



Abtenibne Gises | July 2021

Top photo: A family of geese at the FireLake Golf Course.

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Walking on



Barrett elected for tenth term, District 1 goes to runoff

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett was elected to his tenth term as Tribal Chairman. Barrett was challenged by Lisa Kraft, who had previously served as a legislator, and Steve Castaneda.

Chairman Barrett received 1,867 votes, while Kraft received 869 votes and Castaneda received 67 votes.

“I am honored to continue my service to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation,” Barrett said. “I will work hand in hand with our talented and experienced leadership team with a new and invigorated sense of pride and accomplishment to continue our momentum as a Nation. My No. 1 goal is to ensure that our people have ever increasing opportunities to improve their lives and the conditions under which they live and work.”

John “Rocky” Barrett has held an elected office with CPN for more than 45 years. He was first elected Vice-Chairman in 1973 and Chairman in 1985. During that time, CPN grew from holding just \$550 in cash assets to a statewide economic impact of more than \$550 million per year. The Tribe has become the leading economic contributor of Pottawatomie County, employing more than five times the workforce of any other employer. The CPN-owned bank, First National Bank and Trust Co., has doubled in size this year to over \$700 million, making it the largest tribally owned bank in the United States.

Barrett formed and helped to write the 2007 Constitutional reform, which expanded the legislative body of the Tribe to include representation for every member of the Nation in eight districts of approximately 2,000 members. To balance the population representation, Oklahoma Potawatomi elect five members of the Tribal Legislature at-large in Oklahoma while the entire national tribal population elects the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and



Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett is sworn in following his re-election at 2021 General Council.

Secretary/Treasurer from Oklahoma residents. In this manner 2/3 of the Tribe’s people have elected representation while living outside of Oklahoma and 1/3 from inside of Oklahoma.

Also in that manner, the original Oklahoma reservation, as the geographical area of CPN’s strongest legal jurisdiction and the location of most of the Nation’s assets, is preserved while the majority of the population who live outside of Oklahoma retain equal representation. The CPN Constitution was recognized for its unique structure and equitable distribution of governmental power by the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and won national honors from the Native Nations Institute, America’s most prestigious think tank for American Indian government and preservation of Tribal Sovereignty.

The CPN Tribal Court System has jurisdiction over every Citizen Potawatomi Tribal member, no matter their location by virtue of their consent

upon being enrolled into citizenship. This allows CPN courts to be able to protect citizens regardless of location.

“I am extremely proud to be a part of our government. It is the honor of my life,” Barrett said. “I thank all of you for the opportunity to continue this great era for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.”

In District 4, incumbent legislator Jon Boursaw captured 213 votes to challenger Elexa Dawson’s 57 votes. Boursaw previously served the Tribe as director of the Cultural Heritage Center and won his first term as CPN Legislator in 2013. Boursaw is a veteran and Kansas native who served 24 years in the Air Force before retiring as a colonel. He is a descendant of the Bourassa and Ogee families. As a legislator, he has been active in the Rossville community and given numerous CPN history presentations throughout Kansas.

In the contest for the open District 1 seat, Jon A. Boursaw received 58 votes, Alan Melot received 101 votes, Kevin Roberts received 57 votes and David Slavin received 77 votes. Candidates Alan Melot and David Slavin will compete in a runoff election due to neither candidate receiving the required 50 percent of votes. The election committee will mail District 1 Tribal members ballot requests to vote by mail. That request must be postmarked by Aug. 5, 2021. The ballots for District 1 must be returned by 10 a.m. on Aug. 25, 2021. The election results will be announced on the Tribal website and social media pages.

District 2 incumbent Eva Marie Carney and District 3 incumbent Bob Whistler were re-elected without opposition. District 11 Andrew Walters was elected without opposition.

Supreme Court judges Robert Coffey and Roy Tucker were also confirmed. The budget was passed with 2,244 votes in favor and 324 votes opposed. ♡



Tribal legislators Eva Marie Carney, Bob Whistler, Jon Boursaw and Andrew Walters swear in during the 2021 General Council.

Bertrand family history

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center provides resources to keep the Tribe's history safe and accessible for generations to come. One key way the Nation does this is through the CHC's archives. To highlight some of these holdings, the *Hownikan* is featuring photographs and family history for every founding Citizen Potawatomi family. If interested in assisting preservation efforts by providing copies of Citizen Potawatomi family photographs, documents and more, please contact the CHC at 405-878-5830.

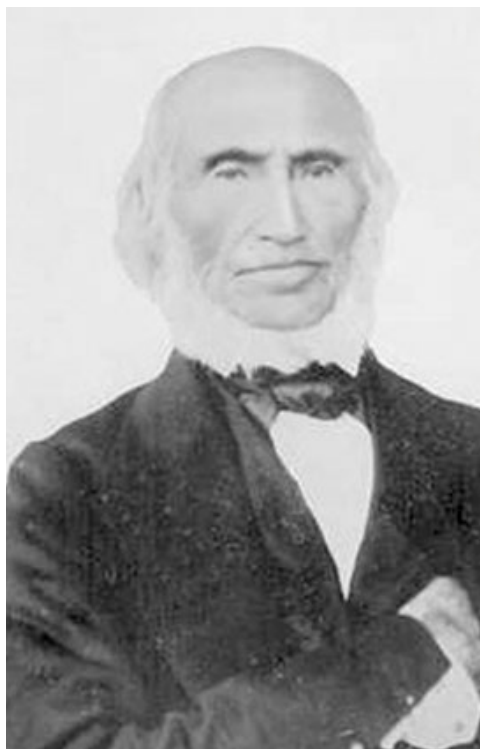
Bertrand

In the early 17th century, brothers Jean and Gabriel Bertrand left the Province of Poitou in western France for North America, seeking the opportunity for a new life.

Jean became a farmer and settled between *Rivière-du-Loup* and St. Pierre along the St. Lawrence River in Canada. He married Marie Charlotte Brar dit Riverdra in 1697, and they had nine children. Their oldest, Jacques, was born in 1699 in Montreal. Although he became a mason, his adventurous spirit lured him into the fur trade.

Joseph Bertrand Sr.

Jacques's grandson, Joseph Bertrand Sr. carried on the family fur trade vocation. Joseph Sr. was born on Oct. 8, 1778, on Mackinac Island in Michigan. In 1804, Joseph became employed with the American Fur Company. He met and married *Nona*, daughter of Daniel Bourassa I and an unknown Potawatomi woman. Records indicate Potawatomi Chief *Topinabee* raised *Nona* as his own. Joseph Sr. and *Nona*'s union brought the Bertrand family and Potawatomi together.



Joseph Bertrand Sr.

A priest visiting from Saint Anne's parish in Detroit ratified their marriage in August 1818. During the ceremony, *Nona* received her Christian name, Madeline. The couple established Bertrand's Settlement on the west bank of the St. Joseph River, near present-day Niles, Michigan.

There, Joseph built a cabin, and the couple found success in the fur business and their trading post. They had seven children: Joseph Jr., Samuel, Benjamin Henri, Laurent, Alexander Amable, Theresa and Julia Justine.

Madeline continued participating in her Potawatomi culture, and some records indicate she preferred to live in a *wigwam* behind their cabin and dress in traditional attire.

While tribes across the Great Lakes region dealt with the War of 1812, Joseph Sr. attempted diplomacy and tried to appease all involved due to the Hudson Bay Company's regional dominance. Unfortunately, his efforts did not impress the British. They placed a £100 bounty on his head for his role as interpreter and liaison between the United States and the Potawatomi people.

After the war, Joseph expanded his business enterprises, and 40 French and Potawatomi families moved into the community.

Madeline died in 1846, and her gravesite is in a Catholic cemetery in Bertrand Township, Michigan. In 1853, Joseph remarried Elizabeth LaPlante. Afterward, they moved to the Potawatomi reservation in Kansas to be with his children and grandchildren.

Joseph Sr. died in September 1865 in St. Marys, Kansas, and Elizabeth passed two months later.

Joseph Bertrand Jr.

Joseph and Madeline's eldest, Joseph Bertrand Jr., was born 1806. He and his first wife, Mary Doan, had two children: Joseph Hamilton and Mary Matilda Bertrand. Mary died in 1835 shortly after giving birth to Mary Matilda. A year later, Joseph Jr. married Elizabeth Jackson in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

For most of his life, Joseph Jr. worked alongside his father at the trading post and general store. He and his brother Samuel decided to move their families to Kansas in 1840 to live with Potawatomi who were forcibly removed west of the Mississippi River.

They arrived to Sugar Creek in present-day Kansas on Oct. 29, 1840. Samuel worked as a blacksmith, and Joseph Jr. traded and served as an interpreter for the Potawatomi. Joseph Jr. traveled to Council Bluffs, Iowa, in June 1846 to interpret and sign the Treaty of Council Bluffs that established a new Potawatomi reserve in Kansas. He also helped oversee the logistics of moving the Council Bluff Potawatomi in Iowa to the new reserve in Kansas.

He traveled to the new reservation with Jesuit Priest Fr. Verreydt in September 1846, looking for a suitable area to relocate the St. Mary's Mission. However, finding a permanent location took nearly two years. In June 1848, Fr. Verreydt found a high point where he could see for miles, and St. Mary's campus remains at that location today.

Joseph Jr. and his family settled on the northern banks of the Kaw River, and he helped the first group of Potawatomi to the new reserve. The 90-mile journey took three weeks, and families carried only a small ration of cornmeal for food. They found nuts, berries and other edible wild plants along the way as well as occasionally consumed venison and buffalo provided by Potawatomi hunting parties.



Madeline Bertrand

Unfortunately, Joseph Jr. fell ill and died on Nov. 6, 1848. He is buried at the St. Mary's Mission Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

Joseph Jr. and Mary's son Joseph Hamilton "Ham" was born in Bertrand, Michigan, in 1829. Shortly after his family moved to Kansas, he followed and became a merchant at the St. Mary's Mission from the 1850s until his death in 1875. "Ham" served on a dance committee in Humboldt, Kansas, in 1858, playing the fiddle for cotillion dances — early version of square dancing — and other numbers. He also worked as a postmaster at St. Marys from April 1869 to May 1871.

Benjamin Henri Bertrand

Joseph's brother Benjamin Henri received the most education of all of Joseph Sr.'s children. He attended the Carey Mission School in Michigan as a child and later the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky. After completing his education, Benjamin returned home to work at his father's trading post for six years before establishing his own mercantile nearby. In 1850, Benjamin led approximately 650 Potawatomi from southern Michigan and northern Indiana to the St. Mary's Mission in Kansas. He then became a trader and served on the Potawatomi Council.

A divide began on the reservation between Potawatomi who wished to remain living in common and those who desired personal land ownership and potential U.S. citizenship. As a Tribal leader at this time, Benjamin made trips to Washington D.C. on behalf of the Tribe with other headmen to discuss the allotment process.

After much inner-Tribal conflict and negotiating, Benjamin became one of 86 Potawatomi to sign the Treaty of 1861, which opened the opportunity for Potawatomi to hold land ownership individually and set aside an area of the reservation for those who wished to continue living communally, creating two separate federally recognized tribal nations.

Benjamin went on to serve on the Potawatomi Business Committee along with Joseph N. Bourassa, George L. Young, Louis Vieux, M.B. Beaubien and John Tipton. In 1866, Benjamin helped establish the city of St. Marys, and in October 1896, secured the charter for the organization of St. Mary's Mission. He also signed the Treaty of 1867.

Benjamin was first married to Clara Whitaker until she passed away in 1866. Three years later, Benjamin married Marguerite Fabing and had two children: Benjamin Aloysius and Margaret Emma Josephine.

In 1875, Marguerite died from tuberculosis, and Benjamin passed away five months later. Benjamin's grave as well as his wives' are in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in St. Marys.

Laurent Bertrand

Laurent Bertrand was born in February 1814 on the Bertrand settlement, and his family moved to Sugar Creek in the early 1840s. He married Adelaide Keeler, and they had four children: Bernard Bonduel, Richard, Lucy Marie and Lawrence Joseph. The former born in Michigan and the latter in Kansas.

After Laurent's death in 1849, Adelaide ran a hotel on East Bertrand Avenue in St. Marys until the mid-1860s when she moved to California.

Alexander Amable Bertrand

Joseph Sr.'s youngest son, Alexander Amable, was born in 1819 in Bertrand, Michigan. While Alexander was an artist by profession, like the rest of the Bertrands, he traded and served as a Potawatomi interpreter.

In 1858, Alexander traveled to Washington D.C. with a delegation of Potawatomi, which included his brother Benjamin, to discuss the terms of another treaty. However, when the group reached St. Louis, Missouri, federal officials told them they must turn back. After hearing the news, Indian Agent Murphy traveling with the group reported that they had become angry and behaved in an "unbecoming manner." This sparked a feud between Alexander and Agent Murphy and resulted in Alexander facing charges of liquor trafficking. He attended court in Ft. Leavenworth in 1859, and after officials released him due to lack of evidence, Alexander left Kansas for Indian Territory where he was killed in 1860.

Julia Justine Bertrand

Joseph Sr.'s daughter Julia Justine attended the Carey Mission School in Michigan and a small private school at Daniel Higbee's home. She married Francis Xavier Alva Higbee in 1848 in Bertrand, Michigan. After their marriage, Joseph Sr. lived with them until they moved in 1853 to the Potawatomi reserve in Kansas. In 1866, Julia passed away from pneumonia in St. Marys, Kansas, and her grave is at the Mt. Calvary Catholic Cemetery.

Julia's husband Alva Higbee was the first mayor of St. Marys after its incorporation in 1869. He passed away during the tragic explosion of Mueller and Debacker's General Store in 1884.

Move to Indian Territory

Citizen Potawatomi began making the move to the reservation in Indian Territory, present-day Oklahoma, in the early 1870s. Throughout the next few decades, more than 30 Bertrands made the journey with their families. Most

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Army veteran spends time at Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services before medical school

With a conditional acceptance to Harvard Medical School, Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Christopher Jenks spent a month with CPN Health Services in spring 2021. The Bertrand family descendant wanted additional hands-on experience before beginning his medical degree program and selecting his specialty. His time in the Army as a Special Forces medic opened his eyes to medicine as a career opportunity.

“I saw myself in that setting, and I really enjoyed it,” he said. “And then being able to provide care for my teammates, I was like, ‘This is something that I really enjoy, and I might be able to be good at, given enough time and effort.’”

“Nomadic lifestyle”

Jenks moved every few years throughout his childhood. His dad’s position with the U.S. Department of State took the family to Brazil, Venezuela, Taiwan, Korea and other countries.

“My dad’s duty stations were about three years apiece. So we just kept on moving, and each move was an opportunity to learn about different cultures and experience the new geographic area and food and make new friends,” Jenks said.

After graduating high school from Seoul Foreign School in Korea, he attended one semester of college before deciding to continue his studies later. Jenks then enlisted in the Army in 2008 and initially served as an infantry mortarman in the 75th Ranger Regiment and later as a medic with 7th Special Forces Group.

“I wanted to continue that nomadic lifestyle of adventure and exploring new places and new people. And that’s what actually drew me to Special Forces selection. And I ended up doing that through the back end of my time in the Army,” he said.

With no particular interest in medicine prior to entering the Army, he deemed it the most interesting option while in Special Forces. His time in the Army also taught him to succeed at a new skill set out of necessity.

“They’ll send you to sniper school or language school, and there isn’t really much opportunity for you to question if you can do it,” Jenks said. “You just have to do it. You have to be successful. You have to graduate the course. So I think having those varied experiences and being able to do them gave me more confidence to be like, ‘Maybe I can be successful academically where I hadn’t been previously.’”

Jenks spent over nine years on active duty, with an honorable discharge in fall 2017. He then earned a Bachelor



Army veteran and Tribal member Christopher Jenks learns about many medical specialties, provider decorum and emergency management while interning with Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services.

of Science in biology from Towson University in Maryland in 2020.

“Varied experience”

While applying to medical schools, he called CPN Health Services to enquire about internships and worked with the CPN Department of Education to set up his month-long stay with the Tribe.

On his first day, Jenks sat in the parking lot outside of the CPN Administration Building, waiting to meet with education department staff and feeling nervous. Then, his phone alerted him about an email from Harvard University, which turned into a surreal experience.

“I’m like, ‘OK, I got my rejection,’ because I saw the ‘Harvard.’ I was like, ‘OK, cool, whatever. At least I tried.’ And then I open it up. It says, ‘Congratulations.’ And I’m like, ‘What-What?’ This (internship) just started off in the best possible way, and then each subsequent day was just as good as the previous one,” Jenks said.

Throughout his time with CPNHS, he shadowed the chiropractic clinic, primary care physicians, urgent care facilities, pediatrics, radiology, specialty clinic and more.

“I never would have expected that I would have had such a varied experience here, and it’s just been incredible. ... I’m so glad I came down here.” Jenks said.

He also saw the CPN Emergency Services and health services work with other community partners to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to Tribal members and area residents. Not many medical school students observe medical professionals fight a pandemic before they begin classes.

“It was really interesting to see the complex, coordinated effort involved and the logistical considerations in a successful mass vaccination. So, that’s directly relevant to our current situation and medicine and the future of medicine,” Jenks said.

“Humanistic aspect”

While interning with the Nation, he spent time with many different doctors, nurse practitioners and specialists, each with a unique approach. He labeled it as one of the experience’s most helpful traits.

“Respect and trust seem to be common themes here, and it’s not something that you can really quantify. But that’s why it’s the art and practice of medicine,” Jenks said.

“I think that’s a good thing to see before I start medical school, to remind me that in this field of evidence-based medicine, there’s a lot of the humanistic aspect that you got to keep in mind to reach your patients and to deliver the best possible care and to develop that trust.”

While shadowing CPNHS staff, he also learned the day-to-day of a doctor’s life and the differences of serving a tribal clinic.

“I’m so grateful for (CPN Chief Medical Officer Dr. Adam Vascellaro) for coordinating such a varied educational experience and mentorship throughout the whole thing,” Jenks said. “It was far beyond the scope of just medicine. It was life advice for future doctors and family planning, financial planning.”

He has not decided on a specialty or focus for medical school, but is interested in serving Indigenous populations in rural settings. His experiences at Fort Defiance Indian Hospital and CPNHS have reinforced this desire.

“I’ve never lived anywhere for more than three years, so I want to keep exploring,” he said. “I want to see how other Native American communities do it as well. And I eventually want to settle down somewhere, but I’m still in that exploration phase and exploring what’s out there.”

To learn more about Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services, visit cpn.news/health. Find the Citizen Potawatomi Department of Education at cpn.news/education. ♪

CPN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2021

APPLICATION DEADLINE AUGUST 1

TO APPLY, VISIT PORTAL.POTAWATOMI.ORG

OKDHS caseworker brings decades of experience to FireLodge Children & Family Services

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Child Welfare Department caseworker Tracey Humphrey began working in child welfare as soon as she graduated college with a bachelor's of social work in 1998. Her first job out of college was with her tribe, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, in its ICW department. Soon afterward, she took a job with the Oklahoma Department of Health and Human Services, where she remained for 19 years.

During her time with OKDHS, she moved from a child welfare specialist up to a district director. After holding that position from 2014 to 2018, Humphrey decided she wanted to spend more time with her family and left her career, looking forward to rest and relaxation.

"I thought I wanted to stay home and not have to work anymore," she said. "And I was home for about five months, and I just felt like there was more that I had to offer. And so that's how I ended up here at CPN."

Humphrey believes advocating for families and children is her calling.

"It's not just a paycheck to me. It never has been. And I think that's why I've stayed. I've given my whole

career basically to protect children and families in Oklahoma. ... And it wasn't something that I set out to do. I thought I would maybe do this for five years, and then I would get my master's, and I would go on and do something else. But I just haven't. I got busy. Life happens," she said.

As a district director, Humphrey helped the state agency's struggling county offices find efficient and effective ways to operate. She brought those skills to FireLodge Children & Family Services when she accepted her current position in 2019. Humphrey and the rest of the staff have created ways to teach Potawatomi culture to foster families, improved their hands-on approach to cases, and developed training for incoming caseworkers.

"I like to rebuild. And I think that's where we're at right now. So I think that's why it's a really good fit. And we're making a name for CPN in child welfare and protecting families," she said.

Humphrey helped create the culture boxes FireLodge now sends to new foster homes. They include small crafts, stories, history and other information on Potawatomi traditions that teach both the foster parents and kids.



FireLodge Children & Family Services caseworker Tracey Humphrey enjoys thinking of new ideas to improve the outreach and function of the department.

"Just having that connection to their Tribe has helped them to see that they're part of something bigger than just themselves and their circumstances for right now," Humphrey said.

While she spent most of her career with the State of Oklahoma, the opportunity with CPN filled a desire to work with Native American

children again. She believes projects such as the boxes the department sends play an essential part in one of the department's most important goals — keeping Native cultures alive.

"If the Tribe doesn't step in and or make a stand and protect its culture, then it dies. It eventually goes away. And I don't want stand by and allow that to continue, either. ... If (children are) in custody, they need to be with their family. If they can't be with their family, then they need to be with their tribal community, their tribal family, because it's scary," Humphrey said.

The work can be demanding and emotionally draining, and she has felt burnt out at times throughout her career. However, family reunification and watching clients improve their situations makes staying in child welfare worth it for her.

"In life, you have the ups and the downs. But I think what's kept me in child welfare has been the successes, those good things that happen," Humphrey said.

Visit FireLodge Children & Family Services online at cpn.news/firelodge or on Facebook @CPNFireLodge. ♡

Language update

By Justin Neely, CPN Language Department Director

June 1 marked my 16th anniversary here at the Tribe. A lot has changed in those 16 years of teaching Potawatomi, and before coming to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, I also taught for two school years at the *Nah Tah Wahsh* School in Wilson, Michigan, for the Hannahville Potawatomi Tribe.

Grants

During my time as the director of language, we have successfully written and received three Administration for Native Americans language grants: two for two years and one for three years.

We are currently working with a 1-year United States Department of Agriculture language grant of \$200,000 to develop a series of children's books, which will include 12 books for level 1 and level 2.

One grant was used to create the first ever online Potawatomi language course with beginner 1, beginner 2 and intermediate courses, and has been used by over 2,000 students.

Department achievements

We have developed two different modules on memrise.com: *A Day in the Life* and *Conversational Potawatomi*. We

also created a Potawatomi high school course — the first of its kind — which is available throughout Oklahoma and counts toward the world language credit required for graduation. The class is now offered in Wanette, Shawnee, Tecumseh, Maud and starting next year, Seminole. We are always looking for additional partners, and there is no cost to the school districts.

We have a Potawatomi Language Facebook group with more than 5,000 members that shares language and does live classes. You can find the group at cpn.news/langfb.

I became the first language director to have the department lead lessons at the CPN Child Development Center. Today, our staff teaches at the two CPN Child Development Centers Monday through Thursday, and students vary from 1-year-olds all the way to the afterschool students who age out at 10.

We also started two different YouTube channels, one geared toward children and one geared toward adults. Each channel has over 150 videos with about 600 subscribers. You can find the channels at cpn.news/langyt and cpn.news/childrenyt.

With the help of IT programmers, we designed an online Potawatomi

dictionary (potawatomidictionary.com) with all kinds of innovative features including video, historical audio, cultural significance, tags (groupings), related words and literal meanings. There is also the ability to download and print Potawatomi to English or English to Potawatomi for free.

We wrote and created a children's puppet show, *Mtek Wigwam*, about a group of friends and their misadventures. Each episode adds more and more Potawatomi. (New episodes will be coming soon.) Find the show at cpn.news/childrenyt.

We have also used public domain films and dubbed them in their entirety into Potawatomi, and we could be the first to do this in an Indigenous language. We have done the classic *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* 50-minute cartoon, the 1939 *Gulliver's Travels* that is 1 hour 15 minutes, the classic *Night of the Living Dead* in black and white that is over an hour, two *Popeye the Sailor Man* cartoons, *Woody Woodpecker*, *Superman* and a number of others as well as cultural teaching videos with puppets that explain the importance of the eagle, the stars, how we use tobacco and Indian time, just to mention a few. All are featured on the two YouTube channels.

Future

After all this time, we have so much still to do. My No. one priority has always been to make the language accessible to all who wish to learn. We will be hosting our first live, 10-week beginner class starting Wednesday, July 14 at 6 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center. As always, we will plan on streaming these classes live in case others would like to attend. We also are doing a beginner class right now on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in our Potawatomi Language Facebook group starting at 9 a.m. CST, unless there is a change, for the next 10 weeks. If you are just getting this information, don't worry. Each class is archived in our Facebook group so you can watch them after the fact and jump right into the new class. Please RSVP for the live, in-person class so we can get a little head count. We will need to make some accommodations for the ongoing pandemic, such as spreading out seating and etc. You can find the Facebook group at cpn.news/langfb, and you can RSVP for the upcoming in-person class by emailing me at justin.neely@potawatomi.org. ♡

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Archivist shares importance of preserving family stories

At the end of 2020, archivist and historian Lynn Cowles created a display at the Allen J Ellender Memorial Library at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, to highlight her Potawatomi family's past. She celebrated Native American Heritage Month in November 2020 with visitors.

"I wanted the students at Nicholls to see another aspect to show that not all Indians are the same. We are not a homogenous people at all, and that was really the goal," Cowles said.

The case contained handcrafted quilts and doilies from her grandmother, feathers from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary, photographs of her Melot and Navarre family ancestors, drawings of the Trail of Death and more.

"We all have our own stories, and those stories are American history. And it's important to remember them," Cowles said.

Inspiration and education

She remembers her father stopped at every historical marker they passed while she was a child in central Texas. It sparked her love of history. Cowles takes pride in her Potawatomi heritage, and she knew that was difficult for many of her relatives. Cowles' mother once told her about her own mother trying to buy milk for her youngest daughter at an Oklahoma City store in the early 1940s.

"The man would not let her in because she was Indian, and I grew up with that story. ... There are so many other stories out there by women who haven't been listened to for generations. And that's why I went into history to begin with. And as an archivist, I see my job as preserving those stories and ensuring that they're available for researchers to see and to let those voices be heard," Cowles said.

She attended East Texas Baptist University and earned a bachelor's in history in 2010. Afterward, she graduated with a master's in history from the University of New Orleans in 2012 and a second in library science from the University of Southern Mississippi. She also has a certificate in archival studies.

While humorously describing herself as "overly educated," Cowles prides herself on recognizing the worth of her family's historical pieces and having the knowledge to care for



Cowles' display at the Nicholls State University library in Thibodaux, Louisiana, showcases her family's heritage and culture in honor of Native American Heritage Month. (Photo provided)

them. Her grandmother was an expert seamstress, sometimes creating quilts later displayed in museums.

"When you look at the patchwork, the stitches are very tiny and very even, and you would never know that they're not machine done," Cowles said. "She always quilted by hand, of course. And that's just something you don't see anymore."

Provenance and emotion

Cowles enjoys discovering an item's journey, or provenance, whether it is a political button, trophy or book.

"I try to encourage, particularly people who come in with materials that they're considering donating — you always try to get them to tell you more. What do you remember? How do you remember this? Why don't you write that down for us?" she said.

Throughout her education, Cowles learned that facts, dates and numbers comprise only a portion of what makes history fascinating. An emotional and personal look at events through diaries, photographs and keepsakes holds her interest more.

"I get to spend my days pretty much reading dead people's mail," she said and laughed.

The library's collection includes letters between a father and his

sons during the Civil War, which Cowles finds particularly moving.

"We have this family's letters, including a letter that he wrote to his sons telling them that their mother had passed away while they were at war. And you can see teardrop stains. ... More than 150 years ago, you can see the teardrop stains," she said.

Digitization and preservation

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina forced Cowles to move from New Orleans to east Texas. The storm destroyed and displaced many of her belongings.

"I lost all of my baby pictures of my daughter. I lost quilts of my grandmother's, I lost photographs of my mom, who passed away in 2002, and I lost all of that in Katrina. You never know," Cowles said.

She encourages everyone to digitize their records, and the archives staff spends much of their time using the technology as well.

"Digitalization is a wonderful thing. If you don't have somebody that can do an oral history with you, sit down with your computer and record your own. If you have a scanner, use a scanner to scan letters. If you don't have a scanner, use your phone and take photographs of them," Cowles said.

Cowles believes personal narratives of significant events provide authenticity, even if they differ from official accounts.

"Those memories are still key to really understanding what happened," she said. "You can read all the newspaper articles you want. You can read all the books you want, all the documents, but until you talk to someone or you're able to read a transcript of someone's oral history, that's where you really pick up on the emotions involved."



Archivist and historian Lynn Cowles encourages others to preserve their family's heirlooms and record their personal history. (Photo provided)

Nishnabé people have a strong tradition of passing down stories, memories and more by word of mouth. Cowles emphasizes the need for Tribal members to pass along their lives and lessons.

"Make sure your children and your grandchildren know, and save anything that you have," she said. "Make sure it's protected well, and maybe the best thing for you to do is to consider donating it to the (Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center)."

Cowles hopes to work with local tribes in Louisiana in the future to create new display cases in the museum that highlight their cultures and customs.

If interested in helping preserve Tribal history and culture by providing copies of family photographs, documents and more, contact the Cultural Heritage Center at 405-878-5830 or visit potawatomiheritage.com. ♡

Bertrand continued...

settled in the southeast corner of the reservation in present-day Cleveland County near Corbett and Lexington.

Some of the Bertrands that received allotments included Madeline Lena, Frances, Lawrence and Nora.

Madeline Lena Bertrand, daughter of Bernard Bonduel Bertrand and Catherine Juneau, was born in St. Marys in 1872. She married Henry Farley, and they had seven children. Madeline's sister Frances "Fannie" Fern Bertrand was also born in Kansas in 1875. She married Ralph Hollway and had three children.

Lawrence Bertrand, the son of Laurent and Adelaide Keeler-Bertrand, married Mary Jane (Laura) Angle in 1871 at St.

Mary's. They had four children: Nora Adelaide, Lucy Ella, Laura Frances and Minnie Lucy, who died as an infant.

Nora, born in 1874 at St. Mary's, married William Harrison Henry Clark in 1898 in Lexington, Oklahoma. He participated in the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889.

The family legacy of entrepreneurship and leadership continues today through the numerous Bertrand descendants within the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

If interested in helping preserve Citizen Potawatomi history and culture by providing copies of family photographs, documents and more, contact the Cultural Heritage Center at 405-878-5830. ♡

Tribal legislative meeting: May 2021

On May 27, Tribal legislators gathered for their May meeting. All legislators were in attendance except for District 1, which remains open until the runoff election in August.

The first two items of business included approving minutes for the Feb. 25 legislative meeting and the April 1 electronic legislative meeting. Once approved, legislators moved on to resolutions supporting funding for various grant and capital project plans.

Legislators accepted funding for the Tribe's sanitation facilities construction program through the U.S. Indian Health Service by resolution, before authorizing an application for funding from the U.S. Department of Health and

Human Services Community Services Block Grant program. They also passed resolutions supporting the Nation's application for the Low Income Home and Energy Assistance Program, Indian Health Services funds for the Special Diabetes Program as well as a U.S. Department of Justice 2021 Office for Victims of Crime Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Formula program. Legislators then authorized a final resolution supporting CPN's U.S. Department of Homeland Security FEMA Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program.

Legislators entered into an executive session before finally reconvening to support a resolution that enrolled 408 new applicants into the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. ♡

Danger of co-parenting with an abusive partner

By Kayla Woody, House of Hope DVPI Prevention Specialist

Intimate partner violence is a harmful and traumatic experience. Many victims feel a giant sense of relief once they have escaped the powerful hold of an abuser. When children are involved though, the victim and often the children are forced to endure the same trauma and abuse, even after the divorce or separation is finalized.

Despite many state laws that acknowledge domestic abuse as an important factor in sorting out these custody arrangements, in practice, many courts ignore it. The judicial system often orders the victim to co-parent with the abusive partner in the desire to keep both parents present for the benefit of the child. Co-parenting is defined as the requirement that both parents work together in a civil and respectful manner to provide the best environment and care for the child. For this type of arrangement to work, both spouses need to be fully committed to maintaining civility and setting aside any differences for the benefit of their children. This type of arrangement is difficult in any case, but when abuse is present in a relationship, it makes the situation even harder and more dangerous.

These types of arrangements put victims and children at risk for repeated abuse. Abusers take advantage of the use of co-parenting practices to gain back power and control over the victim that was lost through divorce or separation. Pamela Cross, an attorney who consults on violence against women in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, noted that women often find themselves tethered to their abusers because of their kids.

“What we see a lot of the time is that parents who were not that involved before separation suddenly appear in the family court process and want to be the parent of the century,” she said.

According to the American Psychological Association, “Abusive fathers file for sole custody more often than fathers who have no history of domestic violence.”

Cross pointed out that many abusers successfully gain shared custody or access to the kids, possibly because they have more money for legal fees or come across better in court.



Although the court system may believe that co-parenting is in the best interest of the child, research shows that when children receive or witness abuse, they are at higher risk for poor long-term health, impaired mental health and negative social consequences, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

These effects can include:

- Children’s sense of safety is dramatically reduced.
- Children exposed to family violence often question whom they can trust in their lives; this is especially damaging if the trusted person is a parent.
- Children exposed to family violence often suffer many more mental health issues long-term, including lower self-esteem.
- School performance and conflict resolution skills drop significantly.
- Children may have stronger beliefs on traditional gender roles, what it means to be a “man” and a “woman,” and have a lower self-image.
- Children exposed to family violence are more likely to become involved in family violence themselves as adults by becoming an abuser or a victim of an abusive partner.

Placing them back with the abusive parent can continue to negatively impact the child. The Child Welfare Information Gateway stated that children need safe, stable and nurturing

relationships and environments to recover from abusive trauma.

There also needs to be consideration for the ongoing trauma that the victimized partner is enduring due to the co-parenting arrangement. The prolonged legal battles can turn into an abuse of their own. Court-related abuse is when a perpetrator of intimate partner violence uses family court as a means of maintaining contact with their victims to keep control, even when legal protections would otherwise forbid it. Victims who have endured horrific abuses can be forced to interact repeatedly with their perpetrator in the courtroom upon escaping the relationship. The perpetrators’ use of coercion during the custody process can take many forms. It can include:

- Demanding custody simply for the sake of staying involved in the victim’s life
- Forcing the victim to return to court dozens of times to prolong contact
- Using court-mandated visitation or custody as an opportunity to commit physical violence against the victim
- Intimidating the victim into surrendering joint custody during forced mediation sessions
- Refusing to pay child support to force the victim back into court

These legal battles can also be seen as a form of financial abuse toward the victim. Many times, victims leave the abusive relationship with just the clothes on

their back and not a dollar to their name. However, the perpetrator is normally financially stable and uses this tactic during court proceedings as another form of control. When victims are forced to spend all of their resources on fighting court proceedings, such as custody, it can cause a serious impact on their ability to stay away from the perpetrator.

Peter G. Jaffe, academic director of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women & Children, said, “When victims have limited resources to pay for legal representation, they may return to their abusive relationships at a rate of around 50 percent.”

Victims may even lose their jobs as a result of the ongoing court proceedings due to days spent in court.

The frequency of court abuse toward victims is disturbing and can discourage victims from reaching out for help from law enforcement or family court systems. Or worse, victims may act out radically by fleeing the state or country with the children. There are many proactive solutions to prevent abuse through the legal system. Many available trainings exist for judges and mediators that provide helpful information on the psychological profiles of perpetrators and victims of domestic violence, to assist in identifying abusive traits. These trainings need to be required annually. Courts should be cautious of granting custody or visitation to perpetrators to protect both the victim and their children. If visitation or custody is granted, safer options for contact between the parties should be a priority, and these agreements need to be carefully structured. When child support is awarded to the victim, the perpetrator needs to be held accountable if the amount is not paid in full or on time. As perpetrators are held accountable, the control over the victim will minimize. Victims will then become more comfortable with the court system when they are treated fairly. As we provide safer options for victims through trusted services, the livelihood and survival rate of victims of domestic violence and their children will increase.

If you or someone you know is experiencing intimate partner violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault and would like more information, please contact the House of Hope at 405-275-3176 or visit us online at [facebook.com/cpnhouseofhope](https://www.facebook.com/cpnhouseofhope). 🔥

HONOR THE SERVICE OF ROY SLAVIN WITH A VOTE FOR HIS SON, DAVID SLAVIN

“It has been an honor to serve with Roy and Julia and I believe David is a great choice for District 1.”

VICE-CHAIRMAN LINDA CAPPS

District 1 run-off



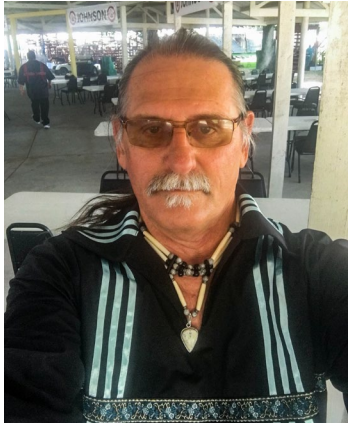
Alan Melot

Descendant of the Melot and Bergeron families.

Hometown: Joplin, Missouri.

Education: Bossier Parish Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Sociology with minors in Psychology and Cultural Anthropology, Missouri Southern State University
Master of Science in Clinical Psychology, Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, KS.

“I am thrilled, humbled and grateful for every single vote I received. The campaign process has been rewarding, and I treasure the opportunities I’ve had to meet D1 Citizens and listen to their thoughts. I have demonstrated my values by offering my contact information, sharing my goals and being approachable. It has been an honor to hear from so many of you, and I look forward to serving as your legislator. We all want the same thing: connection to each other, to our Tribe, to services, to culture, to language and to leadership. Please stand with us and vote Melot for District 1!”



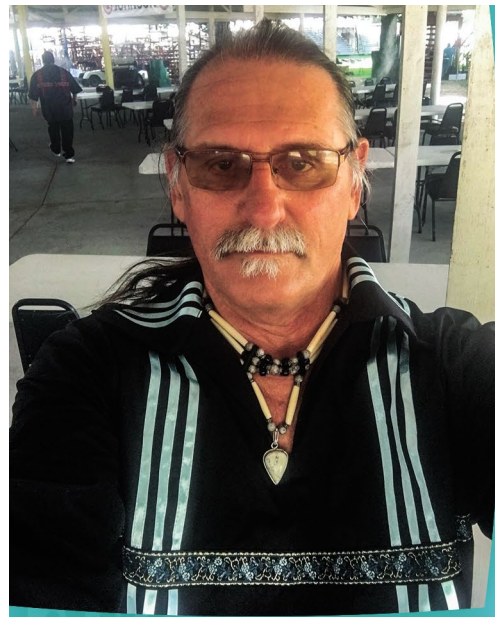
David Slavin

Hometown: Kansas City, Missouri

Education: Park College, Bachelor of Arts Communication Arts

Military: US Navy, honorable discharge 1973-1977.

“As a legislator we have the responsibility to listen to our constituents. Concerning services, education, and traditions. As well as participating in meetings through zoom or in person. I have a BA in Communication Arts from Park College. I taught electronics and robotics at Kansas City Kansas Community College. After 27 years of service, I retired this year from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad. At Burlington Northern Santa Fe I was a lead electrician and a first responder on the hazmat team. It would be an honor to be your district 1 legislator.”



VOTE
DAVID SLAVIN
GZHIPTOT

DISTRICT 1 LEGISLATOR

VOTE
ALAN MELOT
FOR DISTRICT 1

The traditions of honoring our elders. Supporting and educating the younger members of the nation. Helping tribal members in district one find information concerning health services, scholarship and other services available to tribal members. Is what I want and hope to do.

I taught electronics and robotics at Kansas City Kansas Community College. And was the assistant track coach. I retired this year after 27 years of service from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad. At Burlington Northern Santa Fe I was a lead electrician and a first responder on the hazmat team.

It would be an honor to be your district 1 legislator.

ARPA FUNDS UPDATE

On June 28, 2021, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Legislature approved a \$1,400 direct payment to all Tribal members who were enrolled **prior to Feb. 1, 2021**. An application will be available Aug. 2, 2021.

Tribal members are encouraged to update their contact information with Tribal Rolls. Find forms and more information at cpn.news/tribalrolls. Due to the high call volume you are encouraged to email them at tribalrolls@potawatomi.org.

Online applications will be completed through the portal, which can be accessed at cpn.news/portal. Those who have previously registered for the portal to access CARES applications, scholarships or *Mezodanek* can use their login information to access the online ARPA application when it is available. A paper application will also be available.

Harnessing teamwork

Not everyone can successfully incorporate marriage and business, but Bob and Patty Frakes are breaking the status quo with their leatherworking company Frakes Designs. Patty is a Travis family descendant and a paralegal by day for the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals. Bob retired from the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and now oversees their company's operations, which includes creating jewelry, key chains and custom projects with leather.

Bob's interest in the art form began at an early age, and he now has more than 30 years of professional leathercraft experience.

"When I was a kid, not far from our home was a Tandy leather shop," Bob said. "I kind of became friends with the owner at the time, and I started fiddling around."

He did not expand on his interests much until adulthood when another family member's wood engraving provided ample inspiration. His brother gifted him a case of tools, which included everything necessary to get started.

"When Bob picked it up and started working, he just stayed with it," Patty explained.

Drawn to Western patterns, Bob began completing smaller crafts for personal use, including belts and wallets. Three decades later, he has expanded on his skill set and can complete projects of all sizes: from earrings and bracelets to gun holsters and guitar covers.



Frakes Designs utilizes time-honored techniques and modern technology to create art.

Partnership

After 48 years of marriage, the duo understands each other's strengths and weaknesses.

"Bob and I laugh about that a lot because we're both strong personalities," Patty said. "But for now, I am the student, and he is the teacher. He is a true

leather artisan. He knows what the leather can do."

Although Bob worked alone in the beginning, a special project three years ago required Patty's assistance. Since then she has provided product ideas and economic savvy.

"My role is mostly design and finishing and assembling pieces. ... I'm what you call product control," Patty said and laughed.

Before becoming a school counselor, their daughter Jennifer was a basketball coach in Rush Springs, Oklahoma. She wanted a unique way to remind the players of their motto, "You get what you give." Patty and Bob rose to the challenge, creating one-of-a-kind bracelets for each player and coach.

"That was our first foray into jewelry, and everybody liked them so much," Patty said. "Up until this point, Bob was just doing special projects."

Word spread quickly, and soon the Frakes had numerous requests for accessories, keychains and more.

"People in Jenni's little town all wanted (our pieces)," she said. "And that's how the beginning of our business was for us — just being able to create."

Advancement

The popularity inspired them to utilize new equipment and expand their base by partnering with boutiques, attending events and establishing an online presence through artisan groups.

"One of the most interesting things, to me, has been watching this creative process evolve," Patty said. "In the beginning, everything was hand-cut, hand-tooled, hand-stitched and hand-finished. As with most things in life, technology now plays a bigger role."

Manifesting their ideas is easier than ever before with the addition of a 3D printer and a laser burner.

"We can now create in a time-effective way so that most anyone can afford a custom piece. But even with all of

the technology, every piece is still hand-finished for the beautiful end result," she said.

Custom orders have also provided the Frakes an opportunity to learn more about Native American culture, specifically Potawatomi.

"It's really cool to kind of reacquaint myself with all these symbols and what they mean — symbols I have seen a lot of throughout my life but never really understood," Patty said.



While their business helps Patty connect to her *Nishnabé* heritage, she said it also is a way to reciprocate the support she has received.

"All three of my kids and myself, we all benefited from the scholarship program, and we were able to finish our educations. ... I really appreciate everything the Tribe does," she said.

Eyeing the future

As a paralegal, most workdays include a tremendous amount of reading and writing, but Patty's professional career does not allow for much creativity. Frakes Designs offers an outlet for expression.

"It's nice to escape from reading about the law," she said. "I really enjoy this part of my life even more, especially the older I get."

The business also has Patty thinking about retirement.

"It would be a lot easier to retire if I hated my job, but I like my job. But now, I'm liking the design elements of creating something really pretty and meaningful," she said.

For now, the Frakes continue to upgrade their home studio and experiment with new techniques. They plan to set up booths to market their goods around the state and increase sales through a website and Facebook page.

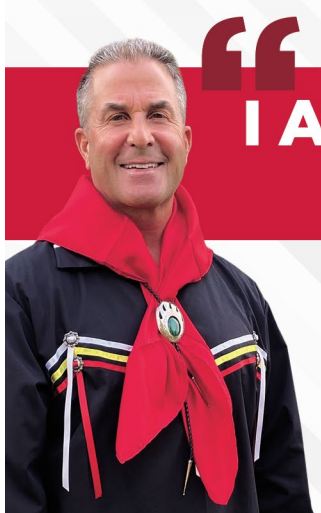
"I'm looking forward to being out in public," Patty said. "Both of us are vaccinated up and ready to go."

Potawatomi Gifts features some of Frakes Designs items in-store and online at potawatomigifts.com. Learn more by liking them on Facebook @frakesdesigns. ♡

After further research,
prayer, and thought,
**I support David Slavin
for District 1.**

David and I share similar views on:

- Our Nations journey (past, present, and future)
- Our current executive leadership
- Opportunities within District 1



**I ASK FOR YOUR VOTE
FOR DAVID SLAVIN.**

KEVIN ROBERTS
Kakingeshi (Grizzly Bear)

Higbee descendant serves on new White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council

Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Kyle Whyte, Ph.D., dedicates his career to environmental justice, both as a professor and advocate. As the George Willis Pack Professor of Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan, he teaches courses focusing on Indigenous peoples' rights regarding land and environmental sovereignty.

"I really want to see an energy transition where tribes, where people of color, where other underserved communities emerge as leaders in the new energy system — as providers of energy, as people that are in the highest levels of decision making about what our energy system should look like and the values that it aspires to," Whyte said.

In early March, the Council for Environmental Quality invited him to join the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council, a 26-person group designed to represent people from across the United States to provide plans and ideas on fighting climate change alongside environmental justice.

"The experience that is on this council is incredible, and it's really dedicated people," Whyte said. "I'm really thinking that because of all of that wisdom, that the types of recommendations that are going to come out of the council represent the knowledge of people who have seen everything. They've seen what fails. They've seen things that have worked. They've been reflecting really hard on how to make policy change that will actually impact communities at the grassroots level."

Justice40

In late January, President Joe Biden signed Executive Order 14008, or Justice40, which laid out the first steps of an expansive initiative to combat climate change in the United States. It also outlined a commitment to ensure 40 percent of the benefits of those investments impact communities affected by environmental injustice. Whyte and the rest of the council presented plans on the organization and distribution of those benefits and investments in mid-May.

"I immediately thought, 'OK, it's time to really get to further work and to use the knowledge and skill sets that I have to take advantage of this potential opportunity for improving the tools, the resources, and the policies that are available to Indigenous people, but also many other communities of color and underserved communities, for protecting their environments, their cultures, their health, their ways of life,'" he said.

The council also presented improvements in the government's use of data across departments and agencies when determining the effects of environmentally hazardous practices on the most affected populations.

"Current data tools don't quite give us the whole picture that we need, and certainly tribes and Indigenous people face some environmental justice issues that aren't yet able to be portrayed by those tools," Whyte said. "And so one of the charges of the council is to



Kyle Whyte, Ph.D., serves the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council, University of Michigan School of Environment and Sustainability, College of Menominee Nation and Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition as an expert on environmental justice.

find ways to improve those tools for identifying communities that are being affected by environmental racism."

Executive Order 12898

As part of the environmental council, Whyte focuses on improvements to Executive Order 12898 signed by President Clinton in 1994 — the Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. The order's goals include guidance for federal agencies to better serve populations facing inequities, such as high levels of pollution. Whyte sees the potential to serve tribes and their sovereignty better.

"I think tribes are critical because we have governing powers, which means that we can actually pursue solutions to environmental issues that can model what it means to be a clean economy with renewable energy, what it means to have a good cultural relationship with the land. And I think that those governing powers that tribes have are critical to demonstrating what environmental justice looks like in practice," he said.

He also believes the implications of environmental damage expand beyond land rights and economic woes.

"I think the executive order also doesn't do enough to really talk about how cultural activities and lifeways can also be at risk. And often for many tribes, those are the key risks that are operative within a situation where there's a mine or a pipeline or something else," Whyte said.

Keystone XL pipeline

On January 20, President Biden also signed an executive order revoking the permit to build phase four of the Keystone XL pipeline, a point of contention for many tribes and environmental activists since it was commissioned in 2010.

In March, attorneys general from 21 states sued to overturn the revocation, stating Congressional desire to participate in determining the pipeline's fate. However, Whyte remains diligent in his push for tribal sovereignty in environmental justice cases and the use of Native American land.

"It's important to note that several tribal governments engaged in a lawsuit challenging whether they were adequately consulted and whether adequate environmental reviews took place. And so I think it's important to listen to those tribes that are directly implicated and who are putting their foot down," he said, noting the Keystone XL is not the first oil pipeline met with backlash from Native nations and environmentalists.

"In all of these cases, you see a similar pattern that tribal consultation is treated as an ornamental process. It's not treated as a process where the consultative

meetings themselves could actually change the outcome of what happens."

In early June, Canadian-based TC Energy terminated the Keystone project less than five months after President Biden's permit rejection and after more than a decade of opposition from Indigenous populations in the U.S. and Canada as well as environmentalists.

Partnership and tribal considerations remain at the center of Whyte's work. He finds inspiration in long-standing relationships between tribal nations and hopes they can provide solutions to environmental problems.

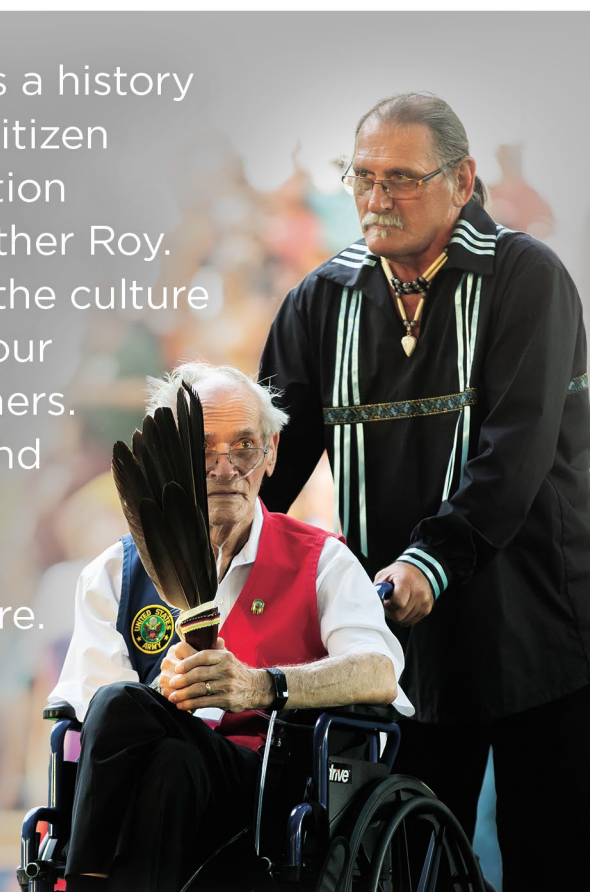
"It's not just the formal law, but it's also about mutuality and reciprocity among nations, and respect for tribal expertise, cultural knowledge, and the self-determination of what safe enough means. ... And that's where I think a lot of rebuilding and restoration needs to occur. And that we can do good to improve the policies and to change the laws, and to engage in lawsuits. At the same time that resistance occurs, we also need to be building a true sense of what a nation-to-nation relationship is," he said.

His work on the White House council and future actions of the Biden-Harris administration remain to be seen.

Find Kyle Whyte's University of Michigan faculty profile and publications at cpn.news/whyte.

TRIBAL CHAIRMAN JOHN "ROCKY" BARRETT ENDORSES DAVID SLAVIN FOR DISTRICT 1

David Slavin has a history of serving the Citizen Potawatomi Nation alongside his father Roy. He has learned the culture and passed on our traditions to others. His education and military service will be an asset to our Legislature.



VOTE DAVID SLAVIN FOR DISTRICT 1

Cartographer focuses on storytelling while mapping histories of places

Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Margaret Pearce, Ph.D., took one cartography class at University of Massachusetts and spent the next several decades of her life creating and teaching others the art of map-making.

“I’d always been an outdoors kind of person and also a kind of a pen-and-ink person,” Pearce said. “And when I learned cartography, or at the time that I was interested in cartography in college, it wasn’t really on computers yet. It was still being taught at pen-and-ink level, and that really appealed to me.”

Toward the end of her bachelor’s degree, her next steps were unclear. A mentor and teacher helped Pearce prepare for graduate school applications, and she continued to study. The Burnett family descendant graduated with a doctorate in geography from Clark University in 1998, achieving a tenured professorship at the University of Kansas several years later. Pearce enjoyed teaching map design; however, making them remained her passion.

In high school, she considered a future career in writing. That desire never went away, and cartography allowed her a space to combine the art and technicality of recording geography with storytelling.

“I thought it would be more about math and measure, which it is. But ... as I started to study it, I learned that it was more about language and about composing a narrative about places and whether that’s through number or through story or through both through their intertwining. And that just completely changed my life when I learned that,” Pearce said.

Teaching graduate students map design left little time to practice the discipline on her own – either as a hobby or for a living. After careful consideration, she left her tenured position in 2015 to pursue her passion.

“I thought if I could simplify my life because I knew I would have to live very small and cheaply in order to make it, I can do this full time and get further into cartography, which is what I wanted for my life,” Pearce said.

Shape, size and color

Clients and individual projects fill her time as an independent cartographer. She designs each map to best serve its purpose at every level. Pearce composes a unique piece using shape, size and color, comparing it to a film director’s use of sound, light and framing.

A map charting a fur trade clerk’s first journey across Canada and the Great Lakes by boat uses all three elements to



Detail from *Coming Home to Indigenous Place Names in Canada*, by Margaret Pearce. Map design (c) Canadian-American Center, University of Maine. Place names are property of Inuit Heritage Trust, depicted here by permission.

catch and keep the viewer’s attention. She felt the need to construct it after reading the clerk’s diaries and feeling dissatisfied with the small, undetailed charts of the more than 2,000-mile journey that came with it.

“You had no understanding from looking at the map what at all was happening,” Pearce said. “And I thought, ‘As a cartographer, I can really bring some of that energy that you get from the diary and bring it into the map so we can feel some of that while we’re also learning about where this is all taking place.’”

It spans more than 5 feet, forcing the viewer to slow down and pay attention as they move along the trading party’s path. Pearce marked sections along the coast to show each day’s progress.

“As the day gets harder, as they slow their pace, those squares get smaller, and you literally stop moving as you’re moving along, reading the map because they are stopped. And I really was enjoying playing with this idea of pace,” she said.

She also used shades and hues of colors to portray emotion. Green showed quick-moving and happy days, perhaps with good weather, and dark grey marked hard days with sickness or biting cold, at times when death seemed like a distinct possibility.

“I was trying to use those techniques of color and the emotion in his words. And the pacing of the day to convey this feeling of, ‘What does it mean to look back on a terrifying and also

joyful journey? Like what would that feel like? And how can I then express that to the map reader?” Pearce said.

She also included small diary excerpts, and these types of projects make her see the field as a combination of art and science.

“As I got deeper and deeper into (my studies), I thought, ‘Well, ... what it really is, is language because it has this formal structure of expression.’ And once we start looking at it that way, then we can expand that language the same way that we expand spoken language or written language,” Pearce said.

Language, history and today

Pearce has worked on many Indigenous projects for tribes and Native nations as well as journalistic publications throughout the years. For example, she designed the printed maps, graphs and infographics for the *Land-grab universities* project published in 2020 by *High Country News*. It shows the costs and effects, both monetary and cultural, of the land-grant university system on Native communities across the United States.

“I feel like our Indigenous geographies, our stories, get stereotyped sometimes as being only about story. But there’s so many important narratives, historical narratives, for us and present narratives for us to tell that need to be told through number,” Pearce said.

She also enjoys bringing together the past and present through Indigenous languages. One of her most recent projects

included creating a map for the University of Maine’s Canadian-American Center, *Coming Home to Indigenous Place Names in Canada*. It marked the anniversary of the Canadian Confederation, and she sought to create a map that celebrated Indigenous sovereignty through language. It shows Inuit and First Nations names for culturally significant places throughout the country, only labeled in those in those peoples’ languages.

“I basically just started calling and emailing and texting communities in Canada and saying, ‘Would you like to contribute place names to this map? And if so, could you please tell me which names you would like to see there?’” Pearce explained.

The different languages flow across the map between communities and writing styles, ranging from Roman characters to syllabics.

“I didn’t try to classify them by language. I didn’t try to separate them by time period. I see those as colonizing ways of portraying place names. Instead, I looked to ways to put them in this uninterrupted dialogue,” Pearce said.

The maps connect the places through ice and winter roads as well as conventional highways, using them as orienting markers.

“I saw those roads as really important and ... as a way of conveying that these are real places. They’re not from the past. They come from the past, but they reside in the present. And they are specifically at these places along the roads that people drive on every day,” Pearce said.

She believes cartography, in particular, lends itself to the representation of Indigeneity because the land remains at the center of many societies and traditions.

“If all of our knowledge is situated and our histories are located at places, and we learn by visiting those places and activating them in our memory ... cartography allows us to elevate that important structure and place it at the center,” she explained.

Pearce hopes the trend of creating maps for Native nations and Indigenous communities continues. However, her interests span far and wide, covering many subjects she feels “desperate to map” in her lifetime.

See *Land-grab universities* at cpn.news/landgrab and *Coming Home to Indigenous Place Names in Canada* at cpn.news/cominghomemap. Read more about Margaret Pearce’s work online at studio1to1.net.

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Importance of community relations, customer service and planning

By Payton Moody

Within a bank setting, some tools and skills are vital to success and customer satisfaction. Community relations, customer service and planning are among those qualities that are critical for the future of a business, especially one that primarily deals with the public.

For more information on these topics, I spoke with Amanda Estala, marketing director and assistant vice president at First National Bank & Trust Co. of Shawnee, Oklahoma. With her years of experience in customer service and extensive expertise within community relations, Estala discusses

these topics and divulges first-hand information and knowledge.

“Being a part of community activities has allowed me to meet a multitude of people that I would not have otherwise had the opportunity,” she said. “With that, you network and build relationships with people as you are all coming together for a common cause.”

FNB has always valued the importance of being a part of our community. Estala also stressed the importance of customer service; it can make or break a business and its reputation.

“Customer service should be the top priority,” she said. “It has been proven that people will go out of their way to receive exceptional customer service. But customer service goes far deeper than the customers. Customer service is also relevant and critical for internal relations.”

Planning and thinking ahead is something that Estala feels has benefited her throughout her career. She is a firm believer in consistency and thoroughness as it aids the customers and allows bankers to plan for the unexpected.

“In my role in particular, I feel that attention to detail is important, and planning around those details has

been quite effective for me,” Estala said. “Anyone who knows me knows that I am a planner!”

She has outlined the importance of community relations, customer service and planning and how it has benefited her career and helped her be successful.

First National Bank & Trust Co. would like to thank Estala for her insightful answers and knowledge regarding customer service, community relations and planning.

Find First National Bank & Trust Co. online at fnbokla.bank or on Facebook @FNBoklahoma. 📍

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1 REGION ONE I am endorsing

David Slavin

I initially planned to endorse Alan Melot, but the more I looked at what each candidate stood for, the more I felt the strong need to endorse David Slavin.

David and I agree on many of the same issues:
Economic Development
Maintain and Expand Benefits
Support Education

"David Slavin is the right choice for Region One!"
Drew Boursaw

“THANK YOU

for choosing me to serve another four years as your Tribal Chairman. It is an honor to have your trust and support for what we have built and are building for our generations to come. ”

TRIBAL CHAIRMAN **JOHN “ROCKY” BARRETT**

Two-needle applique ring tutorial

Stormy (Rhodd) Hunter upholds her family's Potawatomi traditions through beadwork and other art forms. She balances being a busy mom to five sons, a career at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Cultural Heritage Center and a craftwork business with her husband Travis Hunter.

"In the hustle of working full time and meeting the needs of my family life and responsibilities, I can always find my own personal identity in something that I have created," Hunter said.

She believes knowledge is not something one should own and upholds this value by teaching others every chance she gets.

"It is vital to our survival that this knowledge is shared and available for all who want to learn and share in the responsibility of keeping the tradition of creation alive," she added.

In the spirit of reciprocity, Hunter developed a step-by-step tutorial on how to create a two-needle applique ring. Potawatomi Gifts sells a kit with all the supplies needed at potawatomigifts.com.

Two-needle applique utilizes two threaded needles. Needle one helps get the beads onto the project while needle two secures the beads in place.

Hunter stressed that there are several approaches to beaded applique, and the tutorial featured reflects the best method for her personal style.

"I found that the beads lay smoother and more uniform. ... I think with pieces like this ring, it is important to know that it's easier to fill in a space by going through the next bead instead of crowding and making beads bunch up too much," she said.

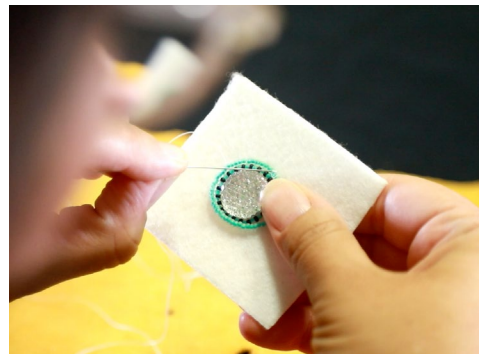
To learn her technique, follow these directions:

1. Glue a center stone to the felt, and allow it to dry. Hunter recommends E6000 glue.
2. Cut two pieces of string approximately a yard long each. The kit includes size B thread.
3. Apply beeswax to both strings. This helps strengthen the thread and prevents fraying.
4. Create two single-threaded needles using the waxed strings and the two beading needles provided in the kit. Deciding which size needles to use depends on the size of beads. The kit features size 11 seed beads and size 12 needles. Other techniques utilize a single and double-threaded needle, but Hunter prefers using two singles.
5. Take needle number one through the felt from the back, as near to the center stone as possible, and pull through.
6. Take needle two, and do the same, drawing it through as near to the center stone as possible. Once complete, keep needle two out of the way. It will be utilized later in the project.
7. Using the needle one, begin picking up beads in a black and blue alternating pattern until there are enough to completely surround the center stone.

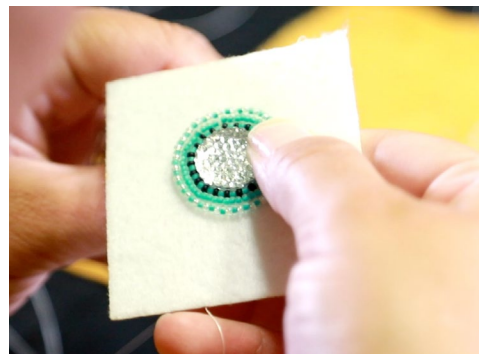
8. Secure the line of beads by pushing needle one through the felt to the back.



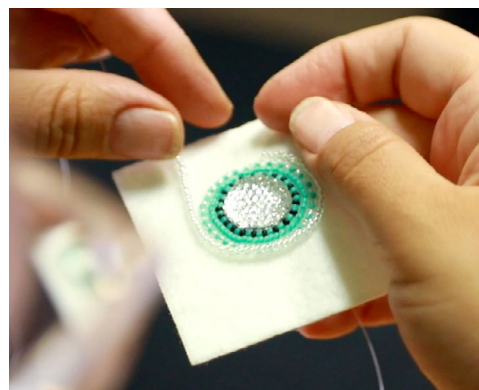
9. Pick up needle two that was set out of the way, and attach every two beads by tacking the string down between the two beads.
10. Go all the way around until the last bead. Next, pull needle two through the last bead then through to the back of the felt.
11. Bring needle one back to the front of the project, as near to the first row of beads that were just secured as possible. Now, it is time to begin on the second row.



12. Using needle one, pick up enough blue beads to completely surround the first row, then repeat steps eight through 10.
13. To begin the third row, use needle number one and pick up beads in an alternating white and blue pattern until the beads fit all the way around the project.

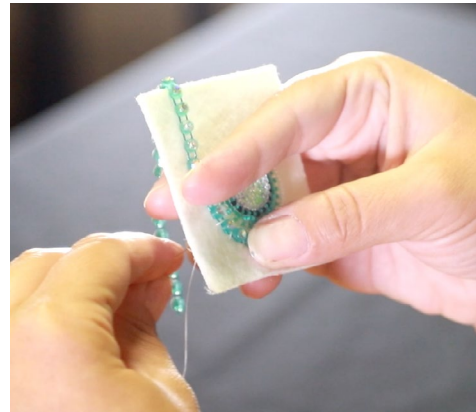


14. Repeat steps eight through 10 on the third row.
15. For the fourth row of beads, use needle number one to pick up all white beads to fit completely around the project.



16. Repeat steps eight through 10.

17. Once the fourth row is completely secure, make sure both needles are on the back side of the felt and double knot together. Then cut one of the threads at the knot, leaving one threaded needle still attached.
18. Take the rhinestones provided in the kit and place them around the project, getting an idea of how it will look and the exact length of rhinestones needed. Cut off excess.

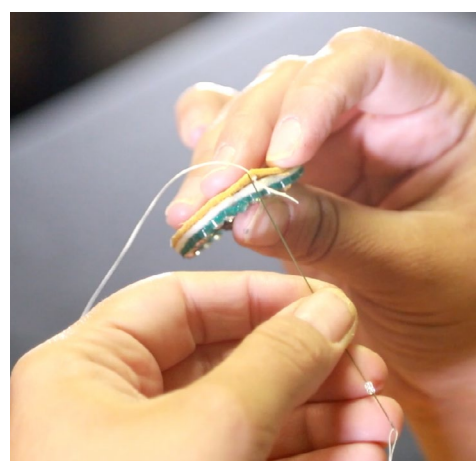


19. With the remaining single threaded needle, attach each rhinestone. This is similar to how the needle two was used in prior steps to secure the beads.
20. Once each rhinestone has been attached, knot the thread on the back of the felt and cut the thread as near to the knot as possible.
21. Grabs scissors to cut out the project, but be careful not to cut any of the thread that holds the beadwork together.
22. Burn or cut off excess thread.



Now it's time to begin the project's last part: finishing with leather backing and creating a beaded edge.

23. Cut out a piece of leather that matches the project's size. Feel free to mark the size required with a pencil or other writing utensil before cutting.
24. Apply wax to a piece of thread approximately 2-3 feet in length.
25. Then double thread a needle.



26. Take the needle through an edge of the leather and the beadwork project.

27. Use the needle to pick up two white beads.
28. Take the needle through the second bead.
29. Make sure the edging lies sideways before picking up two more white beads.
30. Take the needle through the second bead just like before, and then pull through both the project and leather layers.



31. Repeat and follow all the way around.
32. Knot at the end.
33. Cut or burn off excess.



34. Place the ring on the back of the project in the center using glue. Hunter recommends E6000.



35. Let it dry, then enjoy!

Find the kit at potawatomigifts.com. Hunter welcomes questions by calling the CHC at 405-878-5830. ♡

CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma
potawatomiheritage.com
405-878-5830
Free entry

Tribal Chairman – John “Rocky” Barrett



Bozho nikan
(Hello, my friend),

As you read this, the protest period has ended and our Tribal elections have been certified. I would like to thank the voters for re-electing me to serve another four years as your Tribal Chairman. It is an honor to have your trust and support for what we have built and are building for our generations to come.

I would like to echo my remarks at General Council before the election results were announced and note that attempts to undermine faith in our electoral process are a danger to our Nation. Our system relies on trust that our Election Committee — who are only nominated by the Tribal Chairman but confirmed and selected by the Tribal Legislature — are faithful Citizen Potawatomi, administering free and fair elections. An electoral loss should not be used as an excuse to impugn the reputations of our fellow Citizen Potawatomi who've done nothing but serve us as a Nation for many years as election commissioners.

Unfortunately, we live in an era where it feels like every race for office is marred with the losing party claiming voter fraud or irregularities. These accusations often start before the votes

are even cast. What is the real tragedy in sowing these doubts through false accusations is the loss of faith. Faith in our governmental process is the very fabric that holds us together as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Our people who would otherwise participate in their Tribe and its vital government role instead tune out, claiming their vote doesn't count. With less participation, our language, traditions, and Tribe are at risk.

We have a government to be proud of, designed to serve you in ways no other tribe serves its people. Prior to the 2007 reform, CPN members had to personally attend a meeting in a room at the headquarters with only a 50-person quorum and no rules of conduct to elect its officers and try to pass any laws or ordinances. The results of that meeting could be reversed the next day by another General Council meeting. It was chaos.

These meetings were often loud, acrimonious, and even violent. All that changed in 1985 when the CPN created its Tribal Court system and passed laws to govern our behavior and protect our people. We finally started to act like a government. The rate of financial growth of the Nation since that time has been a remarkable 20 percent per year.

There are always ways to improve. At the June 28 legislative meeting, we discussed ways to increase voter participation, a topic we will revisit in coming legislative meetings. Please consider how important the simple act of voting can be. Our future depends on your voice.

Another year has gone that we did not get to gather in person for our Family Reunion Festival. While it's unfortunate that we didn't get to be together at the scale of normal years, I was

very pleased to see nearly 300 of you at the General Council meeting. I urge all of you to take the COVID-19 vaccine so that we can have this pandemic behind us. I'm looking forward to seeing you June 2022 here at Tribal headquarters.

As always, it is an honor to serve as your Tribal chairman.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

John “Rocky” Barrett
Keweoge
(He Leads Them Home)
Tribal Chairman

Vice-Chairman – Linda Capps



Bozho
(Hello),

My office has been receiving letters from Tribal members that encourage CPN to share the \$170 million funds of the American Rescue Program Act. We have planned to do so since we first learned about the funds. On Aug. 2, there will be an online self-certification application to request \$1,400 for every Tribal

member enrolled prior to Feb. 1, 2021. Applications can also be mailed upon request, and there will be a copy in the *Hownikan* that can be cut out from the paper or duplicated.

With the Fourth of July on the horizon as I write this, it is appropriate to mention a few blessings that are linked to the freedom that we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America. Part of that freedom includes being a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. I am thankful for the tenacity, the vision and the accomplishments that have stimulated our Tribal nation to grow and prosper. That progress mainly derives from our Tribal members, our sovereignty, culture and heritage, past and present leadership, and diligent employees of our Nation. In addition, it is fitting to recognize the members of the community that have supported our enterprises. Our Nation has been truly blessed.

The men and women serving in the armed forces and the veterans throughout the country are also on our mind at this time of year. I want to mention a special young CPN Tribal member, Russel Boatman, U.S. Air Force. Russell wanted to get his Potawatomi name before he entered the Air Force. He and his mother, Misty Boatman, traveled all the way from Stigler, Oklahoma, to CPN Tribal grounds so he could receive his Potawatomi name from yours truly.

What an honor to name a young man entering the military.

Russell joined the USAF on Aug. 4, 2020. He graduated basic training at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, on Sept. 24, 2020. In March, he graduated from the Department of Defense Fire Protection Academy at Goodfellow Air Force Base in Texas, where he trained to be a proud firefighter for his country.



Russel Boatman

He is currently assigned to 27 Special Operations Wing Fire Department at Cannon AFB, New Mexico. Best wishes to Russel Boatman for serving his country in such a fine manner.

By the time you receive this newspaper, you will have celebrated the Fourth of July

with friends and/or family. May we never forget the special holiday that commemorates the day our country's founders issued the Declaration of Independence. It would be good for us to review once more the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the United States Constitution — all of which come from that initial Independence Day.

I cherish the opportunity to be your Vice-Chairman. May God bless you throughout the remainder of the year.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Linda Capps
Segenakwe
(Black Bird Woman)
Vice-Chairman
405-275-3121 work
405-650-1238 cell
lcapps@potawatomi.org

Fireflight Balloon Fest 2021

August 13 & 14
Shawnee, OK

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visit firelakeballoonfest.com for more!

District 2 – Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends)!

US Supreme Court ruling

On June 1, tribal nations and citizens received a favorable, though not far-reaching (in my view), ruling from the Supreme Court. In the criminal case, *US v. Cooley*, the Court held that tribal law enforcement officers have the authority to temporarily detain and search non-Indians traveling on public rights-of-way running through a reservation for suspected violations of state or federal law. The president of the National Congress of American Indians, Fawn Sharp, characterized the decision as “one of the strongest affirmations of tribal sovereignty in a generation,” noting that it will help secure Native communities against non-Native criminals who commit crimes on tribal lands. It’s prudent to read Justice Alito’s concurring opinion in the case to understand how future courts and litigants may seek to limit the decision to its facts. Read the 9-0 opinion, and concurrence, at [cpn.news/d2july](https://www.cpn.news/d2july).

Citizen Potawatomi Family milestones

It’s been lovely to receive your news of graduations and other accomplishments. Please keep the information coming! While I do not have photos to share of District 2 get-togethers (those should start up again in the fall/winter, COVID-19 willing), I have received some great photos of celebrations that I’m sharing here. Congratulations to these accomplished *kwék* (women) and to all our graduates.

Alexandra Beil earned her law degree at Michigan Law in May 2021. Alexandra participated in the Potawatomi Leadership Program and is the granddaughter of Dennis Johnson (Florida). She anticipates doing corporate transactional work at the law firm Buckley LLP in Chicago.

Elise Cohen/*Mtenose* earned her doctorate in clinical psychology from Long Island University in December 2020. Dr. Cohen is working with youth in the Boston Area at Aspire Health Alliance, after completing her doctoral internship there.

Abigail Hill graduated from high school in May 2021 and will play college soccer and study culinary arts and pharmacology in Kansas City. Abby is the granddaughter of Sheila Hill (Arkansas).

Anna Korzeniewski graduated from Clarksburg High School in Maryland in June 2021. She will attend Grove City College in Pennsylvania in the fall, studying secondary education with emphases on math, history and art.

Dixie Morgan Quinn Nelson/*Mkedemkokwe*, after graduating with a J.D. from The University of Alabama School of Law, passed the Arkansas bar in 2021



Abigail Hill

and now is hard at work at a law firm in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Information on traditional family namings

Now that vaccinations are permitting people to get together, I have seen a heightened interest in traditional family namings and our related ceremonies. I have put together some reference information and posted it to my website, [evamariecarney.com](https://www.evamariecarney.com), under the ‘Heritage’ tab. It is password protected. Please contact me if you don’t have the password.

Loss of Citizen Potawatomi *kwé*

Dell Rosa *Migwekwe* Chalk, CPN citizen and District 2 resident (Virginia), walked on in late May. Dell was a unique woman and a friend to me and many other Potawatomi, especially those who attended our annual Fall Feasts. She always wore her regalia to these gatherings. Once when we worked on a craft involving parfleche and paint, she added a dashing plastic poncho to protect her regalia. She brought boughs of cedar from her yard to give away and relished her



Alexandra Beil

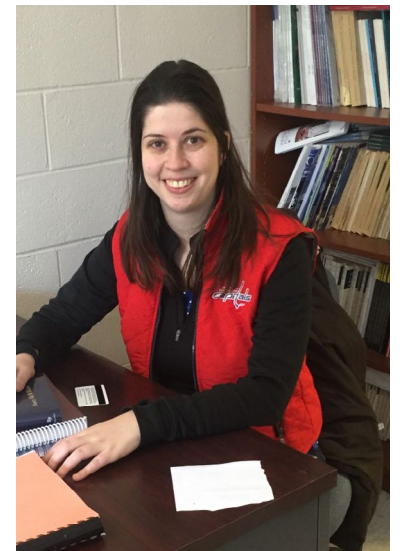


Dixie Morgan Quinn Nelson

time with fellow Potawatomi. She told me that one of her life highlights was attending the Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations in 2019 hosted by Wasauksing First Nation, in Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada. She leaves behind a beloved husband, Brad Chalk, two stepchildren and a younger friend who called her “mom,” her mother and mother-in-law, several siblings and many other family members, as well as many Citizen Potawatomi friends. Find her formal obituary at [cpn.news/dell](https://www.cpn.news/dell).



Anna Korzeniewski



Elise Cohen

Reach out!

Please contact me if I can be helpful. It’s my responsibility and privilege to represent you.

Eva Marie Carney
Ojindiskwe (Blue Bird Woman)
Representative, District 2
5877 Washington Boulevard
PO Box 5591
Arlington, VA 22205
866-961-6988 toll-free
ecarney@potawatomi.org
[evamariecarney.com](https://www.evamariecarney.com)

District 3 – Bob Whistler



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend),

Homestead markers

I just returned from a trip in both Kansas and Oklahoma and noticed the markings that are used on farmlands to identify their boundaries. For those of us that live in the cities, we are accustomed to seeing fences or walls. The markers that I saw were simply a stack of stones generally about 3 feet high and a couple of feet in diameter. I believe that these type of stone markers were most likely used to mark off the original farm home-

steads when our lands were taken from us and settlers were allowed to come in and homestead up to 140 or more acres. I am including a photo of one of the markers that I saw. I thought those of you that have not had the opportunity to see the plains-area farmlands might like to just see how they setup their boundaries.

May 27 legislative meeting

At our May 27 meeting, we reviewed and approved seven resolutions. As many of you may not know, most, if not all, of our resolutions may be new versions of past resolutions along with filings for completely new areas. Staff in the various departments do the research and grant writing. No single individual is responsible for the creation of the grant filings for every area. For example, resolutions 21-44 HHS to secure \$168,000 and 21-45 HHS to secure \$330,000 were for much smaller amounts several years ago. Margaret Zientek, who works in the Workforce Development & Social Services department, went to Washington D.C. a few years ago and addressed the federal department that allocates the funds



she sought. We have benefited as a result of her trip and presentation to the federal government. Earlier grants in these two areas were more like \$25,000. We are fortunate to have many staff members working on grants and dedicated to getting us the greatest amount of funds available.

Our Nation continues to grow. We approved resolution 21-49 LCoE where about 408 new members were approved for membership in our Tribe. Fifty-three of the new members are in District 3.

We were advised that the follow-up to the CARES funds is the American Recue Plan, which also

has specific guidelines on how the funds may be distributed. No definite areas could be discussed and setup since we are still awaiting the receipt of the guidelines from U.S. Treasury. The number that I heard of what we may receive is nowhere near the rumored 10 times the CARES funds money. So, for now it is sitting as we wait for the final numbers and guidelines.

Graduation stoles

A number of our District 3 members have had various school districts tell our graduating students they were not going to allow the stoles or eagle feathers to be worn at their graduation ceremony. In one case, a track coach attempted to remove an eagle feather from the student’s graduation cap. I, along with several District 3 members, have written about this policy. I wrote to both Governor Greg Abbott and Commissioner of Education Mike Morath asking for permission for our graduating students to wear their stole or eagle feather for their graduation. Neither have answered me. I am in the process

of writing again, advising them of the action taken by the track coach, which is totally unacceptable. While we have not been successful in getting an acceptable policy approved, we will continue to pursue the issue.

The election has passed. I was unopposed, so I will be representing District 3 for another four years. I am honored and proud to be your representative. Please call me if you need help with anything that may involve a Tribal area. The best way to reach me is to call my cellphone. You may also go onto my website: [cpndistrict3.com](https://www.cpn.district3.com) and send a short note or ask a question. I look forward to hearing from you.

Bama mine
(later),

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He Soars)
Representative, District 3
112 Bedford Road, Suite 116
Bedford, TX 76022
817-229-6271 cell
rwhistler@potawatomi.org
cpn3legislator@yahoo.com
[cpndistrict3.com](https://www.cpn.district3.com)

District 4 – Jon Boursaw



Bozho
(Hello),

CPN election support

Just a quick note to say thank you for the support you provided me during the recent 2021 CPN Election.

May enrollment list

On May 27, the CPN Legislature approved an enrollment list of 408 new CPN members. I am pleased to announce that 50 of those were from District 4. To my knowledge, this is the largest number of new members from Kansas on one list. This puts the Nation's

enrollment close to 37,000 and District 4 close to 2,900.

August Elders Potluck in Rossville

The August Elders Potluck will be held on Friday, Aug. 13, at noon in the CPN Community Center in Rossville. Tracy and Brenda have labelled this potluck as "Beat the Heat-a-Cool Lunch."

The main course will be a tuna, chicken and ham salad with other assorted salads available. They have asked that you RSVP by Tuesday, Aug. 10, if you plan on attending. Their number is 785-584-6171. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

Update on Haley Brown

I recently received the following update on Haley from her mother:

"In May CPN member Haley Brown graduated from Missouri Western State University with her Master's degree in Sports and Fitness Management. Haley had obtained her undergraduate degree from Kansas State University. But the most exciting

news is that Haley continues to set new goals. An opportunity of a lifetime was achieved as she has accepted a position with USA Baseball-Appalachian League. Her baseball journey will continue this summer in Pulaski, Virginia as the Certified Athletic Trainer for the Pulaski River Turtles. The River Turtles are one of ten teams in the 'Appy' League which has been converted to a collegiate summer baseball league as part of the Prospect Development Pipeline in conjunction with Major League Baseball and USA Baseball. Only the top 320 freshmen and sophomore collegiate players were identified and invited to participate in this year's 2021 Appalachian League. The summer league is scheduled to play 54-games. She is thrilled to be a part of the new Appalachian League, and thankful for the opportunity to encourage young women to break the barriers in pursuing occupations in a male dominated environment.

"On July 10th the Pulaski River Turtles will host the Native American National Team vs. the Western Hemisphere Team. The Native American National



Haley Brown

Team is made up of players who have heritage with one of the Tribal Nations that exist within North America. The Western Hemisphere Team consist of players from the USA, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium and Sweden."

Almost seven years ago, I had the honor of giving Haley her Indian name, *Dok me noj mo kwe* (Quiet Healing Woman).

Email addresses

I cannot stress enough the importance that you provide me with your email address in order

for me to distribute information such as the upcoming events, future meetings and other pertinent information. I have recently sent out several emails to those CPN members for which I have email addresses. If you are not receiving my emails, either I do not have your email address or what I have entered on my list is incorrect or has been changed. If you would like to be added to my email list, simply send me an email at jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org. This is the only method available to me to obtain your email address.

As always, it is my honor and pleasure to serve as your legislative representative.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Jon Boursaw,
Wetase Mkoh (Brave Bear)
Representative, District 4
2007 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66604
785-861-7272 office
785-608-1982 cell
jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org
Office hours:
9-11 a.m. Tuesdays
3-5 p.m. Thursdays
Other times: please call

District 5 – Gene Lambert



Bozho
(Hello),

Good day everyone out there in Potawatomi land. It is July, and everyone is celebrating the 4th as America's Independence Day.

Not so fast! Not everyone.

While there are many injustices in the world, we still have so much for which to be thankful. I try to keep my eyes and thoughts there.

Please do not consider this article an ungrateful

attitude, as the Creator has been very good to me.

However, just when you think you have heard all the horrifying stories representing the injustices, we learn more about new or added to situations affecting the Native American communities.

The statistics show the imbalance in cultures for missing children, women, laws and the everyday prejudices. It is alive and thriving.

All lives do matter.

The discovery of the mass graves of Indigenous children at a boarding school in Canada is just a tip of a melting iceberg.

The United States didn't fair very well either with regard to the forced education of Native Children and the breakdown of families, language, culture and spiritual ceremonies. The federal government stole thousands of children, for "their good" of course.

We don't even want to discuss the massacres of the past at the moment. Let's just talk about the now as a residual of the past.

I have talked to adults recently and asked, "Do you think we have systemic prejudices in America?"

I grant you, the question was addressed to the "unbrow" people, but the quick answer was "no."

The moment was enlightening as I heard the answer they were giving as honestly as they could from their personal exposure.

I'm guessing most can only comment on their view of the world through their eyes. Perhaps they really do not see, as they have not experienced the rejection due to race or color. All is well in their world, and they do not understand anything that isn't parked in the living room.

You cannot be angry for those who do not know or understand.

Thank God they are gathering an upgraded awareness as it becomes more obvious by the minute. The reason is information highways I would imagine. News?

The leadership of this country is what needs an overhaul

and back to the Walter Cronkite reporting. Where did that go, by the way?

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the number of Native Americans incarcerated in federal prisons increased by 27 percent. In Alaska, data published by the 2010 US Census revealed that 38 percent of incarcerated people are American Indian or Alaskan Native despite the fact that they make up only 15 percent of the total population. In Hawaii, Native Hawaiians make up 24 percent of the general population but account for 39 percent of the incarcerated population, according to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Native youth are highly impacted by the U.S. prison system.

Police brutality contributes greatly to the rising incarceration rates and deaths of Native people. While Native Americans only make up 1.2 percent of the total population in the U.S., Natives experience higher rates of death due to police violence than any other racial group. Native Americans are three

times more likely than white Americans to be killed by police.

These numbers were updated by the 2020 census and don't look to get better.

Native women are murdered and sexually abused at a rate 10 times higher than other nationalities. The reason is suggested it is from people outside the community, and the perpetrators could be passing employees on special projects close to the reservation.

Ralph Erickson, a chief federal district court judge for North Dakota told the *Wall Street Journal* that he is heading up a federal review, Tribal Issues Advisory Group, and has 22 judges and law enforcement leaders, 11 of which are Native American. He also confessed that the sentencing is very different if you are white, and he would like to see that change.

Some of the differences for Native vs. non-Native sentencing is due to the fact that tribal members are prosecuted by federal law and non-

THE Hownikan PODCAST

Logos for Spotify, STITCHER, and SOUNDCLLOUD are displayed on the right side of the banner.

Natives by the states, and the accountability is more lenient.

Native Americans are also THREE times more likely to be killed by police. That really surprised me as we hear and see so much more in the news regarding Black Lives Matter. It is all a matter of exposure to what is really going on out there and what we are being told or led to believe.

Again, we get back to the definition of a lie. There is viewpoint, and then there are some very basic facts. "A lie is leading someone to misbelieve anything." The politicians get a little confused on that one.

On the other side of tragedies, we have a Native American

tribe who just bought back an island that was stolen from them 160 years ago.

The Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indian Township in Maine just bought back an island stolen from them 160 years ago and bought it for \$355,000, which was about \$100,000 less than the original asking price. They raised some money, and some was donated when they saw it for sale in an ad promoting island purchases.

The Wiyot Tribe in California just won back the 280-acre Duluwat Island when the City of Eureka returned it for free after 159 years. It was taken from them in the massacre of 1860. It was said they wiped out the women and children while

the men had gone hunting. The 600 tribal members in existence today feel this is a major dream come true.

There appears to be a return of lands taken from our Indigenous people via the federal government? (They're up to something.)

They say they are trying to heal the mistreatment of the past.

One could say there is a full circle effect for some.

You know, "What goes around comes around." I know that one firsthand.

So, while the fighting is uncomfortable and life threatening for some at times, it seems to be a necessary tool

to bring things back to the "equal" that our Declaration of Independence talks about.

Independence for some and not all simply won't work.

When you look back at the discord that has taken place in this country and how many lives have been lost for a cause, you will see how costly the growth has been.

Yet we must keep on fighting for what we believe in and what the American documents guarantee. If we do not, there is no America.

We have our Citizen Potawatomi Nation to think of in the same way. You cannot please all the Natives all the time. You must, however, take a look at where we were and what we

had 30 years ago and where we are and what we have now.

"Pray for our Nation" is a request from Linda Capps. There are disagreements and differences of opinion. We cannot let that tear us apart and take down our past successes.

Please remember we are all members of CPN and care deeply for our future.

Keep the American Flag and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation flags flying high.

Eunice Imogene Lambert
Butterfly Woman
Representative, District 5
270 E Hunt Highway, Ste 229
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143
480-228-6569
euniceilambert@gmail.com

District 7 – Mark Johnson



Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends),

I hope that you had a chance to attend the Virtual 2021

Family Festival. The last year and a half has been exceedingly difficult for many of you, and it has been a trying time for us as a Tribe and as a Nation. I hope that you and your family have been able to take advantage of the vaccines that have been made widely available across the country. I also know a lot of you may be apprehensive about taking it, which is understandable, but the risk of serious adverse side effects is very minimal. So, get the shot, and we will all be able to visit at next year's Festival in person in Shawnee or this fall at the District 6 and 7 Fall Gathering, which we will be announcing before too long.

I know many of you were able to take advantage of the CARES Act funding made available in 2020. An undertaking of that size was a remarkable feat for the Tribal staff in Shawnee to pull off, and it went well once it was in place. With a Tribal nation of over 37,000 members, it takes a lot of planning and work to do it right. Another round of funding has become available. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation received \$170 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act from the U.S. Treasury. We are still waiting for the details and guidance from the Treasury Department, and as a Tribe, we are too big to take a

haphazard approach that could put the program funds at risk. Additional information will be made available through the Tribal website at potawatomi.org or by following the information available in the *Hownikan*.

Regardless, it is anticipated that the funding will not be enough to cover every need, but we are hopeful that the second round of funding will be able to make a great start to a brighter future for us all.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always, give me a call, and I will be happy to work with you on any questions

you may have or provide you with additional information you may need to access Tribal benefits. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Mark Johnson
Wisk Mtek (Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA 93611
559-351-0078 cell
mark.johnson@potawatomi.org

District 8 – Dave Carney



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend),

Our first ever District 8 Zoom meeting came off seamlessly with the help of CPN staff Chris Abel and Jennifer Bell. This was no easy feat, as we had members from around the district not only watch the meeting but members also presented from various locations.

I spoke from my CPN office in Olympia, Washington, and introduced our speakers. There was pent up desire from our members throughout the Northwest to connect due to our inability to do so, due to the coronavirus pandemic. Of course, Zoom is not everyone's thing. Several elders reached out to me prior to the meeting and shared with me

that they were uncomfortable with attending a meeting online; however, they would watch a recording of the meeting online later. That is possible by following this link: cpn.news/D82021

The focus of the meeting was traditions and ceremonies that tie us together as Citizen Potawatomi. To that end, citizens throughout District 8 spoke about their Potawatomi name, when they received their name, regalia or other family items that mean a lot to them and traditions that they may follow which were handed down to them as well as family history.

Speakers making unique contributions were:



Robert White, Julie Jackson and John Kochanowski drumming.

Robert White, Julie Jackson and John Kochanowski who also (with the help of two friends) drummed several songs using a "big drum" or pow wow drum. Over the last few years, they have worked very hard to learn songs and techniques to represent our district as the drum group, the 7th Fire. They did a fantastic job!

Other presenters included Joe Clark from Summers, Montana, Barbara Johnson from Palmer, Alaska, and Susanna Basappa from Rochester, Minnesota.

We were honored to have Tribal Chairman Barrett and Vice-Chairman Capps in attendance through the power of Zoom. I invited the Chairman to



Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett sharing some of his traditional knowledge.

share some of his traditional knowledge, and he did not disappoint. Just some of the topics he spoke about were smudging, eagle feathers and the naming ceremony. I've gotten quite a bit of feedback from members that learned something — even a little detail from Chairman "Rocky" Barrett. There were lots of good takeaways, and I appreciated the Chairman taking the time.

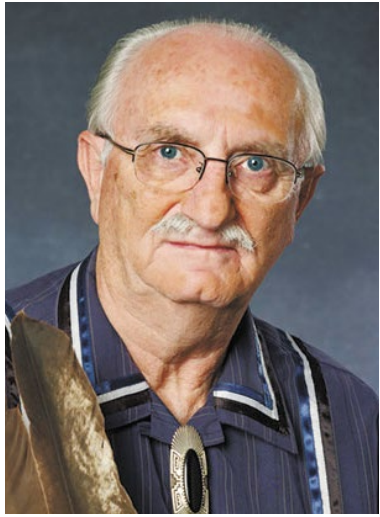
On an unrelated note, the district lost a good friend last week due to COVID-19. Paul Muxen was an artist and a gentle soul who loved Native drums and leatherworks. He made

the rounds throughout pow wows and gatherings across the Northwest and even taught our District 8 drum making class a while back. Please keep Paul's family in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

As always, it is my honor to serve as your legislator,

Dave Carney
Kagasghi (Raven)
Representative, District 8
520 Lilly Road, Building 1
Olympia, WA 98506
360-259-4027
dcarney@potawatomi.org

District 9 – Paul Wesselhöft



Bozho nikan
(Hello friend),

Jim Thorpe, Potawatomi

James Francis Thorpe, whose Indian name was *Wu-Tho-Huk*, meaning “Bright Path,” was born May 22 or 28, 1887, in Indian Territory. He walked on March 28, 1953.

Jim was an Olympic gold medalist and the first Native American to win gold medals for America during the 1912 Summer Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden. He won two gold medals — one for the classic pentathlon and one for the decathlon. These two events are acknowledged to solidify the greatest athlete in the world.

Before the races, Thorpe’s running shoes were stolen. However,

he found two miss-matched shoes in the trash, which he used. Thorpe is the only Olympian athlete to compete in 17 events. Thorpe was too poor to attend the 1932 Olympics, so he was invited to sit in the Presidential Box. Over more than 100,000 people stood to honor him.

Thorpe lost his Olympic titles after it was found he had been paid for playing two seasons of semi-professional baseball before competing in the Olympics, thus violating the amateurism rules that were in place at the time. In 1983, 30 years after his death, the International Olympic Committee restored his Olympic medals — but did not restore him as the sole winner — with replicas 30 years after his death.

Thorpe was also a two-time All-American in football under legendary coach Pop Warner at Carlisle Indian School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Later, Thorpe played professional football, baseball and basketball. He was the first president of what became the National Football League. His legendary carrier was depicted in at the 1951 movie titled, *Jim Thorpe-All American*. Actor Burt Lancaster portrayed him.

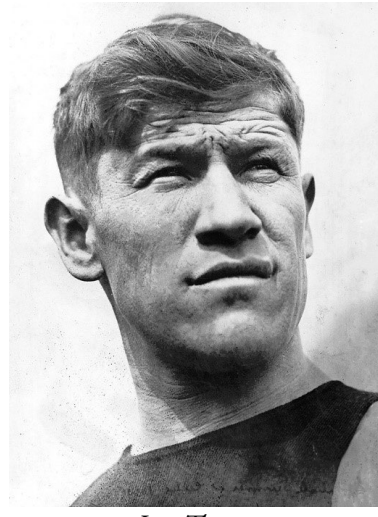
Jim grew up in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma, near and

south of Bellemont along the banks of the North Fork River. He was born outside of Prague, Indian Territory. He always referred to Shawnee as his birthplace, probably because Shawnee was then the closest town found on the map.

Thorpe attended the Sac and Fox Indian School in Stroud, Oklahoma, with his twin brother, Charlie, who died of pneumonia when they were 9 years old. Jim later attended Haskell Institute, an Indian boarding school in Lawrence, Kansas.

Thorpe was married three times and had eight children. Unfortunately, Jim’s life ended in failing health, alcoholism and poverty. His once strong-beating heart gave out; he died at age 66.

Thorpe’s third wife wanted him buried in Oklahoma with state-appropriated funds. Governor William “Alfalfa Bill” Murray vetoed the bill for fiscal reasons. Bill Thorpe, Jim’s son, later told the story of his dad’s funeral, where the Olympic champion’s third wife came in with the police and a hearse and took the body away in the middle of the ceremony. Thorpe’s body was whisked away to Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania. The town changed its name to Jim Thorpe, buried him there and put up a memorial



Jim Thorpe

in his honor. Jim Thorpe had never visited the town.

Jim’s mother and grandmother were Citizen Potawatomi. His grandmother was a descendant of Chief Louis Vieux. Therefore, Jim Thorpe was Citizen Potawatomi. Chief Vieux ran a ferry over the Black Vermillion River in Kansas on the Oregon Trail. He was Thorpe’s great-grandfather and had come to Kansas from the Great Lakes region on the Potawatomi Trail of Death.

I have been informed by the writer of his biography of the following: “Jim was Citizen Band Potawatomi until at age 14 when his mother, Charlotte Vieux Thorpe, died in giving birth and his father, Harim, a Sac

and Fox Indian, transferred him into the Sac and Fox Nation.”

Charlotte is buried in Sacred Heart Cemetery. She was born in 1863, and died on Dec. 11, 1901. She was the mother of George, James (Jim), Mary, Adeline and Edward.

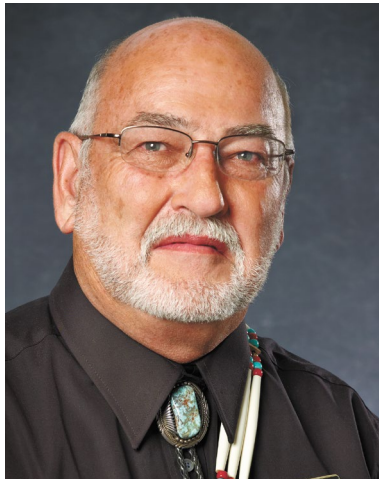
The above quote must be researched and I am working to verify it. Nonetheless, it is clear that Jim was half Potawatomi and half Sac and Fox. Unfortunately, history books record him only as Sac and Fox.

In our legislature, I recommended that an enlarged photo or a commissioned portrait of Jim Thorpe be hung for all to see in our Cultural Heritage Center. I want parents to take their children’s hand and lead them to the image of Jim Thorpe and say to their son or daughter, “This is Jim Thorpe, the first Native American to win Olympic gold medals for his country, and he was the greatest athlete in the world. And he was Citizen Band Potawatomi.”

Migwetch
(Thank you),

Paul Wesselhöft
Naganit (Leader)
Representative, District 9
reppaul@gmail.com
pwesselhoft@potawatomi.org

District 10 – David Barrett



Bozho
(Hello),

Allow me to share something that is very personal about me that you didn’t know. Early in my life when I would get X-rays due to having back issues, they thought it probably from lifting incorrectly and not warming and stretching before playing tennis and racketball. This caused me to develop arthritis spurs.

As my life progressed, I really had no concern or problem with my back until about 10 years ago. While I was sitting at a restaurant and getting ready to leave, I couldn’t stand up. “Wow, what is going on?” Connie picked me up at the front of restaurant while I was trying to get to the car with my face facing the floor the whole time. With all the X-rays, MRI, therapy and all the doctoring stuff, it eventually got better.

Within the last three and a half years, I had another episode

with my back, but hot and cold packs with naproxen allowed me the relief to continue working with common sense due to my age and physical conditions.

While I was working on my federal taxes in January, I was reaching down to the floor in my office gathering the working papers to complete information for my computer tax program. That was the start of this journey of getting worse day by day. It was to the point I couldn’t walk 75 feet without stopping. This wasn’t acceptable. In the past, I had always commented that I would “never” have back surgery. Well “never” is not realistic. You must weigh whether you want to continue your quality of life the way you are heading or to improve it in some manner.

After doing X-rays and MRIs of my lumbar area of my back, I was able to consult with Dr. Adam Vascellaro at the Nation about what I should do. Dr. Vascellaro and Dr. Scott de la Garza from SSM Health Bone and Joint in OKC developed a plan of action. It is reassuring when you talk with Christian doctors like Dr. Vascellaro and Dr. de la Garza with their God-given gifts stating what can be done. The ultimate decision was totally left up to me. They set surgery of the lumbar three to lumbar five posterior decompression, instrumentation and fusion with Dr. de la Garza on May 4.

There are always risks, but through faith in your Heavenly Father and prayers of so many, I was convinced that God would give me a sign if I wasn’t to have the surgery. Well indirectly, He did. As I was getting ready to go to surgery, before the anesthesiologist came in, I asked my doctor when I could back out. He said up to the time of administering the anesthesia, and then I would not be able to say anything. My blood pressure always spikes on any procedures that I have done in the past. This time, my blood pressure was near perfect.

Knowing that (what better sign?), I thought “Let’s do it.”

The surgery has been very successful because of the major circumstances that occurred before surgery, including God’s sign and Christian doctors who stated to me that the Lord was on their shoulders during surgery and prayers after prayers.

After four weeks out of eight total of recovery with me doing great, our family had to address another medical condition. This time it was my 12-year-old grandson, who on Memorial Day weekend had to be admitted at Children’s Hospital. His initial diagnosis involved the possibility of losing a foot or leg.

As I write this column, only the parents are allowed in ICU. The other family members have to stay outside the

hospital to visit in parking lots or under ground parking.

The surgeon had to lacerate both sides of the left leg to relieve the pressure to attempt to get some blood flow to his leg and foot. After five days in the ICU, he has had at least nine units of blood. He is still in ICU, but by this time, the risk of losing a foot or leg was ruled out. Thank the Lord. The same protocol as with me — prayers, Christian doctors, God-gifted doctors, will overcome this battle. One of the surgeons after performing surgery to save his foot stated, “It was a miracle from Jesus.”

Still in the ICU, they are strongly looking for different forms of vasculitis and coupled with vasospasm. In the next few days (still remaining in the ICU), they will be able to get results, hopefully from the biopsy of a vein, to determine how to treat his condition.

Faith has taught me that we must deal with problems by seeking first the Lord in all things — this is very true, regardless if you are old or young.

Let me change gears for a moment. My mind has wandered in a thought about our country. We just went through the Memorial Day holiday (being in a hospital setting), and I was thinking about all the men and women who laid their lives down in order that we

can live in freedom, respect for others, with everyone created and treated equally.

Do we really honor our fallen soldiers (Memorial Day, D-Day) as we should?

President George W. Bush said in a speech, “As America dedicates our D-Day Memorial, we pray that our country will always be worthy of the courage that delivered us from evil and saved the free world.”

Is this day just for hot dogs, barbecues and the starting of summer vacations, or should we reflect on all our fallen soldiers with reference? I think that Memorial Day creates a solemn atmosphere for all people alike to gain insight and learn more about the events that shaped our nation’s and our world’s history. Just a thought: What do we value in life? Make yourself a good servant on the time you are allowed and enjoy your life with your faith in God leading you in your daily path.

It goes without saying, thank you for allowing me to represent you and our great Nation.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

David Barrett
Mnedobe (Sits with Spirit)
Representative, District 10
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801
405-275-3121
dbarrett@potawatomi.org

District 11 – Andrew Walters



Bozho
(Hello),

She was an old black woman. I use the word “old” in a comparative sense. She was in her late 60s, and I was in my early 30s. Miss Louella was her name. She was about 5’4” tall, thin and had a way of carrying herself that was dignified and calm — soft-spoken with just enough of a Cajun accent to flavor her speech in a way that made listening to her a joy. You just had to smile when she said hello. Her eyes were a soft brown and belied the lines on her face left by the years and the tears of life. Miss Louella was an attendant at a Shell gasoline station on the corner of Echo Lane and Interstate 10 in Houston, Texas. She worked the 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. shift there in a little cubicle crammed with cigarettes, gum and candy bars.

I was a police officer assigned to motorcycle duty. It was a job I always look back on with great fondness. Loved doing it. I worked my area doing mostly traffic enforcement. Sometimes I’d patrol the parking lots and shops up and down I-10, stopping occasionally to talk with folks, the shopkeepers and such. That’s how I met Miss Louella. Her Shell station was in my “beat.”

I used to stop at the Shell and get gasoline and buy a soda, pop, coke or whatever y’all call it where you’re from. I worked 2 p.m. until 10 p.m. Great shift. Got hot during the day in summer, but the evenings and early nights were nice to ride. You know, that time during the evening, just as the sun sets, when the heat breaks and the sky glows with an orange fire. During the winter in Houston, the days were normally warm enough to get by with a jacket, but after dark, it would get cold, particularly when you were “scootin” up on the freeway.

I started talking with Miss Louella after a month or so with more than just the casual “How are you?” It was summer when our friendship took root. Hot with high humidity, Miss Louella would let me into “her world,” her cubicle, to let me cool down in the air conditioning. There were days I’d be sweating like a hard-run horse. Miss Louella would talk with me about life,

politics, her job. I’d listen and learn about her life in 15-minute vignettes during breaks that summer. We were always glad to see each other. When I’d pull into the parking lot and park my motorcycle, I’d see her smiling at me and reaching over to unlock the door. She started bringing a thermos of sweet tea with her so I could have it and then little pieces of pies and cakes she’d made. Summer rolled into autumn and then into winter. Each day when we both worked, we sat and talked. I started bringing food with me so we could share lunch. Sometimes she would cook Cajun food for me — etouffee, boudin and rice, crawfish gumbo. The long and the short of it is that we became good friends. When I’d leave to go back to the street, she always told me to be careful and that she’d say a little prayer for me and my family.

One day a couple of years into our friendship, on a particularly hot and humid Houston day — one of those days that you don’t know if it’s the rain or the humidity that’s got you soaked — I pulled into the Shell station. Miss Louella was there. She waved, smiled and reached over to unlock the door. I put down the kickstand and walked into the air-conditioned booth. She gave me a little hug, and we began to talk about our day. She talked, I listened, for about 20 minutes. As I got up, and picked my helmet up off the counter,

fixin’ to go back out into the heat, Miss Louella said, “You know, you remind me of my Baby.” I was kind of surprised at the comment and asked her, “Who is Baby?” She smiled and said, “He was my son.” Words mean something, and when I heard her use the word “was,” I knew that I couldn’t leave without talking to her more. I laid my helmet down as I set back on the stool and asked, “What happened to him?” Miss Louella told me that her son had lived in an apartment house in Houston and that there had been a big disturbance between some neighbors there. Her son somehow got involved in trying to stop it. One of the men at the disturbance pulled out a gun, and Miss Louella’s son disarmed him. But as fate would have it, the police had just arrived and saw a man with a gun and ordered him to drop it. In the few precious seconds it takes for bad decisions to be made, “her Baby” was dead.

I can’t even begin to tell you how I felt when she told me that. My mind went blank. I couldn’t comprehend how this little black woman could ever be so kind to me. I was confused. How could she forgive such a hurt and treat me, a police officer, as a friend and even say I reminded her of him? I started tearing up, still do when I remember how she touched my arm and told me it was OK. She softly said that she was at peace and that things like that just happen in

life. She told me that her faith had taught her to forgive and that holding hatred and rage inside was something she just couldn’t do. It took me awhile to gather my thoughts. When I left, she told me, “I love you,” and I said, “I love you, too.”

I often think of Miss Louella and hold her as an example of how I should be. It’s made me a better person, I hope. But I haven’t been tested to see if I could ever meet her level of love. I hope that in sharing this story, y’all occasionally think back on it and find that same love in your heart to forgive. Miss Louella is dead now, gone off to be with “her Baby.” I know she walked through God’s gates, and I bet she’s bringing them all some sweet tea and etouffee.

Thank y’all for reading this. Experiences are what makes us unique. I want y’all to know that if you ever need help, assistance with the Tribe, or just an ear to listen, I’ll do what I can. If you would, send me your email address. I don’t care where you’re from, Oklahoma or not. I’d like to keep them for times when I have something to talk about. Any comments? I’d like to hear them. Y’all are family.

Migwetch
(Thank you),

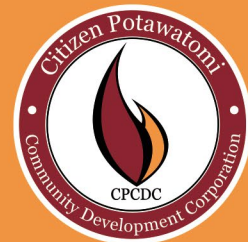
Andrew Walters
andrew.walters@potawatomi.org
nibwemko@gmail.com

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Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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Graphic designer: Emily Guleserian

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All correspondence should be directed to *Hownikan*,

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

Questions: hownikan@potawatomi.org or 800-880-9880

Address changes should be sent to Tribal Rolls,

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

Kenneth Wayne Johnson Johnson Family



Kenneth Wayne Johnson was born Nov. 3, 1934, to George and Lucy (Tinney) Johnson in Lincoln County, Oklahoma, and passed away April 22, 2021, in the Weatherford Regional Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Kenneth was raised in the Anthon and Putnam areas and attended the Independent School District. He farmed and raised cattle most of his life as well as worked for the Dewey County District 1 road crew. He retired in 1993.

He married Edna Penner-Gibbons in 1965, and she preceded him in death. He later married Louise Morgan in 2006, and she preceded him in death as well.

He was a member of the Dewey County Farmers Co-op; his life surrounded farming and ranching. His favorite thing to do was attend the Tuesday live-stock auction, and his passion was messing around on the farm and tending to his cattle.

He is preceded in death by his parents and wives; two brothers, Virgil Johnson and Delbert Johnson; and two sisters, Dorothy Roush and Audrey Rice.

He is survived by his son, Gilbert Johnson of Clinton; and sister, Helen Huddleston and husband, Everett, of Marlow.

He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

Lucille Raphael Scully Family



Lucille (Tinney Stoner Saba) Raphael passed away suddenly on Jan. 29, 2021, at her home in Bakersfield, California, at the age of 84. Lucille was born to Jasper (Jack) Columbus Tinney and Josephine Raines in Wright City, Oklahoma, on July 10, 1936. The family migrated to Woodville, California, during

the years of the Dust Bowl. She had an older brother, JC Tinney; two younger brothers, Don and Elton Tinney; and a baby sister, Linda Criswell. She is survived by her husband, Manuel Raphael; her daughter, Diana Yarbrough (husband Rick); her son, Jack Saba; grandchildren, Nate Yarbrough (Jennifer), Heidi Funkhouser (Chad), Mandi Grantham (Darin), Blake Saba and Hannah Saba; eight great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In 1973, after the death of her husband, Ernest Saba, Lucille went back to school and received her Bachelor of Science and her registered nurse license. She loved being a nurse and worked in the capacity for over 30 years. She finally retired when she was in her 70s and moved back to Bakersfield, California, to be near her family.

A celebration of her life was held at Woolgrower's Restaurant in Bakersfield, California, on Feb. 27, 2021. Lucille was one of a kind and is greatly missed by her family.

Walter E. Foresman Patton Family



Walter *Nawgishkek* E. Foresman, 84, of Topeka, Kansas, passed away on April 27, 2021, at Stormont Vail Hospital.

He was born on May 19, 1936, to Ralph and Juanita (Patton) Foresman in Rossville, Kansas.

Walter graduated from Wamego High School in 1954 and went straight to work. Over the course of his life, he had many jobs, but he enjoyed working at Roberson Lumber as a salesman, where he later retired.

On June 20, 1986, Walter married Delilia Dutt in Topeka.

He was a member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Meriden, Kansas.

Walter was a member of the Citizen Pottawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and also the Knights of Columbus council number 7426 for 35 years, where he served as a Knight of the 3rd Degree. He was an avid antique shopper with his wife. He loved to hunt and fish, and was a great outdoorsman. Walter also enjoyed to go mushroom hunting. He was so excited about the upcoming mushroom season. Walter loved to collect

John Deere tractors. He loved to spend time with his family and spoiling everyone, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Walter is survived by loving wife, Delilia; children, Mike (Sharon) Foresman, DeAnna (Herb) Lambert, Linda (Willie) Erikson, William Foresman and Jeffery (Karen) Fortenberry; brother, Gene (Janet) Foresman; and sister, Sheila (Ken) Walsh; 13 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren and one on the way.

He was preceded in death by his son, Robert Foresman; both of his parents; and two daughters-in-law, Pamela Foresman and Marvalie Foresman.

Memorials contributions may be made to Midland Hospice Care or St. Aloysius Catholic Church and sent in the care of Parker Price Funeral Home.

Carol Joan Wade Bourassa Family



Carol Joan (Green) Wade, 70, of Pampa, Texas, passed away on May 16, 2021, in Amarillo.

She was born Nov. 22, 1950, in Slaton, Texas, to Bill and Cleo Green, where she grew up and attended high school. Carol graduated from Texas Tech University in 1972, earning a Bachelor of Science in home economic, clothing and textile design with a minor in art. She began her career at Dotty Dan in Lamesa as a designer of infant clothing. In 1978, she moved to Lubbock to take a job at Highland Hospital. There she married William (Bill) E. Wade at the First Baptist Church on April 16, 1981. They moved to Pampa in 1993, and she began her teaching career with Pampa Independent School District. With teaching she found her true calling, becoming instrumental in so many young lives. Carol displayed unlimited passion and patience when it came to helping and encouraging students to earn a diploma. She truly cared for her students and their futures, feeling a responsibility to help produce quality citizens for her community.

A book detailing Carol's life would contain many chapters and funny short stories. She was very uniquely talented in anything she set her mind to, often leaving others around her in complete awe and feeling less than adequate, though that was

the furthest from her intentions. Her luck was uncanny, and the casinos feared her. Carol was also proud of her Potawatomi heritage. Carol fiercely loved her family friends and could be counted on in any situation because she knew the answer. She will be missed by so many.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include her husband of 40 years, William E. "Bill" Wade, III; three sons, Shawn Lauderdale and wife Meredith of Wake Forest, North Carolina, Trey Lauderdale of Pampa, and Eric Wade and wife Megan of Amarillo; three brothers, Loyd Green of Abilene, Randy Green and fiancée Dara Mayne of Lufkin, and Mike Green and wife Tracy of Slaton; a sister, Susan Talkmitt and husband Gerald of Lubbock; six grandchildren, Lexxi Lauderdale, Sophia Sweeney, Marin Sweeney, Maxwell Sweeney, Chevy Lauderdale and Legend Lauderdale who called her "Mimi"; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors with Briarwood Church Pastor Jamisen Hancock officiating. Memorials can be sent to Pampa Education Foundation, c/o Children's Needy Fund, P.O. Box 1045, Pampa, TX 79066-1045.

Harold Alvin Twigg Ziegler Family



Harold Alvin Twigg of Woodland, California, passed away May 18, 2021, after a lengthy illness. Harold was born in Nevada, Missouri, to Wayne Twigg and Alice "Veva" Twigg. He attended high school in Baldwin, Kansas, where he met his high school sweetheart, Linda. Harold and Linda married in 1960 and raised three sons together.

Harold and Linda lived and worked in Lawrence, Kansas, until their move to Woodland in 1982. After moving, they started a truck repair business with their son, Harold Jr. Harold worked in the truck repair business until he retired in 2000.

Harold loved baseball. He coached Little League Baseball in Woodland for several years and umpired a few games. Later, he enjoyed going to his grandson, Brian's games and maintained

a close relationship with many of the kids he coached. He was especially a fan of the KC Royals and KC Chiefs and could always be found in front of the TV when a game was on. He loved road trips with his brother Frank to visit their home state of Kansas or just to enjoy the countryside. He loved dogs and had many of them over the years.

Harold was a kind and generous man. He was always there to help anybody in need. His generosity impacted many people.

Harold was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and attended the annual Family Reunions in Oklahoma whenever he was able.

Harold was preceded in death by his mother, father, brother Jay, sisters Alloys Potter and Karmin McCrory, daughter Diana, son Rex and wife Linda. He leaves behind his son Harold and daughter-in-law Laura Taylor of Placerville, California, son Jeff and daughter-in-law Jill of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, grandson Brian and granddaughter-in-law Dana and great-grandson's Ellis and Emmitt of West Sacramento, grandson Ryan of Placerville, daughter-in-law Nicole Anderson and grandchildren Josh, Joey and Jade and great-grandson Jaeger.

A graveside service was held in Woodland on May 26, 2021.

Allan Jared Hinton Gosland Family



Allan Jared Hinton was born Aug. 18, 1973, to Allan and Karen Hinton in Claremore, Oklahoma. Allan passed this life May 23, 2021, in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Allan had many joys in life. He was a gamer and loved watching sports and videos and fishing. But most important to him was spending time with his family.

Preceding Allan in death are both grandparents, his father Allan Hinton, aunt Barbara Foreman and uncle Wyman Foreman. Left behind to mourn his passing are his mother Karen Sue Hinton, spouse Lisa Hinton, four children; Jenna Hinton and Randy Harris, James Hinton, Josh Hinton and Jacob Hinton; four grandchildren, Richard Harris, Jaydon Harris, Tobias Hinton and Wyatt Harris; as well as one sister, Nakia Hinton; and nieces and nephews Kiona Hail and Erica Hail. Allan's Legacy will be remembered by a host of other family and friends.

Thomas Rhodd Rhodd Family



Thomas Jefferson Anthony Rhodd passed away March 24, 2021, at age 93. He had been saved by the grace of God and blessed by the love of his wife, family and friends.

Tom was born the son of Enos "Doc" and Elizabeth "Lizzie" (Curley) Rhodd on Nov. 22, 1927, in Sacred Heart in central Oklahoma. He was raised on the family farm, and while young, the family moved to Shawnee, where his father had a filling station and small grocery store.

Over the years, Tom worked various jobs, including construction with his brother, truck driver, dozer operator and oil field pumper. Through friends, Tom met Vivian L. Dyer, and they quickly fell in love. Some may say he fell faster than she did, but she quickly came around, and they married on Aug. 29, 1949, in Bentonville, Arkansas, and enjoyed 71 years of loving marriage. Tom made a habit of (not) retiring and starting a second career. After working for Chevalley in Dewey for 15 years, he went on to pump oil leases for another 15 years.

Tom loved motorcycles and cars, tinkering on them whenever repairs were needed. When the kids were teens, everyone had their own motorcycle except Vivian, who was happy to just ride along with Tom. They took many memorable family bike vacations and attended church together. Tom rode lead. The only problem was he often got lost, making up time on the way home. He went so fast no one could keep up with him.

Together Tom and his bride Vivian enjoyed attending Saturday night dances and were members of the Moose Lodge and the Copan Round-Up Club. The grandkids whined that grandpa's passion in life was tormenting them, but he was the go-to guy when any problem arose. Tom loved his family dearly and will be missed.

Tom is survived by his wife of 71 years, Vivian L. Rhodd of the home; three children, Vesta Huffman and husband Mike, Thomas A. Rhodd and significant other Carolyn Martin and L. Michelle Oswald and husband Mike; as well as six grandchildren, Thomas M. Huffman, Michael R. Glendenning and wife Jesi, Max R. Glendenning and wife Billie, Melissa Huffman, Michael R. Huffman and Corey R. Huffman; eight great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, five sisters, a brother, two half-sisters, two half-brothers and one grandchild, Michael Jason Huffman.

Leonard Lehman Bruno Family



Leonard Leroy Lehman was born Feb. 20, 1934, in Caddo County, Oklahoma, and died April 19, 2021, in Wichita, Kansas. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Pat Lehman; children, Gene Lehman (Kathy) of Princeton, West Virginia, Jackie Lehman (Marilou) of Hercules, California, Brenda Zwink (Kevin) of Wichita, Kansas, Rebecca Espinosa of Kansas City, Missouri, and Sabrina Standifer (Duane Hawkes) of Wichita; brothers, Alvin Lehman and Carl Lehman of Minco, Oklahoma; and sister, Elaine Greer of Watonga, Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by parents, George and Rhett Lehman; sister, Odelia Henderson; and brother, Eugene Lehman. Grandchildren are Kenny and Linda Lehman of West Virginia, Larry Barker of Wichita, Kansas, Fallon Espinosa of Kansas City, Missouri, Calixta and Kathryn Lehman of California, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Leroy was a retired aircraft planner for Beech Aircraft/Raytheon Aircraft for almost 40 years. He was a dedicated member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

for more than 60 years, serving as steward, treasurer of Local Lodge 733 for 25 years, secretary/treasurer of Kansas State Council of Machinists, delegate to Machinists Grand Lodge Convention, and a variety of other committee positions. Leroy was a proud liberal democrat, serving as precinct committeeman, treasurer of the 4th Congressional Democrats and a Kansas State Democratic Committee delegate as well as an alternate delegate to the Democratic National Convention and a delegate to another Democratic National Convention.

Leroy was a member of NOW, served as a board member of the ACLU and contributed to the Kansas Humane Society as well as a number of charities, including Guide Dogs of America and Legacy Ministries.

Leroy was an extraordinary, talented person, excelling in metalworking, woodworking, music, photography and gardening. He seemed able to mend, fix or build almost anything. Leroy liked dogs much better than people; small children and animals were drawn to him like a magnet. He had a wicked sense of dry humor and a kind heart. He lived a long and productive life, and made a difference in our world.

A celebration of life was held at the Machinists Building in Wichita, Kansas, on May 1, 2021. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to Guide Dogs of America or Legacy Ministries.

Richard Seiger McKee Family



Richard Seiger, 50, of Clarence, Missouri, passed away at the University of Missouri on June 14, 2017.

Richard was born May 29, 1967, in Mexico to George Seiger and Delma Ruth Hull Seiger. He

worked in sawmills and, in his spare time, enjoyed spending time with his family. He liked taking float trips, fishing and visiting with his grandchildren.

Richard is preceded in death by his father, George; brothers, George Jr. and Stephen Seiger; an aunt, Betty Johns; and granddaughter, Mackenzie Palmer.

He is survived by his mother, Delma Martin of Clarence; children, Leann Seiger of Clarence and Ashley Seiger of Salisbury; grandchildren, Montana Edwards, Raylee, Lucas and Jacob Palmer, all of Salisbury; and a grandchild on the way, which he was very excited about; siblings, Sharon (Frank) Latta of Troy, Idaho, Diane (Bobbie) Waters of Curryville, Missouri, Carol (Michael) Swaim of Centralia, Penny Seiger of Vandalia and Shannon (Irene) Seiger of Clarence; a lifelong companion Annie Brister; many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Norbert J. Marquis Marquis Family



Norbert "Bert" J. Marquis, age 89 of Hudson, Michigan, passed away peacefully on Feb. 7, 2021, at ProMedica Provincial House in Adrian. He was born on March 1, 1931, in Adrian to Wilbert C. and Florence C. (Grenwald) Marquis. On Nov. 18, 1950, Bert was married to Edith I. Snead in Angola, Indiana. They were just shy of celebrating 45 years of marriage when Edith passed away on Oct. 18, 1995.

Bert held many jobs throughout his life, including working for Ace Drill and Rupp dairy company, hauling milk and as a farmer, before retiring.

Surviving are his two children, Judy (Jerry, Sr.) Tanner of Hudson and Robert Marquis of Piggott, Alaska; three siblings, Doris Carlisle of Saline, Michigan, Joyce (Gary) Helmbrecht of San Diego, California and Mary (Bob) Jenkin of Temecula,

California; four grandchildren, Jerry Jr. (Melanie) Tanner, Jason (Rachel) Tanner, Jeffrey (Jolene) Tanner and Jeffrey (Beth) Barnett; and ten great-grandchildren, Zachary, Michael, Kirsten, Lyndsey, Brady, Jack, Julianna, Hailee, Alexander and Landen. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents; two children, David Marquis and Shirley Marquis; a great-grandchild, John Weston Tanner; and two brothers, Eugene and Ronald.

Per Bert's wishes, cremation has taken place. A private graveside service took place at Maple Grove Cemetery in Hudson.

You may send condolences to the family at eaglemarryfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Eagle-Marry Funeral Home, Hudson, Michigan.

Claudia McWatters McKee Family



Claudia McWatters joined her ancestors in the afterlife on May 4, 2021, in Glen Rose, Texas. She was born in 1943 to Katherine and Claude Ledlow of Oklahoma City. She married William McWatters in 1962 and graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1966.

Claudia was a loving and giving person who embodied all the best qualities of a wife and mother. She and William were married 58 years. She was preceded in death by her mother Katherine, father Claude and brother Larry.

Claudia leaves behind three sons and her husband, who are all the better having been loved and nurtured by her.

She was an accomplished artist, and her home is decorated by many of her paintings. She also was an avid reader and always had her Kindle nearby. She enjoyed traveling and made many trips to her favorite Hawaiian island of Maui and the Rocky Mountains.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with **no more than 300 words**, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to

hownikan@potawatomi.org

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information, please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email cclark@potawatomi.org.