



KANZA

The Newsletter of
Kaw Nation

Kaw City, Oklahoma,
Headquarters

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Winter 2013

Updates online at
www.kawnation.com

WINDS OF CHANGE FOR KAW POWWOW

Annual event marks new dates, new princess

THUNDERSTORMS THREATENED TO CUT SHORT the opening night of the Kaw Powwow as lightning lit up the sky in the distance. Participants rumbled through dances, beating the impending storm.

On Oct. 4, outgoing Princess Meraenda Kekahbah handed her crown to MatheAnna Williams, a year after Williams passed it to her. Williams said that she hopes her second reign is even better than the first one.

"I'm more experienced with it now, so I'll know more things to do," she said.

The date change from August to October brought cooler weather to the powwow, but it also gave an opportunity for gourd dancing on the afternoons of Oct. 4 and 5.

Each night of the powwow featured a set of tail dances. The last song of the tail dances on Oct. 6 was used at the first Kaw Powwow. Head Singer Kinsel Lieb said that the song means, "Now everything is complete. Now, time has come to go forth."

Turn to POWWOW, 10



MatheAnna Williams, right, puts on the crown of Kaw Nation Princess after it was passed to her by outgoing Princess Meraenda Kekahbah.

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Dear friends:

Here are a few accomplishments that the tribe has attained in the past few months:

➤ We obtained a grant for a project to build a dance arbor and building at Allegewaho Park in Council Grove, Kan. This allows us to create a spacious area for powwow dancing in a beautiful atmosphere.

➤ The tribe purchased 25.2 acres of land near the future site of the deli and dollar store that will be located on Highway 11 near Kaw City.

➤ Along with the town of Braman and American Legion Post 259, the tribe won a Keep Oklahoma Beautiful Team Builder award for partnering on the recycling center in Braman.

Be sure to mark the following dates on your calendar:

➤ **A special General Council meeting** will take place on Dec. 15 at 10 a.m. at the Johnnie Ray McCauley Community Center at 3251 E. River Road in Newkirk, Okla. This has been scheduled so that the General Council may vote on the confirmation of the salary commission before the year of the tribal chair election.

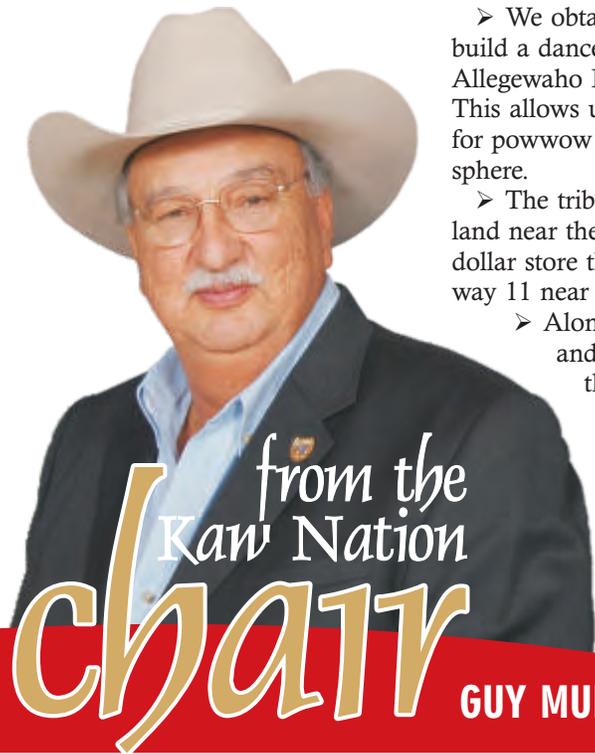
➤ **The annual Kaw Nation Christmas Dinner and Party** will begin following the special General Council meeting. Drawing for gifts begins immediately. Children should be ready to have their pictures taken with Santa.

➤ **The next quarterly General Council meeting** will be on Jan. 12 at 10 a.m. at the community building at the Kaw Nation Powwow Grounds.

Feel free to visit and share stories or concerns. I always enjoy hearing from you.

I wish you the very best for this holiday season and the new year.

*Guy Munroe,
Kaw Nation Chair*



Resume bank looking to promote your skills

Kaw Nation is looking for tribal members with technical, mechanical, science, information technology and other skills.

Interested tribal members should send pertinent information, such as a resume, to Erin Kekahbah via e-mail at ekakahbah@kawnation.com.

We will be compiling a resume bank as we are continually asked for this type of information from business contacts. This information will be kept confidential and will only be distributed to those who contact the tribe about people with particular skills.

Interviews sought for heritage project

Deb Pryor, a Kansas State University media productions specialist who has worked on several projects related to Kaw Nation, is composing a Kaw Cultural Heritage Project, which will come out in e-book and book form.

Pryor did video interviews with tribal members during the Washunga Days Powwow and the Kaw Powwow. She is looking for more tribal members to interview. Those who would like to be interviewed may contact her at 785-532-5278 or dpryor@ksu.edu.

Pryor will be at the tribal Christmas party. She is willing to visit tribal members in Oklahoma and Kansas for interviews. She requests that people wear their regalia for video interviews and photos.

Tribal members may also fill out surveys if they do not wish to have video interviews. Pryor requests detailed answers to the open-ended questions on the survey. Those who have filled out surveys but haven't returned them may send them by email or mail to 119 Dole Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506.



Kanza

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The Kanza News is mailed free to Kaw Nation Tribal citizens ages 16 and older. We also mail the Kanza News to universities, libraries, Oklahoma government officials and others, upon request.

Editorial statements of the Kanza News, guest columns

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Editorials must be signed and include address and telephone number. Please send all inquiries to Kanza News, P.O. Box 50, Kaw City, OK 74641.

Recycling center partnership garners Keep Oklahoma Beautiful award

Kaw Nation received recognition on Nov. 19 for fostering community partnership with its recycling center. The tribe, along with the town of Braman and American Legion Post 259 of Braman, won the Team Builder award at the 23rd annual Keep Oklahoma Beautiful awards.

Post 259 Commander Marv Sandbek, whose legionnaires took home the Non-profit Organization award from the 2012 Keep Oklahoma Beautiful awards, spoke joyfully of this year's award.

"I'm really proud of this one," he said.

The Kaw Nation Environmental Department opened the recycling center in June.

Post 259 legionnaires donate time each week to help staff the recycling center. The post painted the front of the building and replaced rotting wood.

The town of Braman, which owns the building, gave the tribe use of the building and helps with repairs. Before the recycling center opened, the town helped with electrical work and fixes on the roof.

The recycling center has experienced tremendous growth in its five months of



operation. Manager Skyler Mathews has enlisted 44 partners, including Kaw Enterprise Development Authority businesses, the Ponca City Wal-Mart location and the *Blackwell Journal-Tribune*, to contribute recycled goods.

KNED picks up recyclables from locations in six cities — Braman, Blackwell, Ponca City, Kaw City, Newkirk and Shidler.

The recycling center is open on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and KNED picks up recyclables from each location once each week.

KNED was a finalist for the Tribal

Government award for its Beaver Creek Wetland Preservation program. Every spring, KNED brings middle school classes to the wetland for educational trips. Dr. Dejene Alemayehu and his staff teach the students about the wetland's role in sediment trapping, nutrient cycling, flood control and water filtration and storage.

This year, Braman School, Blackwell Middle School, Shidler Middle School and Newkirk Middle School sent classes.

Chickasaw Nation won the category for its hazardous waste drive.

NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL CITIZENS

QUARTERLY GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 12, 2014 • 10 a.m. to noon

Community Building

Kaw Nation Powwow Grounds

Lunch will be served for those in attendance

Visit www.kawnation.com for future notices

Questions? Contact Elaine Huch, Council Secretary, 580-269-2552

Warren honored for service to Kaw Nation

This fall, the Kaw Nation Tribal Council surprised Gena Warren by honoring her for serving 29 years for her tribe.

Warren started as a receptionist on the first day Kaw Nation stationed its headquarters at its current location in 1984.

"I had a friend who was employed with the tribe who called me and asked if I wanted to come and work," she said. "I applied and was hired and I've worked for the tribe ever since."

She recalled how small the tribal government was when she started.

"We had 20 employees when I started," she said. "The tribe lived totally off grants."

She worked in the accounting department from 1984 to 1995.

She gained lessons while working under former Chairman William A. Mehojah, the last full-blood Kaw.

"I learned a lot of patience from him," she said. "He was a very solemn man, very intelligent. I was young. I liked to have things done quickly. He would say, 'Gena, let me think about it. I'll give you an answer about it tomorrow.' I would think, 'Oh, God!' But he was teaching me to stop and smell the roses before you move on."

Warren served one term on the Tribal Council from 1993 to 1998.

Warren said that she admired Former Chairwoman Wanda Stone, who served from 1992 to 2002.

"Wanda Stone was a very strong leader," Warren said. "She was very business-minded. I learned a lot from Wanda. I would like to be like Wanda in some ways."

She served as the Kaw Nation human



resources director from 1995 to 2004, and has been in the same position for the Kaw Enterprise Development Authority since then.

Warren, who knows employees by name and makes time to visit and work with them, said that she strives to foster a caring workplace culture.

"People, whether they're native or non-native, want to know that they belong," she said.

Noting the development of KEDA enterprises and how it once employed 500 people, she said that she has loved watching the tribe grow.

"To go from 20 employees to 500 was exciting," she said. "It was heartwarming to see the tribe grow and become well-respected by other tribes, not just in Oklahoma, but throughout the country, and to be such a small tribe."

In 2010, she won a second term on the Tribal Council.

Warren said that being able to separate the role as an employee and a Tribal Council member is critical.

"I keep those two very separate. It's a very fine line. I try not to cross the line with either one," she said.

Warren spoke proudly of the tribe's community involvement, including help with events such as Newkirk's Charlie Adams Day and Arkansas City's Arkalalah fall festival, donating school clothes and supplies to schools (outside the Johnson O'Malley program), the donation to support the Kildare Fire Department's Jaws of Life training and being a major economic presence in Braman, Newkirk and Kaw City.

She expressed hope of expanding tribal services for tribal members outside Kay County. Earlier this year, the tribe began supplying school clothes to children in need across the United States.

Warren recalled when the bingo hall started in 1984.

"It looked like an old Morton building, out in the barn," she said. "The walls weren't even finished. It had the chicken wire holding up the walls. That's what we started in. Where the opening is with the teller's desk, that's where the opening to the bingo hall was. It was a canopy drive-thru. You could drive up, let people out and go in," she said.

Warren expressed optimism for the future of Kaw Nation.

"I would love to be able to know that 100 years from now that the Kaw Nation is as strong now, maybe a lot stronger than it is now," she said.

SPECIAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, Dec. 15 at 10 a.m.

J.R. McCauley Community Center • 3251 E. River Road • Newkirk, Okla.

General Council will vote on the confirmation of the salary commission

Future notices at www.kawnation.com

More information at 580-269-2552

Powwow to get new place for dancing

A new dancing location for the Washunga Days Powwow is in Kaw Nation's future. The tribe is developing a powwow arbor at Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park in Council Grove, Kan.

This project was made possible by a \$350,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, which the department announced on Aug. 6.

The dance arbor will feature a dirt arena with a precast drum circle in the middle, bleachers outside the arena and the standard metal roof. Behind the bleachers will be clan names cast in the concrete. The dance arbor will be on the south side of the park, which is located southeast of Council Grove near Kansas Highway 525.

Currently, the Washunga Days Powwow is held on the lawn of the Kaw Mission.

The tribe has danced powwows in Council Grove since 1983. Kaw Nation purchased Allegawaho Park in October 2000.

Construction is expected to begin in early 2014. The completion date for the project is yet to be determined.

Kanza Heritage Trail Park



Allegawaho Park manager Barb Stanbrough, Ken Bellmard, Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback and Kaw Nation Chairman Guy Munroe with the Monument to the Unknown Kaw Warrior in the background.



At right, SouthWind Energy salesman Jason Murray with a solar light tower.

Let there be light

SouthWind Energy expanded its solar light product line in recent months. Meanwhile, the enterprise prepared for an expansion in operations.

The new products include mobile solar light towers, generators, bollards and parking lot lights. The light towers come in two-light and four-light systems.

SouthWind Energy salesman Jason Murray designed the light towers and had the original models built by a helper in Holland, Mich. The light towers are designed for construction sites, sporting events, oil and gas wells, among other outdoor projects and events.

"I came up with the design in my own mind. It's engine ingenuity," Murray said.

He hauled one to Council Grove, Kan., to shine clean lighting at the Washunga Days Powwow in June.

The light towers feature LED lights, outlets, 300-watt panels and absorbent glass mat (AGM) batteries. At full charge, the two-light systems can be used for up to 60 hours and the four-light systems can be used for up to 48 hours.

The towers and generators, which are equipped with ball hitches, trailer lights and four-pole connectors, can be hauled by vehicles.

They come standard in yellow and black, but can be made in custom colors.

People who buy solar lighting will be eligible for a tax deduction. The deduction depends on the amount purchased.

The solar parking lot lights illuminate the SouthWind Casino Kaw City parking lot at night.

This Kaw Nation-chartered business can deliver solar lighting to the buyer if desired.

SouthWind Energy can be contacted at 580-765-8000.

Health Fair sees record turnout

The Kanza Health Clinic held the sixth annual Kanza Health Fair in Newkirk on Friday. Kaw Nation's health clinic saw its biggest turnout yet with more than 400 attendees and 46 vendors.

"Some ladies from Arkansas City who do health fairs in Wichita and all over said that we have the best one," said Health Director Jackie Dodson. "I think that's because [Wellness Center Director] Ryan [Smykil] is our D.J. I think it's the fun and the atmosphere."

A couple organizations came to give health screenings. The Oklahoma Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit performed health screenings and the MobileSmiles Oklahoma van provided dental checkups.

Kanza Dental Clinic Dental Hygienist Tracie Moya, who helped with the MobileSmiles Oklahoma van, gave her daughter, Shailene, a cleaning. "Shailene is going to get the works," Moya said.

Moya noted that she worked on her children's teeth when she worked at a dental clinic in Caldwell, Kan.

Also, the Oklahoma Blood Institute's blood drive van

arrived in the middle of the day, giving people the opportunity to donate blood.

Clarence the Cross-eyed Lion, who came with the Ponca City Noon Lions volunteers helping with the mobile health screening unit, brought cheer to everyone at the health fair.

The day kicked off with a one-mile fun walk, which had 130 participants. The first 100 were promised hooded sweatshirts.

Striding through the latter part of the walk with everyone far behind, Daniel Allen declared victory.

"I'll be the first one back, the first one to get a ticket for the second time," he said.

Many others were return visitors to the health fair.

"I'm 78 years old, and I've been coming here ever since it started," said Molly Walkingsky.

The Kaw Enterprise Development Authority sponsored a 40-inch LED TV giveaway, which Monica McChristian won. Leading up to the television, other door prizes were awarded by the Kanza Health Clinic, its programs, other Kaw Nation departments and vendors involved with the fair.



Citizens urged to prepare for winter weather

BASED ON THE BRUTAL CONDITIONS coming with winter, Kaw Nation Emergency Manager Jerry Evans recommends a number of steps to prepare for the colder months.

“In recent years we’ve experienced winter storms, including devastating ice storms and blizzards,” Evans said. “We all need to be aware of these natural threats we face in our community and take responsibility to make sure we are properly prepared when disaster strikes.”



Have a plan

- Discuss with your family what to do if a winter storm watch or warning is issued.
- Ensure your family knows meeting places and phone numbers of other family members in case they are separated when a winter storm hits.
- Know what to do if basic services such as water, gas, electricity or telephones are cut off for an extended period of time.
- Understand the hazards of wind chill.
- Cold temperatures are even more dangerous, and potentially deadly, when combined with strong winds. The lower the temperature and stronger the wind, the more at risk you are.
- Check on family, friends and neighbors, especially elders. Make sure they are prepared.
- Plan to bring pets inside during winter weather. Move livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.
- Install and check smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Let faucets drip to avoid freezing and know how to shut off water valves if necessary.
- Have an alternate heating method, such as a fireplace or wood or coal-burning stove. Always be cautious using a portable space heater.
- Have your car winterized before the winter storm season. Keep your gas tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing.
- Make sure your home is properly insulated. If necessary, insulate walls and attic. Caulk and weather-strip doors and window sills.
- Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside.
- To keep pipes from freezing, wrap them in insulation or layers of old newspapers. Cover the newspapers with plastic to keep out moisture.

Make a kit

- Windshield scraper, de-icer, snow shovel and a small broom for ice and snow removal.
- A cell phone with a charger and a battery-powered radio.
- Several blankets or sleeping bags.
- Mittens, since they're warmer than gloves.
- Rain gear, warm coats and extra sets of dry clothing, mittens, socks and a cap.
- Non-perishable snacks like dried fruit, nuts and other high-energy food.
- Bottled water. Eating snow will lower your body temperature. If necessary, melt it first.
- Sand or cat litter for generating traction under wheels and a set of tire chains or traction mats.
- Jumper cables, flashlight with extra batteries, first aid kit and brightly colored cloth to tie to antenna if you get stranded.

Stay informed

- Know what National Weather Service winter storm and blizzard watches and warnings mean.
- A winter storm watch is a message indicating a winter storm is possible in your area.
- A winter storm warning indicates a winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area and could threaten life or property.
- A winter weather advisory means winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous, especially to motorists.
- A frost/freeze warning means below freezing temperatures are expected.
- A blizzard warning means sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 mph or more and considerable falling or blowing snow is expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.
- Depend on your NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio, along with local radio and television stations, for weather reports.

Be cautious with

alternative heat sources

- Never use generators, grills, camp stoves or gasoline or charcoal-burning devices inside your home or garage. They produce carbon monoxide.
- Never heat a home with an oven if the electricity goes out.
- Use fireplaces, wood stoves or other combustion heaters only if they are properly vented.
- Do not place a space heater within three feet of anything that may catch on fire, such as drapes, furniture or bedding. Never cover your space heater.
- Use extra caution when using space heaters. Never place a space heater on top of furniture or near water.
- Never leave children unattended near a space heater.
- Do keep a multipurpose fire extinguisher on hand in case of emergency.
- Protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning by installing a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector and never using generators, grills, camp stoves or similar devices indoors.



CCDF promoting healthier choices for children



In accordance with the Let's Move mission statement we are "putting children on the path to a healthy future during their earliest months and years and giving parents helpful information and fostering environments that support healthy choices."

In an effort to encourage this healthier lifestyle, we held a "Bike to School" day where we met the kids at the Newkirk post office and rode our bikes to school.

We also held a "Less Screen, More Green" event for our parents where we provided healthy meals on a budget and alternatives to TV time in activities that gets kids moving. This event even tore the parents from their screens. Running an obstacle course with parents racing against the children, we showed that it doesn't take much to get moving and have fun.

We also made delicious sloppy joes using tofu and cauliflower mashed potatoes using cauliflower instead of potatoes. We also made healthy brownies with vegetables mixed in and allowed the kids to decorate them — and they couldn't tell the difference.

Ultimately, our goal is to teach kids to be great individuals while having fun and staying healthy in the process.

Submitted by CCDF staff

Tips on supporting family during hard economic times

As the holiday season approaches, many parents begin to worry about their ability to purchase their children Christmas gifts or provide a nice holiday meal. With today's economic challenges, parents are often limited in what they can provide for their children, especially if they are trying to survive and support their family on low to middle incomes.

The Kaw Nation Child Support Enforcement Program is offering the following tips to help parents meet the financial obligations of raising children in today's economically troubling times:

- Develop a budget and stick to it. This includes tabulating all sources of income and deducting all debts.

- Prioritize your financial obligations to include these lead categories: food, shelter, clothing and utilities.

- Designate every dollar of your income to some category in your budget.

- Pay your bills before you spend any money on extra items.

- Only purchase what you can afford.

- Do not spend money you don't have. (In other words, Don't buy on credit.) This will only result in deeper debt and a tighter budget later.

- Remind yourself to consider whether you truly need or have the

ability to afford expenditures before you impulsively make a purchase.

- Plan for the unexpected. (What happens if there is an emergency?)

- Use a cash-only system. For many people, it is easy to swipe a debit card, but it's much more difficult to let go of a dollar bill.
- Avoid rewarding yourself when you get paid because you were so "strapped" for money prior to receiving the funds.

Implementing these tips could mean a change of habit for some people, and we recognize old habits are sometimes hard to break. How-

ever, if one seriously considers the long term effect of their spending decisions, it may prompt an adjustment.

The Kaw Nation Child Support Enforcement Program is here to assist parents in not only establishing child support and enforcing support orders, but also through our job board for those individuals who are unemployed or underemployed.

Remember, your children will not be harmed if they don't get this year's latest gadget for Christmas, but living in the cold with no food or shelter could negatively impact their lives forever.

Submitted by Aimee Turner, Kaw Nation Child Support Program



For this issue, we have a Kaw prayer and a word search based on question words. As usual, if you have any questions or would like to know how to pronounce something, I will be happy to assist. You may call me at my new number, 580-269-2552, ext. 228, or email me at dkaufman@kawnation.com.

David Kaufman
Language Department Director

A mealtime prayer

Iⁿdáje Wakáⁿda
Wanóⁿble yéche wáwihnaⁿ.
Wanóⁿble scuyáye daⁿ aⁿyáche tábe, Iⁿdáje
Wakáⁿda.
Wayagishtóⁿbabe.
Waxpáyiⁿ miⁿkhé.
Gashéhnaⁿ, Iⁿdáje Wakáⁿda.
Eemen.

*Father God,
I am grateful for this food.
You bless the food, and we will eat it, Oh Lord.
Look down upon us as your own.
I am humble.
I leave it here, Oh Lord.
Amen.*

Kaw word search *íyoⁿghe, to ask a question*

J X G H O W A G U G D B
O A D N A H K A H A K X
L T W K O N T A D E X I
A M A N C H A A H N K J
N H B K U E N N Y L W N
G A A J A B U K O I I A
E K E N J S X H A G O H
N H T S N Z E N U H Z K
W A L A T A M N A I W A
P N H N G A C E U M A H

be? *who?*
dádaⁿ? *what? what kind?*
hágo? *why? how?*
hakháⁿ? *how far? how long?*
hakháⁿda? *when (in the future)?*
hakháⁿji? *when (in the past)?*
hánaⁿ? *how many? how much?*
hówa? *where?*
wiáⁿma? *which? which one?*
wíaⁿmata? *whose is it?*

a as "a" in father
e like "ai" in bait
i like "ee" in beet
o like "oa" in coat
u like "oo" in boot
c soft ch like "ch" in church
ch harder ch than c
kh harder than k alone
zh like "z" in azure or "g" in beige

A superscript, or raised, ⁿ nasalizes the preceding vowel, meaning you pronounce the vowel through your nose without actually pronouncing the ⁿ itself.

Consonants are pronounced much as in English, except that zh is pronounced like the "z" in azure or the "g" in beige.

The Kaáⁿze Íe Wayáje (Words of the Kanza Language) dictionary is on sale for \$12.95 at Brace Books, 2205 N. 14th St. in Ponca City, 580-765-5173

Remembering Charles 'Sonny' Holloway

Kaw Nation lost an admired veteran and a cherished source of good humor in Charles "Sonny" Holloway on Nov. 17.

Holloway, who was born on May 5, 1923, was the oldest veteran of Kaw Nation before his death.

"He liked to have fun. He liked to joke and kid around," said his nephew Quid Colclasure.

A little more than a month-and-a-half before Holloway passed away at age 90, he was honored at the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors.

"Holloway is an absolute joy to be around and he puts a smile on every face that he encounters," AARP's Craig Davis stated in a press release regarding the event that has honored 250 elders from each of the state's 39 federally-recognized tribes.

Holloway served in the United States Navy during World War II and was de-



ployed to his first mission on May 13, 1943. He served with the Sea Bee Maintenance Unit 509. He saw action in the Aleutian Islands, Ie Shima, and Okinawa. He was rewarded with the Asian Pacific

Medal, American Theatre Medal, Victory Medal and Good Conduct Medal.

Having had experience working with his father's bulldozer in his youth, Holloway owned and operated Holloway Dozer Service for 31 years.

In a March 2010 *Kanza News* feature, Holloway recalled, "My first experience on a D4-Dozer was like riding a goat. I couldn't get the blade to go up and down. But after a while, I found this to be my natural niche, so this is the work path I chose."

He served on the Kanza Museum Board.

In the 1960s, Holloway raced horses in Nebraska. He and his uncle Alfie Pappan, who trained horses, each had a horse.

"Both were good horses. They won races with them," said Quid.

Holloway was married to Blance (Harton) Holloway from May 8, 1948 to her death on Aug. 14, 2005.



Powwow

continued from the front

The American flag was flown in honor of Kennis Bellmard Sr. on Oct. 4. The following day, the flag was flown in honor of Ernest Mehojah. On Oct. 6, it flew in honor of Archie Littlewalker.

On that Sunday, the Cultural, Museum and Library Committee awarded Barb Stanbrough, Jerry Johnson, Dr. Dejene Alemayehu and Crystal Douglas with honorary tribal memberships.

Honorary tribal memberships are awarded to individuals as the tribe deems appropriate. Among those who have previously received this honor is Mark Sampsel, who sculpted busts of the last five full-blooded Kaws. Honorary tribal members are not afforded the rights and privileges given to ordinary tribal members.

Stanbrough has served as the park manager at Allegawaho Park in Council Grove, Kan., since 2007. She said that the honorary membership isn't the real reward of her partnership with the tribe.

"The awesome friends acquired," she said. "It's an honor and a privilege to be part of it. The make you feel like you're a part of it."

Johnson was mayor of Braman, Okla., for 29 years, and is a Kaw Enterprise Development Authority Board member. While presenting

Johnson with the honor, CML Committee member Jason Murray recognized him as a key player in the tribe's effort to obtain an off-reservation gaming trust in Braman.

Johnson said that he has enjoyed working with KEDA.

"I've always been proud of the Kaws," he said. "It's been good being a part of them."

Alemayehu has served in the Kaw Nation Environmental Department since 1998. He has overseen environmental assessment of properties purchased by the tribe, as well as the Chilocco land where the PNE Wind farm is located. Also, Alemayehu has coordinated outreach efforts to teach students in the area about wetland preservation at Beaver Creek Wetland.

Douglas has been the Kanza Museum director and the tribe's historic preservation officer for 14 years. She published a timeline of historic Kaw Nation events in 2011. As the historic preservation officer, she oversees grave repatriation.

Unable to arrive at the ceremony, Douglas was caught by surprise when she learned about the honor. CML Committee President Dona Villa walked up from behind her, saying, "Congratulations, Crystal."

"On what?" Douglas wondered. "We made you an honorary Kaw," Villa said.

"When?"
"This morning."

Kaw Powwow dance winners

Tiny Tots All winners

Junior Girls' Buckskin

- 1 – Casey Horinek, Ponca/Tonkawa
- 2 – Starlitt Garfield, Otoe/Paiute
- 3 – Xeneca LeClair, Otoe

Junior Girls' Cloth

- 1 – Angela Howe, Ponca
- 2 – Whitney Sage, Osage/Comanche
- 3 – Lexia Hunt, Ponca
- 4 – Julia Harragarra, Otoe/Kiowa

Junior Girls' Fancy Shawl and Jingle

- 1 – Makayla Sage, Comanche/Osage
- 2 – Catherine Sage, Otoe/Osage
- 3 – Samantha Goodeagle, Osage/Ponca
- 4 – Michelle Black, Cheyenne/Arapaho

Junior Boys' Fancy GrayCloud Lieb, Omaha

Junior Boys' Straight

- 1 – Brycen Whiteshirt, Osage/Pawnee
- 2 – Eli Crowels, Comanche
- 3 – Blake Shipp, Osage/Ponca
- 4 – Gideon Goodeagle Jr, Osage/Iowa

Junior Boys' Traditional and Grass

- 1 – Terrence Atkins, Otoe
- 2 – Kyle St. Cyr, Omaha
- 3 – John Allen, Otoe

Women's Cloth

- 1 – Chalene Toehay, Kiowa/Osage
- 2 – Cher Satepauhoodle, Kiowa/Osage
- 3 – Laura Rosus, Osage/Otoe
- 4 – Renee Alexander, Sac & Fox/Otoe/Pawnee

Women's Buckskin

- 1 – Cody Deer, Kiowa/Delaware
- 2 – Dalynn Alley, Otoe/Shawnee
- 3 – JamieJon Whiteshirt, Osage/Pawnee
- 4 – Jewell Inez Horinek, Ponca/Comanche

Women's Fancy Shawl and Jingle

- 1 – Pearl Roy, Ponca/Arikana
- 2 – Riah St. Cyr, Omaha
- 3 – Frankee Cunningham, Osage/Sac & Fox
- 4 – Chelsea Arkeketa

Women's Golden Age

- 1 – Salina No Ear Todome, Ponca/Otoe
- 2 – Linda LaZelle, Osage
- 3 – Rozina Adson, Ponca, Creek
- 4 – Casey Camp-Horinek, Ponca

Men's Fancy

- 1 – George Alexander, Otoe, Iowa
- 2 – Gideon Goodeagle, Osage

3 – Thunder Lieb, Ponca 4 – Jeff McClellan, Sac & Fox

Men's Straight

- 1 – Keetha Buffalohead, Ponca
- 2 – Joseph Pratt, Osage
- 3 – Drew Dreadfulwater, Osage
- 4 – Juakin Hamilton, Sac & Fox/Cheyenne/Otoe

Men's Traditional and Grass

- 1 – Donnie Grant, Ponca/Otoe
- 2 – William Tsosie, Otoe
- 3 – Ed Black Jr, Cheyenne/Arapaho
- 4 – Tsakura Shawnee, Pawnee

Men's Golden Age

- 1 – Howard Todome, Kiowa/Comanche
- 2 – Darrell Moore, Pawnee/Otoe
- 3 – Garland Kent, Pawnee/Ponca/Otoe
- 4 – Andrew Gray, Osage



Tiny Tots



Junior Girls' Buckskin



Junior Girls' Cloth



Junior Girls' Fancy Shawl and Jingle



Junior Boys' Fancy



Junior Boys' Straight



Junior Boys' Traditional and Grass



Women's Cloth



Women's Buckskin



Women's Fancy Shawl and Jingle



Women's Golden Age



Men's Fancy



Men's Straight



Men's Traditional and Grass



Men's Golden Age

In loving memory
of our Kaw
Tribal citizens

Rollo Bellmard
D.O.D. 10.31.2013

**Charles (Sonny)
Holloway**
D.O.D. 11.17.2013



The Kanza Museum
needs help tracing
some families to clans.
If you know which clan
your family comes
from, contact Kanza
Museum Director
Crystal Douglas at
crystal_douglas@
kawnation.com.



Museum to add clans to exhibit, calendar

The Kanza Museum for the last four years has been promoting the Kanza people through the ages. This began with a permanent timeline exhibit in the Kanza Museum. It was a great success for the tribal people and major interest piece for the Kanza Museum. This was achieved with the help of a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The grant was such an interesting piece that we asked for an extension of this project to take it on the road into Missouri and Kansas. The second IMLS grant allowed the story of the Kaw to travel. We set up in five cities for the Kanza story. The traveling museum has been a roaring success. Nona Miller of the Smoky Hills Museum in Salina, Kan., said that visitors expressed great interest in the exhibit.

The timeline will end its grant-related travels on May 3 at the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, Kan., with the production of their heritage calibration and a dance that will be held by the Kaw people.

This will not by any means end its travels. It has been requested to continue traveling after the end of the IMLS grant. The second part of this grant is to create other permanent exhibits in the museum. I have one set to showcase the making of tools. One aspect will show the process of beading and leather work the ribbon work and the cultural aspect.

The most interesting part of this is the need to better understand the Kanza people. We have started well but we cannot ignore the necessity of culture. Kanza culture is not just beadwork and projectile points, but an understanding that cannot be overlooked.



Having said that, I decided to add a twist to the permanent exhibit. The clans that are part of how the Kanza worked together will have a place in the museum. With their clans I will help the people understand how

each worked within its designated place to keep the Kanza moving along the right path.

I have also integrated the 2014 calendar to help the Kanza people to understand their place in this structure. I am at a slight disadvantage because many tribal members do not know which clan they come from. I would like to know what your clan is if you know and if not with luck someone will come forward that might help us piece together the story of the Kaw clans.

*Submitted by Crystal Douglas
Kanza Museum Director
crystal_douglas@kawnation.com*

Tribal survey results released



I would like to thank all of the tribal head of households who participated in the Grants and Contracts tribal survey. You have no idea how valuable your feedback is to us as we apply for funding opportunities. It is because of you that we are able to be successful in many of our applications.

We will be using the results of this survey and your written comments in future grant proposals. We greatly appreciate your input.

It is an honor to work for the Kaw Nation, and we always enjoy being able to bring you new and valuable programs. I hope that you have blessed holiday season, and I look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that the tribe is well funded in its programs and ventures.

*Bernadette Hicks
Grants and Contracts Director*

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>1. Marital status
52 Single
228 Married
31 Widowed
48 Divorced/separated</p> <p>2. Number in household tribally enrolled under age 21? (Kaw or other)
265</p> <p>3. Age of head of household
86 Age 21-40
92 Age 41-54
75 Age 55-64
105 Age 65 or older</p> <p>4. Other household occupants (how many in each age category?)
63 Age 0-5
119 Age 6 to 17
42 Age 18-21
93 Elders (age 55 and older)
178 Other adults</p> <p>5. Household income
17 \$8,860 or less
8 \$8,861-11,940
13 \$11,941-15,020
19 \$15,021-18,100
16 \$18,101-21,180
13 \$21,181-24,260
14 \$24,261-27,340
12 \$27,341-30,420
229 \$30,421 and more</p> <p>6. Do you live in the Kaw Nation service area? (Kay County)
80 Yes
279 No</p> | <p>7. Do you live in Cowley County, Kan.?
6 Yes
247 No</p> <p>8. Have you received TANF benefits in the last 12 months, or are you currently receiving TANF benefits?
2 Receiving
5 Eligible
5 Have received
323 No</p> <p>9. Do you receive...
a. Food stamps?
24 Yes
243 No
b. Commodities?
3 Yes
253 No</p> <p>10. Head of household: What is the highest level of education you have obtained?
25 GED
79 High school graduate
93 Some college
15 College graduate
33 Associate's degree
56 Bachelor's degree
38 Master's degree
3 Ph.D.
56 Other (trade, vo-tech, etc.)</p> <p>11. a. Are you interested in furthering your education or upgrading your job skills?
135 Yes
214 No</p> | <p>b. If yes, check one or more:
4 GED
0 High school graduate
15 Some college
6 College graduate
18 Associate's degree
22 Bachelor's degree
37 Master's degree
14 Ph.D.
44 Other (trade, vo-tech, etc.)</p> <p>12. a. Do you live in Kaw Housing?
33 Yes
318 No
b. Have you applied for Kaw Housing?
33 Yes
179 No
c. What services would you like to see provided?
19 Increased security
92 Housing improvement and repair
55 Utility assistance
24 Housing counseling
23 Neighborhood improvement
59 Homebuyer education
36 Other</p> <p>13. Have any youth in household been arrested within the last 12 months?
2 Yes
328 No</p> <p>14. Have any other household members been arrested in the last 12 months for...</p> | <p>a. Drug or alcohol related?
5 Yes
286 No
2 How many</p> <p>b. Domestic violence?
0 Yes
291 No
0 How many</p> <p>c. Assault and battery?
0 Yes
291 No
0 How many</p> <p>d. Grand theft?
0 Yes
291 No
0 How many</p> <p>e. Larceny/burglary?
0 Yes
291 No
0 How many</p> <p>f. Vandalism?
0 Yes
291 No
0 How many</p> <p>15. Are you aware of services offered by Tribal Court?
105 Yes
237 No
9 Criminal actions
13 Divorces
5 Juvenile cases
7 Other civil suits
19 Indian Child Welfare (child custody, child abuse)</p> |
|---|--|---|--|

Turn to SURVEY, 14

d. Sanitation/solid waste disposal?		41. How important do you feel it is to retain and practice tribal/traditional customs?	preservation and/or the museum?	251 Yes
68 Excellent		120 [1] Very aware	23 N/A	86 No
134 Good		69 [2]	72 Speakers	b. If yes, by:
20 Fair		58 [3]	133 Traditional arts and crafts	47 Teacher
5 Poor		6 [4]	74 Traveling exhibits	135 Audio tape
0 Unacceptable		4 [5] Unaware	65 Artists-in-residence	60 Email
e. Electrical/gas service?			72 Community art show	135 Internet
69 Excellent			119 Language classes	1 Other
146 Good		42. How important to you is the acquisition of our historic tribal lands?	120 On-line virtual tours	
30 Fair		207 [1] Very aware	125 Updates on current historical preservation efforts (online, newsletter, etc.)	56. If you live in Cowley County, Kan., do you feel there is need for health services through the Kanza Health Clinic?
3 Poor		71 [2]		N/A 183
2 Unacceptable		46 [3]	49. Are you interested in preserving Kaw cultural heritage through oral history (audio, video tapes)?	21 Yes
37. How would you rate the importance of your natural environment?		10 [4]	280 Yes	22 No
114 Excellent		5 [5] Unaware	46 No	
110 Good			50. a. Have you visited the Kanza Library and Learning Center in Kaw City in the last 12 months?	57. If you live in Newkirk, how would you rate the quality of your water provided by the city?
31 Fair		43. Are you aware of the Memorial Heritage Park, owned/developed by the Kaw Nation, as the tribe's last Kansas home village?	44 Yes	174 N/A
4 Poor		100 Yes	311 No	23 Poor
1 Unacceptable		244 No	b. How many times?	15 Fair
			71	4 Good
38. Are you aware that the Kaw Nation Environmental Department offers...		44. a. Have you visited the Kanza Museum in Kaw City in the last 12 months?		1 Excellent
73 N/A		103 Yes	51. How would you rate your visit?	
97 Water quality testing?		233 No	a. Books	58. Do you feel that Kaw Nation's Grants and Contracts Department should conduct a series of planning sessions aimed at developing a five-year strategy for the Nation's economic, social and cultural progress?
85 Habitat/wildlife conservation and prevention?			20 Excellent	18 N/A
83 Air quality testing?		b. How many times?	21 Good	236 Yes
62 KNED ranger services?		228	3 Fair	11 No
72 Mold/radon testing?		45. How would you rate your visit?	1 Poor	
70 Game management?		a. Exhibits	b. Programs	
80 Environmental education?		45 Excellent	16 Excellent	
67 Environmental assessments?		56 Good	16 Good	
		10 Fair	6 Fair	
		3 Poor	1 Poor	
		b. Programs	c. Staff	
		40 Excellent	13 Excellent	
		50 Good	12 Good	
		12 Fair	3 Fair	
		4 Poor	3 Poor	
		c. Staff	d. N/A	
		58 Excellent	71	
		47 Good		
		8 Fair		
		4 Poor		
		d. N/A		
		64		
[Questions 40-42 are ranked on an awareness scale of 1 to 5, with 1 meaning "very aware" and 5 meaning "unaware.]"		47. Do you have in your possession any artifacts you would be willing to donate and display at the museum?	53. Are you aware of our Kanza Language Program?	
		17 Yes	230 Yes	
		297 No	109 No	
40. How aware are you of your tribal history/culture?			54. Do you, or anyone in your household, speak the Kanza language?	
37 [1] Very aware			300 None	
60 [2]			40 Very little	
134 [3]			8 Some sentences	
79 [4]			0 Carry a conversation	
34 [5] Unaware		48. What additional programs would you like to see regarding historic	55. a. Would you be interested in learning the Kanza language?	



PRESERVE PROTECT & IMPROVE

**KAW NATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT**

The Kaw Nation Environmental Department has moved to a new building. KNED is now at 801 Washunga Drive in Kaw City. KNED's new phone number is 580-269-1186. Feel free to visit.

Air quality training



New faces

In late September, the Kaw Nation Environmental Department welcomed environmental assistant **Kayla Calhoun** to its staff.

Calhoun was born and raised in Ponca City. She has been married to her husband Daniel for nearly three years. They have a 2-year-old son named Carter. Kayla attended Pioneer Technology Center for a certification in medical assistance.

"I was thrilled to be hired as the environmental administrative assistant for Kaw Nation," she said.

On Oct. 30, Danny Tsai of Infotech, an Information Technology services company, came from New Jersey to provide training on air quality monitoring. Tsai's guidance helped the department understand how to address any issues with the air quality monitoring system in Braman. The training that he provided will also help KNED process the data collected by the air quality station in Braman.



Since January, KNED has monitored air quality data from the station.

The information on the quantity and concentrate of

the pollutants will be transmitted electronically to KNED's office in Kaw City. Once the data is analyzed, it is sent to the U.S. EPA Air Quality Service to be shared among state and federal agencies. This information helps people understand the air quality throughout the year.

People can look at the daily air quality forecast anywhere in the United States at <http://www.airnow.gov/>.



Above and left, the KNED air quality monitoring station in Braman.

Sediment sampling

KNED performs two types of sediment sampling. The primary type of sampling is Total Suspended Solids. In this type of sampling, the levels of heavy metals and nutrients are examined. If there is high turbidity in the water — that is, if the water is cloudy — then the sediments haven't settled.

Each month, a 75-milliliter sample of water is taken. In the following lab test, the weight of the Total Suspended Solids is examined.

First, the water is filtered through a Buchener funnel into a container. Then, the sample is weighed. Next, the

sample is heated at 105 degrees in an oven. After it is removed from the oven, the sample is weighed again. The difference is subtracted to find the weight of the Total Suspended Solids. The sample is sent to Accurate Labs for further review.

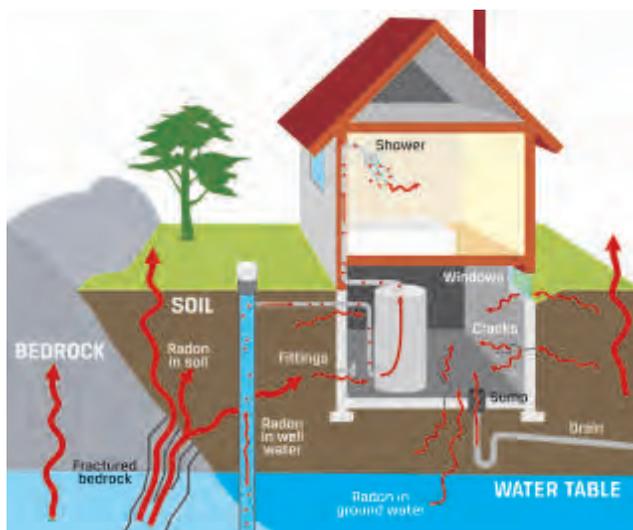
Another form of sediment sampling is performed twice per year while conducting fish samples. This involves a method of dredging in which a scoop is sent to the bottom of Kaw Lake to test for mercury. The sample is sent with the fish sample to the U.S. EPA Water Quality Division.



Daniel Ceniti, foreground, pours a sample through a funnel.



Left, Felicia Sawyers tests a sample. Right, samples sit in the oven before being heated.



For more information about radon, go online to <http://www.radon.com/pubs/citguide.html#howdoes>

Radon testing for tribal citizens

The Kaw Nation Environmental Department tests homes of Kaw tribal citizens for radon and mold.

Radon is a gaseous highly radioactive element. It is a colorless chemically-unreactive inert gas. Since radon is a single-atom gas, it easily penetrates many common materials like paper, leather, low-density plastic like grocery bags, most paints and building materials like gypsum board (sheet rock), concrete block, mortar, sheathing paper (tar paper), wood paneling and most insulations.

If a home has too much radon in the air, in water or on household materials, it could cause cancer. Breathing radon increases the

risk of lung cancer. Smokers who have radon in their homes have an even higher risk of lung cancer than they normally would. The surgeon general has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer behind smoking.

The U.S. EPA has found that one in three homes checked in seven states and on three Native American lands had screening levels greater than 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter), the recommended action level for radon exposure.

The U.S. EPA has certified KNED to test for radon. Any tribal member who is concerned about radon levels in his or her home may contact KNED for a free test.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU



The Kaw Nation Enrollment Office needs your help in locating the correct address for these individuals. If you know the location of one or more of these individuals, contact **Freda Lane** at **580-269-2552, ext. 230**.

You may also e-mail her at freda_lane@kawnation.com.

- | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Allen, Anthony | Chedester, Leah | Gottman, Melissa | Kropp, Marcelyn | Nichols, Chancie | Rogers, Kasarah | Sumner, William |
| Allen, Robert | Chedester, Shelley | Graham, Amber | La Sarge Jr., Harold | Norrick, Roy | Romero, Christian | Supa, Andrew |
| Andrea, Tholan | Childress, Laura | Graham, Jeremy | Ladd, Aubrey | O'Day, Lonnie | Romero, Phillip | Taylor, Charles |
| Arand, April | Cloud, Dustin | Graham, Taylor | Lavers, Solomon | O'Doniell, Jason | Rosas, Zachery | Taylor, David |
| Arvay, Robert | Coble, Johnny | Gray, Nathan | Layton, Candyce | O'Doniell, Phillis | Rote, Lori | Taylor, Patrick |
| Austin, Douglas | Colclasure, Chelsea | Grossman, Kimberly | Leith, Jason | Orkney, Allison | Rote, Zachary | Taylor, Stephen |
| Badgett, Jennifer | Colclasure, Joe | Grossman, Lance | Leonard, Rebecca | Owens, Bobbie | Roy, Angel | Thompson, Cassandra |
| Baird, Ashley | Cole, Tracy | Hale, Jennifer | Lepore, Braden | Owens, Cathy | Rubeo, Damon | Thompson, Christine |
| Baker, George | Confer, Jinny | Hale, Sarah | Littlewalker, Richard | Owens, Clifford | Scott, Marissa | Thompson, Cindy |
| Baldwin, Heidi | Conn, Tawnee | Hall, Marcella | Lopez, Brandon | Owens, John | Secondine, Jesse | Thompson, Crystal |
| Baldwin, Phillip | Convers, Elizabeth | Hall, Melissa | Lovell, Brent | Pappan, Gail | Sewell, Benjamin | Thompson, Harold |
| Ballard, Mathew | Conway, Cynthia | Hamilton, Craig | Lowry, Kyle | Pappan, Jason | Shaffer, Jarrod | Thompson, James |
| Barker, Ryan | Conway, Kristen | Hampton, Marion | Lumsden, Joseph | Pappan, Jimmy | Shaffer, Jason | Thompson, Kennanlee |
| Belair, Kelsey | Cook, Etta | Hanson, Debra | Lynes, Jessica | Pappan, Lea | Sheeder, Joshua | Thompson, Kim |
| Bellmard, Larry | Cooper, Jeanne | Hanson, Michael | Lynes, Zachary | Pappan, Michael | Sheeder, Matthew | Thompson, Kristen |
| Benbrook, Donna | Cooper, Joy | Hardy, Meagan | Mabe, Christopher | Pappan, Scott | Sheeder, Michelle | Thompson, Russell |
| Benbrook, Joshua | Cox, Helen | Healey, Kecia | Mabe, Crystal | Pappin, Susan | Shelley, Kevin | Thompson, Samantha |
| Bender, Nicholas | Coyle, Rose | Healey, Madeline | Maltby, Rosann | Parker, Ambria | Shelley, Vernon | Thompson, Steven |
| Bourke, Patrick | Criner, Tamika | Healey, Meghan | Mansir, David | Parker, Ashlee | Shoup, Kasey | Tipton, Daniel |
| Boyd, Rebecca | Croom, Joyce | Herrera, Dennis | Mansir, Taylor | Parker, Stephen | Shouse, Donald | Tipton, Michael |
| Brewer, Tyler | Crounse, Eldora | Hill, Dewey | Maple, Mark | Paxton, Jesse | Shouse, Jerald | Ulrich, Max |
| Brookey, Melissa | Davis, Kaila | Hill, Eric | Mares, Jill | Pease, Katrina | Skellenger, Janet | Van Duzor, Hannah |
| Brown, Sharon | Delano, Mary | Hobson, Christopher | Martin, Mary | Pease, Trey | Smith, Christopher | Vanscoy, Edward |
| Brown, Wayne | Dengerink, Kristina | Hobson, Shana | Mason, Ronald | Pepper, Daniel | Smith, Christopher H.M. | Ward, Tylar |
| Buffalohead, Gerri | Dougless, Eric | Houser, Jesse | Mayo, Tracy | Perez, Elena | Smith, Louann | Weatherly, Clayton |
| Buffalohead, John | Doyle, Joseph | Hubler, Mandy | McAdams, Corianne | Perryman, Lana | Smith, Samantha | Weathers, Allegra |
| Buhrle, Belinda | Dunlap, Allen | Ingram, Keeley | McCauley, Rachel | Phillips, Amanda | Smith, Skyler | Weber, Bryce |
| Burdick, Rebekah | Eads, John | Jankey, Seth | McCormac, Buddy | Phillips, Linda | Sneed, Anna | Weber, Kyra |
| Burnett, Jessica | Elliott, Tina | Jarrell, Hannah | McCormac, Jack | Pickering, Derrick | Snelding, Richard | Wegner, Jack |
| Bussey, Chara | Ellison, Jacob | Jarvis, Garrett | McInvale, Robert | Pickering, Stacy | Sorrell, Chris | West, Jennifer |
| Bussey, Susan | Ellison, Kirby | Johnson, Megan | Means, Julie | Piguot, Debra | Sparks, Michael | Whitney, Jenna |
| Byers, Christopher | Emmett, Joshua | Jones, Amanda | Mehojah, Jesse | Pipestem, Pamela | Spomer, Stacy | Wilkerson, Sharon |
| Campbell, Jeffrey | Emmons, Nathaniel | Jones, Angela | Merideth, Faith | Pontious, Alycia | Springer, Stevie | Williams, Chelsey |
| Cantrell, Peggy | Ewing, Elizabeth | Jones, Briana | Merrell, Lahoma | Pontious, Ethan | Stalsworth, Suzanne | Williams, Donald |
| Carlson, Rachel | Factor, Michelle | Keister, Amber | Merritt, Rachel | Price, Carrie | Stalsworth, Terussa | Williams, Katy |
| Carman, Rachael | Focke, Michael | Kekahbah, Anthony | Michael, Darby | Pringle, Jess | Stanford, Amanda | Wilson, Charla |
| Carmichael, Jennifer | Focke, Steven | Kekahbah, Paul | Miller, Jo Cinda | Ratzlaff, Barbara | Stanford, Suzanne | Wink, Tamara |
| Case, Tommy | Fulcher, Bonnie | Kennedy, Kevin | Molina, Daniel | Ray, Crystal | Steinhauer, Janet | Wise, Rhonda |
| Case, Trina | Garcia, Javier | Kiger, Lea Anna | Moon, Jennifer | Reheard, Kristin | Stiger, Dustin | Wise, Vernon |
| Chambers, Brandy | Gentry, Lindsey | Klima, Kameron | Moon, Kennetha | Riggle, Ashley | Stiger, Marjorie | Witty, David |
| Chambers, Dennis | Gepner, Joshua | Krohn, Keith | Murray, Jennifer | Riley, Damin | Stiger, Matthew | Witty, Jacob |
| Chappell, Bree | | | | | | Wright, Karen |



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Mush!



The lesser known version of the Alaskan legacy became part of Rima Bellmard's Alaska story. Long-distance sled dog racing is one of the most visible activities of the 50th state, with races such as the Iditarod stretching hundreds of miles.

Another variation of sled dog racing is run on short tracks. Bellmard would race five dogs at sprint pace on the sled on courses five, eight or 12 miles long.

"You'd get the dogs out going fast against the clock and competition," she said.

Bellmard moved to a mining claim on the border of Alaska and Yukon Territory, Canada, before she and her husband began their homestead in Tok, Alaska. She discovered the opportunity while playing softball. A teammate of hers asked her if she was interested in racing.

"He said, 'If you can play softball like that, why don't you race my dogs?'"

Race courses had long straightaway stretches, as well as sections in the woods. Her dogs ran as fast as 47 miles per hour on one straightaway. When heading into the woods, she would have to slow down and anticipate turns.

She felt confident with her dogs' skills.

"I was lucky enough that the team I raced for had good leaders. When you're racing on different trails, you have five-mile trails and eight-mile trails. If you're riding that sled, you need to have a good leader who has the ability to take your command and takes good turns."

Course markings were sparse. Turns separating five- and eight-mile courses were unclear, leaving a high risk of disqualification.

"They like competition, but they don't cut you slack," Bellmard said. "They expect you to figure it out."

In her first race, she was disqualified for making the wrong turn.



"I had never been on that trail before, so I didn't know where the turn was," she said. "That was my experience with the learning curve."

She found a fair amount of success in her career as a musher. She won five big local races and placed second several other times.

In a good race, she would finish in the

16-minute range. The best racers made sure that the dogs were cared for beforehand and wouldn't need to stop during the race.

"If you had to stop, you probably wouldn't be in the money," she said.

Eventually, she and her husband began breeding dogs. At one point, they had 80 dogs.

She was able to breed dogs with those owned by a champion racer, Eddy Streeper, who lived in British Columbia and traveled to Alaska to race.

"It kind of got out that I was able to breed the Sanford line with the Streeper line, and I was able to give that back when I left," she said.

Alaskans expressed animosity towards outsiders who succeeded in racing.

"The people we were in with, they took us in like we were their family," she recalled. "But the others around there we were competitive against, it was a big competition. If you've raced dogs all your life, and someone comes from the lower 48 and beats you, it's like a double jeopardy. You've made an enemy. They'd say things like, 'She's from the lower 48. She just got lucky' I heard things like that and say to myself, 'I don't care.'"

However, her best friend was an opposing racer who didn't like her at first.

"She boldly walked up to me and said, 'Who the hell are you?!'" Bellmard recalled her saying when they first met before she told her about herself. "She got to respect me because I was able to do what I did. Nobody taught me. I trained every day. I took my spills and crashes."

When she moved to Oklahoma, she sold her dogs but kept the sled.

"It's my racing sled. I wasn't going to part with it," she said. "It was built by a native Athabaskan. The kids always laugh when they see it in my shed."



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Kaw City, OK 74641
580-269-2552
1-866-404-5297
www.kawnation.com

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You are
cordially invited



Kaw Nation
Annual Christmas Dinner and Party

Sunday, Dec. 15 after the General Council meeting
*Johnnie Ray McCauley Community Center,
3251 E. River Road, Newkirk, Okla.*



*Kaw tribal members are welcome to attend this celebration,
so bring your family and join us for food, fun and fellowship.*

GUY MUNROE, Kaw Nation Chair