

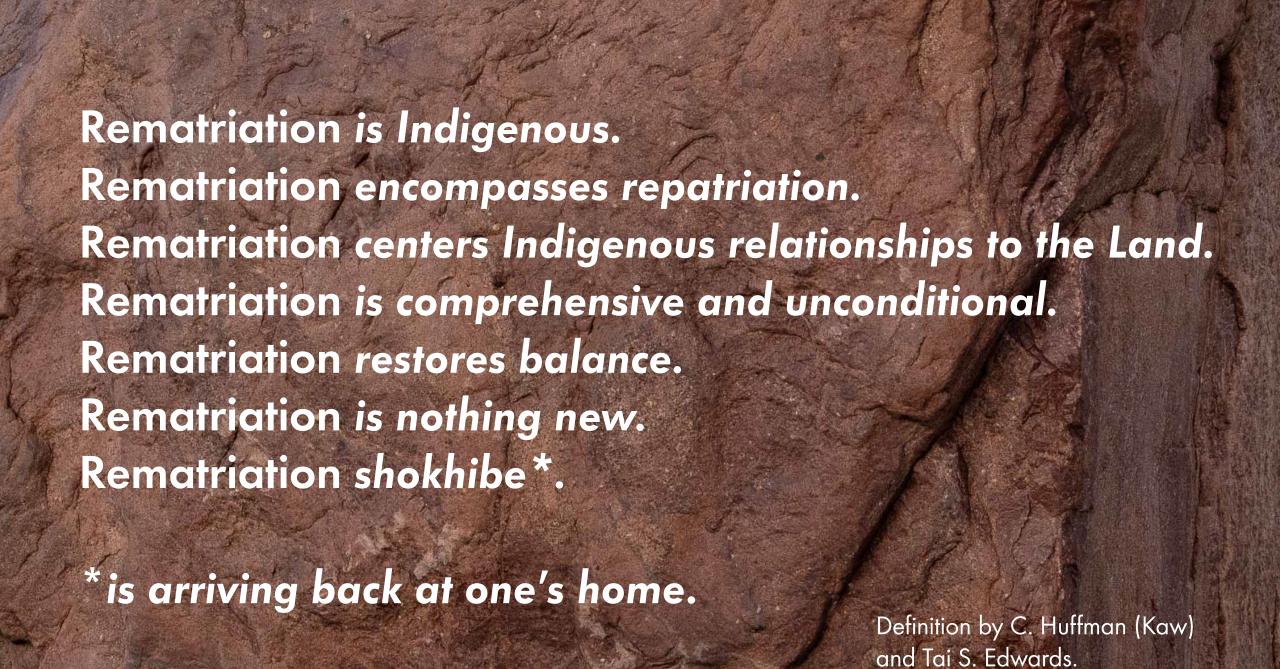


Rematriation of In'zhúje'waxóbe Sacred Red Rock

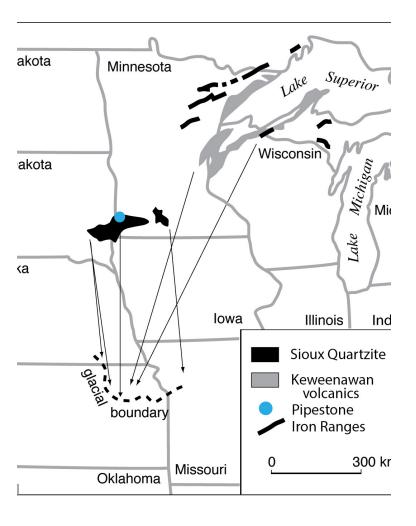
AAM Annual Meeting | May 18, 2024

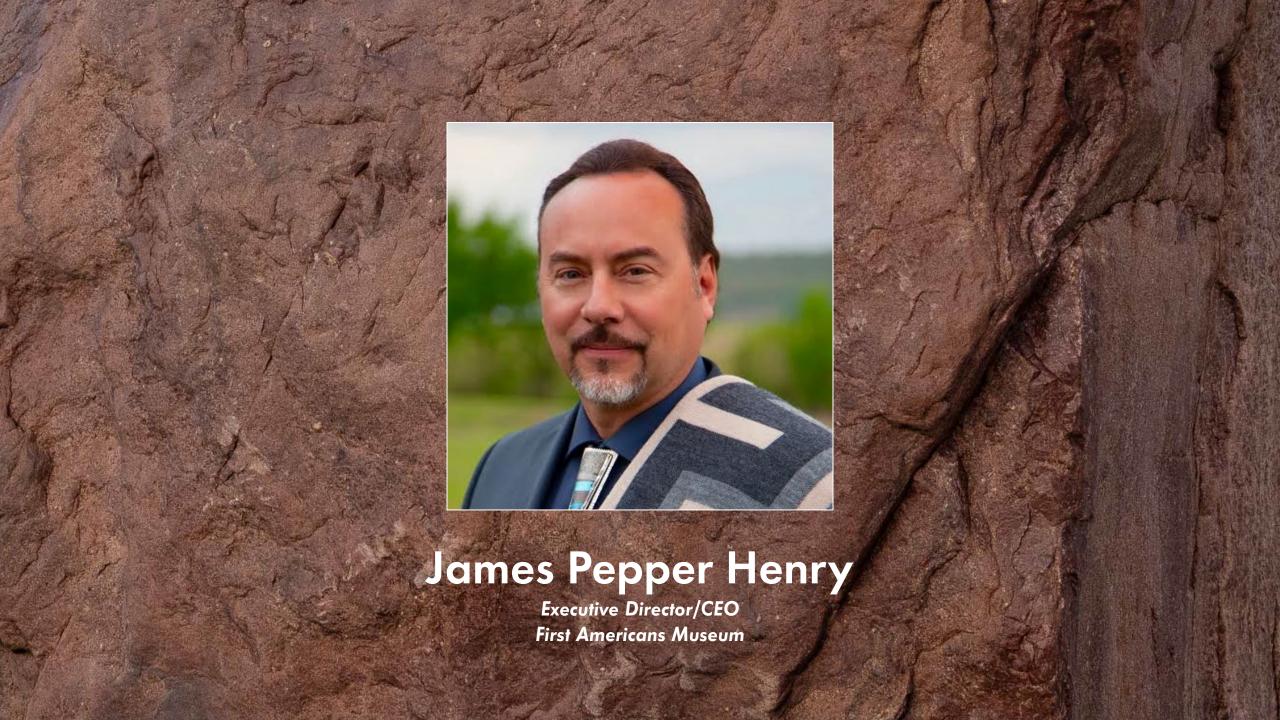






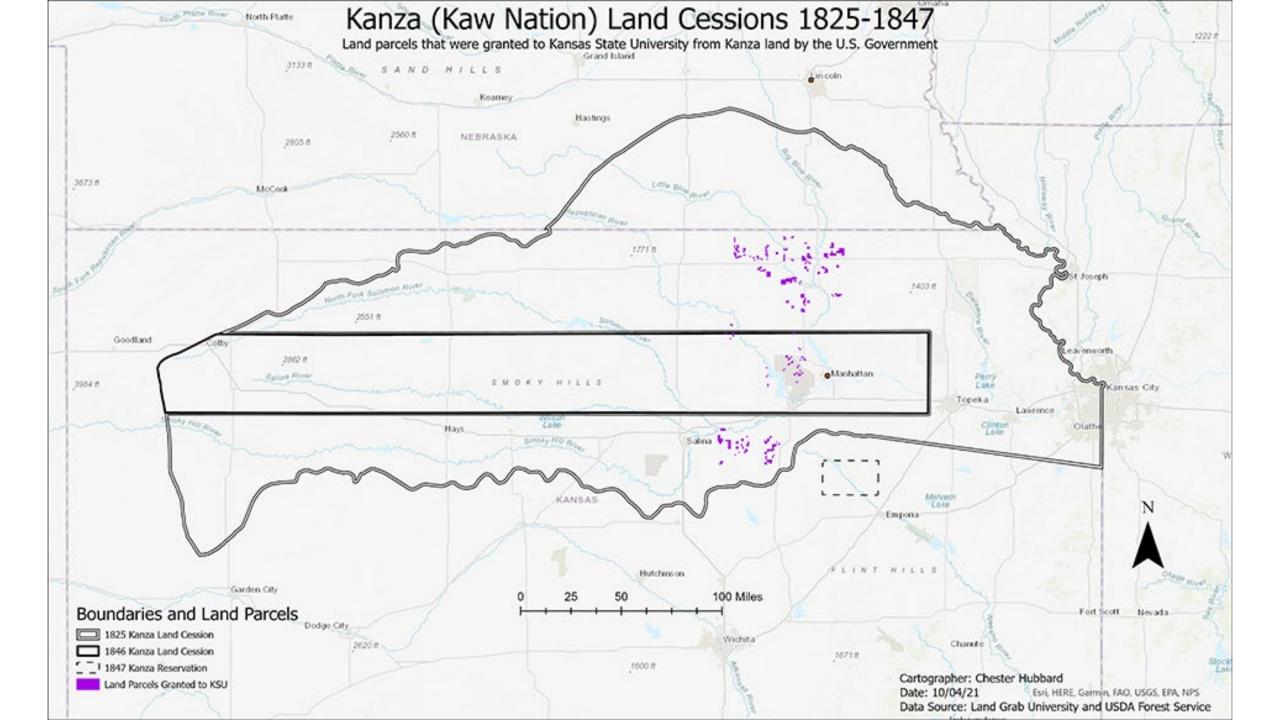


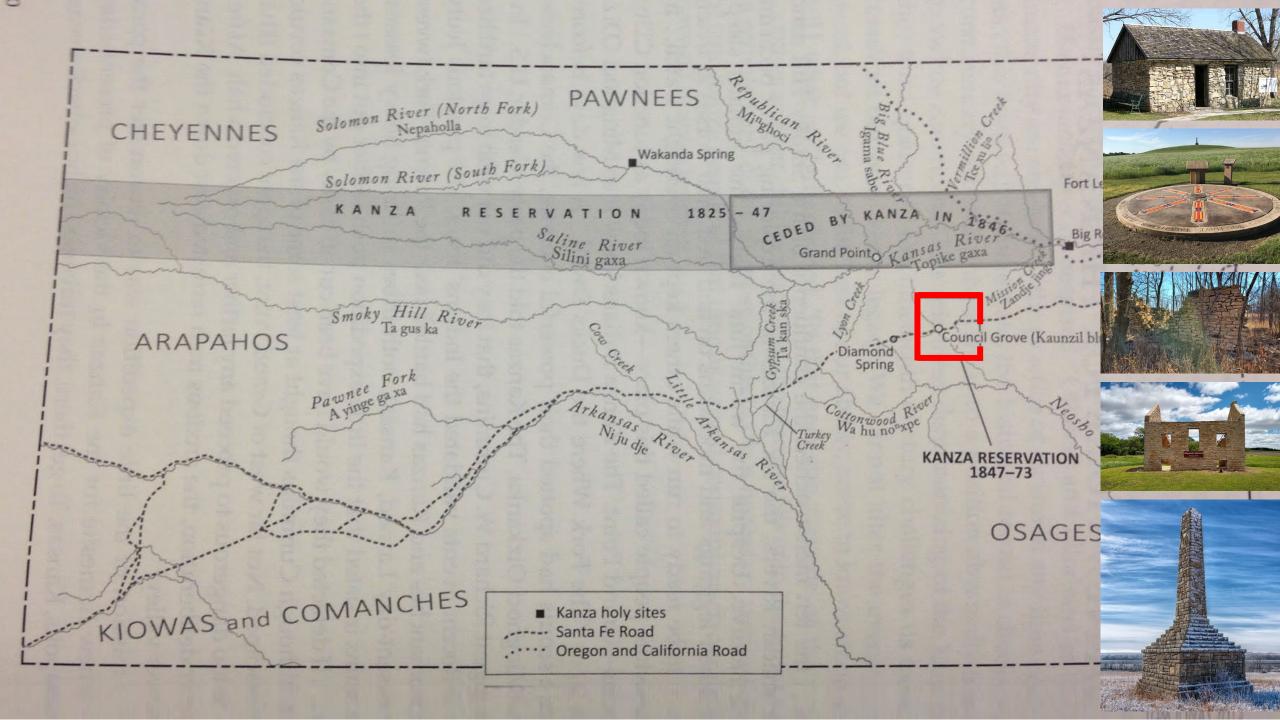
















1854

1929

TO THE PIONEERS OF KANSAS WHO IN DEVOTION TO HUMAN FREEDOM CAME INTO A WILDERNESS SUFFERED HARDSHIPS AND FACED DANGERS AND DEATH TO FOUND THIS STATE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS.

THESE WERE THE FIRST TO COME UNDER THE AUS-PICES OF THE NEW ENGLAND EMIGRANT AID COMPANY. THEY FOUNDED THE CITY OF LAWRENCE.

THE FIRST PARTY OF TWENTY NINE MEN LEFT MASSACHUSETTS JULY 17, 1854 AND ARRIVED HERE AUGUST 1,1854.

Old Song-Prayer Chart Of the Kansa Indians

The numbers have been placed to identify the 27 objects of the songs as herein given.





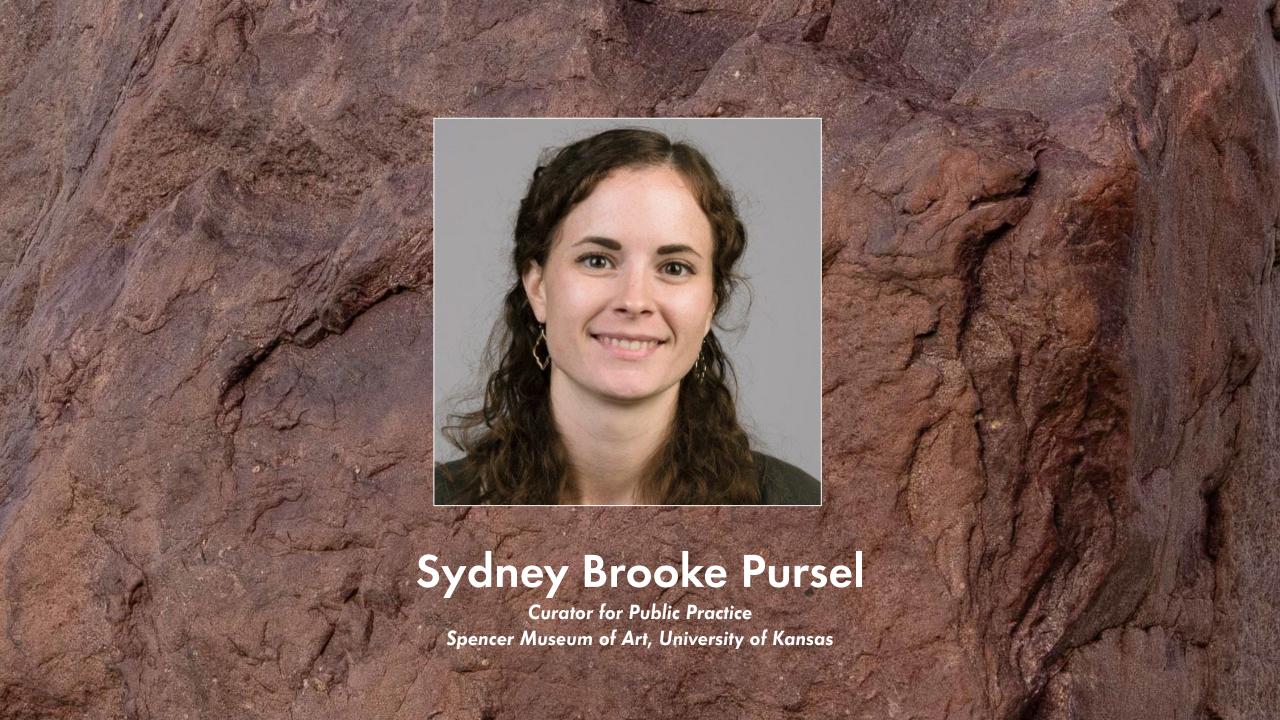














Jim Pepper Henry, historic preservation officer for the Kaw Nation in Kaw City, Okla, says, "We have ceremonies that have evolved and are older than even Christianity

Kansas tribes work to preserve their religious history and culture



The Indian Burial Pit near Salina — a longtime Kansas tourist attraction for more than half a century - is an example of a Native American sacred site that in recent years was closed to the public.

By Beccy Tanner

acred Native American sites in Kansas are taking on new meaning as tribal representatives search to preserve their tribe's culture and history.

In the past, such sites were recognized publicly only by state historians and archaeologists - largely because the tribes have long since been removed from Kansas, and partly because tribal members wanted to keep them private so curiosity seekers wouldn't desecrate

But in recent months, the Kaw Indians have started identifying once-sacred sites in the state, including a rock in Lawrence now sitting in a city park and across from the town's city hall

These sites are central to the practice of Native American religions. Tribal representatives say they should be treated with the same respect as the sacred sites and rituals of other religions.

"We have ceremonies that have evolved and are older than even Christianity or Islam," said Jim Pepper Henry, the Kanza Museum director and historic preservation officer for the Kaw Nation in Kaw City, Okla.

When Native American tribes were forcibly removed from Kansas more than a century ago, those sacred sites were

left behind. Pepper Henry said. The Kaw Indians have obtained a grant to identify what sites still exist, and they hope to raise money to purchase them.

One sacred site that cannot be saved is Waconda Springs - near Cawker City in north-central Kansas - where Native American tribes believed God created a fountain of mystic medicine and the spirit of the sun.

European pioneers added to that story creating a legend about an Indian maid

See SACRED, Page 2E

Kaw Nation seeks sacred rock

■ Rock in Lawrence was moved in 1928 to honor Kansas pioneers.

By Beccy Tanner

he city hall in Lawrence sits across the street from a huge red granite boulder the Kaw Indians say is sacred.

The rock, which geologists say was deposited by a glacier millions of years ago, originally was located along the banks of the Kaw River at the mouth of Shunganunga Creek. In 1928, it was moved to Robinson Park in front of Lawrence's City Hall. A plaque was then placed on the 25-ton rock honoring the town's European founders.

The Kaw say the plaque and the fact that the rock was moved 70 years ago desecrate the sa-

credness of the rock. Long before European pioneers settled in Kansas, the Kaw people — for whom the state of Kansas is named after — used the rock, connecting it with religious ceremonies and a place

where the Kaws could obtain their pipestone. "It is an ancient prayer rock," said Jim Pepper Henry, Kanza Museum director and historic preservation officer for the Kaw Nation in Kaw

The Kaws had 89 songs for this one rock alone. The Kaw believe that along the Kansas River there are several spirit villages where the souls of warriors and all good dreamers went on their death. We believe that vicinity is sacred ground and the rock was an altar."

Pepper Henry said that the Kaw Nation would like to return the rock to its original location and again recognize the sacredness of the Kansas

"The state has our name - the Kaw name is on everything and yet, we have no presence in

See ROCK, Page 2E settled in Kansas.



Since 1928, this rock in Lawrence has honored early pioneers who settled the city. But tribal members of the Kaw Nation say the rock was theirs long before Europeans

2E THE WICHITA EAGLE Saturday, June 13, 1998

SACRED

From Page 1E

named Waconda who came across a wounded man crying for water. She hurried to the spring and brought him water in a deerskin bag.

The two discovered they were from rival tribes, but by this time, they were in love. The girl's father wouldn't allow the two to marry. A war broke out, and the wounded man, named Takota, was killed by an arrow. He fell into the springs, and Waconda, who had been watching, ran to the water's edge and with raised arms appealed to the gods and plunged in after him.

Around the turn of the century, the springs were commercialized into a health resort with a hotel and brewery known as Waconda Springs. The area has since been covered over by Glen Elder Lake.

"Waconda Springs was destroyed." said Don Blakeslee, an associate professor of anthropology at Wichita State University. He has spent the past decade researching Native American sacred sites throughout the Midwest.

"Pawnee Rock, another sacred site, was quarried away by early settlers. You try to protect these sites and put them on something like a state historic register but that only provides more advertising than it does protection."

Most of these sites are on private land and usually only the landowners and a few archaeologists are aware when they are destroyed. And those sites are not only in Kansas.

Sheila Dave, a Kiowa-Comanche and board chairman for the Mid-America All-Indian Center, said several tribes in the northwest part of the country also are trying to preserve their sacred sites.

"It's a sensitive issue," she said of their efforts.

Often the sites have significance

beyond the state itself.

The Penoke Stone Figure in Graham County in northwest Kansas - a 60-foot figure of a man - is the only one of its kind in the state, similar to those found in the Dakotas that were destroyed by early pioneers who simply moved the rocks.

The five council circles in McPherson and Rice counties in central Kansas are similarly significant. Each circle has a series of four 25-to 30-foot kidney-shaped structures surrounding them. Three of the circles in Rice County are visible from each other only during the equinoxes. They may have been built by Quivira/Wichita Indians and used during sacred ceremonies to promote the growing seasons.

The burial pit near Salina that was closed to the public in 1989 was considered sacred by the Pawnees.

And then, there are the intaglios - animal figures dug into trenches along hillsides. One figure is near Lyons, another near Waconda Lake. and four are near Goddard.

Some of the sites have been destroyed through farming practices. Some states, such as Texas, encourage land stewardship and provide tax incentives for landowners to preserve archaeological sites.

"It is a tricky situation," said Randy Theis, a cultural resources specialist for the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka. "Here we are trying to make people aware. but not so aware that they cause vandalism. The other thing is that sometime the natural elements do more damage than anything."

Such was the case of one of the state's premiere Native American petroglyphs in Ellsworth County in central Kansas when it crumbled and was destroyed nearly two years ago. The large drawing showed an Indian lying in the foreground with teepees in the background.

"There isn't much a tribe can do except talk with landowners and ask them to be respectful of these sacred sites," Pepper Henry said.

Beccy Tanner can be reached at 268-6336 or btanner@wichitaeagle.com



Kansas State Historical Society

During the dedication ceremonies in 1928, leaders of Lawrence placed a plaque on this rock honoring the town's early founders.

ROCK

From Page 1E

Kansas," Pepper Henry said. "We are in the process of identifying the places that were sacred to us. We know we can't go back in time and roam the plains. We know there are now fences, roads and boundaries. But many of our sacred places have long since been developed. Those that are left are few and they are, to us, very special."

Lawrence City Manager Mike Wildgen said earlier this week he'd never heard the rock was sacred to the Kaw.

"I assume that if they approached the city, the city commission would take it under advisement," he said.

Beccy Tanner can be reached at 268-6336 or btanner@wichitaeagle.com







Kaw Nation asks for Big Red Rock

Kim Callahan/Journal-World Photo

THE SHUNGANUNGA BOULDER, pictured Wednesday, is a 23-ton red quartzite rock that sits in Robinson Park in downtown Lawrence across from City Hall.



KAW NATION

Drawer 50 Kaw City, OK 74641 (580) 269-2552 phone (866) 404-5297 toll free www.kawnation.com

November 30, 2020

Honorable Jennifer Ananda, Mayor City Hall 6 East 6th Street Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Mayor Ananda,

Greetings, I hope this correspondence finds you well.

On Sunday, October 11, 2020, the Kaw Nation held its quarterly General Council meeting. At that meeting, Kaw Nation citizens overwhelmingly voted in favor of having In 'zhúje 'waxóbe or the "Big Red Rock" (as it is more commonly known) returned to the Kaw people. Please accept this letter as a formal claim of ownership of In 'zhúje 'waxóbe, currently residing in Robinson Park in Lawrence, Kansas, and for its unconditional return to the Kaw Nation.

It is in the sacred to the Kaw people and considered an item of cultural patrimony. Our stewardship of this rock and its significance as a spiritual item of prayer for our people is well documented by white anthropologists and witnesses including James Owen Dorsey and George Morehouse. After our removal from Kansas to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) in 1873, our people no longer had access to F'zhuje 'waxóbe at its original location near the confluence of the Kansas River and Shunganunga Creek, just outside of Topeka. White settlers understood the ceremonial significance and sacred nature of this rock to the Kaw people. Ignoring this fact, It zhuje 'waxóbe was appropriated by the descendants of White settlers and, in 1929, was removed from its original location to Robinson Park and re-dedicated to "the pioneers of Kansas who in devotion to human freedom came into a wildemess, suffered hardships and faced danger and death to found this state in righteousness."

Our intent for the return of *P'zhúje 'waxôbe* is to reclaim our role as its original stewards and to respectfully restore and renew its significance as a sacred item of prayer for our people. We have no intent to remove this item from Kansas, but to bring it to a new home at Allegawaho Menorial Heritage Park in Council Grove. The park is owned and maintained by the Kaw Nation and is open to the public. Here, the rock will join other monuments of historical significance to the Kaw people and the citizens of Kansas. Our long-range goal is to develop and implement an interpretive plan for the site as an educational resource for all Kansans and visitors to learn about Kansas' original inhabitants, the Kanza.

With this letter, I designate James Pepper Henry (Kaw Nation Vice-Chairman), Pauline Sharp (Kaw Nation Citizen), and Curtis Kekahbah (Kaw Nation Citizen) as official representatives of the Kaw Nation

City votes to return sacred prayer rock to tribe, issue apology

By Rochelle Valverde

rvalverde@ljworld.com

Decades after the City of Lawrence removed a sacred prayer rock from the Kaw Nation's homelands and made it into a monument honoring settlers, city leaders will begin working to return the rock and issue a formal apology to the tribe.



CITY

day, the Lawrence City Com-Kaw Nation to

As part of its Hall, 6. E. Sixth St. The city will meeting Tues- now formally respond to the request and express its intent to work with the tribe and other mission voted community partners to seek 5-0 to move for- grants to pay for the relocation ward with a re- of the rock and develop plans for quest from the its return to the tribe.

"I think this is certainly return the 23-ton red quartzite something we are going to keep boulder, which is currently in pushing forward on, and do all Robinson Park across from City we can to right the wrongs of

the past, and do it in the best way possible in collaboration with the Kaw Nation," Mayor Brad Finkeldei said.

In a letter to the city, Kaw Nation Chairwoman Lynn Williams wrote that at the Kaw Nation General Council meeting in October, Kaw citizens overwhelmingly voted in favor of bringing In 'zhúje 'waxóbe, also known as the "Big Red Rock,"

back to the tribe, as the Journal-World previously reported. Williams says in the letter that the tribe's stewardship of the rock and its significance as a spiritual item of prayer was well documented, and that the tribe's intent was to reclaim that stewardship and restore the rock's sacred significance.

ROCK, 2A



Mostly sunny

Forecast, 6B



OPINION

A boulder's journey: Lawrence monolith will be returned to the Kaw in thoughtful process

DAVE KENDALL

MAY 1, 2022 3:33 AM





At a time when Confederate monuments across the nation have come down, generating a degree of consternation in many cases, the upcoming dismantling of a Kansas monument dedicated to abolitionists provides a good example of how a collaborative approach can foster constructive dialogue and civic engagement.

Not only did the city and county commissioners agree to the request, they authored and adopted (on March 16, 2021) an extensive joint resolution reviewing the history of the Kaw Nation, acknowledging the hardships they have endured, and apologizing for moving and defacing their sacred stone.

"The City and County further commit," the resolution states, "to working to forge a new relationship with the Kaw Nation and all Native Peoples built on respect and honor."

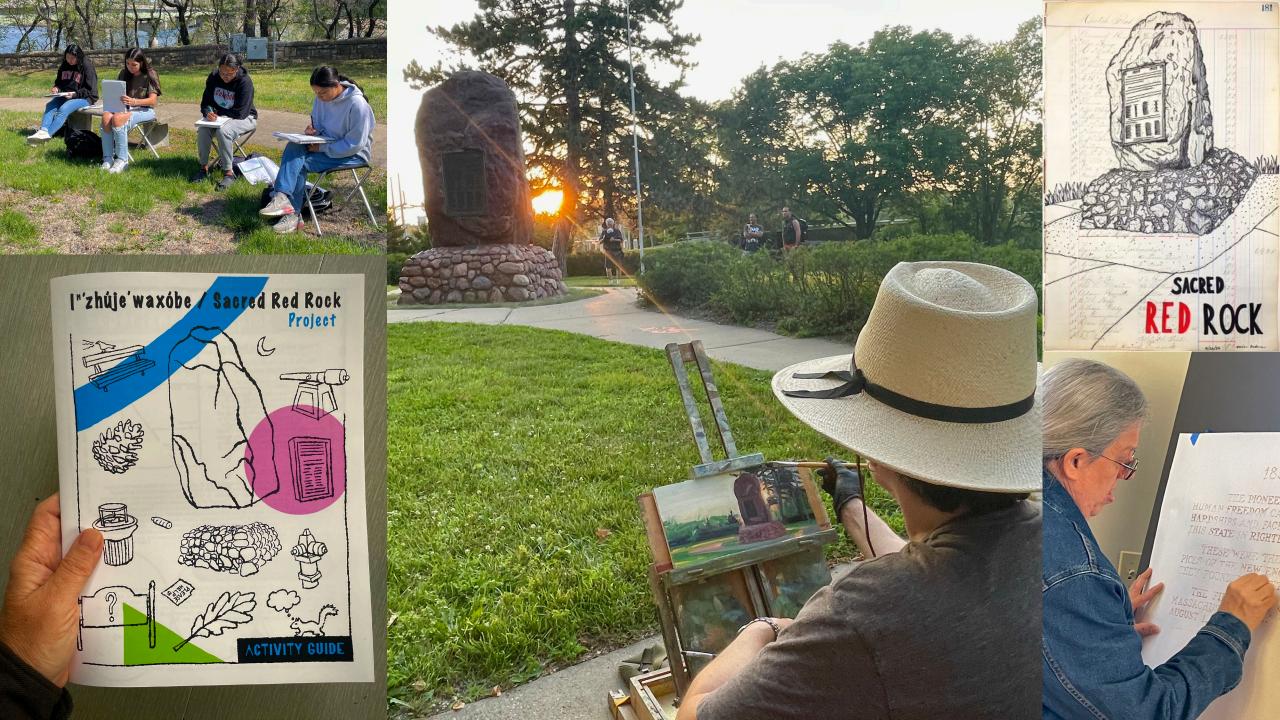
With funds from a large grant provided to the University of Kansas by the Mellon Foundation through its Monuments Project initiative, In 'zhúje 'waxóbe will be removed from its pedestal in Lawrence and transported to a new home at Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park in Morris County.





































Since 1872

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

VOLUME 152 NO. 57



Contact Us CALL (620) 767-5123 FAX (620) 767-5124

cgnews@cgtelco.net or MAIL Council Grove Republican 302 W. Main St. Council Grove, KS 66846

ONLINE EDITION: www.councilgrove republican.com

Briefly ...

In a recent article discussing Together With Veterans AND Morris County, Rebecca Elias' email was incorrect. The correct email. is rebeccarelias@vahoo.com

The 2024 second issue of KANSAS! Magazine includes, in the cuisine section on page 10, a short article on the Trail Days Café & Museum in Council Grove. Mention is made of the menu featuring historic dishes representing the different groups of people who have lived in the area, and of the complex of buildings on the Trail Days Historic

Reservoir Lake Level Normal elevation......1274.00 Current elevation....

THREE-DAY WEATHER **FORECAST**

Corps of Engineers Readings, Council Grove Reservoir

High and low temperatures for the 24-hour period ending this morning were 69 and 36, with the 8:00 am reading 39°.

Thursday: Mostly sunny.

Kaw Nation's Sacred Rock In'zhúje 'Waxóbe Moves To Allegawaho Today

were on hand at the Council Grove City Council meeting Tuesday night. James Pepper Henry announced that the Kaw National's Sacred Rock is being moved today (Wednesday) from an undisclosed Morris Couny location to its final resting spot t Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park. Pepper Henry provided a presentation for the council and those in attendance in the chamber. A 300 lb. plaque was removed

from the rock before it made the trip to Morris County. Pepper Henry said the plaque was said to "honor the hardships of the pioneers." The plaque was removed from the Sacred Rock and is on loan at the Watkins Museum of History in Lawrence. The Kaw Nation numbered about 10,000 in 1804 but by 1904, disease and other factors had reduced their number to 188 and believe that their people paid the ultimate price and experienced the hardships.

Pepper Henry said the United States' first hut project southeast of Council Grove was a failure. The Kaw did not want to live in stone huts. Their traditional dwellings were round. They would either use teepees or earth lodges.

They were reluctant to live in rectangular buildings because they cameras will be installed. believed that spirits could not escape from right angle structures and would be trapped. They also believed that conical buildings not



The Kaw Nation's James Pepper Henry present-taker's facility. ed Allegawaho improvement plans to the Council Grove City Council Tuesday night and announced the 28-ton Sacred Rock is being moved EE(n) ZHOO-jay wah-



The Kaw Nation's 28-ton Sacred Rock In'zhúje 'Waxóbe will be moved to its permanent home today in Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park. hopes to have the name easily roll

In the Consent Agenda phase of

the council meeting, minutes from

the previous meeting were approved

and appropriations in the amount of

responsible for moving or reinstall-

ing the sign. Johnson also said that

the sign will be scheduled to go dark

Shannon Reid-Wheat, of the

Council Grove Public Library, gave

a report on the library's budget and

the organization's challenges with

library receives are not enough to

fund the library's budget and activ-

ities, so grants are routinely applied

City of Council Grove. The city has

or replacement. Both the city and

the library are seeking grant sources

Jim Crosby of Together With

after a certain hour at night.

\$180,234.91 were approved.

chickens from four to eight.

off my lips someday.

Pepper Henry displayed a rendering of the park, which shows the cred Rock being moved to a plaza site near the old caretaker's site. There will be an open-air Welcome Center, with restrooms and showers. A 2.3-mile path is included in the park design. There will be utilities vendors with 50-amp service. Wi-fi will be available. Security

On Saturday, June 22, during Washunga Days, a cultural program is usually given at 2 p.m. at the Kaw Missions. This year it will be moved only held up better in the prairie to Allegawaho. One of the purposes of the park is to educate visitors.

Pepper Henry said was surprised to learn that many Kansans don't realize that the state of Kansas is named after the Konza Nation looks forward to sharing their culture and their park with

1825 is important to the building's faulty HVAC sys-Council Grove because tem and leaky roof. The funds the it represents the founding of Council Grove 200 years ago. 1825 is memorable to the Kaw for. The building is owned by the Nation, as they signed received three bids for roof repair a contract that year that reduced their land from 20 million acres to 2

that will aid with the expense of the Phase 2 will include needed repairs. campgrounds with amenities and a care-

Veterans AND Morris County announced a ribbon cutting ceremony The phonetic spelling on March 27 for the Veterans Virof In'zhúje 'Waxóbe is tual Living Room at 501 East Main Street in Council Grove. The Virtual Living Room will be a place where p.m. on April 2 at City Hall

pointments and other confidential meetings, A \$5,000 Rural Broad band Association Grants made the Veterans Virtual Living Room possible, with the assistance of TCT.

Together With Veterans AND

Chicken Ordinance #2266 was Morris County is hosting a Veterans approved. It will be published soon Health Fair at the Council Grove n the Council Grove Republican. Recreation and Event Center 1018 The main change in the ordinance is Old U. S. Highway 56, 10 a.m. - 1 it changes the allowable number of p.m. or until completed, on May 1. 2024. The VA will provide the fol Jamie Nittler Johnson of the Morlowing: VA Enrollment, VA Claims, ris County Health Department re-PACT ACT - toxic exposure in quested and received permission to formation provided by a VA nurse, mount a digital sign in front of the Mobile Veterans Center (allows fo health department on a city easemental health service without giving ment. As in other cases, she was reyour name) The American Legion minded that if the city needs to work VFW and TWV will have booths. on the easement, the city will not be

The Utilities Department recom mended, and the Council approved, the appointment of Curtis Watson to Water Department Apprentice at a pay rate of \$16 per hour. Watson's appointment is contingent upon completing a background check, physical and drug/alcohol screening.

The Office Committee recom mended, and the Council approved. the appointment of Stanley Bartley to City Inspector at a payrate of \$28 per hour. The appointment is contingent upon completing a background check, physical and drug/alcohol screening. Bartley lived in the Council Grove area previously and is fully certified to be an inspector.

The council and City Administrator Nick Jones held a 30-minute executive session, regarding the City Lake, with attorneys Pat Riordan. Brian Henderson and Molly Priest No action followed and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Council Grove Cit Council meeting will be held at 5:30



Since 1872

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024

VOLUME 152 NO. 58



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A Glimpse From The Past...

(Submitted by Mark Brooks) Council Grove Democrat December 28, 1871

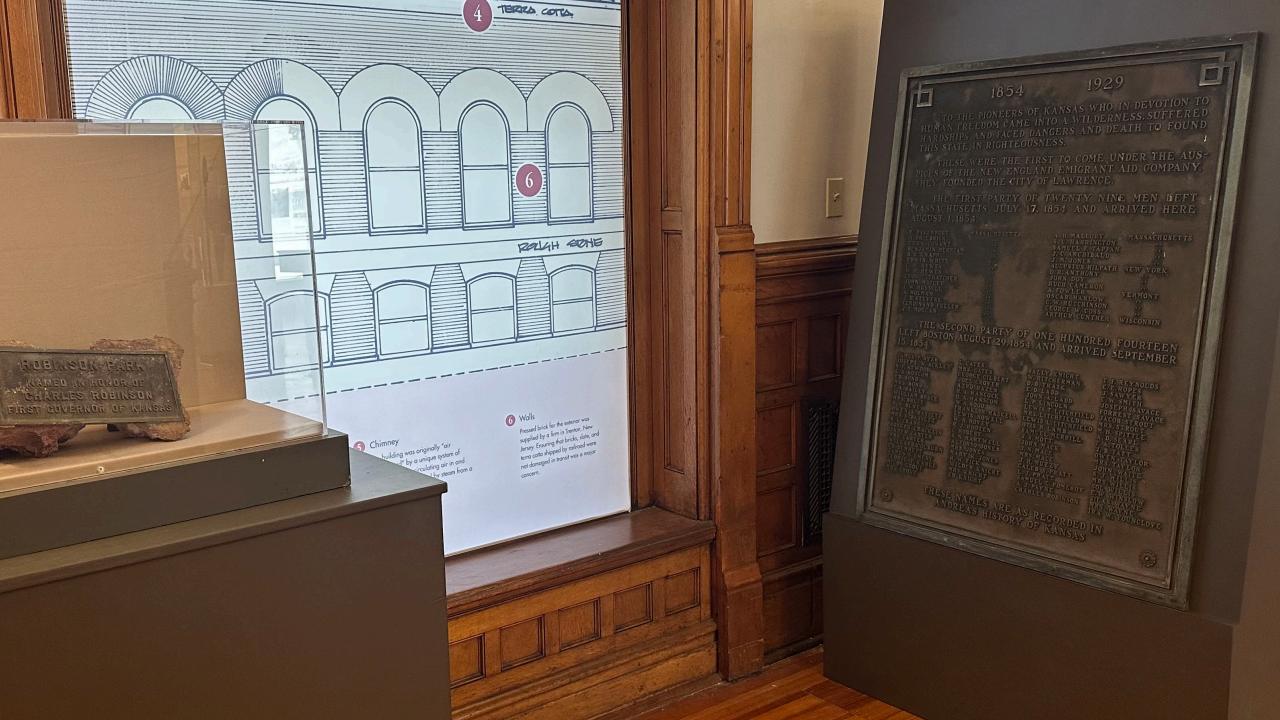
A good sized wild-cat, or catamount (Mountain Lion), was killed within a couple miles of Council Grove a few days ago. He had attached to his foot when killed a steel trap, which considerably obstructed his locomotion and rendered him easy to capture.





was more involved. Positioning the 28-ton Kaw Nation sacred prayer rock had its challenges, with four hours needed to place the rock. The rock was positioned on a 30-inch deep concrete pad, facing the The Kanza Monument, a 35-foot limestone tower that was erected by Council Grove citizens in 1925 as a tribute to the Kanza. The site is still considered to be a construction site and not ready for visiting as additional concrete work is scheduled for today.











Department and he displayed.		



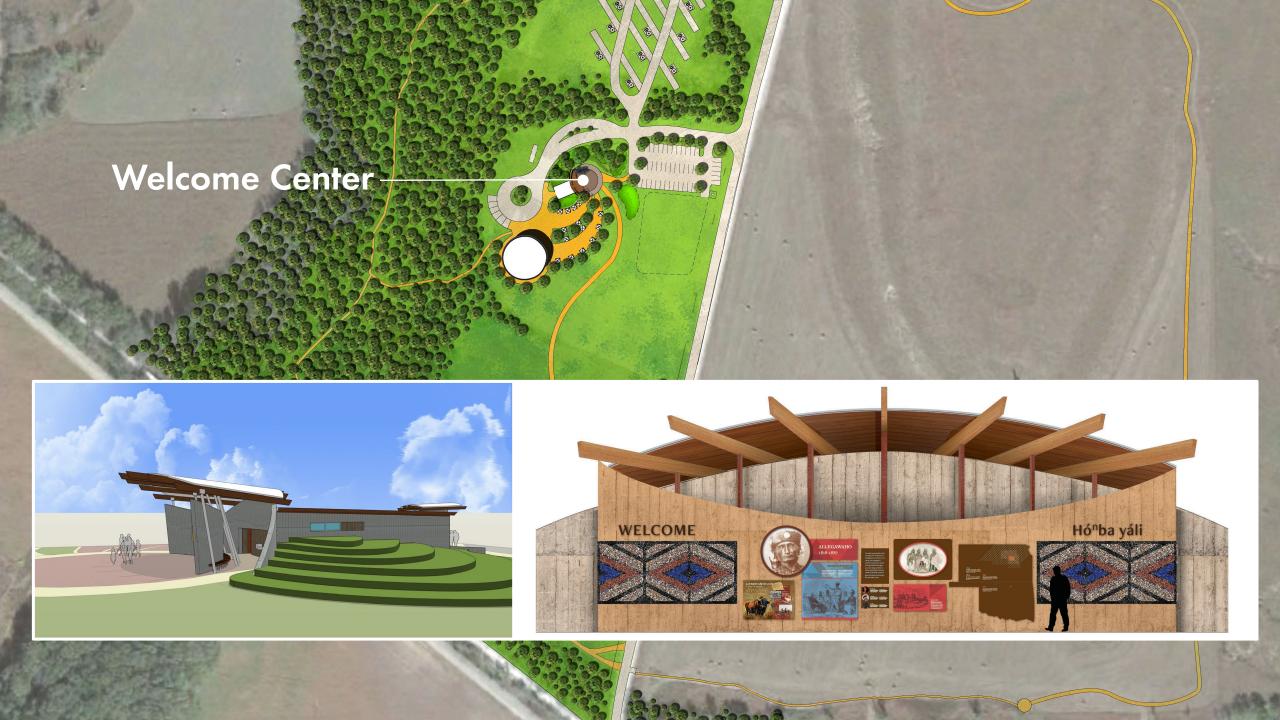


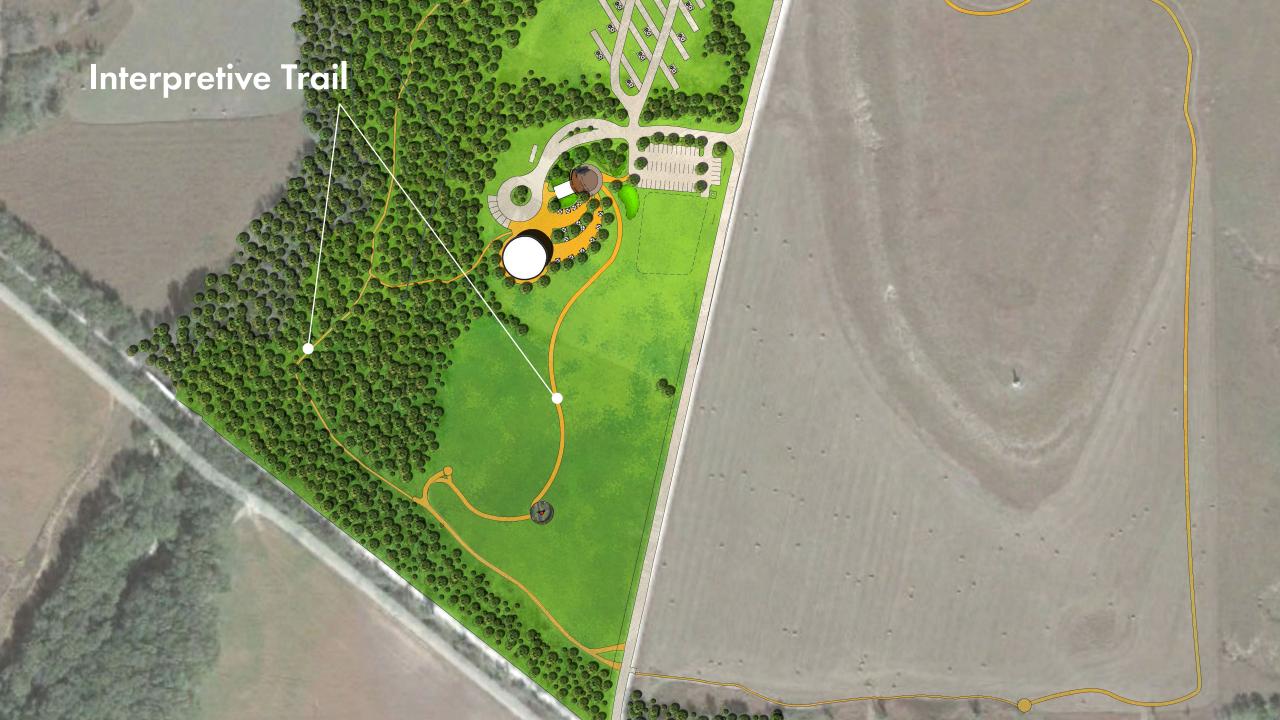














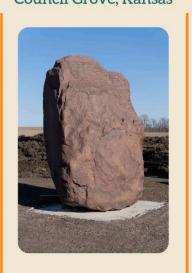


In'ZHÚJE'WAXÓBE
REMATRIATION CELEBRATION

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY JUNE 22ND, 2024 @ 2PM

Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park, Council Grove, Kansas







Visit www.sacredredrock.com for more information



Questions?