Ki-Ho-Ta Center Now Open, Wellness Court in the Works

Quapaw Nation recently opened the Ki-Ho-Ta Center. In U-Gah-Pah, Ki-Ho-Ta means to, “improve, get better, to be good to, or for one.” The design and structure of the Ki-Ho-Ta Center provides the ability to provide holistic services for tribal members. The 17,000 square foot center houses tribal court, Family Services, Counseling Services, and, in the future, additional space for the Marshals.

Corissa Berry, Quapaw Tribal Court Clerk said, “The building is important because it allows for court, family services and counseling services to be located under one roof. The Ki-Ho-Ta Center is a step toward improving the quality of life for our community.”

Chairman Berrey invited the White House

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Quapaw Nation Chairman John L. Berrey was one of the first tribal leaders to attend President Trump’s signing of the historic U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement on the White House lawn.

“On behalf of the Quapaw Nation and my people, I was honored to be there when President Trump signed the USMCA, an accomplishment that few people thought was possible,” Chairman Berrey said.

Chairman Berrey joined American workers and farmers, union members, U.S. Senators and members of the House of Rep-
I am not a member of the Goodeagle group. My great grandmother Zah-Mey was allotted at Quapaw, but our hard on so many, and I congratulate all of you.

By the way, it is very important for purposes of the Bear settlement and, otherwise, that you make sure the Nation’s office has a current address and other contact information for you. This is very important, so that we can stay in touch with you.

Below, you will see the statement regarding the lawsuits. I wish each and every one of you health and happiness. I look forward to seeing y’all very soon.

John L Berrey
Chairman of the Quapaw Nation Business Committee

Dates to Remember
Quapaw Pow-Wow
July 2 – 5, 2020

Quapaw Night is July 2, 2020.

Quapaw Registration
Monday June 29, 2020 — 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday June 30, 2020 — 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday July 1, 2020 — 7:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Thursday July 2, 2020 — 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Friday July 3, 2020 — 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. & 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

General Council
July 4, 2020 9:00 a.m. at Downstream Pavilion

Ha-Way O-Gah-Pah,
Chairman of the Quapaw Nation Business Committee

I hope everyone is making it through the winter and looking forward to the spring. It has been a big year so far and it’s only February! I am very excited at the wonderful news this week regarding our litigation, and it begins a new chapter. The future is now, and I am very proud of our entire Quapaw Nation Team!

We are recognized throughout Indian country as leaders in agriculture, Superfund remediation, gaming, and construction. We are on such an astronomical path with all that we do and continue to do. I look back, and just a few years ago, we had nothing but a few hardworking people with very little funding. Our foundation is the strength of the elders that held us together during the worst of times. We have so much to do, but we are growing and scaling and creating a better future for generations of Quapaw to come. We have lost so many wonderful people, I miss so many of them, as we all do.

Below, you will see the statement regarding the payments in the Goodeagle settlement. Bank of Oklahoma has advised us that, by Friday February 21, 2020, the checks had been mailed to almost all of the Goodeagle settlers. There are only a handful of individuals who still have not completed their paperwork. I hope by the time you read this the checks will have arrived. I am very excited for y’all. I know the waiting has been so hard on so many, and I congratulate all of you.

I am not a member of the Goodeagle group. My great grandmother Zah-Mey was allotted at Quapaw, but our family sold that land in the early 1970’s so the statute of limitations had tolled on our claims; I have never had an IIM account. The Quapaw Nation has received a large payment, and that money will be invested and used in the future to help with services to all of our members. It’s so amazing to me.

I have had several calls from settlers asking whether the settlement payments are reportable as income in their 2021 tax returns. The Quapaw Nation has a great relationship with our tax advisors, and the short answer is that we have been advised the settlement checks will not be reportable as income.

The individual settlers will receive a letter addressing tax questions in more detail. The Bear case has also settled, and the Chief Judge of the Court of Federal Claims has sent a recommendation to the U.S. House of Representatives to pay the Quapaw Nation $137.5 million dollars. We have been preparing for several months to move forward on obtaining an appropriation in Congress to fund the Bear settlement. I can begin here and say that the settlement is rare, and it will take some time and effort to obtain the funding. However, we have developed a plan with the input of several members of congress, and we will likely request the payment be made over five consecutive years or federal budgets. I have met with several members of the House of Representatives, and we are lining up several sponsors for our legislation. I have also met with the Ranking Member—minority leader of the appropriations committee. I will be meeting with the Majority Leader next week. We hope to get the first 1/5 through legislation this year. I will keep everyone posted on our progress.

By the way, it is very important for purposes of the Bear settlement and, otherwise, that you make sure the Nation’s office has a current address and other contact information for you. This is very important, so that we can stay in touch with you.

Below, you will see the statement regarding the lawsuits. I wish each and every one of you health and happiness. I look forward to seeing y’all very soon.

Gunnery gap,

John L Berrey
Chairman of the Quapaw Nation Business Committee

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Gunnery gap,
Michelle Newton helped by holding the ribbon. Several tribal members, employees, and community members attended the open house.

Above, Judge Jon Douthitt, center, cuts the ribbon at the open house for the Ki-Ho-Ta Center while Chairman John Berrey, Vice Chair Callie Bowden, BC members Lloyd Buffalo and D’Ann (King) Hamilton, Sr. She had lived in Tulsa for 15 years moving from Miami, OK. Carly made her home in Tulsa, OK with her companion and kids. Carly had an Associate’s Degree in Criminal Justice from N.E.O. A & M College in Miami, OK. As well as graduating she was CLCET Certified through Job Corps of Tulsa, OK. Carly grew up in the arena at powwows as Southern Cloth and, after having kids, wanted to bring them into the arena as well. To Carly, her kids were her whole life. Carly was a one of kind, and she will be missed dearly.

Carly was preceded in death by her father John Warner Hamilton, Sr., grandmother Charm Volliere, grandfather Walter King, Sr., grandma Johnnie Mae (Tiger) Gokey and grandfather LaForce Hamilton. Survivors include her longtime companion Jason Alan Jeffries of the home, a son Jason Alan Jeffries, Jr. of the home, two daughters Jaz teeen Leona D’Ann Jeffries and Juanita Fay Jeffries of the home, her mother D’Ann Hamilton of Miami, OK, three brothers John Warner Hamilton, Jr. of Sapulpa, OK, Jason LaForce Hamilton of Tulsa, OK and Awkawnee Hamilton of Chelsea, OK, and a sister Juantia Natista Hamilton of Tulsa, OK. Funeral services were January 26, 2020 at the Quapaw Native American Church Summerhouse in Quapaw. Native American rites were done by Jeremy Olsen. Pallbearers were Isaac Jacobs Hamilton, Domenic Jaden Hawk Tiger – Hamilton, Dimitris Jordan Youngbird Tiger – Hamilton, Jason Alan Jeffries, Jr., Enoch Jonas Hamilton, John Warner Hamilton, Jr., Jason LaForce Hamilton and Awkawnee Hamilton.

Carly Elizabeth Hamilton made her journey to Onywenniesha on January 23, 2020 after battling brain cancer. She was 40.

Carly was born November 12, 1979 in Claremore, OK to John Warner and D’Ann (King) Hamilton, Sr. She had lived in Tulsa for 15 years moving from Miami, OK. Carly made her home in Tulsa, OK with her companion and kids. Carly had an Associate’s Degree in Criminal Justice from N.E.O. A & M College in Miami, OK. As well as graduating she was CLCET Certified through Job Corps of Tulsa, OK. Carly grew up in the arena at powwows as Southern Cloth and, after having kids, wanted to bring them into the arena as well. To Carly, her kids were her whole life. Carly was a one of kind, and she will be missed dearly.

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Tribal member Carolyn Nott instructed a shawl making class in October. There were 13 participants. Shawl kits were provided by the Business Committee. Both Nott and participants would like to express their thanks to the Business Committee for purchasing the materials and allowing the class to take place. There has been a huge interest in having another class in the future, and, hopefully, another class will take place soon.

Shawl Making Class a Hit

The Cultural Committee is looking for photos of original Quapaw allottees. Volunteers are also needed to help identify persons in photographs at the museum. If you’d like to help, Cultural Committee members will be at the museum classroom each week on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you have photos to contribute, museum staff will gladly scan your photos and return them immediately.

The Cultural Committee is always accepting loan items for the museum. The Cultural Committee is always hosting cultural classes to expand knowledge of not only the Quapaw Nation, but all Native peoples. They also host annual open houses at the museum during Quapaw PowWow, Christmas and an annual Veteran’s reception.

Miss Merry Christmas
Ashlynn Owens

Ashlynn Owens was honored as Miss Merry Christmas 2019 for Quapaw High School on December 6, 2019. Ashlynn is a proud member of the Quapaw and Pawnee tribes. She is the daughter of Christa and Scott Owens. She is the grand-See Owens, page 5

CONGRATULATIONS
Brian Wheeler on your retirement from the Kern County (CA) Sheriff’s Office!

Cultural Committee: Your Help is Requested

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Calsea McQuary, 14, is a freshman at River-ton (KS) High School. She plays volleyball and is a high school cheerleader for football and basketball teams. She enjoys being with her friends and boyfriend, Derek. Her goal is to become a NICU Nurse.

Blakelynn Emery Ellick
Born at 12:18 p.m. in Liberal, KS
Weight 9 lbs 6oz
20 and 3/4 inches long
12/5/2019
Parents Billie and Katy Ellick
Granddaughter of Shawn and Lana Ellick
Great granddaughter of Bill Ellick
Great-great granddaughter of the late Cecilia Ellick
Great-great-great granddaughter of the late Solomon Quapaw

Calsea is the daughter of tribal member Lena and Carlos McQuary and granddaughter of Mary McCarty, great-granddaughter of Charles Wheeler.

Ashlynn is a Junior at Quapaw High School where she is a straight A Honor Student. She was also chosen to represent her class as Homecoming Queen Candidate this past fall. She is very involved in all school activities and serves on the Student Council. Ashlynn also works at the Café on the Route in Baxter Springs.

Owens from 4
daughter of Cherita and Steve Graber, Lori and Bob Holt, and Ricky Richards. Her great grandparents are Charles and Charlene Button. She is a descendent of the Goodeagle, Redeagle, Dardenne, and Leading Fox families.
Ashlynn is a Junior at Quapaw High School where she is a straight A Honor Student. She was also chosen to represent her class as Homecoming Queen Candidate this past fall. She is very involved in all school activities and serves on the Student Council. Her other activities include serving as Football manager and Basketball manager. Ashlynn also works at the Café on the Route in Baxter Springs.
Quapaw Nation Ki-Ho-Ta Center 58150 E 66 RD Miami OK 74354

RSVP Today
918-238-3152 ext. 5003
bburtrum@quapawnation.com

In Memory of Gary Wheeler

Gary passed away on February 7, 2020. He fought a long hard fight and now is at rest. His family was by his side when he said goodbye and went to sleep. Many tears have been shed; however, the rest in his eyes now helps us.

His body was at his home for viewing, in accordance with Quapaw traditions. Graveside services were held at the Taft Cemetery February 11. He was the son of Dorothy (Richards) Wheeler, Curry; grandson of Fannie (Goodagle) Richards, and great grandson of Francis and Ho-Gam-Me Goodagle.

Gary Wheeler

Quapaw Nation Ki-Ho-Ta Center

Gathering of Native Americans

March 20, 21 & 22, 2020

To strengthen our community
You Are The Solution
Gathering Of Native Americans (GONA) is a safe place to share, heal & plan for action.

March 20 - 4-8pm Welcome blessing followed by inspiring stories and activities
Dinner served

March 21 - 8am-5pm Welcome blessing followed by inspiring stories and activities
Middy Break at Noon

March 22 - 8am-5pm Welcome blessing followed by inspiring stories and activities

In Memory of Jerome "Jr." Shawnee, Jr.

Jerome Jr. Shawnee, 59, died Saturday, Feb. 8. Born September 27, 1960, Jerome was preceded in death by his par- ents, Jerome Thomas Shawnee, Sr. and Betty Marie (Berryhill) Shaw- nee and baby boy Shawnee, baby Alex Francis Shawnee, sisters Gerry Sue Shawnee and Lori Jean Shaw- nee. He is survived by one brother and sister-in-law, Michael and Melany Shawnee of the home, nieces Echo Shawnee, Sierra Shawnee, Mary Ja- cobs and husband Kilan, Mallori Shawnee and Novis Cullom, and Emma McKibben; nephews David Shawnee, Alex Shawnee and Jesse McKib- ben; great nieces and nephews Cufe Shawnee, Luna Jacobs, Izhinke Ja- cobs, Otaza Jacobs, Naomi Shawnee, Kiheka Jacobs, Kalena Sha- neen, and Ledawee Jacobs.

The officiant was Kilan Jacobs. Quapaw rites were done by Jesse "Manz" McKibbin, Jr. Head fire keeper was Jerry Give wat er. Biyeden Stand was head grave digger. Sharon Sharp Bralock was head cook. Funeral Ser- vices were February 11 at the Quapaw Native American Church summer house, Quapaw, OK. Interment followed at Stafford-Shapp Cemetery, Quapaw, OK. Jr. enjoyed building model war tanks, jets, jeeps, and other war vehicles. He will be greatly missed by his family, especially during the many pow- wow events he attended. He could always be seen at the camp cooking his famous chilli and teasing someone.

In Memory of Jerome "Jr." Shawnee, Jr.