

FEBRUARY
2023

THE SHAWNEE JOURNAL



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SKIPIYEKIISFWA
"sap/maple month"

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FEB 6	MONTHLY BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING* MIAMI, OK	MAR 25	COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL CLAREMORE, OK
FEB 20	OFFICES CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY	APR 3	MONTHLY BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING* MIAMI, OK
MAR 1	APPLICATION DEADLINE SCHOOL CLOTHING & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM	MAY 1	MONTHLY BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING* MIAMI, OK
MAR 6	MONTHLY BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING* MIAMI, OK	MAY 29	OFFICES CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY
MAR 15	REGISTRATION DEADLINE 2023 SHAWNEE YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR (MORE INFO PG. 12)	JUNE 5-16	ELECTION FILING PERIOD (MORE INFO PG. 11)

***** Note regarding the monthly meetings of the Shawnee Tribe Business Council (STBC): At their regular monthly meeting on September 6, 2022, STBC unanimously voted to adopt a new rule of parliamentary procedure for all meetings of the Shawnee Tribe Business and General Council informally known as a "second read rule." The second read rule stipulates that the Council may not act on new business during the same meeting in which said business is first introduced. In essence, tribal business must be introduced for a first read and discussion in one meeting, then the Council may take action in a subsequent meeting.

As such, STBC anticipates calling special meetings each month to accommodate the second read rule. Dates & times for any special meetings will be posted on the Tribe's website at shawnee-nsn.gov/events.

COFFEE *with the* COUNCIL



MAR 25

Join your elected officials in Claremore, OK on Saturday, March 25 for coffee, donuts & conversation.
Claremore Conference Center / Will Rogers Ballroom
North 1400 W Country Club Road, Claremore, OK 74017

CLAREMORE, OK | 10AM - NOON

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE SHAWNEE TRIBE'S MUNICODE SITE YET?

The Tribal Constitution and all laws, proclamations and resolutions are viewable and searchable via Municode, which is available from the tribe's website.



Scan here with your phone to learn more about this system from Shawnee Tribe Court Clerk Rod Edmondson





**CHIEF
BEN
BARNES**

MESSAGE *from the* CHIEFS



**SECOND CHIEF
ROY
BALDRIDGE**

hatito saawanooki,

[Greetings, Shawnee citizens]

The two of us have worked together for years now to ensure that our tribal nation's historic sites are protected and preserved. Our people's rich history should be shared widely to serve as source of unity for Shawnees everywhere, as well as an educational resource for Shawnees and non-Shawnees alike.

Doing this work as your elected officials, we have forged numerous relationships with some of our tribe's greatest allies in recent memory—elected leaders of other tribal nations, state & federal legislators, scrupulous historians, preservationists, and other organizational partners like those you may read about in "weemeyakwe: where we are from" on page 09.

We've also encountered unacceptably inaccurate retellings of Shawnee history—most recently through our efforts to restore and protect the Old Methodist Shawnee Indian Manual Labor School in Fairway, Kansas. The Shawnee Business Council designated the Shawnee Indian Mission, as this landmark is more widely known, as a Shawnee Tribe Sacred Site on August 3, 2020.

In the early 1800s, Methodist reverend and slave Thomas Johnson conceived of and founded the mission on 2,000 acres of Shawnee treaty land to intentionally strip Shawnee children of their hereditary language and culture by separating them from their families & community. During

its years as a federally subsidized Indian boarding school, at least 1,400 children from more than twenty tribal nations were sent there, including Delawares, Ottawas, Wyandottes and Peorias.

The site's remaining twelve acres and three standing buildings have been granted U.S. National Landmark and Kansas State Historic Site statuses for their historical significance. The Kansas State Historical Society, which is funded by the Kansas State legislature, owns the site, and the City of Fairway has managed its day-to-day operations since 2016.

To put it lightly, the public exhibits and programming at the Shawnee Indian Mission severely diminish its history, especially our people's connection to the area and the period Shawnees called Kansas "home." Additionally, we remain concerned that Shawnee or other Native children are buried at the site. And beyond these critical issues, the physical structures of the site are in great distress.

In September 2021, the Tribe engaged Architectural Resources Group (ARG), one of the nation's leading historical architecture firms, to conduct a comprehensive site conditions assessment. They found many problems threatening the future of the historic structures and significant issues in the site's public interpretation. In December of that year, the Tribe shared and discussed ARG's findings with the

mission's owners, but over the course of 2022, it became clear that there is no plan to resolve the many issues plaguing the site. As such, and after conferring with the Shawnee Business Council, we initiated conversations with Kansas legislators about potentially conveying the Shawnee Indian Mission to the Shawnee Tribe. We have also begun releasing information about the site's condition to the public and have reached out to the leaders of the tribal nations whose children attended the mission to seek their partnership and answer any concerns they may have regarding the site's future.

The work of ensuring our rich history is accurately portrayed might seem to be a backward-looking effort to some. But the reality is that the most pervasive problems we face today have their roots back in our removal and boarding school past. Indian Child Welfare, reservation and allotment lands, MMIW, language loss, and countless, failed federal and state policies towards Indigenous people.

We are immensely proud to have the unanimous support of the Shawnee Tribe Business Council as we take on this historic legislation, and prouder still to continue receiving letters of support from other tribal nations affected by this site and the legacy it inflicted. Additionally, we would like to extend thanks to Shawnee citizens Brian Byrd and Garet Couch and for the incredible amount of work and

research they voluntarily carried out that positioned the Tribe to take on this conveyance effort. niyaawe, Brian & Garet.

The week of January 30, Senate Bill 117 and House Bill 2208 were formally introduced to the Kansas legislature. We will continue working to ensure this legislation garners the attention and support it needs to succeed this year. Citizens may subscribe to piyeetaacimoweeneefa, our monthly e-mail newsletter, for updates as the legislative session progresses. If you live in Kansas and would like to write your state legislators, please reach out to media@shawnee-tribe.com for a letter template.

Accurate portrayals of Shawnee history are crucial to the historic interpretation of every state and region we have ever called "home." Thank you for allowing us to do this work.

niyaawe,

Chief Ben Barnes &
Second Chief Roy Baldrige

THE SHAWNEE TRIBE BUSINESS COUNCIL



**SECRETARY
CAROLYN
FOSTER**



**TREASURER
MARK
McDOWELL**



**SEAT 1
CAROLYN
SMITH**



**SEAT 2
DIANA
McLEAN**



**SEAT 3
SCOTT
SECONDINE**



**SEAT 4
COREY
WINESBURG**



**SEAT 5
MONTY
COOMBES**



**SEAT 6
LEE
BLUEJACKET**



**SEAT 7
KENI
HOOD**

SPOTLIGHT

SHAWNEE DEVELOPMENT

Shawnee Development is a tribally owned corporation charged with overseeing enterprise projects and business investments meant to help create a diverse and sustainable economy for the long-term benefit of the Shawnee people.

Operated by a five-person board appointed by the Chief, the Shawnee Tribe's sharp increase in programs and services available to tribal citizens over the past few years has been made possible by the success of Golden Mesa Casino in Guyton, OK, which has been under Shawnee Development management since its inception.

As reported in November, the Shawnee Business Council voted to approve a change to the Shawnee Tribe Revenue Allocation Plan, or RAP. The primary objective of the Shawnee Tribe RAP is to provide supplemental funding and financial support for tribal government operations, programs, and economic development not covered by federal funds or grants.

The Business Council prioritizes three areas of economic investment through the RAP: capital reserves for sustained, long-term stabilization; economic support for the non-grant funded portion of each of the Government Programming budgets and daily operations; and economic development by Shawnee Development, to create long-term and sustainable economics for the tribe.

"Our former RAP allowed for thirty percent of our net income to be allocated to Shawnee Development for tribal economic development," said Shawnee Development President Chris Floyd. "An equal amount went to tribal government operations, and the remainder was held for in the tribe's capital reserves. However, this model had to be reassessed to meet the budgetary needs of the tribes increasing demand on programs and operational growth while ensuring stability for future generations through supporting both our government and ongoing tribal business enterprises."



"Fifteen or so years ago, we were holding Indian taco sales and other community fundraisers to help support tribal operations. Golden Mesa only opened its doors three years ago, so it's an immense blessing that we may be breaking ground on an expansion as early as this spring."
— Mike Staubus

The newly revised RAP, which went into effect last October, dictates that now half of all gaming income is allocated for government operational expenses. Despite this ten percent modification reducing Shawnee Development's revenue, Shawnee Development's Board of Managers still expects to cross the finish line on executing a major expansion of Golden Mesa Casino's operations in the coming months.

For the latest updates on Shawnee Development & Golden Mesa Casino, follow @saawanooki on social media or sign up for the monthly e-newsletter *piyeetacimooweeneefa* on shawnee-nsn.gov.

SHAWNEE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF MANAGERS



CHRIS FLOYD
PRESIDENT



MARK MCDOWELL
TREASURER



GREG PITCHER
BOARD MEMBER



JOHN SPARKMAN
BOARD MEMBER



MIKE STAUBUS
BOARD MEMBER

WINTER IS HERE

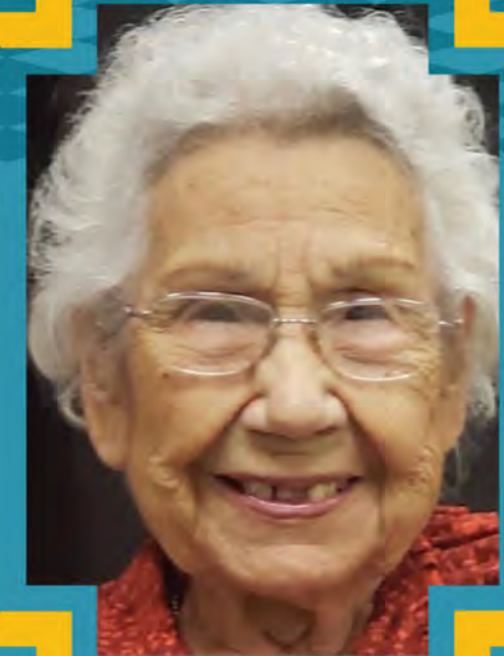
ARE YOU REGISTERED FOR SHAWNEE TRIBE CODERED?

CodeRed is a free and easy-to-use system enabling citizens to receive local severe weather notifications, emergency announcements & more.



SHAWNEE TRIBE
CODERED

SIGN UP BY TEXTING
SHAWNEETRIBE
TO 99411



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAG!

Mrs. Jannetta "Mag" Walls turns 102 this February 25th. She was born the oldest of six to William and Luellen Greenfeather in Ramona, Oklahoma. Mag lived most of her life in Parsons, Kansas and credits her longevity to her faith and love of family. She currently lives at Go-Ye Village in Tahlequah.

Do you have an elder relative celebrating a significant birthday? Let us know by emailing media@shawnee-tribe.com or calling 918-542-2441.

CALL FOR RECIPES!

SUMMER DISHES

In the May 2023 issue, we plan to share some of our citizens favorite summer recipes. Dig out your family cookbooks! Ask Grandma what goes in her ambrosia or how Uncle makes his collard greens.

From traditional foods prepared over the fire to college dorm microwave cooking and everything in between, send us whatever you'd like to share most.

Email your recipe to media@shawnee-tribe.com, or give us a call at 918-542-2441 if you want to tell us over the phone. We will include as many as space allows.

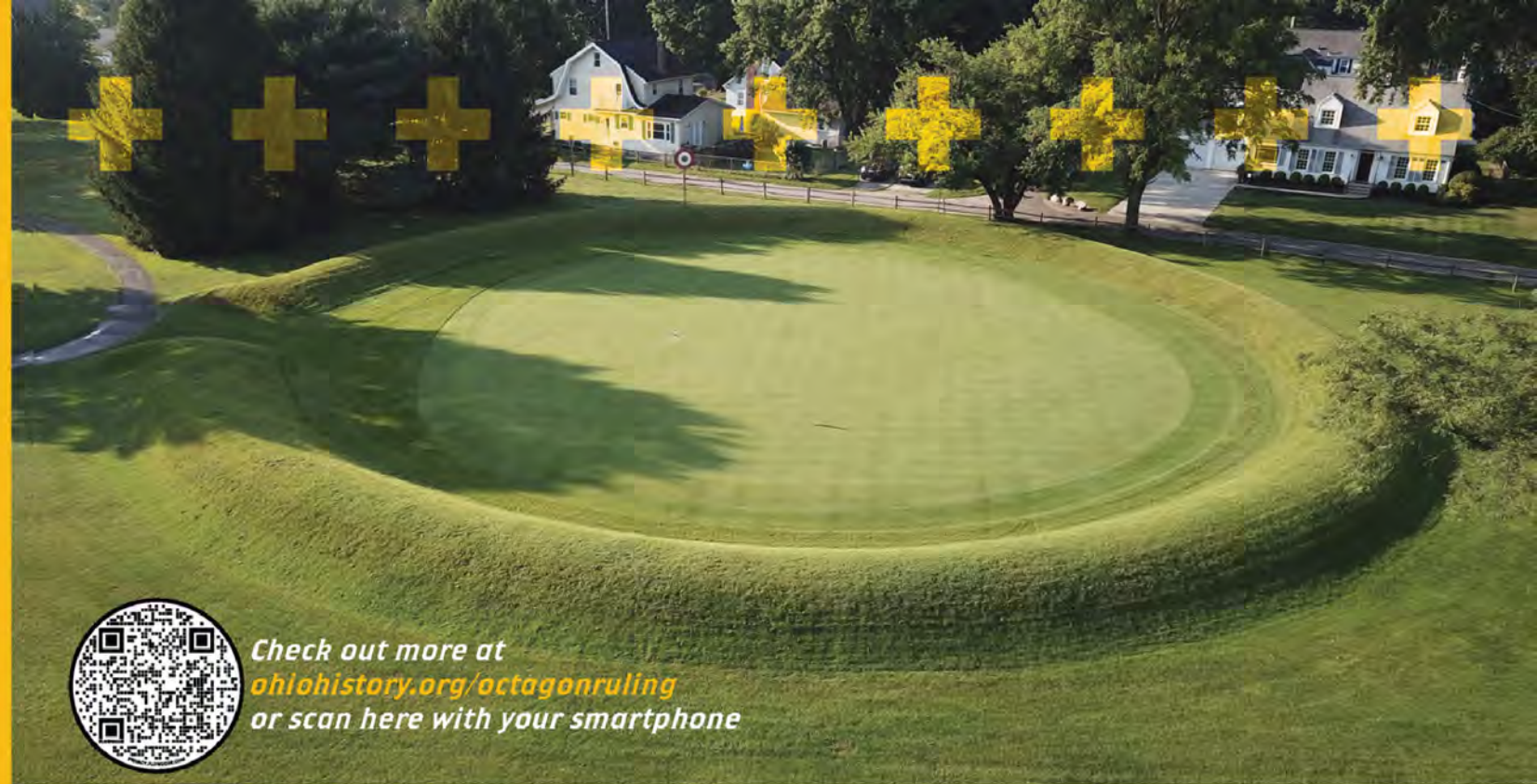


weemeyakwe

“where we are from”

This new section of the Shawnee Journal will bring you news, updates and historic information about the various places to which Shawnee people have historic ties.

The Shawnee Tribe’s ancestral, pre-contact homeland is the greater middle Ohio River Valley region, which stretches through large portions of modern Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Some historians have referred to Shawnee people as the “greatest travelers in America,” having established settlements in more than 20 modern states from present-day Canada, east to the Atlantic seaboard and south to the Gulf of Mexico. We hope that the news and stories shared here will help our citizens bridge the gap between your home today and weemewaaci saawanooki [where Shawnee people came from].



Check out more at ohiohistory.org/octagonruling or scan here with your smartphone

OCTAGON EARTHWORKS RULING IN FAVOR OF OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

NEWARK, OH – The Ohio Supreme Court announced a decision in State ex rel. Ohio History Connection v. Moundbuilders Country Club Co. in favor of the Ohio History Connection (OHC). OHC can now move forward to acquire the Octagon Earthworks lease from the Moundbuilders Country Club, thereby granting full public access to the historical and ancestral site of the Shawnee Tribal Nations.

Part of the once-monumental Newark Earthworks, the Octagon Earthworks were training grounds for the Ohio National Guard for a short period of time at the turn of the 20th century. In 1911, the site was turned into Moundbuilders Country Club, which has been operating ever since. The mounds were deeded to the Ohio History Connection (then known as the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society). In 1997, the country club’s lease was quietly extended to the year 2078. Formal discussions about relocating the country club began in 2013, which led to a lengthy legal dispute that finally received a decision from the Supreme Court of Ohio just last month.

“This [legal dispute] has been going on for over a decade; it was a generational effort,” said Ben Barnes, Chief of the Shawnee Tribe. “The efforts of Burt Logan and Eastern Shawnee Chief Glenna Wallace, in

collaboration with the Ohio History Connection, have brought the Newark Earthworks closer to tribal nations and the Ohio public.”

Logan recently retired after 13 years as Executive Director and CEO of the Ohio History Connection. He has been succeeded by Megan Wood, who began her tenure last August.

“(The decision) recognizes the incredible accomplishments of American Indian ancestors in Ohio,” said Wood. “Our guiding principles through this process have been to enable full public access to the Octagon Earthworks while ensuring Moundbuilders Country Club receives just compensation for the value of the lease.”

A jury trial will be set to determine the value of the lease. The Octagon Earthworks is among a series of sites currently being considered for UNESCO World Heritage status.

“This is huge. This is a win for Native people and the general public,” said Stacey Halfmoon, Executive Director of Shawnee Tribe’s Cultural & Historic Preservation. Halfmoon also worked as the inaugural Director of American Indian Relations for the Ohio History Connection from 2015-2019. “We are thankful for all the work done by the Ohio History Connection and all the tribal nations involved. The Newark Earthworks and its sister sites deserve to have their stories told and protected for future generations.”

The Ohio Supreme Court upheld the decisions by Ohio’s lower courts – the Fifth District Court of Appeals and Licking County Common Pleas Court.

2023

SHAWNEE TRIBE ELECTION

FILING INFORMATION

In accordance with the Constitution of the Shawnee Tribe (Title 6, Shawnee Tribe Elections Act), the Shawnee Tribe Election Committee announces an election shall be held on September 16, 2023, for the following elective offices

BEN BARNES, INCUMBENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

CAROLYN SMITH, INCUMBENT

FIRST COUNCILMAN

DIANA MCLEAN, INCUMBENT

SECOND COUNCILMAN

FILING PERIOD

OPENS
MONDAY
JUNE 5

CLOSES
FRIDAY
JUNE 16



Qualifications for candidacy are outlined in the Elections Act. Scan here with your phone's camera to view online.

MANNER OF FILING

Submit a handwritten or typed statement signed by the candidate indicating intent to run, including title of office in which candidate is filing for, candidate's Shawnee citizen enrollment number, full name, mailing address, primary phone number, and applicable filing fee. Personal checks, cashier's checks, and money orders will be accepted. The Shawnee Tribe Court Clerk will receive filings by mail or in-person delivery. Please call 918-542-2441, ext. 108 to arrange hand-delivered filings. Mail-in filings must be postmarked no later than June 16, 2023.

FILING FEES

Business Council Seat: \$15.00
Office of the Chief: \$25.00

MAILING ADDRESS

Shawnee Tribe
c/o Election Committee
P.O. Box 189
Miami, OK 74355

SHAWNEE YOUTH

LANGUAGE FAIR

Contest open to students from any of the three Shawnee tribes or Shawnee children enrolled in other federally recognized tribes. Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners in each age group.

CATEGORIES & SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

AGE GROUP	SUBMISSION REQUIREMENT
KINDERGARTEN—GRADE 2	SINGLE PAGE POSTER
GRADES 3 & 4	4 PANEL COMIC STRIP
GRADES 5 & 6	6 PANEL COMIC STRIP
GRADES 7 & 8	8 PANEL COMIC STRIP
GRADES 9—12	10 PANEL COMIC STRIP

1ST PLACE \$500

2ND PLACE \$375

3RD PLACE \$250

Contestants may submit their entry using either the BiBaBeBo or Shawnee Language Immersion Program (SLIP) orthography. Artwork may be hand-drawn, digital, clip art, etc. Judging emphasis will be on the submitted dialogue and the student's presentation of their submitted dialogue.

Each participant must be able to present and translate their project to SLIP staff without adult assistance, notes, etc. Participants may submit a video recording of their presentation, or present live via Zoom. A physical copy of the project must be turned in to SLIP following the contestant's presentation.

QUESTIONS? Contact SLIP Director Joel Barnes. joel@shawnee-tribe.com or (918) 542-2441, ext. 118.

DEADLINES & EVENTS

MAR 15	WEDNESDAY REGISTRATION DEADLINE Submit name of participant, grade level and copy of Tribal ID via email to joel@shawnee-tribe.com .
JUN 1	THURSDAY VIDEO PRESENTATION DEADLINE
JUN 16	FRIDAY PHYSICAL PRODUCT DUE
JUL 15	SATURDAY FINAL JUDGING OF ENTRIES & STOMP DANCE Miami, OK. <i>Venue & address TBD</i>

SAAWANWAATOWEEWE

SHAWNEE LANGUAGE WORD SEARCH

menwi Valentine kiiseki! *[Happy Valentine's Day!]*

Find the following words in the puzzle and use them to wish your loved ones a happy heart day this February 14.

WORD BANK

- ni'kaanaki
"my friends"
- nitapelo'fema
"my child"
- nekifehi
"mom"
- no'fehi
"dad"
- niwa
"my wife"
- nipasitooma
"my husband"
- no'koom'fa
"my grandmother"
- nime'soom'fa
"my grandfather"
- nooskiima
"my different gender sibling"
- niceenina
"my same gender sibling"

FIND THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN THE PUZZLE.
WORDS ARE HIDDEN LEFT, DOWN AND DIAGONAL.

p j c a q c r f u q t r e j x
 n o o s k i i m a s a r d d f
 e d r y r q a b a j w c i p u
 n i c e e n i n a u i e s d l
 s g z n o f e h i i i q z j l
 h d j y b v p e m h n w c f o
 n i t a p e l o f e m a v a v
 n i k a a n a k i f p g q t p
 s d v x n i p a s i t o o m a
 n y s k i r p n o k o o m f a
 e s l x i j u n p e f v n k c
 d n w v q a t c j n y r z n i
 n i m e s o o m f a a i l s k
 k p d g t j s w d h z q t x f
 k g i m q a x d u h p x k d p

NOTE: THE GLOTTAL STOPS HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE WORD SEARCH GRID.



WANT SHAWNEE TRIBE NEWS ON COMMAND?

PIYEETAACIMOOWENEEFA *"little news messages"*
 Get your Shawnee Tribe news and updates in real time at shawnee-tribe.com or by signing up for our monthly newsletter, by scanning the QR code on this page.

FOLLOW OUR OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE
 Follow the official Shawnee Tribe Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts @saawanooki.

KNOW ANY SHAWNEES WHO'VE MOVED RECENTLY?
 Let them know to update their address with our enrollment department so they continue receiving tribal news!

EDITOR'S NOTE
 We recognize that digital communications via social media and the internet are not necessarily preferred by or accessible to every citizen of the Shawnee Tribe. As such, we will always strive to introduce new services & programs for citizens through the Shawnee Journal or other direct mailings to all citizens before we broadcast them online.

CUT OUT AND MAIL YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO:

SHAWNEE TRIBE
 29 S HWY 69A
 MIAMI, OKLAHOMA 74354



- I WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP FOR MONTHLY EMAIL UPDATES
- I WOULD LIKE TO UPDATE MY MAILING ADDRESS

CITIZEN NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

FEB

THE SHAWNEE JOURNAL

2023



SHAWNEE TRIBE
29 S HWY 69A
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74354 U.S.A.



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AND CHIEF BARNES
@SHAWNEECHIEF



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THE SHAWNEE TRIBE IS GETTING DIGITAL:
be sure to find us on your favorite social media app to keep
updated on the latest news and information.