

Honoring, Helping and Protecting Indian Elders



By Looking Back and Forward **By Dr. John Edwards**
Former Governor, Absentee Shawnee Tribe AARP Oklahoma Executive Council



Dr. John Edwards

According to Native American tradition, leaders should always look seven generations behind and seven generations ahead when making decisions. It's a way of making sure that our past is always connected to our future.

What can we learn from the past? As Indian people, we are taught the ways of our people through stories, song and language. We know the value of respecting and honoring our elders and the importance of passing on their wisdom to future generations.

For the past six years, AARP Oklahoma has honored Indian elders in a special program held annually in the fall. The AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors brings together all 39-federally recognized tribes and nations in a spirit of harmony and unity to celebrate the contributions of our elders.

Past honorees have included artists, dancers, language preservationists, ministers, tribal leaders, mothers and fathers. You can nominate an Indian elder to be recognized by AARP at: www.facebook.com/aarpok or by calling 1-866-295-7277 to receive a printed nomination form. Nominees must be living and must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe in Oklahoma. Deadline for nomination is June 30th.

But AARP's work with Oklahoma's Native American community is not limited to the past. During my six years as

a member of the AARP Oklahoma Executive Council, I have had the chance to work on projects that are planting seeds for the future.

A good example of this seed planting is AARP's partnership with the Osage, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Muscogee Creek and Cherokee nations, the Oklahoma State Department of Health and the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center to present the 7th Generations Conference April 14-16th in Midwest City.

Native Americans in Oklahoma suffer greater health disparities than most other people in the state. The 7th Generations Conference will focus on improving health access and disparity in Indian Country and caregiving. AARP will also present a healthy cooking demonstration that will offer education on how to break the cycle of unhealthy nutrition among Indian people. World-renowned Chef Loretta Barrett Oden, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, will present the demonstration.

Finally, I want to encourage my fellow tribal members to consider getting involved with the AARP Oklahoma Inter-Tribal Community Group. We're working on projects and events – including health, cultural preservation and the Indian Elder Honors – that will help fulfill AARP's mission in the Native American community: to enhance the quality of life for all as we age.

For more information on the Inter-Tribal Community Group, the 6th Annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors or the 7th Generation Conference visit: www.aarp.org/okindiannavigator.

(Dr. John Edwards is former Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. He has served as a member of AARP Oklahoma's Executive Council for six years, is a minister and a Peacemaker in the Chickasaw Nation's Peacemaking Court.)

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PARALEGAL SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE

The Sac and Fox Nation Tribal Court is pleased to announce that paralegal services are now being offered at the Sac and Fox Nation Justice Center. This service is to help alleviate the pressure placed on the prose litigants, litigants who may not be able to afford the luxury to hire legal assistance. Without the aid of legal expertise, litigants often enter the judicial system unprepared for the complicated process and may leave dismayed by the results. In recognition of this problem, the Sac and Fox Nation Tribal Court and Oklahoma Indian Legal Services have been in collaboration to provide the tribal members with a paralegal to offer

assistance to prose litigants in preparing their legal documents and understanding the judicial process.

The paralegal provided through Oklahoma Indian Legal Services is on-site three (3) times a month to assist enrolled tribal members with preparation of legal documents, help in understanding the judicial process, assisting court administration in issuing Orders and Decrees, directing litigants to outside organizations for further assistance, preparation of wills and referrals for further legal advice.

Contact the Court Clerk's Office at 918-968-2031 for dates and times.

Lose Your Glasses?

The Sac and Fox Nation Maintenance Department found a pair of prescription glasses lost during a recent funeral service at the Chapel
To identify and claim see Flo at the main office building or call 918-968-3526

Notice From The Editor

Due to the printing schedule of the Sac and Fox News any event or public notice of meetings that is going to take place during the first week of the month needs to be **published in the previous months newspaper**. It is our aim at the Sac and Fox News to keep the Nation informed of every event possible.
Ken Johnson,
Editor Sac and Fox News

Attention Black Hawk Health Center Patients

We have a new phone system and our extensions have changed

When you call the clinic please listen to the menus

- Press 0..... for the Operator
- Press 1..... for Merle Boyd Center
- Press 2..... for Black Hawk Health Center
- Press 3..... for Contract Health
- Press 4..... for Pharmacy
- Press 5..... for Medical Records
- Press 6..... for Nursing
- Press 7..... for Behavioral Health
- Press 8..... for Administration

Sac and Fox Elders
Seeking Donations
Material of all Kinds
Lots of Projects
Coming Up
Contact: Mary Brown
919-968-3526 Ext 2016

MARCH 2014 SAC AND FOX NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM				
STROUD WAREHOUSE (918) 968-3030		1-800-256-3398		
SHAWNEE OFFICE (405) 395-0063		1-866-622-2310		
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 ELDERS ONLY SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	4 ELDERS ONLY SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	5 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	6 ELDERS ONLY SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	7 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30
10 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	11 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	12 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	13 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	14 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 LITTLEAXE 10:00-12:00 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30
17 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	18 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	19 CLOSED FOR SHIPMENT AND INVENTORY	20 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	21 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 PERKINS 10:00-2:00 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30
24 LATE NIGHT WAREHOUSE 8:30-6:00 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30	25 LATE NIGHT SHAWNEE 12:00-6:00 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	26 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	27 SHAWNEE 8:30-2:30 WAREHOUSE 8:30-2:30	28 CLOSED FOR INVENTORY
CLOSED FOR INVENTORY				

Save The Date April 29-30th, 2014

**6th Annual
Tribal Epidemiology Center
Public Health Conference**




Celebrating Tribal Public Health

Where we have been, where we are and where we are going...

Where: Firelake Grand Casino
777 Grand Casino Boulevard, Shawnee,
OK 74804
*To reserve a hotel room call
(405) 964-7777

For online participant registration info. Please visit OCAITHB.org.
Registration is FREE!

