In December, a team of employees from Quapaw Services Authority (QSA) and Quapaw Cattle Company (QCC) traveled to the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas to attend the Intertribal Agricultural Council Conference. The meeting provided networking opportunities for the Nation to over 88 tribes around the U.S. The team was able to share about Quapaw Nation agricultural programs.

Established in 2010, the Quapaw Nation’s agricultural programs have everything from environmental cleanup, bison, beef, goats, processing facility, feeding facility, row crops, greenhouses, honey, bee hives, coffee, community gardens to a dog training facility and brewing company. QSA and QCC created three power point presentations to share about all of the programs. They also had a booth promoting the tribe’s agricultural initiatives. The booth also sold coffee, t-shirts, insulated bags, hats, and smoked products.

QSA Director Chris Roper said, “It is our goal as a Nation to educate others with our agricultural successes and, hopefully, learn from others, as well.”

Quapaw Coffee was also sold throughout the duration of the conference. QCC beef and bison, as well as vegetables from Downstream’s greenhouse were served at a luncheon during the conference. The luncheon served 650 adults and 150 youth.

Tribal member Eddie Rodgers, Assistant Director of QSA, said, “We loaded our Quapaw Nation meat truck and drove it to Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas where the meeting was held. We sent three of our top chefs from Downstream Casino Resort to prepare the meal for 800 people in attendance, all of which got to experience the quality products Quapaw Nation is making.”

Roper reported that since returning from the conference, QSA is contacted continuously from other tribes requesting information about getting Quapaw Nation products into their entities or to visit and tour Quapaw facilities. From booth sales, the luncheon, the presentation, and networking, the impact from attending the conference was very successful. Roper added that several connections were established with many other tribes across the U.S.

**Ag Businesses Showcased at National Conference**

In late October, the Honoring Nations Board and the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development chose the Quapaw Nation’s application to their program, the Quapaw Tribe Agricultural Programs, as one of six award recipients. After three competitive rounds of evaluation, the six finalists were selected from 70 applicants representing 51 tribes and four tribal consortia. Finalists were shown to exercise self-determination and implement effective solutions to common governmental challenges in the areas of environmental research and management, health provider training, language revitalization, agriculture, child welfare, and restorative justice. In addition to the Quapaw Nation, other 2018 Honoring Nations finalists were Environmental Program—Native Village of Kotzebue, Health Aide Training Programs—Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Myaamiaki Eemamwiciki Program—Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Sitka ICWA Partnership—Sitka Tribe of Alaska; and Wellness Programming—Yurok Tribe.

Celebrating, documenting, and disseminating stories of outstanding self-governance programs from Native nations, Honoring Nations highlights tribal government successes. It helps expand the capacities of Native nation builders by enabling them to learn from other tribes’ successes.

See Harvard, page 8

**Grants Fund New QSA Trucks**

In late October, the Quapaw Nation’s P.O. Box 765
Quapaw, Oklahoma 74963
(918) 542-1853
1-888-O-GAH-PH
www.quapawtribe.com

The Quapaw Tribal News, Public Relations Department, and Public Relations Director are proud members of the Native American Journalists Association.
I hope and pray that everyone is holding up this winter, I don't know about you but I am ready for Spring. I am so proud to do my best to serve the great people of our wonderful Nation! As you will see in this edition of the newsletter we have so many awesome things going on. We are building on to our center to assist people with legal and social issues related to different social and legal problems: from a grant we have received from the Department of Justice. Our new elder housing is finally under construction, and I am so very proud of our great team and their hard work to provide quality and safe housing for our elders. I am very proud of all our employees. I have been working hard with our environmental department, QSA, and the Business Committee to work with the EPA in DC to secure up to 20 years of funding for our remediation work at the Tar Creek Site. This is a big deal and allows us to plan for long term employment and revenues for our Tar Creek Team at QSA led by Eddie Rodgers. We recently bought 10 new dump trucks! Can you imagine? We would have never thought that possible just a few short years ago.

I have been fortunate to have had the pleasure to work with Chris, Mitch, and Shawn, among others, to build an agricultural program that is the pride of Indian Country. We have Tribes from throughout the United States come and tour the Quapaw Nation's entire program with the hopes they can recreate what we have at our homelands.

We are the leaders in Indian Country, and I was honored to participate in a Tribal Farm Bill Coalition and, as a team, we were successful in getting several new programs for Tribes in the new Farm Bill that the President signed into law on December 20, 2018! I know that our work will continue in 2019 and beyond. In December, Downstream Casino Resort made the second $20,000 canned-food donation of 2018 to area food banks. For the past 10 years, Downstream has made bi-annual donations to food banks located near Quapaw.

*The Quapaw Tribe and Quapaw were giving people, and we want to help tribal members and also our neighbors—people that live with our tribal members. It makes us feel good that we’re fortunate enough to do this,* said Tamara Reeves, B.C. Secretary/Treasurer.

The semi-annual food bank donations distributed 40,000 cans of vegetables to:

- Quapaw Nation Food Bank, Quapaw, Okla.
- Southeast Kansas Food Pantry, Baxter Springs, Kan.
- Wesley House, Pittsburg, Kan.
- Crosslines Ministries, Joplin, Mo.
- Northwest Arkansas Food Bank, Bella Heights, Ark.
- Salvation Army of Ottawa County, Okla, Miami, Okla.
- Seneca Food Pantry, West Seneca, Okla.

*We’re going to be making deliveries like this to various locations around the Four-State area to help with the shortage that these food banks deal with every year at this time* [Christmastime],” Reeves said. *We’ve also donated around 20 thousand pounds of beef and buffalo to the area food banks to help, as well.*

Chairman John Berrey stated, *There are other groups, including other Indian tribes, who help fight hunger. But we need a lot more groups and individuals to join the effort here in our communities, because this is important.*

### Grants, from 1

Grant funds from the Environmental Protection Agency provided funds to the tribe to help with Tar Creek Superfund Site cleanup activities. With funding, QSA was able to purchase 10 new dump trucks to help with chat hauling and land cleanup.

The Grants Department has also secured funding for several construction projects. Funds were awarded for expanding elder housing, building a new learning center, and constructing a tribal justice center.

Elder housing, for tribal members over age 62, will include 3 two-bedroom duplexes (six units), two triplexes (six units), and four one-bedroom duplexes (eight units) for a total of 20 residences. A $750,000 grant through Federal Home Loan Bank was received; tribal matching funds will be approximately $5 million. Federal regulations require the tribe to build in phases over a period of the next three years.

Currently, there are three duplexes. The tribe’s investment for those, along with street/curb/gutter construction and water/sewer lines was $1.3 million.

Located near Quapaw Casino, a new 21,000 square foot Tribal Center for Alternative Corrections will house offices for Marshals, Family Services, Accounting, Administration, Court, and other departments. There will also be a meeting space and areas for social services, drug and alcohol treatment and counseling, and a new tribal courtroom. Services will incorporate new and novel approaches to non-incarceration for Natives. The $3.9 million structure is funded from the receipt of a Department of Justice grant.

$1.7 million was received to build a new learning center. The new center will be 11,000 square-foot for daycare and early learning. The site will be located west of the existing O-Gah-Pah Learning Center. Road Improvement Project funding was also received from the Tribal Road Funds Program. A $590,000 road improvement project will take place on 680 Road between Interstate-44 south to 50 Road.

"We are never short of good ideas to improve the quality of life for our tribal members and community constituents, and so we are extremely grateful for grant money that makes it possible to enact those ideas," Chairman John Berrey said.

Kim Messer is the Grants Director. Messer, along with Brian Ross have secured 108 grants for $20.9 million in funds.

### Bradford Receives Award from OKC Police Force

Bradford has been given an award for 30 years of service on the Oklahoma City Police Force. Throughout his career, he has worked in patrol, FBI, violent crimes task force, FBI Joint terrorism task force. Currently, he is a K-9 handler.

He is the son of Nanci Bradford, Quapaw, OK, granddaughter of the late Colleen (Wilson) Austin, great-grandson of the late Irvin Wilson. He lives in Newalla with his wife Lisa.
In Memory of

Angela “Punkin” Yost

Angela Yost of Commerce, OK passed from this life Tuesday, October 30, 2018. She was 49.
Funeral services were Saturday, November 3, 2018 at the Quapaw Tribal Building, East of Quapaw, OK. Interment is in Shapp Cemetery, east of Quapaw, OK.

QUAPAW – The Quapaw Nation’s construction division is suddenly busy with a series of new projects funded through various state and federal grants, including an innovative Tribal Center for Alternative Corrections.

- $750,000 grant through Federal Home Loan Bank
  - Can use up to $75,000 to help construct each unit
- Building a total of 20 units:
  - 2 triplexes = 6 units
  - 3 two bedroom duplexes = 6 units
  - 4 one bedroom duplexes = 8 units
  - One unit building = $766 sq ft and two bedrooms = 1200 sq ft
  - For Tribal elders over the age of 62

This is the second phase. First phase included: the existing three duplexes, streets, curb and gutter, and water and sewer lines.

Total tribal investment to date: $13.1 million

Total tribal investment for upcoming construction estimated to be: $54.7 million may need to double check with QSA on this one could have changed since I last worked with it.

“We are never short of good ideas to improve the quality of life for our tribal members and community constituents, and so we are extremely grateful for the grant money that makes it possible to enact those ideas,” Quapaw Nation Chairman John Berrey said.

Your new projects in or near the town of Quapaw, OK, are:
- Tribal Learning Center – a $1.7 million grant-funded, 11,000-square-foot building is available via link at the top of this page.)
- Tribal Elder Housing units over the next two years. There are currently six Quapaw Elder Housing units.
- Road Improvement Project – the Quapaw’s construction division is suddenly busy with a series of new projects funded through various state and federal grants, including an innovative Tribal Center for Alternative Corrections.
- Road Improvement Project – the Quapaw’s construction division is suddenly busy with a series of new projects funded through various state and federal grants, including an innovative Tribal Center for Alternative Corrections.

President's Environmental Youth Award

Your project - or one you are sponsoring - could be an award winner. Apply or encourage a student you know to apply for PEYA and see what a difference it can make for the environment with an award-winning project. Applicants from all 50 states and U.S. territories are eligible to compete for a regional certificate of special recognition and a national Presidential award.

Applications are now being accepted through February 1, 2019.

The President’s Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) recognizes outstanding environmental projects created by U.S. citizens from 50 states and U.S. territories. PEYA winners are expected to treat the Quapaw Nation staff in the same manner. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated, or corrective action will be taken.

Landowners, from 1

In December, employees from the Realty Department attended a work shop to help them serve tribal members. After the workshop the present ers came to the tribe and provided a free training to tribal members who are landowners. The workshop was called Preparing for Termination and Allotment Issues. It was taught by ICC Indian Enterprises employees Terry Beckwith, Quinault, and Lela Beckwith, Chickasaw.
News from
Suzy Moore Pottery Studio

Library Receives Grant to Fund Pottery Classes

This page is dedicated to the pottery classes taught by Betty Gaedtke. The classes are sponsored by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Classes will be offered monthly. Watch the tribe’s website and Facebook page, O-Gah-Pah for class dates and times. For more information, contact Pattie Billings, Librarian, at 918.238.3156.

These programs as well as STEM classes are being funded through a grant from IMLS. IMLS is an independent federal agency that provides library grants, museum grants, policy development, and research. IMLS makes strategic investments that increase access to information, ideas, and networks through libraries and museums. The Quapaw Tribal Library has been awarded a grant that will provide funding for these classes for the next two years. We are very appreciative of this funding, and the classes and programs it allows us to host.

Examples of Works Created

Flash-Fired Pottery

FEBRUARY POTTERY CLASSES

Pottery
February 19, 20 & 21, 2019
Afternoon Class
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Evening Class
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Suzy Moore Pottery Studio
5681 S. 630 Rd.
Quapaw, OK 74363

To sign up, call Pattie Billings, Librarian (918) 238-3156.
Sovereignty, a play written by American lawyer and playwright Mary Kathryn Nagle, Cherokee, was performed in November in Tulsa and starred tribal member Candice Byrd. Byrd has acted in several other plays including another play by Nagle, Miss Lead.

In the play, Byrd plays young Cherokee lawyer Sarah Ridge Polson’s battle to reinstate the Cherokee Nation’s sovereignty and jurisdiction. It alternates between the 1830s and today, documents the failure of the U.S. Government to honor treaties and illustrates the tribe’s fight for self-rule.

Much of the contemporary part of the play relates to a real-life Supreme Court case about the sexual abuse of a child by an outsider on the reservation; the case was tried in 2016. Nagle highlights the issue of rape of Indian women, and the inability of the tribe to prosecute the rapists, if they are not members of the tribe.

**About the Playwright**
A practicing attorney working to protect tribal sovereignty and the inherent right of Indian Nations to protect their women and children from domestic violence and sexual assault, Nagle has authored numerous briefs in federal appellate courts, including the United States Supreme Court. She has received commissions from Arena Stage, The Rose Theater in Omaha, Nebraska, Portland Center Stage, and Denver Center. Her other plays include Manahatta, Diamonds, Waaxe’s Law, Silver of a Full Moon, My Father’s Bones, Miss Lead, and Fairly Traceable.

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**Welcome to the Tribe**
Erma (Imbeau) Spencer, Quapaw, is proud to announce the birth of a great grandson—William Andrew Hickman, III, also known as Bo. Bo’s parents are Ashley (Spencer) and Billy Hickman. Grandparents are Sonjia (Spencer) and Anthony Leone. Ashley, Billy, and Bo reside in Decorah, Iowa. Ashley is the Assistant Softball Coach at Upper Iowa University.

Congratulations!
Higher Ed Department Shares Student Opportunities

Krista Pierce, Higher Ed Director

After months of preparation and anticipa-
tion, the Quapaw Nation Third Annual STEM Fair took place on in November 7 at the John L. Berrey Fitness Center Gymna-
sium. 177 students, teachers, counselors, and chaperones attended the Fair along with 31 university, college, and career representatives.

We were excited to have OU return, along with Gallogoly College, Emporia State University, Rogers State University, NEO A&M College, Pittsburg State University, and Wichita State University.

Higher Education Director Krista Pierce said, “There are so many people who contributed to the success of the STEM Fair. The John L. Berrey Fitness Center staff, QN Maintenance, QN IT, ATEC Committee, QN Mu-
seum, QN Library, QN Environmental (Ally and Summer had an awesome table for the students!), Jamie McNeely, Jamie Rodgers, Anna McKibben, Jean Ann Lambert, Jackie McKeeny, Billie Burtrum, Jouotta Smith, Laura Johnston, Shelby Crum, Destiny McNeely, Diana Evans, Pattie Billings, Karen Hildreth, Debbie Nichols and RHS Leadership stu-
dents, and Sam Pierce.”

Quapaw Tribal member Curtis Bacon was guest speaker. Bacon is currently working on his Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Cen-
ter. He talked about how he became interested in science and biology and his academic and career path.

Truman D. Picard Scholarship Awarding For Native American/Alaskan Natural Resource Students

Deadline: Friday, March 15, 2019, 5:00 p.m.

Award: $2,000 for college students (number of awards varies per year)
$1,000 for high school students graduating college seniors who are applying/accepted for grad school
$500 for graduating senior high school students.

Purpose: The Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program is dedicated to the support of Native American students pursuing a higher education in Natural Resources.

Required Materials: The Education Selection Committee will review and rank only those applicants who completely address each area. Please be specific. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Letter of Application: The letter must include your name, permanent mailing address, email address if available, and phone number. It should be a maximum of two pages in length, and discuss the following:

- What inspired you to pursue a career in Natural Resources?
- How do you plan to contribute to the tribe, and to the future?
- Do you plan to attend college?
- Are you interested in living in a remote area?
- What is your most interesting or unique experience?
- What is your long-term career goal?

Review:

3. Three letters of reference:
- If unaffiliated, a notice is available through the reference organization they should create that form (cover letter)
- Signed
- Notarized by the expert or witness.
- Open e-mail or hard copy.

5. Evidence of validated enrollment in a federally recognized tribe or Alaska Native Corporation, as established by the U.S. Government.

6. Three transcripts:
- All college transcripts are required and please include your unaccredited high school transcript
- Submit official transcripts along with your application.
- A high school transcript must also be submitted for anyone in high school and a notice of college class and required to verify major before a check is issued.
- Submit official transcripts along with your application.
- College students must also provide proof of tribal enrollment.

5. Application due date: March 15, 2019.

Contact: AT&T Scholarship Committee
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
TRUMAN D. PICARD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
1131 N.E. 27th Avenue, Suite B
Portland, Oregon 97213-3116
(503) 826-3086 phone

The Truman D. Picard Foundation (a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization) was established by the City of Washington, Oregon. The Foundation was established to provide scholarships to Native American students who wish to pursue studies leading to a degree in a field of study related to natural resources.

TRUMAN D. PICARD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For more information, visit the Foundation’s website at www.trumandpicardscholarship.org or contact the Foundation at (503) 955-8004.

ATTENTION: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
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About WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease partnered with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and hosted an informational meeting about Native American women’s heart health. In December, the event was aimed to increase awareness about heart disease in Native American women. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women. With 1 in 4 women dying every year from heart disease, it is crucial to raise awareness and understand the differences between men and women when it comes to heart disease.

“WomenHeart is committed to reaching women of color and educating them about their greatest health threat. This meeting allowed us to address this public health challenge in the Native American community,” said Debra Gee, J.D. WomenHeart board member and citizen of the Navajo Nation.

The discussion focused on ways to implement effective prevention efforts and culturally appropriate support services for Native American women living with or at risk of heart disease. Heart disease is the number one killer of Native American women. They die from heart disease at younger ages than other racial and ethnic groups in the United States. WomenHeart Champion Brandie Taylor understands this all too well. She is a member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel tribe in Calif. and was diagnosed with heart disease at 31 years old while pregnant with her first child. She wants to make sure that other Native American women get educated.

“I was experiencing shortness of breath, difficulty sleeping, and swelling and water retention. I now know these were early signs of heart failure,” said Taylor. “In my eighth month, I was admitted to the hospital and had to have an emergency C-section to save my life and protect my son.”

Quapaw Paw Nation work to raise funds and promote events for breast cancer awareness. Annually after all of the activities, the committee locates a person who is fighting breast cancer and makes a monetary donation to them to help with treatments, wigs, or to use however they need it. Last year, the recipient was Suzy Moore who lost her battle with breast cancer in December 2017. Suzy touched so many during her battle that the team decided to dedicate their fundraiser to her. Chairman of the breast cancer awareness team Jami Rodgers (tribal member and Community Health Representative) said of one of the events, “WomenHeart is committed to reaching women of color and educating them about their greatest health threat.”
Ava Bradford is an outstanding student at the Sitting Bull Academy in Apple Valley, California. She has a 4.0 grade point average in honors classes. She is the daughter of Roger Bradford, granddaughter of Nanci Bradford of Quapaw, and great granddaughter of Colleen (Wilson) Austin. Her hobbies are caring for her chickens, duck and cat.

Bradford Earns Perfect GPA at Sitting Bull Academy

Ava Bradford is an outstanding student at the Sitting Bull Academy in Apple Valley, California. She has a 4.0 grade point average in honors classes. She is the daughter of Roger Bradford, granddaughter of Nanci Bradford of Quapaw, and great granddaughter of Colleen (Wilson) Austin. Her hobbies are caring for her chickens, duck and cat.

Quapaw Nation Court Growing, Adds Supreme Court Justices, Judge

The Quapaw Nation held its first Supreme Court hearing in November. The court is continually growing. From one docket per month, there are now two court dockets bi-monthly.

An additional judge was also hired. There are now two judges for the bi-monthly court dates. Judge Jon D. Douthitt continues to preside over criminal cases, and Judge Diane Hammons oversees civil trials.

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Above are the Quapaw Nation Supreme Court Justices from left, the Honorable Roger F. Wiley, the Honorable Gregory Bigler and the Honorable Darrell Dowty.

Above, tribal member Betty Beard decorates a Christmas tree at Downstream with handmade Native decorations she made. Finished tree, above right. From tiny moccasins to little tipis, Beard, 90, has dedicated many years to make sure the traditional tree is perfect for everyone who visits the casino to enjoy.

Thank you, Betty!

Goodeagle Attends OK Governor’s Inauguration

Former B.C. Chairman Grace Goodeagle attended Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt’s inauguration in January. Continuing to be involved in politics since early in her career, Goodeagle worked as a press aide to a Colorado senator in Washington, D.C. She continues to be involved with the tribe by serving on the elder’s, Michael Bergstrom.

Above, tribal member Betty Beard decorates a Christmas tree at Downstream with handmade Native decorations she made. Finished tree, above right. From tiny moccasins to little tipis, Beard, 90, has dedicated many years to make sure the traditional tree is perfect for everyone who visits the casino to enjoy.

Thank you, Betty!

Moore, from 7

The zombie Walk that Suzy’s mother, “Ardina [Moore] said a beautiful prayer and had many words of wisdom. She is such a strong woman. She is so sweet! And Suzy...she was sweet and strong. She definitely got that from her Mom!” Rodgers said she called Suzy about 10 days before she passed away and asked her if she needed anything. Suzy’s response was “No. I am in a good place. Please tell all the girls on the breast cancer committee that they will never know much what they are doing touches someone. And tell them to keep up the good work.” Rodgers said she knew Suzy did not feel well but would never know it to talk to her on the phone.

Above, tribal members and employees of Quapaw Counseling Services Billie Buntain, left, and Jackie McNeely supporting breast cancer awareness month. Employees are encouraged to wear pink on Fridays in October to promote breast cancer awareness.