from Denmark while we had basket making so they were able to visit with other Creek citizens to ask some questions and to ask those instructors questions, it’s also a way for others who aren’t Creek to immerse themselves,” Agee said.

They are also able to schedule different groups to do activities. This included groups like the Tulsa Public Schools’ Native American summer group. According to Agee, the group was able to make clay with Brittney Cuevas (Mvskoke) and watch demonstrations with John Brown (Mvskoke).

The number of participants at previous craft-making events

CULTURAL LAWN ACTIVITIES AT COUNCIL HOUSE BRING SUMMER FUN FOR CITIZENS

JUNE AND JULY SAW A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT ARTS AND CRAFTS OFFERED



Mvskoke citizens paint and socialize at the Council House in downtown Okmulgee. (Shayln Proctor/ MM)

would fluctuate between 15-20 people. The painting event only had supplies to serve 20, making it a first-come-first-served basis.

When choosing the activities to provide, Agee’s department would ask other citizens or artists what they would like to do and if there is something they wanted to learn. As long as the craft was within the department’s budget, they were able to provide it.

Agee hopes the citizens that participate in these activities are able to use the skills they learn, and that they would have a desire to continue learning.

“This one year we had a beaded collar making, so from that someone started beading and now they are setting up as a vendor. So we hope someone can take away from it,” Agee said.

“Mary Smith I mean she just became a living legend, she’s eventually going to need to pass down what she knows to somebody. So we really need to cultivate that and have a chance for her to mentor others,” Agee said.

Agee recognizes these are short classes, however the activities are more of an introduction to the crafts.

Although most activities

are hosted at Creek Nation Council House, Agee mentioned they are trying to add locations, such as a creative art center. This will provide hour-long classes that will allow instructors to go further in depth with the activities. These classes will teach cultural crafts like basket weaving or pottery. Introductory classes like the activity events from the past summer will still be provided.

Hosting this at Creek Nation Council House gave the event a lot of exposure, especially during a farmer’s market that was held downtown at the same time. According to Agee, when citizens were done shopping they would stop by Council House, curious to see what was going on

“If there’s anything that they see they should try it out. A lot of instructors know that it might be their first time so they are welcome to all questions and if they hadn’t been up to the Council House in a while, we have a new exhibit at top so they can come see that,” Agee said.

For more information on activities and events at Creek Nation Council House, call 918-759-6979.



Mvskoke citizen Mason McClellan is known by many as his stage name Frisco Zane. (Courtesy: Mason McClellan)

ARTIST ON THE MOVE: A CITIZENS’ MUSIC LABEL AND CLOTHING BRAND IS RIDING WAVES

MASON MCCLELLAN PROMOTES HIS MUSIC AND BRAND WHILE WORKING ALONGSIDE HIS PARTNERS

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

OKMULGEE, Okla.- There is an underground music scene throughout the Mvskoke Reservation and the state that is being invaded by a Mvskoke rap group built under the self-made label, 400 Waves.

The label consists of Mason McClellan (Frisco Zane), HV (Dillion Rudd), and MadMatt (Matthew Tabbytite). McClellan is the Chief Executive Officer of the label.

“400 is the block we grew up on,” McClellan said about the label name. “Waves come from, we don’t ever try to steal or ride anyones wave, we make our own waves.”

With the opening of New Prosper Studios the group has been dropping music individually and as a group. They serve the rap and hip hop industry a taste of Mvskoke culture in their work.

Recently McClellan dropped a new single, “Karma” on July 18. It was produced by HV. McClellan and HV will also drop a new album on Aug. 30. It will feature multiple artists that are Native American and not Native.

McClellan calls the collaborative group a team, referring to Rudd and Tabbytite as his

brothers and partners.

“Me and my brothers came up with the name,” McClellan said. “We have been investing in ourselves, with merchandise and our studio, New Prosper Studios.”

McClellan claims his major role is promotion, it is a role he has been in for over three years now. Promotion includes booking shows, a clothing line, the recording studio, collaborating with other local artists and much more.

“I’m a Native artist who helps not just Native artists but all artists,” McClellan said.

As long as McClellan can see the passion for music within the artist, he will work with them.

“Not everybody has the same passion for it as I do,” McClellan said. “So I can’t just hop on a song with just anybody.”

Now McClellan claims many of his bookings are requested from 21 and over clubs from Oklahoma City, Shawnee, Tulsa, and the Muskogee area. He tries to perform at shows at least once a month, if not twice.

“I have done over 20 shows and even opened up for big

name artists such as Gorilla Zoe , Mr. Pookie and the Murphy Lee,” McClellan said.

McClellan claims the clothing line has taken off globally. Packages of 400 Waves merchandise have been sent as far as South Africa.

McClellan and his brothers feel a lot of support from the local community. All three grew up in Okmulgee, and have made it through rough childhoods as reservation kids growing up in single parent homes, some affected by drugs and alcohol.

So far the journey has been good, McClellan claims. “It has been fun, not all fun, I mean definitely hard work and a lot of late nights working.”

Most of this part of his life is done outside of his daily job. According to McClellan, his most important role is being a father.

“I know how it is to be a single dad,” McClellan said. “My daughter is my biggest supporter and my biggest motivation.”

At just four years old, McClellan’s daughter has already taken an interest in her father’s artistic career by asking him questions and giving him words of encouragement.

McClellan also takes time to give back to the community during holiday celebrations like Halloween, dedicating time and money to hand out candy.

The best place to follow McClellan for updates on shows, music drops and inquiries is his Facebook page, Mason McClellan. The other group members can also be found on Facebook at Hv Hv Hv, and Matthew Hawk Tabbytite.

For those interested in listening to the group’s work, they can find music from the three artists on all major platforms including Apple Music, Spotify, and SoundCloud.

MVSKOKE CITIZEN-OWNED BOOKSTORE SURVIVES THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

CLAUDETTE ROBERTSON SEEKS TO GET HER BOOKSTORE’S NAME KNOWN IN THE METRO AREA



Deer Clan Bookstore is located at 3905 N College Ave. Bethany, Okla. (Morgan Taylor/MM)

by **MORGAN TAYLOR**
MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

BETHANY, Oklahoma - Celebrating the third anniversary of the opening of Deer Clan Bookstore, owner Claudette Robertson (Mvskoke) hosted an Oklahoma author signing on the evening of July 28.

Deer Clan Bookstore’s inventory holds books from about 87 Oklahoma authors. Due to the bookstores’ limited capacity, 25 of those authors were in attendance for the celebratory signing.

Robertson hosts the event annually to celebrate her anniversary and give local authors a chance to promote themselves while drawing in new customers.

“Many of them are not well-known,” Robertson said. “But they are local to the area and state.”

According to Robertson, the attendees were not tribal members to her knowledge, but she welcomes the chance to bring more Native American writers and authors to her store.

Robertson also welcomes artwork in her store. She features work from local artist,

John Moore (Mvskoke) for sale. The Native artist has many drawings of the different clans featured throughout the store for purchase.

The store works on consignment. Many authors have placed books in the store for consignment sale.

“I have a little bit of everything,” Robertson said about her inventory that includes a variety of children’s books, and history. It also includes American Indian history, some penned by local authors, and several popular book series like romance, crime, and much more.

Remaining open for business has been somewhat of a challenge, as many stores have shifted to digital sales. Even reading has become digital.

It is Robertson’s belief that a bookstore is much more personable. She encourages people to get out to small local bookstores more often, not just hers.

“It’s an experience,” she claims.

Rather than skimming online bookstores, walking

BOOK STORE
Continued on Page 8

2023 ELECTION CANDIDATES



David W. Hill

Office: Principal Chief
Bio: David Hill's family includes his wife Monica, his 3 daughters and eleven grandkids. His experience includes Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, 4 terms on the National Council, including being the second speaker. He established the first ever maternity leave policy at MCN, established the Beyond the Reservation Liasion department for at-large citizens, created the cultural and humanities department, expanded healthcare, including two new hospitals. He oversaw the purchase of a 5,600 acre ranch, the largest land acquisition in tribal history. He increased school clothing assistance, burial assistance, and food for burial assistance. He also added three new tag offices, made tribal tags available to citizens state wide for the first time. His platform includes "Continuing our progress by increasing diverse economic development opportunities, establishing a nursing home and drug rehab facility, expanding educational opportunities, and continue the FIGHT for sovereignty based on our affirmed Reservation."

Joseph T. Rogers

Office: Principal Chief
Bio: Joseph Rogers is of ¾ Muscogee (Creek) blood quantum and is of the Turtle Clan. He is a retired educator. His parents are Joseph and Aileen Rogers, his grandparents are Robert and Feney Rogers. He is a 1972 graduate of Daniel Webster High School. He obtained a bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University in 1996, and a master's degree from SNHU in 2015. His platform is agriculture development and the development of new businesses for economic development for jobs.



Lahoma (Hicks) Schultz

Office: Principal Chief
Bio: Dr. Schultz is of the Panther Clan, her ceremonial ground is Arbeka, and her tribal town is Peach Ground. Her parents are George and Mollie (Jones) Hicks, her husband is Bobby Schultz, and her children are Faren Jenkins (James) and Cheyenne Donnell. Her background is that of a dedicated public servant who has earned accolades as a community leader in both the Native and non-Native arenas. In all aspects of public service, she has sought to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to the betterment of society. Throughout her professional life, active engagement with grassroots organizations has helped foster deep connections with the communities she represents. Skilled in listening to the concerns of citizens and producing action sets her apart as a compassionate and action-oriented candidate. Her proven record of forging alliances with state and national leaders reflects her ability to build consensus and find common ground.

Tim Good Voice

Office: Principal Chief
Bio: Tim Good Voice vhocefkvt os, eldest son of Ken and Sally (Jones) Good Voice. I have five siblings. Grandson of Mary (Yahola) Jones and Walter Jones. I was raised in Okmulgee and graduated from Okmulgee High in 1980. Wotkvke Vm enlikevtv os, my family ties are from the Nuyaka grounds. Montesoma Baptist mekusvpkv cukot os. Associates degree in Electrical Electronics Technology OSUIT. Ball Brothers Corp. Journeyman Electrician. Northeastern State University Bachelor Degree Chemistry/Biology. Research in Neurobiology at Harvard Medical School. USAR - Medic, Preventive Medicine 12th SFG Airborne. 2 years Drill Sgt 11 Bravo 3X. Tribal government 24 years: Executive Director/Tribal Administrator in Community development, grants, contract negotiations, construction. Economic Board Vice Chair and Chairman for 4 years. We once found strength in our confederacy, working together for the benefit of all our Mvskokvlke holding fast to our traditions and faith. I will bring servant leadership to the Muscogee Nation.



Del Beaver

Office: Second Chief
Bio: Beaver is currently serving as the Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Prior to being elected to Second Chief, he served 4 years on the National Council as the Okmulgee District Representative and 16 years in the environmental field. Beaver is of the Aktvyahcvlke clan, and his tribal town is New Tulsa. He serves Indian Country on a national level as the Eastern Oklahoma Representative on the Inaugural DOI Tribal Advisory Committee for Sec. Deb Haaland, the Center for Disease Control Tribal Advisory Committee, and the IHS Budgetary Formulation Committee. He most recently completed the 2023 Leadership Oklahoma Class 35, also a graduate of 2019 Native Leadership Oklahoma. He is a firm believer in "Faith, Family, Work" as he serves as an associate pastor at Native Stone Baptist Church. He and wife, Rhonda have 3 children and 1 grandchild.

Sandra Golden

Office: Second Chief
Bio: I am Sandra Golden from Weleetka, but I grew up in western Oklahoma. My mother was Minnie Jeffley and my dad was Eugene Golden. I belong to Springfield Methodist Church. I am running for the office of second Chief. I have the education and experience. Before receiving my graduate degree from the University of California, I completed my undergraduate work at Bacone College and Southwestern Oklahoma State University. My work experience has been in many different areas of service with tribal groups in other states as well as the Muscogee Nation. I have worked with five national Indian organizations. I worked with people at all levels – local, tribal, state and federal. I am proud of my professional conduct. Second Chief works for the citizens, not for the chief. I will work for to improve services, protect children, support elders and employees without favoritism. We can work together for solutions.



Charles Son McHenry

Office: Wagoner/Roger/Mayes District Seat A
Bio: Charles Son McHenry lives in Coweta, Oklahoma. He is the current National Council Representative for Wagoner District Seat A. He has served on the council for the the last four years, with great gratitude and is very humbled to represent our people of this mighty Muskogee (Creek) Nation. Once again he is looking forward to the growth and success that we as a whole can accomplish. Of the people, for the people.

Darrell Proctor

Office: McIntosh District Seat A
Bio: Darrell Proctor's family includes his wife of 33 years, Robin; children, Kelsey and husband Yonah Two Bears, Grandson, Kai Two Bears, Amberly and husband Jordan Sampson, and Darrell II; Mother, Minnie (Proctor) Cannon; grandparents, the late Andy and Judy (Lasley) Proctor. He is of Ecovlke (Deer Clan), and attends Weogufkee Missionary Indian Baptist church. Experience includes, National Council Representative 2008-2023, Second Speaker 2020-2021, Chairman of Land Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee 2016-2019 and 2022-2023, Vice-Chairman of Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee 2014-2015, Instrumentation Technician in Manufacturing and Power Utilities, Deacon, Sunday School Director, and Church Treasurer. Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your McIntosh District Representative. I would like to continue serving the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and continue to build upon the progress the tribe has made over the last four years. I respectfully and humbly ask for your vote. Mvto!



Dode Barnett

Office: Creek District Seat A
Office: Hesci Mvskokvlke! I have been a Corporate Trainer for 7 years having worked with dozens of companies in NE Oklahoma. I was previously elected to National Council from 2012-2017 and sat on the BF&J and HEW committees. I advocated for Mvskoke people at the local, state also federal levels, and I was honored to be invited to the White House to speak on equity in education. I advocated for protection of our sacred sites and preserving our language. If elected, being a legislator will be my full time job. Events at our nation move quickly and I know what the job requires. I know the processes and committees and vow to hit the ground running. Over the last 6 years I have learned you can only affect change from the inside. I ask for your vote on September 16th to do just that, initiate change for the betterment of our people.

James Jennings

Office: Okmulgee District Seat A
Bio: The greatest influence on my life has been family and the values we share, having been married to my wife, Joyce for 55 years. We have three sons, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. I belong to the Bear Clan and Arbeka Tribal Town. Graduated Sequoyah High School, 1967. Served in the Army from 1967-1970, honorably discharged. Worked as a cabinetmaker at SMI in Tulsa for 42 years, retired 2014. Previously served 14 years on the Council. Committee service: HEW, Fact Finding, Internal Affairs, and CMN Regents Ex Officio. As a Council member I will ensure our Sovereignty and Reservation remain intact. I will support health, veterans, elders, youth and education and will work for our communities, churches and grounds. My door will always be open to serve all Creek people. Above all I will uphold the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. MVTO!



Judith (Judy) Pickering

Office: McIntosh District Seat A
Bio: Pickering's clan is Raccoon (Wotko), her tribal town is Eufaula-Canadian (Yufalvce Ceremonial Ground) and she attends West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. Her parents are Yahola & Harriette (Scott) Tiger, her grandparents are Bennie & Susie (Cosar) Scott, Miller & Katie (Scott) Tiger. She obtained an associate in science degree from Eastern Oklahoma State College and a bachelor's of science from Northeastern State University. Her platform includes, advancing & protecting our sovereignty. Strengthen laws to establish a stable foundation in today's environment while preparing for the future. Advocating for all tribal citizens, citizens from areas of the Muscogee Reservation and the United States in need of support of the Nation on various occasions, a boundary should not prevent assistance. Preserving & re-establishing the Muscogee language and traditions. Our Culture is who we are as a people, we must find ways to encourage the citizens to learn and utilize before it is lost.

Leney McNac Jr.

Office: Creek District Seat A
Bio: I'm 42 yrs old, I reside in Depew with my beautiful wife Nikki McNac and our beautiful children. I am Wind Clan (Hotvlvke) also an active member of Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground. I am running to bring Honor, Integrity, & Unity to the tribe, to bring a voice back to our citizens. MVTO!



Robyn Whitecloud

Office: Okmulgee District Seat A
Bio: I will be loyal to the Mvskokvlke and will remain humble and prayerful when it comes to the business of the Nation. I will uphold the constitution and hold my fellow National Council Members accountable; I believe what's right is right and what's wrong is wrong. I will support recycling our money and keeping it within our own communities. I will treat our People with respect and demand quality contact and quality services. I will be your voice and will answer my phone and all correspondence including texts and emails. I will not be a member of the "good ole boy" regime, the "good ole boys" become loyal to one another and forget the people. I do not seek office for personal prestige, fame, or to boost my own ego. Meeting and surpassing the needs of our People will be my number one priority. I will fight for positive change.

William D. Lowe

Office: Okmulgee District Seat A
Bio: My wife is Elsa Lowe, of Weleetka, OK, and we have three beautiful daughters, Ashlyn, Jady, and Kaci. My parents are the late Jonas "Rusty" Lowe of Tulsa, OK, and May Marshall of Eufaula. I proudly served in the United States Marine Corps from September 1993 to May 2002. I have over 20 years of experience in governance, management, tribal business development, and negotiating government and tribal contracts. I have worked and partnered with several tribal governments in Oklahoma and throughout the United States. My experiences working with tribal entities have taught me the importance of being a sovereign nation and advocating for all Mvskoke citizens. I serve as The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's National Council Speaker, on the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development Board of Directors, and locally, on the Okmulgee County YMCA Board.



2023 ELECTION CANDIDATES (CONT.)



Robert Hufft
Office: Tulsa District Seat A
Bio: Hufft's family includes; Children - Lauren, Alex and Avery, Grandmother- Eliza Taylor George Mother – Betty Grayson (now Betty Jones), Aunt – Acie Snow, Uncles- Mose Cahwee and Jimmy Cahwee, Brothers- Terry, Harrel and Daryl Sisters – Lawanda and Patricia. Hufft is of Creek and Yuchi descent and attends Asbury United Methodist church. Hufft received a B.S. In Accounting from Oklahoma State university. Hufft's experience includes 42 years in business. (36 yrs. with a corporation in Tulsa and 22 yrs. as controller) I strongly believe our Nation must become united within its own walls so that we may move forward with a purpose. I believe in maintaining strong traditional values and the unique tribal culture of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, while developing into the powerful Nation we were meant to be. I am very humble with gratitude to have served our people over the past 19 years.

BOOK STORE
Continued from Page 6

into a bookstore like hers can create an opportunity for personable connections with people and books, new and old. The name of the small bookstore comes from Robertson's clan, deer.

Growing up in California, Robertson was always destined to move back home closer to her tribe in Oklahoma. It was in the early 90's when she finally moved home.

After attending Oklahoma University for her doctorate, she did a lot of teaching for various schools, including adjunct teaching at the College of the Muscogee Nation for two years.

Once the pandemic struck, she decided she could finally retire but knew herself well enough to know that retirement for her still meant needing something to do.

Many might call Robertson "crazy", but it was during the height of the pandemic that she took a chance on her dreams and opened her bookstore in the small college town of Bethany.

It was during her childhood when she became a bookworm. On a walk home from school one day, she noticed a mobile library. This became a regular stop for her, reading all the books she could. Throughout her life she continued reading, and always carried a book.

Robertson welcomes new faces in her store. For those who may not have had the chance to visit the store in person yet, they can visit www.bookshop.org to buy a book and give Deer Clan Bookstore credit to help support the small business.

As a small business owner Robertson encourages people to buy local.

"When you buy from Amazon or something like that, your community never sees that," Robertson said.

She says, "Buy local and fill a pothole," to encourage local buying and supporting small business.

For more information call Robertson at 405-495-9005.

THE

MVSKOKE

MARKET

SNACKS - DRINKS - BEADED JEWELRY - APPAREL - BOOKS - ART & MORE!

CAPITAL COMPLEX - SOLOMON MCCOMBS BUILDING
(13000 OK-56 - OKMULGEE, OK 74447)

BUSINESS HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY // 8:30AM-4:30PM // PHONE: 918.732.7604

LEGALS

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

DISTRICT COURT
FILED

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
KAYANI LANAE HILL)
D.O.B.: 09/07/2019)
A minor child.)

CASE NO. AD-2022-1045
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
COURT CLERK
Before Judge Masters
Judge of the District Court

ORDER FIXING TIME FOR HEARING PETITION FOR
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF
NATURAL FATHER OF KAYANI LANAE HILL

Petitioners, by and through their attorney of record, Jay Bills, Wirth Law Office, have filed their Amended Petition in the Court for the termination of the parental rights of the natural father, of the subject child. Mother has now alleged Jerome J. Cole is putative father, and will be given notice as well as publication to unknown other Natural Father.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COURT that said Amended Petition be heard before this Court to terminate the parental rights of Jerome J. Cole, putative Natural Father of said child, as well as any unknown Natural Father on the 11 day of September, 2023, at the hour of 1:00 o'clock P.M. in the District Court of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, courtroom of Judge Masters, Room 301, in the Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, 2501 Lvmhvike (Eagle) Street in Okmulgee, OK before the Honorable Judge Masters.

Judge of the District Court

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

Jay Bills, MCN#1263
400 West 6th St.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 932-2800 Telephone
jay@wirthlawoffice.com

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

DISTRICT COURT
FILED

In the Matter of the Adoption of)
K.B.L.A., a minor child.)

Case No. AD-2022-1045
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
COURT CLERK

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO: D. J. Thompson, Natural Father of K.B.L.A.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT Adrienne Blair Alexander and Christopher Jordan Alexander have filed their Petition for Adoption in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, State of Oklahoma, for the adoption of K.B.L.A., of which you are alleged to be the biological father. K.B.L.A. was born on December 12, 2013.

Your failure to appear shall constitute a denial of interest in the minor child which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceeding, in the termination of your parental rights and the transfer of the care, custody, guardianship or adoption of K.B.L.A., minor child. Your duty to support the minor child until a final decree of adoption is entered shall not terminate.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that this Court will hear the evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the Petition for Adoption on the 12th day of September, 2023, at the hour of 1:00 o'clock, P.M. in Room 1 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court in Okmulgee, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma.

If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Adoption should not be granted by the Court, you should appear and present the same at the above stated time and place.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court this 23rd day of July, 2023.

Page 1

CHARTERED COMMUNITY
CANDIDATE FORUMS

MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION ELECTIONS

August 17th, 6:00pm
Dewar Indian Community Center
903 E. 6th
Dewar

August 19th,
11:00am- 3:00pm
Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 S. Union Ave.
Tulsa

August 26th,
5:00pm-8:00pm
Muscogee Indian Community Center
335 North 4th St
Muskogee

August 28th,
6:00pm-8:00pm
Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
Checotah

August 29th,
6:30pm-8:30pm
Koweta Indian Community Center
30925 E. 141st St.
South Coweta

September 1st, 6:30pm
Cromwell Indian Community Center
417 N. Shawnee
Cromwell

September 2nd, 12:00pm
Eufaula Indian Community Center
800 Birkes Road
Eufaula

September 5th,
5:00pm-8:00pm
Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 N. Creek St.
Wetumka

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

9/7/23

Louis and Mandy Marshall Family Reunion
11:30 a.m. at the Wetumka Indian Community Center
All families are asked to bring a potluck dish or dessert.
Chicken, side pork, hot rolls, and drinks will be provided.
All families asked to bring one adult, child or auction gift.
Contact Karen at (580) 716-5199, or
Contact Susanne at (918) 623-7998.

9/9/23

Watson Family Reunion
11:30 a.m. at the Muscogee Nation Pavilion, Okmulgee
All families asked to bring 1-3 potluck covered dishes, A gallon of tea, or a 2 Liter Soda and folding chairs.
Contact Ramona Ellis at (918) 448-9602

9/16/23

Mvskoke Spelling Bee
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Eufaula Community Center
121 W. High Street
Eufaula, OK 74432

9/16/23

Chickasaw Community Counsel of South Texas
10:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Storytelling, crafts, games, & picnic potluck
Red Horse Park, Universal City, Texas

9/27/23

Frybread Cook Off
10 a.m.
Kialegee Family Life Center
100 Kialegee Drive
Wetumka, OK
Contestants must be registered by 9/21/23

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
ELECTION BOARD

2023 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION
FOR PRINCIPAL CHIEF, SECOND CHIEF &
NATIONAL COUNCIL SEAT A

Important Dates

Absentee Ballot
Mail Out Starting
August 17th, 2023

Absentee
Registration & Ballot
Requesting
Deadline
August 23rd, 2023
@ 5PM

In-Person Voting
Registration Deadline
September 5th, 2023
@ 5PM

Primary Election
September 16th, 2023 7:00A.M-7:00P.M

Early Voting for Primary Election
September 13th & 14th, 2023 7:00A.M-7:00P.M (each day)

Voter Registration form can
be found on the Election
Board website
or
Camphouse Portal users
may use the election board
tab to update or register to
vote

For questions please contact us at
918.732.7631 or
email us at Election@mcn-election.com

For more information please look at our
website
<https://www.muscogeenation.com/election-board/>

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