The Cherokee Nation and Oklahoma State University's goal is to provide physicians for rural and underserved areas.

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

The Cherokee Nation, Black slaves, Cherokee Freedmen and now Cherokee Freedmen descendants have a nearly 300-year history.

The CN's legislative branch includes a 17-member Council. The Council, which would create the “Aubrey Alert” system to inform the public of missing adults, is named after a Cherokee Nation citizen.

The bill, which calls for issuing alerts for missing adults, is named after a Cherokee Nation citizen. The bill, which calls for issuing alerts for missing adults, is named after a Cherokee Nation citizen.
In celebration of the Cherokee Phoenix’s 150th birthday, the news organization will give away a gift certificate each day for a three-night stay at the resort. People who buy a one-year subscription to the Cherokee Phoenix during February will be entered in the drawing for the giveaway. Co-owner of the lodge, Cherokee Nation citizen June Box, said she and her husband, Art, are honored to partake in the giveaway.

"If the people of Cherokee Nation happen to be in the area about it," she said.

The lodge is open year-round and located next to Arrowhead South Marina on Duck Creek, and is close to casual and fine dining. People may call or email for rates, special offers and gift certificates.

Pine Lodge Resort was a dream for June and Art, friends and loved ones with the most enjoyable and comfortable accommodations on Grand Lake. Our lodgers stayed in our log cabins, you won’t want to leave”, the owners said. “Each romantic cabin is fully equipped and features a king or queen bed, fireplace and a hot tub on your private deck. Our motto is, ‘It’s a wonderful life’, and we truly mean it.

The lodge is available for honeymoons, anniversary or weekend getaways. Each of the resort’s cabins can accommodate up to four guests with a king or queen bed as well as a queen sofa sleeper. Two of the resort’s cabins sit next to the lake.

“We have a log cabin resort. They’re real log cabins," Art said. "We enjoy it. We meet a lot of neat people. We enjoy the people we host.”

Cabin are equipped with kitchens, outdoor grills, refrigerator, coffee maker, and hot tubs on private decks. Toiletries, kitchen utensils, cookware, firewood, cable TV and DVD players are also provided. We reserve a cabin house, which has a full kitchen and table for dining.

“Just outside the clubhouse we have a swimming pool, and at night time the pool can change colors. The kids especially like that. They feel like they’re swimming in their own personal paradise," said July.

People also flock to the resort and Grand Lake on the Fourth of July to see the annual fireworks display, Art added. He said the Grand Lake area unofficially becomes the largest city in the state, population wise, during the Fourth of July.

“We like to think we create memories. Every guest here is a special person to us, and so over the years we’ve become like family to a lot of people," June said. “I’ve got a good partner in my wife. We really enjoy it.”

The lodge, which is under the management of the Tribe, sits on the banks of Ketchum. For information or to make a reservation, call 918-453-1940 or email lodge@create.com or visit www.pinelodgeresort.com.
We believe the path is clear on critical legal issues. Federal legislation should authorize compacting between the Cherokee Nation and the state.

The Legislative Council of the Cherokee Nation, in a written statement, said federal legislation is necessary to authorize compacts between the Cherokee Nation and the state.

The Cherokee Nation said it will continue to work with the state to ensure that any compact is fair and mutually beneficial.

The Cherokee Nation said it is dedicated to advancing the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation and to protecting the rights of its citizens.

The Cherokee Nation said it will continue to seek federal legislation to advance sovereignty and tribal self-governance.
Haaland as Interior head would be historic

BY CHUCK HOSKIN JR.

FOR NEARLY two centuries, the U.S. Department of the Interior has been responsible for the peaceful custodianship of more than 500 million acres of public lands, wildlife, and natural resources. It oversees hundreds of national parks, reserves, forests, and refuges, hunting and grazing land, and private sector experience, and she understands sovereignty and appreciates the cultural, economic, and social benefits that tribes realize from the economic engine not only for tribal communities, but also for the United States as a whole. She understands the importance of tribal commercial and cultural activities in the United States and appreciates the opportunities that tribes have in exploiting natural and cultural resources. Arranged in chronological order, Haaland has always understood the importance of tribal self-determination. Yet in all that time, no American Indian has served as Interior secretary. Under the act, the tribe has designated a partially developed public lands of more than 500 million acres. These lands will be available from Natural Resources. Deer, squirrel, rabbit, turkey, dove, quail, waterfowl and fish are abundant in these lands. We believe these lands will be an Interior secretary for all of Indian Country.

OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cherokee Nation

Well-deserved commendations for OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cherokee Nation

As a family practice (country) doctor, I wish to commend the teachers, the staff, and the students at OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cherokee Nation for their progress in education of a future generation of family physicians who will hopefully serve the people of the Cherokee Nation for many years to come. The OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cherokee Nation has been an excellent source of medical school applicants. Graduates of OSU Medical School may well be like Dr. Celan Kirk, family physician at Fort Gibson, who is one of the first generation of family physicians who will hopefully serve the people of the Cherokee Nation for many years to come.

TALKING CIRCLES

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AARP Okla. opens nominations for Indian Elder Honors

The deadline for nominating elders 55 and older who make positive impacts where they live is March 31.

BY STAFF REPORTS

OKLAHOMA CITY – AARP Oklahoma is accepting nominations for its 13th annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors, which celebrates 20 Native American elders who have positively impacted their country, state, communities and Indian Country.

“Recognizing what we experience today, one unwavering constant is our elders’ brilliance and resilience. AARP Oklahoma President Joe Ann Vermillion said. “For some, their service is well-known and well-documented, but others shy away from recognition as they quietly exhibit devotion to their communities.”

“Some of our service is well-known and well-documented, but others shy away from recognition as they quietly exhibit devotion to their communities. The happiest change in his career occurred when Scott and White partnered with Texas A&M University Medical School as the location for clinical training for medical students and residents, John truly loved his work as an educator, and he took great pride in the accomplishments of the students with whom he worked. He remained on staff at Scott & White until 2019. He is survived by his wife, Denise Lawrence, and his children Adam Jennings Starr, M.D.; and his wife, Heidi, of Dallas; a grandson and his spouse, John C. Starr II; and his siblings, Jesse Starr, John C. Starr III, and Osborn Starr. John was a stand-out player on the football and baseball teams. He also played varsity basketball, where he was coached by ‘Lefty’ Driesell. After graduation from the University of Texas, to join the faculty of the Department of Internal Medicine, and was elected to serve multiple terms on the SSWC Board of Directors.

IN MEMORIAM

A complimentary “In Memoriam” is published in the Announcement Section upon request and as space permits in the honor of Cherokee Nation citizens who have recently passed. That section will include the name of the deceased, date of birth, and date of death only.

For more information or to place an Obituary/In Memoriam, contact:

Terris Howard
0-123-2805
terris-howard@cherokee.org

Samantha Cochran
0-207-2085
samantha-cochran@cherokee.org

To submit a free In Memoriam listing, email the name, birthday, and date of death of the deceased to terris-howard@cherokee.org or samantha-cochran@cherokee.org or call 913-453-5134 or 2307-3825.

OBITUARIES

Barbara Lynn Barnard

Jimmy Ray Beck

Phillip Blossom
Nov. 9, 1940 – Jan. 15, 2021

Thompson Bunch

Hartlan Burris
June 12, 1982 – Jan. 10, 2021

Christopher John Buzard
May 19, 1919 – Jan. 12, 2021

William Chumblay

Sanders Cochran
April 29, 1950 – Jan. 6, 2021

Henry Lee Coleman
Dec. 1, 1924 – Jan. 18, 2021

Lonnie Davis

Velma Sue Davis
Sept. 28, 1944 – Jan. 13, 2021

Laura Jo Jordan (Farmar)

Charles Wayne Fields
Dec. 12, 1982 – Jan. 4, 2021

Haiden J. Flemming

Frederick Neal Forbus

Gary Keith Gann

Denise Marie Lawrence

Lauren McNeely
Sept. 12, 1935 – Jan. 15, 2021

Cortney Neal

Sandra Gayle Osborne
March 9, 1955 – Jan. 6, 2021

Lois Pendergraft
Dec. 31, 1933 – Jan. 6, 2021

Sarah Ann Blackbird-Lyman
June 23, 1943 – Jan. 13, 2021

Jewell Lee Morris
Sept. 12, 1935 – Jan. 15, 2021

McMarilynn Louise Moore

Philip Philpott

Lutricia L. Norley
June 22, 1959 – Jan. 1, 2021

Carol Anne Finlayson
March 9, 1957 – Jan. 17, 2021

Jeffery Aronson

Andrew Rusty Harlin
Aug. 31, 1933 – Jan. 7, 2021

Monroe Hembree
Sept. 15, 1921 – Jan. 12, 2021

Lavona Kelley

Betty Jo Langston

Thomas Green

July 18, 1945 – Jan. 9, 2021

Charles H. Smith

Diana Marie Lawrence
April 20, 1931 – Jan. 16, 2021

Denise Ann Lawrence

Jonna Faye Sands
June 1, 1951 – Jan. 13, 2021

Susan Gregory (Seaton)

Betty Delois (Wood) Self
June 2, 1939 – Jan. 18, 2021

Vicci Loralee Terrell

Bennie Turn
Aug. 26, 1930 – Jan. 9, 2021

Robbie Vann

Virgil Smith

Christine Johnson

Lavona Kelley

Bettye Jo Langston


Phillip Philpott

Mrs. & Mrs. Edward Joseph LaFrancois.

She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Rita Lawrence; father, Dennis Voris; her sister, Dena Voris; and best friend, Melba Pregas numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

Graveside services for Denise were held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021, at Magnolia Park Cemetery in Denver with the Rev. Ron Reddish officiating. Following, a memorial service was held at Mercy Gate Church in MT. Beverley of J

Sarah Ann Blackbird-Lyman was a member of the Cherokee Nation Citizen. She was born on Thole Street, near the O'Connor home in Oakville, Arkansas, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 1961. In 1961, he graduated from Medical School at the University of Virginia where he was the Chief Resident in Medicine. During his internship, he learned to speak Gullah, and he and Mary Sue had their first child, Adam Jennings Starr. John then furthered his training at Norfolk General Hospital, and later at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in Richmond.

In Richmond, John and Mary Sue had their second child, Susan Elizabeth. John completed his training, and was hired by the University of Virginia where he was the Chief Resident in Medicine. John then worked hard to build a life for themselves in Temple. Their three children attended schools at Western Hills Elementary, North Junior High, and Temple High School. Mary Sue and John were active parishioners of St Mary’s Catholic Church.

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Samantha Cochran
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samantha-cochran@cherokee.org

Denise Marie Lawrence, 52, of Beach City, died on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, in Conroe, Texas. Denise was born on March 25, 1968 in Houston, Texas, to parents Garner Dennis Ver-
To keep tradition, tribal leaders, nurses, doctors and other staff autograph the final beam to commemorate the historic moment.

Principal Chuck Hoskin Jr. on Jan. 15, 2021, autographs The Wilma P. Mankiller Health Center expansion project was ushered into place on Jan. 15, completing the facility's two-story steel frame in Stilwell.

The final steel beam of the Wilma P. Mankiller Health Center expansion project was hoisted into place on Jan. 15, completing the facility's two-story steel frame in Stilwell.

This expansion is just one more step for the tribe to improve health care for its people and bring economic growth to Stilwell as it creates new health care jobs and construction jobs," said Tribal Council Speaker Chadwich."I look forward to its completion date this summer so we can continue to improve the lives of Cherokees in Adair County." Officials said that in recent years the health center has become one of the top three busiest of the tribe's nine health centers, experiencing a 10% increase in patient visits annually. In 2020, the health center had more than 130,000 ambulatory care visits and around 200,000 pharmacy visits, officials said. “2020 was a challenging year for our health system, and our patients need access to healthcare more now than ever before,” said Health Services Executive Director Dr. R. Stephen Jones, said. "As we administer more than 6,500 vaccines, including about 900 Cherokee speakers. We are also seeing more older adults, with this added protection, “Our health system has experienced an overwhelming number of hospitalizations with COVID-19 and getting vaccinated so we can protect our friends, family and communities. Individuals that need phased distribution criteria can schedule an appointment by calling 1-844-438-8000. Qualifying appointments are being scheduled from 8 a.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. We ask that you are not being taken at this time.

Lilly: Drug can prevent COVID-19 illness in nursing homes

Experts have said such drugs could serve as a bridge to help manage the virus until vaccines are widely available.

The Food and Drug Administration on Nov. 9, 2020, emergency use of the Lilly antibody drug for a treatment for people ages 12 and older with moderate to severe cases of COVID-19 that do not require hospitalization. Lilly said it plans to talk with regulators to see about expanding the authorization to include those with severe COVID-19 in long-term care facilities, where vaccinations are already underway.

Experts have said drugs like Lilly's could serve as a bridge to help manage the virus until vaccines are widely available.

The two vaccines approved for emergency use by Pfizer and Moderna require two doses. Major drugmaker CVS and Walgreens are giving the shots at nursing homes in nearly all states. Those long-term care locations have been given priority to vaccinate residents and staff with newly authorized COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccine shipments are underway.

For more information on the Cherokee Nation vaccine distribution plan, visit health.cherokee.org.

To frequently asked questions, or to schedule COVID-19 vaccinations for eligible populations, visit health.cherokee.org, or call 918-609-3820.

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) – Drugmaker Eli Lilly said Jan. 21 its unified drug can prevent COVID-19 illness in residents and staff of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities. It’s the first major study to show such a treatment might be effective with new authorized COVID-19 vaccines.

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Vaccinations are being administered by appointment only for established health system as we are now able to offer access to our reservation but also by creating new jobs in the project, something we can all be proud of. The expansion is slated for completion in 2021. The facility’s new portion will include services such as dental, optometry, pharmacy expansion, a conference and community room, behavioral health, WIC, pediatrics, physical therapy, primary care, specialty care, public health nursing, medical records and administration offices. “I’m excited about the progress we are making in Adair County in every aspect, but especially within health care, said Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. “We have worked with Tribal Council Director Brian Hail. “Having additional space means being able to move more of our patients faster quickly, so I’m excited and grateful to see this project closer to completion.” Among other highlights included

The Cherokee Nation is in phase 2A of its COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan which includes teachers, child care and Head Start staff, infrastructure support and Food Distribution program staff as well as tribal citizens 55 and older.

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Enrollment at Sequoyah High School in early January was 290, with a capacity for 400, according to Cherokee nation leaders.

We want to make clear, this is about letting parents choose to, to come back … they choose to, to come back … to allow student athletes to so-
The Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation wants to protect employees from COVID-19 while maintaining its services for its clients.

BY D. SEAN ROWLEY
Senior Reporter

TAILOREAU — With the departure of its leader and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic raging worldwide, the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation is facing some challenges, and its interim leader says the agency is effectively dealing with them.

Brian Enlow has been the HACN’s interim director to replace Gary Cooper, who left for new employment as the Cherokee Nation’s Department of Health and Human Services director.

Killer said the move to leadership is going well, and he is happy with the high-quality work the staff is providing while helping customers through the pandemic.

“We have made it a priority to provide services to Cherokee citizens while ensuring they are safe,” Palmer said. “During the pandemic, Career Services continued to provide services to Cherokee citizens in part thanks to the use of digital technology, which has only amplified our ability to aid Cherokee citizens.

The RRR elder assistance initiative was provided to 2,700 elders, which included a $400 direct economic assistance stipend and $1,200 in utility bill assistance to low-income elders.

Nearly 30,000 elders over age 62 were provided emergency assistance and utility assistance to provide a 2,700 elders.

The CN Disability Assistance program provided $300 checks to CN citizens residing within the reservation who have disabilities as well as veterans with disabilities. In all, that helped nearly 6,000 families.

“These programs were all provided through the Respond, Recover and Rebuild COVID-19 assistance initiatives implemented to help Cherokee citizens recover from the impact of this virus,” Enlow said.

Enlow said in the second half of 2020, the CN provided direct assistance to a total of 12,350 citizens, not including the additional 11,000 Cherokee families helped through the tribe’s emergency food distribution efforts.


“Though a federal judge recently ruled that the CN cannot turn off energy to a family, we can apply if living in the CN, the HACN gives preference to applicants whose income also cannot be greater than 50% of the national median income guidelines, and the applicant must have legal status over the primary residence.

The Elder/Veteran Fund, which provides free subscriptions of its twice-monthly newspaper to elders and military veterans, “We have made it a priority to provide subscriptions to Cherokee citizens while ensuring they are safe,” Palmer said.

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CBG donates $15K for annual elder, veteran Cherokee Phoenix subs

Using the Elder/Veteran Fund, elders who are 65 and older as well as military veterans of all ages can apply to receive free one-year subscriptions.

BY STAFF REPORTS

TAILOREAU — Cherokee Nation Businesses in January distributed funding through the Respond, Recover and Rebuild COVID-19 assistance initiative, according to a previous Cherokee Phoenix article.

“Through the transition going well,” she said. ““We have a great leadership team that continues this important work.”

“Services provided by the Housing Authority are a team effort and we have a great leadership team that continues this important work.”

Joni Walker, HACN interim director

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LAMAY WALKER: MISSING SINCE NOV. 2020
AGE: 16/5’7”135 LBS/BLACK EYES & HAIR/LAST SEEN IN BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA IF SEEN, CALL BELLEVUE PD AT (402)-593-4111
TO SPONSOR A MISSING NATIVES SPOT, CALL 918-207-3825 OR EMAIL samantha-cochran@cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation citizen and artist Dana Coleman, standing, teaches a small class how to draw faces during a children’s art class on Jan. 21 at Dana’s Art Den in Tahlequah.
It enrols Cherokee by determining their blood quantum, primarily through genealogical research. Freedmen are enrolled based on their descent from the 1866 Treaty, which recognized Cherokee Freedmen and their descendants as citizens of the Cherokee Nation.

In May 2013, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma vacates Cripps’ ruling regarding Freedmen. The Supreme Court of the Cherokee Nationreverse and granting summary judgment in favor of the tribe.

In the case of R.H. Nero v. Cherokee Nation, the BIA does not recognize the results of the tribe's May 24 general election. It enrolls Cherokees by determining their blood quantum, and the allowance to run for elected offices for Freedmen was denied.

In July 2014, the CN Supreme Court reverses and vacates Cripps’ ruling regarding Freedmen with vote rights and privileges that include tribal citizenship. In the new Constitution, it did not limit membership to people who possess Cherokee blood. Instead, it extended membership to those who are new citizens of the Cherokee Nation as listed on the Dawes Commission Rolls. During a Tribal Council meeting on June 12, 2003, the council voted 13-2 to amend the Constitution, requiring Indian blood for citizenship. Cherokee people want to maintain the blood quantum, and a resolution calling for a special election in the fall failed. Some CN citizens circulated a petition in June 2003 to voters to support an Indian blood requirement amendment to the Constitution and a special election.

March 1, 2007: In a special election, Cherokees amended the Constitution to include “all persons who are members of the tribe or the Cherokee Nation.” The new Constitution it did not limit membership to people who possess Cherokee blood. Instead, it extended membership to those who are new citizens of the Cherokee Nation as listed on the Dawes Commission Rolls. During a Tribal Council meeting on June 12, 2003, the council voted 13-2 to amend the Constitution, requiring Indian blood for citizenship. Cherokee people want to maintain the blood quantum, and a resolution calling for a special election in the fall failed. Some CN citizens circulated a petition in June 2003 to voters to support an Indian blood requirement amendment to the Constitution and a special election.

March 14, 2007: CN Attorney General Todd Hembree issues a press release after the U.S. House Resolution 443, sponsored by Representative Joe Manchin, thwarted a tribal legal challenge to the CN’s authority to enroll the 950,000 descendants of the Cherokee Nation’s Freedmen. The resolution states “the freedmen’s right to citizenship does not exist solely under the Cherokee Nation Constitution and therefore cannot be extinguished solely by amending that Constitution” and that “In accordance with Article V of the 1866 Treaty, the Cherokee Nation cannot unilaterally amend the Constitution to extinguish a right that is coextensive with the rights of Native Cherokees.”

August 29, 2014: The CN Supreme Court overturns the restriction on CN citizenship rights. “The Cherokee Nation respects the right of the Freedmen to continue to define itself as it sees fit but most do so by enacting constitutional amendment and therefore cannot be extinguished solely by amending that Constitution” and that “In accordance with Article V of the 1866 Treaty, the Cherokee Nation cannot unilaterally amend the Constitution to extinguish a right that is coextensive with the rights of Native Cherokees.”

Cherokee Freedmen-Minor Children…shall have the rights as children of a Tribal Citizen of the Cherokee Nation, 1910. In a special election, Cherokees amended the Constitution to remove the requirement that all CN voters to support an Indian blood requirement amendment to the Constitution and a special election.

May 24, 2003: CN Attorney General Todd Hembree issues a press release after the U.S. House Resolution 443, sponsored by Representative Joe Manchin, thwarted a tribal legal challenge to the CN’s authority to enroll the 950,000 descendants of the Cherokee Nation’s Freedmen. The resolution states “the freedmen’s right to citizenship does not exist solely under the Cherokee Nation Constitution and therefore cannot be extinguished solely by amending that Constitution” and that “In accordance with Article V of the 1866 Treaty, the Cherokee Nation cannot unilaterally amend the Constitution to extinguish a right that is coextensive with the rights of Native Cherokees.”

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Cherokee Freedmen-Minor Children…shall have the rights as children of a Tribal Citizen of the Cherokee Nation, 1910. In a special election, Cherokees amended the Constitution to remove the requirement that all CN voters to support an Indian blood requirement amendment to the Constitution and a special election.
MUSKEGEE – One of the prominent activists for the Cherokee Freedmen was lost to the tribe when Rodolen Brown died in his Muskogee home on June 7, at age 98.

Brown long supported the arguments that Cherokee Freedmen were rightful citizens of the Cherokee Nation. She saw the fruits of her efforts and those of many others in 2017 when a U.S. District Court, interpreted the Treaty of 1866 between the U.S. and the CN governments, ruled in favor of the Freedmen with the CN announcing that it would not appeal the decision.

Finding her ancestors on the Rolls, Brown was acknowledged as a CN citizen in 2008, and she didn’t care for the “Freedmen” designation.

“I do consider the Freedmen,” she once said, “I say Cherokee citizen because that’s who we are.”

During the COVID-19-impacted Cherokee National Holiday of 2020, Brown was posthumously given the CN’s Statesmanship Award. She also was awarded the Cherokee National Community Leadership Award for an individual in 2010.

“The things she has done within the community and within the Nation have been really great. Try to bring down the Freedmen and the tribe back together,” said Spencer Payne, Brown’s nephew who acknowledged the Statesmanship Award. “She was very passionate.”

A woman for her family, whose ancestors were once slaves of Cherokee Nation citizens. A meticulously curated collection of family and historic documents links Johnson to Freedmen listed on the Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory, known as the Cherokee Rolls.

“My great-grandparents, both maternal and paternal, were sold away,” Johnson said, adding that they “walked the Trail of Tears” with their Cherokee slave owners.

Johnson said her great great-grandma, Rattles Vann, was born in about 1821, then was later freed before the Civil War. He still chose to militate, she added.

“To be a freedman then and when you’re few, they could have gone on to Canada or somewhere else,” Johnson, said, “but we believe that he was thinking of us, for the rest of his descendants to continue after him, and he wanted to make things happen.”

Vann served as a corporal in the 1st Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, the first black unit to serve during the Civil War.

“She was just such a rich heritage,” Johnson said. Johnson, who turns 80 on Feb. 5, grew up in Kansas City, Missouri.

ZACK FOREMAN SR. & JR. BUSINESSMAN & BALL PLAYER

BY STACIE BOSTON

Multimedia Reporter

TAHLEQUAH (AP) — Approximately 100 years ago, Zack Foreman Sr. was pitching for the Komoka Maple Leafs. The Monarchs formed in 1920 and competed in the Negro National League. Foreman, Zack Jr.’s great uncle, played alongside him as a catcher.

He was just that kind of guy. He was always kind to everyone…in the thousands. He was so instrumental to where he took our town and left behind a sick cow. “The run of the night is when you can’t do anything. He was a great player and just a great person. It would be hard to tell Zack Jr.’s story without mentioning his father, Zack Sr., whose life started much differently.

Zack Jr.’s story started in the Sequoyah County town of Foreman, which is said to be named after his father’s family.

While details of the young Zack’s life prior to his discovery, Sherry Foreman who has a Ph.D. in psychology, said details to look into his family’s progeny.

A research, Sherry said due to his father’s successes Zack Jr. was “well-off” financially by his younger years and attended Langston University, a historically black college-established in 1897 in Oklaho-

Zack Jr. was born in 1846 to parents Jerry and Rhoda Foreman. Census records show they were owned by George Washington Gunter and his wife, Dione Gunter. In 1866, all slaves in the Cherokee Nation were freed via a treaty.

Sherry said she went to the National Archives and started “searching. She was going through the National Archives and knew she was destiny to help everyone…. When she was around age 5, her sisters told her she was sitting in the room with her and she looked out the window and said, ‘I just want to help people.”

One of 12 children, Brown said she was 4 when she had her first conversation with a white person and how she was destined to help others.

“She taught us so much,” Payne said. “She taught us to look beyond our means. Color didn’t matter. My mother, Rodolen Brown, loved everyone.”

most of his time in Oklahoma, and it was there where he died during a poker game. “He unfortunately was also a gambler… and there was an alteration when he was gambling at one time and unfortunately, he was murdered.”

It would be hard to tell Zack Jr.’s story without mentioning his father, Zack Sr., whose life started much differently.

Zack Sr. lived in Brown was recognized in 1846 by George Washington Gunter and his wife, Dione Gunter. In 1866, all slaves in the Cherokee Nation were freed via a treaty. Sherry said she went to the National Archives and started “searching. She was going through the National Archives and knew she was
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CHEROKEE PHOENIX

Art Contest
Redesign the Cherokee Phoenix Logo

ENTRY RULES:

- Submissions must reflect the student’s interpretation of the Cherokee Phoenix logo.
- Student must be in first through eighth grade. One winner will be selected from each grade by the Cherokee Phoenix staff.
- Must be hand-done. No tracing, photography or computer-generated artwork.
- Entries may be submitted on paper, cardstock, poster board, etc.
- Entries must be submitted by April 30, 2021, at our office via in person, mail or email at terris.howard@cherokee.org.
- One entry per student.
- Each grade winner will receive a T-shirt and their design on display for public vote.
- Grand prize winner, voted by the public, will receive a $100 gift card and their design on the 2021 holiday fan and a special-edition T-shirt available for purchase at the 2021 Cherokee National Holiday.

*Our office is located in Thaddeus at the Cherokee National Courthouse. Office hours 9-4, Monday through Friday.