Above, Martha Barker being sworn in by Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Noma Gurich.

Oklahoma City, OK–On August 27, Martha Moore Barker was sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Noma Gurich as a member of Oklahoma’s Judicial Compensation Committee. Barker was appointed by Chief Justice Noma Gurich of the Oklahoma Supreme Court and is one of seven members. Martha feels extremely honored to have been chosen to serve on this important committee. She is one of only two women who have served on the Committee and the first Native to be appointed to Committee. The Judicial Compensation Committee recommends the Judicial salaries for Oklahoma District Court Judges, Court of Appeals Judges, and the Oklahoma Supreme Court Justices to the Oklahoma Legislature.

Martha holds a Bachelor of Arts from Stephens College and is a former Miss Indian USA, stationed in Washington, D.C. during her reign. Martha has been active in numerous organizations over the past years. She is mother to two sons and currently resides in Tulsa with her husband Terry. She is the daughter of Ardina and the late Dr. Jim Moore and great-granddaughter of former Chief Victor and Minnie Griffin.

The Quapaw Tribal News, Public Relations Department, and Public Relations Director are proud members of the Native American Journalists Association.

**New BC Members Sworn In**

Quapaw, OK–Callie Bowden, Vice Chairman, Zack Turley, Michelle Newton, and Ranny McWatters were sworn in as newly-elected members of the Business Committee at the regular Business Committee meeting in August.

**Saracen Ground Broken, Saracen Annex Open**

Construction is complete on the new justice center, located west of Quapaw Casino behind the O-Gah-Pah convenience store. Family services, tribal court, and Quapaw Counseling Services are housed there. The open house will be November 20 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Above, Saracen Casino Resort groundbreaking in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. The anticipated opening date is in summer 2020. Officials from the state of Arkansas, Quapaw Nation Business Committee and Pine Bluff High School band, residents of Arkansas and tribal members were present for the groundbreaking.

Pine Bluff, AR–Saracen Annex officially opened Oct. 1. With 300 slot machines, Saracen Annex has already served about 10,000 guests since the “soft opening” on Sept. 27. It’s part of the $350 million Saracen Casino Resort project owned and operated by the Nation. The casino resort portion is expected to open in June. The overall project will have 80,000-square foot gambling floor, 2,000 slot machines and 50 gambling tables. A 300-room hotel with conference and banquet centers, an entertainment venue, and several restaurants are

See Saracen, page 4

See Saracen, page 4

New BC Members Sworn In

Quapaw, OK–Callie Bowden, Vice Chairman, Zack Turley, Michelle Newton, and Ranny McWatters were sworn in as newly-elected members of the Business Committee at the regular Business Committee meeting in August.
As the weather turns cooler this fall, I’m reminded of the past and missing so many of our tribal members who are no longer with us, the prosperity we are having. I am so proud at how well the Quapaw Nation is doing and at the success of our enterprise. At the moment, however, I’m most proud of the settlement we have finally reached. For what feels like a lifetime to me, I have put so much of my life into the tribal litigation cases. Last month, I reported an agreement was reached in the principle on the final settlement for the Nation’s trust litigation with the United States Department of Justice—Goodeagle Case. The Justice Department confirmed to the Court that the settlement was officially approved, meaning the payment process for eligible persons in the first phase of the settlement can begin soon. Individuals who are eligible in the Goodeagle case are those who currently own federally-managed Indian assets (including IIM accounts, Indian land, chat) and, therefore, have claims that are still within the statute of limitations. This settlement includes $59 million to be paid for eligible persons in the Goodeagle and Quapaw Nation cases.

As soon as the required processes are complete, the U.S. Treasury Department will receive settlement checks. The legal team and I are hopeful those settlement checks will be issued before the end of 2019 or early next year, at the latest. The Bear settlement will require an approval from the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims and an appropriation by Congress. I cannot predict how long it will take for the Court to issue its final report for that case; but, I have already begun talking with our friends in Congress to try to lay the groundwork for the necessary legislation. The settlement will total almost $20 million when it is complete and will benefit every living member of our Nation. When the process began, we recognized that many Quapaw families sold or lost their land many decades ago and do not have viable claims because of the expiration of the statute of limitations and other defenses. To make it possible to seek a remedy for those persons, I personally worked to obtain special legislation known as a “congressional reference.”

Adopted by the United States House of Representatives in late 2012, this legislation enabled us to file the Bear case. The overall settlement will include $137.5 million to be paid for the claims brought through the congressional reference. Our plan is to include every living tribal member in that portion of the settlement. As I have repeatedly said, this settlement represents symbolic justice for the wrongs done to the Quapaw people through the federal government’s mismanagement of our lands and accounts. Our ancestors and many of our elders who suffered these wrongs and who desired this restitution are gone. However, I hope the recognition by the federal government of these past injustices will help the members of our Nation living today to close the books on the past. I am very grateful that you have given me the opportunity to serve as your Chairman and to work toward obtaining this settlement for you. I pray that everyone is blessed with a safe and happy holidays as you are quickly approaching.

Gun-Ney-Gay,

John L. Berrey
Chairman, Quapaw Nation Business Committee

AARP Oklahoma Recognizes Native Elders at 11th Annual Indian Elder Honors Proctor, Weaver Designated for Quapaws

Oklahoma City, OK—More than 900 people were in attendance as 52 distinguished elders were honored at the AARP Oklahoma 11th annual Indian Elder Honors celebration in Oklahoma City on October 1, 2019.

AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder honorees represent what is best about Native American people—a love of family, dedication to culture and respect for all people. AARP Oklahoma State Director Sean Voskuhl said, “This event celebrates a lifetime of service from these distinguished elders who have positively impacted our community, family, tribe and nation. For some, their service is well-known and well-documented, but others shied away from recognition as they quietly exhibit devotion to their communities.”

AARP National Volunteer President Dr. Catherine Alicia Georges added, “We look with great respect at the way the Native American community views and treats elders, the deep appreciation you have their experience and wisdom, your reverence for tradition, and the strong and enduring connections you build among different generations.”

RISÉ SUPERNAW PROCTOR has dedicated her life to maintaining and documenting the traditions of the Quapaw Nation. She is well-known as a historian of Quapaw ancestry and has served as a researcher for 50 years. Her work documents Quapaw history, assisting families with ancestry and helping maintain Quapaw language preservation. Ms. Proctor worked in partnership with the Quapaw Library reproducing the many research documents, annuity rolls, census rolls, family trees, heiroglyphs and funeral home documents collected through her research work. She also published a collection of late 1800’s and early 1900’s Quapaw tribal member photographs.

Ms. Proctor worked as a hospital administrative assistant for 20 years un-
40% of Natives who die by suicide are between the ages of 15 and 24. And among young adults ages 18 to 24, Native American have higher rates of suicide than any other ethnicity, and higher than the general population.

Auntie Project Helps Native Children


A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.

A kick-off fundraiser, #4THEKIDS Family Friendly Festival was held in September in Sapulpa. Francene Monenerkit (Comanche) spoke on behalf of the Auntie Project. She noted that 1400 migrant children were coming to Fort Sill, a site of Native imprisonment. Although plans to place children at the military facility are on hold, it spurred the Aunties to organize. They plan to sponsor many kinds of initiatives for Indigenous and Indigenous children in our local community, around the state of Oklahoma, and anywhere children are in need of Aunties.

Aunties play a special role throughout the community in most Native cultures, and The Auntie Project’s first initiative highlights the generational trauma caused by the forced separation of children at the border. The Auntie Project’s first initiative—sending food and aid to migrants at the border—will help end the epidemic. The suicide prevention program is open to everyone. Participation is encouraged. For help or more information, contact Billie Burtrum at 918.238.3152, extension 5003.
Barker Featured Speaker

Tulsa, OK – In September, Martha Moore Barker was the featured speaker at the ahha Tulsa Hardisty Art Center in the Tulsa Arts District. Barker discussed ancient Quapaw pottery, history of the Mississippian culture, history of Cahokia, migration of the Dheghia people, and separation of the Osage, Kaw, Ponca, Omaha and Quapaw. She also spoke about where the Quapaw lived along the Mississippi, St. Francis and Arkansas Rivers. She ended with photos of Ancient O-Gah-Pah pottery including many of the effigy tea pots, as well as the highly curious head pots. ahha Tulsa is a connecting place for artists, cultural organizations, and the public.

Veteran's Reception

Sponsored by Cultural Committee

The Cultural Committee is sponsoring a reception to honor veterans on November 8 at 9:30 a.m. at the community building. Veteran photos are still being sought. If you have a picture of yourself or someone in your family who was in the service, please send it to Anna McKibben at amckibben@quapawnation.com.

Upcoming Traditional Events

The Cultural Committee continues to sponsor traditional classes to enrich Native American heritage. Some of the classes or events being planned for this fall include:

- Stomp Dance Class,
- Moccasin Making Class,
- Pottery Class,
- Basket Weaving Class.

Be sure to watch the tribal website or O-Goh-Pah Facebook page for dates, locations, and times.

Saracen, from 1

also planned. A fire safety, emergency services facility, and daycare center will also be built. More than 200 people are employed at the annex and Q Store, the convenience store and gas station. In the November 2018 general election, Arkansas voters approved the state constitutional Amendment 100, which authorized the Arkansas Racing Commission to license casinos in Jefferson and Pope counties with the support of local elected officials and allow for sports betting at the casinos. In June 2019, the commission unanimously approved Quapaw Nation’s license for their Pine Bluff facility.

“Region was once home to the Quapaw Nation. Our presence here is a homecoming, so it’s important to us that the city of Pine Bluff and Jefferson County thrive,” Chairman John L. Berrey said. “Any corporation can build. Our goal as Quapaw is to become a ‘resi- dent,’ to contribute to the community in a meaningful way and to partner with community leaders to improve the lives of the residents.”

~~ COMING SOON ~~

Genealogy Workshop

“Learn How to Use the Quapaw Genealogy Books at the Library to Trace Your Native Lineage”

Taught by Rise Proctor & Jenny Rampey

Tentatively scheduled for March, 2020

~~ More Details to come ~~

THREE DAY POTTERY WORKSHOP

Betty Gaedtke, Instructor

“Keeping the Quapaw pottery tradition alive”

Discover how the Quapaws created beautiful pottery during the mid 16th century using only their hands and very simple tools. Participants will start by learning a little about the history of Quapaw pottery and the cultures of those that crafted it, and then get started making their own pottery from clay dug in Arkansas, which gives it its distinctive red and white look. Instead of modern pottery wheels, molds, and paints, students will learn to create pottery using the coil building technique used by Quapaws many centuries ago.

Funding provided by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

OCTOBER POTTERY CLASSES

DATES: November 12, 13 & 14

Location: Suzy Moore Pottery Studio, 5861 S. 630 Rd., Quapaw, 74363

Call Pattie Billings @ the Quapaw Tribal Library (918) 238-3156

PROCESSING CLAY

PART 3 – Using wheeling on age pottery

TO EDIT: insert page 4

News from Suzy Moore Pottery Studio

“Keeping the Quapaw pottery tradition alive”

Discover how the Quapaws created beautiful pottery during the mid 16th century using only their hands and very simple tools. Participants will start by learning a little about the history of Quapaw pottery and the cultures of those that crafted it, and then get started making their own pottery from clay dug in Arkansas, which gives it its distinctive red and white look. Instead of modern pottery wheels, molds, and paints, students will learn to create pottery using the coil building technique used by Quapaws many centuries ago.

Funding provided by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

OCTOBER POTTERY CLASSES

DATES: November 12, 13 & 14

Location: Suzy Moore Pottery Studio, 5861 S. 630 Rd., Quapaw, 74363

Call Pattie Billings @ the Quapaw Tribal Library (918) 238-3156

PROCESSING CLAY

PART 3 – Using wheeling on age pottery
Quapaw Nation Tribal Princess Kristal Glass Represents Tribe at Numerous Events

August 20, 2019

On August 17, 2019 my parents and I traveled from my Auntie house, who lives in Guthrie, OK to Anadarko, OK for the 48th Annual Indian Exposition. We met with a family friend, who was a former Miss Indian Oklahoma, Audrey Barrett. Her and her adopted brother, Thomas "GoGo" Goodnagle were very enough to sponsor us by getting a motel room and paid for our meals. We arrived at the powwow in time for me to do a different style of Group Dance. I then participated in the Grand Entry. While there I met with the Missinew Chocow Princess Elisha Jimmie. Each of the Princesses that were attending the powwow announced their name and whom they were representing. After announcing ourselves, there were many contests. They also had Aztec Dancers and Apache Fire Dancers displaying their style of dance. I was invited to sit with the Osage Nation Princess, Leija#k Esley and had great time visiting. There was even a Sweet Clothes Fancy Fan Dance contest which my dad competed and won with the crowds votes. We stayed all the evening events were over and headed to the motel. I enjoyed watching the different styles of dance.

Sincerely,

Kristal Glass

Pottery Returned to Quapaw Nation

by Everett Bandy

On Monday, June 24th a piece of pottery originating near the St. Frances River in Arkansas was returned to the Quapaw Nation. Earlier in the month the Osage Nation reached out to the Quapaw Nation Historic Preservation Office and NAGPRA Director and indicated that a piece of Quapaw pottery was in their collection. How the pottery came to be in the Osage Nation’s possession is unknown, however upon realizing the situation Jackie Rodgers and Dr. Andrea Hunter of the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office worked quickly to donate the pottery back to the Quapaw. In serendipitous fashion a private collection of stone artifacts (or “lithics”) originating from the same area was also anonymously donated to the tribe.
Marshals Now Law Enforcement for the Town of Quapaw

Quapaw, OK—The town of Quapaw’s council voted to change law enforcement responsibilities to the Quapaw Nation Marshals. According to the agreement, the Quapaw Nation will provide law enforcement services through mutually shared police officers of the town of Quapaw and the Quapaw Nation’s Marshals. There is no longer be a Quapaw Police Department.

Bison, from 3

After a large group of bison entered the corral during the operation period, staff closed the corral gates and began processing them in preparation for shipment. The processing included separating and releasing bison that were too young or too large or old to make the trip. They were guided into a squeeze chute, where the scientists took blood and genetic samples and tagged them per U.S. Department of Agriculture shipping regulations. “We had an amazing team who worked really well together,” said Terwiliger. “We did a lot of mock runs and training in advance with other parks and agencies.”

Biologists from the Kaibab National Forest, Yellowstone National Park, Badlands National Park, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the InterTribal Buffalo Council assisted. Also present was a National Park Service veterinarian to oversee the well-being of the bison.

New Elder Housing Ready for Move-in November, March

Quapaw, OK—Construction of additional elder housing is nearing completion. Six units will be available when the one-bedroom triplexes are finished. Additional construction is almost done on two one-bedroom triplexes for additional elder housing. This will add six units for elders 62 years of age and older. The two triplexes should be ready for move-in around the beginning of November. With the addition of these two triplexes, there will be a total of 12 one-bedroom units for elder housing.

Each unit includes a refrigerator, stove, microwave and washer and dryer. Each unit is also equipped with a safe room, located in the master closet. The tribe pays all utilities and trash service. Rent is based on 30% of income with a maximum amount of $400.00 per month. The homes are within walking distance to the Title VI dining room, the Tribal Library, the Museum and the John L. Berrey Fitness Center in Quapaw.

More units are in the process of being constructed. The approximate finish date is March 2020.

The waiting list is short, there are still openings for these new triplexes. Applications are accepted for these new triplexes. Contact the Quapaw Nation Housing Department at 918.542.1430 to request an application or to obtain more information. You may also come by the office located by the Casino and C-Store at 58150 E. 64 Rd. to pick up an application.

2019 Farmer’s Market Closes

Quapaw, OK—The Farmer’s Market was quite a success. From essential oils, soaps, homemade breads, plants, fresh fruits and vegetables and, of course, Quapaw beef and pork, the farmer’s market saw success each time it was held. Plans for 2020 are to continue the market with improvements and more vendors added.

Welcome Tucker Hickey

Tucker Levi Hickey, the son of Tyler and Lindsay (Nida) Hickey of Fairland, OK, was born September 10. He was 7lbs. 9oz and 20.5 in. long. Proud maternal grandparents are Curtis and Sherrie (Atkinson) Nida and paternal grandparents are the late Marion E. and Betty (Crane) Atkinson (maternal) and the late Charles and Emma Nida.

Tar Creek’s Bird Dog Cleanup to Begin, Possible Site for Solar Farm

Picher, OK—The 120-acre property known as Bird Dog will be the 120th property within the Tar Creek Superfund Site designated for cleanup continuing the federal/tribal cooperative agreement between the Quapaw Nation and the Environmental Protection Agency. Bird Dog will receive $9 million from EPA, bringing the Tribe’s total in grants to about $50 million, so far. Bird Dog holds more than 500,000 tons of chat—lead and zinc mining waste.

According to an EPA reuse assessment study, this mining wasteland is the perfect site to serve as part of a larger 500-acre area for a future 100-megawatt utility scale solar farm. EPA funded the solar reuse assessment study for the Tar Creek site which involved collecting information such as: the available solar resources in area, potential project size and acreage, compatibility with environmental remediation design, technology considerations, land ownership and site control, physical feature limitations, project phasing, and permitting. The Quapaw Nation acknowledges EPA Region 6, including former Regional Administrator Anne Idsal, and Reme- dial Project Managers Casey Luckett and Katrina Coltrain, for initiating this solar reuse assessment and working with the Nation to integrate it into the cleanup plans for the Bird Dog site.

“The Quapaw Nation is very interested in having the solar farm on Quapaw-owned land in the Tar Creek area,” said Tim Kent, Environmental Director for the Quapaw Nation. “It makes perfect sense to convert previously unusable, contaminated property into land for a sustainable energy project.”

In the six years and nine projects since Quapaw Nation began remediation projects at the Tar Creek Superfund site, more than 300 acres of land with more than 1.5 million tons of mining waste has been remediated; about 60 new jobs have also been created in the process. Of the cleanup projects conducted by the tribe, most have been transformed into grasslands perfect for cattle grazing.

More units are in the process of being constructed. The approximate finish date is March 2020. The waiting list is short, there are still openings for these new triplexes. Applications are accepted for these new triplexes. Contact the Quapaw Nation Housing Department at 918.542.1430 to request an application or to obtain more information. You may also come by the office located by the Casino and C-Store at 58150 E. 64 Rd. to pick up an application.

2019 Farmer’s Market Closes

Quapaw, OK—The Farmer’s Market was quite a success. From essential oils, soaps, homemade breads, plants, fresh fruits and vegetables and, of course, Quapaw beef and pork, the farmer’s market saw success each time it was held. Plans for 2020 are to continue the market with improvements and more vendors added.

Welcome Tucker Hickey

Tucker Levi Hickey, the son of Tyler and Lindsay (Nida) Hickey of Fairland, OK, was born September 10. He was 7lbs. 9oz and 20.5 in. long. Proud maternal grandparents are Curtis and Sherrie (Atkinson) Nida and paternal grandparents are the late Marion E. and Betty (Crane) Atkinson (maternal) and the late Charles and Emma Nida.

Tar Creek’s Bird Dog Cleanup to Begin, Possible Site for Solar Farm

Picher, OK—The 120-acre property known as Bird Dog will be the 120th property within the Tar Creek Superfund Site designated for cleanup continuing the federal/tribal cooperative agreement between the Quapaw Nation and the Environmental Protection Agency. Bird Dog will receive $9 million from EPA, bringing the Tribe’s total in grants to about $50 million, so far. Bird Dog holds more than 500,000 tons of chat—lead and zinc mining waste.

According to an EPA reuse assessment study, this mining wasteland is the perfect site to serve as part of a larger 500-acre area for a future 100-megawatt utility scale solar farm. EPA funded the solar reuse assessment study for the Tar Creek site which involved collecting information such as: the available solar resources in area, potential project size and acreage, compatibility with environmental remediation design, technology consider-ations, land ownership and site control, physical feature limitations, project phasing, and permitting. The Quapaw Nation acknowledges EPA Region 6, including former Regional Administrator Anne Idsal, and Remedial Project Managers Casey Luckett and Katrina Coltrain, for initiating this solar reuse assessment and working with the Nation to integrate it into the cleanup plans for the Bird Dog site.

“The Quapaw Nation is very interested in having the solar farm on Quapaw-owned land in the Tar Creek area,” said Tim Kent, Environmental Director for the Quapaw Nation. “It makes perfect sense to convert previously unusable, contaminated property into land for a sustainable energy project.”

In the six years and nine projects since Quapaw Nation began remediation projects at the Tar Creek Superfund site, more than 300 acres of land with more than 1.5 million tons of mining waste has been remediated; about 60 new jobs have also been created in the process. Of the cleanup projects conducted by the tribe, most have been transformed into grasslands perfect for cattle grazing.

More units are in the process of being constructed. The approximate finish date is March 2020. The waiting list is short, there are still openings for these new triplexes. Applications are accepted for these new triplexes. Contact the Quapaw Nation Housing Department at 918.542.1430 to request an application or to obtain more information. You may also come by the office located by the Casino and C-Store at 58150 E. 64 Rd. to pick up an application.

2019 Farmer’s Market Closes

Quapaw, OK—The Farmer’s Market was quite a success. From essential oils, soaps, homemade breads, plants, fresh fruits and vegetables and, of course, Quapaw beef and pork, the farmer’s market saw success each time it was held. Plans for 2020 are to continue the market with improvements and more vendors added.

Welcome Tucker Hickey

Tucker Levi Hickey, the son of Tyler and Lindsay (Nida) Hickey of Fairland, OK, was born September 10. He was 7lbs. 9oz and 20.5 in. long. Proud maternal grandparents are Curtis and Sherrie (Atkinson) Nida and paternal grandparents are the late Marion E. and Betty (Crane) Atkinson (maternal) and the late Charles and Emma Nida.

Tar Creek’s Bird Dog Cleanup to Begin, Possible Site for Solar Farm

Picher, OK—The 120-acre property known as Bird Dog will be the 120th property within the Tar Creek Superfund Site designated for cleanup continuing the federal/tribal cooperative agreement between the Quapaw Nation and the Environmental Protection Agency. Bird Dog will receive $9 million from EPA, bringing the Tribe’s total in grants to about $50 million, so far. Bird Dog holds more than 500,000 tons of chat—lead and zinc mining waste.

According to an EPA reuse assessment study, this mining wasteland is the perfect site to serve as part of a larger 500-acre area for a future 100-megawatt utility scale solar farm. EPA funded the solar reuse assessment study for the Tar Creek site which involved collecting information such as: the available solar resources in area, potential project size and acreage, compatibility with environmental remediation design, technology considerations, land ownership and site control, physical feature limitations, project phasing, and permitting. The Quapaw Nation acknowledges EPA Region 6, including former Regional Administrator Anne Idsal, and Remedial Project Managers Casey Luckett and Katrina Coltrain, for initiating this solar reuse assessment and working with the Nation to integrate it into the cleanup plans for the Bird Dog site.

“The Quapaw Nation is very interested in having the solar farm on Quapaw-owned land in the Tar Creek area,” said Tim Kent, Environmental Director for the Quapaw Nation. “It makes perfect sense to convert previously unusable, contaminated property into land for a sustainable energy project.”

In the six years and nine projects since Quapaw Nation began remediation projects at the Tar Creek Superfund site, more than 300 acres of land with more than 1.5 million tons of mining waste has been remediated; about 60 new jobs have also been created in the process. Of the cleanup projects conducted by the tribe, most have been transformed into grasslands perfect for cattle grazing.

More units are in the process of being constructed. The approximate finish date is March 2020. The waiting list is short, there are still openings for these new triplexes. Applications are accepted for these new triplexes. Contact the Quapaw Nation Housing Department at 918.542.1430 to request an application or to obtain more information. You may also come by the office located by the Casino and C-Store at 58150 E. 64 Rd. to pick up an application.

2019 Farmer’s Market Closes

Quapaw, OK—The Farmer’s Market was quite a success. From essential oils, soaps, homemade breads, plants, fresh fruits and vegetables and, of course, Quapaw beef and pork, the farmer’s market saw success each time it was held. Plans for 2020 are to continue the market with improvements and more vendors added.
Region 6 Administrator Ken McQueen commended working together with the state and the Quapaw Nation, which has yielded many successes in the Tar Creek Strategic Plan.

"I am encouraged by the work we have done together, and the work we plan to do in the future," McQueen said. "We have come a long way in Tar Creek and we still have many years of expensive work ahead of us to fully remediate Tar Creek," McQueen said during the 21st National Environmental Conference at Tar Creek which continues through Wednesday.

For years, the 40-square miles of lead and zinc-contaminated land was at the top of the EPA's Superfund list after mining companies departed, leaving countless environmental and medical problems. A federally funded buyout of the area was prompted after a 2006 Army Corps of Engineers study showed the abandoned lead and zinc mines underneath Picher and the nearby communities of Cardin and Hockerville had a high risk of caving in.

The Environmental Protection Agency released a Final Tar Creek Strategic Plan. The Plan, which saw the Department of Environmental Quality, the Quapaw Nation and the Tar Creek community work together to improve progress in addressing mining waste and contamination at the site.

"We carefully considered all of the public comments," he said, referring to the plan.

The Plan will reevaluate land use assumptions across the site, consider consolidating chat ownership to improve the marketability of chat, explore new technologies and make sure clean up actions are protective of human health and the environment, he said.

Long-term actions include exploring innovative technologies to expedite the cleanup and identifying additional reuse opportunities. Additionally, cleanup at the site furthers the commitment EPA made in the Federal Lead Action Plan by managing lead contamination at Superfund sites, thereby reducing exposure to community residents.

="This Strategic Plan is a commitment to the communities near the Tar Creek site by EPA and our state and tribal partners to work together to accelerate the cleanup of the site and build a better future for those who call this area home," EPA Regional Administrator Ken McQueen said.

EPA Commends Partnership with Quapaw Nation, State

Quapaw Nation Honor Night at Quapaw School Football Game

Quapaw, OK – The Quapaw Nation sponsored the first-ever Quapaw High School Native American night. Instead of their usual green home jerseys, Quapaw Nation purchased them with the colors of the Quapaw flag and seal—blue and red. Quapaw High School approached the tribe with the idea to honor the tribe and have jerseys with the tribal seal and colors. Quapaw Schools recognized Quapaw Nation for its many contributions to the district.

"They have put a lot of money into the school system. We really appreciate everything they have done for us," McQueen said. "While Quapaw wore the red jerseys with blue trim, the opposing team, Colcord wore blue. Both sets of jerseys have the Quapaw Nation seal on the front with "O-Gah-Pah" on the back.

They are really sharp. They turned out so good," said Coach Chris McQueen. Prior to the game, Quapaw Nation's Fire/EMS Color Guard presented the U.S. and O-Gah-Pah flags and Emma Mckibben performed the Lord's Prayer in Indian sign language, followed by players coming onto the field led by a team member carrying the D-Gah-Pah flag. Halftime was extended for a special performance by powwow style dancing and football signed by players and coaches was presented to the tribe.

"It’s was an amazing night for the Quapaw Nation and Quapaw Schools," Coach Chris McQueen said.

Quapaw Nation Honor Night at Quapaw School Football Game

Miami, OK – Craig Kreman, Quapaw Nation Assistant Environmental Director, was honored with the 2019 Mike Synar Award at the 21st National Environmental Tar Creek Conference for his dedication to restoring the site for the Quapaw people and the community. The award is presented to people who continue to work on cleaning up Tar Creek and other site remediation in Ottawa County.

The presentation of the awards highlighted the first day of the conference, hosted by Local Environmental Action Demanded, or LEAD. The presentation of the awards highlighted the first day of the conference, hosted by Local Environmental Action Demanded, or LEAD.

Kreman Honored with Synar Award for Tar Creek Cleanup Efforts

Miami, OK – Craig Kreman, Quapaw Nation Assistant Environmental Director, was honored with the 2019 Mike Synar Award at the 21st National Environmental Tar Creek Conference for his dedication to restoring the site for the Quapaw people and the community. The award is presented to people who continue to work on cleaning up Tar Creek and other site remediation in Ottawa County.

The presentation of the awards highlighted the first day of the conference, hosted by Local Environmental Action Demanded, or LEAD. The presentation of the awards highlighted the first day of the conference, hosted by Local Environmental Action Demanded, or LEAD.
Tribe Showcased at Nation to Nation Meeting

Quapaw, OK–The Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council and the Oklahoma leadership for the agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture hosted the Eighth Annual Nation to Nation tribal consulta-
tion meeting with tours of Quapaw Nation conservation accomplish-
ments in August. Tours were given of the O-Gah-Pah Brewery, O-Gah-Pah Coffee, O-Gah-
Pah Bison, O-Gah-Pah Pride Kennel, the Greenhouse and Pollinator Gardens, O-Gah-Pah Honey and Goats, and the O-Gah-Pah Mercantile. Food items served were from Quapaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation, and Choctaw Nation. The bison, beef steak, vegetables, and salad were from Quapaw Nation, while desserts were provided by Chickasaw Na-
ton and Choctaw Nation. Various pecan recipes were served from Choctaw Nation. And, Chickasaw Nation Bedre’ chocolate was used for all the different desserts. Quapaw Nation veterans Henry Ellick, Blaise Feagan, and Mike McK-
ibben served as Honor Guard. Quapaw Nation Tribal Princess Kristal
Glass and Emma McKibben performed the Lord’s Prayer in Indian sign language as opening prayers. The host drum also consisted of tribal members Mike Shawnee and Vernon Tossie with Jared Liston singing prayer and veteran songs.

“We were very excited and humbled we had the opportunity to host the USDA Nation to Nation Consultation,” said John L. Berrey. "We have tremendous enthusiasm for the programs and facilities we have created that seek to advance the great causes of conservation and en-
vironmentalism. We hope this is only the beginning, and that we can all continue to grow and support one another in the most important undertakings.”

Save the Date
You’re invited to the open house celebration of the newly
constructed Ki-Ho-Ta Center. The new building will house
Quapaw Counseling Services, Quapaw Family Services and
Quapaw Nation Court.

Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, November 20, 2019
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
58160 East 66 Road
Miami, Oklahoma 74354

Winesburg Creates Monument at NEO

Miami, OK–On October 14, NEO’s American Indian Center for Excel-
ence (AICE) hosted the college’s Centennial Tribal Monument Unveil-
ing on the first Indigenous peoples’ day. Chairman John L. Berrey de-
livered the keynote address. NEO presented a proclamation that the
college will acknowledge the 2nd Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day.
The monument, designed by Hannah Tyner Berryman, AICE Director, Ryan Ocrutt from NEO Foundation, and tribal member Corey Wines-
burg is made of 10 feathers representing the member tribes of North-
east Oklahoma. A Welding Tech Instructor at Northeast Tech in Afton (OK), Winesburg and his students began developing the monument in April. Much of it took shape in the past month and a half, with his students spend-
ing more than 100 hours taking the monu-
ment from concept to fruition. Each feather
was created cutting stainless steel using a CNC plasma table. Winesburg said students used more than 7,000 inches of welding to create the multidimensional feathers. “It means a lot to me to build this and put our inspiration into it,” said Winesburg, who is both Shawnee and Quapaw. “Several of my students said they can’t wait to one day show conference is held annually to inform the community on the current environ-
mental issues and provide citizens an opportunity to interact with program
managers from state and federal agencies and tribes that are working on the
Tar Creek Superfund site.

Synar, who represented Oklahoma’s 2nd Congressional District for eight terms
before his death in January 1996, believed the Tar Creek problem affected
the health of both the environment and area residents. Synar believed in the
need to find solutions for each and gave hope for a better future, and was the
primary advocate in Congress for a cleaner Tar Creek.

Since the 2008 Record of Decision, the EPA, the state of Oklahoma and the
Quapaw Nation – the first tribe to conduct EPA remediation work on tribal
land – have reclaimed land. The EPA oversees and funds the state and tribal
remediation and reclamation work.

Quapaw Homecoming Saracen Casino Resort
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

At right and below are more images from the Saracen
Casino Resort groundbreaking.

Quapaw Nation
featured on Trivia Crack!

HISTORY

What tribe of people came up with the name of the state of Arkansas?

Quapaw
Cherokee
African American
Mayan