Petition process continues despite differing opinions

By Mark Codner
news@newcastlepacer.com

Spencer Housley believes the City of Newcastle has the initiative petition process all wrong and he is continuing to collect signatures in support of moving $1.75 million from the City to Newcastle Public Schools. Housley said many of the legalities the City published in a legal notice in the September 9 issue of the Newcastle Pacer are incorrect.

City Clerk Camille Dowers disagreeing saying, “The petition process is put in. The person making a PETITION is on page 2.”

Healthy projects recognized nationally

NHS students’ projects earn Change Makers Award Monday

By Mark Codner
news@newcastlepacer.com

Two projects by Newcastle High School students have earned national recognition. Through the school’s health course program, leadership students issued a couple of needs and developed the award-winning projects to address those needs.

Because of the students’ efforts, the high school received the HealthCorps’ Change Makers Award Monday night at an event in New York City.

“HealthCorps’ Teens Make Health Happen student engagement program, students at Newcastle outlined two projects aimed at addressing improved physical and mental health on their campus.

“The Newcastle High School students assessed the health of their school community, determined a problem they wanted to tackle, and developed a solution,” said HealthCorps CEO Amy Braun. “It’s that type of health-focused student activism that we encourage at HealthCorps and it’s the actions of teens like these Newcastle students that will help close the health equity gap in communities across the nation.”

The Newcastle students were led by HealthCorps cornerstone program, leadership students in Biology teacher Joel Stark’s garden.

NHS Leadership classes partnered with the Chickasaw Nation to sponsor the Change Makers Award Monday night at an event in New York City.

“The Newcastle students were assessed the health of their school community, determined a problem they wanted to tackle, and developed a solution,” said HealthCorps CEO Amy Braun. “It’s that type of health-focused student activism that we encourage at HealthCorps and it’s the actions of teens like these Newcastle students that will help close the health equity gap in communities across the nation.”

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“Rendezvous at the Zoo” — held at the Central Park Zoo in New York City.

Information from HealthCorps states that the Change Makers Award is part of the event’s celebration of HealthCorps communities and the inspiring activism of today’s teens. All funds raised at the event go towards supporting HealthCorps programming, which will reach 241,000 youth in the upcoming school year, including programs at five Oklahoma schools. HealthCorps programs in Oklahoma are also supported by the Chickasaw Nation.

Burgard, who goes into the NHS Leadership classes periodically to partner with the teachers, said the projects came about last spring as a challenge to the classes. The third floor classroom was given a proposal to build a school garden, while the second class came up with a proposal to help students stay active during lunch time through the use of games such as cornhole, volleyball, and soccer balls.

Through surveys of the student body, faculty, and visual assessment of the school, Burgard said he applied the funds toward the construction of the gardens and positive additions to the ADEDITIONS on page 3.

Ferguson-Harris nationally recognized

She is a JOM Teacher of Year

By Mark Codner
news@newcastlepacer.com

Newcastle goes national once again as one of its administrators has received recognition for her work.

Kristi Ferguson-Harris, assistant superintendent of schools, has been chosen as one of her colleagues nationwide to receive the Johnson O’Malley Award.

She was nominated in a selection from the Chickasaw Nation for representing the eastern central part of the United States.

Jackie White, a national board member for Johnson O’Malley through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, said Ferguson-Harris was chosen from among nominees because of the work she has done to improve the services for students.

“She is an outstanding educator and leader with Johnson O’Malley,” said White. “She is a JOM Teacher of Year.”

Kristi Ferguson-Harris
JOM Teacher of Year

Police Sergeant Kendrae Traylor donates during the Boots and Badges Blood Drive last week in Newcastle (related photos inside).
Furniture Fundraiser - State of Schools Luncheon planned by Chamber

Newcastle Chamber of Commerce has a couple of activities scheduled for the month of September. They are planning a golf tournament fund raiser and a luncheon.

The Newcastle Chamber Annual Golf Tournament will begin at 5 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27 at Hidden Trails Golf Course (4151 S. Country Club Drive in Newcastle). Registration will be obtained at the door, with Captain Director Tony Poirot serving as the registration chairman. Cash or check are due by the entry dead-

Luncheon is being offered for donations and will be held on Thursday, Sept. 29 in the Community Meeting Room at Newcastle Library.

Several new members have joined the Chamber. They are: Aqua Biotics, Roberta’s Donut, Low Rider Supermarket, and Cross Five.

In a recent election, Mayor Clay said that experts have estimated that the growth is going to increase per house which he wants to reiterate what Housley said. Another Newcastle resi-

...
**EDUCATOR:** 'Servant leadership guides her steps'

Native students’ White said, adding that JOM includes pro-
gress such as culture, lan-
guage, academics and drop-
out prevention.

Ferguson-Harris will travel to the JOM National Confer-
ence on September 28-29 in Atlantic City, New Jersey at Har-
rah’s Resort and Conven-
tion Center, where she will be honored.

A recommendation letter from the Chickasaw Nation said, “Ms. Ferguson-Harris truly is the type of person who is kind, thoughtful and has a clear vision for what servant leadership guides her every step and that enthusiasm is her passion.”

The evening’s program ended on Thursday, September 16, 2021.

**ADDITIONS: Goal is to inspire healthier communities**

The supplies have been or-
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ect and as soon as they ar-
rive they will be available for
students to use in hot pro-
gress on the garden has been ham-
pered by the record heat and weather, which again reached 100 degrees on Saturday.

“Tina is kind, thoughtful and has
has been helping him as they wait
for cooler weather to plant the
The letter continues to dis-

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**Newcastle Schools Families,**

It has been a beneficial year for many of us, but challenges also exist. I saw many positives in school sites over the last school year as we all had to adapt to new circumstances. We are grateful for the distance we were able to maintain with your children. Fighting COVID-19 in a school setting means we are all part of an interconnected network in some form. It is not a normal school year deep down, although we are better prepared and it is comforting to have kindness and collaboration we have never seen before.

New Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines have been posted on our website at newcastle.k12.ok.us. These guidelines have been updated based on recommendations from the Oklahoma State Department of Health and medical professionals who are parents in our community. Changes are based on our own data and the impact the virus has on students and staff in our schools. Quarantine changes have been directed rather than mandated by the state. We ask for your cooperation to enact this change for the safety of our students and staff.

As always, my request to you is to please do your part to prevent the spread of the virus. We recommend mask wearing according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health guidelines, updated case and vaccination information weekly. To prevent the virus from spreading among our student body, keep public spaces clean, and keep your student at home if symptoms are present.

I would like to also commend the parents who have been steadfast in their efforts to protect our students. Our transportation challenges are a part of a reality. COVID-19 is among our most serious challenges. I am committed to our schools and students, and I know that with your support and cooperation we can make the Sunday preceding Labor Day as “Labor Sunday” to celebrate the efforts of our teachers, health care workers, federal employees, and others who are part of the country’s response to the pandemic. I ask you to think of those who have been working on the front lines and those who are facing the consequences of the pandemic as we all work to get back to normal.

We encourage you to continue to follow the guidelines and restrictions set forth by the state and local health departments as we work to combat the spread of the virus. Please stay safe, and be well.

Melanie Haub
Superintendent of Schools

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**OKLAHOMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

From the desk of Rep. Brad Boles

_Biden vaccine mandate is government overreach_**

President Biden signed an executive order mandating that all federal employees and contractors be vaccinated against COVID-19. The mandate will affect an estimated 17 million people. This includes employees of small and large businesses, federal workers, and contractors. Biden has declared that “We’re at a turning point in the pandemic because we have the tools to turn it around.”

_Biden vaccine mandate in schools_**

Biden has also issued a mandate that all school staff, including teachers, must be vaccinated against COVID-19. This mandate affects all public and private schools across the country. The mandate is expected to be enforced by the Civil Service Commission and the Department of Education.

_Biden vaccine mandate for healthcare workers_**

Biden has issued a mandate that all healthcare workers, including those working in hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities, must be vaccinated against COVID-19. This mandate affects an estimated 20 million healthcare workers.

_Biden vaccine mandate for workers in critical infrastructure_**

Biden has issued a mandate that all workers in critical infrastructure sectors, including transportation, energy, and food and agriculture, must be vaccinated against COVID-19. This mandate affects an estimated 40 million workers.

_Biden vaccine mandate for military personnel_**

Biden has issued a mandate that all military personnel, including active duty and reserve components, must be vaccinated against COVID-19. This mandate affects an estimated 1.4 million military personnel.

_Biden vaccine mandate for federal contractors_**

Biden has issued a mandate that all federal contractors, including those working on federal contracts, must be vaccinated against COVID-19. This mandate affects an estimated 10 million contractors.

_Biden vaccine mandate for international travel_**

Biden has issued a mandate that all international travelers must be vaccinated against COVID-19 before entering the United States. This mandate affects an estimated 20 million international travelers.

_Biden vaccine mandate for federal contractors_**

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**Chickasaw Lighthouse Police Department expands outreach through social media**

The Chickasaw Nation is utilizing social media to inform Chickasaw citizens and Oklahomans of the critical impact of Chickasaw Lighthouse Police and the work performed by the department.

A new Facebook page dedicated to highlighting the tribal police force was launched last week.

Chance Plett, public safety information officer for the Chickasaw Nation, said the new social media launch has been received well and is growing.

“We are pleased to have a new avenue to feature the Lighthouse Police Department and its outstanding services. We will share important information, stories and statistics, as well as our involvement with numerous community partners which include, federal, state, county and city entities and schools,” he said.

“Perhaps most importantly, we are going to be highlighting the dedicated men and women who serve, their accomplishments, and how we can interact with our communities daily.”

The page will also be used to promote public safety and community service initiatives. Plett said examples include a “back to school” bus safety awareness campaign and upcoming campaigns focusing on the dangers of driving under the influence, domestic violence awareness and other topics.

“The Chickasaw Nation will use the page to recruit new Lighthouse employees, as well. The department is growing,” Plett said.

From dispatchers to officers and investigators, Lighthouse is expanding to meet the needs of citizens, the public and our communities.”

Recently, the Chickasaw Nation reported a dozen law enforcement professionals were hired, bringing the total number of Lighthouse officers to 77. From mid March through Sept. 3, Chickasaw Lighthouse fielded an average of 2,500 dispatch calls per week and made 1,656 arrests on more than 1,874 charges. Tribal law enforcement and prosecutors handled 1,100 criminal cases in Chickasaw Nation Tribal Court. The department remains focused on ensuring public safety and meeting the Chickasaw Nation’s law enforcement responsibilities under the law.

“We are going to use the page to share information about tribal court cases and how they work, connect followers to our victim’s hotline, promote Lighthouse Police public safety messages and initiatives, and share updates of tribal court activity,” Plett said.

“We are also going to use the page for history, culture and language of the Chickasaw people.”

“Lighthouse” is a historic name given by the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole Nations to their mounted police force. Once removed to the Indian Territory, the Five Tribes created the elite Lighthouse police to serve and protect their citizens.

The force was disbanded in the late 19th century in preparation for Oklahoma statehood. Chickasaw Lighthouse Police were reconstituted in 2004, and lawmen are responsible for enforcement in three precincts.

The Ada precinct serves the southeastern region of the Chickasaw Nation, covering 2,240 square miles and five counties, Coal, Garvin, Johnston, Murray and Pontotoc. The Ada precinct dispatches 22 officers who are the primary first responders to calls for service within the Chickasaw Nation.

The Newcastle precinct serves the northwestern region of the Chickasaw Nation with 16 officers, covering 2,209 square miles and three counties, Grady, McClain and Stephens.

The WinStar precinct serves Thackerville, home of the world’s largest casino, WinStar World Casino and Resort. Covering 2,793 square miles and five counties, the WinStar precinct partners with citizens and visitors of Bryan, Carter, Jefferson, Love and Marshall counties.

**Young Chickasaw public servant elected mayor**

**SULPHUR, Oklahoma —** In the history of Sulphur University studies, Chickasaw Nation Citizen Harizada added meaningful duties to his schedule. Electing Harizada, as one of the youngest city councilors at 42, serves his community’s history at age 18, Harizada was designated mayor of Sulphur earlier this year. At 19, he is one of the youngest mayors ever to serve in the nation.

His duties as mayor include leading the meeting and helping the city manager set the meeting agenda. The one big difference for him by way of mayor, he said, is fielding phone calls from all city citizens, not just those who reside in his ward.

“I enjoy talking to people and learning what people are thinking,” Harizada said.

The life-long Sulphur resident originally filed for the Ward 2 seat to be involved in public service.

“Since I was 10, I have wanted to be involved in government and help people. I saw running for city councilman as a great way to do that all of that,” he said.

In the 18 months since he joined the council, Harizada has been involved in approving the city budget, hiring a new police chief and working to establish long and short-term goals and objectives for the city.

“I am getting better as a community,” he said, noting the city is currently working with an electrical utility on community assessment with a goal of attracting more businesses to the city of about 5,000.

The City of Sulphur is also working with the Chickasaw Nation to provide community protection for all citizens.

“We are working with the Chickasaw Lighthouse Police through our department to better serve our community,” Harizada said.

The city also works hand-in-hand with the Chickasaw Nation on several projects including infrastructure and, most recently, a summer concert series hosted by the Artesian Hotel.

“Sulphur has really invested in the community with the Artesian Hotel, bringing in a lot of tax dollars to the city,” Harizada said.

The city added the new Chickasaw Head Start building, opened in 2018, as an enhancement to the area. The Chickasaw Nation center serves 80 children, ages 4, from the community.

He has first-hand experience with early education programs, since he is one of the four elected to the board.

“The Chickasaw Nation has really helped me out a lot - starting at Head Start, and with medical care. They are even helping me with grants and scholarships right now.”

When he is not volunteering his time as mayor and city councilman, Harizada is a sophomore at the University of Oklahoma, majoring in political science with a minor in voters and campaign, and pre-law.

“On election night I will stay up as long as it takes just to see what happens,” he said.

His ambitions and long-term goals are well defined and inspired by First Americans, such as current U.S. Rep. Tom Cole.

“I hope to be one of those great Chickasaw one day, hopefully in government.”

By gaining legislative experience at a young age, he hopes to learn best practices for a future career in government.

**SULPHUR MAYOR CEDEN HARIZADA**

Harizada is the third Chickasaw nation citizen to be elected mayor, following Ben Parker Filley in 1987 and Floyd Coal in 1997. He is the son of Ceden and Carol Harizada, from the Plains community of the Chickasaw Nation in southeastern Oklahoma.

While recently working a summer job with Murray County Commissioner Chad Williams on the road crew, he took note of the county’s processes and hopes to apply the knowledge in his position as mayor.

Harizada’s Chickasaw heritage can be traced to his maternal great-grandfather Ben Seeley, a Blood Chickasaw citizen.

Financial coaching offered to First Americans at no charge

The Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition, (ONAC) is providing free financial coaching to First Americans across the United States at no charge. Financial coaching includes credit counseling, homeowner education and financial management (i.e., budgeting).

One-hour confidential sessions are offered one-on-one, by teleconference (Zoom) or phone call. Felicia Freeman (Citizen Potawatomi), a certified credit counselor, homeowner education provider and financial educator, hosts the sessions.

First Americans interested in participating are encouraged to complete the following registration form: SurveyMonkey.com/r/ONACounselingRegistration.

Since the form was submitted, an ONAC financial coach will work to schedule a remote session by phone or teleconference. This confidential financial coaching is available to any First American or Alaska Native in the United States, regardless of where they reside.

For any questions about these financial coaching services, contact ONAC Program Manager Kristen Wagner at (314) 626-3088 or KWagner@OKNativeAssets.org.
We come to you! Automobiles, RV's can place your ad in 148 newspapers. 1-888-815-2672. an ad, contact Landon Cobb at text 918-288-2222 www.stringswest,com

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2. High schoolers’ test
3. Ask humbly
4. Prosecutors
5. Nursemaids
6. Partner to cheese
7. Little bird (help (abbr.)
8. Soluble ribonucleic acid
9. Young goat
10. Coats a porous surface
11. Save hundreds, no
12. Garment of long cloth
13. Compound in guano and
14. Containing a broader
15. Plants of a particular re-
16. Noisy viper
17. “__ than a doornail”
18. Car mechanics group
19. Insane
20. A line left by the passage
21. Be the most remarkable
22. Taxi
23. “Final Fantasy” universe
character
24. Butler solutions
25. Mediterranean animal
26. The tops of mountains
27. Expression of disapprov-
28. High schoolers’ test
29. Fantastical planet
30. Skeletal muscle
31. You drive on one
32. Austrian river
33. Denotes a time long ago
34. Plants of a particular re-
35. A command to list files
36. Expression of disapprov-
37. By and by
38. A way to sell
39. A set to
40. A line left by the passage
41. Indicates near
42. Where wrestlers com-
43. One’s interests
44. Prosecutors
45. Tell to a person
46. Swiss river
47. Does not accept medical
48. Soluble ribonucleic acid
49. Hammerin’ Hank
50. Indicates silence
51. Lowest point of a ridge
52. NFL’s Newton
53. Artistic devices
54. Elaborately draped gar-
55. Drunkard
56. Expression of satisfac-
57. Thus
58. Expression of satisfac-
59. Noon
60. Car mechanics group
61. One point east (clock-
62. Austrian river
63. Plants of a particular re-
64. Plants of a particular re-
65. Plants of a particular re-
66. Latches a window
67. Swarm with
68. Expression of disapprov-
69. Plants of a particular re-
70. Either

CLUES DOWN
1. Split pulses
2. High schoolers’ test
3. Ask humbly
4. Prosecutors
5. Nursemaids
6. Partner to cheese
7. Little bird (help (abbr.)
8. Soluble ribonucleic acid
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Racers can’t hold the road to Tuttle

By Matt Montgomery

The Tuttle Tigers upset the Newcastle Racers last Friday night at Bill Hinkle Field, 35-7.

“It’s really tough to win on the road and we didn’t do anything to help ourselves out, and I made some poor decisions during the game,” head coach Jeff Brickman said.

Racers were also hampered by committing 10 penalties for 105 yards.

“Those things add up against a good team and when you do that your chances to win aren’t good,” Brickman said.

Brickman did note the outstanding play of Carson Bolser, who had 100 yards on 24 carries on the offense side of the ball, and Mason Pittman on the defensive side of the ball. Both players graded out in the upper 80s for their performances against the Tigers.

Teague Jordan was also singled out on the Racer head coach. Jordan played 112 snaps Friday night at receiver and corner for Newcastle.

“Teague played well on both sides and graded out in the upper 80s for both his play at corner and receiver,” Brickman said.

Justin Country scored the lone touchdowns for the Racers punching it from one-yard out on a Wildcat formation play where he lined up as the quarterback.

“We have to learn and move on,” Brickman said. “It’s really neat to be a part of a game like that — A rivalry game where you look in the stands and there are 10 thousand people in the stands. It’s a privilege and blessing to coach in those games.”

Up Next for Newcastle

This week the Racers host the Blanchard Lions in another rivalry game.

“We didn’t play last year due to COVID-19 and we are looking forward to competing on Friday night,” Brickman said. “They are different than Tuttle on both sides of the ball.”

Brickman notes the Lions run the spread offense and utilize their two big tight ends.

“This week is a really good football team. They played Noble earlier in the year and had a good showing against a good 5A school,” Brickman said.

“Blanchard is a really difficult team and we need to fix our mistakes from last week and get better. We have a lot of tradition and have won a title recently. They had 10 wins a season ago and have a head coach who we have a lot of respect for.”

Friday night is also Military Appreciation Night and Brickman noted that Newcastle has some special things in store to honor the military.

Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m. at Racer Stadium. Homecoming planning is underway. It will be September 24.

Racers’ Cross Country win 1st at Lawton Meet

Newcastle’s Cross Country teams came home from the Lawton meet at Cameron University on Sept. 10 as champions with both the high school girls and the middle school boys winning first place.

The high school boys took second place, and the middle school girls won fourth place at Lawton, and both the seventh grade and the eighth grade boys’ teams won second place overall at the September 3 meet at Carl Albert.

The Racers head next to compete at the Cowboy Jamboree in Stillwater on Saturday.

By Matt Montgomery

Newcastle’s varsity girls took first place in cross country at Cameron University in Lawton on Saturday. Pictured are: Cammie Howard, Bentley Lindsey, Melia Stucks, Daelyn Fulton, Katie Lewis, Jodyn King, Teagan Painter, Ava Wright, and Ashlyn Vasquez.

Newcastle’s varsity Lady Racers took off for their first place win at the Cameron University meet.

Newcastle’s varsity girls took first place in cross country at Cameron University in Lawton on Saturday. Pictured are: Cammie Howard, Bentley Lindsey, Melia Stucks, Daelyn Fulton, Katie Lewis, Jodyn King, Teagan Painter, Ava Wright, and Ashlyn Vasquez.

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McClain County Court Records

The following persons have been changed by the State of Oklahoma with traffic or other violations. They have filed other court actions in McClain County. These persons were served between September 23, 2021, and October 7, 2021. Bridge City Schools provided this material through specially trained teachers.

Destiny W. Nelson, failure to stop.
Destiny W. Nelson, reckless driving.
Jodey J. Dull, failure to seat.
Jessica M. Futrell, failure to stop.
Jason D. Dobus, rear view.
M. Damgaard, no seatbelt.
Lori A. Baker, no seatbelt.

Mediators

Noni Hall

Folomia

Steven Z. Acosta, burglary, third degree.
Darrell K. F. Calhoun, possession of vehicle of which he was not in right to receive.

Derek S. Mullikin, possession of享受s of delivery.

Tracy L. Lowery, DUI.

David Lambert, falsely per- presented as another.

Small Claims

Villas at Lakeview Court District, $250, entry or defendant under $500.

Hunter Mayfield or Deon Hines, entry or defendant under $500.

Larry Johnson or Hezbollah Waggoner, small claims over $500.

Charlsa Karison or Allstate Insurance Co., small claims under $500.

Tom Scavio or Bryan J. Sis-

October 5, 2021.

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James R. Laird, failure to yield.
Nathan J. Love, no seatbelt.
Destiny W. Nelson, failure to stop.
Destiny W. Nelson, reckless driving.
Jodey J. Dull, failure to seat.
Jessica M. Futrell, failure to stop.
Jason D. Dobus, rear view.
M. Damgaard, no seatbelt.
Lori A. Baker, no seatbelt.

Mediators

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