

Tribal Court appoints new justices

Dustin Gray
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The Seminole Nation Tribal Court System held a special ceremony at the Grisso Mansion on Monday, Oct. 15, 2012 to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the court's reinstatement.

"I am very proud of all the work that the judiciary committee and the tribal court staff have done to help us realize [this] dream," Principal Chief Leonard M. Harjo explained during the ceremony.

"The biggest challenge for us today is trying to figure out how to grow to continue to meet the needs of our people within the context of the court system," he added.

By all accounts, the Seminole Nation Tribal Court System has been busier than expected.

"When we first started we had one district judge, and we thought we would have court one or two days a month," Chief Justice William Wantland explained. "We vastly underestimated that need." see **Court** on page 2



Veterans Day Parade to honor Korean War Vets, feature combat paper art exhibit

Commander Rex Hailey (center) and the Seminole Nation Honor Color Guard march in the second annual "Celebrating the Tradition of Service" Veterans Day Parade in downtown Wewoka.

Dustin Gray Seminole Nation Communications

Over \$6K raised at quilt auction

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Over \$6,200 was raised at the third annual domestic violence quilt auction, held Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012 at the Seminole Nation Grisso Mansion in Seminole.

Held each October to coincide with national domestic violence awareness month, the annual quilt auction is one of the Seminole Nation Domestic Violence program's largest fundraisers.

"Last year's proceeds went toward the playground equipment for the domestic violence safe house," explained quilt designer and Hecete Band General Council Representative Sheila Harjo. "This year's proceeds are going to all areas of the program to provide benefits for all of the clients."

A total of 42 quilts were donated to the auction. One, the Seminole Mekko's Quilt, nearly fetched \$1,000.

The Seminole Mekko's Quilt features the images of the Seminole Nation's many tribal leaders. Beginning with Micanopy, who see **Auction** on page 2

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What began in 2010 as a simple, heartfelt expression of appreciation for the men and women of the armed forces has grown into something much larger.

This year, the "Celebrating the Tradition of Service" Veterans Day Event, which will take place Saturday, Nov. 10, is poised to continue the rapid growth and popularity of the festivities. The goal of event organizers, however, remains the same – to support, respect and honor all past and present veterans and active and reserve members of the military, and encourage the local community to honor, preserve and learn from those that have served the United States.

Co-organized by the Seminole Nation and the City of Wewoka, the third annual Veterans Day parade and celebration will specifically honor veterans of the Korean War.

Parade Grand Marshals Bob Nance and Dorsey Nero are both veterans of the Korean War.

Bob Nance served in the US Army from 1952 to 1954.

"Before we boarded the ship from Incheon, Korea to come home, I took one of my shirts and the boots I wore all the 15 months I was there and buried them in the ground," Nance says of his service. "I thought I would leave

that part of me in Korea."

"I tried to bury the thoughts in the back of my mind," he continued. "However, now when I get in my quiet place, they seem to come forward. These thoughts will always be a part of my life."

Dorsey Nero served in the US Navy from 1948 to 1952.

Nero says he would have been a Marine if he could have walked faster. When he left his home in Bowlegs on foot in December 1947, he fully intended to enlist in the Marines. However, by the time he reached Ada, he had missed the recruiter. Discouraged, Nero had to turn around and walk home. Luckily, though, on the last day of December 1947 a Navy recruiter was in the area. Nero walked six miles to meet him and joined the Navy that day.

While in the Navy, Nero served as a boatswain's mate on the USS Titanic, USS Washburn, USS Bronx and USS Seminole.

The pre-parade program will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. This year's keynote speaker will be Major General Ricky Adams – Deputy Commanding General, Army National Guard, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command.

Major General Adams was commissioned in 1982 through the Oklahoma Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit,

Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon and the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

Dr. John Hargrave, president of East Central University in Ada, will once again emcee the pre-parade program.

Hargrave previously served as mayor of Wewoka from 2002-2007 and has sat on the Board of Directors for Wewoka Industries since 1994. He also founded the Downtown Investment Group and Wewoka Community Foundation and played an integral role in establishing a juvenile treatment facility in the city.

Rev. Jim Coone, pastor of the

First Presbyterian Church of Wewoka, will deliver the invocation and former Little Miss Seminole Nation Chyna Chupco will recite Psalms 23 in the Mvskoke language during the pre-parade program.

Rev. Jay Badry, who performed a rousing rendition of "God Bless the USA" at last year's pre-parade program, will once again sing patriotic songs.

Wewoka Mayor Evelyn King and Seminole Nation Principal Chief Leonard M. Harjo will each deliver welcome addresses to everyone in attendance prior to Major General Ricky Adams' keynote speech.

The parade will begin promptly at 10 a.m. and feature a record number of entries, including a quarter-mile of vintage and current military equipment.

Following the parade, a veterans' luncheon will be held at the Wewoka Civic Center. In ad-

see **Veterans** on page 5





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A member of NAJA

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Auction

was born in Florida and served as head chief for the Seminole Nation in Indian Territory until his death in December 1849, and Billy Bowlegs, the last hereditary Seminole Chief to leave the native lands of Florida, and ending with the 24th and present day Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Principal Chief Leonard M. Harjo, the 72" x 110" Seminole Mekko's Quilt depicts the storied history of the Seminole Nation and its leadership. Both Della Bradshaw and Sheila Harjo collaborated to make the quilt, which raised \$950 for the Domestic Violence program after an exciting bidding war.

In addition to the auction, the Domestic Violence program also raised funds through concession sales and outside donations.

"We had really good feedback on the event," added Harjo, "and volunteers from age 6 to 80."

Quilt donors for the auction included Principal Chief Leonard M. Harjo and First Lady Sheila Harjo, Assistant Chief Ella Colman and husband Al, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief George Tiger, Mary Harjo, Becky Bolinger, Nicole Davis, Alvin Wallace, Brandy High, Sonny and Pinky Cole, Aeden Lincoln, Zayne Lincoln, Sierra Price, Skyler Price, Shirley Walker, Susie Harjo, Della Bradshaw, Kym Cravett, Mi-



Auctioneer Mike Johnson takes bids while Seminole Nation Domestic Violence staff members display one of the 42 quilts available at the third annual Domestic Violence Quilt Auction held Saturday, Oct. 20 at the Grisso Mansion.

Dustin Gray Seminole Nation Communications

chelle Hopkins, Given Keller, Cheri Hardeeman, Tara Lena, Donna Henry, Yvette Harjo, Cody Harjo, Elaine Wilding, Gwen Gates, the Seminole Nation Tribal Court System and Madonna Williams. Other donors included PepsiCo, Elaine Nelson, Judy Jones, Brianna Davis, Jerilyn Davis, Ericka Pinion, Colie Foster, Kiera Foster, Shyla Price, Mike Johnson, Seminole Na-

tion princesses and the Seminole Nation Domestic Violence staff.

The Seminole Nation Domestic Violence program serves both Native and non-Native families by providing advocacy in the areas of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. For more information about the Domestic Violence program, call (405) 382-3762.

Court



Chef Rain Harrell, a tribal member, displays his food art - the Seminole Nation tribal seal meticulously carved in a watermelon - during the Seminole Nation Tribal Court Ceremony at the Grisso Mansion on Monday, Oct. 15. Seminole's Cyber Cafe catered the event.

Dustin Gray Seminole Nation Communications

With no appeals filed, the Seminole Nation District Court has experienced the brunt of the caseload.

To alleviate the burden on Justice Gregory Bigler, the tribe's lone district court judge, Supreme Court Justice Kelly Stoner has periodically taken on district court cases.

"On an interim basis, Justice Stoner agreed to hear some of the cases to help take up some of the caseload," Justice Wantland said. "As a result, Kelly decided that she would rather be a trial judge than an appellate judge - that's where the action is."

The tribe will also be adding a third district court judge to help with the workload - Justice Marsha Harlan. Harlan is a 1999 graduate of the University of Tulsa School of Law. She currently works for the Kickapoo Tribal Court and sits on the Pawnee Nation and Miami Nation Supreme Courts. Harlan practices law in Claremore, Okla. where she has a consulting firm that focuses on protecting tribal sovereignty. She is a member of the Osage Nation.

To replace Justice Kelly Stoner on the Seminole Nation Supreme Court, the judi-

cial committee selected Roger Wiley. Wiley, 57, is a graduate of the University of New Mexico School of Law. He was born and raised in Sapulpa, Okla. and currently lives in McAlester, where he has practiced law for 27 years. Wiley is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and currently serves as their attorney general.

Both judicial appointments, as well as Justice Stoner's transition to the district court, were confirmed at the Saturday, Oct. 27, 2012 General Council meeting. The justices will be officially sworn-in in the near future.

Another new feature of the Seminole Nation Tribal Court System discussed at the Oct. 15 ceremony was the creation of the Seminole Nation Bar Association. Members of the inaugural Seminole Nation Bar Association include Jennifer McBee, William Wantland, Kelly Stoner, Peary Robertson, Joe C. Taylor, Kenneth Chesnutt, Whitney Weingartner, Rebecca Lyn Redelman, Robert Leo Irby, Clay Steven Hager, Niki Arlene Lindsey, Yvonne Decker-Galey, Stephanie C. Hudson, Albert Ghezzi, Josie C. Stanley, Jeremy Aliason, Gordon R. Melson, Nancy Elaine Green, M. Bradley Carter, Eugene K. Bertman, William D. Huser, Kevin Smith Taylor, Pamela Snider Stephens, Charles H. Tripp, Marsha Harlan, David N. Smith, Deresa Gray, James E. Howard and O. Joseph Williams.

A meeting will be set in the near future

to select officers for the Bar Association.

"This is more than just collecting your money so that you can practice before the courts," Justice Wantland told members at Monday's ceremony. "This is to be a real Bar Association."

Justice Wantland swore-in each present member of the Bar Association at the ceremony.

"The court has made a tremendous amount of progress this year," Justice Kelly Stoner said at the ceremony. "I'm so honored to have been here from the beginning."

Supreme Court Justice Joe Taylor also expressed his gratification for the opportunity to work with the Seminole Nation Tribal Court System.

"I have been a boy scout, lifeguard, forest firefighter, a soldier and a judge - pretty much a lifetime of service," he said. "And the service that I have been able to participate in on this court is among the most rewarding that I have had."

"We still have a lot of work to do," Chief Harjo added. "But I am very honored to be Chief and see some of these things come to pass, and I thank you for all your time and your effort."

Cyber Café in Seminole catered the tribal court ceremony at the Grisso Mansion. Middle Creek #2 Church's youth choir sang hymns in English and the Mvskoke language to open the meeting.



Principal Chief Leonard M. Harjo speaks to guests and members of the Judicial Committee and the newly formed Seminole Nation Bar Association during the Seminole Nation Tribal Court Ceremony on Monday, Oct. 15 at the Grisso Mansion. Supreme Court Justices Joe Taylor (left), William Wantland (center) and Kelly Stoner (right) look on.

Dustin Gray Seminole Nation Communications

legislation

VHAKV

General Council Meeting October 27, 2012

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TR 2012-86

Sponsored by: Jonah Harjo

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving and establishing the Seminole National Cemetery Regulations and Rules.

passed 18-7-2

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: no, no
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: no
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

REPORTS OF PROGRAMS

Fiscal Services	TERO
Transportation Dept.	HPO
Social Services	Judgement Fund
Job Placement	Public Transit
Wildlife, Parks & Rec	Food Distribution
CDIB/Enrollment	Seminole Etlvw
ASAP	Program Dev.
CHR	Tribal Roads

NEW BUSINESS

TO 2012-11

Sponsored by: Jane Northcott

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending the Domestic Relations Code to clarify the appointment of guardian ad litem.

passed 27-0-0

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TO 2012-12

Sponsored by: Rosanna Jones

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 11 by adding a separate chapter for Head Start to the Seminole Nation Code of Laws.

voting moved to end of meeting

TO 2012-13

Sponsored by: David Narcomey

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 14 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws renaming the Finance Committee and increasing stipend.

failed 6-21-1

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, abst
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: no, no
Tusekia Harjo: no, no	Hvteyievlke: no, no
Nurcup Harjo: no, no	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: no, no	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: no, no	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, no	Dosar Barkus: no, no

TO 2012-14

Sponsored by: Fannie Harjo

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 16 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws to increase stipend payments and additionally provide mileage reimbursement.

passed 22-6-0 (with amendments)

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: no, no
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TO 2012-15

Sponsored by: Jerilyn Fixico

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 11 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws increasing the treasurer's salary.

passed 16-8-4

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: abst, abst
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: abst, abst	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TO 2012-16

Sponsored by: Jerilyn Fixico

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 11 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws increasing the Principal Chief salary.

passed 18-8-2

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: abst, abst
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TO 2012-17

Sponsored by: Jerilyn Fixico

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 11 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws increasing the Assistant Chief salary.

passed 18-10-0

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: no, no
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TO 2012-18

Sponsored by: Jerilyn Fixico

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 11 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws to increase the salary for the Council Secretary.

passed 18-10-0

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: no, no
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TO 2012-19

Sponsored by: Sheila Harjo

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma directing the amendment of Title 8 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma to clarify the business activities of SNGE and make corrections to certain sections of that title.

passed 22-4-2

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes, yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TO 2012-20

Sponsored by: Timothy Hooper

A tribal ordinance of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma amending Title 11 of the Seminole Nation Code of Laws to require all contractors doing business in the Seminole Nation to be subject to TERO requirements and fees.

passed 19-5-2

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: no, no	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: no, no	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: no	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-116

Sponsored by: Jane Northcott

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma appointing Roger Wiley to the Seminole Nation Supreme Court.

passed 23-2-2

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes

Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-117

Sponsored by: Jane Northcott

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma appointing the Honorable Kelly Stoner as a Seminole Nation Special Magistrate Judge.

passed 25-0-2

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-118

Sponsored by: Jane Northcott

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma appointing the Honorable Marsha Harlan as a Seminole Nation Special Magistrate Judge.

passed 25-0-2

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-119

Sponsored by: Kelly Tiger, Jr.

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma authorizing the use of the tribal seal on the reverse side of the Code Talkers Congressional Medal.

passed 25-2-0

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-120

Sponsored by: David Narcomey

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving the FY 2013 Seminole Nation Revision Committee budget.

passed 25-2-0 (with amendments)

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TR 2012-121

Sponsored by: Jeff Harjo

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving vendor fee refunds on overpayments attributable to promotional pay.

passed 21-2-4

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: no, no	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: abst, abst	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-122

Sponsored by: Jeff Harjo

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving the FY 2013 Seminole Nation Vehicle Maintenance budget.

passed 22-4-0

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: no, no
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no, no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TR 2012-123

Sponsored by: Jerilyn Fixico

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving the FY 2013 Seminole Nation Grisso Mansion Museum budget.

passed 19-6-2 (with amendments)

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: no, no
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: yes, yes
Ocese: no, no	Ceyvha: no, no
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-124

Sponsored by: A. Farani, I. Gonzales, T. Yabola

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving a modification to the FY 2013 Seminole Nation Community Household Economic Assistance Program budget.

passed 19-7-0

Mekusukey: no, no	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: no, no
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: no
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

TR 2012-125

Sponsored by: Jeff Harjo

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving a modification to the FY 2013 Seminole Nation Environmental Program Office budget.

passed 21-2-2

Mekusukey: yes	Fushutche: yes, yes
Eufaula: yes, yes	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: yes	Hvteyievlke: yes, yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: no, no	Tallahassee: yes
Ocese: yes, yes	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: abst, abst

TR 2012-126

Sponsored by: David Narcomey

A tribal resolution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approving the FY 2013 Seminole Nation Tribal Homeland Security program budget.

tabled 17-7-1

Mekusukey: yes, yes	Fushutche: no, no
Eufaula: no, no	Rewalke: yes, yes
Tusekia Harjo: no	Hvteyievlke: yes
Nurcup Harjo: yes, yes	Tom Palmer: yes, yes
Hecete: yes, yes	Tallahassee: abst
Ocese: no, no	Ceyvha: yes, yes
Bruner: yes, yes	Dosar Barkus: yes, yes

announcements

NAK-OK KER KUECETV

Job Opportunities

Assistant Cook Seminole Nation Head Start Closes November 12

Description: Prepares and serves food and assists in any food related activities as directed by the cook. Assists with maintenance of inventory for all necessary supplies, food and equipment used for food services operations. Supports staff and parents in preparing meals and snacks for meetings, planning sessions and other special events as requested and approved by the Center Supervisor Manager or Head Start Director.

Qualifications: High School diploma or GED is preferred. Must be willing and able to obtain Basic First Aid and CPR Certification within the probationary period. Must obtain a CDL or a CDL permit within the six months of employment. Must be able to successfully complete a background investigation.

Center Supervisor Seminole Nation Head Start Closes November 12

Description: The Center Supervisor is responsible for the general and day-to-day operations of a Head Start Center with multiple classrooms, assuring regulatory and legal compliance with federal, state and local regulations; communicating with parents and the community and supervision and monitoring of all staff working at the assigned center. Develops and monitors center and staff schedules. Arranges for family, staff work days for center improvements, fairs, events, etc. Assists in the identification, purchase and annual inventory of center supplies and equipment. Assists in the fiscal management of the center by monitoring financial records, expenditures and accounts payable and receivable in a timely manner.

Qualifications: Current CDA and Bronze Directors Credential required. AA/BA preferred. Some experience in financial management and budgeting preferred. One year of supervisory experience preferred. Must be willing and able to obtain Basic First Aid and CPR certification within probationary period and maintain certification. Acceptable tuberculosis results, clear criminal records check and an initial health exam are required post job offer and prior to employment. Must be able to obtain a Commercial Driver's License and school bus driver's permit within the first six months of employment. Requires pre-employment and random drug screening.

Curriculum Developer Cultural Resources Department Open until filled

Description: Serves as a curriculum developer for the Nakkerretv Ohhayetv Curriculum Development Sequence project as specified in project activities.

Employee is responsible for the continuing development of a language curriculum for use with Early Childhood/Elementary students and for ensuring that instruction is aligned with curriculum goals of the Immersion Language Program.

Qualifications: Fluency in the Mvskoke language. Direct knowledge of Semvnole/Mvskoke cultural practices. Must be able to successfully complete a background investigation.

Immersion Language Teacher Cultural Resources Department Open until filled

Description: Prepares a safe, healthy learning environment for children that are developmentally appropriate and experientially based. Responsible for planning and implementing a program to teach young children the Seminole Language. Works with students on individual bases or in groups. Responsible for providing a safe and developmentally appropriate program in accordance with all relevant policies and procedures. Supervises all classroom activities, field trips and outdoor activities. Prepares all lesson plans and submits to Curriculum Development Specialist on a weekly basis. Plans and implements learning experiences that advance the intellectual and physical competence of children including improving the readiness of children. Supports social and emotional development and provides positive guidance to children. Ensures that all learning environments meet tribal health and safety codes and that planned activities promote healthy lifestyle choices for children and their families.

Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education preferred OR Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education or Education and a Childhood Development Associate Certificate. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be substituted. Degree must be completed within four (4) years of start date.

Records Management Assistant Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Closes November 12

Description: The position provides administrative support to the Records Management Specialist. May handle portions of

specific programs to assist in the planning, development and administering of a records retention strategy for the Seminole Nation. Operates personal computer to enter data, draft, edit, revise, and print reports and other materials. Files and retrieves information from manual and/or computer automated files. Maintains classification indexes and files of a variety of legal and official instruments and documents. Indexes, selects, cross references and arranges records in electronic files and onsite storage areas

Qualifications: Requires a High school diploma or GED; At least two years of directly related administrative assistant level experience preferred.

Teacher Seminole Nation Head Start Closes November 12

Description: The incumbent of this position serves as a caregiver in a classroom of Head Start children by planning, implementing and supervising all classroom activities. This position works with typically and atypically developing children. Because this position is one part of a large system of services provided to children and families, this position also serves as a social service referral person and shares responsibility for parent involvement in the program. The position of Teacher works in tandem with the rest of the parts of the system as an integrated team to support the goals of the program.

Qualifications: Minimum requirement is a current CDA credential upon employment (or be in training and able to obtain it within 180 days of hire) and develop a plan to work towards an AA degree in Early Childhood Education. Applicants possessing an AA Degree in Early Childhood must be willing and able to work on and progress toward a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood. AA/BA preferred. Bilingual preferred. Experience working with infants and/or toddlers is preferred. Must be willing and able to obtain Basic First Aid and CPR certification within the initial probationary period and maintain certification. Requires acceptable TB screening results, clear criminal records check and an initial health exam post job offer and prior to employment. Must obtain CDL and bus driver's certificate or CDL permit within six months of employment.

Birthdays



Dawn Burden
November 8

From: Seminole Nation Staff



Jerry & Carrie Ricketts
November 9

Love: Your Family



Linda Hulbutta
November 10

From: Seminole Nation Staff



Roxanne Dixon
November 12

From: Seminole Nation Staff



Marcheta Buckley
November 16

From: Seminole Nation Staff



Linda Buck
November 19

From: Seminole Nation Staff

- October 30 Denea White
- November 1 Katherine Bueno
- November 2 Toni Orsburn
- November 2 Bryan Deatherage
- November 3 Sheila Harjo
- November 4 Kylie Deatherage
- November 5 Brian Miller
- November 7 Tommy Tebe
- November 9 Mallory Brummett
- November 9 Leslie Smith
- November 12 Nate Johnson
- November 12 Heather Glass
- November 13 Nakai Harjo
- November 14 Sterlin Harjo
- November 14 Amber Fowler
- November 15 Reta Little
- November 15 Bonnie Decker
- November 17 Rob Johnson
- November 17 Brian Orsburn
- November 19 Clarissa Hart
- November 20 Chrystal Geiger
- November 20 Jackie Buckley
- November 20 Cody Harjo
- November 21 Miranda James
- November 21 Tod Robertson
- November 24 Andy Panoske
- November 24 LaPaula Panoske
- November 25 Kourtney Harjo
- November 25 Robyn Walker
- November 26 Patricia Jolly



Tara Lena
November 28

From: Seminole Nation Staff

- November 26 Brendon Stone
- November 26 Jerome Harrison
- November 28 Megan Sanford
- November 29 Patricia Thomas
- November 30 Warren Harjo
- November 30 Sarah Hoskison



Don't miss your next great job opportunity

Contact the Seminole Nation Human Resources Office at:

hr@sno-nsn.gov

to be added to HR's e-mail blast list and receive timely updates on vacancy announcements via personal e-mail.

call HR at (405) 257-7218 for more info

e-mail your announcements to:
seminolemedia@gmail.com

culture & language

FULLETV & PUNV KV

Nak'Enhonretv - "something to believe"

Natalie Harjo
Historic Preservation Officer
harjo.n@sno-nsn.gov

Recently, I was asked what it meant when you find that your child has a gray hair growing on their head. Now, to those of you readers that have followed my articles, you may remember that my family believed it meant that the child has had, or is preparing for, a turbulent time to come in his or her life.

These gray hairs were said to represent the wisdom and protection of those loved ones who have already passed on, and were sent by those loved ones to serve as reminders that they are around us to help battle these trials and tribulations, and to protect us.

Upon replying to her with this information, I could not help but recollect many of the powerful, spiritual, and often overlooked lessons that so many of our Seminole people encounter daily.

We are told that spirits are always among us. The creepy, crawly feeling you get on your arm, the brush you feel against your leg as you're walking, the whispers you hear in the next room, or those times that you "could have sworn" you heard someone call your name, these are all examples of things that we believed were reminders that spirits were around.

Imaginary friends were not "imaginary" to our people. We believed in this instance, that our children were talking and spending time with spirits.

Often times when we are lonely or missing someone that has passed on, we will receive a reminder of their presence.

One evening I was thinking about how funny my great-grandmother was. Sometimes when she was sewing, she would make a long pass with the needle and the long thread would get caught in her hair, and when she went to sew the next stitch, the thread would catch her hair and get tangled in it. Other times, when she would rip seams of quilts to repair them, she would often be working so furiously that strands of thread would be caught all in her tightly "permed" short hair (which we fondly dubbed "the microphone hairdo"), and I would say "Easy Grandma! You should calm down on that quilt" and we would laugh while I picked out all the little pieces of thread from her hair, and she would continue to sew. Surprisingly, after laughing to myself at this memory, I found myself so lonely for my grandmother that I cried myself to sleep. Upon waking up, I went to the bathroom to wash my tear-streaked face. After I dried my face and pulled away the towel, I looked in the mirror and I saw what I believed to be a simple little reminder of my grandmother's presence. I found a single strand of thread tangled in my hair.

Skeptics would be more than willing to explain away this instance with some other form of explanation, for instance, "maybe the thread was on your pillow." Although this is a valid and logical possibility, this answer goes against all that I was raised to believe. To go against our teachings was just like asking for trouble to come your way, not to mention that we would be questioning the existence of our spirits.

Believe me, if anyone else was privy to the explanations that our grandmother would give us when we questioned the spirituality of our beliefs, those conversations would be full of sayings such as "the more you don't believe, the more they will show you to make you believe" and "ignoring them is how you make them angry, you must respect their presence." Additionally, sometimes we would hear the dreaded "if you don't respect them and learn the lessons that they are trying to teach you, they can make you sick, or worse, make your loved ones sick, to remind you how powerful they are."

Unfortunately, there were always those of us that were Ekv-tvlvswe "tough/stubborn head", and to those she would say, "Hey luh! Just believe me or you will learn the hard way!"

Needless to say, I do not often listen to skeptics and their reasons to explain things away, nor do I try to force anyone to believe in spirits. I feel that it is up to the individual and their own beliefs and teachings to decide their reactions.

I do, however, choose to explain to those skeptics why I firmly believe the way I do, and leave it to them to accept my explanation. I loved and trusted my grandmother with every moral fiber of my being, and I choose to believe that she came to visit me to comfort me, to let me know that she was still around me when I needed her. I didn't ever test the will or strength of that tiny woman when I was little, and I sure was not going to test it now and have her "make me learn the hard way."

Grandma didn't raise an idiot!

Veterans

In addition to door prizes and other presentations, Albert Gray Eagle will perform Native flute music and tell traditional stories during the luncheon. A veteran of the US Army, Gray Eagle frequently performs at veterans' events. He has played the flute for 39 years.

Guest speaker Dr. Tara Leigh Tappert will also be on hand during the veterans' luncheon at the Wewoka Civic Center to discuss the Combat Paper Project.

Dr. Tappert is an independent scholar and an archives and American art consultant. In 2010 she was awarded a research grant from the Center for Craft, Creativity & Design to study 20th Century American military uses of arts-and-crafts making for rehabilitation, vocational training and soldier well-being. Inspired by the Iraq and Afghanistan veterans she was meeting, Dr. Tappert helped to launch *Arts, Military + Healing: A Collaborative Initiative*. She serves as the exhibitions curator for the Combat Paper Project.

The Combat Paper Project is an international, traveling art exhibition created by combat veterans and citizens, primarily those associated with the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

The project will consist of three distinct components: the Combat Paper Art Exhibition, which will open on Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Seminole Nation Museum in Wewoka during the Veterans Day Events, a series of lectures by Dr. Tappert about the Combat Paper Project and the history of Arts, Military and Healing, and a two-day Combat Paper Art Workshop hosted by artist and instructor John LaFalce at the Seminole State College Haney Center.

The two-day workshop will begin Monday, Nov. 12 from 11:00

a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and continue on Tuesday, Nov. 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Oklahoma Veterans from all branches of military service – and every proud generation – are invited and encouraged to view the Seminole Nation Museum Exhibition, attend Dr. Tappert's lectures in Wewoka and Seminole – and participate in the Combat Paper Workshop, where veterans use their combat worn military uniforms and significant paper memorabilia to create cathartic works of art. The uniforms are cut up, beaten into a pulp and formed into sheets of paper, from which canvasses of meaningful art are created and shown around the world. The workshop is a venue for veterans of war, and others, to come together, processing life-altering experiences through the making of art, alongside others who have shared similar paths. It is a way of acknowledging, recognizing and "Celebrating the Tradition of Service."

The Combat Paper Project has exhibited work across the United States and other parts of the world, but the third annual Veterans Day Event in Wewoka will be the first time in the project's history that Oklahoma veterans, and the State of Oklahoma, has exposure to this important exhibit.

For more information on the Combat Paper Project Exhibit, contact Seminole Nation Museum Project Director and Public Affairs Counsel Robin Brooks at (760) 408-3762. To learn more about the two-day workshop, contact Lana Reynolds, Seminole State College Vice President of Institutional Advancement at (405) 382-9218. Visit www.combatpaper.org to learn more about the project.

For more information about the third annual "Celebrating the Tradition of Service" Veterans Day Event visit the Seminole Nation tribal website at www.sno-nsn.gov or call (405) 257-7200.

Curriculum Development Team seeks input at community info meetings

Joe Clay
Staff Writer
clay.j@sno-nsn.gov

The Seminole Nation Language Program recently received an Administration for Native Americans Language Preservation and Maintenance grant for the Nak-kerretv Ohhayetv "To Build Upon Knowledge" Curriculum Sequence project.

The first task for the Language Program is to develop specific content in the Mvskoke language from Kindergarten through sixth grade for the Pumvhakv School, which will instruct only in the Mvskoke language. Topics that will be covered are language arts, math, science, social studies and health and wellness. Everything will be taught from a Seminole cultural perspective.

The school will not only focus on speaking in public, but also help develop academic language proficiency - the type that is necessary for students to succeed in school.

This project stems from the 2008 language survey assessment of the community, in which 70 percent of participants indicat-

ed that there should be a Seminole school where all classes are taught in the Seminole language.

The Seminole Nation Curriculum Development Team, which will administer the ANA grant, includes Linda Bear, director; Melanie Fryer, assistant director; and Jeremiah Maylen, project administrator.

The Seminole Nation curriculum team has recently started having community meetings with Semvnole-Mvskoke speakers. The first meeting was held at the Sasakwa Community Center on Friday, Oct. 26, to discuss curriculum ideas for modern words and give input on curriculum topics.

"Getting new words for the Seminole language is difficult. We don't have the language to make short words, like in English," said Joe Coon, a participant at the Sasakwa Community Center meeting.

Community meetings will be held the last Friday of every month with rotating locations at Strothers Community Center, Mekuskey Mission North Community Center and Sasakwa Community Center. Lunch will

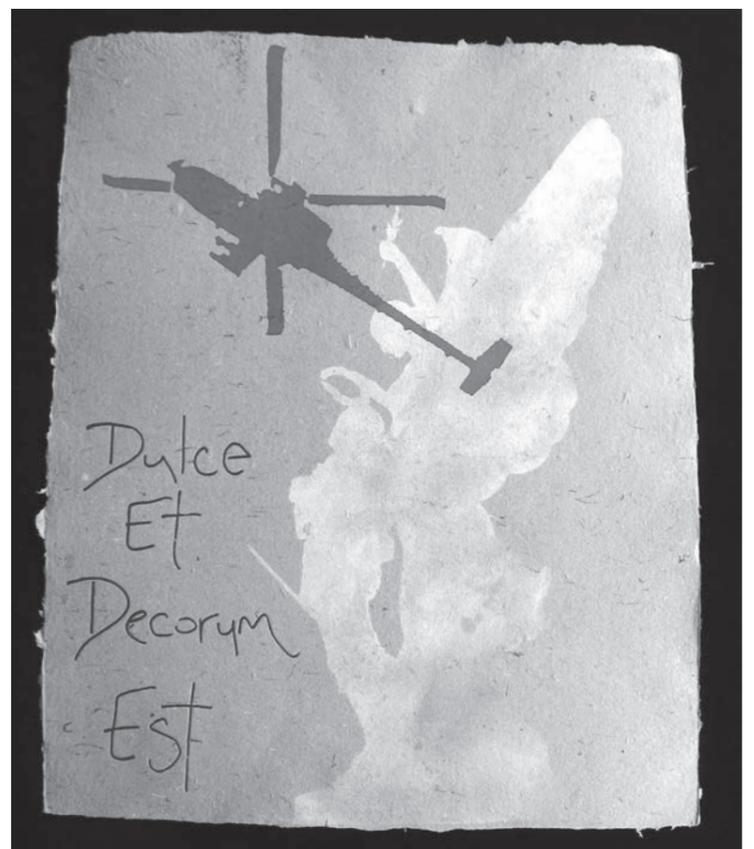
be provided and transportation is available through the Seminole Nation Transit System.

One of the recent projects the development team is working on is translating the children's book *Goldilocks* to the Seminole language.

Another project the curriculum team is working on is translating modern words. For example the modern word "texting" has been recently translated to *Enk-ecke 'punvkv* in the Seminole language, meaning thumb speak/talk.

"Giving modern words a Seminole name, a lot of them are descriptive, that's the hard part," Coon added. "We are going to have to find a word that fits the term."

The 2012-2013 dates for the Nak-kerretv Ohhayetv Curriculum Development Team community meetings are Nov. 30 at Mekuskey Mission, Dec. 21 at Strother, Jan. 25 at Sasakwa, Feb. 22 at Mekuskey Mission, March 22 at Strother, April 26 at Sasakwa, May 31 at Mekuskey Mission, June 28 at Strother and July 26 at Sasakwa.



Dulce Et Decorum Est by Drew Matott (civilian) and Drew Cameron (Army)

national

WACENA

USDA, Bureau of Indian Affairs work to boost access to farm programs in Indian Country

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Officials from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) recently signed two memorandums of understanding (MOU) designed to foster improved access to USDA and BIA programs by tribes and tribal members. The memorandums apply to programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rural Development at USDA, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior (DOI). The MOUs will further improve the important government-to-government relationships and also the services offered between USDA, BIA and the tribal governments and the communities they serve.

"This agreement between USDA and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will help us increase efficiency, reduce redundancy and improve communications and services between our agencies and the tribes," said Under Secretary for Rural Development Dallas Tonsager. "These improvements will help to spur economic development, strengthen the communities and improve the lives of the people of Indian country."

"We look forward to working closely with USDA to serve Indian Country. American Indian farmers are a vital part of Tribal economies and the nation's agricultural industry. Agriculture is the backbone of the nation," BIA Director Mike Black said. "With these MOUs in place, we will be able to work with USDA and its programs as partners in helping American Indian farmers maintain their farms, strengthen the local tribal economies, and bring their produce to market for the benefit of all Americans, and the world."

"This partnership shows the important role tribal lands play in conservation stewardship in America," Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Dave White said. "Landowners across the U.S., including those on tribal lands, contribute to cleaner water and air, healthier soil and better homes for wildlife. This memorandum is one effort of many in which NRCS, BIA and Indian landowners and land users can join together to nurture a better landscape."

"The Farm Service Agency is eager to implement this agreement," said FSA Administrator Juan M. Garcia. "We respect and honor the centuries of stewardship that the Indian tribes participating in our conservation and farm programs have shown for the land we all share. We are pleased to solidify our partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to conserve the soil, care for our water and air, and help the tribe's

maximize their agricultural production."

The MOUs set up a framework for consultation, training, coordination, and the provision of technical assistance which will increase the amount of Indian land enrolled under USDA conservation and farm loan programs and improve service delivery on those lands. Farming and animal management, grazing, ranching and related food and agricultural operations will be supported through improved interdepartmental coordination. The MOUs, which are in place for five years, also support establishment of Native rural businesses, renewable energy development, and job creation. Additionally, the BIA will work with Rural Development to increase homeownership, home repair, and rehabilitation opportunities, and improve energy efficiency of homes on Indian lands through improved coordination of program delivery. Finally, the MOUs will complement the USDA's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) work with BIA to implement and administer the Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) provision of the 2008 Farm Bill to increase affordability and availability of RUS-supported infrastructure on Indian lands.

The MOUs also help further the objectives of the Keepseagle settlement agreement, which resolved a lawsuit regarding past discrimination by USDA against Native American farmers and ranchers concerning its farm loan program.

Since taking office, President Obama's Administration has taken historic steps to improve the lives of rural Americans, put people back to work and build thriving economies in rural communities. From proposing the American Jobs Act to establishing the first-ever White House Rural Council the President is committed to a smarter use of existing Federal resources to foster sustainable economic prosperity and ensure the government is a strong partner for businesses, entrepreneurs and working families in rural communities. The Rural Council is working to break down silos of information and to find areas for better collaboration and improved flexibility in administering government programs and to work closer with local tribal and non-tribal governments, non-profits and private companies to leverage federal support to enhance the services offered to rural beneficiaries. The MOUs are also an important step in implementing the administration's Administrative Flexibility Initiative in Indian Country that has as its goal to provide greater efficiency and more effective program delivery to Indian Country across the federal government.



Oce Vpofa (Hickory Ground) Representative Sam Deere (at podium) speaks at the Oct. 12 Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting regarding the development of the original Hickory Ground for the expansion of Wind Creek Casino in Atmore, Ala. by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

courtesy of Muscogee Media

Voter ID laws and the Native vote

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On Monday, Oct. 22, 2012 NCAI released their *Voter IDs and the Native Vote* report.

NCAI, the nation's leading Native American advocacy organization, also announced it is supporting increased voter protection efforts in Arizona, Montana, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, in response to historic and current voter suppression efforts.

"We will not be deterred — Indian Country is focused on turning out the largest Native vote in history this year — and this report helps us focus our protection and education efforts. Voter ID laws and photo ID laws are a major concern and we are working to make sure Native voters have the information they need to make their voice heard," said NCAI President Jefferson Keel.

The report identifies three areas where voter ID requirements pose significant challenges for Native voters and can be characterized as having a disproportionate effect on the American Indian and Alaska Native vote: First, states with voter ID laws compromise the rights of Native voters by not accepting tribal IDs as valid forms of identification; second, such laws create barriers of cost, logistics, and distance to obtaining required IDs; and finally, these laws risk disenfranchising large numbers of Native voters through provisional ballots.

The report can be downloaded at www.ncai.org.

Inter-Tribal Council passes resolution supporting Hickory Ground

Rebecca Landsberry
Editor
Muscogee Nation News

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes adopted four resolutions during the general session Oct. 12 at the River Spirit Event Center in Tulsa, Okla.

Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby, Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill Baker, Choctaw Nation Chief Greg Pyle, Seminole Nation Asst. Chief Ella Colman and Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Principal Chief George Tiger who serves as president of the Council, presented progress reports for their respective tribes.

Tiger reported on the MCN's acquisition of Riverwalk Crossing in Jenks, Okla., and the Okmulgee Country Club earlier this year as well as housing, health and the chartered communities within the nation.

"Success is not based on individualisms, success is based on being able to collaborate and work together . . . the success of tribes that you see in front of you have enjoyed is because of the fact that we work together, not against one another," Tiger said.

Committee meetings were held Oct. 11 for participants to discuss tribal programming development in the areas of social services, language, housing, governance, economic development, communication, education, health, elders/aging, child welfare, realty and historic/cultural preservation during break out sessions at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Tulsa.

The sessions produced four resolutions adopted by the council by the general session. Three of these resolutions focused on the protection of tribal lands.

Resolution 12-08 was adopted in opposition of the Poarch Creek Band of Indians' expansion of Wind Creek Casino.

Representative from Oce Vpofa (Hickory Ground) Sam Deere spoke on behalf of ceremonial ground leader George Thompson regarding the development of the original Hickory Ground for the expansion of Wind Creek Casino in Atmore, Ala., by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

"During the excavation, some 57 bodies or human remains were dug up there, including seven chiefs within the ceremonial grounds themselves," Deere said.

According to Deere, the ceremonial grounds are a fundamental part of the tribe because they encompass the living culture and the values handed down from generation to generation. MCN ceremonial ground leaders are elected to their positions for life.

"Sometimes we forget who we really are and who we truly are as Native people. . . We are taught love, respect, caring for one another; from the elders, to the warriors to the women, to the children," he said.

The Inter-Tribal Council was founded Feb. 3, 1950 and is the oldest tribal organization in the U.S., representing three of the four largest federally recognized tribes and nearly 625,000 enrolled citizens.

A study released Oct. 4 by the Steven C. Agee Economic Research and Policy Institute (ERPI) at Oklahoma City University estimates that the 38 federally recognized Oklahoma tribes have an economic impact of over \$10.8 billion in the state.

According to the report, tribes employed 53,747 individuals as of 2010, made direct payroll contributions of \$1.5 billion to Oklahoma residents and generated \$5.6 billion in revenue from tribal operations.

The Choctaw Nation will host the next quarterly meeting in January 2013 in Durant, Okla.

community

ETVLW



Filmmaker Sterlin Harjo has been announced as the 2013 recipient of the Tulsa Library Trust's "American Indian Writers Award."

courtesy of Tulsa Library Trust

Filmmaker Sterlin Harjo to receive American Indian Writers Award in Tulsa

TULSA - Sterlin Harjo, Seminole/Muscogee (Creek), will receive the Tulsa Library Trust's "American Indian Writers Award" March 2, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at Central Library, Fourth Street and Denver Avenue. His award presentation will be followed by a day of educational American Indian family events.

The award, presented every other year, consists of a \$5,000 honorarium and an engraved crystal. Previous winners include: 2001, Joy Harjo (Muscogee Creek); 2003, Vine DeLoria Jr. (Standing Rock Sioux); 2005, Leslie Marmon-Silko (Laguna Pueblo); 2007, Carter Revard (Osage) and 2011, LeAnne Howe, (Choctaw).

Harjo, born in Holdenville, Oklahoma, and now living in Tulsa, studied painting and film/video studies at the University of Oklahoma.

While attending OU, a professor suggested he attend a program by Bird Runningwater, an OU graduate who had come to speak on behalf of the Sundance Institute. On the encouragement from Runningwater, Harjo submitted a script to Sundance.

After another submission, in 2004, Harjo was selected as one of the Sundance Institute's first five Annenberg Film Fellows, a multi-year program launched to provide filmmakers with financial support and full involvement in Sundance's professional workshops.

His short film, "Goodnight, Irene," premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival and was cited for Special Jury Recognition at the Aspen Shortsfest.

In 2006 he was selected as one of the inaugural recipients, as well as the first Native American recipient, of the United States Artists Fellowship. He also was selected for a 2006 Media Arts Fellowship from Renew Media. In the same year, he won the Creative Promise Award from Tribeca All Access for his script "Before the Beast Returns."

Harjo's first feature film, "Four Sheets to the Wind," premiered at

the 2007 Sundance Film Festival. This film was a product of his selection as one of the Sundance Institute's first five Annenberg Film Fellows.

"Barking Water," Harjo's 2008 dramatic feature film, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was the only American film to play in the Venice Days section of the 2009 Venice Film Festival. He is one of seven indigenous filmmakers who participated in the Embargo Collective, a project started in 2008 by imagine/NATIVE Film & Media Arts Festival. Harjo's addition to the project, "Cepanvkuce Tutcenen/Three Little Boys," premiered at imagine/NATIVE in 2009, and was selected for screening in the 2010 Berlin International Film Festival and the 2011 Native American Film + Video Festival.

Harjo served as a jury member for the Sundance Film Festival in 2010. In 2009 he was an advisor for the Sundance Institute Ford Foundation Film Fellowship. In 2008 he was a member of the faculty for the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute.

Currently, Harjo is a producer/director for This Land Press, an Oklahoma multi-media news organization. At This Land Press, he highlights the stories that inspire him.

"Sterlin Harjo is an example of an Oklahoma-born American Indian who has become a successful screenwriter and director connecting the traditional ways and thoughts with scenes in the 21st century," said Teresa Runnels, TCCL's American Resource Center coordinator. "Early in his career he has made an impact in the filmmaking world. His success serves as an inspiration to all young artists, especially emerging Native American artists, who seek to become an author or filmmaker."

For more information on library programming, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, <http://www.tulsalibrary.org>.



Assistant Chief Colman (center) was recognized as one of AARP Oklahoma's 2012 Indian Elder Honorees at a ceremony held Tuesday, Oct. 2 in Oklahoma City. Also pictured are (l-r): AARP Associate State Director Mashell Sourjohn, National Board Member Joan Ruff, AARP Regional Vice President Nancy Stockbridge and AARP Oklahoma State President Marjorie Lyons.

courtesy of AARP Oklahoma

AARP Oklahoma honors Assistant Chief Colman

OKLAHOMA CITY - Seminole Nation Assistant Chief Ella Colman was among more than 45 Indian elders from 35 Oklahoma tribes and nations recognized at the fourth annual AARP Indian Elder Honorees held recently in Oklahoma City.

Assistant Chief Colman, a member of the Deer clan and Ocese band was lauded for her leadership within the Seminole Nation, as well as her work with the Indian Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Colman was elected Assistant Chief of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in September 2009. She worked at the Rockville, Md. headquarters of the Indian Health Service, the Washington, D.C., Office of the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs and the Central Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She has also held positions with the Soil Conservation Service and Tinker Air Force Base. In addition to her professional appointments, Assistant Chief Colman has also served on the Seminole Nation Development Authority and Interim Seminole Nation Division of Commerce review committees, as well as the Seminole Nation Finance Committee.

Tribal officials, friends and family members converged on the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum along with AARP state, regional and national officials to recognize language preservationists, artists, dancers, ministers, authors, patriarchs and matriarchs that have impacted their tribes, communities and state.

Among honorees recognized at the event was one of the few remaining Oklahoma Indians who speaks only her native language, a world-champion fancy dancer and a noted artist who is 100 years old.

AARP also announced the forma-

tion of an Inter-Tribal Community Group that will meet on community issues and will be open to all Native Americans age 50 and over in Oklahoma.

To find more information or join this group, e-mail ok@aarp.org or call (866) 295-7277.

AARP National Board Member Joan Ruff, who delivered the keynote address, said, "We hope the partnerships we've established here will be the foundation to create partnerships between AARP and other Native American nations in other states.

But tonight our focus isn't on AARP. It's on you, the elders, and the contributions you've made to improve the lives of people around you - in your own tribes, the greater tribal community, in the state of Oklahoma, our nation, and even around the world.

Your lives are rich, living stories being passed on to the next generations."

Ruff, along with AARP Oklahoma State President Marjorie Lyons, Regional Vice President Nancy Stockbridge and Associate State Director Mashell Sourjohn presented each honoree with a medallion.

"Once again, we have come together in the spirit of goodwill and harmony to celebrate the remarkable lives of Native American elders from across the state," Lyons said. "Though they come from different backgrounds and cultures, we see in tonight's honorees, the common bond they share - respect, dignity and service to their fellow man."

AARP has a dedicated website featuring resources and information for Oklahoma Indian Elders.

The website can be accessed at: www.aarp.org/okindiannavigator.org

Event Calendar

CHR info meeting Nov. 8, 2012

The Seminole Nation Community Health Representatives program will be holding a community outreach informational meeting to discuss health-care benefits offered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the State of Oklahoma Healthcare Authority's Medicaid Program - "SoonerCare." The meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 8, 2012 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Seminole State College Haney Center.

Presenters at the informational meeting will include tribal members Mary Culley, acting Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs' Southwest Region, Office of Tribal Government Relations and Dana Miller, Director of the Oklahoma Healthcare Authority's Tribal Liaison Office.

In light of rising healthcare costs, tribal members and veterans are invited to attend the information meeting and learn more about their healthcare benefit options. As on-site enrollment will be available, veterans are encouraged to bring their DD 214s.

Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be awarded.

"Warriors of Men" Conference Nov. 20, 2012

The Seminole Nation CHR program will host a presentation, entitled "Warriors of Men" on Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2012 at the Mekusukey Mission North Community Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The meeting will focus on diabetes - a subject that is affecting Native families young and old.

Dorsey Nero will serve as the traditional speaker, and former CHR Director, General Council Rep. Dwayne Miller will serve as the health educator.

Drinks and nutritional snacks will be provided to all participants, and door prizes will be available.

For more information, contact the CHR program at (405) 382-2265.

On pages 8 and 9: Faces of Bravery Celebrating the Tradition of Service

*to add your military service photo and information, please contact the Seminole Nation Communications Department at (405) 382-1010.



William Billie
US Army



Pvt. Leo Brown
US Army



Ronnie Bruner
US Army



Alex Burgess
US Army - WWII



Charles Burgess
US Army



Jonas Burgess
US Army - WWII



E7 Ethan Calvin
USMC



Lewis Bunny Carpitcher
US Army



LCpl. Danny Coker
USMC



Henry Coker
US Air Force



Jesse Don Coker
US Army - MP



Charlie W. Cole
USMC



Richard W. Cole
USMC



Ronnie C. Cole
USMC



Sgt. Robert Coon
US Air Force



Walter Coon, Jr.
US Army



LCpl. Walter Coon III
USMC



Sgt. Andrew G. Cosar
US Army



Cpl. Roman Cosar
Korean War



SP4 Wallace Culley
US Army



SP5 Bill Davis
US Army



Jackie Freeland Davis
US Army



E3 Dickie J. Deatherage
US Army



Capt. Larry Deatherage
US Army



George Doyle
US Navy



Michael England
US Army



Robert Fish, Jr.
US Navy - WWII



John Griffin
US Navy



Susie Griffin
US Navy



TSgt Kathy Guess
US Air Force



SSG Norman Guess
US Air Force



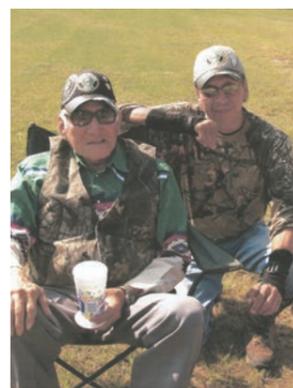
Rex Hailey
US Army



Jerry Haney
US Army - Special Forces



Sgt. Antler Harjo
US Army



Carl Lee Harjo Sr. & Jr.
US Army - WWII



Eugene (Fox) Harjo
US Army



Floyd Harjo
US Army - WWII



SP4 Franklin Harjo
US Army National Guard



Patrick Scott Harjo
USMC



Stacey Hawkins Summey
US Air Force



SSgt. Charlie Hill
USMC



Cpl. Chuck Hulbutta
USMC



Cpl. Gurdon A. Johnson
USMC



Pvt. Larry J. Johnson
US Army



Cpl. Jesse C. Kernel
US Army



Wilson Kinney
US Army - WWII



Woodrow Kinney
US Air Force



E5 Jake Larney
US Army



Terry Little, Sr.
USMC



Terry Little, Jr.
USMC



Cecil Moore, Jr.
US Navy - WWII



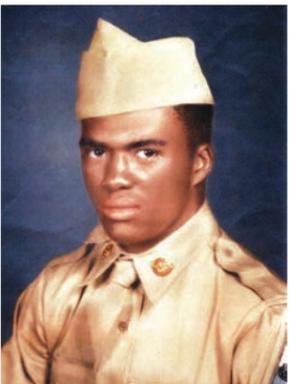
Ernest Moore
US Army - Airborne



Dewey Muirhead
US Army Air Corps



Dorsey Nero
US Navy



Harry Osborne
US Army



Maj. George Osborne
US Army



Tony Mont Palmer, Sr.
US Army - WWII



Floyd T. Quillen
US Navy



S5 John J. Quillen
US Army



Sgt. Matthew Robertson
USMC



1SG Frank Sewell
US Army



Glenn Sharpe
US Navy



Wayne Edward Shaw
US Navy



E4 James W. Smith
US Army



Cpt. Margie Stalnaker
US Army



Wisey Stevens
US Army Medical Corps



Derek Vigil
USMC



Michael K. Walker
US Navy



Clayton Whitlock
US Navy



Gary Whitlock
US Army



Walter Wise
US Army



Redmond Wolf
US Army - WWII

tribal news

OPUNVKV SAN

A brief history: The Seminole Nation Court System

William C. Wantland
Supreme Court Justice
Seminole Nation Tribal Court System

In 1856, the Seminole people, who had been removed to what is now Oklahoma on the Trail of Tears and forcibly incorporated into the Creek Nation, obtained their independence, and re-established the Seminole Nation. A code of law was adopted, which served as the Constitution, and a General Council was elected with three representatives from each Band, and a Principal Chief, for a four-year term.

Just as the Seminole Nation was taking charge of its affairs, the War Between the States broke out, and the Seminoles, along with the other of the Five Tribes, joined the Confederacy. When the South lost in 1865, all of the Five Tribes suffered penalties, including the loss of land. The Seminoles lost 90 percent of their land base under the terms of the 1866 treaty.

After the War, the Seminole Nation established the Lighthorsemen to enforce the law. A judicial system was set up, with the General Council as the Court, serving both as a trial court, and after the establishment of other courts, as the Supreme Court. At least in criminal matters, an officer of the Lighthorse might serve as judge, and in some cases, a jury would be permitted.

Federal law recognized the courts of the Five Tribes (Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw and Choctaw) to hold jurisdiction over crimes committed by citizens of the tribes, and over certain civil matters. Major jurisdiction, however, was vested in Federal courts, operating under the laws of Arkansas.

By the 1890's, the United States Government was intent on dissolving the Indian Courts, and eventually the tribal governments, themselves. All of this was included in the proposed Curtis Act, aimed at forcing individual allotment upon the Five Tribes. Under the leadership of Principal Chief John F. Brown, the Seminole Nation proposed a special allotment act which would preserve the tribal government. The Curtis Act was passed in 1898, and two days later, the Seminole Allotment Act was passed. This exempted the Seminole Nation from the effects of the Curtis Act. However, in spite of this, the Federal Government took the position that the Curtis Act would apply to the Seminole Nation, and the judicial system of the Nation should be dissolved. Nevertheless, the Seminole judicial system continued to operate until at least 1905.

Unfortunately, even though Chief Brown and the Seminole government had obtained a law which would allow the tribal gov-



Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice William C. Wantland

Joe Clay Seminole Nation Communications

ernment to continue, the U.S. government applied the dire effects of the Curtis Act to all of the Five Tribes, virtually destroying the sovereignty of the Nations. The General Council could meet no more than 30 days each year, and no action would be of any force and effect unless approved by the Department of the Interior. Further, the Principal Chief would no longer be elected, but appointed by the President of the U.S., or his designated representative. All tribal courts were abolished, and jurisdiction transferred to the Federal Courts, and after 1907, in some matters, to the State of Oklahoma courts.

The Seminole Nation continued to resist this illegal action, and attempts were made to elect the Principal Chief, and to update the Code of Law, but the Federal government resisted these actions. Indeed, in 1954, the BIA Area Director in Muskogee fired the Seminole Principal Chief, Marcy Cully, and told the Seminole Nation it did not need a Chief. The office remained vacant, despite the objections from the Seminole people.

Finally, in 1964, the General Council appointed a Constitution Committee to prepare an updated Constitution. After five years of effort, the Committee drafted a Constitution approved by both the General Council and the BIA. The Constitution provided for the election of the Chief and Assistant Chief, but efforts to provide for a Treasurer were rejected by the BIA. Likewise, efforts to provide for Courts were likewise prohibited, under the erroneous idea that the Curtis Act abolished the right to have Courts, and that the Curtis Act somehow applied to

the Seminole Nation.

In 1969, the Constitution was overwhelmingly approved by the Seminole people, and the Seminole Nation became the first of the Five Tribes to elect its Chief after 65 years.

Concerted efforts on the part of the Five Tribes finally led to the agreement that courts could be established. At first, the Seminole Nation, rather than establish a Judicial system, elected to ask for the establishment of a Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Court under the BIA. The CFR Court was duly established, and operated until January of 2012. At the beginning of the 21st century, the Seminole Nation adopted a number of amendments to the Constitution, one of which would provide for a court system. However, the Department of Interior (which still had the power to veto proposed amendments to the Constitution) refused to approve the amendments.

Again, in 2008, the Seminole Nation adopted an amendment of the Constitution to provide for a court system, and in 2010, the U.S. government consented. A judiciary committee of the Seminole Nation had been working on necessary codes and procedures for the establishment of the courts.

The General Council approved these efforts, and in 2011, a District Judge and three Supreme Court Justices were appointed by the Principal Chief, Leonard Harjo, confirmed by the General Council and on the third Monday of October, 2011, the Courts of the Seminole Nation convened and began operations.

After more than 106 years, the Judicial system of the Seminole Nation was back in operation.

Seminole Etlvwo Avcceckv
(Seminole Nation Court)

Invites you to a

Community Wills Clinic

November 15, 2012

9 a.m. - Overview of wills with O.I.L.S
10 a.m. - Will Preparation

All consultation and Will preparation will be done by O.I.L.S, Oklahoma Indian Legal Services

Please bring all necessary documents to complete your will.

In Wewoka at the QAP Building

For more information contact:
Seminole Nation Tribal Court
Ph: 405-303-2251 P.O. Box 2307
Fax: 405-303-2261 Seminole, Ok 74818
RSVP is encouraged

Tribal Court Filings October 2012

Civil

Thomas S. McGeisey, Jr. v. Housing Authority Civil Complaint
of the Seminole Nation
Michele Harjo v. Eugene Berryhill Custody

Divorce

None filed during this period.

Child Support

Tribal Child Support v. Russell Weger

Protective Orders

One protective order filed.

Juvenile

Three guardianships involving minor children filed.

Criminal

Seminole Nation v. Peter Harjo Disorderly Conduct,
Criminal Mischief
Seminole Nation v. Amber Fixico Disorderly Conduct

There were four tribal court sessions held in October involving the following case types:

Criminal Dockets - 5
Civil Dockets - 15
Domestic Violence Docket - 1
Child Support Dockets - 18
Juvenile Dockets - 13
52 total cases heard in October 2012

Probation Statistics

Currently there are six people on probation, three of which are members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. The remaining three are members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma. Three are in compliance, while three are delinquent. Of the active probationers, one is male and two are female.

Male 1: 12 months probation for drug charges
Female 1: 12 months probation for drug charges
Female 2: 12 months probation for disorderly conduct

Public Notice

None reported for month of October 2012.

constitution

VHAKV EM PVAKV

Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

**Adopted March 8, 1969,
As Amended February 25, 1989
As Amended December 14, 1991
As Amended September 20, 2008**

Preamble

We, the members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, in order to promote justice, to continue cooperation with Federal, State and local governments, to encourage the general welfare, to safeguard our interests, to promote social, educational and economic opportunities for our children and for ourselves, and understanding this to be the democratic way pertaining to democracy and self-government by the people of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby ordain and establish this constitution.

Article I - Name

The name of this body shall be "The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma."

Article II - Membership

The membership of this body shall consist of all Seminole citizens whose names appear on the final rolls of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma approved pursuant to Section 2 of the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137) and their descendants. An enrolled member of another Indian tribe shall not be eligible for membership in the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

Article III - Chief and Assistant Chief

Section 1. The executive authority of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be vested in a Chief and Assistant Chief.

Section 2. Any member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who is at least 35 years of age and who possesses no less than one-quarter degree of Seminole Indian blood may be eligible for the office of Chief and Assistant Chief. No person who has been convicted of a felony by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be considered eligible for these offices until either pardoned or five years have passed since release from confinement.

Section 3. The Chief and Assistant Chief shall be elected for a term of four years pursuant to the provisions of Article X of this constitution and shall serve until their successors have been elected and installed. (As amended, December 14, 1991.)

Section 4. The Chief shall appoint, dissolve or remove subordinate committees and representatives and delegates to inter-tribal bodies subject to the approval of the majority of the General Council.

Section 5. The Chief shall preside over all meetings of the General Council and exercise any authority delegated to him by the provisions of this constitution. He shall have general supervision over the affairs of the General Council and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of chairman. He shall sign all official papers on behalf of the Nation when so directed by the General Council. He shall not vote at Council meetings except in case of a tie.

Section 6. The Assistant Chief shall assist the Chief when called on to do so, and in the absence of the Chief shall preside and when presiding shall have all privileges, duties, and responsibilities delegated to the Chief. In the absence of the Secretary of the General Council, the General Council will appoint a temporary Secretary. In case of the death or resignation or removal of the Chief, the Assistant Chief shall succeed at once to the office of Chief, subject to approval and confirmation as provided in Article IX, Section 3 of this constitution. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Article IV - General Council

Section 1. The legislative body of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be known as the General Council and shall consist of two (2) band representatives elected from each of the following fourteen (14) Seminole bands.

Tusekia Harjo; Tallahassee; Mekusukey; Thomas Palmer; Fushutche; Rewalke; Ceyvha; Eufaula; Hvtieyevlke; Hecete; Nurcup Harjo; Ocese; Dosar Barkus; and Bruner Band.

There must be at least ten (10) members of a band to constitute band status. A band with less than ten (10) members will have no voice in the Council.

Within 90 days from the approval date of this amendment, each band shall submit to the General Council written by-laws which shall describe how the band is governed. A band which has not submitted written by-laws shall have no voice in the Council. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 2. The General Council shall appoint for so long as it desires a secretary from within or without its membership. Any appointee from without the elected membership of the General Council shall not be eligible to participate in any business before that body unless the General Council so desires.

Section 3. Any member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who is at least 18 years of age and who possesses no less than one-quarter degree of Indian blood (this provision of degree of blood shall not apply to Freedman Council members) is qualified to sit on the General Council when duly elected pursuant to this constitution. No person who has been convicted of a felony by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be considered eligible for any position on the General Council or any appointment by that body until either pardoned or five years have passed since release from confinement. In the event any question should arise regarding the qualifications of any band representative, candidate for office or appointee, the decision of the General Council shall be final.

Section 4. All band representatives of the General Council shall be elected to serve a term of four years or until their successors have been duly elected and installed. All band representatives and the officers serving on the General Council may succeed themselves in office.

Section 5. All members of the General Council, appointees and employees of the Nation shall be paid in accordance with a duly adopted ordinance of the General Council. Unless otherwise provided for in this constitution, no enactment of the General Council shall be considered valid unless supported by a majority of those voting in a legal meeting.

Article V - Powers of the General Council

The General Council of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States, shall have the power to speak or act on behalf of the Nation in all matters in which the Nation is empowered to act. The General Council shall exercise, subject further to any limitations imposed by this constitution, the following powers:

(a.) To promote public health, education and charity and such other services that may contribute to the social and economic advancement of the members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

(b.) To negotiate with Federal, State and local governments and others on behalf of the Nation.

(c.) To prevent the sale, disposition, lease or encumbrance of any land or interest in land belonging to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma or reserved for the benefit of such Nation.

(d.) To manage and lease or otherwise deal with Tribal lands and communal resources in accordance with law.

(e.) To prepare the annual budget request and supplements thereto, to administer any funds within the control of the Nation and to make expenditures from available funds for Tribal purposes. All expenditures of Tribal funds within the purview of this paragraph shall be authorized by resolution duly enacted by the General Council and the amounts so expended shall be a matter of public record open to the members of the Nation at all reasonable times.

(f.) To enter into any contract in behalf of the Nation in conjunction with any activity that will further the well-being of the members of the Nation.

(g.) To employ legal counsel.

(h.) To borrow money from any source and pledge or assign chattels or future Tribal income as security therefore, subject to any restrictions imposed by any statutes.

(i.) To exercise any powers not specifically set fourth in this article which at some future date may be appropriately delegated to the General Council. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Article VI - Meetings of the General Council

Section 1. Regular meetings of the General Council shall be held on a day established by the Council in March, June, September, and December of each calendar year, one of which shall be designated the annual Tribal meeting at which the Chief shall make an annual report: Provided, that if the established meeting date falls on a holiday, the meeting shall be held on the same day of the following week. Such meetings shall convene at 10 a.m. The Chief may call a special meeting of the Council at any time he thinks it necessary. The Chief shall be required to call such a meeting within ten (10) days upon receipt of a request in the form of a petition signed by at least a fifteen (15) members of the General Council: Provided, that no special meeting shall be called except on matters of serious concern to the General Council. Notice of regular and special meetings shall be given at least ten (10) days in advance to all members of the General Council and shall contain the time, place, and purpose. In case of an emergency, the ten (10) day notice period may be waived. Such notice shall also be published in at least one (1) prominent newspaper within Seminole County and notices posted in proper places. By ordinance the General Council shall provide details on how the wavier will be accomplished and the places for posting of the notices. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 2. The official meeting place shall be designated by the General Council. All meetings shall be opened to the members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, and no official business may be transacted by the General Council at any time in the absence of a quorum which shall consist of a fifteen (15) voting band representatives and either the Chief or Assistant Chief, or Temporary Chairman. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 3. In the event the Chief and/or Assistant Chief refuses or is unable to call or chair a regular or special General Council meeting, a temporary chairman appointed by the General Council shall preside over the meeting of the General Council and the General Council shall be able to conduct official business. The Temporary Chairman shall preside for that one meeting only and shall sign all official papers arising from that one meeting only when so directed by the General Council. The General Council may appoint the Temporary Chairman from within the General Council or from the voting membership of the Seminole Nation. The Temporary Chairman, if not a member of the General Council, shall not be allowed to vote on official business. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Article VII - Order of Business

Section 1. The order of business at any regular or special meeting of the General Council shall be as follows: Provided, that it may be suspended for any meeting by the General Council.

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call and prayer.
3. Reading of minutes of last meeting.
4. Unfinished business.
5. Reports of Committees.
6. New business.
7. Prayer and adjournment.

Section 2. The General Council may by appropriate ordinance adopt such rules and regulations as it thinks desirable in carrying out the order of business.

Article VIII - Duties of Officers

The Secretary shall cause to be prepared all minutes, resolutions and ordinances enacted at all meetings and distribute copies, by mail if feasible, to the members of the General Council and to the Area Office. The Secretary shall cause to be maintained files, records, and correspondence of the General Council in an orderly manner for the convenience of the General Council and exercise such other duties as may be specifically delegated to the Secretary. The Secretary shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices of the General Council as required by this constitution. Until the General Council by ordinance directs otherwise, the depository of the Council's records and enactments shall be in the

continued on page 12

Constitution

Tribal office in Wewoka, Oklahoma, such documents to become the permanent records of the Seminole Nation.

Article IX - Removal and the Filling of Vacancies

Section 1. The General Council may by an affirmative vote of nineteen (19) members remove any officer or band representative from office who fails to carry out his or her responsibilities or who is found guilty in any court of competent jurisdiction of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty, or for any gross neglect of duty or misconduct reflecting on the dignity and integrity of the General Council. No vote taken, however, shall be considered valid unless the individual so charged shall have been given a written statement containing the charges made against him or her at least ten (10) days before any meeting of the General Council and has been afforded an opportunity to answer, before the General Council, and all of the written charges. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 2. The General Council shall automatically declare vacant the seat of any member who dies, resigns, is found guilty of a felony in any court of competent jurisdiction, or who fails or refuses to attend two regular meetings in succession unless excused by the General Council.

Section 3. In case of the death, resignation or removal of the Chief, the General Council at its next regular meeting shall confirm the Assistant Chief as Chief. In the case of the death, advancement, resignation or removal of the Assistant Chief, the General Council at its next regular meeting shall by an affirmative vote of fifteen (15) of its members select a qualified member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma to fill the vacancy. It shall be the responsibility of the bands to fill, pursuant to Seminole tribal customs, any vacancy which may occur in their representation. Any member of the General Council seated pursuant to this section shall serve only until the completion of his or her predecessor's unexpired term. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 4. In case of the death or resignation or removal of both the Chief and Assistant Chief, the General Council shall appoint the Chief and Assistant Chief until a special election is held if such an election is deemed necessary by the General Council. The Chief and Assistant Chief appointed or elected pursuant to this section (Section 4) shall serve only until the next general election as provided for in Article X, Section 2. The appointed Chief and Assistant Chief shall have all powers granted an elected Chief and Assistant Chief under this constitution. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Article X - Elections (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 1. Every member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma as defined in Article II of this constitution shall be eligible to vote in any general or special election: Provided, that they are at least 18 years of age. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Section 2. All elections (subsequent to the first election held under this constitution) of Council members, Chief and Assistant Chief, shall be called pursuant to the provisions of this article: Provided, that the date of elections and any additional rules and regulations not inconsistent with this constitution, shall be established in an ordinance duly enacted by the General Council, and that all future election dates shall be no more than four (4) years apart.

Section 3. The Chief shall appoint, subject to approval of the General Council, an election board consisting of three members. The election board shall conduct all regular and special elections for Council members, Chief and Assistant Chief. The election board shall be charged with the responsibility of maintaining a list of registered and qualified voters, register persons eligible to vote, determine the eligibility of all candidates for office, and for counting ballots. The election board shall also be charged with the responsibility of determining the number and location of voting places. The election board shall elect from among its members a Chairman and a Secretary. The election board may appoint as many assistants as it deems necessary to conduct the elections.

Section 4. All candidates for office shall file with the election board and pay the fee prescribed by the General Council.

Section 5. Any person possessing the qualifications for Chief or Assistant Chief as set forth in Article III, Section 2 of this constitution may file for the office of Chief or Assistant Chief. Election of Chief and Assistant Chief shall be at large. No candidate for Chief or Assistant Chief shall be considered elected unless he or she has received the majority of the votes cast.

Section 6. Any person possessing the qualifications for General Council members as set forth in Article IV, Section 3 of this constitution, may file for the office of council member from his or her band. Councilmen shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast. A tie vote for councilmen shall be decided by their band. Election of council members shall be by band and all qualified voters shall be entitled to cast one vote for each seat his or her band has on the General Council to be filled.

Section 7. If a candidate for Chief or Assistant Chief does not receive the required majority of votes cast, a run-off election shall be held four weeks after the first election, and subject to all the rules and requirements of a regular general election. In the event of a run-off election, only the names of the two candidates with the highest number of votes shall appear on the ballot.

Article XI - Oath of Office

The newly elected Chief, Assistance Chief and members of the General Council shall be installed and take office at the first regular meeting following their election. The installation of the newly elected Chief, Assistance Chief, and members of the General Council elected at the first election held pursuant to this constitution shall be performed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs or his authorized representative. Thereafter, installation of newly elected officials of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be performed by the outgoing Chief or a person appointed by him. No official shall assume office under this constitution until he or her shall take the following Oath of Office:

"I _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of _____, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma." (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Article XII - Bill of Rights

Section 1. Each Seminole Indian citizen by blood of this body shall be entitled to membership in a Seminole Indian Band. Each Seminole Freedman citizen of this body shall be entitled to membership in a Freedman Band. Members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall belong to their mother's band: Provided, that in the event a member's mother is not a member of the Seminole Nation, such member shall be entitled to membership in the band of such member's father. One must remain in his own band. No member shall be entitled to belong to more than one band at any one time. All members shall be guaranteed equal economic opportunities and freedom of association and assembly.

Section 2. Nothing in this constitution shall be interpreted in a way which would change or adversely affect the rights and privileges the members of this body have as citizens of

the United States. (As amended, February 25, 1989.)

Section 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall not be affected in any way whatsoever by the provisions of this constitution without the consent of such individual member.

Article XIII - Amendment

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the tribe who vote in a special election called for that purpose by the Chief of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma pursuant to rules and regulations the General Council shall prescribe. It shall be the duty of the Chief to call such an election upon the request of fifteen (15) members of the General Council. (As amended, September 20, 2008.)

Section 2. A notice in the form of a resolution duly adopted by the General Council as to the time and place of any election to adopt or reject any proposed amendment must be given not less than sixty (60) days before election day. Such notice must include the full text of any proposed amendment and must appear subsequently at fifteen (15) day intervals in at least two (2) prominent newspapers published within Seminole County.

Article XIV - Adoption

This constitution when ratified by a majority of those qualified to vote in a special election of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma pursuant to rules the Council may prescribe, shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and shall become effective upon the date of approval.

Article XV - Territorial Jurisdiction

The territorial jurisdiction of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be within the geographical boundaries established by the Treaty of March 21, 1866, 14 Stat. 755, entered into by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and the United States of America, including but not limited to the following property located within said boundaries: property held in trust by the United States of America on behalf of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; property owned in fee by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; restricted and trust allotments; and dependent Indian communities. The territorial jurisdiction of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall also extend to all property located outside said boundaries, owned in fee by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma or held in trust by the United States on behalf of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. All of said property subject to the territorial jurisdiction of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, both real and personal, shall be exempt from federal and state taxation, when not inconsistent with federal law. (As amended, December 14, 1991)

Article XVI - Courts

Section 1. The judicial power of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be vested in one Supreme Court and such District Courts and other subordinate courts as may be established pursuant to law enacted by the General Council.

Section 2. The jurisdiction exercised by the Courts of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be limited to (a) matters arising on trust or restricted land within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, (b) civil matters, whether or not arising on trust or restricted land within said jurisdictional boundaries, arising between members of the Nation or involving nonmembers who voluntarily submit themselves to the civil jurisdiction of the Nation's courts, and (c) matters over which the Nation may exercise jurisdiction pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 1901, et seq., or other federal law whether or not arising on trust or restricted land within said jurisdictional boundaries. The original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court shall extend to a general superintending and administrative control over all inferior courts and all Agencies, Commissions and Boards created by law. The Supreme Court and District Court shall have power to issue, hear and determine writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, prohibition and such other remedial writs as may be provided by law and may exercise such other and further jurisdiction as may be conferred by statute. The appellate and the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court shall be invoked in the manner provided by law. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final.

Section 3. No Supreme Court Justice, District Court Judge or other judicial official may hold another elective or appointive office within the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma during their tenure as a Justice or Judge.

Section 4. Supreme Court Justices, District Court Judges and judges serving on any subordinate courts shall be nominated by the Principal Chief and shall be subject to confirmation by the General Council. Eligibility requirements for nominees and guidelines for the selection process shall be established by the General Council.

Section 5. Judges and Supreme Court Justices shall receive for their service salaries provided by statute passed by the General Council. The salary of any Judge or Justice may not be reduced during that person's term.

Section 6. The General Council will enact the necessary and appropriate laws to implement and place in operation the provisions of this Article. (As amended, September 20, 2008.)

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Constitution Certificates of Adoption and Approval

Certification of Adoption 1969

Pursuant to the election authorized by the Seminole General Council on September 20, 1968, the foregoing constitution and bylaws was submitted to the registered voters of the tribe and was on March 8, 1969, adopted by a vote of 637 for and 249 against. A total of 1,506 eligible Seminole voters registered for the election and the number of valid ballots cast represented 58.8% of those entitled to vote.

/s/Effie G. Kivett

Effie G. Kivett

Secretary, Seminole Election Comm.

March 12, 1969

/s/ Bennie F. Johnson

Bennie F. Johnson

Chairman, Seminole Election Comm.

/s/ John Brown

John Brown

Chairman, Seminole General Council

Approval of 1969 Constitution

I, Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as required in Article XIV of the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma hereby approve said document to be effective on the date of this approval.

April 15, 1969

/s/ Robert L. Bennett

Commissioner

Certification of Adoption 1989

Pursuant to Resolution No. 88-33 adopted by the General Council of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma on December 17, 1988, five (5) amendments to the foregoing constitution and bylaws were submitted to the registered voters of the tribe on February 25, 1989. All five amendments were ratified with each amendment receiving a majority of the votes

continued on page 13

Constitution

cast.

/s/Robert Kernell, Jr.
Robert Kernell, Jr.
Chairman
Seminole Nation Election Board

/s/ Edwin Tanyan
Edwin Tanyan
Principal Chief

February 27, 1989

February 27, 1989

Approval for 1988 Amendments

I, Merritt E. Youngdeer, pursuant to authority delegated to me by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on December 9, 1988, and as required by Article XIII of the constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma hereby approve said amendments to be effective on the date of approval.

March 10, 1989

/s/Merritt E. Youngdeer
Area Director

Certification of Adoption 1991

Pursuant to Resolution No. 91-19 and 91-19A adopted by the General Council of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma on July 27, 1991 and August 29, 1991 respectively, four (4) amendments to the foregoing constitution and bylaws were submitted to the registered voters of the tribe on November 9, 1991. Three of the five amendments were ratified with three amendments receiving a majority of the votes cast.

1. Proposed Amendment No. 1 amended the Seminole Constitution by adding new Article XV Territorial Jurisdiction as follows:

Article XV - Territorial Jurisdiction

The territorial jurisdiction of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be within the geographical boundaries established by the Treaty of March 21, 1866, 14 Stat. 755, entered into by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and the United States of America, including but not limited to the following property located within said boundaries: property held in trust by the United States of America on behalf of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; property owned in fee by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; restricted and trust allotments; and dependent Indian communities. The territorial jurisdiction of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall also extend to all property located outside said boundaries, owned in fee by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma or held in trust by the United States on behalf of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. All of said property subject to the territorial jurisdiction of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, both real and personal, shall be exempt from federal and state taxation, when not inconsistent with federal law.

Proposed Amendment No. 1 was adopted by a vote of 118 for and 98 against. BIA approved adoption of Amendment No. 1 on July 17, 1992.

2. Proposed Amendment No 2 would have amended the Seminole Constitution by adding a new Article XVI – Courts which would have established a tribal court system for the Seminole Nation. Proposed Amendment No. 2 was rejected by the qualified voters of the Nation by a vote of 107 for and 108 against.

3. Proposed Amendment No. 3 would amend the Seminole Constitution by adding a new subsection (j) to Article V which would permit the Nation to levy and collect taxes within the territorial jurisdiction of the Nation. Proposed Amendment No. 3 was rejected by the qualified voters of the Nation by a vote of 91 for and 127 against.

4. Proposed Amendment No. 4 would amend the Seminole Constitution by repealing the provision contained in Section 3 of Article III which provided that the election of officers in no way limited the authority of the President of the United States to appoint a Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137). The proposed amendment was adopted by a vote of 110 for and 104 against. The Act of October 22, 1970, P.L. 91-495, which provided that the popular selection of the principal chiefs of the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole Tribes of Oklahoma and the Governor of the Chickasaw Tribe of Oklahoma by its members, in effect repealed this provision. Proposed Amendment No. 4 was approved by BIA on July 17, 1992.

5. Proposed Amendment No. 5 would amend Article XII by eliminating the requirement that future amendments to the Constitution of the Seminole Nation be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior (Commission of Indian Affairs). The proposed amendment was adopted by vote of 112 for and 102 against. Proposed Amendment No. 5 was disapproved by BIA on July 17, 1992. Proposed Amendment No. 5 read as follows:

Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma shall be amended by deleting the last sentence of said section as follows:

Amendments so ratified shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and shall have full force and effect from the date of his approval.

Approval for 1991 Amendments

I, Theodore Quasula, Acting Director, Office of Tribal Services, by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of the Interior and delegated to me by 230 D.M. 2.4, and by Article XIV of the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma do hereby approve the forgoing Amendments Nos. 1 and 4 to the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, PROVIDED, That nothing contained in this approval shall be construed as authorizing any action under this Constitution .

July 17, 1992

/s/ Theodore Quasula
Acting Director, Office of Tribal Services

Disapproval of 2000 Amendments

In its September 21, 2001 Memorandum Opinion in *The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma v. Norton*, Civil Action No. 00-2384 (CKK), the United States for the District of Columbia remanded, for action by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, six (6) proposed amendments to the 1969 constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma (as amended March 10, 1989). The Southern Plains Regional (SPR) Director has recommended we disapprove the amendments. We agree.

A majority of the voter in the July 1, 2000, election voted in favor of each of the described amendments:

Amendment No. 1, adding new Article XVII – Courts, amending the Preamble to reflect the separation of powers, and amending Articles IV and V outlining the respective authorities of the Principal Chief and Chairperson of the General Council;

Amendment No. 2, Powers of the General Council --Adding to the powers of the General Council to include Taxation Authority;

Amendment No. 3, Territorial Jurisdiction -- Amending Article XV – Territorial Jurisdiction to establish jurisdiction and extend the boundary line of the Seminole Nation

further to the East to include the area purchase from the Creek Nation in 1881;

Amendment No. 4, Chief and Assistant Chief -- First sentence of Article III, Section 3 be amended to establish term limits for the elected office of the Principal Chief and Assistant Chief;

Amendment No. 5, Initiative and Referendum Powers -- Creating a new Article of the Constitution to allow for initiative and referendum process by members of the Seminole Nation; and

Amendment No. 9, an amendment to empower the General Council to revise a congressionally approved judgment distribution plan adopted pursuant to the Act of April 30, 1990, Pub L. 101-277, 104 State. 143, which provides for the use and distribution of funds awarded to the Seminole Indian in Dockets 73, 151, and 73-A of the Indian Claims Commission.

Although there is no evidence that the failure to comply with the express notice requirements of the constitution made any difference in the outcome of the election on the amendments, it remains that the Nation did not follow constitutionally established requirements before they held the special election and the courts have held the Department to a strict compliance with the notice provision. Since amendment 9 would require congressional action, the tribe should consult with the Bureau's legislative affairs office if it wishes to pursue that amendment. Therefore the amendments are disapproved.

March 14, 2008

/s/ Michael R.
Acting Director, BIA, Washington D.C.

Approval of 2008 Amendments

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2009-79 adopted by the General Council of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma on July 10, 2008, two (2) amendments to the foregoing constitution and bylaws were submitted to the registered voters of the tribe on September 20, 2008. Both amendments were ratified, receiving a majority of the votes cast as certified by the Seminole Nation Election Board (Dee Bennett, Kissie L. Mouse and Timothy R. Hooper).

Amendment No. 1 added a new Article XVI – Courts and established the Nation's judiciary system.

Amendment No. 2 amended Article XIII – Amendment by removing the requirement that future constitutional amendments be submitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Certificate of Approval

I, Robert K. Impson, (Acting) Regional Director, Eastern Oklahoma Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior by virtue of the authority granted by the Act of June 26, 1936, (49 Stat. 1967) and under the authority delegated by 130 DM 3 and 3 IAM 4.4, do hereby approve the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, as amended. PROVIDED, that nothing contained in this approval shall be construed as authorizing any action under this Constitution that would be contrary to Federal law.

September 2, 2010

/s/Robert K. Impson
(Acting) Regional Director
Eastern Oklahoma Region
Bureau of Indian Affairs
3100 W. Peak Blvd.
Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401

Constitution Revision Committee Informational Survey

The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Constitution Revision Committee is responsible for addressing any and all needed changes and amendments to the Constitution of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. The Revision Committee is reviewing the entire Constitution, and will be presenting draft ballot questions to the General Council of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma for review, consideration and approval.

The Revision Committee of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma welcomes all Seminoles to participate in the revision process. In order to address all possible issues for revision to the Seminole Nation Constitution, the Revision Committee asks that you complete the **informational survey on page 15** and (1) return it to any member of the Revision Committee (2) bring it to any of the Revisions Committee's community informational meetings; or (3) mail or deliver to the Seminole General Council Secretary's office located at the Wewoka Tribal Complex - P.O. Box 1498, Wewoka Oklahoma, 74884

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Constitution Revision Committee

Eula Doonkeen, Chairperson (Mekusukey)
Nannette Hazlewood, Vice-Chair (Hvteyievlke)
Emma Wesley Harjo, Secretary (Eufaula)
Cheri Hardeman (Tusekia Harjo)
Bertha Tilkens (Tallahassee)
Wayne Shaw (Rewalke)
Thomas Yahola (Nurcup Harjo)
Diana Autaubo (Ocese)
Fannie Harjo (Tom Palmer)
Rosanna Jones (Ceyvha)
Dora Thomas (Dosar Barkus)
Loretta Walker (Bruner)
Deloris Harjo (Hecete)
Kelly Davis (Fushutche)

The regular meetings of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Constitution Revision Committee are held on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Seminole Nation Council House at Mekusukey Mission. The meetings are open to all tribal members, and the Constitution Revision Committee welcomes your participation.

The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Constitution Revision Committee community informational meetings will be held:

Saturday, November 3, 2012 at Strother Community Center - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Saturday, November 10, 2012 at Sasakwa Community Center - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Saturday, November 17, 2012 at Mekusukey Mission Council House - 10 a.m to 12 p.m.

Constitution Revision Committee community informational meetings are open to all Seminole Nation tribal members.

in memoriam

RAVKERRICETV

Jack Kevin Palmer



Jack Kevin Palmer was born October 3, 1960 in Holdenville, Okla. to parents Alex H. Palmer and Carmelita (Coker) Palmer. He was the second of five children and grew up in Oklahoma City, where he attended school.

Jack worked in the oil fields for several years, before spending 20 years employed with Crossland's Rental.

He was a hard worker and too very good care of his family. Jack was a kind and loving father, son, brother, uncle and papa. He was very protective of everyone that he loved.

Jack didn't talk much, but he was a deep thinker with a wicked sense of humor. He loved to cook for family and friends, go out to eat, try different types of cuisines and go to the movies. Jack loved the music of the 60s and 70s and Oklahoma State University.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Jack and Margaret Palmer; maternal grandparents Harry L. Coker and Myrtle (Ward) Williams; favorite uncle Leroy and cousin Troy Ward.

Jack is survived by two granddaughters of Oklahoma City; parents Carmelita and Alex; brothers Tony and Shawn (Angel) of Shawnee; brother Jason (Angela) of Oklahoma City; sister Alicia of Oklahoma City; nieces Michelle, Nicole, Victoria, Josie and Jaylen Palmer; nephews Jarod Palmer and Derek Harrison; uncles Gene Williams and James Palmer; aunt Demiah Reich; special friends Elizabeth Broadbent and Brenda Rosenberg of Oklahoma City; and a large extended family and many friends.

He is also survived by his estranged wife and two sons of Oklahoma City.

Jack's cremation was handled by Sunnyslane Mortuary, and he rests in Sunnyslane Cemetery in Del City, Okla.

Harry Larney Warrior

Funeral services for Harry Larney Warrior were held Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at the Swearingen Funeral Home Chapel in Seminole with Jonathan Simpkins officiating. Interment followed at the Lima Cemetery.

Harry Larney Warrior passed

from this life Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at his home in Seminole. He was 69.

Harry was born May 11, 1943 to parents John Larney, Sr. and Lauren Warrior in Seminole.

He worked as an auto mechanic and also performed lawn care maintenance.

Harry is preceded in death by parents John Larney, Sr. and Lauren Warrior, sister Sally Larney and two grandchildren.

Survivors include wife Marcia Burris of the home; sons and daughters-in-law Kevin Larney (Crystal) of Midwest City, Okla., Leslie Berry (Cory) of Prague, Okla. and Tino Larney of Memphis, Tenn.; daughters Norva Larney of Midwest City, Okla., Mable Berry of Oklahoma City and Elisha Berry of Cromwell, Okla.; brothers John Larney, Jr. of Oklahoma and Simon Larney of Bowlegs, Okla.; Harry's first wife Tillie M. Thomas of Midwest City, Okla.; 26 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and a host of other family and dear friends.

Casket bearers included Grover Johnson, C.T. Johnson, Jr., David Johnson, Van Larney, Veaustray Williams and James Brazzell III.

Buster Johnson, Marvin Keese, Bob Burris and Donnie Hardaman served as honorary bearers.

Harriett Davis



Funeral services for Harriett Davis were held Saturday, October 6, 2012 at the home of Glenn and Harriett Davis with Rev. Houston Tiger officiating. Burial followed at the Davis Cemetery in Sasakwa. Arrangements were under the direction of Stout-Phillips Funeral Home.

Harriett Davis passed away suddenly on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 in Ada. She was 63.

Harriett was born February 12, 1949 in Wewoka to Irene Fife. She was raised by Cheparney Camp, her paternal grandfather whom she referred to as "daddy."

Harriett was raised in Wewoka until she married husband Glenn Davis, Sr. at the age of 19. Together, they resided in Oklahoma City for 36 years, until returning to Sasakwa in 2010.

Harriett was very hard-working. She worked many years before graduating from the Oklahoma Training Institute with a computer degree. Harriett was a highly-respected professor for the workforce of Oklahoma and at Vo-Tech.

She last worked as a manager

at Braum's in Ada.

Harriett loved spending time with her family. She loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and they loved her just as much. Harriett will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

She was a member of the Mekuskey band of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

Harriett is preceded in death by mother Irene Fife, grandfather Cheparney Camp, brother Barney Camp, Jr. and sister Mary Sue Davis.

Survivors include husband Glenn Davis, Sr. of 44 years; children Shelly Davis, Gwendolyn Hill, Glenn Davis, Jr., Jimmy Davis and Shannon Davis; brother Andrew Camp; sister Joanna Fife; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren with two on the way.

Pallbearers included Koteha Scott, Micco Scott, Elijah Davis, Bill Davis, Jr., Abraham Davis II, Dean Hill, Manny Rios and Darin Camp.

Lawrence "Spanky" Ingram

Funeral services for Lawrence Hank "Spanky" Ingram were held Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at the Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home Chapel in Wetumka with Rev. Danny Faulkner officiating. Interment followed at the Fairlawn Cemetery in Weleetka under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home of Weleetka and Wetumka.

Lawrence Hank "Spanky" Ingram passed from this life September 24, 2012 in Okemah. He was 60.

Hank was born November 24, 1951 to parents James Lee Ingram and Nora Burgess Ingram in Holdenville.

He was raised in Weleetka and Holdenville and attended the Weleetka School. As a young man he married Margie Scott, and to this union two children were born - Johnny Lee and O-Han-Sica Tresa.

He spent much of his life in the McLoud area with his family. Hank worked as a laborer at various construction sites and was also an ordained minister. He served the church as an evangelist under the training of Rev. Redmond Wolfe of the Little River Church in Seminole. Hank traveled across the country holding revival meetings.

He was very artistic and loved to draw, sing and dance. Hank sometimes made up his own songs, especially humorous ones. He was a funny guy and loved to play pranks on his family and friends.

Hank was proud of his Creek heritage and spoke the language fluently, which he shared with his family often. He was very outgoing and seemed to never meet a stranger.

Hank had been living at the Okemah Care Center, where he loved all the residents, and they loved him as well. They were just like his family.

Hank is preceded in death by wife Margie Scott, parents James Lee Ingram and Nora Burgess Ingram, brother John Ingram, son Montie Scott, grandson Jason Anderson and great-grandson Nate Littledeer.

Survivors include sister Kathi (Ingram) Butler and husband Bill of Tulsa; children Gada (Moppin) McGirt of Norman, Johnny Lee Ingram of Helena and O-Han-Sica Tresa Ingram of Taft; grandchildren Kashina (McGirt) Littledeer, Keona McGirt, Kierra McGirt, Phoenix McGirt, DeAngelo Brinson, DeKovin Brinson, Alisia Brinson and Gracie Potts, all of Norman and Dominique Bear of Shawnee; along with several nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Joseph Willie Bruner



Funeral services for Joseph Willie Bruner were held Saturday, October 20, 2012 at the Swearingen Funeral Home Chapel in Seminole.

Joseph Willie Bruner passed away Saturday, October 13, 2012. He was 68.

Joseph was born December 22, 1943 to parents Geneva Nero Bruner and Johnnie Bruner in Oklahoma City. He was the second of 10 children.

Joseph accepted Christ at an early age at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Konawa.

He attended Konawa schools and later moved to Bakersfield, Calif. to live with his aunt and uncle, Vernie and Mamie Bruner Watkins. He later moved back to Oklahoma City and found employment at the Hide Company, Honeywell, Leeway Trucking and Wilson Meat Packing.

Joseph loved people, and he loved life. He loved to joke around and was one who never met a stranger. Joseph loved having family and friends over for cookouts. He was known as "Broadway Joe" because of his classy dress style and fancy automobiles. Joe was known for his entrepreneurial skills and owned his own business - The Broadway Café - located on Seventh Street and Broadway in Oklahoma City. Joe and Patricia Cherry united in marriage, and to this union five children were born; four sons, Norick Bruner (deceased), Marcus Bruner, Kenneth Bruner and Dewayne Townsend, all of Oklahoma City, and daughter Bridget Bruner of Calif. Joe also married Shirley Jordan, and to this union

two children were born; son Joel Bruner (deceased) and daughter April Bruner of Oklahoma City. Later in life, Joe married Linda Hawkins of Oklahoma City.

Joe is preceded in death parents Geneva Nero Bruner and Johnnie Bruner; grandparents Charlie Bruner and Sona Bruner and Abraham Nero and Janet Ransom Nero; sons Norick Bruner and Joel Bruner; and brothers John D. Bruner, Charles Bruner and Jackie Lee Bruner. Survivors include children Marcus Bruner, Kenneth Bruner, Dewayne Townsend and April Bruner of Oklahoma City, Bridget Bruner of Calif. and Marco Littlejohn of Durant, Okla.; aunt Lucille Bruner Perry of Oklahoma City; brothers Bryant (Mary) Bruner, Errol Bruner, Michael Bruner and David Young of Oklahoma City; sisters Rebecca (Willie) Henderson and Charlesetta Bruner Branton of Oklahoma City; grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Maybeline Davis



Funeral services for Maybeline Davis were Monday, October 22, 2012 at the family home with Rev. Billy Joe Harjo officiating. Burial rites followed at the Davis Family Cemetery.

Maybeline Davis passed away Thursday, October 18, 2012 at her home in Sasakwa. She was 85.

Maybeline was born February 25, 1927 to parents Willie and Molly (Johnson) Coker in Wewoka. She attended Ong elementary school before moving to Murrow Children's home in Muskogee, Okla.

Maybeline married Bill Davis, Sr. on March 4, 1947 in Charleston, S.C. She worked as a seamstress at Wrangler and Big Yank in addition to being a mother to family.

Maybeline was a member of the Tallahassee band and Bird clan. She was also a member of Spring Baptist Church in Sasakwa.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Bill Davis, Sr.; sons Jimmy, Don, Leslie and Benny Davis; brothers Charlie, Gary and Buster; and sisters Annabelle, Kathy Tanyan and Sue Wapakechec.

Survivors include children Junelle Barker, Glen Davis, Peggy Davis, Molline Jackson, Abe Davis II, Bill Davis, Jr. and Guesse McConnell; 32 grandchildren, 13

continued on page 15

education

NAK-KERRET TV



Tribal member attends Thabo Sefolosa clinic

Dustin Gray
Editor
gray.d@sno-nsn.gov

10 year-old tribal member Michael Cole participated in the first annual Thabo Sefolosa Basketball Clinic at Edmond Santa Fe High School in Edmond, Okla. on September 29, 2012.

The clinic, which stressed offensive and defensive fundamental skills, was led by Oklahoma City Thunder guard Thabo Sefolosa and top high school coaches in the Oklahoma City metro area.

Tribal member Michael Cole (bottom, right) poses for a photo with Thabo Sefolosa and other campers at a Sept. 29 basketball clinic in Edmond, Okla.

photograph submitted

Each participant received a camp t-shirt, group photo and signed picture of Thabo Sefolosa.

Michael Cole is the son of Christina Cole and grandson of Gary and Tojunia Cole of Oklahoma City. He is a member of the Tom Palmer band and Wind clan.

Harjo, Lady Bombers win tournament

NORMAN – Raychael Jeanise Harjo, 9, is a member of the Oklahoma Lady Bombers basketball team, based in Midwest City. Harjo's team won first place at the Mid America Youth Basketball Tournament, held August 5, 2012 in Stillwater, Okla.

Harjo is a third grader at Eisenhower Elementary School in Norman, Okla. She is the daughter of Ronnie and Tracy Harjo and granddaughter of the late Joe Albert Harjo.



Raychael Harjo displays her championship trophy.

photograph submitted



Trick-or-Treaters visit tribal offices for Halloween

SEMINOLE – Children from the Seminole Nation Childcare and Head Start programs dressed up in costumes to visit tribal offices for Halloween trick-or-treating on Wednesday, Oct. 31.

They visited the Wewoka Tribal Complex and the Mekusukey Mission.

The Seminole Nation Transportation Building at Mekusukey Mission was transformed into a haunted house for the event.



Gina Anderson

Anderson enters OSU

TUALATIN, Ore. – Tribal member Gina Lucille Anderson enrolled at Oregon State University this fall. She plans to pursue a degree in engineering.

Anderson is a member of the Hvtteyievlke band and is a descendant of Billy Bowlegs.

Maybeline Davis

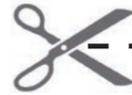
great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren;

and a host of other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers included grandsons Jimmy Don Davis, Glen Davis, Jr., Brandon Peak, Jeremy Davis, Abraham Davis III, John

Beaver, Kocv Davis and Micco Davis.

Jake Jackson, Kenneth Coker, Glen Coker, Noah Ryals, Steven Ryals and Coker Dean Barker served as honorary pallbearers.



Constitution Revision Committee Informational Survey*

1. What are your areas of concern for changes to the Seminole Nation Constitution?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

2. (a) Is the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma's government structure (Council, Executive and Judicial) effective for the Seminole Nation?

(b) If not, what changes do you recommend?

3. (a) What is your band membership?

(b) Do you attend your band meetings on a regular basis?

4. Do you have any other suggestions for the Constitution Revision Committee?

* in order to address all possible issues for revision to the Seminole Nation's Constitution, the Revision Committee asks that you complete the following survey and (1) return it to any member of the Constitution Revision Committee (see page 13), (2) take it to any of the Revision Committee's community informational meetings, (see page 13) or (3) mail or deliver to the Seminole Nation General Council Secretary's office, located at the Tribal Complex in Wewoka - P.O. Box 1498, Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884.

Gaming Enterprise holds soft opening for Seminole Nation Casino

Joe Clay
Staff Writer
clay.j@sno-nsn.gov

A crowd gathered and waited at both entrances for the 2:00 p.m. soft opening of the Seminole Nation Casino, located at I-40 and State Highway 99, on Friday, Oct. 12, 2012.

Before the opening, machines were tested, floors were swept and staff prepared for the people to come see the new addition to the casino.

In the new sprung structure building there are over 400 new machines. After the renovation of the former building there will

be over 700 interactive gaming machines.

Visitors of the new casino were impressed with the building and the layout.

"The new place has more room," said a casino guest. "It's a nice facility."

"There a lot more games. I love it and I'll come more now," another guest added.

The casino was up and running and the Players Club had a long line to get everybody signed up for new cards for the new Konami gaming system that has been set in place.

"I like the new card system better, it makes it easy to transfer my points," said a casino guest.

"All the employees worked very hard to get the casino opened," said Krystle Wise, Gaming Shift Supervisor.

"This place is very spacious and brighter. The guests like that there are more interactive games, and the employees like the new building also," Wise added.

The Seminole Nation Casino renovation has been in the works since the proposed plan for the two phases was approved by the General Council in April 2012. The project has taken a little over five months, since the groundbreaking.

Phase one of the project includes the new 7,500 sq. ft. building, restaurant and a new

paved parking with space for 900 vehicles.

Phase two will begin with the remodel of the exterior and interior of the previous casino facility. For both phases of completion the projected cost is \$2.6 million and \$903,000 in start-up costs. The new sprung structure building and renovation of the previous casino will create an estimated 28 new jobs.

Income projections for the first year are \$2.98 million with a 104% return on the investment.

The grand opening for the Seminole Nation Casino is slated for Saturday, Nov. 24, 2012.

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION!

November 24th

Visit one of our locations for full promotion details.



SEMINOLE NATION CASINO

Seminole Nation Casino I-40 exit 200 & Hwy 99



Hot seats must be active & playing. Truck giveaway, must be present to win, with entries in the barrel. Must be a Lucky Rewards member. Must be 18 to play. Visit Seminole Nation Casino for full promotion details.

Thank You!



GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

Ford STX or \$10,000 CASH

8:00 pm

HOT SEAT DRAWINGS ALL DAY! 12PM-12AM! COME CELEBRATE!

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

COME SEE OUR November NEW EXPANSION!

4 BLAZZIN SENIOR'S DAY 2pm-5pm \$10 RESTRICTED PLAY	5 MEN'S NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	6 LADIES NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	7 SUPER WEDNESDAY Play \$20-Get \$10 Play	8 \$ROLLIN \$50'S 6pm-11pm \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	9 FAST CASH 7pm-12am \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	10 SUPER SATURDAY Play \$40-Get \$25 Play
11 BLAZZIN SENIOR'S DAY 2pm-5pm \$10 RESTRICTED PLAY	12 MEN'S NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	13 LADIES NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	14 SUPER WEDNESDAY Play \$20-Get \$10 Play	15 \$ROLLIN \$50'S 6pm-11pm \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	16 FAST CASH 7pm-12am \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	17 SUPER SATURDAY Play \$40-Get \$25 Play
18 BLAZZIN SENIOR'S DAY 2pm-5pm \$10 RESTRICTED PLAY	19 MEN'S NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	20 LADIES NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	21 SUPER WEDNESDAY Play \$20-Get \$10 Play	22 \$ROLLIN \$50'S 6pm-11pm \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	23 FAST CASH 7pm-12am \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	24 SUPER SATURDAY Play \$40-Get \$25 Play
25 BLAZZIN SENIOR'S DAY 2pm-5pm \$10 RESTRICTED PLAY	26 MEN'S NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	27 LADIES NIGHT 6pm-10pm Hot Seats	28 SUPER WEDNESDAY Play \$20-Get \$10 Play	29 \$ROLLIN \$50'S 6pm-11pm \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	30 FAST CASH 7pm-12am \$50 Hot Seats EVERY HALF HOUR	SUPER SATURDAY Play \$40-Get \$25 Play

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION!

November 24



GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

Ford STX or \$10,000 CASH

8:00 pm

HOT SEAT DRAWINGS ALL DAY! 12PM-12AM! COME CELEBRATE!



River Mist CASINO
A SEMINOLE NATION ENTERPRISE
Hwy 56 & Hwy 99 Konawa, OK



TRADING POST CASINO
A SEMINOLE NATION ENTERPRISE
36625 Hwy 56 & 270 Wewoka, OK



SEMINOLE NATION CASINO
Seminole Nation Casino I-40 exit 200 & Hwy 99