

superintendent, but we did a lot of cooperation with the teachers, with the school and had quite a number of projects--improving the lunch room, making curtains for the lunch room and they improved the appearance of the auditorium, and oh, we did quite a few little things around for the school. I believe they bought playground equipment that was badly needed. And it's--it's still a pretty good organization, it's very active. The--we decided that the Indians needed an organization in our community. And Mr. Shipley from Muskogee helped to organize an Indian Center. And he asked, "What's the first project you want?" Now the Indians can do something if they will just organize. And I suggested that we get our highway black-topped from the Graham School toward Henrietta. Well, it was black-topped from the county line--Okmulgee County line on in to Henrietta--about a 5 mile strip, but we needed about 5 miles on down to join the Weleetka highway. We had two--we had two paved highways or hard-topped highways in to Weleetka from our community, but most of the travelers went toward Henrietta. We went to Henrietta to jobs, we went to Henrietta to the hospital, to the doctors, to the grocery store--we could get cheaper groceries there. They have more things we need to purchase there. And many of the people in the community went toward Henrietta--to Henrietta or on up to Okmulgee or on up to Tulsa to jobs. This used to be a farming community but many of the people in our community have jobs in the cities now. And this road was travelled by the mailman, by the farmers to take their produce to market, by the cattle men who go to the stockyards at Tulsa and Okmulgee and Henrietta. And it was also school bus route, and we just really needed a good road there. And it was the rockiest, dustiest, or muddiest--you know, just a very bad road, full of holes! Anyway, that was one of the projects that we wanted to see done. And so we invited several representatives--state representatives, the Highway Commissioner, County Commissioners from three counties, and we invited Mr. Harrington from Muskogee, Mr. Guinn from Okmulgee, and several other people from the BIA. And we had this meeting and I called--I was the chairman of the Graham Community Center. I called on several of the--well about 20 Indian people to get