

## NOTES TO THE NATION JANUARY 16, 2009

### ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR HEATING BILLS

The Osage Nation Housing Department has programs to help Osages living in Osage County with the high costs of heating bills. They have money now and are actively seeking participants. Headright income is not counted in determining eligibility.

**Need help paying your bill? Need a 110 Heating unit? Having Problems with your furnace?**

**If you:**

- \* **are a resident of Osage County / Osage Reservation**
- \* **& possess a tribal C.D.I.B. or membership card**
- \* **& qualify by 150% Poverty Income Guidelines**
- \* **or you receive TANF, SSI or Food Stamps**

**you may qualify for Osage Nation LIHEAP assistance. Please contact the office below to obtain an application or arrange an appointment to come in the office.**

**Osage Nation Housing Department  
Amy Bohner; Intake Specialist  
P.O. Box 147  
Hominy, Oklahoma 74035  
Toll Free: 1-800-490-8771  
Phone: 1-918-287-5310  
Fax: 1-918-287-5568  
Website: [www.osagetribe.com/housing](http://www.osagetribe.com/housing)**

**Please act quickly while funding is available!**

Click here for application: [LIHEAP Application](#)

### OSAGE NATION CONGRESS HOSTING WATCH PARTY

The Osage Nation Congress will be hosting a watch party beginning at 11:30 AM Tuesday, January 20 in the Chambers at the Administration Building in Pawhuska. We will be watching the Presidential Inauguration on television. Refreshments donated by Congress members and staff at no cost to the Nation. Anyone who wishes to attend will be welcome.

The Chief and Assistant Chief will be attending the event in Washington D. C.

Someone has posted on the OSA blog that unelected Executive Branch staff members are going at the Nation's expense. I have been unable to verify this at this time.

### OSAGE LANGUAGE CLASSES STARTING NOW

Osage classes are starting in several locations. For details check these links

<http://www.osagetribe.com/language/info.aspx>

[http://www.osagetribe.com/language/news\\_story.aspx?news\\_id=87](http://www.osagetribe.com/language/news_story.aspx?news_id=87)

## NEWS ARTICLES FROM THE PAST

These articles are taken from Kansas newspapers from the late 1800's. The news was written from the white man's point of view and sometimes the Osage didn't get treated fairly. These excerpts are passed on for their historical value only.

On May 15, 1863, the Osages undoubtedly saved Kansas from a series of devastating Indian attacks. All three of the independent Little Osage bands had located their villages on the Verdigris drainage. The Claremore Big Hills were on Big Hill Creek downstream from Independence, Kansas. All the Little Osage villages were north of Independence. Both the Big Hills and Little Osage villages were on the east side of the Verdigris.

Hard Rope and eight or ten of his men had left the Big Hill village after a visit. Their intention was to go to Osage Mission before returning to their village. They had crossed Drum Creek southeast of Independence when they spotted a group of mounted white men. Approaching the party of about twenty-two men, Hard Rope asked them to identify themselves. The men replied that they were a detachment of Union irregulars stationed at Fort Humboldt. Hard Rope told them he knew the men stationed at Humboldt and he did not see any familiar faces among their party. The men ignored the request of the Osages to accompany them to Fort Humboldt for identification. As they started to move away, the Osages tried to restrain them. In the ensuing scuffle, one of the white men shot and killed an Osage. Being outnumbered, Hard Rope withdrew his men and sent a messenger to the nearby Big Hill village for help. The Osage chiefs, Hard Rope and Little Beaver, set off with about 200 warriors in pursuit of the Confederate officers. When they overtook the soldiers, the Osage split into several groups, herding the Confederates about five miles from a loop in the Verdigris River, which ran swift and deep, cutting off an escape. During the chase, one Osage warrior and two Confederate officers were killed. The Osages used the timber on the flanks of the white men for shelter and ultimately forced the Confederates out on a gravel bar. From the tree shelter, the Osages fired upon them. Out of ammunition, the soldiers dismounted and faced the Indians in hand-to-hand combat. Eighteen were scalped and beheaded and two escaped. Finding that one of the dead was bald, the Osage warriors removed his long beard and added it to the scalps they carried off. From the uniforms and recovered papers, it was determined that these men had been Confederate officers. Their mission was to disperse among the various northern Indian Nations and to stir them into attacking northern settlements. Thus, the Osages saved Kansas from a series of devastating Indian raids.

By the terms of the treaty of 1863, made at LeRoy, Kansas, which was signed by the Osages but not ratified by the government, the Osages sold part of their land to the government and agreed to move westward to the Verdigris. It was understood that the government would sell the land thus acquired to settlers who began to come in great numbers even before the close of that year. In fact, the white settlers were so numerous, and insisted that their children be allowed to attend the Osage Mission School, that the Indian children were almost forced out, as pupils, by the overwhelming white children. This was quite a strain on the Mission, since Osage Mission was primarily supported by the government for the Indians.

*Walnut Valley Times*, November 24, 1871.

### **From the Arkansas City TRAVELER.**

Two men were found murdered within a short distance of Arkansas City a short time ago. Supposed to be the work of Osage Indians.