

# Chief's Address To The Nation

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ties/towns within our jurisdiction after the first of the year. We will be coming to your towns to help you enroll and we will keep you notified on our web site, building notices, and newspaper(s).

### Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA)

On March 7, 2013 President Obama signed into law the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 or "VAWA 2013." VAWA 2013 recognizes tribes' inherit power to exercise "special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction" (SDVCJ) over certain defendants, regardless of their Indian or non-Indian status, who commit acts of domestic violence or dating violence or violate certain protection orders in Indian Country. This law generally takes effect on March 7, 2015, but also authorizes a voluntary "Pilot Project" to allow certain tribes to begin exercising SDVCJ sooner.

Sac & Fox Nation was one of the initial voluntary tribes to enter the "Pilot Project." Our Attorney General has reviewed our Code of Laws and submitted to the Business Committee for amendments to revise our current ordinances so we are in compliance with VAWA as we initiate SDVCJ through the "Pilot Project."

### Black Hawk Casino

The Sauk Business Enterprises (SBE) Board terminated the employment of the General Manager, for cause, and are actively seeking a replacement for the Black Hawk Casino located in Shawnee, OK.

### Rodeo Committee

The Rodeo Committee has been involved in negotiating several contracts for events to be held in 2015. The new concession building has been very instrumental in these negotiations, thus assuring the associations, that in addition to the new aluminum elevated bleachers at our excellent rodeo grounds, there will be adequate concessions available. These youth rodeo associations have many Native American contestants as members and the vision is to have our own tribal youth and their families becoming involved in these associations as well as the tribal Rodeo Committee.

### Central Oklahoma Little Britches Rodeo Association (COLBRA)

COLBRA is a new rodeo to be held June 13-14, and is a new youth rodeo that is ready to take Oklahoma by storm! The COLBRA is a franchise of the National Little Britches Rodeo Association "NLBRA" and open to children 5-18 years of age. The rodeo events that these young contestants compete are: Barrel Racing, Flag Racing, Pole Bending, Goat Decorating, Goat Tying, Calf Roping, Breakaway Roping, Ribbon Tying, Team Roping, Trail Course, Bull Riding, Bareback Riding, and Saddle Bronc Riding. The contestants points won at our rodeo will help them qualify for the NLBRA Finals Rodeo at the Colorado State Fairgrounds in Pueblo, CO.

### Oklahoma Junior High School Rodeo Association (OKJHSRA)

Created in 2004, the NHSRA Junior High Division was established to bring the

excitement of the sport to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders and to serve as a feeder system into the high school ranks of the Association. Today, all 47 states and provinces that belong to the NHSRA also produce a Junior High Division as well, with over 2,500 members in total now competing. Junior High Division students compete in a variety of events, including Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Goat Tying, Breakaway Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Chute Dogging, Team Roping, Ribbon Roping, and Junior Bull Riding.

Each summer, the "best of the best" from each state and province qualify for the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. Approximately 900 competitors show off their talents in the event and compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and prizes. The contestants points won at our rodeo will help to qualify them for the Oklahoma Junior High Finals Rodeo at Woodward, OK and at the National Junior High Finals Rodeo at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, Iowa.

### Oklahoma Junior Rodeo Association (OJRA)

The OJRA is a family focused rodeo organization. Their mission is to provide the youth of Oklahoma an affordable opportunity to build character through competition in the sport of rodeo. We strongly believe that good attitudes, good sportsmanship, & good effort will lead to victories in the arena and in life. Age groups are 6 & Under, 8 & Under, 9-12 and 13-16. The age is as of September 1, 2015. Contestant's must have a copy of their birth certificate on file with the OJRA secretary. Events: 6 & Under: Flags, Goat Undecorating, Pole Bending, Barrel Racing; 8 & Under: Flags, Goat Tying, Co-ed Breakaway Roping, Barrel Racing; Ages 9-12: Pole Bending, Barrel Racing, Goat Tying, Tie-down Calf Roping, Co-ed Breakaway Roping, Ribbon Roping; Ages 13 to 16: Barrel Racing, Goat Tying, Pole Bending, Ribbon Roping, Tie-down Calf Roping, 16 & Under Girls Breakaway Roping, Co-ed Breakaway Roping, 16 & Under Team Roping Heading & Heeling

### Oklahoma High School Rodeo Association (OHSRA)

The National High School Rodeo Association is one of the fastest growing youth organizations, with an annual membership of approximately 12,500 students from 41 states, five Canadian provinces, and Australia. The Association sanctions over 1,100 rodeos each year. The NHSRA is governed by a national Board of Directors, which consists of one member from each state or province. A staff at the national headquarters in Denver, Colorado handles the day-to-day operations.

Each year, the NHSRA produces the two elite youth rodeo events in the world - The National Junior High Finals Rodeo (NJHFR) and the National High School Finals Rodeo (NHSFR). The NHSFR is the "World's Largest Rodeo," featuring approximately 1,500 contestants from

across the United States, Canada and Australia. Athletes vie for national titles, assorted prizes and their share of thousands of dollars in college scholarships. Action at the event is non-stop, with rodeo performances being conducted twice each day. The top-twenty contestants in each event then advance to a final round of competition to determine who will walk away with the coveted championship buckles. Boys' events at the NHSFR include Bareback Riding, Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Tie-Down Roping, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, and Cutting. Girl's events include Breakaway Roping, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Goat Tying, Cutting, Team Roping, and the NHSRA Queen contest. Boys and girls compete together in Team Roping, but are separate in all other events.

The points won at our rodeo will help them qualify for the Oklahoma High School Finals Rodeo and the National High School Rodeo Finals at Rock Springs, WY.

The Broncs and Bulls event held this past year was very successful and the Rodeo Committee has been asked to host the event again plus adding Bull Fighting to the event in addition to Ranch Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, and Mutton Bustn. Additionally, several barrel racing associations:

Central 4D Barrel Racers, Sooner Barrel Racing Association, and Oklahoma Cowgirls Association have been contacted to host their 1-2 day event(s) at our arena.

### Short Takes

\*The PACE Group, Little Rock, Ark. has been engaged by the Sauk Business Enterprise(s) and the Business Committee to locate an Economic Development Director for our Nation. Initial meetings have been conducted to determine what we expect from this position/person.

\*The interviews for the position of Grants Writer will be conducted in December and expectations are to have this position filled shortly after the beginning of the new calendar year.

\*The Third Circuit has granted an extension to file a petition for a rehearing concerning the Jim Thorpe case. The Sac and Fox Nation attorneys will file a petition on December 8 and at that time the Third Circuit will make a decision whether to grant a rehearing or not.

I wish to extend a very Happy New Year 2015 to all of our tribal members and families, and please thank God for what you have.

Sincerely,  
George Thurman, Principal Chief

# Four Directions Reentry Grant Program

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by Anita Stevens. Dessert included persimmon rice pudding and cookies. Eugenia Tyner-Dawson and Landis McClellan were honorary visitors, and Mary McCormick, Melissa Peros, and Rick Quarry stopped by to support the program staff with their efforts.

Robert and Sam will assist in presenting the kids with an afternoon of Indian Dice for

their next cultural event within the facility.

The Grant Program Staff, Alana Owen and Amber Wilbanks, would like to ask that everyone take time to thank Sam and Robert for their contributions to the program. Volunteers for programs are always needed and everyone is invited to participate by contacting the program staff at the detention center.



Traditional Feast at the JDC: (from Left) Anita Stevens, Eugenia Tyner-Dawson and Landis McClellan.

## Food Distribution Program Updates

### FDPIR Income Guidelines:

#### New Deductions Expected to Boost Participation Nationwide

With our increased FY14 Net Monthly Income Standards, new income deduction rules were also approved in the CFR. Households that pay rent or utilities, regardless of amount, are now allowed a Standard \$300 Deduction of their Net Monthly Income that is measured against the USDA Net Monthly Income Standards. For elderly or disabled household members there is now a Medical Expense Deduction that can be claimed for all out of pocket medical expenses with no limit regarding the amount. Also there is a new Meal Deduction that can be claimed should a household member require the full time services of a home health worker.

For more information on these deductions or to see if you qualify please call (866) 622-2310 Shawnee Office or (800) 256-3398 Stroud Office.

# From the Office of Secretary

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the Finance Department that the procedure for the checks is: They wait for two weeks for the check to clear. If a check has not cleared, then and only then, the Finance Department will "void the check," and then another check will be issued.

Several members told me I did not mail them the W-9s. In checking our monthly newsletter, I see where our news editor ran the W-9s for three months. For example, look at the following listed three months newsletters: Sac and Fox News: November - page 9, October - page 20, and September - page 13. Tribal members, please look after

your own business!! You are responsible for your personal record with the Sac and Fox Nation, and please make sure your record is ALWAYS correct, and up-to-date. No, I do not mail the W-9s to each member. That is your responsibility!!

Principal Chief George Thurman wanted me to also inform you that the W-9 is important, as it is the document required by the government for tax purposes. So, next year, I urge you to help yourself by keeping the Secretary aware of the changes in your mailing address. That is our only connection to you. Thank you.

# ATTENTION

All persons owning an undivided interest in **Sac and Fox** Allotted Lands



### EARLY LEASE MODIFICATIONS

The Realty Department cannot assist with lease modifications for early payments on farming and grazing leases. All payments must be made by the lessee and paid into the centralized commercial lockbox for distribution, unless otherwise stated in the original lease.

Pursuant to Policy Directive dated 07/21/2008 from the Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs.



### HUNTING

Hunting is NOT permitted on Sac and Fox allotted lands by ANYONE other than the landowner(s).



## Sac and Fox Nation Food Distribution Program

CALL TODAY  
TO SEE IF YOU  
QUALIFY!!!

STROUD OFFICE

(800) 256-3398

SHAWNEE OFFICE

(866) 622-2310

If at least one member of your household is Native American, you reside within our service area, and you meet our income guidelines... You May Qualify. Call Today!!!

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ARBOR ETUM SHAWNEE TRIPS

CITIZEN

SAC & FOX NATION

TRIBAL