



Sac and Fox News
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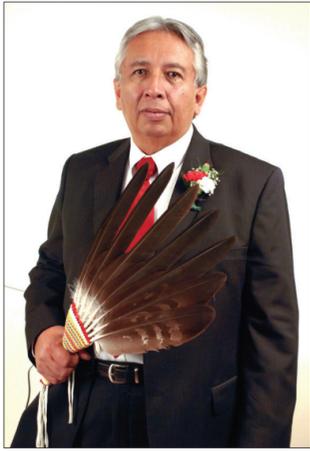
• Phone: (918) 968-3526 ❖ 920883 S Hwy 99 Bldg A ❖ Stroud, OK 74079 ❖ Vol. 32, No. 6 June 2011

CHIEF'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION

Greetings Tribal Members:

Let me congratulate all of our tribal graduates of 2011 on your recent accomplishments in your quest for an education. I wish you the best in your next step after kindergarten, elementary, high school, college, graduate, and vocational training schools.

Education as defined in the Black's Law Dictionary: *Comprehends not merely the instruction received at school or college, but the whole course of training; moral, religious, vocational, intellectual, and physical. Education may be particularly directed to either the mental, moral, or physical powers and faculties, but in its broadest and best sense it relates to them all. Acquisition of all knowledge tending to train and develop the individual.*



Chief George Thurman

I point out in the aforementioned word moral. Webster's New World College Dictionary definition for the word moral: *relating to, dealing with, or capable of making the distinction between right and wrong in conduct.*

We as Sac and Fox citizens need to be educated enough to make the distinction between right and wrong in our conduct. The Business Committee has received reports of and has witnessed very disturbing behavior by some tribal members who attended meetings of our Committees, Commissions, and Boards. This behavior is an embarrassment to our Nation.

Embarrassing, yes because our tribal people were taught to respect one another, work with

each other, and to place our Sac and Fox people first above selfish agendas! We would not have survived as a people throughout our history if we had not learned from each other, supported our leadership, and humbled ourselves by admitting whenever we were wrong. The embarrassment to our tribal citizens and visitors attending these meetings must and will stop!

Breaking News in Oklahoma Indian Country. HB 2172 – *Transferring Powers of Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission (OIAC) to Oklahoma Native American Liaison* Despite the valiant efforts of Rep. Chuck Hoskin (D-Vinita; Cherokee Citizen) and the efforts of Rep. Joe Dorman, Rep. Purcy Walker, and Rep. Mike Brown, HB 2172, which abolishes the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission and transfers all powers to the individual appointed by the Governor to serve as the Oklahoma Native American Liaison, passed out of the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 9-4. Only the Representatives listed above voted against the passage of this bill. The bill passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee almost simultaneously 14-2.

The passage of this bill does NOT create a cabinet position but a go-between for the Governor's office and Tribes. This is not a government-to-government relationship because it is not an Executive Branch Cabinet position. In addition, this position serves at the PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR as an APPOINTEE. When a new administration comes in, that person may change.

Rep. Chuck Hoskin (D-6-Vinita) succeeded in delaying the bill to allow Speaker Kris Steele (R-26-Shawnee) an opportunity to confer with Governor Mary Fallin. After that discussion, the bill was placed on the House agenda. The questions from a number of members to House author Rep. Ron Peters (R-70-Tulsa) were valid and many. Barbara Warner was in the House chamber and provided the gist of these debates by these legislative "warriors": Rep. Paul Wesselhoft (R-54-Moore; Citizen Potawatomi citizen) pointed out that once again the state

demonstrated complete disrespect to tribal leadership by not conferring with the tribal leaders before introducing this bill; he also felt that an interim study should be requested to bring tribal leaders and state leaders together to determine the best method to approach a government-to-government relationship. Rep. Chuck Hoskin (D-6-Vinita; Cherokee citizen) talked about the membership, purpose and history of the commission and named each tribal leader as he listed the many letters he received. He also talked about the economic impact of Oklahoma's tribal nations and, again, the disrespect that was being shown in not conferring with tribal leaders regarding the process by which both parties could develop partnerships. Rep. Danny Morgan (D-32-Prague) admonished the state for sending the wrong message to Oklahoma's tribes by such actions and for failing to recognize the importance of partnering with Oklahoma's tribal nations. Rep. Larry Glenn (D-7-Miami) pointed out that he had 10 tribes in his district and could proudly say he knew each one personally and admired and respected the tribal leaders in his district, who also were the largest employers of Ottawa County. Each of these men urged members to vote against the bill.

The bill had several votes due to certain procedures, but it did pass out of the House with a vote of 57-36.

The Senate passed HB 2172 by a vote of 28-18 to abolish the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission and create the Oklahoma Native American Liaison.

Sen. Charles Wyrick (D-1-Fairland), Senator Judy Eason-MacIntyre (D-11-Tulsa), Senator Constance Johnson (D-48-OKC), Senator Earl Garrison (D-9-Muskogee), Senator Richard LerBlance (D-7-Hartshorne), Senator Jim Wilson (D-3-Tahlequah), and Senator Andrew Rice (D-46-OKC) did excellent jobs in their debates.

2172 now goes to the Governor for her signature. Once signed, the effective date is July 1, 2011.

The direction this administration has taken since January has been extremely disappointing. Instead of considering the tribal nations an asset and trying to work closer with us for the betterment of all of Oklahoma's citizens, tribes now wonder when there will be more of an effort to build a strong government-to-government relationship with our Great Sovereign Nations! Let's pray that the State will continue to move forward in working with Oklahoma's Sovereign Nations --- that would be good for all of Oklahoma.

I publicly commend Barbara Warner, Executive Director, Board and staff of the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission for their unselfish dedication in their work for all the Indian tribes of Oklahoma.

Another disturbing issue: The Native American Cultural & (Continued On Page 7)



Kensy Marie Hall, Miss Sac and Fox Tribal Princess Graduates With Honors

Kensy Marie Hall graduated from the University of Tulsa with a bachelor's of science degree in Exercise and Sports Science on May 7 at the Donald W. Reynolds Center. Throughout her collegiate career, she played for the TU women's basketball team, where she was a four-time letter winner and captain for the 2010-2011 season. She also served as a member on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

Hall was awarded the Conference USA Spirit of Service award for the University of Tulsa. The award is in recognition of student athletes for their community service, good academic standing, and participation in their respective sport. Hall split her time on the court, in the classroom and in the community. Hall has spoken at local elementary schools and conducted basketball clinics.

Her family is very proud of her accomplishments both academically and socially. Hall was elected to serve as a representative for the Sac & Fox tribe by being named the 2010-2011 Miss Sac & Fox tribal princess. Following her

graduation on May 7, her family held a Gourd Dance and exhibition Stomp Dance in her honor. A host of friends, family, tribal representatives, and out-of-town guests attended the event. She would like to thank all those that attended and would like to especially thank the Sac & Fox Nation Veteran's Honor Guard and Lil Miss Sac & Fox Nation for attending and helping out.

Hall plans to attend the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa campus where she will continue her education and study Occupational Therapy. Hall is the daughter of Marilyn McClelland of Grove, Okla., Kenny Hall of New Town N.D.; the granddaughter of the late John and Clarabell McClelland. She is a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma and a descendant of the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Sac & Fox, Wyandotte, and Mandan-Hidatsa tribes.

Primary Election Draws Fifteen Candidates

A total of fifteen candidates filed for positions within the Sac and Fox government.

Those filing for Principal Chief (alphabetically) are: Edgar T. Butler, Mary F. McCormick, Georgia Ann Harris-Noble, Andrew Snake, Jr., and George Thurman.

The position of Second Chief drew four candidates: Jamie Barse, Orvena Gregory, George Harjo, Jr., and Cheryl L. McClellan.

Six filed for the Committee Member position: Francis Leroy Grant, Jr., Michael Wayne

Harris, Clarissa June Littlehead, Richard Masquat, Stella M. Nulllake, and Marjorie A. Black Roane.

The Primary Election will be held on July 23, 2011. Voting will be 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Polling sites will be: Shawnee - Shawnee Multi-Purpose Center, 215 N. Harrison, Shawnee, OK 74801

Stroud - Sac and Fox Nation Public Library, 920883 S. Hwy. 99 Bldg. A, Stroud, OK 74079

Cushing - Will publish in the July Edition of the Sac and Fox newsletter.



Victory Day Celebration
A Great Success
I think Russell is in trouble!

ANNOUNCING:

NEW ADULT/YOUTH IMMERSION LANGUAGE PILOT PROGRAM
JUNE 27 – JULY 15, 2011
EVERY TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY
2 – 4 PM

SAC AND FOX LEARNING CENTER
(EDUCATION BUILDING BY THE GYM)
STROUD, OKLAHOMA
SPACE IS LIMITED

MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 13 YEARS OLD
MUST BE REGISTERED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH
CALL OR COME BY THE SAUK LANGUAGE OFFICE TO PICK UP YOUR REGISTRATION PACKET

NO CHILD CARE AVAILABLE

