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Council Grove's Old Riverbed Amphitheater Features Voices of the Wind People Kaw Pageant This Weekend

True reflection of Kaw Indians in the Neosho River Valley of the Flint Hills of Kansas will be brought to life this weekend.

Voices of the Wind People, an outdoor drama, will be performed at the Old Riverbed Amphitheater in Council Grove, Friday and Saturday evenings, Sept. 16 and 17, at 8 o'clock," according to Sharon Haun, chairperson of the pageant committee.



"Written by Ron Parks, the performance provides an historically accurate snapshot of what it was like when the Native American and Euro-American cultures collided in Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail," Haun said.

"The drama will take you back in time to the mid 1850's and give you a front row seat to hear both sides of the story between Chief Allegawaho, the Kanza (Kaw) Chief, and Seth Hays, Council Grove's first Euro-American resident," Haun explained.

First produced 24 years ago, and performed every two years, Voices of the Wind People is accomplished completely by volunteer staff and performers.

"About 45 members of the Kaw Nation will travel to Council Grove to portray their ancestors in the pageant," Haun said.

They will enact village scenes and perform dramatic roles and traditional dances.

Voice of the Wind People has been advertised and promoted on 580 WIBW, Country Legends 106.9, The BIG 94.5 Country, WibwNewsNow and the Kansas Ag Network.



The story is told in alternating perspectives: the side of the Kaw and that of the townspeople of Council Grove.

Chief Allegawaho, voiced by his real life descendent Jim Pepper Henry, will narrate the Kaw story. Council Grove's version of the story is narrated by Seth Hays, as voiced by Council Grove resident Mark Brooks.



The pageant is a multi-media presentation depicting a series of live action scenes of both Council Grove citizens and Kaw Indians.

Historic photos, images of the prairie landscape, and video images are incorporated with live-action

of a pack train, wagon train, stagecoach, horseback riders, tepees and a Kanza village campfire.

"There will also be several other weekend activities going on in Council Grove, including the Council Grove Fall Festival on the Santa Fe Trail," Haun said.

Details about the weekend in Council Grove can be found at www.voicesofthewindpeople.com, www.councilgrove.com, and on Facebook.

Padre Says:

"Reflecting on the necessity of change helps us see the perfection of life as it is instead of as it was or as it should be. "



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