

Sac and Fox News

The Sac & Fox News is the monthly publication of the Sac & Fox Nation, located on SH 99, six miles south of Stroud, OK.

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The Sac & Fox News is the official publication of the Sac and Fox Nation. Our mission is to meet all tribal members information needs concerning the Nation.

The Sac & Fox News is mailed free, one per address, to enrolled Sac and Fox tribal members. Paid subscriptions are available for \$12.00 annually.

Editorial statements, guest columns, and letters to the editor published in this newspaper contain the opinions of the writers. These opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Sac and Fox News staff or any elected official or department of tribal government or administration.

The Sac and Fox News reserves the right to refuse publication of letters to the editor. All editorials and letters to the editor become the property of the Sac and Fox News.

Submissions for publication must be signed by the author and include an address and contact phone number. They are limited to 300 words. The staff will not edit editorials or letters to the editor to fit the 300-word limit.

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Address corrections & changes are accepted by The Business Committee at the address listed below.

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click news

Phil Ellis Hired as New Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Phil Ellis began working for the Sac and Fox Nation this past February. As the Nation's chief financial officer, his area of oversight is the Finance Department, Tax Department, and the Property & Procurement Department. Mr. Ellis' professional experience is primarily in public accounting, working in both audit and tax areas. More recently he was the finance director at the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma. He holds a BS in Accounting/Finance from Arizona State University and a MS in Taxa-

tion from The University of Tulsa. Mr. Ellis is a member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; parents being Russell Ellis and (late) Aileen Ellis. He practices both karate and Brazilian jiu-jitsu and enjoys waterfowl hunting. He and his wife, Pamela, live in Pawnee with their daughter, Kimberly Marie. "I'm deeply grateful that the Business Committee has afforded me the opportunity to be a part of the Sac and Fox Nation and look forward to serving the Nation," said Mr. Ellis.



Phil Ellis

6th Annual TEC Public Health Conference 2014

"Celebrating Tribal Public Health" Where we have been, where we are and where we are going...

Free, Two-Day Public Health Conference featuring nationally recognized speakers on health disparities in Native American and Alaska Native populations.

The Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board Tribal Epidemiology Center (TEC) will be hosting the 6th Annual TEC Public Health Conference at the Grand Hotel and Casino, Shawnee, OK on April 29-30, 2014. The conference will be held in the new event center adjacent to the hotel and will feature keynote speakers: Mr. Michael Bird, MPH, MSW, is the first and only American Indian to serve as the President (2000-2001) of American Public Health Association (APHA). Jessica Rickert, DDS, is the first American Indian female dentist. Both speakers are keenly aware of public health issues impacting tribes and are nationally recognized speakers for public health matters facing American Indian and Alaska Natives.

Some of the goals of the 6th Annual TEC Public Health Conference "Celebrating Tribal Public Health" are:

- (1) Increase knowledge and awareness of public health issues of AIAN;
- (2) Provides a forum to build and extend tribal public health relationships;
- (3) Expand partnerships with Tribal/State/Federal/Local entities.

Conference attendees will have an opportunity to participate in workshops, network with exhibitors and sponsors, share information and cultural resources, attend an evening cultural event, obtain continuing education hours in public health and dentistry and can learn about current public health best practices.

Featured speakers for the two-day event are:

- Aleena Hernandez, MPH will be presenting workshops on: "Tribal Public Health Accreditation" and "Tribal Public Health Institutes". The Tribal Public Health Accreditation workshop will enlighten participants regarding accreditation readiness and quality improvement. Tribal Public Health Institute (TPHI) will inform participants how a TPHI may play a role in improving health among American Indian & Alaska Native communities. Ms. Hernandez is the Principal and Founder of Red Star Innovations, LLC and is dedicated to strengthening and supporting public health issues.

- Mr. Gortney Yarholar, LMSW workshop presentation will focus on current Suicide Prevention efforts throughout Indian country and how tribal organizations are maximizing opportunities at the community level. Mr. Yarholar works with the Suicide Prevention Resource Center as a Senior Tribal Prevention Specialist, and provides technical assistance to Garret Lee Smith suicide prevention grantees. He has served on numerous committees and task forces addressing a variety of public health and behavioral health interests.

- Commander David Gahn, MD, MPH plans to present his work on preventing Childhood Obesity in Cherokee Nation and how an improved coordination effort will tackle chronic disease associated with childhood obesity. Dr. Gahn in 2008 was selected to lead a team of medical professionals from Indian Health Service to rebuild a

maternity hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan. After 16 deployments to Kabul, Dr. Gahn completed his MPH and rejoined Cherokee Nation as the Surveillance Coordinator. As Surveillance Coordinator, Dr. Gahn focuses on the prevalence and incidence of chronic diseases and cancer in the 14 County Cherokee Nation Tribal Jurisdictional Service Area. He continues to see patients at W.W. Hastings Hospital.

Registration and exhibit booths information are online at <http://www.ocaithb.org>. Hotel arrangements and information can be made through the Grand Casino Hotel at <http://www.GrandShawnee.com> or calling (405) 964-7777. The physical address of the hotel: 777 Grand Casino Blvd., Shawnee, OK 74804

The mission of the OCAITHB is to improve the health and quality of life of American Indian communities in the Oklahoma City Area through advocacy and education with federal, state and local entities while maintaining tribal sovereign rights.

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Uniting for One Cause

Sac & Fox Nation

Easter

Saturday April 19, 2014

Dinner **Games**

1:00 pm

Community Bldg.

5 1/2 miles S. Stroud

Easter Bonnet Contest **Egg Hunt** **Easter Basket Contest**