

**Program Impact Spotlight —
May 2007**

**Oklahoma Cooperative
Extension Service
Tulsa County**

Tulsa County Home & Community Education Members Celebrate Heritage

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An Oklahoma legend, Tulsa County Home and Community Education (OHCE) celebrated OHCE Week in May. The Oklahoma Centennial provided the theme.

A proclamation presented by County Commissioners Randi Miller, John Smaligo, and Fred Perry started the week. Members shared historical family memorabilia selected through their local groups. A costume contest complete with cowgirls, cowboys, cattle, horses, and Native Americans completed the events while the menu featured Oklahoma's official foods. Past-presidents of the county-wide organization were recognized for their leadership to families and communities.

Native American storytellers Will Hill and Jehnean Washington were featured. Educational and entertaining Native American history passed through the generations through the art of storytelling was the perfect program for the community leaders.

First started in 1935, Home Demonstration Clubs emerged as a way to educate homemakers in food safety, family relations, family finances, and leadership development. The group changed its name in 1965 to Extension Homemaker Clubs. The most recent name change better reflects the outreach of today's members of Home and Community Education. The organization's ultimate mission is to educate its members to be well-informed and able to handle change in their homes and communities. Through its relationship with the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, OHCE presents research-based information through monthly meetings.

- Over \$1000 was awarded in scholarships
- 80 quilts were made and donated to foster children.
- 625 books were collected and given to foster children
- 880 volunteer hours were contributed to the management of the Tulsa County Free Fair
- Over 1100 exhibits were made and displayed by OHCE members.
- Patsy Rowland received the "Heart of OHCE Award" for the Northeast District.