

FALLEN WARRIORS OF THE NATION



THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

VOLUME 20 EDITION 5

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Totsiyaa Mtra (May) 2019

**Comanche Academy
Opening Doors In
2020**

Submitted by Dr. Cornell Pewewardy/
Comanche Nation Education Liason

What is Comanche Academy? A charter school is an independently run public school granted greater flexibility in its operations, in return for greater accountability for performance. The Comanche Academy charter school establishing a performance contract detailing the school's mission, program, students served, performance goals, and methods of assessment. Guided by the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, 70 O.S. § 3-130 (federally-recognized Indian tribe), the authorizer of the Comanche Academy is the Comanche Nation.

- A proposed public charter school in Lawton, Oklahoma
- Proposed to be open August 2020
- Beginning with Grades K-2, adding one grade each year until serving K-12
- Using a Dual Language two-way immersion 90/10 model
- Integrating a Comanche-Centered Education as integral part of the curriculum
- Using the Comanche language to promote appreciation of cultural heritage

PLACE-BASED EDUCATION

Place-based education immerses students in local cultures, landscapes, opportunities and experiences, using these as a foundation for the study of tribal languages, arts, mathematics, social studies, science and other core subjects across the curriculum.

MISSION

Comanche Academy is a placed-based elementary school where the Comanche (*Namuntt*) culture, language and history are the foundation of experiential curriculum. Through a dual language instructional format, we will nurture strong, passionate, bilingual young people who are committed to their personal and community health, wellness, relationships and progress. Comanche Academy strives to provide a culturally sustaining and academically rigorous education for all students. Our holistic model is student-centered; participant action researched based; and rooted in the water, land, culture, language and community.

HOLISTIC APPROACH

The Comanche Academy incorporates creative planning for interconnected teaching and learning focusing on the whole child. By using the Holistic Wellness Wheel concept as the curriculum framework for designing a Comanche-centered education, we rely on it metaphorically and practically to describe the four cardinal directions aspects of every person's natur the mental, physical, spiritual and emotional learning processes with harmony and balance, thereby achieving wholeness. The Holistic Wellness Wheel serves as a reminder to all of the need for innovative methods of holistic teaching and healing process.

CORE VALUES

The following core values guide us as members of our family, staff and greater Comanche Academy family work together to provide every student with the necessary knowledge, skills and experiences to function successfully and productively in a multicultural society.

See COMANCHE ACADEMY, Page 15



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

Members of the Comanche Business Committee, from left: Eddie Ahdosy, Clyde Narcomey, Robert Tippeconnie, William Nelson Sr., LaNora Parker, Jonathan Poahway, and Ronald Red Elk, call the 2019 Annual Meeting or order at 1:30 p.m. April 20, at Watchtaker Hall.



Kevin Pohawpatchoko leads CIVA Color Guards at the Annual Meeting April 20.



Comanche tribal members Kristopher Sovo and Gaylon Pahdocony nominate people for the Comanche Business Committee positions during the Annual Meeting.

2019 Annual Meeting of the General Council Brought 389 Tribal Members

KCA Budget, Comanche Charter School, Moving Comanche Princess Election Date, CBC Salary, and Grasshopper Lawn Mowing Program among topics discussed

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Nation Chairman, William Nelson Sr., called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with all members of the Comanche Business Committee present, and a total of 389 tribal members present the afternoon of April 20 at the Comanche Nation Headquarters.

CIVA posted the colors and Joe Burch conducted the invocation.

The meeting began with the review of the proposed 2019 budget. Each CBC member read a portion of the budget, going over each line item.

Robert Tippeconnie read the Tax Commission Contribution, which totals \$4,001,891.00.

LaNora Parker Gaming Contribution Funds of the Elder and Per Capita Payments, totaling \$23,515,450.00. The tribal government total is \$5,878,862.00.

The Economic Development portion of the budget was read by Chairman Nelson, which totals \$14,697,156.00.

Jonathan Poahway reviewed the Community and Education portion of the budget which totals \$14,697,156.00.

The proposed FY 2020 budget is a total of \$62,811,515.00.

No questions were asked about the proposed budget from the General Council.

When discussing the KCA Budget, the topic of the KCA Cemeteries were brought up for discussion by Chairman Nelson. Cache Intertribal Cemetery, Deyo Mission Cemetery, Mt. Scott Cemetery, Rainy Mountain Cemetery, are all under the KCA, and with the exception of Deyo Mission Cemetery, it was discovered some graves were criss-

crossed, meaning, some graves are partially buried on top of another grave. An example was shown on the screen, with a statement saying a complete inventory is underway.

Chairman Nelson said the three KCA Chairmen and KCA representatives invested money this past year into some equipment that will help ensure the problem does not happen again.

"This has increased the expenditures. A Gssi sir 4000 (grave location mapping) has been purchased, but for us to do this inventory, for us to get it correct, and for us never to disturb anybody's loved ones, we have to go to backhoe situations right now before any one of us can have a funeral there," said Nelson.

He went on to say \$300,000 is needed to continue fixing this problem. He added the money it will come from is monies from leases, billboards, oil & gas are held entrusted within the Office of Special Trustee (OST). They OST will only release the monies when it is requested by the tribal council. Other KCA tribes will have to request from the voters the same increase.

Mark Wauahdoah makes a motion for \$100,000. Draw down the money from OST. Blu Pahdocony seconds the motion. Motion passes by verbal vote.

Chairman Nelson entertains a motion to put the FY 2020 proposed budget, along with the KCA draw down, on the voting ballot.

Motion is made by Oscar Codopony and seconded by Rita Coosewoon. The motion passes unanimously

by verbal vote.

Nomination of Officers

Chairman Nelson reminds everyone they can nominate themselves. The first one is for CBC No. 1 position.

- Kristopher Sovo nominates June Sovo
- Ladonna Stevens nominates John C. Parker
- Roderick Whitewolf nominates Susan Cothren
- Jody Colbert nominates Conrad Gailey
- Donnie Ramos nominates Billy Komahcheet

Rita Coosewoon makes a motion to cease nominations, and it is seconded by Jarvis Poahway. The motion passes unanimously by a verbal vote.

For the CBC No. 2 position:

- Hazel Tahsequah nominates Janet Sauppitty
- Tony Miller nominates himself
- Conrad Gailey nominates Jody Colbert
- Kristopher Sovo nominates Diana Doyebi
- Galen Pahdocony nominates Blu Pahdocony
- Pat Mahsetky nominates himself
- Donnie Ramos nominates Will Owens
- Clyde Narcomey nominates Eddie Ahdosy
- Gene Sovo nominates Dan Bigbee
- Brian Wahnee nominates himself
- Tina Emhoolah nominates Su-

See ANNUAL MEETING, Page 4

Graduating Seniors in Lawton May Wear Tribal Regalia

BY KIM MCCONNELL/The Lawton Constitution/April 5, 2019 edition
kmcconnell@swoknews.com

Members of the Lawton Public Schools' Board of Education acknowledged the importance of recognizing the culture of Native American students.

The debate came as members discussed whether graduating seniors may wear tribal regalia when they participate in graduation ceremonies. The answer is yes: district administrators said it has been standard practice at Lawton High for years, while MacArthur and Eisenhower high schools allowed the practice last year.

The distinction of recognizing tribal culture is important, said Cornell Pewewardy, a retired educator and area native who is the educational liaison for the Comanche Nation. Pewewardy, who is of Comanche and Kiowa descent, said he returned to the area last year and has been engaged in activities that explain the importance of culture and how people honor that culture.

He said Lawton has to recognize the diversity within the community and honor that diversity. And, that extends to Lawton Public Schools he said adding the Comanche Nation, with 534 members enrolled in the district, is the largest tribal culture represented.

Pewewardy said calls for not being able to wear traditional Native American regalia must be met with understanding and education. In response to a school board member who asked what regalia could be worn during graduating ceremonies, Pewewardy said it could be an eagle feather which has great cultural significance to Comanches attached to a student's graduation cap, but it also could be other items.

School board member Carla Clodfelter said the issue isn't unusual and while it has detractors, the proposal also drew solid support from an educational gathering she recently attended with representatives from 25 school districts. She said the response to those who say it "opens the doors to others" is that any cultural representation should be allowed. Clodfelter said the issue should be debated on a broader basis, perhaps by the Oklahoma State School Boards Association and perhaps within districts themselves.

Superintendent Tom Deighan said the issue is one of sovereignty and how the district honors that tribal sovereignty. He said Pewewardy is working with school principals on wording for a formal policy.

"I never thought it would be a problem," Clodfelter said, explaining she is a native of Cache, where Native American culture has been woven into the community for years, and she expects the same from Lawton.

Comanche Nation Offices will be closed May 27 for Memorial Day. Offices will re-open 8 a.m. May 28, 2019.

THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

The award-winning *Comanche Nation News*, the official communication of the Comanche Nation, is available at no charge upon request. The deadline to submit information for the June edition is 5 p.m., May 15. Donations to help cover the cost of printing and mailing are welcome.

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- **News items** of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
- **Photographs** will be copied and will become the property of *TCNN*. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
- **The Milestones Page** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. The Passings/Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. *TCNN* publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. Obituaries are written for tribal members only.
- **TCNN** will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations. The guidelines for flyer submission are: Pow-wow flyers have to be from an established Comanche organization. There has to be contact person and number on the organization's annual flyer.
- **We reserve the right to edit all material. Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed. Letters to the Editor must be signed with a legible name, and have a 1,500 word limit. The letters to the editor or articles contained in the *The Comanche Nation News* does not reflect the views or opinions of the PIO staff.**

Comanche Nation Officials

- Chairman**
William Nelson
- Vice Chairman**
Lanora Parker
- Secretary/Treasurer**
Robert Tippeconnie
- Committeeman No. 1**
Jonathan Poahway
- Committeeman No. 2**
Eddie Ahdosy
- Committeeman No. 3**
Ronald Red Elk
- Committeeman No. 4**
Clyde Narcomey
- Tribal Administrator**
John David Wahnee
- To contact officials:**
Comanche Nation
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, Okla. 73502
Toll Free: (877) 492-4988
- Physical Address**
584 Bingo Rd.
Lawton, OK 73505



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Government

Twelve Resolutions Passed During the April CBC Monthly Meeting

Story by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the April 6, Comanche Business Committee Monthly Meeting and not the official minutes. To obtain a copy of the official minutes, call the Office of the Chairman, (580) 492-3251.

Chairman, William Nelson Sr, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Secretary-Treasurer, Robert Tippeconnie, conducted Roll Call. A quorum was established with all Comanche Business Committee (CBC) members present.

Chairman, Nelson, began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion made to approve the minutes of the March CBC meeting by Vice-Chairwoman, LaNora Parker. It was seconded by Committeeman No. 3, Ronald Red Elk. The motion carries 6/0/1.

Resolutions

No. 40-19 Enrollment List No. 1117. Applicants Eligible for Comanche Tribal Membership.

CBC No. 4, Clyde Narcomey, made the motion to approve. Parker seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 41-19 Enrollment List No. 1116. Applicants is Ineligible for enrollment with the Comanche Nation.

Narcomey made the motion to approve. CBC No. 2 Eddie Ahdosy seconds the motion. The motion carries. 6/0/1.

No. 42-19 Enrollment List No. 1119. Applicant is ineligible for membership with the Comanche Nation.

Narcomey made the motion to approve. Parker seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 43-19 WIOA Grasshopper Funds.

Parker, made the motion to approve. Ahdosy seconds the motion. The motion carries. 6/0/1.

No. 44-19 Higher-Ed-MOU w/AISES. The Higher Education Center would like to partner with American Indian Science Engineer Society (AISES) focusing on Pro-

posed Economic Development Project.

Tippeconnie made the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 45-19 Transportation-Adding Routes.

Red Elk made the motion to approve. CBC No. 1 Poahway seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 46-19 Court-Authorizing Title 7.

Narcomey made the motion to approve. Parker seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 47-19 Reintegration-Amend 174-18.

Narcomey made the motion. Parker seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 48-19 Elections- Election Ordinance. Tabled.

No. 49-19 Elder Council- Rename of Education Center. Renaming the Comanche Nation Education Center to Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino. Lorentino was a Comanche teacher from Oklahoma. As a child, she won a judgement against the Cache School District for Native American children to attend public schools rather than mandated government Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools.

Narcomey made the motion. Parker seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 50-19 CBC-Secretarial Election.

Tippeconnie made the motion. Parker seconds the motion. The motion carries. 5/1/1.

No. 51-19 CBC-Travel Plaza.

Parker made the motion. Narcomey seconds the motion. The motion carries. 6/0/1.

No. 52-19 CBC- Comanche Nation Emblem.

Narcomey made the motion. Tippeconnie seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. and Executive Session followed.



Courtesy Photos



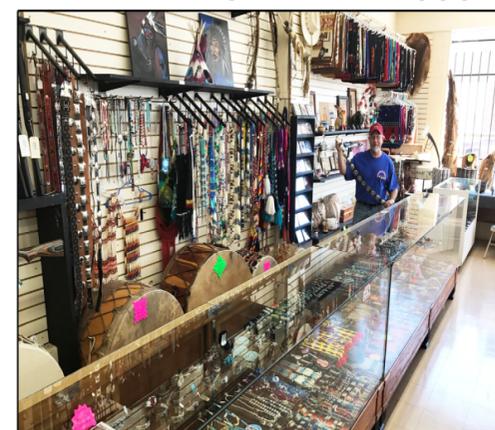
2019 NIGA CONFERENCE. TOP: Comanche Nation Vice Chairman, LaNora Parker, along with Alice Kasanavoid, Comanche Nation Gaming Commissioner, and Jody Colbert, President of the Southwest American Indian Chamber of Commerce, attended the 2019 National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) April 1-4 in San Diego, Cali. The theme for this year's event was "Rise to the Top of the Landscape." Parker said it was inspiring to see tribes be more unified, and do business together. Some of the topics of discussion included Defending Tribal Sovereignty in the 21st Century: Tribal Leaders on the Front Line and Class II and Class III Technologies that can be Leveraged to Modernize Compliance. LEFT: Nine Lady Chairmen were honored during the Honoring Women Warriors Leadership Group. RIGHT: NIGA Chairman, Ernie Stevens Jr., addresses the conference audience. BOTTOM: Many displays of the latest gaming machines were shown during the conference.

**DIVORCE?
WRITS?
WILLS/CODICILS?
ATTESTATIONS?
Notary Services
Tax Return Preparation**

Packets/citations typed and prepared for Native Americans for issuance through BIA Court of Indian Offenses. (Additional BIA filing fees due at time of documentation) REASONABLE PREP FEES Contact: Jewell Laurenzana Teyah (580) 678-2052 or (580) 492-5455



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IN THE COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT
DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF:)
SHANTELE ASIA LAURENZANA) Case No.: NC-2019-0001
An enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.)

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: ALL CREDITORS or INTERESTED PARTIES

Take notice that Shantelle Asia Laurenzana has filed in the above Court a Petition to have the name changed as follows, to-wit from: Shantelle Asia Laurenzana to Shantelle Sweet Laurenzana.

The petition will be heard on 05/15/2019 at 2:00 PM located at the Comanche Nation Courthouse, 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton, Oklahoma.
If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Change of Name should not be granted by the Court you should file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing or appear and present the same at the above time and place.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 4th day of April, 2019.

By: Jewell Black
Court Clerk/Deputy
Comanche Nation Tribal Court
584 NW Bingo Dr.
P.O. Box 646
Lawton, OK 73502
Ph: (580) 280-4744



Final List of Persons Who have Not Received Their Dividend Check

In the last attempt to contact the below persons, the Comanche Nation Enrollment Department will hopefully attempt to make contact with possible family members to locate these persons. The checks expire April 30, 2019.

Brandon Allen Ahdosy
Harley Marie Ahdosy
Aiyana Amelle Alrahimi
Aahil Alijah Sultan Alrahimi
Russell Tah-Yo-Ti Baker
Finnian William Baker
Oliver Henry Baker
Eva Kay Banderas
Ronin William Barrow
Jo Jacki Lee Bascus
Alexander Yates Baskett
Caitlin Keiko-Eileen Baskett
Austin Nicole Blair
Betty Ruth Boyt
Karen Marie Bradford
Jessica Elizabeth Brumfiel
Jonathan Eugene Canada
Angela Darlene Canada
Daniel John Paul Carrier
Gisela Nicole Carrier
Robin Michelle Carter
Juan Isaiah Cerbantes
Kamren Dawn Chaney
Nevaeh Mare Lynn Chaparro
Eric Tyler Choney
Nicole Marie Cizek
Rachel Lucille Cizek
Alexa Eleanor Clark
Reagan Anne Clark
Michael Robert Clark
Kandy Anne Cogswell
Crystal Raquel Colbert
Michelle Lynn Colvard
Candice Elizabeth Compton
William Andrew Scott Cooper
Gary Edwin Cothran
Alyssa Ann Crain
Madison Kinzey Crenshaw
Keiarra McKayla Crow
Clinton Cude
Deisy Jissel Delgado
Lillie Anne Nivie Dial
Dexter Erik Diaz
Madyson Rayann Dowell
Sherea Ravone Dunbar
Victoria Lee Emhoolah
Patti Marie Emmel
Jerry Wayne Esparza
Stacie Dale Esquer
Maddie Lou Factor
Daniel James Fegles
Michele Lee Fisher
Elizabeth Flores
Caitlin Mary Franco
Teresa Louise Franklin
Kyla Jay Fulkerson
Michael David Fuller
Allyssa Aeron George
Sonia Renee Gipson
Nuala Layla Gonzales
Samuel Nikoma Graywood
Audra Michelle Greene
Mark Eric Griffy

Melissa Ann Gustafson
Tyce Parker Hammel
Rebecca Lynn Haralson
Sean Heminokeky
Christina Noel Hizer
Shelby Denae Holder
Tanya Kay Houdarrani
Crystal Marie Ingle
Linda Joe Isbell
Angelica Janette Jenkins
Asia Brenna Johnson
Maya Shoshona Johnson
Jeanne Theresa Jorden
George Karty
Jade Adam Ketchum
Jude McKinney Ketchum
Billy Joe Killough
Jerree Lynne Kise
Mia Addiena Komardley
Ramona Lynn Kosechata
Aiden Michael Lafon
Larissa Suzanne Leavins
Debra Sue Leavins
Colby Wayne Otipoby Lewis
Nizhoni Faith Lewis
Cvte Elaina Lober
Damian Michael Lober
Logan Nakoda Lober
Preston Jon Lober
Brianna Marie Long
Lindsey Ryan Lookingglass
Theodore Lopez
Brooks Marissia Love
Alissa Nicole Lowing
Emma Grace Lowing
Mason Parker Lustig
Amanda Brittany Mahsetky
Laurie Ann Makesry
Jennifer Lee Marshall
Clifton Martinez
Rocky Guadalupe Juan Martinez Jr
Laurena Mae Martinez
Kyle Robert Massey
Chad Heath Mayo
Falcon Kalilooa Te-Waiora McArthur
Perry Charles McArthur
Sabrina Marie Maynahonah
Ailill Oceana Mccaffrey-Cook
Maria Charlotte McCoy
Renee Marie McKeague
Kaitlin Mae McLaughlin
Rudy Earl Melendez
Auhbie Lynn Messner
Karen May Miller
April Dawn Miller
Olivia Sylvia Millhouse
Bella Dominique Minello
Gary Allen Mitchell
Dallton Dean Mohr
Kristin Shawnise Montoya
Sylvia Roberta Montoya

Andrew Wahnee Moppin-Buckskin
Ayanna Rae Moppin-Buckskin
Isabella Rachel Annmarie Morales
Cheldon Skylar Mott
Rayson Go Forth Neal
Logan Eathan Lee Nichols
Reagan Daniel Lee Nichols
Kialee Diann Sue Nichols
Erica Jude Noblitt
Daniel Monroe Nottingham
Cameron Bradford Onco
Lee Pahcody
Autumn Marie Parker
Tommy Ross Parker Sr
Paisley Amira Paschal
Andrew Jayden Paschal
Maurice Anthony Pekah
D'avio Corleoon Kavasiaye Pennah
Dustin Lee Pennah Jr.
Iyavia Xyleeah Cheyenne Pennah
Arianna Naveah Poafpybitty
Nami Clare Poafpybitty
A'dyn Garrett Poemoceh-Winter
Ernest Lee Pollock
Angela Kay Powell
Lauren Michell Powell
Justin Taylor Pratt
Bella Kate Pressy
Jennifer Joyce Rainey
Dennis J Red Elk
Travis James Reed
Scarlett Jane Rivas
Cisco Julian Rocha
Ruben Puente Rodriguez III
Melissa Renee Rollins-Jump
Angel De La Rosa
Lorenzo Antonio Sandoval
Darin Vincent Sapcutt
Shenandoah Star Shepherd
Ezra Gene Skippers
Scott Smith
Vincent Neil Smith
William Zachary Southard
Travis Len Southard
David Dale Spaulding
Jimmy Dale Stark
Eric George Stidsen
William Jerome Evans Sullivan
Sunshine Barbara Marie Sullivan
Leon Anthony Tate
Lia Kateri Terry
Daniel Titchwy
Howard Todome Jr
Katherine Michelle Tonemah
Ray Franklin Toney
Gilbert Joe Torralba
Cynthia Ann Trevino
Beau Jon Tunnell
Destalynn Danielle Turner
Betty Mae Ubbard
Victor Valdez
Gilbert Xavier Vasquez
Daniel Kane Vreeland
Anthony Joe Waggoner
Karlie Jo Wakahquah
Thomas Scott Wahnee
Alexander Paul Walker
Phillip Caried Walker
Ronald Markesse Devon Walker Jr
Jacquelyn Ruth Wallace
Sierra Leaann Wallace
Gerald Lee Ward
Danielle Lynn Watkins
Mildred Louise Watson
David Leveil Webster
Brent Austin Werqueyah
Terri Jill Weryavah
Brenton Wayne White
James Wayne White Jr
Samantha Rae Wilkerson
Lamont Hector Yackeschi
Mark Shane Yackeschi
Gordon Ray Yates
Yuriko Yates
Destiny Lelani Yazzie
Ricky Lynn Yellowfish
Jazmin Mokemah Yellowhair
Ray Alan Youniacutt

Tribal Administrator Wahnee Releases First Quarter Report

Tribal Administrator Accomplishments:

Followed through with commitment to the Comanche People to provide a quarterly budget summary for the 83 items voted upon by the Comanche People. First Quarter financial report was developed and published and submitted to our People.

The second quarterly financial summary of the 83 items voted upon will be provided in March, 2019.

Established organizational structure to the Tribal Government; The new structure breaks out in the following manner:

1. All programs that support our tribal member's social needs are now grouped together. They are being required to support one another to ensure the best and faster services for our people.
2. All educational programs are now grouped together. Each program is being required to work together for the best services possible for our People.
3. All programs that provide over all support to both social and educational programs are now reporting directly to the Tribal Administrator. (Property & Procurement/Finance/Human Resources/Grants Office/Compliance Director/Public Information/IT Department/Tribal Courts/Law Enforcement/).
4. Delegation of authority has been implemented so that closer monitoring of all programs is now being carried out. Immediate oversight of Social Programs rests with Mr. Kenneth Lookingglass (hired prior to TA being elected). Immediate oversight of Education Programs rests with Mrs. Jamesena Mendoza - (hired prior to TA being elected). The Tribal Administrator has over all oversight of all programs of the Tribal Government.

Established Due Process for all employees of the Tribal Government. The CBC established (At Will Dismissal Authority) this process of termination will only be used when the employee's offense rises to a very serious situation that would have a negative impact on the Nation.

Established a formal grievance procedure for all employees of the Tribal Government. The grievance cannot be stopped by Directors or Assistant Managers. All grievances will be reviewed by the Office of the Tribal Administrator. It is the responsibility of all Directors and Assistant Managers to attempt to settle the grievance(s) at the lowest level possible.

No employee will be harassed or intimidated for filing a grievance - PERIOD. Any Director or Assistant Manager involved with harassing or intimidating an employee will receive an appropriate disciplinary action by the Tribal Manager.

Have began the process of revising and updating the Human Resources Department. The Comanche Nation Human Resources Department will be developing a formal classification personnel system. The Nation has never hosted such a system to regulate salaries and benefits for the Nation's employees nor new hires. Have been reviewing established classification systems from other tribes and private businesses.

The Office of the Tribal Administrator has monitored tribal expenditures to ensure that only legal expenditures have been and continue to be made. Compliance to the Constitution and Tribal Laws is being followed when making payments.

The Social Program's applications are being reviewed for the purpose of reducing the number of pages being required for enrollment into a social program. In addition, the Tribal Administrator has ordered a review to eliminate redundant application visits to the tribe.

The Tribal Administrator has made the determination that the tribal government is to begin establishing an elder outreach/support group. The justification for this action is based upon the increased number of elders needing assistance and tribal support. This group will identify all elders in the serving area. This group will assist elders in completing social services applications in the home. Once information is obtained the collected information will be submitted to the appropriate social serves department for processing. This service will be support of the existing social serves operations and will not interfere with social services operations or visitations.

The Tribal Administrator is presently working with the Anadarko Area Office's Fire Marshal in developing plans and funding needed to help bring the Comanche Nation Fire Department up to full compliance. Presently the Comanche Nation Fire Department cannot handle structural fire situations. It can deal with brush or wild fires. This is a serious situation to the Nation that needed correcting for awhile.


From the Office of the
Comanche Nation Tribal Administrator

John D. Wahnee
Announcement:

The Office of the Tribal Administrator does NOT oversee the following:

- * **GAMING**
- * **HOUSING**
- * **TOBACCO & TOBACCO SALES**

You can contact the following:

Comanche Nation Entertainment

580-250-3020

Comanche Nation Gaming Commission

580-595-3300

Comanche Nation Housing Authority

Nora Sovo- Deputy Director

580-357-4956 / 877-263-7042

Comanche Nation Tobacco & Tobacco Sales

Melissa Harjo

580-595-3316

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www.livestream.com

ANNUAL MEETING

Continued from Page 1

san Parker. She immediately declined. June Sovo makes a motion nominations cease. Kristopher Sovo seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously by verbal vote. For the hired positions of Tribal Administrator, nominations opened.

- Dr. Cornell Pewewardy nominates Justin Boos
- Tony Miller nominates Charles Wells
- Johnny Mahsetky nominates Laurie Stropes
- Jerry Parker nominates John David Wahnee
- John Parker nominates Elizabeth Williams Parker
- Georgia Gibson nominates Phyllis Attocknie

A motion to cease nominations was made and a second to the motion followed. The motion passes unanimously by a verbal vote.

Tribal Attorney

Attorney Robert Rossette, of Rosette, LLP, the current tribal attorney, Chippewa Tribe, addressed the tribal council, along with Michelle LaPena, of the Pitt River Tribe. They gave an update of what they have been working on since becoming the legal counsel for the Comanche Nation in January.

“A lot of litigation, a lot of judgments against the nation. We have worked hard to get those judgments vacated, doing our best so we can get those cases kicked out of your courts,” explained Rossette.

“If we can clean up these law suits we have inherited, I am hoping we can change the culture of tribal members, third parties, and outsiders, not wanting to bring lawsuits against the Nation because they are going to see it is going to be a real uphill battle to get a judgement. We are going to come prepared and fight on your behalf. We are eager to get through that phase of cleaning up the various court cases and litigation that you have so we can work on productive things, constructive things. I know you are very eager to build your economy. We work closely with the Business Committee, and take a lot of directive from the Business Committee, but at the end of the day, we work for this tribal council, we work for the people, and you have voted on us to be here. We have only been here three months, I would love more than the opportunity to continue that for another year, because I think we are just getting started. We have kept our prices down. We do not bill for our travel; we bill only \$225 an hour which is almost nothing in this modern day of legal practice. I hope I can continue being your guest here and I will commit to work very hard for you,” said Rossette.

Gene Sovo makes a motion to maintain Rossette as the tribal attorney.

Oscar Codopony nominates Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker as the tribal attorney. He said when he was on the CBC Board and the Gaming Commission from 2005 to 2010, he worked closely with the law firm.

“The main takeaway I want you to remember about this firm is that they laid the groundwork, the initial gaming ordinance, along with the administration at the time, the CBC, and the Gaming Commission at that time, to make a stable gaming environment so that the funds you are now voting on for your budget, all that was laid under the

legal guidance of Hobbs, Straus, Dean, and Walker,” said Codopony.

Kirk Kickingbird was present to accept the nomination, with a price of \$225 per hour.

George Tahdooahnippah nominate Forrest Tahdooahnippah.

“I am an attorney for Dorsey and Whitney (LLP), and I would like to be the attorney for the Comanche Nation. My people, my nation. I don’t want to have the job because I am Comanche. I think I am more that qualified. I want to Stanford University where I got a degree with honors in Public Policy. After that I went to the University of Minnesota Law School, which is the top 20 law school in the nation. I graduated in the top ten percent of my class. Magna Cum Laude. I worked for a federal judge, so I know the federal court system. I have been an attorney for nine years total. Seven of those years I worked for Dorsey and Whitney (LLP). I am a partner of that law firm. I have worked for many tribes,” said Tahdooahnippah.

“I charge \$470 an hour. With that, my firm has 500 lawyers. I would take primary responsibility for every single matter. I can call on a subject matter expert on anything that comes up,” he added.

A question of where his office was, and he said it is in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He said his family moved there before he was born, so that is where he grew up and that is where his office is, but he will be available at that distance.

June Sovo make a motion to cease nominations, with a second by Rhonda Williams.

When asked from a tribal member how many Pro Bono cases do they take, Michelle LePena from Rosette, LLP said at least 40 percent of her work she does Pro Bono, because that is her approach to Indian Law due to the need, and she shares the philosophy with Rosette LLP, wants to have long term relationships with their clients.

Tahdooahnippah said his firm has pledged to do five percent of Pro Bono, and he reminded the membership that comes with 500 attorneys. He said he personally has worked Pro Bono with tribes, and will do free wills for tribal members Pro Bono.

Kickingbird said Hobbs Straus Dean and Walker does not do much Pro Bono due to the cuts in their prices, like \$225 per hour. All their clients are tribes, tribal businesses and tribal organizations, so they discount their prices.

Rita Coosewoon seconds the motion to cease nominations. The motion passes unanimously with a verbal vote.

New Business Assistant Living Center

Chairman Nelson began by saying the Edith Gordon Assisted Living Center currently houses a total of eight people, and the CBC wants to increase that number.

“What we are finding out is that the land it is on is not appropriate because it goes down a hill to put down something else. We are looking at more beds; about 40 beds,” said Nelson.

He said he is reaching out to tribal members to make a budget to increase the number of elders for the assisted living center. He added it is costing \$170,000 per person in the current

assisted living center.

Robert Tippeconnie added although it is wonderful the tribe can help with assisting the elders at the center, it is also very expensive per individual.

“What we are looking for is how we can give more opportunity for up to the ‘40’ number he is talking about to have this care and this attention and paid by the nation,” said Tippeconnie.

New RAP Plan

Chairman Nelson announced in September he will call for a meeting to discuss a new RAP Plan.

“We have to go to 60 percent because you voted for it in 2010 and get 67 programs down to six or seven categories, so we can get more service,” said Nelson.

Phyllis Attocknie took the floor and asked why the General Council is not voting for the TA or the lawyers at the meeting, and when was it changed. She said it is in the Comanche Constitution says that before the General Council those are to be done at the General Council Meeting. Chairman Nelson explained the Secretarial Election in 2017 changed it. Attocknie said the Constitution that was passed out to tribal members present at the General Council does not have that change in it.

June Sovo said in the original constitution is states the tribe has 60 days to conduct an election and if it was not done in 60 days it was null and void. He added in 2017, the tribe finished the elections it was 81 days over. He said the CBC did not follow the constitution. Nelson explained it was held up in court, making it delinquent.

Ballot Questions

Dr. Cornell Pewewardy conducted a presentation to add the Comanche Charter School. He began by saying children are born “at the top of their game, at generous level.” He said the culture they are born in will either nurture them or silence their mind,

“This presentation to our Comanche citizens, I want to make clear of some of the assumptions that underline this proposal to the General Council to adopt by voting to move this request on to the voting ballot in a few weeks. Our resolution includes approval and adoption of a five year contract between the Comanche Nation and the Comanche Academy, and seek approval by referendum vote at large by the Comanche Tribal Council for the Comanche Academy, supplemental startup funding in the amount of \$475,000 to be made available October 1,” addressed Pewewardy.

After a video presentation about the structure of the school, Pewewardy continued.

“The Comanche Academy is an over needed addition to the ongoing search for the meaningful Comanche centered education. A local volunteer group of parents and educators, grandmas, grandpas, allies, college students have come together to form this design team. Some of the best thinkers and practitioners of American Indian Education in Southwest Oklahoma. We will tell you briefly how we invite you, the General Council, to join our efforts to save our children’s education, and help us create a genius curriculum that will save our Comanche Language, save our history, save our pathways and our actions of freedom,” said Pewewardy.

He also explained the path of

the design team took to get gather information from tribal members and tribal leadership to get to their current status.

A second video was shown explaining what sets charter schools apart from private schools and public schools.

Due to the time constraint not to lose a quorum, Chairman Nelson read the last part of the resolution to place it on the voting ballot.

When Chairman Nelson asked Tippeconnie about adding \$475,000 to the proposed budget, he said if this was proposed for the October 1 budget, then the CBC would have to adjust the budget.

“There has to be adjustments if the membership here says go to the ballot with the \$475,000.00, and the voters approve it, then that will cause us to make an adjustment to the budget. Normally, action of approving a budget is the council, not the CBC. So, that puts the CBC in a spot, in some respects because you require us to make adjustments to the budget. There is no other way in that point, unless we had another meeting just to go over the budget, so I wanted to make that point, bringing this up this fiscal year causes a situation to our budget, it causes adjustment then how we do that appropriately to the interest of the nation, in which we would have voted by that time on a budget,” said Tippeconnie.

Jolene Schonchin, director of the Comanche Nation Princesses, addressed the General Council to request to place a question on the voting ballot, to move the Comanche Nation Princess Election back to its original date in April. She explained to run for the coveted titles of Comanche Nation Princess and Comanche Nation Jr. Princesses takes a lot of sacrifices from the families of these young ladies in the hopes their candidate will win the titles.

“When the Comanche Princess Election was in April, it was a full day of celebrating all the candidates and their families. We had a day to hold them up and honor them. The director had time to do special activities to honor all the candidates,” said Schonchin.

She said although currently, the Comanche Princess Election is held at the biggest event of the year, the Comanche Nation Fair, it gets lost among the dozens of activities that take place throughout the weekend.

“The Comanche Nation Princess Election needs to be back to its original date in April, so we can have a full day celebrating these young ladies who volunteer to take on this big and important responsibility,” she said.

She further explained if this passes, the current Comanche Nation Princess Miss Ashleigh Mithlo and the current Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Rita Monoessy, will extend their titles until April of 2020, and Schonchin will call for candidates of both titles in January 2020. If it is not passed, the Comanche Nation Princess Election will take place in September at the Comanche Nation Fair, and she will call for candidates in July.

“This is what I am requesting to be added to the election ballot, and with your support and vote, we can give our Comanche Nation Princess candidates a full day of celebrating their efforts to be our Goodwill Ambassador and representative,” she said.

The next presenter, who was

not named, was not present to address the General Council. Chairman Nelson read her request.

“She wants to ask, and she lives in Shawnee, Oklahoma, that we adopt a salary for six CBC positions, to exclude the Chairman position. Statics show other Oklahoma tribe business committee members receive a salary of \$50,000 to \$85,000 annually, and she is right,” said Nelson.

“Bottom line, you have a \$77 million dollar budget and you pay your committeemen \$250. On the ballot it will read: 1. \$24,000/year 2. \$36,000/year 3. \$42,000/year. It does include a minimum of 20 hours per week. These guys do a lot of work Pro Bono,” said Nelson.

He further added this needs a Secretarial Election.

Susan Parker Whitewolf asked if they are asking for this salary, what happens when they get paid for sitting on different boards and attend their meetings. Nelson answered it will be cut. Whitewolf asked if they would get paid a flat rate, and the Chairman said yes, it would void out stipends for meetings.

The final presenter was Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Director, Angela Atavich, was next to speak about the Grasshoppers Program. Nelson recognized Justin Boos, who started the program.

She explained the purpose of the program, which is to provide lawn mowing services to Comanche tribal members age 62 years and older, or tribal members who can provide 100 percent proof of disability.

She added it has always have been a seasonal program. She created stricter guidelines and resolutions to save resources and money.

“Here is the question, what do we want to do with the Grasshopper Program?” Nelson read the last part of the resolution to place the Grasshoppers Program on the ballot for a referendum vote.”

Tribal members went to the voting booths to cast their ballots on what questions they want on the June 1 ballots.

The voting results to place the following on the ballot:

- Comanche Academy -Yes
 - Princess Election -Yes
 - CBC Salary- No
 - Grasshopper Program- Yes
- No official numbers were given for the voting statistics.

Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.



**Comanche Nation
Emergency Management
HOTLINE
NUMBER
(580) 492-3628**



TCNNPIO



Instagram

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2019 ELECTION DATES

EARLY VOTING for GENERAL ELECTION (AT THE TRIBAL COMPLEX & ELDER'S CENTER)

Friday, May 31, 2019

Polling sites will open 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

GENERAL ELECTION

Saturday, June 1, 2019

Polling sites will open 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

EARLY VOTING for RUNOFF ELECTION (AT THE TRIBAL COMPLEX & ELDER'S CENTER)

Friday, July 12, 2019

Polling sites will open 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

RUNOFF ELECTION

Saturday, July 13, 2019

Polling sites will open 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

*****LAST DAY TO REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS IS FRIDAY, MAY 17,

2019. CONTACT THE ELECTION OFFICE AT 580-492-3384 FOR

QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION*****

THE FOLLOWING POLLING SITES WILL BE OPEN 8:00 AM TO 6:00 PM ON ELECTION DAY

ANADARKO

COMANCHE NATION OUTREACH OFFICE LOCATED 117 SW 2ND ST., ANADARKO

APACHE

APACHE COMMUNITY CENTER LOCATED ON JULIA MAHSEET RD, APACHE

CACHE

CAHOMA BUILDING LOCATED AT 752 NW QUANAH RD., CACHE

LAWTON

COMANCHE NATION HEADQUARTERS, NEW CONFERENCE ROOM, LOCATED AT 584 NW BINGO RD., LAWTON

OKLAHOMA CITY

COMANCHE NATION OUTREACH OFFICE LOCATED AT 7390 S. WALKER, SUITE G., OKLAHOMA CITY

WALTERS

COMANCHE COMMUNITY CENTER LOCATED AT 905 E. MISSOURI ST., WALTERS

Comanche Tribal Administrator, John Wahnee, Releases Quarter Financial Report, ending March 31, 2019

Comanche Nation General Fund Budget to Actual Year to Date Summary For the Period Ending March 31, 2019 50% of fiscal year completed						
No.	Program	Budget	Expenditures	% Budget Spent	Program Income	Balance
000	General	-	167,064	n/a	6,286	(160,779)
100	Business Committee	21,000	9,000	42.86%	-	12,000
125	Chairman Salary	75,000	37,222	49.63%	-	37,778
140	New Businesses	3,037,000	4,875	0.16%	-	3,032,125
150	Public Information Office	350,000	158,361	45.13%	898	192,537
250	IT Department	500,000	152,929	30.58%	40	347,111
325	Capital Improvements	2,316,800	1,438,501	55.08%	294,800	1,173,099
340	Realty	516,000	240,060	46.52%	61,592	337,532
355	Land Acquisitions	1,200,000	-	0.00%	-	1,200,000
360	Transportation	240,000	50,775	21.16%	-	189,225
410	Enrollment	252,000	106,339	42.02%	1,065	146,726
430	Election	300,000	105,343	35.11%	-	194,657
440	Optometry Clinic	546,100	237,427	43.48%	7,105	315,778
441	CHR Department	213,880	64,970	30.38%	-	148,910
445	Prescription Assistance	724,000	420,426	58.07%	-	303,574
455	Anadarko Outreach Office	104,058	38,073	36.59%	-	65,985
460	Social Services	1,516,606	744,945	49.12%	20	771,681
461	Family Violence	100,000	-	0.00%	-	100,000
463	Funeral Home Burial Assistance	1,000,000	357,591	35.76%	-	642,409
465	Caregiver	310,000	138,566	44.70%	-	171,434
470	Transit Dept	840,000	458,437	54.58%	98,647	480,210
471	Transit Vehicles Charter Bus	-	99	n/a	-	(99)
476	Outreach Center - Dallas TX	120,000	63,491	52.91%	-	56,509
477	Community Center - Apache OK	33,000	15,015	45.49%	850	18,835
478	Community Center - Cache OK	33,000	12,627	38.26%	1,350	21,723
479	Community Center - Walters OK	33,000	12,961	39.28%	950	20,989
485	Diabetes	280,000	111,953	39.98%	-	168,047
490	Elder Center	300,000	162,749	54.25%	112	137,363
495	Injury Prevention	249,000	90,420	36.31%	-	158,580
497	Fitness Center	300,000	121,340	40.45%	-	178,660
500	Tribal Grants	100,000	2,555	2.56%	-	97,445
505	OKC Outreach Office	102,000	48,632	47.68%	-	53,368
515	Student Services	960,000	215,397	22.44%	-	744,603
518	Education Center	500,000	251,890	50.38%	29,910	278,020
520	Higher Education	3,000,000	1,122,539	37.42%	-	1,877,461
524	Job Placement and Training	584,000	350,649	60.04%	-	233,351
535	Adult Education	191,000	67,775	35.48%	-	123,225
540	Environmental Office	400,000	162,905	40.73%	-	237,095
550	Tribal Court	1,000,000	259,886	25.99%	14,240	754,354
555	Child Support Enforcement	111,000	41,179	37.10%	-	69,822
560	Housing Improvement Program	1,500,000	880,513	58.70%	-	619,487
601	Bereavement Assistance	300,000	51,550	17.18%	-	248,450
605	Youth Shelter	680,000	299,114	44.00%	32,233	413,119
607	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	115,000	63,084	54.86%	-	51,916
610	Family Services (ICW)	292,000	111,110	38.05%	4,221	185,111
611	Early Childhood Development Center	520,000	287,412	55.27%	2,012	234,600
620	WIOA	2,000,000	519,085	25.95%	2,731	1,483,646
630	Youth Program	500,000	189,665	37.93%	-	310,335
635	Elder's Council	110,000	29,298	26.63%	-	80,702
645	Reintegration Department	120,000	68,211	56.84%	-	51,789

Unaudited - see accountants' compilation report

Comanche Nation General Fund Budget to Actual Year to Date Summary For the Period Ending March 31, 2019 50% of fiscal year completed						
No.	Program	Budget	Expenditures	% Budget Spent	Program Income	Balance
660	NAGPRA Office	175,000	49,144	28.08%	-	125,856
665	Prevention & Recovery Center	500,000	304,083	60.82%	7,893	203,810
670	New Pathways	155,000	70,949	45.77%	-	84,051
675	Vocational Rehabilitation	136,000	26,456	19.45%	-	109,544
680	Child Care Subsidance Program	225,000	96,076	42.70%	-	128,924
690	Comanche Indian Veterans Assoc (CIVA)	50,000	50,000	100.00%	-	-
700	Law Enforcement	3,000,000	1,313,797	43.80%	7,522	1,693,725
705	Fire Department	323,000	117,607	36.41%	25	205,417
715	Emergency Management	120,000	44,796	37.33%	-	75,204
720	Private Drives	400,000	140,697	35.17%	-	259,303
735	Crisis Management - Weather	90,000	37,454	41.62%	-	52,546
800	Administration	1,266,086	152,425	12.04%	181,547	1,295,208
801	Comanche Tribal Princess	3,000	1,750	58.33%	-	1,250
803	Indian Church Donations	60,000	60,000	100.00%	-	0
804	Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation	30,000	30,000	100.00%	-	-
807	Legal Fees	419,531	230,397	54.92%	-	189,134
808	CN Fair	200,000	4,326	2.16%	-	195,674
809	Expo Fair Director	3,000	155	5.16%	-	2,845
810	Shoshone Reunion	50,000	-	0.00%	350	50,350
813	Comanche Jr Princess	3,000	1,750	58.33%	-	1,250
815	Comanche Language Planning and Development	356,000	16,568	4.65%	-	339,432
906	Housing Authority	500,000	500,000	100.00%	-	-
920	Museum Gift Shop	233,444	144,359	61.86%	51,133	140,218
935	Tribal Historical Preservation	250,000	103,517	41.41%	-	146,483
991	Comanche Tombstone Project	20,000	525	2.63%	-	19,475
000	Comanche National Museum	675,000	239,000	35.41%	-	436,000
000	Water Park	667,000	243,527	36.36%	46,595	470,067
000	Comanche Tax Commission	893,829	284,797	31.87%	489,449	1,098,481
000	Nursing Home/Assisted Living Center	1,200,000	580,668	48.39%	65,533	684,865
Total		\$ 40,599,334	\$ 15,388,831	37.90%	\$ 1,409,107	\$ 26,619,610
Less Capital Improvement Budgeted Revenue		(294,800)				
Less Tax Commission		(893,829)				
2019 Proposed Budget Total		\$ 39,410,705				

Unaudited - see accountants' compilation report

Programs

Transit Has A New Look!



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

You may have noticed a new look to the Comanche Nation Transit fleet of vehicles. They have began the process of having the old vinyl wraps removed from the buses and replaced with brand new wraps. The new appearance is an excellent way to improve the visual appearance of their transit fleet. The new look will make the vehicles more recognizable to the general public. The average lifespan of a vinyl wrap is five to seven years. As a result, the new wraps will last the duration of some of our aging vehicles.

So, when you're traveling around Lawton, Okla., and the surrounding areas, keep an eye out for the new look of Comanche Nation Transit. And remember, Transit is the safe and affordable solution to get you where you want to go.

Optometry Scheduling Appointments



June 6, will be the first exam day for the 8th Annual Children's Clinic. They will have two days for the summer exam day's Monday and Wednesday for the Comanche tribal children. During this time they will only have appointments for children ages 4 yrs. to 18 yrs.

Full time college students 18 yrs. to 24 yrs. (must provide a student I.D.) Adults can bring an Eye Prescription from any clinic or optometrist office and order eyeglasses from the office, any tribal member can order eyeglasses from any vendor of your choice.

Modern Eyes is the only vendor with the (1) year frame warranty. Out of state tribal members will be provided services on Monday or Wednesday for an eye exam.

Start scheduling your children appointments now for June. Comanche Nation Employees you can still call in to be put on the employee waiting list. Call at any time to schedule children beginning in June.

For more information please contact the Optometry office at: (580) 699-5386. No walk-ins please.

Family Assistance Reminds the Public About Women's Health Week

During National Women's Health Week each year, millions of women take steps to improve their health. The week serves as a reminder for women to make their health a priority and build positive health habits for life. The 20th Annual National Women's Health Week starts on Mother's Day, May 12, and is celebrated through May 18.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health leads National Women's Health Week to encourage all women to be as healthy as possible.

What steps can I take for better health?

To improve your physical and mental health, you can:

- Visit a doctor or nurse for a well-woman visit (checkup), preventive screenings, and vaccines.
- Get active.
- Eat healthy.

• Pay attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress.

• Practice safe behaviors, such as quitting smoking, not texting while driving, and taking steps to protect yourself from sexually transmitted infections.

Why should I take these steps?

These steps are the foundation for a lifetime of good health. They can help you be as healthy as possible.

Grants Attends Title IV-B Meeting

The Comanche Nation Grants Department attended the annual Title IV-B Meeting that took place in Tulsa, Okla.

Title IV-B provides funding to tribes for child welfare and prevention activities. It can be used to provide services to children and families to prevent the need for removal, stabilize families to allow children to return home, and to improve outcomes for safety, permanency, and well-being of children in care or at risk of coming into care.

Student Services Accepting Applications June 10

The Comanche Nation Student Services program will begin accepting applications on June 10, for the 2019/2020 school year. Applications are available in the program office located at 1608 SW 9th St. Lawton, Okla., the Comanche Nation website and all Comanche Nation Outreach offices. The program will email, fax or mail applications upon request. Please read the guidelines before completing the application. Completed applications may be submitted by one of the following: hand carry, mail, fax or email.

Guidelines for Student Services Program:

Eligibility:

Student(s) must be enrolled with the Comanche Nation. Pending enrollment will not be accepted. Student(s) must be enrolled in public, private or boarding school. Student(s) must be enrolled in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Home School Students:

Current school year (2019-2020) home school curriculum receipts are to be submitted with application. If student is home schooled via online charter or virtual academies, a letter on official letterhead is required.

Application Process:

Parent/Guardian applying for the child must be the legal/custodial parent, legal guardian or caseworker at the time application is being processed. The parent/guardian must submit a new application (one per child) each school year.

It is the policy of Comanche Nation K-12 Student Services that all information regarding the status of the application be given only to the legal parent or guardian of the stu-

dent unless otherwise stated.

All completed applications must be submitted to the program office. Applications must be complete with all required documents before assistance is rendered.

The following documents must be attached with completed application:

- Tribal enrollment card or letter.
- Report Card for the previous school year (will accept progress report or awards) or form letter completed by student's school official or a class schedule for middle and high school students.
- Legal documents (custody order, power of attorney, etc.) stating legal custody/guardianship of student, if applicable.

Documents being submitted via email need to be in one of the formats: PDF or JPEG. Cell phone photos will not be accepted.

For more information please call contact the program office at (580) 492-3280.



Namunuu Hubiyannu Series:

Volume - 2.5

COMANCHE HYMN #6
(tune of "Are You Washed In The Blood")
Composed by Kuvo Watsuah

Ungha Jesuswaka namiiyu.
Ungha u paaipi ma nakotsenyu.
Ungha u tabitsi tokwisaakanyu.
Ungha u paaipima nakotsenyu.
(Chorus)
Ungha nakotsenyu, u paaipima.
Taa suanaha puma nakotsenyu.
Taa Ahpu? a kaburuu? a paaipima Ungha nakotsenyu.

Translation:
Have you been (walked) to Jesus?
Have you been washed in the blood?
Do you really believe in Him?
Are you washed in the blood?
(Chorus)
Are you washed in His blood?
Our soul is washed in the blood.
Our Father's lamb - have you been washed in the blood?
(It's appropriate to sing at Church, Funerals, and Prayer Services.)

Programs

Elder Council Meeting Announcements

The Comanche Nation Elder Council will meet on May 6, at the Comanche Nation Education Center in the Auditorium beginning at 10 a.m. Guest speakers will present elder related topics and luncheon will be served.

The Comanche Nation Elder Council will meet on June 3, at the West Pavilion at Elder Thomas Park (Just past the Comanche Nation Museum) beginning at 10 a.m., for the annual picnic. There's BINGO and Horse Shoes for everyone to enjoy; luncheon will be served.

Beginning with the March 4, the Elder Council is selecting two HONORED ELDERS at each monthly meeting. If you have suggestions for Comanche Elders to be HONORED, please contact Adele Mihehuah, Chairperson, Comanche Nation Elder Council at mihehuah@sbeglobal.net. Elders honored for March were Johanna Lambert and Frank Mowatt (Angelo Bull); Elders honored for April were Rose Nauni and Bob Tenequer. Each Honored Elder is given a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$25 gift certificate.

At the April 1, meeting the Comanche Nation Elder Council monitors were selected for the upcoming Comanche Nation election. Each polling place will have two monitors selected randomly. Should a runoff election be necessary, the Elder Council will be randomly selecting new monitors for the runoff election.

At the Comanche Business Committee meeting on April 6, the Comanche Nation Elder Council submitted a Resolution for review and approval of the Business Committee to rename the Comanche Nation Education Center to the Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Education Center. Resolution No. 49-19, was successful and plans are now in place to rename the Center. For those who do not know, at the age of six years, Dorothy Sunrise (Tabby-yetchy) Lorentino was denied access to Cache Public Schools because she was Indian. Her father filed a lawsuit on her behalf and won in 1918; and, due to this ruling all Native children now have the opportunity to attend public school. In addition, Lorentino went on to be an educator herself, teaching special education for 34 years. After her retirement she did substitute teaching at public schools and taught the Comanche language and songs to tribal members.

Among her many awards Lorentino, in 1997, became the first Oklahoman and Native American to be inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. In 1996, the Comanche Nation Higher Education initiated the Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Award to be presented annually to the Native American graduating senior who best exemplifies the qualities for which Lorentino stands. Plans to have a ceremony for the name change which will be announced at a later date.

All members of the Comanche Nation age 62 and older are automatically members of the Comanche Nation Elder Council and are invited to attend our monthly meetings. No children, please.

Gravel/Tinhorn Schedule for May

Please take note as to when your area falls on the schedule each month, and submit your application 30 days prior to the deadline. The month in quotation marks is when they will be working in that area. Please make sure to update applications yearly.

- May 1 through May 31 Applications for Duncan and Sterling "July"
- June 1 through June 30 Applications for Cyril and Fletcher Area "August"
- July 1 through July 31 Applications for Apache Area "October"
- August 1 through August 31 Applications for Elgin Area "November"
- Gravel Tinhorn Program will be assisting with the Comanche Nation Fair and will not be taking applications in September.
- October 1 through October 31 Applications for Anadarko and Fort Cobb Area "December"
- December 1 through December 31 Applications for Cache Area "January"

Qualifications Include

- If there is any changes in the contact number please advise us. Fill out completely.
- Must be enrolled Comanche Nation tribal member over the age of 18 and provide a C.D.I.B
- Proof of ownership/residency (utility bill) must be provided.
- Must not benefit a business or non- Comanche Tribal Member (rental homes)
- No custom driveways circle or horseshoe. (1) Tinhorn per driveway must be installed by department.
- Must reside within the Comanche Nation service area. (Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Grady, Kiowa, Tillman and Stephens County)
- If you have any questions/ concerns please call the office at (580) 492-3308, Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Topics Education

Grandparents have a very important role to play in the encouragement of a child to go to school, especially boys. Research shows that when men are involved in the encouragement of children in their educational endeavors that children perform better in school, learn more and have a healthier behavior. Children need involvement from grandparents in order to show them that getting an education is a major factor in helping them to have a long term success in life.

Spend some time reading to them, maybe a short story, with an older child read a news article and discuss it. Take turns reading first you then your grandchild. Encourage, encourage and keep on encouraging them in everything they do. For their future sake, education is available and so very important.

Sandra Toyekoyah is the director of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program, and their office is located at 1001 C Ave., Lawton. She can be reached at (580) 574-4786. Her email is sandrat@comanchenation.com.

NAGPRA Update

The Comanche Nation NAGPRA department completed their 2019 grant application and has submitted it to National Park Services. They will find out if they were awarded the grant during July 2019.

They have completed 12 of their 17 grant consultations on their 2017 NAGPRA Grant and documentation projects and all items returned to the Comanche Nation have been turned over to the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center. Ownership belongs to the Comanche Nation with possession and control given to the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center.



HOT LINE
580-492-1TIP
(580-492-1847)

COMANCHE NATION CHR/EMS PROGRAM GUIDELINES Effective April 15, 2019

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of the Community Health Representative and Emergency Medical Services Program (CHR/EMS) is to serve as an advocate and facilitator for individuals/families of Native American descent who reside within our service area: Comanche, Cotton, Tillman, Jackson, Jefferson, Kiowa, and Stephens County to gain access to comprehensive health services.

1. Native Americans living within the service area will be provided with transportation to and from health care facilities (ONLY) for routine and specialty medical appointments. Dialysis, elderly, physically handicap, IHS Referrals will be priority transports. Transportation to OKC, Norman, Moore, Edmond, and El Reno will be provided for specialty medical appointments.
2. Patients/clients must be 18 years age or older to ride; if the patient/client is under age of 18 a legal guardian or parent must be present.
3. All patients/clients must call the CHR Office to schedule appointments. The CHR Office must be able to make necessary arrangements for multiple appointments.
4. The CHR's will contact the client one day before each appointment to confirm contact and appointment information and if any additional equipment is necessary so that an appropriate vehicle can be assigned.
5. In the event that transportation is unavailable to the client, other arrangements will be made with the Comanche Nation Transit Department, Elder Center (Wednesdays & Fridays, 62 years old older), SoonerRide, or MedRide.
6. If the patient/client is not present or cannot be found when the CHR shows up, then the following steps will be taken: 1) Honk, 2) Knock on the door, 3) A call to the patient, 4) Knock again. If after the previous steps are taken, and contact has still not been made, the CHR will leave a note at the residence stating that they were there and sorry they had missed them; they will then notify their director/supervisor and return to their station and/or continue with the rest of their daily schedule
7. Clients that appear, or who are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, will not be transported unless a medical emergency exists; the police may be contacted under certain circumstances.
8. Transportation for emergencies may be possible if the situation is not life threatening.
9. If outside pets appear to pose a threat to the CHR, the CHR will complete the following steps: 1) Call the patient/client, 2) Honk, 3) Notify their director/supervisor, 4) Take a screenshot of the location for documentation; they will not get out of the car for safety reasons.
10. Patients/clients may be called to be picked up early due to the scheduling of the CHR and to meet the needs of the patients/clients. The CHR Office has to cover a large geographical area with limited drivers. When the patient/client is finished with the appointment, transportation back home is necessary due to the IHS Policy of transportation, and for the safety of the patient.
11. In the event of inclement or hazardous weather, transportation will be suspended and the CHR will notify the client; transportation will continue for dialysis and emergencies.
12. Patients/clients will treat the CHR/EMS personal with respect. If patient/client becomes vulgar or verbally abusive, the director/supervisor will be notified.
13. No Smoking, Vaping, or Dipping is allowed in the GSA vehicles.
14. A snack bag (small bottle of water and a non-nut snack) will be provided for every client.



Courtesy Photos

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD. On April 8-12, the Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) Daycare in Lawton, Okla., participated in Week of the Young Child by coordinating different activities such as a Tea party, working together for a clean environment, and other fun art activities. TOP: Alydia Weahkee and Kanton Daily enjoy the tea party. RIGHT: Amanda Davis helps 1-years-old King McHenry look at a picture..




You are far more precious than jewels.
 -Proverbs 31:10-

Social Services Changes in Procedure Effective April 5, 2019

Eligible applicants (must be a Comanche Nation Tribal member and Head of house hold) have a period of two weeks to submit all necessary documentation or the case will be closed.

Comanche Nation Gaming Rental assistance is up to a maximum of \$500 per fiscal year beginning October 1st.

Comanche Nation Gaming Utility assistance is up to a maximum of \$500 per fiscal year beginning October 1st.

There is no waiting period between eligible application requests for services. All applications will be accepted based on funds available or until the \$500 per fiscal year limit is met.

COMANCHE ELDER CENTER ANNUAL GARAGE SALE
 Saturday, MAY 4, 2019
 8 AM - 2 PM





\$5.00 per Table
 Doors open at 8 am and end at 2 pm
 Location: 1107 SW H Avenue, Lawton, OK
 Contact Person: Nancy Travis 580-355-2330
 Or Marilyn Guerrero

Programs

Transportation Department Works on Redoing Nutrition Center's Parking Lot

The Comanche Nation Transportation has a project in the works at the Nutrition Center (Elderly Center) they are redoing the parking lot, A&E Construction was awarded the job. The project is coming together, and is looking good it should only be a few weeks before the project is completed.

The Transportation Department has been out checking the roadways that might need some work done and talking to the Counties on some of the roadways that have been checking on. The Comanche Nation Transportation is wanting safer roadways that will benefit all who travel the roadways in these areas. They are making these roadways better roads for tribal members and the communities.

The Comanche Nation Transportation is still working with all the schools in the areas that they serve to make it safer for all tribal children and the communities as well. Some of the roadways are not safe for children and the traffic is bad in some of these areas.

The Comanche Nation Transportation Department has been working at the New Transportation Building putting furniture together and cleaning inside the building so when the final inspection is completed the move will go smooth for the department.

The Comanche Nation Department Transportation's Motto is: *"Paving the way and providing a more safe and effective way of travel."*

Museum Gift Shop Selling Crafting Supplies

Beads and other Native crafting supplies are now being sold in the Comanche National Museum Gift Shop. The Gift Shop is located inside the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center (CNMCC) at 701 NW Ferris Avenue in Lawton. The Gift Shop is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call (580) 595-4941.

Unmasking the Truth: This History of the Comanche Language, is currently on exhibit in the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center gallery. The exhibition examines the tribe's language, past, present and future. Included in this exhibit are eight plaster "life-mask" castings of Comanches that were held at Fort Marion, Florida nearly 150 years ago. The prisoners were alive when their images were made. The casts are on loan from Harvard University's Peabody Museum in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The exhibit is on display until August 31. Museum hours are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10-2 p.m. Admission is free.

Water Quality Division Test for Contaminates

Signs that your well water or community drinking water may be contaminated.

- If your drinking water smells like rotten boiled eggs, has a blackish tinge or your sink fixtures have pit marks then there may be a manganese or hydrogen sulfide issue.
- If your water heaters thermostat release valve keeps clogging up, if there is visible heavy soap scum on shower curtain or on dishes you might have a high total dissolve solids issue.
- If your drinking water has a yellow color or has a fine sand or grit like tastes then organic soil may have infiltrated your water line. If the color of your water is reddish-brown or has a metal-

lic taste then your water might be contaminated with iron, lead, copper or other metals. If your water smells like bleach you might have a high chlorine count.

- If you are experiencing any of these symptoms with your community drinking water or well water, the water quality division can test for these contaminants at no cost to any Comanche tribal members residence. This service is allowed once a year to tribal members. The water quality division does not perform repairs on water lines, water heaters or well pump filters.

Solid Waste No Longer Offer Tree Limbs or Branch Pick-up

Effective April 10, the Comanche Nation Solid Waste Department will no longer offer tree limbs/branch pick-up on the bulk item. Trees/limbs pick up is not part of their grant and they are following what is covered in their grant procedure.

Realty Department Working on Fee-To-Trust Applications

The Realty Department continues to work on Fee-To-Trust Applications. The Food Distribution property and the Comanche Business Center has been sent in for preliminary evaluation from the BIA. Their office is also starting on the Fee-to-Trust for 302 NW Rogers Lane and they have the survey for this property also. The surveys and revised legal descriptions are the initial steps in preparing a Fee-To-Trust Application. Another important step is to have an appraisal prepared and submitted with each Fee-To-Trust application.

The Maintenance tech is cleaning up our Comanche owned properties by picking up debris and mowing and maintaining them.

The Agriculture Resource Manager is going out looking at all our lease property to make sure they are being taken care of.

The office continues to provide assistance to Tribal members in regards to Trust land(s). They can assist you by mapping the location of your property and answer your questions or direct you to someone who can help you. Feel free to call (580) 699-3818.

If a tribal member needs something notarized their office Administrative Assistant is a Notary Public.

Diabetes Awareness Program Hosted 3-Day Youth Camp



Courtesy Photo

Ranger Plata stories with the youth about the refuge and his passion for his work.

In an effort to help prevent Type 2 Diabetes in future generations, the Comanche Nation Diabetes Awareness Program hosted a three day camp for Native youth during Spring Break. There were ten youth who attended, ranging from 8-15 in age. Throughout their time at the camp, they had the opportunity to visit new places and enjoy new experiences with a focus on physical activity and healthy eating.

The camp kicked off with a quick trip to the Medicine Park Aquarium and Natural Sciences Center where the campers had the chance to spend time with the turtles. They even attended a Biologist-led critter chat about eels. After they finished

with their jolt of fun at the aquarium, they spent the rest of the afternoon with Ranger Nick Plata at the Wichita Wildlife Refuge.

Ranger Nick shared a wealth of information about the refuge in a story-like fashion, which kept the youth hanging on his every word. The passion he has for his work and the native youth is palpable and they will be forever thankful for his shared time and knowledge.

Day two of their adventure was spent becoming immersed in culture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center during their Three Sisters Spring Celebration. The youth had the chance to participate in traditional games, such as Chunky, interact with living history performers who were demonstrating how to make a traditional dugout canoe from a single tree trunk with fire coals, taste test traditional foods such as three sisters stew and pashofa, and even try their hand at archery to see who had the skills to catch their dinner. They wrapped up their day by watching a Stomp Dance presentation, followed by a tune-filled road trip back to Lawton.

The final day of camp was spent in the kitchen and in a playground of sorts. Everyone was inducted into kitchen safety patrol by learning about basic kitchen safety before being released into the kitchen to make No-Bake 5 Ingredient Energy Bites. Everyone took turns measuring, mixing, and laughing. At the end they finally got the chance to see and devour their final product. They then jumped into the last part of their day camp at Urban Air Adventure Park where everyone had the chance to jump, flip, and fall into fun on all the different surfaces.

Each day was unique and came with new lessons, memories, and experiences that will last a life time. Please make sure to keep a lookout for summer camp dates.

Child Welfare is Looking For Foster Parents

Have you ever thought about becoming a foster parent? The Comanche Nation Child Welfare is in great need of foster homes for Comanche children that are unable to be with their parents due to abuse and neglect.

The Comanche Nation has approximately 73 enrolled/eligible for enrollment children in the custody of the State of Oklahoma and throughout the United States. These children are placed by the state in non-Native American foster homes. If these children are unable to be reunited with their parents they will be placed for adoption. The Comanche Nation Indian Child Welfare is unable to transfer cases to tribal court without the tribal foster homes we so desperately need.

To prevent the disintegration of Comanche families, our people must step forward. If you have the ability to meet the needs of a child who is unable to be with their own family, please become a foster parent and help us protect and maintain the integrity of Comanche families and the future of the Comanche Nation.

PRESERVE OUR NATION ONE CHILD AT A TIME

Learn how to become a foster parent by calling the Comanche Nation Child Welfare office at (580) 280-4751.

Fitness Center List Schedule of Events

May 4: Comanche Warrior Runners' Club, Elmer Thomas Park, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Attention: Comanche Warrior Spirit Runners: all fitness levels welcome. If you have never ran before but want to be a part of our 10th Annual run for Comanche Nation Fair 2019 then please join in on this first ever Comanche Warrior Runners' Club. Health Screenings will be done and a fitness test administered. They will meet at least once a month to

help you train and get ready for your maiden voyage across Comanche, Caddo, and/or Cotton Counties.

May 31: BFF Challenge Post Health Screenings, 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

June 7: Stout Stopper Weight Loss Club Health Screening, 9 a.m.-12, 1 p.m.-4 p.m., 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

This is a more intensive weight loss club. Comprehensive health screening and fitness assessment will be done as well as nutrition counseling and education. 12 week program to help you stay healthy and active throughout the summer and be Fair ready by September!

Come by and see us anytime we're open!

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday

8 a.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Location

904 SW F Avenue, Lawton, Okla.

Check us out on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

Higher Education Offering a Series of Spring and Summer Events

The 2019 GED Spring Course will begin May 6. This course provides instruction for students seeking their GED. If you would like to enroll, please contact Comanche Nation Higher Education Department at (580) 492-3363 or Comanche Nation Workforce Department at (580) 492-3257. Applications are currently being accepted, and registration and TABE pretests are required. The courses are held at the Comanche Nation Education Center, which is located at 1608 SW 9th St., Lawton, Okla.

Higher Education is pleased to offer two Summer Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (S.T.E.A.M) camps that involves both Cultural and Educational elements. The Summer S.T.E.A.M Camps will be June 17 -20 and July 15-18. The K-5 age group will participate in one of the half-day sessions on the first two days of each STEAM Camp. The morning session will be from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. followed by the afternoon session from 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. The 6-12 grade age group will be on the last two days of each STEAM Camp, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For additional registration information please contact the Comanche Nation Higher Education Department at Phone: (580) 492-3363 or Email:higherred@Comanchenation.com.

Summer Scholarship applications are being accepted and the updated deadline has been moved to May 1. The acceptance of Summer Scholarships will show priority to Graduates and Seniors. Students will be required to submit their official Spring semester transcript and current enrollment schedule for their summer 2019 courses. Our office is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. -5 p.m. Students can drop off the official transcripts and schedules or mail them to the office at 1608 SW 9th St., Lawton, Oklahoma 73501.

Lastly, Comanche Nation Higher Education Department is calling all Graduating High School Seniors and College graduates: Save the date for the 2019 Graduation Banquet on June 1. This event will take place at the Apache Hotel and Casino, and will begin at 6 p.m. Please RSVP to this event by May 10. For additional registration information please contact the Comanche Nation Higher Education Department at Phone: (580) 492-3363 or Email:higherred@Comanchenation.com.

We only have today.
Yesterday is gone.
Tomorrow is uncertain.
That is why they call it the present.
Sobriety is really a gift.
For those who are willing to receive it.



New Pathways Halfway House
P.O. Box 2752
Lawton, OK 73502

Service Site: 8503 NW Maddische

Phone: (580)-492-3743
Phone: (580)-492-3745
Fax: (580)-492-3825

National Asthma Month

Americans spend up to 90 percent of their time indoors. Indoor allergens and irritants play a significant role in triggering asthma attacks. Triggers are things that can cause asthma symptoms, an episode or attack or make asthma worse. If you have asthma, you may react to just one trigger or you may find that several things act as triggers. Be sure to work with a doctor to identify triggers and develop a treatment plan that includes ways to reduce exposures to your asthma triggers.

Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Youth Group placed first in the 9th - 12th Grade Large Group Skit/Short Play division April 2 at the Sam Noble Museum 17th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair, in Norman. Their skit was titled, "Day Time and Night Time Creatures." The skit ended with all the animals settling their differences with a Hand Game.

Alofaio Lavatai and Fialele Lavatai, Walters Service Club, placed first in the 9th - 12th Grade Small Group Traditional Song division, singing three Comanche songs.

2019 Sam Noble Museum's Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

CHAMPIONS

Hundreds of Native Youth across Oklahoma gathered for a two day celebration and competition of Native Languages April 1 and 2, in Norman. Out of the many groups that competed, several Comanche tribal members placed in their divisions, ensuring the Comanche language is being preserved by the tribe's future leaders.



Courtesy Photo

The Numunu Turetu ECDC's preschool class was in the Traditional Song category for Pre-K-2nd Grade. They sang the 'Yellow Bird' song and a Comanche Hymn and placed first place in their division. Pictured on Top from Left; Journey Murrow, Kenneth Weahkee, Scarlett Codynah, Aaron Allen, Blakelee Mitchell, River Edwards, Alydia Weahkee, Kameron TaiSee, Eli Laurenzana, and Karter Daily.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Nation Youth Program students are, from left: Talon Hoahwah (Tasiwo), Cole Jones (Eka Mura), LeAnne Tahsequah (Hustuu), Modesto Schonchin (Paruku), Tyler Jones (Kwasinaibo), Kaelan Burgess (Kwinai), Arlene Schonchin (Pisunii), Devohn Pewo (Muupits), Jaylen Ramirez (Taabeni), Jessica Ramirez (Tukani), Christian Bennett (Kutseena), Tatum Burgess (Pasoko), Lizzie Tahsequah (Wanii), Zoe Bennett (Wakaree), Aaron Pewo (Kutseena), Karissa Komacheet (Aruka), and Rebecca Burgess (Weyakoro).



Photo by Stacey Heminokeky/News Staff

The Lawton, Okla., Numunu Turetu ECDC, and the Comanche Child Care located in Apache, Okla., traveled to Norman, Okla., on April, 1, to compete at the Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair, at the Sam Noble Museum. Pictured above; Comanche Nation Child Care from Apache, Okla., The class was in the category for Pre-K - 2nd grade. They sang the "Hokey Pokey" and placed 2nd place in their division.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Sisters of the Heart, from Riverside Indian School placed first in the 6th to 8th grade Small Group Traditional Song Division, singing Comanche hymns.

Tribal Members Learn about Services at the Education Center’s Open House

Story and Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Education Center held an Open House the evening of March 27. Tribal members had an opportunity to browse the various programs housed there, and find out what kinds of services they offer.

“Each Comanche Nation tribal member can come here to the Education Center to apply for any of our Educational programs, or the Workforce program, as well as utilize our library to read, or do research on the computer. As a convenience for our tribal members, the Education Center houses the WIOA(workforce), Youth Program, Vocational Rehabilitation, Higher Education, Student Services, Comanche Nation Language Planning/Developing and the Comanche Nation Library,” said Jamesena Mendoza, Deputy Administrator for Education.

Several door prizes were given away to the visitors, and McAlister’s Deli sandwiches were provided. Each program director addressed the crowd to talk about their services.

Mendoza added there was approximately 161 guest that signed in, not including the staff and their families, the turnout was good. The doors to the Education Center are always open for Tribal applicants needing services in finding a job, wanting to attend GED classes, a variety of vocational programs or the higher education scholarship program. Any of the services applications can be picked up here in person or any of the applications can be found on the Comanche Nation Website.

If you have any questions our main number here at the Education Center is (580) 591-0203.



Numerous Comanche tribal members visit the Education Center’s Open House, March 27. They enjoyed delicious snacks, information from all the programs that are housed in the center, and nifty souvenirs. This was the first Open House event the center has had since it was renovated.



Deandra Hughes gives out information, snacks and mementos in the Vocational Rehabilitation Department during the Education Center’s Open House.



Joe Aitson is among the several door prize winners at the Open House. He won a basket from the Comanche National Museum.



Dale Rhea Simmons, librarian of the Education Center, tells the audience of the services her office offers tribal members.



Vandell Nauni and his son, Pevodah, takes a break from visiting the Education Center program offices to enjoy a tasty lunch.



Catherine Parker, director of the Higher Education Program, passes out cake at the Open House event.



Millie Cooper, receptionist of the Education Center, prepares lunches for visitors.



ELITE COMANCHE PRIDE ACCOUNT

Exclusive Rewards At Your Fingertips!

Anywhere Banking Tools¹

Online, telephone, mobile & text banking, exclusive Visa debit card & eStatements.

Early Pay¹

Get access to your direct deposit a day early.

0.25% Off Stated Interest Rates

Save more on auto loans with your Elite checking account.

Waive 3 CNB “Out of Network” ATM fees

We’ll cover 3 CNB service fees when using a foreign ATM. *(per statement cycle)*

Online Bill Pay¹

Schedule, pay and manage all your bills in one location. Like your local water bill!

CNB Rewards  powered by BaZing

Exclusive rewards with tons of benefits, all in one app.

Other Features

Notary service, variable rate account, paper statements, free copy & fax service.



A \$12.95 monthly account service charge will be charged if the average balance falls below \$10,000 during the statement cycle. Must present a valid tribal ID at account opening to qualify for a Comanche Pride Checking & Elite Comanche Pride Checking Account. 1. Activated by enrollment. See Consumer Disclosure booklet for terms, conditions and any associated service fees.

Wearing Native Regalia at Graduation Ceremonies: Everyday Acts of Resurgence

By Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, Comanche Nation Education Liaison

As the first college graduate of my family, I was very proud to wear an eagle feather on my graduation regalia at Northeastern State University in 1977. My graduation cap proudly featured an eagle feather hanging off the tassels from the top of the cap down to my gown. I was gifted an eagle feather by my father, Doc Pewewardy, for graduating from college with honors. The eagle feather to many Comanche families is a symbol of strength and honor gifted to individuals when they reach a milestone in their lives, such as a high school or college graduation and “not just a decoration.” Several years of hard work (blood, sweat and tears) had finally paid off! And I was bound and determined to display the eagle feather on my graduation cap, regardless of the university policy that denied this cultural practice at NSU.

At this particular college graduation ceremony, someone reported me to university authorities and later a commencement official walked over to me during the graduation lineup and said: “You need to take that feather off of your cap, because it is against university policy.” While in line with all 500 university graduates, I took the eagle feather off of my cap and tucked it inside my gown. As I approached the speaker’s stand, I pulled out the eagle feather that was tied to the tassel and placed it on top of my graduation cap. As the announcer called out my name, crossing the stage, I could hear my family sitting in the stands shouting out, clapping and lulu’ing. That was 42 years ago and little did I know then that I was to become a principal of two Native/Indigenous elementary schools and retire as professor emeritus at a research university.

Teaching ethnic studies and teacher education courses these past two decades helped me recognize the continued systemic racism ingrained in school structures that privilege the dominant, whitestream communities and disadvantage communities of color, including Native/Indigenous communities. Ethnic studies scholars helped me understand these “everyday acts of racial micro-aggressions” early in my educational career. For years, I was internalizing hundreds of negative stereotypes and micro-aggressions as my cultural identity and agency developed. I’ve come to understand and teach future teachers that racial micro-aggressions are brief and commonplace daily verbal, behavioral, or environmental indignities, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative racial slights and insults toward people of color.

Now some 42 years later,

I’ve returned to my tribal homelands of Comanche County and I’m still witnessing these same negative racial slights and insulting acts of racial micro-aggressions all over the state of Oklahoma. Because I’m an educator, I have a commitment to work with all ethnic groups, genders and ages about being culturally responsive to the needs of all of our communities.

As the Education Liaison for the Comanche Nation these past two years, I have been called upon by citizen families to explore multiple racial micro-aggressions in surrounding public schools in southwest Oklahoma. Classic examples of these everyday acts of racial micro-aggression include confronting hostile activity when sport teams display racist Indian mascots (behavior) during football and basketball games; denying Native students from wearing their hair long at school; and denying students from wearing Native regalia during graduation ceremonies.

This year, I’ve attended school board meetings at Apache Public Schools and Lawton Public Schools where I spoke mainly about the issue of allowing Native students to wear their traditional regalia during high school graduation ceremonies. Both public schools have honored this request by local Native American voices and are allowing this to happen during their 2019 spring graduations. That to me is an example of being culturally responsive to the needs of the community. On the other hand, I am told that there are some public schools in southwest Oklahoma who have denied this cultural practice.

During the Education Legislation Forum last night (April 18th) at the Lawton High School library, local elected officials from southwest Oklahoma addressed questions regarding education. One question that I asked them was the question about allowing Native American students wearing their Native regalia during high school graduation ceremonies. Although the legislators were not familiar with Oklahoma Attorney General, Mike Hunter’s 2018 position on this action, they were supportive of his position paper to permit such use, consistent with the requirements of Oklahoma law. His position statement was grounded within the Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act (ORFA), which urged specifically the Vian Public Schools Board of Education to adopt or revise its policies to permit these religious practices at graduation. Moreover, I reminded colleagues in attendance at this forum of the Comanche Nation Business Committee Resolution (No. 06-19) that encourages all public schools to allow the wearing of items of cultural

significance for religious purposes at high school graduations.

High school and college has certainly prepared our students to face the world and graduation day is now just around the corner. This is an enormous milestone for everyone involved, and a definite cause for celebration! As with any other major life event, we all want our students to look their very best and honor the graduation traditions of our sovereign Nations; the beaded cap, the eagle feathers or plums, to tassels and stoles and all the accessories that go with this historic ceremony. Many of our friends and family will be there to celebrate our student’s big day right alongside their teaching faculty, staff, fellow students—witnessing and celebrating the wearing of Native regalia at graduation ceremonies.

As Comanche citizens, we know exactly how important graduation day is and the importance of looking great traditionally in their caps, gowns and other ancestral accessories! Congratulations graduates. The future is yours. Walk across that stage with confidence and pride knowing you are engaging in everyday acts of resurgence like your ancestors did—opening doors of Indigenous pathways of action and freedom. You’ve more than earned this! Ura!

MAY 17-20, 2019
TRIBAL HORSEMANSHIP CAMP

Tribal horsemen from across the country will be teaching native youth the one aspect of being Indian that is common among all tribal nations - horsemanship

DAILY ACTIVITIES: MORNING PRAYER, FEEDING/WATERING HORSES
HORSEMANSHIP CLASSES AND RECONNECTING THROUGH NATURE AND TRIBAL BELIEFS.

TRIBAL HORSEMEN:

LYNN SCHONCHIN JR - KLAMATH MODOC
PATRICK ALLORI - GREASY GRASS INTERNATIONAL
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Comanche Nation Housing Authority

Open House

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED!!

THURSDAY

May 16th

3:00pm to
6:30 pm

ADMINISTRATION

PROCUREMENT

LOW RENTAL PROGRAM

LEASE PURCHASE PROGRAM

DOWN PAYMENT/CLOSING COST PROGRAM

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

ELDER PROGRAM

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

1918 EAST GORE BLVD LAWTON, OK 73501

580-357-4956

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority will be hosting an Open House for the Public. Each will have an opportunity to tour our new facility as well as meet our staff and learn about our programs. Please contact our office for more details. Hope to see you all!



File Photo

A performance of “Spirits of the Water,” was performed June 30, 2018, at the Comanche Nation’s Education Center in Lawton, Okla. This year marks the 5th year for the dance project.

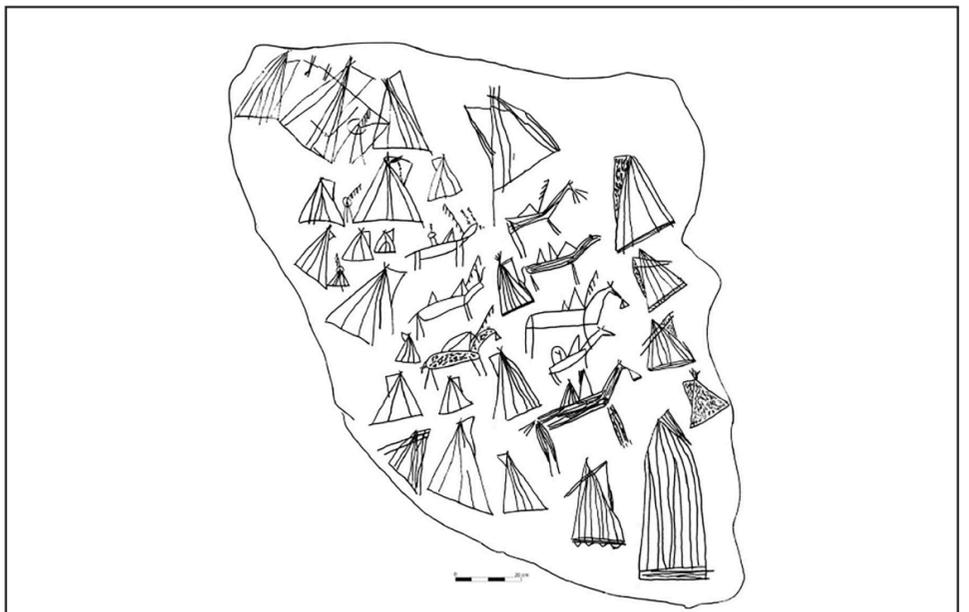
Comanche Nation Youth Summer Dance Project Celebrates Its 5th Year

This year marks the fifth year Ana Ward has volunteered to teach tribal youth the art of ballet dance, and she said she is adding new performances to the routine. Both boys and girls, ages 7 years to 18 years, are invited to participate. The deadline to register is May 22. To register for the dance project, call Ward at (409) 370-9181.

Intro day will be 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., June 17 at the Lawton Ballet Studio, 6726 NW Cache Rd., Lawton. Lessons will run 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with a final performance on June 29. Some weekend practices may be required. Students will be divided into age groups and provide dance attire. A practice schedule will be provided.

“I will be giving out awards to those who have attended for all five years,” said Ward. “We are pleased to host two other performance groups. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women of Oklahoma Southwest Chapter will perform ‘A Tribute to Our Stolen Sisters,’ and the Comanche Nation Youth Dancers’ Sign Language Department, I am very happy as this growth includes more of the community.”

Historic Preservation’s Recollection of Comanche History



Courtesy Photo

In New Mexico's Rio Grande Gorge, there are hundreds of panels of barely visible Rock Art left by Comanche around a basin known as the Vista Verde Site. Groups of Comanche traveled to the area from the Great Plains during the early eighteenth century to take part in raiding or trading expeditions. Many of the panels depict warriors on horseback fighting other Native Americans or capturing horses. Most rock art represents timeless, ritually important subjects, but these panels appear to depict real-life events, perhaps traced on the rocks by warriors eager to remind their fellow Comanche of their brave exploits. The rock art below seems to show Comanche warriors mounting their horses, perhaps in preparation for a raid or trading mission to a nearby settlement.

Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy/CIVA

Task Force Comanche Update



Courtesy Photo

961st Tactical Operations Center



Courtesy Photo

CSM White, CSM Law, Brig General Lazaroski and LTC Bryant with Comanche Flag in background, BG Lazaroski and CSM Law are from the 412th Theater Engineer Command (TEC) based in Jackson, Ms.

Lanny Asepermy received an email from the 961st Engineer Battalion (Task Force Comanche) Command Sergeant Major Randy White on March 28.

They are currently at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. He sent the following photos of their Tactical Operations Center (TOC) with both the U.S. and Comanche Nation flags flying and inside their TOC with the Comanche Flag on full display.

As of March 31, they have completed three months of their nine month deployment. All is well.

CIVA 14th Annual Armed Forces Day Banquet

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) will host their 14th Annual Armed Forces Day Banquet on May 18, starting at 1 p.m., at Watchtaker Hall. The banquet is open to Comanche veterans and a guest and the widows and a guest of Comanche veterans.

Highlights for the banquet include a buffet-style meal, guest speaker French Army Lieutenant Colonel Nicolas Konieczny, honors to six Comanche veterans by the CIVA and the Oklahoma Quilt of Valor Foundation. The carnation of incoming 2019-20 CIVA Princess Trinity Ahtone will conclude the banquet. Lanny Asepermy will serve as the Master of Ceremonies.



Courtesy Photo

Nicolas Konieczny

Guest Speaker Lt Col Nicolas Konieczny is currently the French Liaison Officer for the Fires Center of Excellence at Fort Sill. He has served in the French Army, as an Artillery Officer, since 1999 including two combat tours in Afghanistan.

Trinity Rae Ahtone will be crowned and become the 17th CIVA Princess. She is the daughter of Bryan Eagles and Megan Stone Mahseet of Lawton.

Ahtone is a freshman at Eisenhower high school and

a member of the Comanche Youth Dancers. She is a Sign Linguist. Ahtone is the former Miss Little Indian Lawton, Miss Jr Indian Lawton and Miss Indian Lawton.

Receiving honors and Quilts of Valor are Father and son, Samuel and Brandon Allen; Scott Cato; Darrell Chrismon; James Mountain; and Marion Nick Plata.



Courtesy Photo

Samuel Allen



Courtesy Photo

Brandon Allen



Courtesy Photo

Scott Cato



Courtesy Photo

Darrell Chrismon



Courtesy Photo

James Mountain



Courtesy Photo

Marion Nick Plata

Samuel S. Allen served in the Navy from 1973-77 earning the grade of Machinists Mate Second Class. He completed Boot

Training and A School, as a Machinist, at the Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Ill. He was then assigned to the USS Roark (DE-1053), a Destroyer for the remainder of his military service. While aboard the Roark he completed two Western Pacific deployments including Ports of Call in Hawaii, the Philippine and Fuji Islands and New Zealand. The Roark also deployed in the vicinity of the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam. His sea and/or Foreign Service was for 3 years, 4 months and 25 days. He was awarded the Good Conduct and National Defense Service Medals.

Brandon S. Allen served in the Marine Corps from 2002-06 earning the rank of Lance Corporal.

He completed his Boot Training at the Marine Recruit Training Center San Diego, Cali., and his Infantry training at Camp Pendleton, Cali.

LCpl Allen served three combat tours in Iraq (1 year, 11 months and eight days). His combat assignments were with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Force (Special Operations Capable) as a Rifleman/Assistant SAW Gunner during the initial invasion into Iraq to Baghdad; with the Marine Regiment Combat Team I as a Designated Marksman during the first Battle for Fallujah (Operation Vigilant Resolve); and with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit as a Designated Marksman during Operation Steel Curtain.

As a Fleet Marine, he served aboard the USS Rushmore, Cleveland and Tarawa during two of his combat tours.

His awards include the Combat Action, Sea Service Deployment w/2 Stars and Fleet Marine Ribbons; the Presidential Unit Citation; the Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Iraq Campaign with/4 Battle Stars, Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary and Armed forces Expeditionary Medals, two awards of the Rifle Expert Qualification Badge, the Fleet Marine Badge, the Navy Unit Commendation and Letter and Certificate of Appreciation.

Scott Cato served in the Navy from 1965-68 earning the grade of Electrician Mate Third Class.

He completed his Boot Training at the Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Ill., and was assigned to the USS Valor (MSO-472) a minesweeper. While aboard the Valor he received on the job training as a Electrician. EM3 Cato then served aboard the USS Willard Keith (DD-775) a destroyer and the USS Ozark (MCS-2) a vehicle landing ship. He served the remainder of his military service aboard the USS Mauna Loa (AE-8) an ammunition ship. While aboard the Mauna Loa he completed a Mediterranean cruise which included Ports of Call in Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Turkey, Sicily, Crete and Malta. The Mauna Loa crossed the Panama Canal and ported at Subic Bay, Philippine Islands where they rearmed aircraft carriers, destroyers and cruisers in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam. He served 2 years, 11 months and 18 days of sea and/or Foreign Service.

His awards include the Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service with/1 Battle Star,

Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device Medals. EM3 Cato was 16 years old when he enlisted into the Navy.

Darrel W. Chrismon served in the Marine Corps from 1968-70 earning the rank of Corporal.

He completed his Boot Training at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot San Diego, Cali., Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Pendleton, Cali., and Machine Gun training at 29 Palms, Cali. He served in Vietnam for 11 months and 22 days arriving in February 1969. Cpl Chrismon was assigned to Service Company, HQs Battalion, 1st Marine Division based at Da Nang as an Infantry Squad Leader.

Cpl Chrismon participated in four campaigns while in Vietnam – the Counteroffensive Phase VI, Tet 69 Counteroffensive, Summer-Fall 1969 and Winter-Spring 1970.

His awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service with/4 Battle Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm, and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device Medals and the Rifle Qualification Badge.

James Mountain served in the Army from 2006-09 earning the rank of Specialist.

He completed Basic Training at Fort Knox, Ky., and Advanced Individual Training, as a Fire Control Specialist for the M1 Abrams Tank and M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle, at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md. SPC Mountain completed his military service at Fort Irwin, Cali. He was assigned to the 699th Maintenance Company as a mechanic and to Corp HQ S-1 in charge of the Awards Section.

His awards include the National Defense Service and Global War on Terrorism Service Medals, the Army Service Ribbon and the Marksman Qualification Badge with/Rifle Bar.

Marion Nick Plata served in the Army from 1975-79 earning the rank of Specialist 4.

He completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Knox, Ky., and Advanced Individual Training, as a Light Weapons Infantryman, at Fort Polk, La. He served overseas at Baumholder, Germany with Company B, 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, 8th Infantry Division.

SP4 Plata was a member of the Division Drill Team that performed in Diekirch, Luxembourg during the 30th anniversary of General George S. Patton's death. He also completed the French Commando Entrainment School. He completed his military service at Fort Polk, La., with the 5th Infantry Division.

His awards include the Good Conduct Medal, Marksman Qualification Badge with/Rifle Bar and the French Commando Entrainment Badge.

CIVA 43rd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) will host their 43rd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Watchtaker Hall and the CIVA Court of honor 11 a.m., on May 27.

Lanny Asepermy will serve as the Master of Ceremonies. Army Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Rhonda Williams will be the guest speaker. The ceremony includes a Roll Call of the 13 Comanches that were either killed in action, died of combat wounds, died in captivity or declared dead while missing in action. A roll call of eight Comanche veterans that died while on active duty and Comanche veterans that died during the past year will also be conducted. After the ceremony the Quilts of Valor Foundation will present quilts to six Comanche veterans and one Associate member of the CIVA.

A meal will be served after the ceremony which is open to the public.

The Fallen Warriors are:



Courtesy Photo

Johnnie Rivas killed in action, June 6, 1944



Courtesy Photo

Melvin Myers killed in action, June 14, 1944



Courtesy Photo

Eli Hosetosavit killed in action, August 1, 1944



Courtesy Photo

Ben Trevino killed in action, August 3, 1944



Courtesy Photo

Thomas Chockpoyah killed in action, August 7, 1944



Courtesy Photo

Gilbert Vidana killed in action, Sept. 16, 1944



Courtesy Photo

Henry Kosechata died of combat wounds, May 1, 1945



Courtesy Photo

Henry Conwoop died of combat wounds, May 3, 1945



Courtesy Photo

Dennis Karty died in captivity, March 30, 1952



Courtesy Photo

Meech Tahsequah declared dead, Feb. 28, 1954



Courtesy Photo

Russell Pesewonit killed in action, July 22, 1966



Courtesy Photo

Robert Pahcheka killed in action, Oct. 22, 1966

Continued from Page 12



Courtesy Photo
Joshua Ware
killed in action, Nov. 16, 2005

CIVA Activities



Courtesy Photo

CIVA members with Yuki Jordon (center front row with plaid shirt) after the presentation of the ceremonial pipe.



Courtesy Photo

Pipe Cemetery at the Asepermy home west of Apache – Edmond Nevaquaya and Eddie Mahseet.

On March 8, Yuki Jordon presented a ceremonial pipe to the CIVA on behalf of her late father, Edward Yates, a retired Army Sergeant First Class and Vietnam War veteran. Eight veterans and nine Auxiliary were present for the presentation in the Patriot Room. The CIVA provided the funeral detail for the Yates family at the Fort Sill National Cemetery on February 1, 2019.

Jordon lives in Round Rock, Texas. She was in Lawton visiting her mother when she contacted Lanny Asepermy the early morning of the 8th about the presentation. She remembers her Dad crafting the pipe she presented. She said it was a very slow process

and he was very detailed with his work. After the presentation the CIVA took Jordon to Lawton for a meal - on March 17, 11 veterans, eight Auxiliary and 10 guests gathered at the home of Lanny and Shelley Asepermy for a blessing and smoking ceremony of the Yates pipe.

Edmond Nevaquaya conducted the ceremony as he explained the history of the ceremonial Comanche pipe. After his presentation he gave a blessing and each veteran of the CIVA smoked the pipe. A traditional

Comanche meal was served after the ceremony. The pipe will now go into a case and displayed in the Patriot Room.

Scout Circle of Honor

On March 26, Asepermy, Mihecoby, Roger Tehauno, Clifford Takawana, Clifford Red Elk, Richard Sapcutt, Lyman Guy, Linda Tehauno and Shelley Asepermy removed two flagpoles at the Circle of Honor, replaced five Tuks (the round ball on top of the flagpole) at the Court of Honor and hung two frames in the Patriot Room with the photos of 27 veterans. A great Team effort.

Six veterans and five Auxiliary members provided a funeral detail for the family of George Karty Jr., at the Comanche Nation Funeral Home and Highland Cemetery.

Karty served in the OK Army National Guard from September 19, 1956, to September 18, 1959, and the Inactive Army Reserve until March 31, 1960, earning the rank of Specialist 4. He was an Infantryman with Troop A, 2nd Recon Squadron, 245th Armor Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. SP4 Karty Jr., qualified Marksman with the Rifle and Pistol.

He was born on April 5, 1938, and passed away on March 26, 2019, at age 80. CIVA Secretary, Clifford Takawana, conducted the military honors, the Comanche Nation Police Department provided a firing squad and a funeral detail from Fort Sill folded and presented the casket flag to the family.

The family presented a monetary gift to the CIVA for providing the detail.



Courtesy Photo

Shelley Asepermy, Linda Tehauno, Kathy Lovejoy, Cheryl Takawana with 101 year old Anna Tahmahkera.

On March 20, Roger and Linda Tehauno, Lanny and Shelley Asepermy, George and Clifford Red Elk, Ramonah Davis, Cheryl Takawana and Kathy Lovejoy visited with 101 year old Anna Tahmahkera and former Chairman and Air Force veteran Bernard Kahrahrh at the Comanche Nation Assisted Living Center. Prayers were said, hymns sung and stories told. Other clients present included Rose Nauni, Pauline Hawzipta, Vernon Chockpoyah Jr., and Terry Gemiasaddle.



Courtesy Photo

Flag replacement detail at Circle of Honor, photo courtesy of Linda Tehauno.

On March 22, Lanny Asepermy, Clifford Red Elk, Ramonah Davis and Nona Gail Mihecoby replaced 12 flags at the CIVA Court of Honor and Comanche War



Courtesy Photo

Charles Chemah with members of his family after he received honors.



Courtesy Photo

Trinity Rae Ahtone, answering question during her interview.

On April 4, the monthly meeting, meal and election of the 2019-20 CIVA Princess was held at the Patriot Room. 14 veterans, 13 Auxiliary and 19 guests were present. After the opening prayer, pledge to the Allegiance, a meal was provided by Sue Permansu Morris.

Morris and her husband, Tom, drove from Catoosa, Okla., to the complex (210 miles) and provided the meal in appreciation to the CIVA for the services they provide to veterans.

After the meal honors were presented to Charles Chemah. He was presented with an embroidered Grateful Nation blanket, an Honor Certificate, veteran's gift bag and a stipend.

Chemah served in the OK Army National Guard from 1955-57 with Company E, 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, as an Infantryman, based at Walters. He earned the rank of Private First Class. The day he was discharged from the OKARNG he enlisted into the Navy and served from 1957-61. He served with VA-146 Attack Squadron aboard the USS Ranger (CV-61) as an Aviation Structural Mechanic earning the rank of Petty Officer Second Class. Land service included the Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Ill., Naval Air Technical Training Center Norman, Okla., and Naval Air Training Center Memphis, Tenn. His foreign and/or sea service was for 1 year and 6 months and included a cruise from Naval Station Norfolk, Va., around Cape Horn to Naval Station Alameda, Cali., with ports of call Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico and San Francisco, Cali. Two Western Pacific cruises followed with ports of call in Hawaii, Japan, Formosa, Hong Kong and the Philippine Islands. He was a member of the Domain of the Golden Dragon.

His awards include the Good Conduct and National Defense Service Medals. Chemah is 82 years young.

The Armed Forces Day Banquet Guest Speaker, Lt Col Nicolas Konieczny, was introduced and spoke briefly to those present.

There was only one candidate, Trinity Rae Ahtone, for the CIVA Princess. After her interview she was elected unanimously as the 2019-20 princess. Her reign begins on Armed Forces Day 2019 and ends on Armed Forces Day 2020.

The Business session was then conducted with the approval of the March minutes, the Treasurer and two Spoils Reports. Final preparations for the Armed Forces Day Banquet on May 18, and Memorial Day Ceremony on

May 27, have been made. A request, from Eleanor McDaniel, to provide the Color Guard during the Shoshone Reunion, at the Comanche Nation Complex, from September 16-18 was approved.

All were reminded about the Flag raising and lowering ceremony for the late Samuel "Doc" Pewewardy at the Kiowa Complex in Carnegie on April 12. Immediately after the flag raising ceremony the marker of the late Stanton Pewewardy will be replaced (the current marker has the wrong birth date) at the Rainey Mountain Cemetery west of Mountain View.

A special prayer was rendered for Michelle Pewewardy who recently suffered a mini-stroke and Lanny Asepermy who, in the past 12 days, has had an almost complete hearing loss.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

A few active members and Auxiliary of the CIVA. Photos courtesy of Roger Tehauno.



Courtesy Photo

Lanny Asepermy



Courtesy Photo

Ramonah Davis



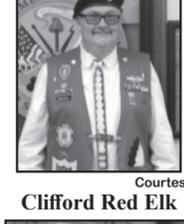
Courtesy Photo

Ricardo Flores



Courtesy Photo

Lyman Guy



Courtesy Photo

Clifford Red Elk



Courtesy Photo

Keller Roaming Warrior



Courtesy Photo

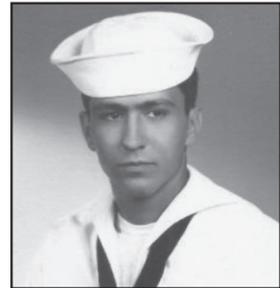
Shelley Asepermy



Courtesy Photo

Mindy Tomah

New Veteran Photos



Courtesy Photo

SMR2 Charles M. Chemah
OKARNG 1955-57
Navy 1957-61
USS Ranger (CV-61)



Courtesy Photo

CPT Ronald Parker
Army 1965-71
1st Infantry Division
Vietnam War



Courtesy Photo

SPC Anthony Plata
Army 2000-03
Iraq War
Helicopter Door Gunner



Courtesy Photo

Cpl Vincent Pocowatchit
USMC 1960-64
Fleet Marine
Rifle Marksman Instructor



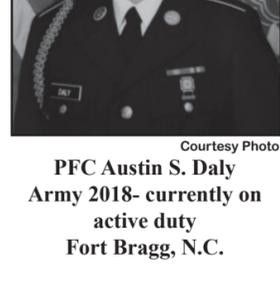
Courtesy Photo

Kersty Pohawpatchoko
Army Reserve



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Glenn S. Tehauno
Air Force 1972-76



Courtesy Photo

PFC Austin S. Daly
Army 2018- currently on active duty
Fort Bragg, N.C.



Courtesy Photo

T5 Mary Portillo Waldrip
Women Army Corps (WAC)
1945-46
Army Hospital in Minnesota
Surgical Unit

Trinity Rae Ahtone Elected 2019-20 CIVA Princess



Courtesy Photo

At the April 4, monthly Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) meeting, Trinity Rae Ahtone was elected as the 17th CIVA Princess. She will begin her reign during the Armed Forces Day Banquet on May 18. Her term also ends on Armed Forces Day 2020.

She is the 16 year old daughter of Bryan Eagles Sr., and Megan Mahseet and Carleton "CJ" Ahtone. Her maternal grandparents are Steve and Gwendolyn Stone and her paternal grandparents are Eddie and Elizabeth Mahseet and Mari Frances Sahmaunt and Vohn Ahtone. Her great-grandparents are Calvin Sr., and Velma Pohawpatchoko, Steve and Lena Chibitty, Spencer Sahmaunt, Marion Ahdosy, and Vernon and Juanita Ahtone.

Ahtone, in a prepared statement, said, "Coming from a long line of decorated service people and hearing about their experiences of serving our country feels me with pride. I've grown up hearing fond memories of when my mother served as princess for the CIVA. So much so, it has always felt like the CIVA is my family. I would feel honored, if given the opportunity to represent you as the 2019-20 CIVA Princess."

Her father, Bryan Eagles Mahseet, is a former Marine. Her grandfather, Eddie Mahseet, is a Marine, Vietnam War veteran and Numu Pukutsi. Two of her great-grandfathers, Calvin Pohawpatchoko Sr., and Steve Chibitty, both served in the military. Calvin Sr., is a retired Soldier that fought in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Steve served in the Army after World War II.

Ahtone is a freshman at Eisenhower high school. She is on the Principle's Honor Roll, serves as the manager of the high school baseball team and a Cheerleader.

She was bought into the dance arena at age 4 months by former CIVA Auxiliary member, the late Myra Burgess. Ahtone is a member of the Comanche Nation Youth Dancers and a Sign Linguist. She has served as the Miss Little Indian Lawton, Jr Miss Indian Lawton and Miss Indian Lawton. Her mother, Megan, served as the CIVA Princess from 1998-00 and is a former Comanche Nation Princess.

People, Places and Things Happening

DeJesus Takes Home Three Medals



Courtesy Photo

DeJesus

Tribal member, Jeanie DeJesus is 13 year old, and attends Epic Charter school located in Oklahoma City, Okla. DeJesus has been competing in gymnastics for three years. Recently she won the State Tournament held at Bartlesville, Okla. She placed second on the beam and took home 1 silver medal, and 2 bronze.

The DeJesus family are very proud of her accomplishments.

American Indian College Fund Honors Wieden+Kennedy Co-Founder with Pendleton Blanket



Courtesy Photo

The American Indian College Fund and Pendleton Woolen Mills, the acclaimed lifestyle brand headquartered in Portland, Oregon, are introducing a new, exclusive blanket to the American Indian College Fund Collection to honor the contributions of David Kennedy, the co-founder of independent creative advertising agency Wieden+Kennedy. For nearly 29 years, Wieden+Kennedy, has been a creative partner of the American Indian College Fund and led an effort that's continued to raise awareness about the importance of higher education to ensure a better future for Native American people, their families, and communities. The agency, under the creative leadership of David Kennedy, has provided its public service media, creative design, and collaborative work with Pendleton Woolen Mills and the College Fund to design blankets for the American Indian College Fund Collection. Kennedy has also served as a member of the College Fund's board of trustees.

Kennedy was presented with The Contemporary Pawnee Pathway blanket, designed by Bunky Echo-Hawk, an acclaimed Native American artist and longtime friend, at a reception in his honor at Wieden+Kennedy's Portland offices on March 28.

The blanket is available at Pendleton retail stores and on their website at www.pendleton-usa.com. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the American Indian College Fund and student scholarships.

Echo-Hawk first met David Kennedy while employed by the American Indian College Fund. They continued their friendship as their

paths intersected in the art world. Echo-Hawk relied upon his experiences as a graduate of the Institute of American Indian Arts, a tribal college alumnus, and a friend of David Kennedy to inspire his blanket design.

Echo-Hawk said, "The blanket design is saturated in traditional Pawnee color theory and symbology, while also reflecting a contemporary flare. The blanket adheres to colors deemed sacred: red, white, yellow, black, and turquoise blue. The red, white, yellow, and black represent the four stages of life, from birth, to adolescence, to maturity, and finally, to death. But they also represent the four semi-cardinal directions (NE, SE, SW, & NW), as well as the four races of humankind. The four-pointed stars in the middle of the blanket represent the Milky Way, which is considered the Path of Departed Spirits in Pawnee culture. The repeating red and black elements are derived from Pawnee parfleche designs, specifically, from burden strap designs. According to our philosophy, life is an unending force, a path that we continue upon, persevering in education and accomplishment along the way, so that when we become ancestors traversing the Milky Way, future generations can look to us and learn." Echo-Hawk said the paint splatters are a nod to the creativity of David Kennedy, and are not geometric or symmetric, mirroring our life path, which is winding and sometimes messy. The turquoise blue represents the heavens, which are present above us in each stage of life and all around us, as symbolized by the blue border. Cheryl Crazy Bull, President and CEO of the American Indian College Fund, said, "The College Fund's national recognition inspires support for our mission—transforming the lives of American Indian students. We thank David Kennedy for the love and commitment that encourages others to give to our work so more Native students can go to college and so tribal colleges and universities can thrive. It is fitting that we are able to honor David on the 30th anniversary of the College Fund with a blanket that reflects his creativity, his generosity, and his belief that education is the answer."

For those wishing to honor David Kennedy, in addition to the blanket, the David Kennedy endowed Scholarship has been established in his honor. Individual donations can be made at www.collegefund.org/ David.

Kiowa Tribe Head-Start Accepting Applications for 2018-2019 School Year

Starting August, Kiowa Tribe Head Start will have extended hours. The program will have class from 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. to meet family needs. Applications can be picked up at the following locations: KCA Head Start Center located at 1401 N.E. Lawrie Tatum Road, Lawton, Okla., Little Rabbits Center at 1602 American Street, Anadarko, Okla., Kiowa Tribe Head Start Office, Kiowa Tribal Complex Carnegie, Okla., from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or go to kiowatribe.org for enrollment applications.

Kiowa Tribe Head Start is a federally funded program which provides a research-based curriculum, comprehensive health, nutrition, social services, family engagement and other services to children ages 3 to 5 years old at no cost to families who qualify.

Kiowa Tribe Head Start serves all children in Caddo, Kiowa and Comanche counties regardless of Race, Color, Sex, National Origin or Disabilities. Everyone is welcome to apply for enrollment, this program is not just for Native Americans, anyone can participate.

Documents needed when applying include birth certificate, income verification, current immunization record, CDIB (if applicable) and health insurance.

For additional information call Little Rabbits Center (405) 247-3740, KCA Center (580) 354-1412 or Kiowa Tribe Head Start office (580) 654-2544.

Billy Nominated the Shawnee News Star Basketball Player of the Year



Courtesy Photo

Billy

On May 6, Tribal members, Anthony and Tawny Billy will be attending the All Star Preps Best of News-Star 2019 Banquet at Firelake Arena located in Shawnee, Okla. They were nominated for Shawnee News Star Basketball Player of the Year. They attend Tecumseh High School where Anthony Billy is a Senior and Tawny a Sophomore. He participates in Basketball and Track and has a GPA of 3.4.

The family is very proud of their accomplishments and can't wait to see what their futures hold.

Wildcat Selected to Play USA Football



Courtesy Photo

Wildcat

Comanche Tribal member and also of Osage, Pawnee descent, Lesharo Wildcat, has been selected to play football for the USA Football, U. S. National Team representing the USA in international football competition and a bowl game.

Wildcat, is a Sophomore at Pawhuska High School where he plays football. He was recommended by his football coach, Matt Hennesy, to attend the two-day try-out camp in Dallas, TX., held in March and was then invited to attend.

High school coaches from across the country, plus NCAA and NFL coaches participated and graded camp players. Participants in the selection camp came from all over the U. S. The camp included 1 - on - 1, 7 - on - 7, and group drills with a small ratio of coach to players. Also featured was strength and conditioning, academic preparation and proper nutrition.

Wildcat recently received a letter stating that he was selected to play football with the U. S. National Team. He will be attending a three day camp which will focus on the players own individual skill development and technique in their position.

The USA Football Team plays in games around the world and ends the season in an international Bowl Game. Last years international Bowl Game was held in Mexico City.

Wildcat is the son of Beaushee and Mary Wildcat of Pawhuska and the Grandson of Darrell and Carla Wildcat of Norman.

ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA HONOR DANCE

All priests, deacons, religious, tribal princesses, gourd dancers and drum groups/singers are cordially invited.

AMERICAN INDIAN CATHOLIC OUTREACH
ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

JULY 6
ST. JOHN NEPOMUK
600 GARTH BROOKS BLVD, YUKON

HEAD STAFF
Emcee: Cy Ahlone
Head Singer/Drum: Leonard Cozad Jr.
Head Gourd Dancer: Michael Tsotaddle
Head Man Dancer: John Big Horse
Head Lady Dancer: Krystal Caesar
Color Guard: Kiowa Women's Color Guard
Arena Director: T. Kerchi/T-Bone

SCHEDULE
MASS: Noon
GOURD DANCE: 2 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
PRINCESS CROWNING: 4:30 p.m.
SUPPER BREAK: 5 p.m.-6 p.m.
GRAND ENTRY: 6 p.m.

CONTEST DIVISIONS
Tiny Tot: \$10 per participant
Teen girls combined: 1st: \$100, 2nd: \$75, 3rd: \$50
Teen boys combined: 1st: \$100, 2nd: \$75, 3rd: \$50
Women's Fancy Shawl/Jingle: 1st: \$300, 2nd: \$200, 3rd: \$100
Women's Buckskin/Women's Cloth: 1st: \$300, 2nd: \$200, 3rd: \$100
Men's Fancy: 1st: \$300, 2nd: \$200, 3rd: \$100
Men's Straight/Traditional/Grass: 1st: \$300, 2nd: \$200, 3rd: \$100
All dancers must register (one category only) and participate in grand entry. Dancers must be in their regalia to receive prize money.

No specials. No alcoholic beverages/illegal drugs allowed. Not responsible for accidents, thefts or injuries. For more information, contact Deacon Roy Callison at (918) 822-3255.

University of Oklahoma American Indian Alumni Society

2019 F. Browning Pipestem Memorial

GOLF SCRAMBLE

- FRIDAY MAY 3, 2019 -

Westwood Park Golf Course

2400 Westport Dr., Norman, Oklahoma
Contact: americanindianalumniou@gmail.com for registration information

*** Registration form due Friday, April 26, 2019 ***
\$400 per team of 4 or \$100 per golfer - pay registration at sign in



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

PERFORMANCES AT POWWOW. Special performances were conducted at the April 14, Indigenous People's Day and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Powwow. TOP: Young ladies pray the Lord's Prayer using Native sign language to the drumbeat and singing of Jimmy Reeder. From left: Tasha Tahchawickah, Casey Long, Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma-Angelena Steinmeyer, Bluesky Tosee, Comanche Nation Princess - Ashleigh Mithlo, Comanche Nation Jr. Princess - Rita Monoency, Comanche Little Ponies Princess - Violet Stonecalf, Ruby Ahhaitty, and Marisa Smith, not in photo. RIGHT: A performance of 'Stolen Sisters,' was conducted by numerous ballet dancers.



Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday

February 11- Celso Martinez
 April 20- Gracie Valora (Tahhahwah) Hall
 April 23- Frances Mowatt Sing
 April 26- Talehiah Tahhahwah
 April 27- Eli Tahhahwah-Martinez

Happy Birthday

Joseph Caddo Sr.
 May 2- Casidey Peeler
 May 2- Trinity Pewewardy
 May 6- SoSo Lyles
 May 12 - Anita Viddaurri-Mann
 May 12- Jaylynn Sapcut
 May 13- Chuck Lewis
 May 13- Sunny Red Elk
 May 19- Michael Huggins
 May 20- Jimi
 May 21- Parker Hausman
 May 26- Candelaria Martinez
 May 26- Justus Wayt



Happy Belated Birthday
 Tinleigh Ototivo



Happy Belated Birthday
 Celso Martinez
 February 11



Happy Birthday
 Trinity Pewewardy
 May 2



Happy Birthday
 Jimi
 May 20



Happy Birthday
 Parker Hausman
 May 21



Happy Birthday
 Candelaria Martinez
 May 26



Happy Mother's Day
 Alisha & Shila
 Pewewardy, Love Mom

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY TBO, WE LOVE YOU. STACI, JUSTIN, LEXI, & BREANNA. APRIL 22

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY STACI. LOVE U. APRIL 24

The Comanche Nation News
 Deadline~ May 15
 Email: candacet@comanchenation.com
 Mail: Comanche Nation/PIO
 P.O. Box 908 Lawton, OK 73501
 Contact: (580) 492-3386

The Comanche Nation News

New Subscriber: Update Address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Obituaries

Ferrill Tahdoohnippah Codopony



Courtesy Photo

Codopony

Ferrill Tahdoohnippah Codopony, 81, of Lawton went to his heavenly home on April 5, in Lawton.

Funeral service was April 9, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was at Post Oak Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Prayer service was April 8, at the Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel.

Codopony was born November 16, 1937, in Lawton to Day

and Lela (Yellowwolf) Tahdoohnippah. He was lovingly adopted and raised by Dick and Hazel (Yellowwolf) Codopony. He grew up in Cache and graduated from Cache High School. Where he played baseball, basketball and fast pitch softball as an adult.

Codopony built fence all his life and worked for A and A Fence Company in Lawton for many years. He enjoyed playing pool, quail hunting, riding horses and spending time with his family and friends. He passed his great work ethic to many.

Codopony is survived by: four children and spouses: Oscar and Patty Codopony of Mustang, Virginia Codopony, Carolyn Codopony and Janet and Marlon Tahah all of Cache; his loving companion of over 43 years Donna Morrison of the home and her children Mike, Anthony, Alfred, Timothy Turner and Ann Morrison; three sisters: Lavena Honea, Joyce Mathews; and Marlene Cooper; brother and wife. Patterson and Charlene Tahdoohnippah all of Cache; grandchildren; Richard, Robert, Amanda, Hazel, Everette, Bart, Rantz, Lantz, Mari, Marlon, Donna, Kelly, Sarah, Angela, Loni, Tiffany, Leann, Jefferies, Josh, Jared, Jessica, Mike, Ashliegh, and Rodney; 35 great grandchildren.

Codopony is preceded in

death by: parents Dick and Hazel (Yellowwolf) Codopony and Day and Lela (Yellowwolf) Tahdoohnippah; grandparents: Oscar and Wyema Yellowwolf; four brothers: Leroy Tahdoohnippah, Videll Tahdoohnippah, Vincent Tahdoohnippah and Albert "Butch" Pahdocony; brothers in law: Ben Honea. Leonard Anquoe, Alex Mathews; sister in laws: Sheila Tahdoohnippah and Louella Tahdoohnippah.

Carlotta Ototivo



Courtesy Photo

Ototivo

Carlotta Ototivo, 68, Walters passed away April 10.

Funeral Service was April 15, at Brown Church in Walters with Pastor Kent Simpson officiating. Burial followed at Walters City Cemetery under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Prayer Service was April

14, at the Walters Comanche Community Center.

Visitation was April 13, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel.

Ototivo was born October 2, 1950, in Lawton to Alene Roach Atchavit and Albert Edward Nahquaddy Jr. She attended and graduated from Walters High School. She worked for Haggard Sewing Factory, and went on to Platt College to obtain her Certified Nurse Aid license, she then worked for Parkview Manor, Wintergreen Adult Daycare Center, and Comanche Star Casino before retiring as a CNA. She enjoyed spending time with her family, getting together and having a wonderful time. She married Clifford (C.O.) Earl Ototivo Jr., for 48 loving, remarkable years they remained close; always full of laughter, joking and tender loving care. They took their vows in Wichita Falls, Texas in 1972. The love they shared was something that can't be described, the actions were louder than words. Together they raised four children and the bond she shared with each was evident. She loved and shared 11 beautiful grandchildren and would do anything for any and all of the children she loved. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

Survivors include; husband

Clifford (C.O.) of the home, the oldest daughter Alma Ototivo of Lawton, her daughter Jamie Lajoy Ototivo of Walters and her five children; Carlotta N.R. Ototivo, Dwayne Ototivo, James Ototivo, Rudy Ototivo and Serenity Ototivo; Her middle daughter Florene Ototivo, and her three children; Clifford B.S. Ototivo, Douglas A.R. Ototivo and Timothy D. McKinney, of Walters, The youngest and only son Rudy T. Ototivo of Walters and his daughter Kaegan Jay Smith-Ototivo. Two great-grandchildren Macie and Trenton Prescott. Sisters; Marie Taunah of Duncan and Lola (Bear) Ototivo of Walters, She had many nieces and nephews and she was blessed to call Tammy, Dora and Sheri, Twitty her daughters.

She is preceded in death by her parents; Albert Edward Nahquaddy Jr., and Alene Roach Atchavit, Brother; Anthony Nahquaddy, Grandparents; Robert and Charlotte Atchavit, Mother in law Alma Yellowfish Ototivo, Father in law Clifford Ototivo Sr. Brothers in law Timothy Ototivo and Rudy Ototivo, Granddaughter Connie Alene McKinney and Nephews; Henson Ototivo and Michael Wauqua.

COMANCHE ACADEMY

Continued from Page 1

RELATIONSHIP

The kinship obligation: We are all related, not only to each other as human beings, but to all things, animals, plants, rocks—to the very energy of which stars are made.

RESPONSIBILITY

The community obligation: This is a commitment to honor our ancestors and future generations that rest on the understanding that we have a sacred responsibility to care for all of our relatives.

RECIPROCITY

The cyclical obligation: Reciprocity is shown through giving to the community to sustain cyclical relationships through which all things are related.

RESURGENCE

The Nationhood obligation: Curriculum and program decisions are focused on respecting Indigenous knowledge bases, ways of knowing and land-and water practices.

Comanche Academy is predicted to open the doors August of 2020.

For more Information please contact: Dr. Cornel Pewewardy NACA Native Inspired Schools Network (Fellow) (580) 919-1603 cornel.pewewardy@comanchenation.com.

2ND ANNUAL COMANCHE NATION YOUTH PROGRAM & EPA



PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING MORE COMMUNITY MEMBERS INVOLVED AS THE PROJECT PROGRESSES.

GARDEN AREA WILL BE AN EDIBLE GARDEN

Highlights

- ◆ TIME: 4:15PM-5:15PM
- ◆ DATES: April 4, 2019-MAY 9, 2019
- ◆ Every Thursday
- ◆ ADDRESS: COMANCHE NATION EPA
- ◆ MORE INFO: COMANCHE NATION YOUTH PROGRAM (580)492-3290



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

Army Sgt. Class in the Korean and Vietnam Wars and her brother Richard Wichita was in the Navy who served aboard the U.S.S. Saipan.

PRINCESS CROWNED FOR COMANCHE HOMECOMING. Sara Neilcole Pohawpatchoko was named the new Comanche Homecoming Princess at Watchtaker Hall. Pohawpatchoko is the daughter of the late Christine Villicana Pohawpatchoko and Loui Pohawpatchoko. She is the grand daughter of the late Luther and Cora Pohawpatchoko, Selma Conneywerdy Herrera, the late Phillip Herrera and the late Nabor Villicana. Pohawpatchoko is 16-years-old and a sophomore at Cache High School. She participates in basketball, volleyball and plays the piano. She loves to sing Comanche Hymns, she has also performed the National Anthem at various events and writes poetry. Pohawpatchoko comes from a long line of military warriors, Little Raven, Esa-Toy-ya (Grey Mountain), Conneywerdy/Wahnee. Her grandfathers Nabor Villicana was a World War II Army Airborne Light Weapons Infantryman and Phillip Herrera was a retired

Annual Car Crash Simulation Trains Local Volunteers, and Educates Youth

Photos and Story by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Injury Prevention Program held the 8th Annual Pre-Prom Car Crash Simulation March 28, at the Comanche Nation Complex. The simulation provides training for the emergency responders. For the youth and participants, it is a presentation on drugs, alcohol and distracted driving awareness.

The Injury Prevention had Cache High School and Apache High School there was 81 students who attended, the booth's that were set up during the event were IAMNDN, IHS Dental, Prevention & Recovery, and Optometry.

Students had many hands-on activities to help them understand the dangers of drinking and driving or driving and being under the influence of drugs. Drunk goggles were used in some of the examples, along with interactive discussions on what students could do besides drinking and driving.

Some of the answers from the students were going bowling, having a lock in, hang out with their family, go roller skating, go to a powwow, or go to the movies.

Facilitating the event was Martin Flores, from IAMNDN. Comanche Tribal Administrator, John David Wahnee, welcomed the students. Speakers included the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Comanche Nation Law Enforcement, and Lorry-Gail Malcom, MS-Injury Prevention project Coordination/injury prevention service. They also had Apache EMS, Survival Flight, Wichita Mountain Estates Fire Department, and Porter Hill Fire Department assisting with the simulated accident scene.

Youth volunteers from different schools were used for the car crash victims for seven years and Paddyaker is proud of each one that participated as a victim.

This year, Paddyaker said she choose to play the grandmother that was killed in the car crash by her granddaughter who made the wrong choice to drive after smoking marijuana. Her great-grand daughter, Natasha Gooday, played the part of the granddaughter in the car crash.

"As a victim of the car crash, I lay dead in the vehicle and I could not look around. I could only hear the injured in the other vehicle. One of my granddaughters was in the vehicle with me and injured also. I could not reach out and help her, I wanted to hold her and make sure she was ok," said Paddyaker.

"All I could hear were the first responders and the children in the other vehicle that were injured. I thought about how the children must be feeling as they laid on the ground injured and dying. I thought about my granddaughter in the other vehicle that was driving the truck that killed me. Did she recognize my car? Did she know it was me? Was she injured and in pain?"

She said she thought about the way she would feel when she realized it was her grandmother she had crashed into, and how she would have to deal with her choice she made for the rest of her life.

"I thought about all the families that would be affected by the choices that were made by the children to smoke marijuana. I thought about how fast a life could be taken and how many



Students from Apache and Cache Public schools watch the pre-graduation and pre-prom car crash simulation unfold as medical first responders and law enforcement show up to give them an example of how dangerous drinking and driving and texting and driving can be.



Students wear "Drunk Goggles" and try to maneuver a driving wheel through miniature roadways.



Officers Harjo, left, and Smith, share their police stories of working accident scenes where drinking and driving or texting and driving were the reason for the accidents.



The Apache Ambulance loads a would-be accident victim into their emergency vehicle during the accident scene March 28, at the Comanche Complex.



Students put on "Drunk Goggles" and try to walk a straight line and pass a Driving Under the Influence test inside Watchetaker Hall.



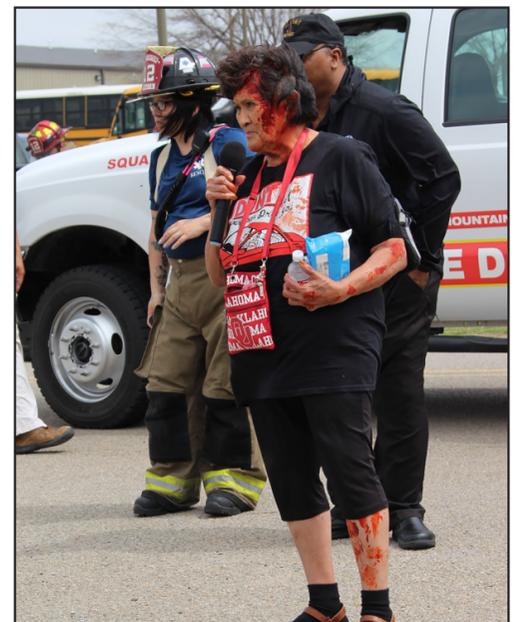
Members of Survival Flight prepare to transport a would be accident victim during the accident scene March 28.



Students discuss others ways to have fun that does not involve alcohol or drugs March 28 at the Comanche Nation Complex.



Members of the local first responders respond to a would-be accident March 28 during the Pre Graduation Pre Prom Car Crash Simulation at the Comanche Nation Complex.



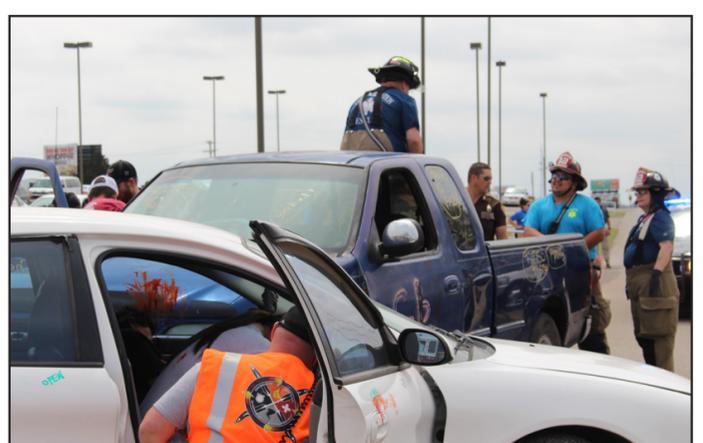
Bonita Paddyaker, coordinator for the annual car crash simulation, plays a victim at this years event. She has been organizing it for the last eight years, and announced this will be the last year she will oversee the event.

loved ones would suffer from two vehicles colliding," she said.

She said it would be her last Pre-Prom Car Crash Simulation Event that she will have. She knows there will be someone that will take over the event.

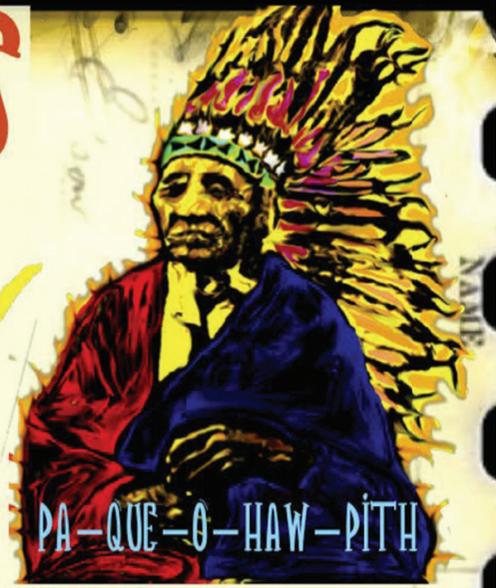
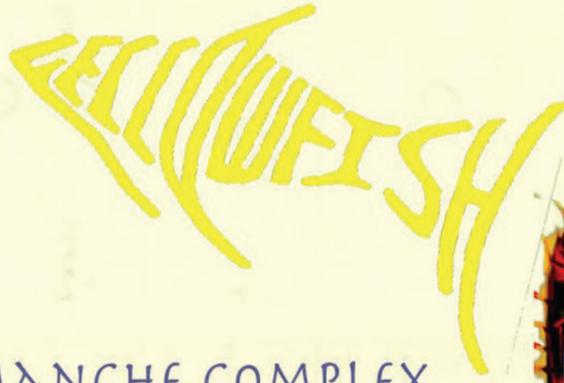
She said she would like to thank all of those who have participated in the events and the Injury Prevention/Angels staff. The students from all the schools that played the victims. The Comanche Nation Emergency Management Core Team, CHR/EMS, Sonja & Bill Hayden, Comanche Nation Fire Fighters, Comanche Nation Law Enforce-

ment, Comanche Nation Maintenance, Comanche Nation Funeral Home, Rikki Thompson, Martin Flores, Jerod Kopaddy, Dusty Miller and the Comanche Nation IT Program for all their assistance and making the video. Thank you to Oklahoma Highway Patrol, BIA Officers, Wichita Mountains Estate Fire Department, Apache Ambulance, Survival Flight, Kirks Ambulance, Rush Springs EMS, Porter Hill Fire Department and all the vendors that supported the events.



Local first responders and law enforcement have the opportunity to get hands-on training for an accident during the annual Pre-Prom Pre-Graduation Car Crash Simulation.

YELLOWFISH DESCENDANTS POW WOW MAY 25, 2019



WATCHETAKER HALL | COMANCHE COMPLEX

FLYING THE FLAG OF : PRIVATE TIMOTHY OTOTIVO, US MARINE CORPS

CO-HOSTS : COMANCHE LITTLE PONIES & ESA ROSA DESCENDANTS

PA-QUE-O-HAW-PITH

HEAD STAFF

- HS : Leonard Cozad, Jr.
- HMD : Henry Hunter
- HLD : Katie Howell
- MC'S : Michael Burgess & Martin Flores
- AD'S : Travis Codynah & Freddy Banderas
- Security : Brian Wahnee

YFD REUNION: MAY 26, 2019 WATCHETAKER HALL

CONTESTS

Contest Coordinator : Edson Yellowfish

Golden Age Men 50+ \$300 | \$200 | \$100

Sponsored by the children of Edward Yellowfish, in honor of CWO Edward Yellowfish

Men's Fancy

\$300 | \$200 | \$100

Sponsored by the families of Lyman Sr. & Lyman Jr. Yellowfish, in their honor

Men's Straight

\$300 | \$200 | \$100

Sponsored by the Yellowfish Descendants

Women's Buckskin

\$300 Winner Take All

(with consolation prizes)
Sponsored by Tymae-mah Tofpi, in memory of Jamie Leigh Franklin

Women's Cloth

\$150 | \$100 | \$75

Sponsored by Francis Attocknie, III, in honor of Rose Attocknie & Esa Attocknie

Boys 7-12 Combined

\$50 | \$30 | \$20

Sponsored by Eibel Yellowfish

Girls 7-12 Combined

\$50 | \$30 | \$20

Sponsored by Graison Yellowfish

Prettiest Ribbon Skirt

50/50 ★

Sponsored by TaMyra Gallegos

Powwow Clown

Raffles ★

Sponsored by TaMyra Gallegos (Judged during war dance)

Princess Contest

Cake Walk ★

\$100 | \$75 | \$50 (Includes Material)
Sponsored by RedBone Family

Tiny Tots

Concessions ★

Sponsored by Francis Attocknie, III, & Family, in honor of Victoria Rose & Clay Oliver



SCHEDULE

All Specials Before Supper Break

- 8 AM Flag Raising
- 11 AM Vendor Setup
- 1 PM Brush Dance
- 2 PM Gourd Dance
- 4 PM Victory & Scalp Dance
- 5 PM Supper
- 6 PM Resume Gourd Dance
- 7 PM Grand Entry
- 11 PM Contests Winners Announced



VENDORS? CONTACT : CARA YELLOWFISH 580-917-8952

NO SMOKING, ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR WEAPONS ALLOWED NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFT, ACCIDENTS, OR INJURY
Questions? Contact : Cara Yellowfish @580-917-8952, Edward Yellowfish @405-203-4741, or Ida Fae Bointy @405-638-1212

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Courtesy Photo

ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM BOOK ARTWORK. The artwork pictured above was painted by Andre Conneywerdy, who is an incarcerated Comanche tribal member. The artwork is the featured artwork for the Annual Meeting booklet cover and shirts given to tribal members who attended the Annual Meeting on April 20. The name of the piece is "Rita's Peyote Meeting" and Conneywerdy states he painted the piece in 2012, in honor of his grandmother Rita Wahnee. Conneywerdy describes the piece as follows, "The four water birds are the four directions; the feathers are scissor tail feathers; the color splashes on the face resembles the touch of those water bird spirits; this is what it looks like if I were in a peyote meeting; the yellow on the face is symbolic of the Comanche seal." When asked about his inspiration for the piece, Conneywerdy explains, "Grandma Rita asked for a peyote painting. She told me about the meetings she used to participate in and I painted this as if I were there and what I may feel during the peyote meeting, and the painting makes me feel good." Conneywerdy has been incarcerated since 2005, and his first possible release date will be in 2026. Conneywerdy said he never painted before he became incarcerated and he started painting in 2006, to pass the time of being in the cell. Conneywerdy says his hope for young Comanche artists is "to get a reaction from the audience" when they view artwork that has been created. When asked what advice can he give to other young warriors that become incarcerated, he stated, "They can lock up your body, but they can't lock up your spirit." Conneywerdy says painting gives him hope as his artwork takes him to a spirit place, where he gains much more than freedom; he gains peace.

The Comanche Nation made the decision to contract out the Grasshopper program for this summer's cutting.

The Grasshopper Program is funded with C&G funding that was approved of by the Comanche People in April of 2019.

The Private Contractor is
Mr. Sidney Mihecoby.

He can be reached by calling 580-665-9335.

All concerns with services or the lack of services need to contact the contractor.

The Nation's highest priority is to care for our elders who are handicapped.