

Bartlesville • Nowata Dewey, Wann, Lenapah, Delaware & Rural Areas

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Good News Community Newspaper

October 10, 2001 • Volume 25 • No. 41 • 32 Pages • 1-800-942-6397 • Established in 1978



Bezion Cemetery accepted for listing on National Register of Historic Places

All the work in gathering information by Claude and Edna Havens (seen in photo) to be submitted for consideration of the Bezion Cemetery being placed on the National Register of Historic Places has paid off as they have received word that as of Sept. 29, 2001, the Delaware Indian Cemetery has been placed on the Register.

(See story inside)

This Week



Date of 1871 inscribed on this historical rock marker

This sandstone rock, located west of Caney, marks a historical episode in the history of movement of the Osage Indians into Indian Territory. Ivan Pfalsner writes about it in Part 3 of a series.

(See story inside)

Patriotic program planned as benefit for American Red Cross

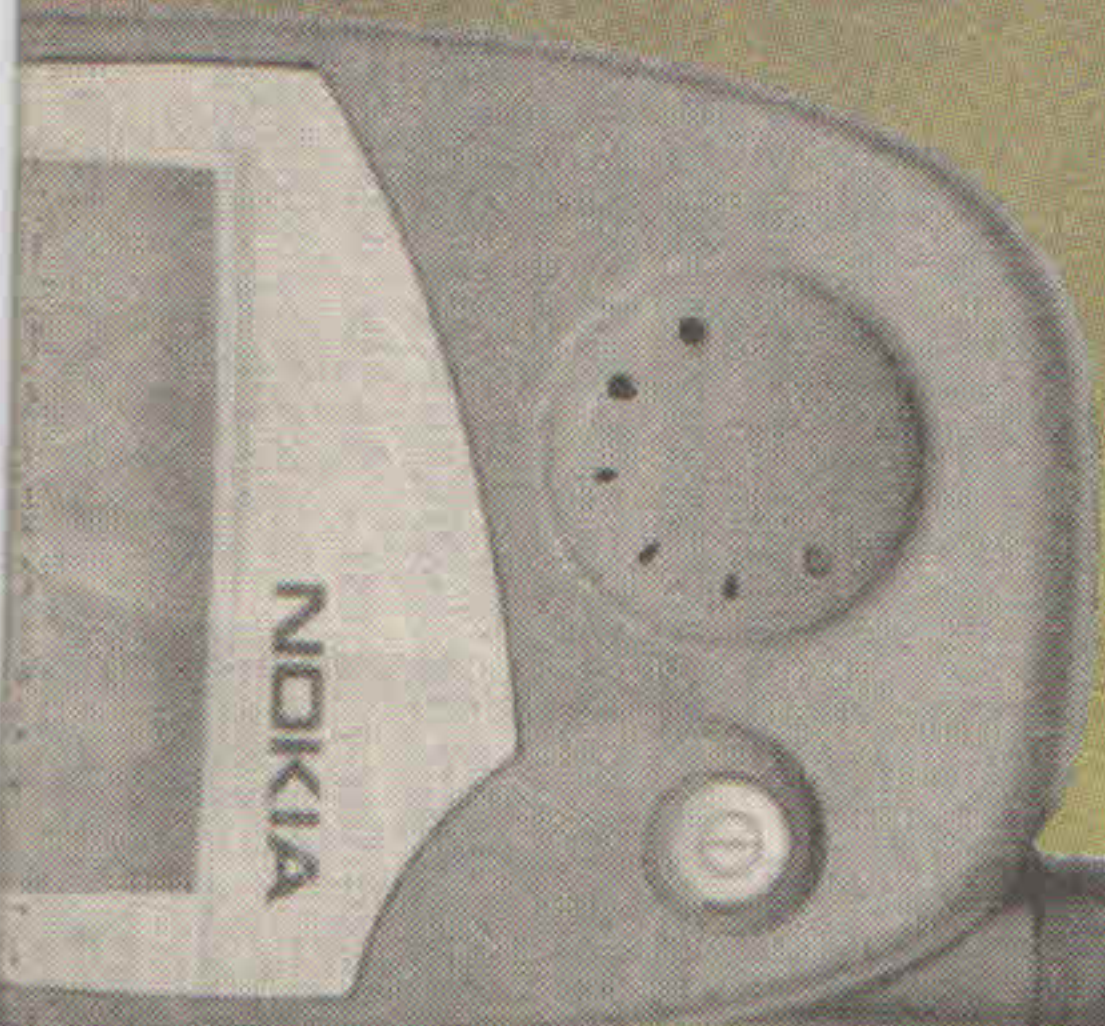
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Bezion Cemetery listed in National Register of Historic Places



This iron and wood sign greets visitors to Bezion Cemetery where over 300 persons of Delaware descent are buried.

What had been hoped for has become a fact. Bezion Cemetery, also known as Cemetery Patent 110, located in Nowata County, Ok., has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places as of September 9, 2001.

This word has been received by Edna and Claude Havens of Bartlesville. They had devoted many hours in gathering information that was submitted for consideration.

An Indian cemetery, Bezion was created by an act of the 57th United States Congress on July 1, 1902. It has been determined that those buried there are of Delaware descent although there are a few Cherokee.

Edna Havens is of Delaware descent and has relatives buried in the cemetery. With the help of Claude, who is white, the Havens spent many hours recording all headstones in

the cemetery and collecting information on unmarked graves.

In October, 2000, they assembled data collected in alphabetical order and prepared a list showing the full name, date of birth and date of death of those buried there. They identified 115 graves and estimate there are 300 graves in the two acre cemetery, most unmarked and unknown. Most burials were from 1867 to the early 1900s.

A letter informing them that the National Park Service had listed the cemetery in the National Register of Historic Places states, "Listing in the National Register provides recognition and assists in preserving our Nation's heritage."

The property is also listed in the Oklahoma State Register of Historic Places.

Some benefits to historic properties include:

- Eligibility for Federal tax provisions, including charitable contributions for conservation purposes of partial interests in historically important areas or structures.
- Consideration in the planning for Federal, federally licensed, and federally assisted projects including an opportunity to comment on all projects affecting historic properties listed in the National Register.
- Qualification for Federal grants for historic preservation when funds are available.

Among some of the Indian names found in the cemetery are Armstrong, Everett, Longbone, Miller, Newcomb, Sarcosie, Stot and Tonganoxie.

The cemetery can be reached from Kansas by taking Highway 169 from Coffeyville south to Delaware, Ok, turn right (west) on Country Road 17, go 2 miles (cross the new California Creek Bridge). The next road is County Road 412, turn left, (south), go 3/4 mile and the cemetery is on the east side of the road. There is an iron and wood sign that reads "Bezion".

Gospel Jamboree Food Drive this Saturday will benefit needy persons of Coffeyville and area

Everyone is invited to bring their lawn chairs to the Memorial Hall lot in Coffeyville, 10th and Elm, this Saturday, Oct. 1, and enjoy some great gospel music performed at the Gospel Jamboree Food Drive sponsored by Coffeyville Aglow Community Lighthouse, a nonprofit organization. Time will be 3 to 7 p.m.

Persons attending are asked to bring donations of food,

help assure needy persons of a happier holiday season. Mission of Coffeyville Aglow Community Lighthouse is "To be a blessing to the community and help supply food to needy families in Coffeyville and the area this holiday season."

For more information call Nellie Briggans at 620-251-7118.

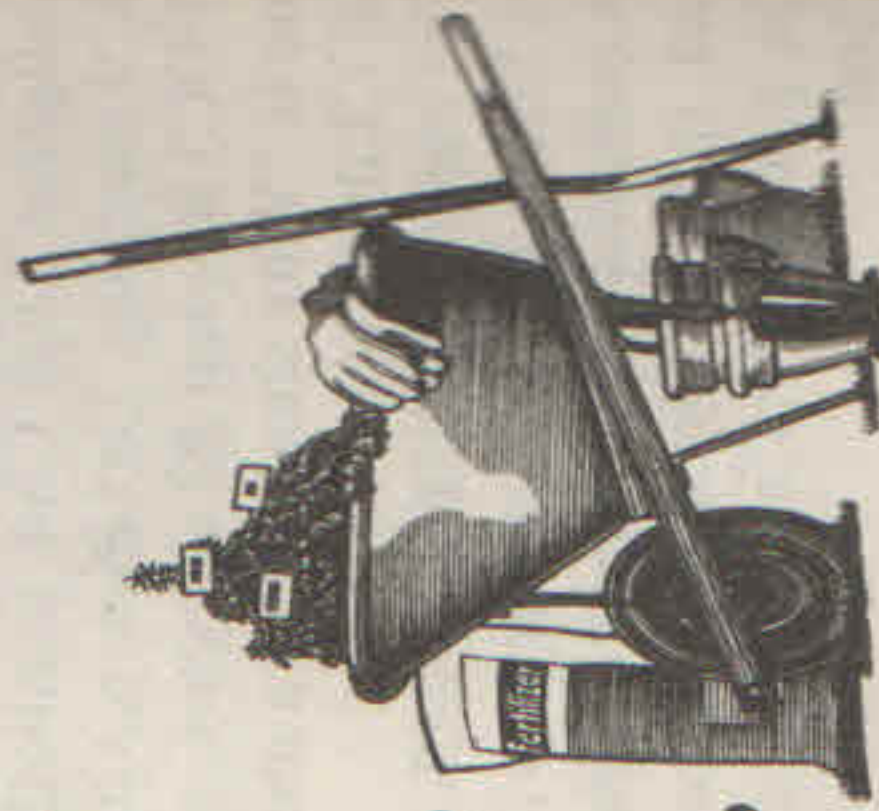


Claude and Edna Havens of Bartlesville spent many hours gathering information needed for this historic accomplishment.

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Delaware (Lenape) Indians hope that burial ground of their ancestors will be placed on National Register of Historic Places

Interested persons are urged to attend an Historic Preservations Review Committee meeting in Oklahoma City on July 19 when it will be considered if Bezion Cemetery will be placed on the Register. The cemetery is located near Delaware, Ok.

(see story inside)

**Fun Day for kids
and July special
announced at**

Safari Zoo in Caney Covered walkways are being built to add to the comfort of visitors to an ever changing SEK tourist attraction.

(see story inside)

Lucilee Lyda's family reviews 80 years of history at surprise birthday celebration just for her

This resident of Dewey, Ok was happily surprised when her family honored her with a very special and very family 80th birthday



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