

Chief's Address To The Nation

From Page 1

been dealing with economic development proposals extensively in the month of December; consuming much of our time and effort in addition to keeping our tribal government operating; and I hope to have promising announcements that they will come to fruition in the very near future. These proposals involve our whole jurisdiction from Cushing to Shawnee and beyond.

Leadership Team Development

The Business Committee needs teamwork (leadership team development) as in any government or organization. This involves the elected leadership in conjunction with all the directors of our tribal government working together as a team to provide the services that you need no matter where you may live. I will propose to the Business Committee to bring in an outside entity that has been successful with other tribes, currently working with many now, to develop the team leadership that any successful tribal government needs to survive.

Buildings / Facilities

(A) Larry Edmondson, architect, and Army Corp of Engineers are to start construction on the new Culture Center and lagoon system in 2012. The Culture Center will be located between the Business Committee office building and Library. Two Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Indian Community Development Block Grants (ICDBG) fund the project. The lagoon will be built north of the pow-wow grounds.

(B) Parking lots are being planned: A Plan-In-Hand Meeting was held December 20th to discuss the preliminary plans for

the design and construction of the (a) Swimming Pool parking lot. Also, plans are in the discussion stage to improve/enlarge parking at the (b) Court House and (c) Elders/Veterans Building in Stroud.

(C) Plans are being developed for five projects: (1) Cushing Building, land has been purchased; (2) new Community Building at tribal complex; (3) Travel Plaza(s) site to be determined; (4) new Administration Building at tribal complex; and (5) Office of Environmental Science Building to be located north of the Juvenile Detention Center. (D) A new roof has been completed at the USDA Building at the tribal complex!

Gaming

The Shawnee, OK Casino has been paid for, so planning needs to start for expansion of the current building to enable us to keep and build upon the number of patrons that are gaming at our site. Shawnee now has four casinos (including ours) with a fifth by a neighboring tribe being planned, all within a ten mile radius of each other, so careful and deliberate plans need to be developed and implemented ASAP.

The Nation has submitted our amended Gaming Ordinance for review and approval by the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) to determine definitions of "Indian Country" which would allow gaming to be conducted at other sites within our jurisdiction. We should have our answer soon which will enable us to provide more jobs and economic development other than our two sites, Shawnee and Stroud, if we so desire to expand our gaming enterprises.

Services

I am going to state something that my

good friend Enoch Kelly Haney once said during a tribal leaders gathering, "Government is a business, not to make a profit but to provide services." I agree. One of our tribal government's functions is to provide much needed services to help our tribal membership: by helping to prepare them to enter the job market through the development of skills and talent that comes by obtaining an education; to help provide housing; to obtain health care; and to provide a true sense of belonging to a tribe that cares for and about them. Now this is where a tribal government through its economic development provides more and better services, without depending upon the federal government which has that

trust responsibility through treaty rights, to subsidize federal dollars in providing more and improved services. True self sufficiency was the vision for so many tribal leaders in the past, the goal for today's leaders, and can be a reality for our future leaders.

I look forward to this new year with enthusiasm and great expectations for our Sac and Fox Nation as a whole and to you individually with prayer daily that you have a vision, strive to accomplish those goals that you have set, and to walk proudly as a Sauk whenever you succeed, knowing that your people rejoice and share your accomplishments with you and support you. Aho!

Sincerely, George Thurman, Chief



Happy 64th Birthday

Ed "Sonny" Littlehead

from your Family and Friends

New Library Hours



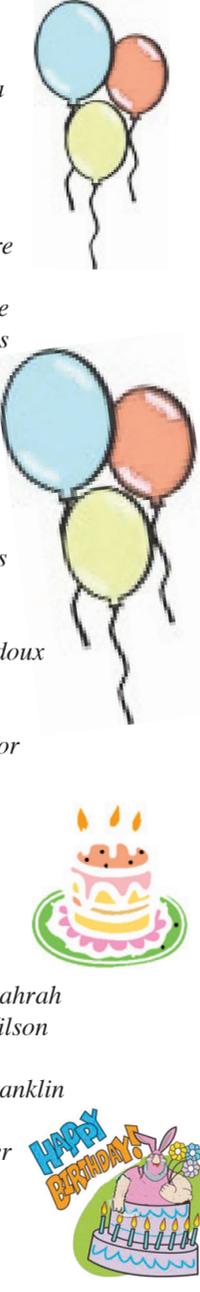
Effective Monday, April 4, the Sac and Fox National Library will be open until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. As usual, the library starts the day at 8 a.m. We have some new books on the shelves and plan to add more soon. Please call 918-968-3626, extension 1062 with questions and suggestions.

Catherine Walker, Marlena Starr and Kathy Platt welcome your patronage

Happy January Birthday Elders!!

John Bill Croley
Roger Keith James
Louise E. McIlvaine
Cathy Lynn Tamminga
Cynthia Ina Crane
Antowine N. Warrior
George L. Thurman
Carla K. James
Pamela Ann Longshore
Cheryl Ann Carter
Mary Christine Harjoe
David Michael Tibbitts
Paula Kaye Bean
Charles Larry Ryan
Valerine Charolette
Samuel F. Morris
Rosa D. Hawzipta
Richard Eugene
Joan Murdock-Hughes
Edward Littlehead
Jacqueline Helfer
James Howard Roubidoux
James Reuben Pawpa
Glenn K. Morton
Thomas Morris Warrior
Gregory Paul Walker
Lana Jo Duncan
Sandra Ray
Keith Edward
Webster K. Bearbow
Frank E. Rhodd
Glenn Mitchell Logan
Dolores Lurlene Kahrahrhah
Alphues Christjohn Wilson
Viola Freida Prewitt
Katherine Hildreth Franklin
Trudra Kay Patton
Truman Andrew Carter
Amos Black III
Charlene May Beaver
Sandra D'ann Bruehl
Edward Scott Troy
Margaret Denise McKinney-Woodward

Robert Lewis Tyner
Harry Benson Walker
Dora Steel Young
Janis Gail Fleming
Ester Jean Turner
Marilyn Jean Spoon
Landis Marileen McClellan
Mary Frances McCormick
Toni Colline Littlewalker
Gloria M. Castillo
Lewis Marez
Mark Kent Megehee
Forest C. Nelson
Emil V. Nelson
Brenda Sue Floyd
George Nullake
Walter Andrew Nullake
Charles Arthur Holland
Annette Hunter Rice
Harriett Janean Hunter
Christina Louise Roan
Barry Dean Irons
Sarah Rhodes
Bobby Duane Longshore
Johanna Myers
Margaret Frances Wood
Elvis Edgar Ellis
Debra Joyce Ornelas
Taylor Neal Finley
Donald Lee Fixico
Sharon Elaine Franklin
Jesse W. Baldwin
Frank Gokey
Wanda Marie Wolf
Jean Marie Dowlearn
John L. Cummins
Alma Louise Davis
Anita Lynn Hooley
Donna Diane Gorton
Thelma D. Rogers
Avis E. Austin
Sherri A. Vandervort
Daniel R. Tyner



SUICIDE PREVENTION

QPR

QUESTION PERSUADE REFER

Ask a Question, Save a Life
Group trainings available

Please call:

(918)968-9531 Ext. 131
OR
(800)830-0683 Ext: 131

This Benefit is sponsored by the Sac and Fox Elders Advisory Committee

GOURD DANCE / STOMP DANCE

Saturday February 4, 2012

Sac and Fox Community Building
5.5 miles south of Stroud

Gourd Dance Head Staff:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| MC | Russell Saunders |
| Head Singer | Forrest "Kisko" Walker |
| Head Gourd Dancer | Scott Miller |
| AD | W.C. Harjo & Steve Ellis |

2pm-6pm
Gourd Dance
7pm-?
Stomp Dance



Stomp Dance Coordinators:

Master of Ceremonies Leaders Opv Mack, Wewoka, Oklahoma
Felix Mack, Wewoka, Oklahoma
Ryland Mack, Wewoka, Oklahoma

50/50 ÷ Cake Walk ÷ Raffles ÷ Concession

For questions or information contact: Gloria Ellis, Elders Advisory Chairperson at 405-878-8534; Stella Wilson (T-W, 8am-4:30pm) at 918-968-2583; or Anita Stevens, Interim Elders Coordinator at 918-968-3526 or 1-800-259-3970, ext. 1054.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR THEFT

