

PLEASE NOTE: All time & dates related to Events of the Comanche Nation posted in this issue are subject to change, due to the COVID-19 Virus (Coronavirus) precautions.

Comanche Nation News
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THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

VOLUME 21 EDITION 5

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Taatsa (Summer) 2020

Comanche Nation Entertainment Makes Major Investment in Sanitization

Submitted by Mia Tahdoahnippah/ Chief Executive Officer for Comanche Nation Entertainment

Comanche Nation Entertainment is working to be among the most sanitized properties in Oklahoma, with its all-new contactless services and highly advanced sanitization technology that completely disinfects the entire interior of its casinos and travel plazas every 24 hours.

“The health of our team members and guests is our number one priority at all of our properties,” said Mia Tahdoahnippah, CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment.

“We found that the sanitizing mist application we recently started using provides the most sterilization for the longest periods of time, over wiping down machines and surfaces on a regular basis. We had seen other businesses go to this length only when they had a reported case of infection. We took that several steps further and are completely sanitizing all hard surfaces every day.”

Comanche Nation Entertainment selected the Pure Bioscience brand misting application to sanitize all hard surfaces at its properties. The mist is effective for 24 hours. The mist is a sanitizer and disinfectant that is odorless, non-toxic, non-caustic and non-irritating. It kills common bacteria, fungi and viruses including influenza, coronavirus and norovirus within 30 seconds, compared to most other products which take 10 minutes.

“It is the absolute most advanced system available to eliminate germs and viruses from our properties,” said Tahdoahnippah. “Combined with our new air quality system, we have, what we believe, are the most sanitized gaming establishments in Oklahoma.”

The company has upgraded the HVAC systems throughout its properties, which use UV lighting to filter out and kill viruses and bacteria before air passes through it and is distributed. “We invested in upgrading our HVAC because UV lighting has been found to be an effective way to kill airborne virus particles, and disinfect surfaces,” said Tahdoahnippah.

Comanche Nation Entertainment’s new measures to ensure the health of its guests and team members has included several other measures, including:

- Contactless thermal temperature scanners at all entrances
- Prohibited use of smoking, vaping and tobacco products inside all properties
- Contactless entry into secured areas and clock-ins for team members
- Regular COVID testing for team members
- Required face coverings for all guests and team members
- Shortened business hours at all properties

“We don’t know of any other establishments in Oklahoma taking such advanced measures to sanitize their properties,” said Tahdoahnippah.

“The health and safety of our team members and guests are our top priority, and we have made significant investments throughout our properties to offer the cleanest envi-

See CASINO, Page 3

Comanche Business Committee Initiates “Round 2” of the Tribal Members Cares Act Program (TMCAP)

Submitted by Dustin Miller/ Public Relations for the Comanche Business Committee

CARES ACT 60% = \$27,309,838.00		(TMCAP) ROUND TWO (2)	RESOLUTION #: TMCAP - ROUND 2
TRIBAL MEMBERS CARE ACT PROGRAM	25.00% \$6,827,459.50	ESTABLISHED 8/8/2020 PROGRAM END DATE DEC 31 2020	
CATEGORY (1) OF SIX CARES ACT EXPENDITURE - ABSENTEE (LOSS OF INCOME)	=	FUNDED PERCENTAGE 22%	AMOUNT \$1,502,041.09
CATEGORY (2) OF SIX CARES ACT EXPENDITURE - JURISDICTION (LOSS OF INCOME)	=	FUNDED PERCENTAGE 20%	AMOUNT \$1,365,491.90
CATEGORY (3) OF SIX CARES ACT EXPENDITURE - UTILITY HELP	=	FUNDED PERCENTAGE 10%	AMOUNT \$682,745.95
CATEGORY (4) OF SIX CARES ACT EXPENDITURE - DWELLING HELP	=	FUNDED PERCENTAGE 30%	AMOUNT \$2,048,237.85
CATEGORY (5) OF SIX CARES ACT - NUTRITION/FOOD	=	FUNDED PERCENTAGE 8%	AMOUNT \$546,196.76
CATEGORY (6) OF SIX CARES ACT - EDUCATION/TRAINING/EMPLOYMENT	=	FUNDED PERCENTAGE 10%	AMOUNT \$682,745.95

On August 8, during the monthly Comanche Business Committee meeting, Chairman William Nelson Sr. presented an overview and a resolution that would establish the second round of the Comanche Tribal Members CARES Act Program (TMCAP). Like the first round, the second round will include 6 categories: Loss of Income (Absentee), Loss of Income (Jurisdiction), Utility Assistance, Dwelling Assistance, Nutrition/Food, and Education/Training/ Employment.

Chairman Nelson expressed that the verification process is critical in determining the amount of benefits received by an applicant. Individuals who apply must certify that they are eligible to receive benefits from CARES Act funds by verifying the dollar amount(s) for which they are applying. Resolution No. TMCAP-ROUND 2 passed with a majority vote of (6) for, (0) against, and (0) abstentions.

It was indicated that, of the 9,324 intake applications received during Phase 1, which was estab-

lished by Resolution* on June 6, 2020, the TMCAP has 90% of those applications either in-process or already processed as of August 8.

*Resolution No. TMCAP-2020 (Vote Count: For - 6; Against - 0; Abstentions - 0; Vote Results: Resolution Passed)

One significant issue mentioned in the meeting was TMCAP’s focus on outbound phone calls at this time.

The TMCAP reported at the end of July that the major obstacle to processing applications was the inability to reach applicants by phone to complete the verification process. Other obstacles included incomplete online applications and duplicate applications.

Heading into the second round of the TMCAP payments, TMCAP staff will continue to reach out to tribal members who have yet to complete the verification process from Phase 1. It was also emphasized that in Round 2 of the CARES Act Program, tribal members who have already applied and have been

serviced in the first round of funding are eligible for the second round and do not need to reapply or call in to the TMCAP office.

Round 2 of the TMCAP payment process will begin around mid-August. The TMCAP staff will call the applicants to complete the verification process as they did in Phase 1. Committeeman No. 1, June Sova, expressed to tribal members that the CBC is trying to help and encourages those who applied for funding to answer their phones in order to expedite the process.

The August CBC meeting was held at the Comanche Nation Tribal Complex. It was live streamed and the recorded video can be viewed online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLw67msa7yQ&feature=youtu.be>

The TMCAP office is located at the Comanche Nation Tribal Complex. It’s regular hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Due to the Coronavirus epidemic, the TMCAP office has ini-

See TMCAP, Page 3

Congressman Tom Cole Pleads with Indian Country to “Be a Part of the Count”

Submitted by Charles Tippeconnic/Oklahoma Tribal Partnership Specialist- U.S. Census Bureau

The “success and accuracy of every census ultimately rests with participation,” said Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK-04), and despite the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, “your engagement is critical and requires very little effort.”

Writing in a July 27, op-ed in Indian Country Today, Cole explained how the 2020 Census works and how people can respond. He also discussed how their “input helps paint a more complete picture of the current and changing needs in our communities and across the state.”

Moreover, accurate census data determines the distribution of Congressional seats and “also helps ensure federal funding is properly allocated and disbursed to states to support public services like infrastructure, law enforcement, education, health care and numerous other

federal programs,” the Congressman pointed out. “When households don’t participate in the census, it can mean less funding than needed for projects and the loss of congressional seats. However, it can also save hardworking taxpayer dollars as the changing needs of the U.S. population are addressed.”

Warning that failure to respond would result in someone knocking on a household’s door at a time when people are nervous about the pandemic, Rep. Cole pleaded with people not to “wait any longer to be a part of the count.”

The data obtained from the 2020 Census is critical to insure our Tribal communities receive accurate levels of funding from Federal funding sources for programs and services that reflect the needs of our Tribal members.

Census Bureau field staff has begun conducting our door to door interviews with all households that have yet to complete the 2020 Census. This operation called Non-Response Follow Up (NRFU) will continue until September 30th when the 2020 Census officially ends. All local health and safety guidelines will be adhered to by Census Bureau staff including wearing masks and maintaining a safe social distance when conducting each in-person interview.

The safest way to complete the 2020 Census is to answer the nine (9) question survey online at 2020census.gov or by calling our toll free telephone service at (844) 330-2020. It only takes a few minutes to complete and all responses are kept secure and not shared with any law enforcement agency.

Comanche Nation Housing Recieves Grant to Help with COVID-19

By Paula Karty/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Housing, along with four other tribes, was awarded a \$900,000 grant for HUD (Housing and Urban Development) to help with COVID-19.

According to Nora Sova, Director of Comanche Nation Housing, the Notice of Funding Availability was issued May 15. Grant applications were accepted beginning June 1, at 3 p.m., Eastern Time, to be considered and awarded on a first come, first serve basis. The Comanche Nation Housing’s application was submitted at 3:01 p.m., on June 1.

The grant award was made on July 28, added Sova.

“The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 11-136) (Cares Act) provided for up to \$100,000,000 in Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Imminent Threat (IT) funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety,” Sova said.

When asked how the Comanche Nation Housing plans to use the grant funds, Sova responded, “The Housing Authority plans to assist Comanche Nation households in need of public supportive services

See COMANCHE HOUSING, Page 3

Election Office Releases Information about Absentee Voting for the FY 2020-2021 Budget

A general election to vote on the proposed 2021 Fiscal Year budget is scheduled for September 19, by absentee ballot ONLY.

The Comanche Nation Business Committee has made the decision to suspend all in-person voting for the 2020 election year due to concern for the health and safety of all tribal members.

A request to receive an Absentee Ballot to participate in the General Election must be received by September 4. Please follow the instructions for completing the Absentee Ballot Request Form. The notary requirement to request an absentee ballot will be suspended for the 2020 election year in an effort to avoid any additional hardship.

If you have already submitted a request for an absentee ballot; you do not need to submit another request.

Please contact the election office by phone at (580) 492-3785 or by email at elections@comanchenation.com if you have any questions, to request an absentee ballot, or verify your voter information. The Comanche Nation Election Office encourages you to exercise your right to vote.

Tahdooahnippah Wins World Wrestling Championship



Courtesy Photo

Six-year-old wrestler and Comanche tribal member, Rivers Tahdooahnippah, recently won the 2020 Reno Worlds Wrestling Championship held in Tulsa, Okla., July 31 through August 2. Tahdooahnippah competed at the 37 lbs. - 6 and Under division. Tahdooahnippah won the national tournament in sudden victory (overtime) 14-12.

"It blows my mind to look at what Rivers has accomplished so far. He is a student to the game. He listens to the stories of winning and losing. He is an extremely hard worker and is fortunate to come from a long line of older brothers who all wrestled. But, what separates Rivers is he believes he is going to win. Every time he steps on the mat, he is giving a 110%," said his coach and father, George "Comanche Boy" Tahdooahnippah. "We are so proud of his hard work and what he sets his little mind too. Rivers does this on his own. Rivers was fond of his grandpa Peaches. He called him grandpa Peach."

Accomplishments: Wrestling Record (46-7).

- 2020 Reno World Wrestling Champion - 37 lbs.
- 2020 Grand River Rumble National Champion - 38 lbs.
- 2020 Oklahoma Wrestling Association Open State Champion - 37 lbs.
- 2020 Oklahoma Wrestling Association Novice State Champion - 37 lbs.
- 2020 Southern Regional Champion - 37 lbs.

Tahdooahnippah's parents are George and Mia Tahdooahnippah. Grandparents are Otis Tahdooahnippah and Phil and Francene Monenerkit. Great grandfather Jerome "Tu-Heen" Tahhahwah and the late Eldridge "Peaches" Tahdooahnippah.

JESUS SAID, "ALL THAT THE FATHER GIVES ME WILL COME TO ME, AND WHOEVER COMES TO ME I WILL NEVER CAST OUT." (JOHN 6:37)

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Mark-ha Tsaatü Narümu'ipü 1:12-13*

Suvé'süse' surü Spirit sukühu
 pianümüwahtükühu u miaru'iha u tsasú'atsinu.
 Surüse' Jesus hayarokwe süümanurüna
 naravenitüükü suku vianümüwahtükü naahka.
 Surüse' püewatsi'ünüü'nüüma'ai naahka, suhka
 Satan-ha pümi mavuniiku. Wihnuse' surüü
 kasaráivoo'nüü u mananaa'waihka.

* Excerpt from *Mark-ha Tsaatü Narümu'ipü (The Gospel of Mark in Comanche and English)*, American Bible Society, 1958. Free reprints available upon request.

GET YOUR PER CAPITA CHECK A DAY EARLY* WITH COMANCHE ELITE CHECKING

*Some restrictions apply. Direct deposit required for Early Pay.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- DEADLINE TO SUBMIT FORM CHANGES FOR PER CAPITA PAYMENT IS SEPTEMBER 30TH
- 2020 PER CAP PREMAILING WILL BE SENT THE WEEK OF AUGUST 10TH
- IN-PERSON CUSTOMER SERVICE AVAILABLE

A NOTE FROM ALL OF US AT CITY NATIONAL BANK,
 We care about your health and safety. We have relocated our Comanche Nation Service Desk to the first floor lobby of our headquarters at 500 SW D Avenue in Lawton, OK. We are following the CDC's recommended guidelines in all of our branch locations, but we remain ready and happy to serve you.



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Nation Citizen Accepts National Position at U.S. Department of Education

Julian Guerrero Jr., an enrolled Comanche citizen, has accepted a national position as the Director of the Office of Indian Education (OIE) within the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) at the United States Department of Education in Washington, D.C.

Guerrero is scheduled to begin work at the U.S. Department of Education by end of August and is currently transitioning out of his current responsibilities as Executive Director of American Indian Education at the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Effective August 12, he has resigned from his duties as an appointed Gaming Commissioner with the Comanche Nation Gaming Commission due to the federal appointment.

He is a leader in the field of Oklahoma PreK-12 Indian Education, having participated on several Boards, including the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Board. The Department stated in their most recent press release that “Julian will join OIE at an exciting time as the Office focused on streamlining grant processes to better meet grantee’s needs and also works to improve technical assistance and support during this challenging time.”

His collaborative public management experience includes working alongside Oklahoma public schools, Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) tribally-operated schools, and various tribal education departments

throughout the United States. His experience includes working among state education advisory committees, delivering professional development to public school districts, and providing technical assistance to tribal educational agencies.

A descendent of both the Kerchee (Comanche) and Cozad (Kiowa) families, he was born and spent early years of his life in Lawton, Oklahoma. Coming from a military-dependent childhood he has lived in Texas, Georgia, Colorado, and even abroad in Germany for three years. Guerrero has worked as an American Indian student scholarship coordinator at the University of Oklahoma. He has consulted for gubernatorial and legislative political campaigns throughout the state. Prior to his state service, he has worked in the non-profit sector as Associate Director of the Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA).

Having served on various national, state, and local advisory boards including the National Indian Education Association (NIEA), Oklahoma City YMCA Youth and Government (YAG) program, and Oklahoma Baptist Cooperative Fellowship of Oklahoma (CBFOK). Whether in his work at the state capitol, volunteering on weekends, conducting tribal gaming regulatory business, or going to night class – Guerrero is passionate about uniting tribal nations through education.

CASINO

Continued from Page 1

ronments possible.”

“We applaud the decision of Comanche and Cherokee casinos for adopting a smoke-free workplace policy eliminating the smoking and vaping of commercial tobacco products indoors as they re-open after COVID-19,” said Charlie Gagen, advocacy director of the American Lung Association in Oklahoma.

“This policy will protect the health of workers and customers from dangerous secondhand smoke and e-cigarette emissions, and we call for the permanent adoption of this policy.”

Comanche Nation Entertainment operates Comanche Nation Casino in Lawton, Comanche Red River Hotel Casino in Devol, Comanche Spur Casino in Elgin and Comanche Star Casino in Walters. Its Comanche Travel Plazas and Quick Stops are located throughout Southwest Oklahoma.

For more information on Comanche Nation Entertainment properties, visit www.comanchenationentertainment.com or follow the company on Facebook.

COMANCHE HOUSING

Continued from Page 1

with one time emergency mortgage, rental and/or utility (water and sewage, electric, gas, propane, and internet services to allow children to participate in distance learning) payments. This assistance will be provided through direct vendor payments of bills that can total up to \$750.”

“This project is intended to prevent and ensure that tribal members are adequately housed with essential services required to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus and keep families safe,” said Sovo.

The Comanche Housing Authority received the maximum grant funds available to the Housing Authority under the grant funding formula.

TMCAP

Continued from Page 1

tiated a contactless service protocol and will only allow individuals to come in on a case by case basis. The TMCAP will be posting updates on

the Comanche Nation Of Oklahoma Facebook page, The Comanche Nation News Facebook page, and the Comanche Nation website: www.comanchenation.com.

The TMCAP can be reached by phone at (580) 492-3775, or by email: cares@comanchenation.com.

Comanche Nation Transit Free Ride Days!!

Tuesdays and Thursdays in September 2020

Comanche Nation Transit is having FREE TRIP DAYS in the month of September in appreciation of our clients!!

We want to welcome everyone to call and schedule 2 FREE trips per person within the Lawton/Fort Sill city limits.

Rural riders can also book 2 FREE trips per person going into or out of the Lawton metro area. Rural areas include: Cache, Indianola, Apache, Cyril, Fletcher, Elgin, Geronimo, and Walters.

Call Mondays in September to schedule your free ride.

We look forward to serving our clients and inviting people to try us!

We are open to the public and open Monday through Friday 5 AM to 5 PM!

All rides are on a first call first serve basis, NO EXCEPTIONS!!

Call 580-492-3389



Comanche Nation Complex Take Safety Provisions for Visitors and Staff Amid COVID-19 Pandemic



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

CHR staff bear the summer heat to check temperatures on the North Entrance of the Comanche Nation Complex.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, safety precautions were taken to ensure the safety of all visitors and staff.

When entering the complex you will use the North Entrance, due to the South Entrance being closed. All visitors and public must stop at the staging area to get their temperature recorded, and give further information as to what programs or departments they need to go to. Most of the applications are online, therefore the CHR staff have iPads at the staging area where they can help assist with the applications. If they are going to a particular program, then a call will be placed to that a program to make sure they are cleared to go. If so, then a sign with that programs name will be placed under the wiper blade so that it’s visible to the tribal police and the temp and time will be noted upon entry. Once the visitor leaves, then the sign will removed and the departure time will be noted.

“Our goal is for the complex to remain contactless as much as possible so that the safety of everyone is kept to this highest regard, said Sonya Haden, CHR Director and Safety Officer for the Comanche Nation Emergency Management.

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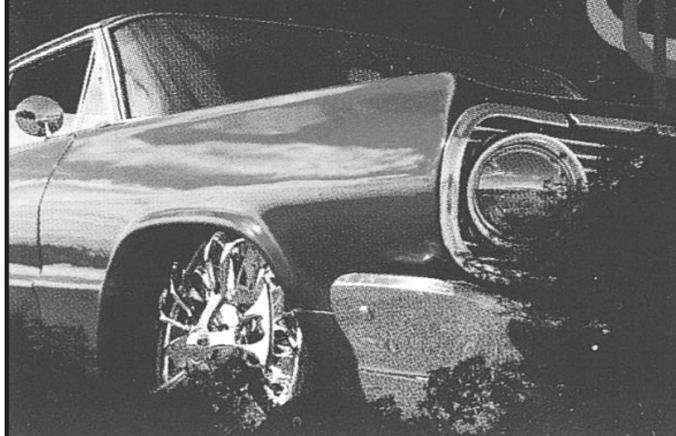
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73538

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1968numsofwalters@gmail.com



“The Comanche People have survived genocide, broken treaties, boarding schools, small pox, cholera, reservations, and massacres. We will survive the Coronavirus pandemic.”

-Comanche Nation Chairman, William Nelson Sr.

THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS
Taatsa (Summer) 2020

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 September / October edition is 5 p.m., Sept. 15. Donations to help cover the cost of printing and mailing are welcome.

Contact:

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- Candace Todd, Administrative Assistant- Email: Candace.Todd@comanchenation.com-Telephone Number (580) 492-3621
- 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

June Sovo

Committeeman No. 2

Diana Doyebi

Committeeman No. 3

Ronald Red Elk

Committeeman No. 4

Clyde Narcomey

(Acting) Tribal Administrators

Terrence Robinson/Shandel Wesaw

To contact officials:

Comanche Nation

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Overview of Monthly Comanche Business Committee Meetings for May, June, July and August

A Total of Three Resolutions Were on the May Agenda for the Comanche Business Monthly Meeting

Story by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the May 9, 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.

Committeeman No. 1, June Sovo, began the meeting with the Invocation.

Minutes of Meetings: from the "Social Distancing Guideline" set forth by the Consensus of the Business Committee on April 14, "Livestream will serve as the recorded minutes of this April Monthly Meeting."

Resolutions

List No. 59-2020: Enrollment Eligible List No. 1153. The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation.

Committeeman No. 4, Clyde Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Committeeman No. 2, Diana Gail Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 60-2020: Enrollment List No. 1154. The applicants are not eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Vice-Chairlady, LaNora Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 61-2020: Enrollment List No. 1155. The applicants are an enrolled member of another Indian Tribe. They do not meet the provisions of Article 3 Section 3B of the Comanche Nations Constitution. The person is at the time of the adoption of this Constitution an enrolled member of another tribe. The applicants are ineligible for membership with the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Narcomey, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

The meeting was adjourned and went into Executive Session.

A Total of 14 Resolutions Were on the June Agenda for the Comanche Business Monthly Meeting

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the June 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.

Committeeman No. 1, June Sovo, began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion made to approve the minutes of the May CBC meeting by Committeeman No. 2, Diana Gail Sovo-Doyebi. It was seconded by Sovo. The motion carries 6/0/1.

Resolutions

List No. 63-2020: Enrollment List No. 1156. The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Committeeman No. 4, Clyde Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 64-2020: Enrollment List No. 1157. The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Narcomey, made the motion to approve. Vice-Chairlady, LaNora Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 65-2020: Enrollment List No. 1158. The applicants were not eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 66-2020: Enrollment List No. 1159. The applicant wishes to relinquish their membership with the Comanche Nation and to enroll with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The individual is aware that he is giving up all rights he may have had as a member of the Comanche Nation including current and future per-capita distribution. The individual will be removed from the Comanche Nation membership roll because of his desire to do so immediately.

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

List No. 67-2020: Enrollment List No. 1160. The applicant wishes to relinquish their membership with the Comanche Nation and to enroll with the Navajo Nation. The individual is aware that he is giving up all rights he may have had as a member of the Comanche Nation, including current and future per-capita distribution. The individual will be removed from the Comanche Nation membership roll because of his desire to do so immediately.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Sovo, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 68-2020: Enrollment List No. 1161. Sovo, makes the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 69-2020: Language Department- Administration for Native Americans Grant Application.

Parker, makes the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 70-2020: Language Department. Administration for Native Americans Grant Matching Funds.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Committeeman No. 3, Ronald Red Elk, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 71-2020: Realty. Yackeyonny.

Tippeconnie, makes the motion to approve. Red Elk, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 72-2020: Housing. Indian Community Development Block Grant- CARES Act Imminent Threat Center. The Imminent Threat Grant is a \$900,000 maximum grant to use for Emergency rental assistance, emergency mortgage assistance, emergency utility assistance.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 73-2020: Comanche Business Committee- CEO Lease to Purchase Office Building.

Parker, makes the motion to approve. Red Elk, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 74-2020: Comanche Business Committee- Bank Signatories.

Red Elk, makes the motion to approve. Tippeconnie, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 75-2020: Comanche Nation Tribal Court- Bank Accounts. The Comanche Nation Tribal Court needs a separate bank account to accept monies, and make payments for the purpose of bail bonds.

Parker, makes the motion to approve. Sovo, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 76-2020: Comanche Business Committee Insure Oklahoma.

Red Elk, makes the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/1/1.

The meeting was adjourned and went into Executive Session.

A Total of Seven Resolutions Were on the July Agenda for the Comanche Business Monthly Meeting

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the July 29, 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.

Tippeconnie, began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion made to approve the minutes of the June CBC meeting by Committeeman No. 2, Diana Gail Sovo-Doyebi. It was seconded by Tippeconnie. The motion carries 6/0/1.

Resolutions

No. 87-2020: Enrollment List No. 1162. The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Committeeman No. 4, Clyde Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 88-2020: Enrollment List No. 1163. The applicant has been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation.

Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Committeeman No. 3, Ronald Red Elk, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 89-2020: Food Distribution. The Food Distribution received additional funding on September 24, 2019, to purchase a forklift, walk-in freezer, and make other improvements to the facility.

CBC No. 2, Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. CBC Committeeman No. 1, June Sovo, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 90-2020: Child Care Program-Tribally Operated Center. Tabled.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Sovo, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 91-2020: Rosette-Covered Games. Tabled.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Tippeconnie, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

No. 92-2020: Rosette-Face Mask Ordinance.

Narcomey, made the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

TMCAP Phase II: Tribal Members CARES Act Phase II. The CBC calls for the immediate legal quorum approval of the tribal members CARES Act program phase II. The Comanche Nation will follow the guidelines as allowed by the CARES Act and look forward to any other changes to the CARES Act by the United States Congress, Senate, and President.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Vice-Chairlady, LaNora Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. and went into Executive Session.

A Total of Seven Resolutions Were on the August Agenda for the Comanche Business Monthly Meeting

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the August 8, 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.

Sovo-Doyebi, began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion made to approve the minutes of July, August, and September CBC meeting by Committeeman No. 2, Diana Gail Sovo-Doyebi. It was seconded by Vice-Chairlady, LaNora Parker. The motion carries 5/0/1.

Resolutions

List No. 93-2020: Enrollment List No. 1164. The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Committeeman No. 4, Clyde Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

List No. 94-2020: Enrollment List No. 1165. The applicants are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

List No. 95-2020: Enrollment List No. 1166. The applicant wishes to relinquish their membership with the Comanche Nation and to enroll with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The individual is aware that he is giving up all rights he may have had as a member of the Comanche Nation. Including current and future per-capita distribution. The individual will be removed from the Comanche Nation membership roll because of his desire to do so immediately.

Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Committeeman No. 3, Ronald Red Elk, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

List No. 96-2020: Capital Improvement- Anadarko Outreach. Tabled.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

List No. 97-2020: Law Enforcement- Sac & Fox Agreement. Tabled.

Narcomey, makes the motion to approve. Red Elk, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

List No. 98-2020: Language & Child Care. Little speakers project-Living Languages Grant.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Tippeconnie, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

List No. 99-2020: Comanche Academy. Living Languages Grant.

Sovo-Doyebi, makes the motion to approve. Narcomey, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

The meeting was adjourned and went into Executive Session.

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Child Support Services Releases Updated List

Under Title 3 of the Comanche Nation Child Support Codes Rule 4(E)(3) allows for service by publication in instances where the location of the subject of service is unknown, or when the subject of service has been unable to be served by traditional means.

Ralph Pewo
CNCSP-19-46
Petition to Accept Transfer

Thomas Portillo
CNCSP-13-14
Application for Indirect Contempt

Roscoe Conklin, Jr
FD-18-25
Motion to Modify

Trina Bender
CNCSP-19-37
Petition for Establishment of Child Support

Curtis Stanton II
CNCSP-19-27
Petition for Determination of Paternity and Establishment of Child Support

Jarvis Tortalita
CNCSP-09-28
Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment

Tristen Saupitty
CNCSP-19-21
Petition to Register Foreign Order Under Full Faith and Credit

Justin Owens
CNCSP-20-20
Petition for Establishment of Child Support

Jacob Nunley
CNCSP-16-30
Motion to Modify

Sarah Saddleblanket
CNCSP-15-142
Motion to Modify

Michael Ferguson
CNCSP-15-60
Application for Indirect Contempt

Malie Cooper
CNCSP-19-41
Petition for Establishment of Child Support

Corey Choney
FD-18-08
Application for Indirect Contempt

Tara Wermey
CNCSP-20-08
Petition for Determination of Paternity and Establishment of Child Support

Anthony Pewewardy
CNCSP-17-02
Motion to Determine Arrears and Reduce to Judgment

Jacob Nunley
CNCSP-16-30
Motion to Modify

Donald Jones
CNCSP-14-33
Application for Indirect Contempt

Andrew Weryavah
CNCSP-19-05
Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment

Joseph Bender
CNCSP-15-33
Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment

Lavida David
CNCSP-12-08
Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment

Elder Center Sends Birthday Wishes

Since the postponement of having elders eat at the Elder Center, the staff has expressed how they miss all of the elders. The staff has been busy doing home deliveries, home visits, and checking on the elders. They want to wish everyone who has had birthdays in the past months a very 'Happy Birthday, God Bless You.'

The Elder Center staff urges all elders to take safety precautions during this epidemic.

Available Services to Domestic Violence Victims During the Pandemic

If domestic abuse is already a problem in your home, the coronavirus pandemic might be making it worse. Shelter-in-place, lock down, and isolation orders raise fears and concerns for victims of domestic violence and child abuse where the greatest danger is often in the home.

These social distancing requirements and stay-at-home orders make it even more difficult for domestic violence victims to seek help and to find safety. If you're a victim or know someone who is, help is available.

The Comanche Nation Family Assistance Center is still providing services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. They are providing mobile advocacy and maintaining a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline (580) 492-3590. The therapy service is now provided over the phone. The initial assessment for shelter is now done over the phone. They have limited bed space available with tribal member preference, however we will assist in finding you a safe place. They are still assisting with getting victims protective orders and other legal advocacy.

They are taking extra precautions to keep the residents and staff safe. New residents must quarantine for seven days upon admission and thereafter limited outings to employment, medical appointments and other essential business appointments. Temperatures are checked twice a day. They insist on social distancing and everyone must wear a mask including staff any time that you leave your room.

They have suspended in-person educational presentations as well as hosting informational tables at community events. They have limit non-essential visit to our facility. They are not accepting clothing donations until further notice. Donations of new needed items such as facial masks, cleaning products, non-perishable canned goods, new and slightly used household items are accepted with appointments arranged in advance.

If you need their services or know of someone that does contact the office at (580) 492-3590. They are available 7 days a week 24 hours a day. Their advocates will go above and beyond to assist you. Domestic violence is not a Native tradition.



Courtesy Photo

Elder Council Distributes Face Masks to Tribal Elders

Submitted by Adele Mihesuah/Comanche Nation Elders Council

The Comanche Nation Elder Council has been deterred by the COVID-19, but not stopped. When the Comanche Nation was closed, they were unable to hold in-person meetings, and felt that would be a hazard to the Elders' health.

The Elder Council has held DRIVE BY EVENTS for the last two months, providing Comanche Elders with personal hygiene products, paper products, water, canned food products, sugar, coffee, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, batteries, and a boxed lunch. The council had problems notifying elders, specifically, the *Lawton Constitution* did not put the announcements in they had submitted for two months. So, they gave up on that notification and the Executive Committee made a decision to call the Comanche Elders who had attended their monthly meetings and left telephone numbers. They ordered for 75, and made up 75 bags to give to the el-

ders that attended the DRIVE BY EVENT. They chose 75 because that is the number that normally attended our in-person meetings. In an attempt to keep our Comanche Elders healthy, no one had to get out of their car, everyone wore a mask, and the ones giving out the items also wore masks and gloves. They gave to any Comanche Elder who participates in the DRIVE BY EVENT until all 75 items had been given away.

They asked for Comanche Nation IDs, because random people pulled up saying they were Comanche Elders and when asked to produce a Comanche Nation ID, could not do so.

"When everyone is wearing a mask, it is hard sometimes to recognize people we know, so don't be offended if we do ask for a Comanche Nation ID, or how old you are. You must be 62 or older," explained Adele Mihesuah, Chairperson. "Some of our beautiful elders look young."

She added they only gave out to Comanche elders, and if someone sent their family members or friends on their behalf, they were denied.

The Comanche Nation Elder Council plans to continue the DRIVE BY EVENTS until it is safe for them to meet in person again. The next scheduled event will be 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., September 14, or while supplies last. The line up begins in front of the Comanche Nation Elder Council Office, located at 1001 C Street, Lawton, Okla. Traffic is one-way on the right side of the street in order not to block traffic.

The Comanche Nation Elder Council Executive Committee is: Adele Mihesuah, Chairperson; Rita Heath, Vice Chairperson; Kay Smits, Secretary; Phyllis Narcomey, Treasurer. If you have questions, please email or call Adele Mihesuah at mihesuah@sbcglobal.net, (580) 606-7519.

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Comanche Nation Offices will be closed September 7, for the Labor Day Holiday. Offices will re-open 8 a.m. September 8.

The Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery Outpatient Treatment Center is now open to the public and currently providing the following services:

Relapse Prevention/Substance Abuse Education
Parenting Classes
Gambling Education
Drug/Alcohol Assessments

Please call the Outpatient Treatment Center directly at 580-357-3449 for additional information or to schedule an appointment. Services and assistance will be provided on an appointment basis.



Warrior Cafe

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Sunday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

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GAME ROOM

Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy/CIVA

Co-Host and Color Guard

On March 7, six veterans and four Auxiliary were Co-host and provided the Color Guard for a Soldier Dance held in honor of Army Sergeant First Class (Retired) Michael Nestell at Comanche Community Center in Apache.

SFC Nestell served in the Army from 1997-17. His service included 42 months of service in Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates. He is the most decorated Apache Tribe of Oklahoma veteran having earned 54 decorations and awards including the two awards of the Bronze Star, two awards of the Meritorious Service, eight awards of the Army Commendation and nine awards of the Army Achievement Medals and the Combat Action and Airborne Badges.

Change to Flag Protocol

On March 22, Chairman William Nelson Sr., put out the following directive: "The Business Committee and Chairman have ordered the American and Comanche Flags to be flown at half-mast at the Nation HQs, Business Center and all Casinos upon notification of a death of a veteran until the morning after the interment of the deceased. The Comanche flag only will be flown at half-mast upon the death notification of current or former CBC member and Comanche elders. If the current or former CBC member or elder was a veteran then the U.S. flag will also be lowered to half-mast.

On April 7, the flags were lowered for former CBC member, veteran and elder Jack Codopony Sr, veteran and elder Curtis Apauty, veteran and elder Lonnie Komahcheet and elder Wayne Yackeyonny.

CIVA Princess



Courtesy Photo

Ahtone

On April 2, Trinity Rae Ahtone was reelected to serve another one-year term as the CIVA Princess. Because of the COVID-19 guidelines the election was conducted via email. Her new term begins on Armed Forces Day 2020 and ends on Armed Forces Day 2021.

She is the 17 year old daughter of Eagles Sr., and Megan (Stone) Mahseet and Carleton "CJ" Ahtone. Her maternal grandparents are Steve and Gwen (Pohawpatchoko) Stone; her paternal grandparents are Eddie and Elizabeth (LeBarre) Mahseet and Mari Frances Sahmaunt and Vohn Ahtone; she is the great-granddaughter of Calvin Sr., and Velma (Apauty) Pohawpatchoko, Steve and Lena (Boydiddle) Chibitty, Spencer Sahmaunt, Marion Ahdosy and Vernon and Juanita Ahtone.

Ahtone is a sophomore at Eisenhower High School in Lawton. She is on the Principle's Honor Roll, a varsity cheerleader and manager of the high school baseball team. Ahtone is also a member of the Comanche Nation Youth Dancers and a sign linguist. She is the former Little Miss Indian Lawton, Jr Miss Indian Lawton and Miss Indian Lawton.

COVID-19 Face Masks and Face Shields

On June 18, Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko, coordinated a pickup and issue of 10,800 N95 face masks and 3,000 face shields from the Eufaula Indian Health Service for the CIVA, Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society and Apache Native Warrior Society. The masks and shields were part of a nation wide distribution effort by Don Louder, the Commander of the National American Indian Veterans Association based in Washington, D.C. In all about 93,600 masks and 39,000 face shields were sent to Michael Coon, a Vietnam War and Army veteran, for the 39 tribes in Oklahoma.

Coon is employed by the Eufaula IHS. Vice Commander John McClung, drove the 444-mile round-trip to Eufaula on June 19 and picked up masks and shields for the KCA veteran organizations. Historian Lanny Asepermy issued the masks and shields to the Kiowas on June 19 and the Apaches on June 27 from his home in Apache.

Masks (and shields) were also distributed to active CIVA members, the Comanche Nation Assisted Living Facility, the Comanche Nation Emergency Management Team, Comanche Nation Property (for distribution to their various programs), the Comanche Nation Diabetes, Prescription and Optometry programs, Lawton IHS, Comanche Nation Housing and Indian churches in Indianola, Cache and Fletcher.

Prayer Send-Off



Courtesy Photo

Tomah

On July 11, a Prayer send-off to Captain Kent O. Tomah III was conducted at his home at the Oak Meadows Estates near Medicine Park.

He is due to report to Fort Erwin, Cali., on/about July 15. CPT Tomah completed a 2+ year tour, in June, as a Battery Commander of Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 179th Field Artillery (Basic Combat Training) at Fort Sill. During his tenure at Fort Sill his unit completed nine 8-week training cycles training over 1,800 new Army recruits.

He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal at the completion of his tour at Fort Sill. CPT Tomah, his First Sergeant and Drill Sergeants assisted the CIVA, as the Color Guard, for the Comanche Nation Fair and Parade, the CIVA Armed Forces Day Banquet

and Veterans Day Celebration and Pow-wow.

His next assignment, for the next 18 months, will be as an Artillery Forward Observer, Trainer and Coach at the National Training Center in Fort Erwin, Cali.

CPT Tomah enlisted in the Army on May 24, 2010, and was commissioned as a Field Artillery Second Lieutenant on March 24, 2011.

His duty station stations Fort Benning, Ga; Fort Campbell, Ky; Fort Sill, Okla., and overseas in Baghdad, Iraq. His duty assignments include Fire Direction Officer; Platoon Leader; Battery Executive Officer; Fire Support Officer; Assistant Brigade Fire Support Officer and Battery Commander.

CIVA and COVID-19

The CIVA in following the guidelines of the COVID-19 pandemic has not conducted their monthly meetings since March 5. Communications between members is done telephonically or via email. Since the pandemic began the organization has cancelled their Armed Forces Day Banquet and numerous other commitments.

Since April 12, funeral details have been provided for the families of nine deceased veterans under strict COVID-19 guidelines. Five military markers for the families of deceased veterans have also been placed. In addition VA claims have been filed for the widow of one Comanche veteran (it was approved) and two other veterans. This was done by mail and electronically. The CIVA also picked up 10,800 N95 masks and 3,000 face shields from the Eufaula IHS. Veteran Gift Bags have been presented to two veterans, one from Owasso, Okla., the other from Lubbock, Texas. Honors have also been presented to three out-of-state veterans, one from Mesalero and two from Albuquerque, N.M. That presentation took place in Tula Rosa, N.M., after a funeral commitment in Mesalero. One veteran, Cloyce "Chuck" Choney, was selected for induction into the OK Military Hall of Fame – his induction ceremony is supposed to be on October 17, at the Embassy Suites in Norman. That ceremony is currently in question because of the COVID-19. Three of the organization's members have moved in the past two months. Kent Tomah transferred to Fort Irwin National Training Center in California, Keller Roaming Warrior moved to Pawnee, Okla., and Richard Sapcutt has moved to Oklahoma City.

In a very limited manner the CIVA continues to meet the needs of veterans and their families. Simply wear masks, maintain social distancing, stay at home if possible and sanitize your hands.

Military Marker Placements

On April 28, the military markers of Sheldon K. Rogers (DOD April 25, 2019, age 39 years) at Mount Scott Cemetery, Lewis M. Chasenah (DOD August 9, 2019, age 71 years) at Highland Cemetery and Terry L. Tahsequah (DOD November 2, 2019, age 57 years) at Little Washita Cemetery.

The placements were the 276, 277 and 278 placements by the CIVA. All the markers were upright weighing 235 lbs each.

Eight family members of the Tahsequah family and nine members of the Rogers family were present during the placement.



Courtesy Photo

Members of the Terry Tahsequah family gathered for the placement of his marker.



Courtesy Photo

Members of the Sheldon Rodgers family gather for the placement of his marker.

Funeral Detail



Courtesy Photo

Ahhaitty

Funeral detail was provided for the family of the late Clifton Ahhaitty (February 7, 1940 – March 6, 2020, age 80 years) on March 10. The funeral was conducted at the Trinity Lighthouse Church in Dennison, Texas with burial at the Rose Hill Cemetery in Calero, Okla.

Ahhaitty is the son of the late Walter (a full-blood Kiowa) and Irene Yellowfish Ahhaitty (a full-blood Comanche). He served in the Air Force from 1965-69 earning the rank of Sergeant. He completed Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB, Texas and the Medical Helper Course at Kessler AFB, Miss., and served the remainder of his active military service at Perrin AFB, Texas with the 4780th Air Defense Wing Hospital as a Medical Specialist.



Courtesy Photo

Codopony

A funeral detail was provided for the family of Jack Codopony Sr., (March 12, 1934 to March 21, 2020, 86 years old) on March 25 at the Cache Creek Cemetery west of Apache. The Comanche Nation Police Department provided a firing squad and Dow Dozier, of Bugles of America, played taps.

Codopony Sr., served in the Marine Corps from

1953-56; the Marine Corps Reserve from 1956-63; the Army Reserve from 1965-69 and from 1975-91; and the OK Army National Guard from 1970-73. He attained the rank of Sergeant First Class and served for 34+ years. His duty stations included the Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot San Diego, Cali.; Camp Pendleton, Cali.; El Toro Marine Air Station Santa Ana, Cali.; Marine Corps Auxiliary Air Station Mojave, Cali.; Grand Prairie Marine Air Station, Texas; Army Reserve Centers in Lawton and Fort Sill; Fort Leonard, Mo. and the OK Army National Guard Lexington, Okla. He was selected as Soldier of the Month while in the Army Reserve and Marine of the Year by the Marine Corps League based in Lawton.

SFC Codopony Sr was one of only three Comanches awarded the Drill Sergeant Identification Badge. Other awards include the Fleet Marine Force Badge; Marine Corps Good Conduct; Armed Forces Component Achievement with/2 Oak Leaf Clusters; National Defense Service with/Bronze Star; Korean Service with/Bronze Star; Army Reserve Service; United Nations Service; and Korean War Service Medals; the Fleet Marine Force with/Marin Emblem; Navy/Marine Overseas; Marine Corps Reserve; NCO Professional Development with/Numeral 2; and the Army Service Ribbons.



Courtesy Photo

Apauty

On April 2, a funeral detail was provided for the family of Don Curtis Apauty (November 24, 1935 – March 29, 2020) at the Cache KCA Cemetery, west of Cache. The Comanche Nation Police Department provided a firing squad.

Apauty served in the Navy from December 3, 1952, to December 2, 1955, earning the rank of Seaman. He completed Boot Training at the Naval Recruit Training Center Camp Elliot, Cali., and was assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Kearsarge (CV-33). The Kearsarge served in direct support of the Korean War from August, 1952, to March 1953.

Seaman Apauty then served aboard the USS Stoddard (DD-566) a destroyer. The Stoddard conducted operations along the Atlantic seaboard of the United States until December, 1954, when they joined the Pacific Fleet. From January, 1955, until his discharge. SN Apauty participated in the evacuation of Chinese Nationalists from the Tachen Islands and served on the Taiwan Strait patrol.

His awards include the Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Korean Service with/2 Battle Stars, United Nations Service with/Korea Clasp and the Korean War Service Medals. SN Apauty was one of only five living Comanches to earn the Korean Ser-

vice Medal. He was 85 years old.



Courtesy Photo

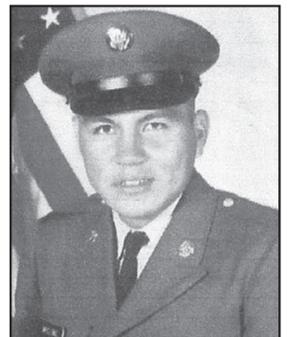
Komahcheet

A funeral detail and firing squad for the family of Army and Vietnam War veteran, Lonnie Komahcheet, on April 7, at the Post Oak Cemetery was *cancelled due to the COVID-19 guidelines announced by the Department of Veterans Affairs saying "suspension of military honors go into effect beginning April 6, until further notice."* A wreath and Memorial booklets were provided to the funeral home for presentation to the Komahcheet family.

Komahcheet was born on March 3, 1947, and passed away on April 2, at age 73 years. He was drafted into the Army on September 10, 1967, and served until April 17, 1969, earning the rank of Specialist 4.

SP4 Komahcheet completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Polk, La. and Advanced Individual Training, as a Medic, at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He served at Fort Stewart, Ga. and in Vietnam from April 9, 1968, to April 17, 1969, (1 year and 8 days) with the Company C and the 8th Medical Detachment, 10th Combat Aviation Battalion before his discharge at Fort Lewis, Wash. He was one of only six Comanches awarded the Combat Medic Badge for his service as a Combat Medic in Vietnam.

Other awards include the Army Commendation, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service with/4 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device and Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm.



Courtesy Photo

McClung

On July 30, a funeral detail was provided for the family of Larry D. McClung. McClung was born on October 24, 1947, and passed away on July 27, at age 72 years.

He was drafted into the Army on October 8, 1967, and served until June 18, 1971, (3 years, 8 month and 10 days) earning the rank of Specialist Four.

SP4 McClung completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Polk, La. and Advanced Individual Training, as a Combat Engineer, at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He then served at Warner Barracks in Bamberg, Germany before being assigned to the 1st Logistical Command in Vietnam from September 9, 1968, to October 15, 1969, (1 year, 1 month

Continued on Page 7

Continued from Page 6

and 6 days). He completed his military service at Fort Hood, Texas.

His awards include the National Defense Service, Vietnam Service with/4 Battle Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device medals and the Expert Qualification Badge with/Rifle Bar.

His final resting place is the West Cache Creek KCA cemetery west of Cache, Okla.



Courtesy Photo

Pewo

Representatives from the CIVA attended both the prayer service and funeral of Marine Private First Class Robert "Bobby" Pewo on June 14 and 15 at the Ritter-Gray Funeral Home in Lawton.

Pewo passed away on June 9, at age 84 years. He served in the Marine Corps from January 28, 1954, until December 23, 1954, (10 months and 25 days) earning the rank of Private First Class. PFC Pewo completed Boot Training at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot San Diego, Calif., his Infantry Training Regiment and Occupation Training, as cannon crewman, at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He served briefly at Twenty-nine Palms Marine Base, Calif. PFC Pewo was awarded the National Defense Service Medal for service during a national emergency.

Armed Forces Day Banquet Cancelled due to COVID-19 Guidelines

The 15th Annual Armed Forces Day Banquet scheduled for May 16 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 GUIDELINES.

Honorees for the banquet were: SP4 Robert Allen Red Elk, Army, Vietnam War; SN James Parker, Navy, Vietnam War; LT Patrick Parker, Navy, Gulf War; SP4 Robert Alan Red Elk, Army; CW4 Thomas Hettich Jr, Army and Army National Guard; and AMT1 Darin Yackeschi, Coast Guard. Honors will be presented during the Veterans Day Celebration and Pow-wow on Veterans Day, November 11, at Watchetaker Hall.

Robert Allen Red Elk



Courtesy Photo

Robert Allen Red Elk, served in the Army from January 16, 1970, to August 18, 1971, (1 year, 7 months and 3 days) earning the rank of Specialist 4.

He served with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam and awarded the Vietnam

Service Medal with/3 Campaign Stars. SP4 Red Elk resides in Lawton.

James Parker



Courtesy Photo

James Parker served in the Navy from March 13, 1969, to February 6, 1973, (3 years, 10 months and 24 days) earning the rank of Seaman.

He served with the Navy Support Activity in Da Nang, Vietnam and aboard the USS Higbee (DD-806) during the Vietnam War and awarded the Combat Action Ribbon and Vietnam Service Medal with/3 Campaign Stars. SN Parker resides in Mescalero, N.M.

Patrick Neal Parker



Courtesy Photo

Patrick Neal Parker, served in the Navy from October 24, 1989, to May 31, 2014, (23 years, 7 months and 7 days) retiring as a Lieutenant (0-3). He served aboard the USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19) during the Gulf War and awarded the Southwest Asia Service Medal with/Campaign Star.

LT Parker resides in Albuquerque, N.M.

Robert Alan Red Elk



Courtesy Photo

Robert Alan Red Elk, served in the Army from September 1, 1970, to March 6, 1971, (1 year 6 months and 6 days) earning the rank of Specialist 4. He served overseas with 172nd Infantry Brigade at Fort Richardson, Ark. SP4 Red Elk resides in Cache, Okla.

Thomas Hettich Jr



Courtesy Photo

Thomas Hettich Jr., served in the Army from August 13, 1969, to June 11, 1973, (2 years, 9 months and

14 days) earning the rank of Sergeant and the Montana and New Mexico Army National Guard from 1978 until his retirement in 2009 earning the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4. He served overseas with the 94th Engineer Battalion in Nellingen, Germany. CW4 Hettich Jr. resides in Albuquerque, N.M.

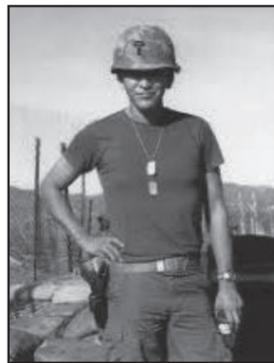
Darin Kyle Yackeschi



Courtesy Photo

Darin Kyle Yackeschi, served in the Coast Guard from January 12, 2004, to February 13, 2017, (13 years, 1 month and 3 days) earning the grade of Aviation Maintenance Technician First Class. He served overseas at Air Station Kodiak, AK. AMT1 Yackeschi resides in Port Angeles, Wash.

Choney to be Inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall Of Fame



Courtesy Photo

CPT Choney at Fire Support Base Maureen, South Vietnam in the Spring 1970.

The Oklahoma Heritage Foundation sponsors the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. They were established in 1999 and has recognized 200 Oklahoma heroes and groups from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force including 32 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, 14 Major General Douglas O. Dollar Distinguished Public Service awardees, American Indian Code Talkers from the Comanche (14) in 2011, Choctaw (23) in 2012, and Pawnee (9) in 2015, and numerous veterans that called Oklahoma home. Comanche inductees are Charles Chibitty in 2003, and George Red Elk in 2011.

The 2020 induction ceremony is scheduled for October 17, at the Embassy Suites in Norman, Okla., dependence on the COVID-19 guidelines. Among the 11 new inductees is Comanche Cloyce Vann "Chuck" Choney.

Captain Cloyce Vann "Chuck" Choney was born in Lawton, Okla., on November 13, 1944, to the late Whitt and Grace Tahbonemah Choney. He graduated from Lawton high school in 1965, where he excelled in basketball and baseball. In 1965 he graduated from Cameron Jr College and in 1969 from Oklahoma State University. He was commissioned as an Army Infantry Officer in January 1969.

CPT Choney is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation and is also of Kiowa decent. He is the great grandson of the last recognized Comanche Chief, Quanah Parker and Kiowa Tribal

Soldier. I-See-O aka Tahbonemah – in 1915 Congress passed a law in recognition of I-See-O making him an active duty Army Sergeant for Life.

CPT Choney served as an Infantry Platoon Leader and Company Commander, Pathfinder Detachment Commander., S-3 Training Officer, Operations Officer and Special Forces A Team Detachment Commander. His duty stations include Fort Benning, Ga., Fort Bragg, N.C., Germany and Camp Evans, Vietnam. His assignments were with the 82nd Airborne Division, 10ast Airborne Division (Airmobile), 3rd Armored Division and 7th Special Forces.

He served in Vietnam from January to December 1969, with the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) based at Camp Evans. His call sign was "Comanche 6" and his platoon was known as the "Comanche Raiders."

He was decorated for heroism twice while in Vietnam with the Bronze Star with/Valor Device Medal. His Valor awards were for action against hostile North Vietnam Army insurgents near Forward Firebase Maureen on May 1 and July 6, 1970. His May 1 citation reads in part "For heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 1 May 1970. Lieutenant Choney distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 506th Infantry, during combat operation near Fire Support base Maureen, Republic of Vietnam. While receiving a resupply fro a nearby landing zone, Lieutenant Choney's platoon was attacked by a squad of North Vietnamese infantrymen using machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades. Lieutenant Choney immediately organized his men for a counter-assault. Although wounded himself, he refused medical evacuation until the enemy was repulsed and his men had been cared for." He received shrapnel wounds to his neck and hand during that action.

His July 6, citation reads in part "For heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 July 1970. Lieutenant Choney distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company B, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 506th Infantry, during combat action near Fire Support Base Maureen, Republic of Vietnam. Coming under sudden attack by a large hostile force, Lieutenant Choney was seriously wounded. Despite his wounds, he immediately organized his men and led a counter-assault on the hostiles. Moving from position to position under constant enemy fire he directed the return fire of his men. After the attackers were routed, he refused medical treatment until he was assured that all other casualties were treated." He received shrapnel wounds to his face and both legs during that action.

In addition to his two Bronze Stars with/V Device and Purple Hearts, other accolades include the Army Commendation, Vietnam Service with/4 Battle Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device; the Combat Infantryman, Basic, Senior and Master Parachutists Badge, the Special Forces, Ranger, Pathfinder and Airborne Tabs and the Jungle Expert Patch.

In 1976, CPT Choney began his service as a Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). He retired from the FBI in 2002

with service at the Los Angeles riots of 1992, the Waco Siege in 1993, the Montana Standoff and Oklahoma City bombing both in 1995 and the Kenya, Africa Embassy bombing by Al-Qaeda in 1998. He was awarded the FBI second highest award for Valor - the Shield of Bravery for his actions during the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City. He concluded his career after serving from 2002-07 as one of three Commissioners for the Native American Indian Gaming Commission based in Washington, D.C.

CPT Choney is a member of the *Numu Pukutsi* Warrior Society, the Comanche Indian Veterans Association and the Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society. He and his wife, the former Sandy Monser, have five children and reside in Shawnee, Okla.

World War II Hero



Courtesy Photo

Bkr2c Elmer Parker

On April 7, Lanny Asepermy, received a call from Tim Parker of Boise, Idaho, with information about his father, the late Elmer Thomas Parker.

The late Parker was born on April 25, 1925, in Elgin, Okla., and passed away on July 7, 2016, in Boise, Idaho, at age 91 years. His final resting place is the Cloverdale Cemetery in Boise.

He served, with Honor, in the U.S. Navy from August 13, 1943, to April 19, 1946, (2 years, 8 months and 13 days) earning the grade of Baker Second Class (Bkr2c). Parker completed Boot Training at the Naval Training Center San Diego, Calif., and 12-week Advanced School at Treasure Island, Calif. He was then assigned aboard the USS San Diego (CL-53) an Atlanta-class light cruiser for the remainder of his military service. During General Quarters (when the ship was engaged in battle) he manned a 20mm gun as the loader.

The San Diego was one of the most decorated Navy ships of World War II as she earned 18 Battle Stars. During Parker's time aboard the San Diego, for about 2 years and 3 months, he earned the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with/7 Battle Stars and the Philippine Liberation Medal with/2 more Battle Stars. In addition he was awarded the Honorable Service Lapel Button, the American Campaign and World War II Victory Medals. Only one other Comanche veteran, the late Max Pahcheka, earned more Battle Stars (10) than Parker.

Two of the most significant battles Parker participated in were the bloodiest and second bloodiest battles of World War II in the Pacific, Okinawa Assault and Occupation and Iwo Jima.

The San Diego was the first Allied warship to enter Tokyo Bay on August 27, 1945, and helped with the occupation of Yokosuka Naval Base where the Japanese formally surrendered on September 2, 1945. The San Diego returned, briefly, to San Francisco on September 14, 1945, before porting at Naval Base Bremerton, Wash.

The San Diego con-

tinued deployments to Japan bringing Marines and Soldiers back to the states.

While in Washington Parker met his wife, the former Maxine Stingley, and lived in Salt Lake City, Utah, for about five years before settling in Boise. They have a daughter and three sons and two grandchildren. He is the grandson of Quanah Parker and the son of late Thomas Tit-tah and Helen Fischer Parker. His father, Thomas, was a World War I Army veteran and his three brothers each served in the military, Bill Parker in the Navy and Henry and Charles Parker both in the Army. He had two sisters, both deceased, Theresa and Ruth.

Not the First Pandemic

The "Deadliest Pandemic in Modern History" occurred a little over 100 years ago (from the spring of 1918 to the summer of 1919) and was called the Spanish Flu. During World War I, more US soldiers died from the pandemic than were killed in battle as 36% of the Army and 40% of the Navy became ill. Many of the precautions taken during the current COVID-19 pandemic also occurred during the Spanish Flu pandemic. Quarantines were imposed, citizens were ordered to wear masks, and public places were shut down including schools, churches and theaters. People were advised to avoid shaking hands and stay indoors, libraries put a halt on lending books and regulations were passed banning spitting. Sounds all too familiar with the current COVID-19 pandemic guidelines.

In September, 1918, Philadelphia went ahead with a Liberty Loan parade attended by tens of thousands of people, spreading the disease like wildfire. In just 10 days over 1,000 people died with another 200,000 sick. By March 1919, over 15,000 Philadelphians were dead. St Louis, meanwhile, was different; schools and movie theaters closed and public gatherings were banned. Consequently the peak mortality rate in St Louis was just 1/8 of Philadelphia's death rate.

In the summer of 1919, the pandemic came to an end as those that were infected either died or developed immunity. It is estimated that 500,000 million people (1/4 of the world's population at the time) became infected and between 17-50 million people died (possibly 100 million) as medical documenting were poorly kept during the pandemic. To put the number of dead into perspective using the bottom number of 17 million dead, every person in the states of Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, Arkansas and New Mexico (17.6 million current population) would have died.

The first reported COVID-19 death was recorded on February 29. This article was written on April 29. In exactly two months 58,671 Americans (977 per day) have died from the COVID-19 virus. That's more than the 58,220 American military deaths during the Vietnam War (1962-75). The deadliest day in Vietnam was January 31, 1968, when 246 Americans were killed.



Emergency Management Team Activated; Distributes Food and Face Masks During Pandemic

Story and Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Emergency Management team was activated on March 17, by Comanche Nation Chairman William Nelson, Sr. The Emergency Management Core Team began developing best options and various ways to help tribal members and others in the community that were being affected by COVID-19, which was sweeping across the United States, putting hundreds in the hospital, shutting down businesses, and leaving thousands unemployed.

Working with the Tribal Administrator, (the late) Phyllis Attocknie, Emergency Management and client volunteers from Prevention and Recovery began distributing food baskets. These baskets included cleaning supplies such as bleach, paper towels, and toilet paper, which at the time, was in short supply. To receive a basket, tribal members applied using a form, explaining how the COVID-19 affected them.

“The form was a way for the Emergency Management to show FEMA and other entities, how many tribal members were serviced. Documentation is always needed when proving services were given to the community,” explained Charles Crutcher, Comanche Nation Emergency Management Incident Commander.

“We are committed to providing selfless service when and wherever it’s needed.”

A total of 936 food baskets were distributed throughout the state. Members of the team drove hundreds of miles to deliver food baskets as far as Tulsa, Ponca City, and Durant as well as several out-of-area towns, to help feed families and give them items to sanitize their home.

Emergency Management leveraged social media to request donations of face masks from the public.

“The response was overwhelming,” said Renea Toahty, Comanche Nation Emergency Manager. “Packages of face masks poured in from all over the United States. People sent face masks for adult and children in all sizes and with different material. We received thousands of face masks.”

Toahty added in addition to masks, other donations included hand sanitizer, towels, Kleenex tissue, toilet paper, puzzles, and yarn. Once the masks were delivered, the team began assembling care packages that included five disposable face masks, a homemade mask, and two pairs of plastic gloves. Initial priority was given to our Elder Center and Elder Council to distribute to their program participants.

The first public face mask giveaway took place 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., Aug. 1 at the Janice Pewewardy Softball Fields at the Comanche Nation complex. A total of 5,640 face mask packages were given away, along with other donated items. Some items, such as hand sanitizer and children’s masks, were the first to run out, due to limited availability.

The following weekend, Aug. 8, Emergency Management distributed face mask packages at the community centers in Walters, Apache and Cache. A total of 3,880 masks were given out on that date.

“All the masks and items that were given away came from the heart of donors, private owned businesses and organizations from all across the US. The donations allowed Emergency Management to provide supplies and masks for all of our community and we cannot express enough, the heartfelt gratitude we have for each and every item that was given to help protect our families during this time of crisis,” said Toahty.



Members of the Emergency Management Team, Richard Chibitty, left, and Lynn Schonchin Jr., hand out face masks packs and other items August 1, at the Janice Pewewardy Softball Field. The team distributed face mask packs at the tribe’s community centers the following weekend.



Essential personnel and volunteers from the Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery Center make food bags to distribute to the tribal community. A total of 936 food bags were delivered throughout the state of Oklahoma.



Volunteers from the Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery Center organize the donated items that were given to the tribe for distribution.



Food bags were delivered to the porches and doorsteps of families, to keep the Emergency Management team safe.

What Tribal Members need to know about COVID-19

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronaviruses are a type of virus (germ) that can cause cold-like symptoms and sometimes serious problems with lungs and breathing. COVID-19 is a novel (new) coronavirus.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Mild to severe respiratory illness, or problems with lungs and breathing. Symptoms include:

- **Fever, cough, and shortness of breath**

How does COVID-19 spread?

Person to person by coughing, sneezing, or personal contact like touching or shaking hands. Someone with mild symptoms may spread the disease without knowing they are sick.

Who is most at risk?

Anyone can get COVID-19. Those at risk of severe illness include:

- **Elders and adults over 60 years of age,**
- **People with heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes.**

How can I protect myself and my family?

Stay at home. “Social distancing” is recommended. This means keeping your family at home and away from others who may be sick.

- If you must go out, try to stay 6 feet away from others.
- Avoid gatherings with other people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Do not shake hands, hug, or touch others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

Have there been cases of COVID-19 in our state?

Yes, there have been cases in all 50 states.



If someone gets sick, what can they do?

- **If someone thinks they have been around someone with COVID-19 and they get a fever and symptoms such as cough or trouble breathing, they should call their healthcare provider or local Indian Health Service unit for medical advice.**
- In an emergency, call 911.
- People who are mildly sick with COVID-19 do not need to see a healthcare provider and are able to recover at home.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash hands.
- Stay home and away from others for 14 days to avoid getting others sick.
- Caregivers should keep sick family members away from others in the home and clean and disinfect surfaces and items that are touched often, like door handles, sink handles, toilets, remote controls, etc.

Is there a vaccine or treatment?

There is no vaccine. The best way to reduce the risk of getting sick with COVID-19 is to practice social distancing and healthy habits like washing hands regularly.

There is no specific treatment for COVID-19, but medical care can help relieve symptoms. If you are sick, call your healthcare provider for instructions.

For more information:
CDC.gov/coronavirus

Effective March 26, 2020
Source: CDC

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

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, U.S. INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE, PHS • 1955, JOHN HOPKINS CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH

2020 Comanche Nation Princesses Crowned



Courtesy Photos



The 2020 Comanche Nation Princess, Rita Monoessy, right, and the 2020 Junior Comanche Nation Princess, Angelina Steinmeyer, left, were crowned May 23, at the Comanche Nation Complex's Watchetaker Hall. Since their reign began, the princesses have been representing the Nation at various events, amid the COVID-19 pandemic. ABOVE CENTER: Angelina Steinmeyer, far right, attends a powwow at the Indian Hills Powwow Ground July 25, with Miss Indian Oklahoma, Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma and Little Miss Indian Oklahoma. BELOW LEFT: Rita Monoessy, Angelina Steinmeyer and Comanche War Scout Princess, Marcedez Banderas attend the All Tribes DC gathering July 18, at the Hilton Garden in Lawton, Okla. BELOW CENTER: Rita Monoessy, 2020 Comanche Nation Princess. BELOW RIGHT: Angelina Steinmeyer, 2020 Junior Comanche Nation Princess.

What is the difference between Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19?

Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses. COVID-19 is caused by infection with a new coronavirus (called SARS-CoV-2) and flu is caused by infection with influenza viruses. Because some of the symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, it may be hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone, and testing may be needed to help confirm a diagnosis. Flu and COVID-19 share many characteristics, but there are some key differences between the two.

While more is learned every day, there is still a lot that is unknown about COVID-19 and the virus that causes it.

If You Travel During your trip, take steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- Wear a mask to keep your nose and mouth covered when in public settings.
- Avoid close contact by staying at least 6 feet apart (about 2 arms' length) from anyone who is not from your household.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- Avoid contact with anyone who is sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

-CDC Website

10 things you can do to manage your COVID-19 symptoms at home

Accessible Version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

If you have possible or confirmed COVID-19:

- 1. Stay home** from work and school. And stay away from other public places. If you must go out, avoid using any kind of public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis. 
- 2. Monitor your symptoms** carefully. If your symptoms get worse, call your healthcare provider immediately. 
- 3. Get rest and stay hydrated.** 
- 4. If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider** ahead of time and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. 
- 5. For medical emergencies, call 911 and notify the dispatch personnel** that you have or may have COVID-19. 
- 6. Cover your cough and sneezes.** 
- 7. Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. 
- 8. As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people** in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available. If you need to be around other people in or outside of the home, wear a cloth face covering. 
- 9. Avoid sharing personal items** with other people in your household, like dishes, towels, and bedding. 
- 10. Clean all surfaces** that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, and doorknobs. Use household cleaning sprays or wipes according to the label instructions. 



CS 315822-A 05/11/2020

cdc.gov/coronavirus

Culinary Corner

August 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Inventory	4 Frederick 1 st Day	5 Frederick 2 nd Day	6 Walters 1 st Day	7 Walters 2 nd Day	8
9	10 Cache 1 st Day	11 Cache 2 nd Day	12 Cache 3 rd Day	13 Cache 4 th Day	14 TRUCK DAY	15
16	17 Lawton 1 st Day	18 Lawton 2 nd Day	19 Lawton 3 rd Day	20 Lawton 4 th Day	21 Lawton 5 th Day	22
23	24 Make-Up Day	25 Make-Up Day	26 Make-Up Day	27 Inventory	28 Inventory	29
30	31 Inventory					

Egg-In-A-Hole

Ingredients

- 1 Slice of your favorite kind of bread
- 1 Tablespoon butter
- 1 Egg
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Directions

1. With a biscuit cutter or the rim of a glass, press a hole in the center of the slice of bread.
2. Heat a skillet over medium-low heat and melt in the butter. When the butter is all spread out, place the slice of bread in the skillet and crack the egg straight into the center of the hole.
3. Cook until the egg sets a bit on the bottom, 30 to 45 seconds. Sprinkle the egg with salt and pepper. After about a minute, flip it over with a spatula and salt and pepper the other side.
4. Move the toast around in the skillet. Let it cook until the yolk feels soft.

Garlic Prime Rib

Ingredients

- 1 (10 pound) Prime rib roast
- 10 Cloves garlic, minced
- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- 2 Teaspoons salt
- 2 Teaspoons ground black pepper
- 2 Teaspoons dried thyme

Directions

1. Place the roast in a roasting pan with the fatty side up. In a small bowl, mix together the garlic, olive oil, salt, pepper and thyme. Spread the mixture over the fatty layer of the roast, and let the roast sit out until it is at room temperature, no longer than 1 hour.
2. Preheat the oven to 500 degrees F (260 degrees C).
3. Bake the roast for 20 minutes in the preheated oven, then reduce the temperature to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C), and continue roasting for an additional 60 to 75 minutes. The internal temperature of the roast should be at 135 degrees F (57 degrees C) for medium rare.
4. Allow the roast to rest for 10 to 15 minutes before carving so the meat can retain its juices.

WE WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU ARE COOKING!

Send a picture of any of the recipes you try on the "Culinary Corner" page, and it will be in an issue of TCNN, and TCNN will mail you a gift of thanks. Email your name, picture, and which recipe you used, to: stacey.heminokey@comanchenation.com

Word Bank

- APRIL- TAHMA MUA
- SPRING- TAHMARO?I
- EASTER RABBIT- NOYOTSO?ME TABU
- EASTER- TAA NOYOWEH-KIT? TABENI
- CROSS- SUABE
- CRUCIFIXION- SUABE MA TAA NAR?MI?A TAW?NAI
- CHURCH- PUHA KAHNI
- BRIGHT- MOHATS?I



Recipes for Home Cooking



Grandma's Pork Chops

Ingredients

- 1 Tablespoon butter
- 1 Clove garlic, pressed
- 6 Pork chops
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 (8 ounce) can mushrooms, drained
- 1 Cup dry sherry
- 1 (10.5 ounce) can beef broth
- 2 Tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 Tablespoons water

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350*degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add garlic, and saute until fragrant. Season pork chops with salt and pepper, then fry them in the skillet just until browned on both sides, about 3 minutes per side. Remove the pork chops to a baking pan or Dutch oven.
3. Pour the mushrooms into the skillet with the pork drippings and garlic, and stir in the sherry and beef broth, scraping any bits of pork that are stuck to the pan. Bring to a boil, then pour over the pork chops in the baking pan. Cover with a lid, or aluminum foil.

4. Bake for 45 minutes in the pre-heated oven, then remove the lid or foil, and continue to bake for another 15 minutes. Remove the chops from the pan to a serving platter, and place the dish on the stove over medium heat. Stir together the cornstarch and water. When the juice in the pan come to a boil, slowly stir in the cornstarch mixture and cook until thickened, about 2 minutes. Spoon sauce over the chops, and serve.

2. Fill pie crust and top with pie filling. Chill 1 to 2 hours before serving.

Plain Cake Doughnuts

Ingredients

- 2 Cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 Cup white sugar
- 1 Teaspoon salt
- 1 Tablespoon baking powder
- 1/4 Teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 Dash ground nutmeg
- 2 Tablespoons melted butter
- 1/2 Cup milk
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 1 Quart oil for frying

Directions

1. Heat oil in deep-fryer to 375* degrees F (190 degrees C).
2. In a large bowl, sift together flour, sugar, salt, baking powder, cinnamon and nutmeg. Mix in butter until crumbly. Stir in milk and egg until smooth. Knead lightly, then turn out onto a lightly floured surface. Roll or pat to 1/4 inch thickness. Cut with a doughnut cutter, or use two round biscuit cutters or different sizes.

3. Carefully drop doughnuts into hot oil, a few at a time. Do not over-crowd pan or oil may overflow. Fry, turning once, for 3 minutes or until golden. Drain on paper towels.

Ground Beef and Cabbage

Ingredients

- 1 Large head cabbage, finely chopped
- 1 (14.5 ounce) Can diced tomatoes with juice
- 1 Onion, halved and thinly-sliced
- 1 Tablespoon Italian seasoning
- Salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 Pound lean ground beef

Directions

1. Combine cabbage, tomatoes with juice, onion, Italian seasoning, salt, and black pepper in a large pot over low heat. Bring cabbage mixture to a simmer and crumble ground beef into the pot. Cover and cook until cabbage is tender and ground beef is cooked through, about 45 minutes. Stir occasionally.

No Bake Cheesecake II

Ingredients

- 2 (8 ounce) Packages cream cheese, softened
- 2 Cups frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 Cup white sugar
- 1 Teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 (21 ounce) Can apple pie filling
- 1 (9 inch) prepared graham cracker crust

Directions

1. Beat cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla extract until smooth. Fold in cool whip.

Comanche Word Search

Find the Comanche words in the Word Search below. Words can be found in ALL directions. Good Luck!!!!

T	S	A	A	T	E	K	W	A	P	U	?	S	U	M	U	T	O	M	O	P	U	?	V	M
N	A	X	I	N	E	B	A	T	U	T	I	K	H	E	W	O	Y	O	N	A	A	T	D	S
Z	R	H	P	A	S	F	V	?	E	N	H	I	W	K	I	?	I	N	A	B	U	Y	?	Y
B	O	I	M	?	H	A	P	A	H	A	W	U	T	I	?	I	B	A	H	U	P	M	U	S
S	?	B	R	A	K	T	K	B	H	G	M	?	T	Y	O	H	E	?	L	B	U	V	X	C
N	X	C	V	X	M	S	D	W	E	O	R	G	F	C	R	T	O	O	K	?	H	R	E	S
B	U	G	F	H	?	U	N	Y	H	P	E	O	R	?	A	H	A	M	H	T	A	?	G	T
A	H	U	P	D	E	G	A	A	N	B	V	B	J	U	M	R	E	R	Q	A	K	S	F	A
T	Y	U	O	I	U	H	T	V	A	G	F	D	E	R	H	L	K	H	J	L	A	O	P	H
M	U	A	A	M	H	S	?	U	?	T	R	G	Q	W	A	S	Z	C	V	U	H	B	?	O
P	O	N	M	C	I	V	S	T	Y	H	Y	E	H	N	T	?	W	Y	K	B	N	R	J	M
?	T	A	A	?	B	?	C	Z	A	S	D	R	X	B	C	V	B	K	H	Q	I	A	T	Y
M	J	K	L	O	C	V	B	W	Q	U	B	A	T	E	M	?	O	S	T	O	Y	O	N	R
S	U	A	B	E	M	A	T	A	A	N	A	R	U	M	I	?	A	T	A	W	U	N	A	I

People, Places and Things Happening

Comanche Tribal Youth Artists Selected to Attend School for the Arts



Courtesy Photos

Underwood and Tenequer

Nearly 270 young artists from across Oklahoma, including two from the Comanche Nation, spent a week studying with internationally renowned faculty and celebrity guest artists at the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute (OSAI). The attendees were selected from over 1,000 applicants during a competitive statewide audition process last winter, and they studied one of eight artistic disciplines: acting, chorus, creative writing, dance, drawing & painting, film & video, orchestra or photography.

Two Comanche Nation students attended OSAI at Home: Jayla Tenequer of Anadarko, who studied photography, and Alyssa Underwood of Yukon, who studied drawing & painting.

"OSAI at Home helped me to improve my artistic skills and to see the creativity in everyday things," said Tenequer. "I learned that you have to dig deep into the creative depths of yourself to catch the eye with the beautiful, unusual images you seek to take. The instructors, professors, counselors and faculty made it a special experience."

"My favorite part of OSAI at Home was the community of artists we had in the classroom," said Underwood. "Although we were not in the actual classroom, I still received the advice and guidance that I needed to make my art that much better. The most important thing I learned was that we artists are all unique and incredible in our own ways, and we're constantly growing. It's important not to compare yourself because we each have such different experiences that make us who we are, and that in of itself is awesome!"

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Institute could not be held at Quartz Mountain this year. But instead of canceling the program, the organization created robust online programming, called "OSAI at Home." With even more instructors than usual and nightly presentations from superstars like Misty Copeland of American Ballet Theatre, students convened in the online world for master classes with artist-educators in their field, work-shopping and critiques, one-on-one lessons, and opportunities to build community with other young artists from across the state.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Joy Hofmeister commended the Oklahoma Arts Institute's innovative online program.

"In the face of uncertainty and change, the Oklahoma Arts Institute made a commitment to the state's most talented students that the show would, indeed, go on despite the uncertainties created by the COVID-19 pandemic," Hofmeister said.

"OAI's pivot to an online Summer Arts Institute has proven that where there's a will, there's a way. As a result, students across the state were able to learn and create under the tutelage of exceptional instructors and guest artists."

Students at OSAI at Home received specialized instruction from university professors like award-winning poet Sasha Pimentel of the University of Texas at El Paso and actor-educator Daniel Spector of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Spector said that he did not give his students the "high school version" of his curriculum, but taught his class at

a collegiate level.

Keahbone Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church in Lawton, Okla.



Courtesy Photos

Mike Keahbone and family

Mike Keahbone grew up in Elgin, Oklahoma. His father was a full-blood Cherokee and his mother was Comanche and Kiowa.

God put people in Keahbone's life that would love him unconditionally and model the love of Jesus Christ for him. It was that love and example that would lead him to give his life to the Lord on November 1, 1990 at Cameron University in Lawton, Okla. It became clear to Keahbone that God had been with him through the storms of his life and that each and every circumstance was instrumental in shaping God's plan for him.

He married his wife, Jennifer in 2002 and they have three children, daughter Hannah (13), son Mikah (11) and daughter Sarah Grace (8). Keahbone completed his B.S. in Management and Ethics at Mid-America Christian University OKC, Okla., and will complete his M.A. in Leadership from Mid-America this year. His call into ministry includes youth ministry from 1998–2010, Evangelist/Speaker from 2010–2012, Associate Pastor of Families from 2012–2014 and Senior Pastor at Cherokee Hills Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, Okla., from 2014 – Present.

Keahbone enjoys spending time with his family and participating in his children's activities, traveling and making memories. He loves to golf. He loves reading leadership books and debating; a love that stemmed from being on the collegiate speech and debate team in college. He also loves some quiet time in a hammock.

Cherokee Nation White Coat Ceremony to Mark Official Opening of the Nation's First Tribally-Affiliated Medical School

Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation made history July 31, by holding the first iconic White Coat ceremony marking the official opening of the nation's first tribally-affiliated medical school. The ceremony, in partnership with the Cherokee Nation, is the initial step for the inaugural class of 54 first-year medical students who will symbolically enter the medical profession with the donning of their physician's white coat. The inaugural class is composed of a diverse group, including 20 percent who are American Indian. The Ceremony was held at 2 p.m. on July 31, at Cornerstone Fellowship, 718 Pendleton Street in Tahlequah, Okla.

For more information please contact: Melani Hamilton, OSU Center for Health Sciences, Melani.hamilton@okstate.edu, (918) 809-8963.

Oklahoma Senior Games Announce Qualifying Dates

November 5-18, 2021, National Senior Games will be held. Are you age 50 or over? Are you looking for fun, fitness and forever friendships?

If you are, you qualify to compete in the Oklahoma Senior games. There are numerous sports and competitions are divided by age and gender.

The games will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Muskogee,

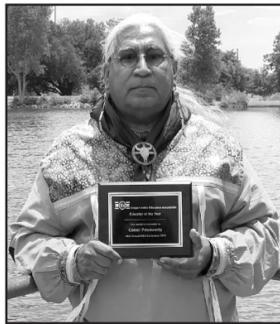
Yukon, Norman and Shawnee.

2020 is a qualifying year for participation the National Senior Games which will be held in Fort Lauderdale November 5 through 18, 2021. The top athletes in each sport and age bracket, will be invited to participate in these games, which is the world's largest sporting event for adults over 50.

Put on your cleats, shorts and/or swimsuit; grab your paddle, javelin or racket, and join the Oklahoma Senior games competition this September and October.

For more information about Oklahoma Senior Games please email: Info@okseniorgames.com or call (405) 821-1500.

Dr. Pewewardy Selected 2019 Educator of the Year by the Oregon Indian Education Association



Courtesy Photo

Pewewardy

Dr. Cornel Pewewardy was chosen as the 2019 Educator of the Year by the Oregon Indian Education Association at their annual conference in Corvallis, Oregon. This award is given annually to a member of the Oregon Indian Education Association that demonstrates exceptional devotion and outstanding contributions to strengthening the overall education of American Indian and Alaska Natives in Oregon. It is a prestigious education honor that serves to recognize the best of the best within the ranks of Oregon Indian educators.

The award was presented at the 2019 annual OIEA conference, but because of COVID-19, Dr. Pewewardy was not able to attend the conference. The award was mailed to him through U.S. mail this year, 2020. In choosing the recipient, several qualifications were considered, including years of service, leadership, and character.

What set Dr. Pewewardy apart from other candidates was his ability to exhibit transformational leadership, along with the fact that he has served as a mentor for several high school students and early career faculty in higher education over the past decade.

While in Oregon, Dr. Pewewardy served in several different OIEA positions during his tenure at Portland State University. He is currently Professor Emeritus at Portland State University and affiliated faculty at Cameron University, University of Sciences & Arts of Oklahoma, and Bacone College.

Washington Redskins Football Team Changes Name

The Washington Redskins football team released the following statement on July 3:

"On July 3rd, we announced a thorough review of the team's name in light of events in our country and feedback from their community. As the process has continued internally, we want to keep our players, alumni, fans, community and sponsors apprised of key developments. For updated brand clarity and consistency purposes, we will call ourselves the "Washington Football Team" pending adoption of our new name. The Redskins name and logo will officially be retired by the start of the 2020 season. We encourage fans, media and all other parties to use "Washing-

ton Football Team" immediately.

In addition, we are rolling out an aesthetic that reflects the direction of the franchise as we progress toward a new name and design scheme.

The decision to use "Washington Football Team" for this season allows the franchise the ability to undertake an in-depth branding process to properly include player, alumni, fan, community, and sponsor input. To date, we have been pleased to see so many people putting forward their vision of what the new name and design should be on their social media channels and we look forward to including their feedback as this process progresses.

Starting tomorrow and over the next 50 days, we will begin the process of retiring all Redskins branding from team properties whether it be FedExField, Redskins Park, other physical and digital spaces. We hope to complete this process in full by the team's home opener against the Philadelphia Eagles on September 13.

Included in the link below are uniform concepts featuring "Washington Football Team" players: Jonathan Allen, Landon Collins, Dwayne Haskins, Ryan Kerrigan, Daron Payne and Chase Young in their home and road jerseys. The team will debut their home uniforms in their Week 1 contest against the Philadelphia Eagles and away uniforms in week two against the Arizona Cardinals.

Fans will be able to purchase "Washington Football Team" merchandise from Fanatics and NFL Shop in the coming days."

Full mockups of the logo, uniform concepts and FedExField design can be viewed at [redskins.com/team/washingtonfootball](https://www.redskins.com/team/washingtonfootball).

Back to School: How to Promote Drug and Alcohol Prevention With Your Child

As schools prepare to open and commence fall semesters all around the country, it is important to remember that starting school for youth can be stressful. Even more so with the added stresses and concerns that come with a global pandemic. Children may feel nervous and weary of returning back to school- especially if they finished last school year via virtual learning in their homes. Along with the previously mentioned stressors, the excitement of being able to reunite with friends and gaining a sense of normalcy may lead to higher amounts of youth giving in to peer pressure when it comes to substance use.

Parents can help by remaining informed on current drug and alcohol trends and having recurring discussions with their child about these issues and concerns. Parents need to be able to engage with their children about the facts and harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. According to [drugfree.org](https://www.drugfree.org), teens say that their parents are the most important influence on their view of substances. Here are some tips on how to have a clear, productive, and meaningful discussion with your child about substances:

1. Clearly communicate that

you do not want your teen using substances.

2. Talk short and long term effects of drug and alcohol and the toll it takes on mental/physical health and hinders the ability to make good decisions.

3. Explain that experimenting with drugs and alcohol during adolescence is extremely risky and dangerous as their brain is still developing.

4. Look for blocks of one-on-one time where you can talk to them such as after dinner, to or from school, before bed, while watching tv together, etc.

5. Take a walk or drive together- teens may be more privy to listen when they don't feel like they are under a microscope.

6. Listen to what they have to say too. In order to make the conversation more meaningful, it is important for your child to also be able to express their thoughts about substances also.

Drastic changes in environment can lead to higher amount of anxiety and isolation can cause detrimental results to someone's mental health. These factors can negatively affect how youth choose to cope with these stressful events and can unfortunately lead to higher use of substances like marijuana, nicotine, and alcohol. Here are some helpful tips from [mentalhealthfirstaid.org](https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org) to ensure you and your child are familiar cope during these worrisome times:

1. Maintain a daily routine and chores.

2. Stay connected with family members and encourage your child's communication with their friends.

3. Encourage family exercise such as family walks/hikes, backyard games, swimming, etc.

4. Encourage your child to express their feelings creatively such as through journaling, drawing, painting, music, or photography.

5. Engage in hobbies such as card games, puzzles, crafts, watching a Netflix show as a family, and cooking meals together.

6. Limit screen time when it comes to social media and news outlets.

7. Be open and honest about what is going on in the world right now. Make sure your child feels comfortable coming to you to express any fear or anxiety they may be experiencing.

These tips and practices can give both you and your child a peace of mind, allow your child to learn the facts, and help your child say no peer pressure when it comes to substance use while also learning how to cope with stress in a more productive and safe way. Wichita Mountains Prevention Network wishes everyone a safe, healthy, and happy school year. For more tips on how to help prevent substance use Drastic changes in environment can lead to higher amount of anxiety and isolation can cause detrimental results to someone's mental health. These factors can negatively affect how youth choose to cope with these stressful events and can unfortunately lead to higher use of substances like marijuana, nicotine, and alcohol. In your child, please "like" us on Facebook or visit [wmpn.org](https://www.wmpn.org).

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 Tieyah

(580) 678-2052 or (580) 492-5455

Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday

May 15- Adrian Choney-Bermudez
 May 20- Jimi Tahdooahnippah
 May 26- Angel Yeahquo
 May 26- Leah Smith
 June- Maria Roach
 June 10- Michael Foye
 June 17- Kenneth McCarthy
 June 21- Amelia Mammedaty
 June 25- William C. Red Elk (71)
 June 26- Gabriel Foye
 June 28- Elizabeth (Liz) Chrismon
 June 29- Robert Codopony
 July 3- Kenai Taunah
 July 9- Shaena DeBartolo
 July 10- Kevin Tahdooahnippah
 July 22- Gary French
 July 22- Lydia Horse
 July 24- Mariah (Codopony) Parenzan
 July 28- Bertand Stillwell
 July 28- Randy Stillwell



Happy Belated Birthday Maria Roach



Happy 11th Birthday Leah Smith May 26



Happy 8th Birthday Michael Foye June 10



Happy 7th Birthday Gabriel Foye June 26



Happy Birthday Amelia Mammedaty June 21



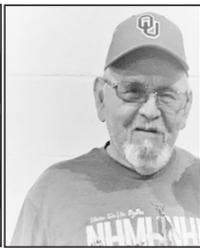
Happy Birthday Shaena DeBartolo July 9



Happy Birthday Nadia Garrison July 17



Happy Birthday Lydia Horse July 22



Happy Birthday Bertrand Stillwell July 28



Happy Birthday Randy Stillwell July 28



Happy Birthday Randy Foye August 8



Happy 27th Birthday Caleb Chabon Harris-Taunah August 16

Happy 4th Birthday Nakodah Lee Taunah August 2

Happy 2nd Birthday Kenai Chabon Taunah July 3

Happy Birthday

August- Brandon Wahnee
 August- Kristen Beatrice
 August- RJ Foye
 August 2- Nakodah Taunah
 August 8- Randy Foye
 August 14- Robert Tehauno
 August 16- Caleb Harris-Taunah
 August 19- Ashlyn Walker
 August 22- Karita Tehauno-Ramos
 August 23- Aaron Codopony
 August 27- Elias Rey Rishel (10)



Happy 16th Birthday Kristen Beatrice Johnson



Happy 1st Birthday RJ Foye



In Loving Memory Rusty Coffey May 12, 2001



In Loving Memory Luis Martinez April 1, 2020



Happy Anniversary Joe and Debbie Mileto Celebrating 35 years August 17

CORRECTION:
 In the April 2020 edition of *The Comanche Nation News*, veteran Floyd Saupitty was mistakenly identified. TCNN apologizes for the error.

Happy belated Birthday wishes to my daughter and her men...
 Angel Yeahquo, May 26
 Jimi Tahdooahnippah, May 20
 Kevin "Menace" Tahdooahnippah, July 10
 ALWAYS, Mom/Kaku

Happy Birthday to our daughter Mariah (Codopony) Parenzan July 24

Happy Birthday to our son Brandon Wahnee 21st birthday. From mom, dad, sisters Danielle, Kara and Durant, Brian Jr. And nieces and nephews

Happy Birthday to our son Aaron Codopony August 23

Happy Birthday to our son Robert Codopony June 29

Happy 40th Birthday Steven Wooth August 30th

COMANCHE ATHLETES



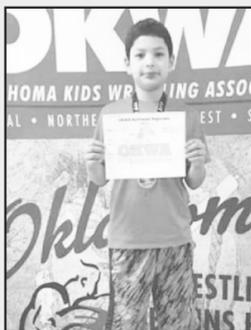
Lesharo Wildcat
 Pawhuska High School
 10th grade- Age 16

Football- Offensive Tackle and Defensive End - Winning 2nd in state in I-A

Football - Selected to play on the USA International Football Team/ Defensive Tackle

Wrestling - Won 1st in state at the OKWA Tournament in Oklahoma City for his weight and age

Wrestling - Won 4th at the OSSAA Oklahoma State High School Wrestling Tournament in OKC



Vann Wildcat
 Pawhuska Elementary School
 5th grade- Age 11

Youth Football - Quarterback, Runningback

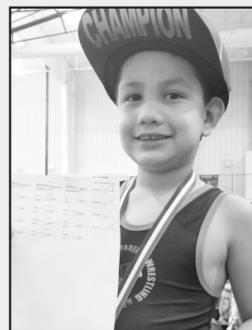
Wrestling - Won "The Battle of the Belt" Wrestling Tournament Tulsa, OK

Youth Basketball - Forward
 Baseball - Pitcher, Catcher



Sky Wildcat
 Indian Camp Elementary School
 Kindergarten- Age 5

Wrestling - Won 2 matches, first year to wrestle



Jimmie Wildcat
 Pawhuska Elementary School
 4th grade- Age 9

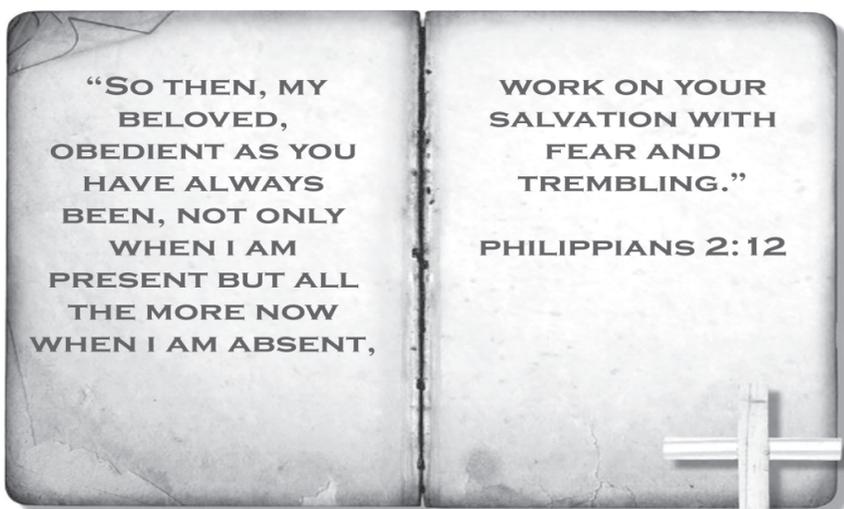
Wrestling - Won "Outstanding Wrestler" Team Tulsa Wrestling Tournament most and fastest pins of the tournament.

Youth Football - Runningback

Basketball - forward

Baseball - Catcher, Pitcher and sometimes 1st base

Comanche Nation News
September/October Deadline~ Sept. 15
candace.todd@comanchenation.com
Mail: Comanche Nation/PIO
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73501
Contact: (580) 492-3621



Obituaries

Mari Lynn Medina



Courtesy Photo

Medina

Mari Lynn Medina went to be with her Lord on February 14, in Lawton.

Funeral Service was February 24, at Watchtaker Hall Comanche Nation Complex with Bonita Paddyaker officiating.

She was born to Myra and Felix Medina on May 22, 1990, in Rochester, N.Y.

She graduated from Eisenhower High School in 2009. She attended Great Plains Vo-Tech and Cameron University. She quickly obtained a job at Comanche Memorial Hospital as a Sterile Core Tech, and recently promoted to Surgery Inventory Specialist.

She spent most of her time with her kids, enjoyed working out and going to her kids football games, listening to Cardi B. and loved to dance.

She is survived by: children; Zion Bell and Zahleah Bell, mother Myra Liz Medina; step-father, Herman Nesbitt, all of Lawton. Father Felix Medina Sr. of Winter Park, Fla.; three brothers: Marcus Medina and Roberto Medina both of Lawton and Jeremiah Medina, of Winter Park, Fla.; Felicity Medina, Grandmother, aunt Marisol Medina, uncle and aunt Rey and Lizet Caez, all of Rochester, N.Y. Grandmother, Charlene Hoahwah, Lawton, aunts and uncles Rolanda and Eduardo Santiago, Lalecia and Robert Wells, Melissa Renee Castillo, Miranda Hoahwah, Gerónimo, Patricia Nesbitt, Lawton, Roderick Hoahwah Jr., Terence Hoahwah, Otis Brown, cousins, Luis and Jessica Lazu, Marisol Melendez, Abdiel Valentin, Ashley, Liana, Rey, Tiffany Caez, all of Rochester, N.Y., Jeremiah Teeters, Joseph Coosewoon, Melissa Castillo, Mariana Moore, Lisa Marie Rosado, Gary Chasenah Jr., Jonathan Hoahwah, Ryan Cintron, Samantha Littles, Jorge Garcia, Jalyn, Jalecia, Juliana Santiago, many other family members and friends.

She is preceded in by death: Grandfathers Felix Medina Sr. and Roderick Hoahwah Sr., Great-Grandmother Mercedes Valdes, Puerto Rico.

Caleb Brindsley Kosechata

Caleb Brindsley Kosechata went to his heavenly home on March 9, in Lawton.

Graveside services was March 16, at West Cache Creek KCA Cemetery west of Apache with Greg Klinekole officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Kosechata was raised and adopted by grandparents Stephanie and Kenneth Saupitty who took him as their loving son. He grew up and attended school in Apache. My brother always wore his heart on his sleeve no matter what the world put him through he always took it with a grain of salt. He was so kind, and opened minded. He knew how to find the light in every moment and joke around. He was always caring about the people who meant dearly to him sometimes over protective but that's how he showed his love. He loved cutting hair and trying new hair designs.

He loved his beloved dog Annabelle and loved to draw no matter what the time of the day. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. Kosechata always treasured his native American heritage that's how he was raise up

always going to powwows singing and dancing. He loved all of his family and friends.

Kosechata is survived by: his loving mother, Stephanie Saupitty; sister Bralyn (husband Kyle) McFadden of Altus; biological dad, Riley Kosechata and biological mom Misty Timms, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephew, other family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by: his beloved father Kenneth; whom he loved with all his heart; grandparents, Jeannie and Richard Trahan; and his beloved canine companion Annabelle.

Jackie Lewis Codopony Sr.



Courtesy Photo

Codopony

Jackie Lewis Codopony Sr., 86, died on March 21, at his home in Apache, Okla.

Codopony was born March 12, 1934, to the late Voris Sr. and Ella Codopony. He graduated from Apache High School in 1953, and married the former Amelia Atchavit in 1958.

She passed away on October 27, 2011. They had four children: the late Jack Codopony Jr, Magdaline Carla Codopony, Carl Codopony, and Darrell Codopony.

He served in the Marine Corps from 1953-1956, the Marine Corps Reserve from 1956-1963, the Army Reserves form 1965-1969 and 1975-1991 and the Army National Guard form 1970-1973, earning the rank of Sergeant First Class. His military service spanned over a period of 34 years.

Codopony served in Japan with the 3rd Marine Division in support of the Korean War for one year, one month and 23 days. Other duty stations include the San Diego Marine Corps Training Depot, Cali.; Camp Pendleton, Cali.; El Toro Marine Air Station in Santa Anna, Cali.; Marine Corps Auxiliary Air Station, Mojave, Cali.; Grand Prairie Marine Air Station, Texas; Army Reserves Center in Lawton, Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; and at Lexington.

His awards include the Army Achievement Medal; Army and Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals; Army Reserves Component Achievement Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star; Korean Service Medal and bronze campaign star; United Nations Service Medal; Army Reserves Medal with mobilization device; Oklahoma Army National Guard Good Conduct Medal with five-year Long Service Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral 2 and Army Service Ribbons; and Drill Sergeant Identification Badge (he is one of three Comanche veterans awarded this badge).

While in the Marine Corps, he trained on the island of Iwo Jima; he was selected as the Soldier of the Month while in the Army Reserves and Marine of the year for 2012 of the Marine Corps League based at Lawton/ Fort Sill, Okla.

He was a member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association, Comanche Little Ponies, and Lawton/ Fort Sill Marine Corps League and a member of the Native American Marine Corps Association, American Legion Post 306 and the Lawton/ Fort Sill Veterans of Foreign War

Post 5263. He also served as an elected member of the Comanche Business Committee and on numerous Comanche Nation Boards. He was a member of The Comanche Nation Rodeo Association and the Assisted Living and Tobacco Boards. Codopony achieved so many things over his life span. He loved taking care of his horses. No matter where he went or who he met, he left an impression on them that they would never forget. Out of the many things he enjoyed, including history of battle sites, and anything related to the Marines or military, what he loved most was his family.

He is preceded in death by his wife Amelia Codopony, his parents Voris and Ella Codopony, his son Jackie Lewis Codopony Jr., his sisters Rosaline Attocknie, Dolores Saupitty, Barbara Coker, and great-grandson Jesse Lee Lewis Coleman.

He leaves behind his children, daughter Magdaline Carla Codopony, his sons Carl Rene Codopony, and Darrel Justin Codopony, brothers, Richard Codopony and Voris Codopony Jr.; his grandchildren Brett Drake, Nicole and husband Levi Lloyd, Dallas Codopony, Kara and husband Daryn Coleman, Megan Rodgers and husband, Boston Codopony, Christian Codopony, Ryan Codopony, Caitlin Hawkins, Emily Codopony, Tristan Codopony, Joshua Codopony, and Ethan Codopony; his great-grandchildren: Aubree Lloyd, Alizabeth Lloyd, Esma Rodgers, Carliegh Codopony, Tymber Codopony, Anthony Coleman, Magdaline Coleman, and Thomas Coleman.

The family would like to thank the people who helped care for Codopony during his last few weeks, especially Elara Caring Hospice.

Graveside service with military honors was March 25, at West Cache Creek KCA Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Don Curtis Apauty

Don Curtis Apauty sunrise November 24, 1935, and Sunset March 29

Graveside service was April 2, at Cache KCA Cemetery.

Apauty served in the Navy from December 3, 1952, to December 2, 1955, earning the grade of seamen. He completed boot training at the Naval Requite Training Center, Camp Elliot, Cali. He served aboard the aircraft carrier USS KEARSARGE (CV-33) and the USS STODDARD (DD-566), A destroyer, as a fireman and a broiler man. The KEARSARGE served in direct support in the Korean War, from August 1952, to March 1953, as its aircraft few over 6,000 sorties against communist forces while based at the Naval Base, Yokosuka, Japan. The STODDARD conducted operations along the United States Atlantic Seaboard until January, 1955, when it joined the Pacific fleet. They participated in the evacuation of Chinese Nationalists and patrolled the Taiwan Strait.

His awards include the Good Conduct; National Defense Service; Korean Service with /2 Campaign Stars; United Nations Service with Korea Clasp; and the Korean War Service Medals.

He left behind three daughters; Daisy Cunningham and husband John Cunningham, Dianna Butler and husband Vernon N. Butler III, Donna K. Apauty, and two sons Dustin Apauty and Rodrick Cable.

Grandchildren Dan and Samantha Morrow, Synthia Cunningham, Selena Cunningham, Vernon N. Butler IV, Andre' Butler, Deon Butler, Sarah Apauty, Sheldon Bennett, Angelina Bendixin, Kristin Apauty and Morgan Apauty

Great- Grandchildren: Irie Elizabeth Butler, Aria Quinn Butler, Zenna Bennett, Llena Azalea Lewis and Malia Nahmi Goosby.

Survived by his brother Roland and wife Ramona Apauty and many other nieces and nephews.

Welcomed to the Heavenly

Gates by Mary K Apauty, Lena Johnson brothers; Claude Vandal Apauty Jr., Arnold Apauty, sisters; Velma Pohawpatchoko, Cora Pohawpatchoko Ronda M. Tahpah, Eva Kopaddy, Phyllis Frederick, mother; Adeline Hawnee Apauty and Father; Claude Vandal Apauty Sr.

Thomas Elmer KaudleKaule Sr.



Courtesy Photo

KaudleKaule

Thomas Elmer KaudleKaule Sr., passed away March 31, at his home with his family by his side. He was born June 11, 1942, in Lawton, Okla., as the oldest child of Wilma Chibitty and the only child of Samuel Chandler KaudleKaule. He was of Comanche, Apache, and Kiowa descent.

In his early years, he grew up at the old KaudleKaule homeplace between Carnegie and Ft. Cobb with his paternal grandparents. While there, he attended First Apache Baptist Church. In his later years growing up, he lived at the old Chibitty homeplace with his maternal grandparents in the Meers-Porter Hill area and attended Mount Scott Comanche Methodist Church. He also occasionally attended Mount Scott Kiowa Methodist Church with his family.

He and his wife, Barbara Ann Kopepassah joined in marriage on July 15, 1969, and raised their family in Del City, Okla., until his retirement. He retired from the Oklahoma City Zoo after working there for 31 years as a groundskeeper supervisor.

Besides working at the zoo, his passion was going to powwows across Oklahoma to gourd dance with his family.

His children, his granddaughter ThomasAnn, and his great granddaughter Allena all became powwow dancers. He made a lot of adopted brothers and sisters, kids and grandkids and friends along the powwow trail and will be missed by many.

Other than powwows, he loved to attend Apache ceremonials in Mescalero and Oklahoma and watch his great grandchildren dance and sing.

KaudleKaule ran the old KlineKole Descendants group as a chairperson for a number of years and was also member of the old Kiowa Warrior Descendants.

He loved to travel out of state. His favorite places to travel were to Gallup and Mescalero, N.M., and various National Parks. He was a fan of OU Football, the OKC Thunder, Golf, and Nascar.

His pride and joy was his oldest granddaughter whom he raised since she was a toddler, ThomasAnn and his three great grandchildren, with him raising the oldest of the three, Allena. He loved to sit and watch them play outside at his home where he grew up.

KaudleKaule is survived by his wife Barbara of the home; son Thomas KaudleKaule Jr. of the home; granddaughter ThomasAnn KaudleKaule and husband Allen Boyd; great grandchildren: Allena KaudleKaule-Boyd of the home, Inman "Taco" KaudleKaule-Boyd, and Thomas Chandler KaudleKaule-Boyd; daughter Thomasine KaudleKaule-Sankey and son in law Ford Sankey Sr.; grandchildren Ford San-

key Jr., Alexander Sankey; adopted son and daughter Ramone and Karen Yazzie of Window Rock, Ariz.; half-sisters Christine Herrera, Dawn Bufalohead, Glenna Neido; half-brother Stephen "Candyman" Chibitty; cousin and wife Leonard and Rosemary Chibitty; and numerous relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; maternal grandparents John and Dana Chibitty; paternal grandparents Joseph and Bertha KlineKole-KaudleKaule; half-brothers Sammy "Bugs" Chibitty and Charles Chibitty; uncles Charles Chibitty, Steve Chibitty, Mead Chibitty, George "Woogie" Watchtaker, Bruce KaudleKaule; aunts Rita KaudleKaule-Harrison, Daisy KaudleKaule-Tartsah, Naomi KaudleKaule-Paddlety; and numerous relatives and friends.

He was laid to rest at the Mount Scott K.C.A cemetery.

Mary Ann "Annie" Morrow



Courtesy Photo

Morrow

Graveside service for Mary Ann "Annie" Morrow, 57, of Cache, Oklahoma was April 2, at the Paradise Valley Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home. Mary "Annie" passed away on March 26, in Cache, after a long fight with breast cancer.

Morrow was born January 21, 1963, in Denver, Colorado to Jolene (Weryavah) Tahah and Helmar Tahah. She was a full blood member of the Comanche Nation and a Wildhorse Descendant. She attended elementary school in Denver and finished Elementary, Junior, and High School in Cache Public Schools in 1981. In 1991 she completed the Practical Nursing Program at Great Plains Vo-tech. She worked for many years as a LPN and Comanche Memorial Hospital, for Dr.Vijay Prabhu, Angels Care Home Health and lastly Lawton Indian Hospital.

Morrow was known for her infectious loud laugh and her quick witted sense of humor. She loved to take care of people. She loved her friends and family, gardening, and listening to rock and roll music and especially spending time with her grand kids, Hayes Dell & Bitha. She always had a large Dr. Pepper close by. She had everlasting impact on everyone she met and everyone she knew.

Morrow is survived by her daughter, Necia Morrow and two grandkids, Hayes and Andi Nunley, Cache; a niece (like a daughter) Jennifer Kosechata, Cache; mother Jolene Tahah, Cache; one brother Marlon and Janet Tahah, Cache; four sisters, Vicki Kosechata and Gordon Gowing, Cache, Judy Tahah, Cache, Dyana Lowe, Cache, and Deborah Tahah and Terrell Werry, Lawton; aunts, Lahoma Knight, Cache, Betty Lou and John Chasenah, Lawton, Joyce (Tahah) Burruss, Sterling; uncles, Ralph Tahah, Lawton, and Raymond Woodward Jr., Lawton, as well as numerous the nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in Death by her son Nathan Morrow; father, Helmar Tahah; Grandparents: Franklin and Lorene (Cable) Tahmahkera; Joseph Weryavah; Sarah (Tahchawickah) Woodward and Owen Tahah; Uncle, Ben and Debbie Tahmahkera; Aunts, Barbra Ann Chasenah & Bob Miller; Phillis and Evans Mowatt;

Continued from Page 13

Carla (Tahah) Atauvich.

Lonnie Jerald Komahcheet

Courtesy Photo

Komahcheet

Graveside service for Lonnie Jerald Komahcheet 73 of Indianoma will be Tuesday, April 7 at 11 am at Post Oak Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home. Lonnie passed on April 2 with his loving family by his side. Lonnie was born on March 3, 1947 at the old Lawton Indian Hospital to Robert Douglas Komahcheet and Rowena Tahah. He attended Indianoma schools until he was drafted into the Army his Senior year.

He was drafted into the Army on September 10, 1967 and served until April 17, 1969. (1 year, 7 mos and 8 days) earning the rank of Specialist 4. He completed Basic Combat Training at Ft Polk LA and Advanced Individual Training, as a Medic, at Ft Sam Houston TX. He served at Ft Stewart Ga. briefly before deploying to Vietnam where he served from April 9, 1968 until his discharge at Ft Lewis WA.

While in Vietnam he was assigned to the 10th CAB, 8th Medical Detachment, in Vietnam as a Medic. He was one of only six Comanche Veterans awarded the Combat Medic Badge. Other awards include The Army Commendation, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service with /4 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with /1960 Device Medals, two Over-Seas Bars and the Expert Qualification Badge with/Rifle Bar.

He met his wife Mary Komahcheet in Dallas and they were married for 47 years. Out of this union were seven children: 3 daughters Anita Wheeler Limpy and spouse Carol of Chickasha, Cristy Komahcheet and Misty Komahcheet of Indianoma, 4 sons: Lonnie Komahcheet Jr., of Lawton, Fielding Hensley, Franklin Hensley of Indianoma. He was also blessed with a multitude of grandchildren: Kersty Pohawpatchoko, Desiree Wheeler, Chelsey Komahcheet, Dakota Stilman, Kyler Pohawpatchoko, Ethan Wilson, Selena Pohawpatchoko, Lonnie Komahcheet III, Kolten Komahcheet, Mary Komahcheet, Alexis Komahcheet, Shawn Komahcheet, David Cardona, Alonna Komahcheet, Izabella Komahcheet and three great grand-Babies: Ayden Criado, Darius Bowens Jr., Kaylani Pohawpatchoko and Yesinia Stillman. Also survived by aunt Pauliene Komahcheet Kowena, Brothers: Bobby, Robert & Eric Komahcheet and Sisters Beverly Wilson and Brett Komahcheet. Proceeded in death by both parents Robert Douglas Komahcheet and Rowena Tahah Komahcheet, Loving and special Mother in Law Lucille Sill McCarter, Siblings: Samuel 'Buster' Komahcheet, Brenda Joyce Griffith, Dorthy 'Dot' Martinez and Sanford Komahcheet

And son James Ray Hensley, Grandsons Timothy Michael Pohawpatchoko, and Timothy James Komahcheet. Grandparents Bob Komahcheet and Nahmi Coffey/Dorthy Komahcheet, Taylor Noyebad and Jessie Cable Tahah Noyobad.

Wayne W. Yackeyonny

Courtesy Photo

Yackeyonny

Graveside service for Wayne W. Yackeyonny, 82, was April

6, at Post Oak Cemetery, under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Yackeyonny lost his battle with cancer on April 1,

Yackeyonny was born April 27, 1937, in Lawton to Owen & Edith (Pesauny) Yackeyonny. Yackeyonny was a full blood Comanche and a Wildhorse descendent. Yackeyonny married the love of his Life, Linda Tenequer Yackeyonny at Wichita Falls, Texas. They had two sons, Gary & wife Audrey Yackeyonny and Jonathan Yackeyonny.

Yackeyonny was experienced in laying carpet, laying brick, building house trusses and other trades. Yackeyonny loved to watch his grandchildren play sports, loved watching old westerns, and tinkering.

Yackeyonny is also survived by four grandchildren: Taylor/Jacob Lovelace, Marcus Yackeyonny, Jalen Yackeyonny, & Krista Yackeyonny, two Great grandchildren: Easton Pullivan and Calhoun (Hoonie) Lovelace. Three (3) brothers: C.E. Price Yackeyonny, Rick Yackeyonny and Rylee Yackeyonny. Special relatives: Bonnie Turner and Rhonda Peugh.

Yackeyonny was preceded in death by his parents: Owen & Edith Yackeyonny, three sisters: Jewel, Eva Lois & Vicki; four brothers: Kye, Hawk, Conway & Brownie

Yackeyonny was very helpful to and loved by many. He will be sorely missed by those that knew him. A very loving husband father and grandfather.

Tymae-mah Tofpi

Courtesy Photo

Tofpi

Graveside services for Anadarko resident Tymae-mah Tofpi, 42, was held at West Cache Creek Cemetery, West of Apache, Oklahoma April 18. Officiated by Hah-Tee Delgado under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

The eldest daughter of James Dale Tofpi (Kiowa) and the late Jamie Leigh Franklin (Comanche and Sac & Fox) was born in Lawton Okla., Dec 31, 1977. Tofpi was raised in Apache Okla., and Lawrence, Kan. She Graduated from Riverside Indian School, Class of 1997. Tofpi was the proud mother of two sons, Tristan Leigh and Xander Devere. She completed her education at the Caddo Kiowa Tech Center, studying Cosmetology, electronic technology, photography and medical terminology.

Tofpi had a broad and varied career beginning with Head Hunters Salon, then with tribal programs of the Comanche Nation, the Kiowa Tribe, the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes and the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma. More recently she was employed with the Gold River Casino.

In her free time, she enjoyed beading, taking photos, getting tattoos, attending and dancing at pow wows. Tofpi was comfortable at home watching movies or in a crowd, visiting and laughing. She loved to "Terrorize" and had a great laugh! Tofpi loved just being with her boys no matter what they were doing. She Had the Biggest heart and ready smile, Tofpi made lasting friendships where ever she went.

Tofpi's paternal grandparents are the late Mathew and Clara Ruth Silverhorn Tofpi. She is a descendant of Tainpeah, Tanedooah, Silverhorn and Tofpi.

Her maternal grandparents are the late Shannon Franklin and Olamae Asah. Tofpi comes from the Yellowfish, Attocknie, Asah, Hunter, and Franklin Families. She is a Direct Descendant of Ten Bears.

She is preceded in death

by her mother Jamie Leigh, by both maternal and paternal grandparents, Uncles: Devere Tsatoke, Larry Tofpi, Terry Silverhorn, Aunts: Ella Jay and Phyllis Daniels.

She is survived by sons Tristan Leigh and Xander Devere, a very special baby niece Aleigha Jai Yeahpau, sisters Hait-Shan (Roderick) Yeahpau, Dana (Tommy) Chasenah, Father James Dale (Lavonne) Tofpi, Aunts: Eva Rice, Rita Franklin, Ida Fae Bointy, Vickie Boettger, Judy Nelson, Sherry Motah, Michelle Jordan, Lisa Franklin, Shannon Franklin, Uncles: Donald Tofpi Jerry Silverhorn, Douglas Franklin, Steven Franklin; Grandmother Lura Asah Jones, Many nieces and nephews and extended family; her Riverside family, and Lawrence Family and many friends and relatives.

A memorial services for Tymae-mah will held at a later date.

Raymond R. Almanza

Courtesy Photo

Almanza

Raymond R. Almanza, 87, passed away April 29.

Graveside Service was May 9, at Post Oak Cemetery with Pastor Dean Edwards officiating under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Almanza was born December 28, 1932, in Lawton to Joseph and Cora (Permansu) Almanza. He grew up and attended schools in Indianoma and Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. He joined the US Army National Guard in 1950, and served at Camp Chaffee, Ft. Lewis in Washington State and then onto Japan. He was honorably discharged in 1956.

He returned to Oklahoma where he met and married Marian Chebahtah and they married in July of 1957. They made their home in Lawton where they raised their only daughter Ramona. He worked for Civil Service at Ft. Sill, in Post Engineering and retired after 25 years. He worked for Comanche Nation Housing for seven years after his retirement. He enjoyed raising horses and cattle, fishing, and watching his OSU and Dallas Cowboy teams. He was a member of the Lawton Saddle Club and a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

He is survived by his daughter Ramona Almanza of the home. Stepmother; Herlinda Rodriguez de Almanza of Mexico, ten siblings from the Houston, Texas, and Mexico area. Several nieces and nephews and other family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; Joseph and Cora (Permansu) Almanza and his wife Marian Almanza.

Jordan "Rocky" Yackeschi

Courtesy Photo

Yackeschi

Jordan "Rocky" Yackeschi, 66, Lawton passed away June 3.

Funeral Service was June 8, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Videll Yackeschi and Michael Wauqua officiating. Burial followed at Walters Cemetery under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Yackeschi was born June 2, 1954, in Lawton to Willis Yackeschi and Betty Karty. He attended and graduated from Ft. Sill Indian School. He enjoyed doing feather

work, painting, fishing and boating. He was a carpenter by trade. He was very proud of his Comanche heritage and a proud member.

He is survived by son; Willis Yackeschi and one daughter. Siblings; Velora Wauqua-Desselle and husband Sam, Ronnie Karty, Patricia Yackeschi, Peggy Yackeschi, Berthena Yackeschi and Nona Tahpay, Uncle; Videll Yackeschi and wife Isabelle, Buddy Wauqua and wife Suzanne, and Michael Wauqua and wife Ruth. Numerous other family member and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents Willis Yackeschi and Betty Karty, Paternal Grandparents; Willis and Suam Yackeschi, Maternal Grandparents; George Geionety and Clara Chasenah, Maternal Uncles; Bud and Brenda Yackeschi, Herschel and June Tahpay, Hugh and Tincy Wooth, David Imotichi and Ethel Yackeschi, Ed Yackeschi, Eli and Leo Yackeschi. Siblings; Johnny Wauqua, Mark Yackeschi, Brenda Yackeschi, Linn Wauqua, Melissa Yackeschi, and Woody Wauqua.

Norma Sue Cable Adame

Courtesy Photo

Adame

Norma Sue Cable Adame went to her heavenly home on Saturday, June 6, in Rossville, Kan.

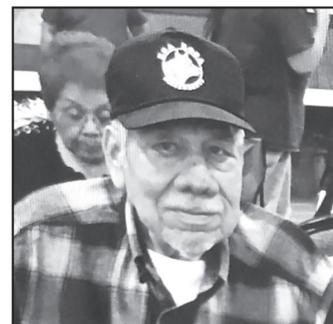
Graveside Services was held June 9, at KCA Cemetery in Cache, Okla. Burial was under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home with George Wermey Officiating.

Adame was born June 28, 1954, in Lawton, Okla., to Gloria Wermey Cable and Vernon Cable Sr. Adame graduated from Cache High School in 1973 and attended Haskell University. She was a proud grandmother to her grandchildren as she helped raise all of them. In her free time, she enjoyed going to the casino, gardening, dancing to oldies and spending time with her family, especially the annual Prairie Band Potawatomic Powwow in Mayetta, Kan., with her in-laws.

She met the love of her life, Richard Adame, in 1997. They were married on August 16, 2013, in Lawton, before moving to Mayetta, Kan. They spent a wonderful 23 years together raising grandchildren and living life.

She is survived by her husband, Richard A. Adame of the home, mother in law, Lavera "Babe" Belle of Mayetta, Kan., daughters, Tanisha and husband Kenny Burgess of Cache, and Lorna Cable of Lawton, sisters, Charlene and husband Patterson Tahdooahnippah, Verna and husband Ronald Burgess, and Billie and husband Kenneth Kreger all of Cache, and Glenda and husband Joseph Goseyun of Indianoma, Brothers, Vernon Cable Jr. and wife Carol of Pilot Point, Texas; John and Terry Cable of Cache. Sister In Laws, Anita and husband Vincent Torrez of Kansas City, Kan., Mary and husband, Kevin Wood, Hope and husband Rod Catron, Carol and Dave Herring, Joan Pahmahmie, and Kate Adame all of Mayetta, Kan. A Brother in Law, Mark and wife Lisa Adame of Topeka, Kan. Uncle, George and Gerri Wermey and an Aunt, Peggy Tahchah-wwickah of Cache. Five grandchildren, Kesha Cable of Lawton, Okla. Kaelan, Rebecca, Tatum "Tater Bug" and Cruz of Cache. Two great grandchildren, Gloria and Taleah of Lawton. A host of nieces, nephews, Cousins, and other relatives and friends she leaves behind that all loved her so much. We will all miss her dearly. She was preceded in death

by her best friend, Alberta "Ally" an Infant Son, a granddaughter, Penelope "Wanuse" Cable, a brother, Tony, a brother in law, Hank Pahmahmie, her parents, and grandparents.

Frank Russell Whitewolf

Courtesy Photo

Whitewolf

Frank Russell Whitewolf, 79, Lawton went to his heavenly home June 19, with his loving family by his side.

Graveside Service was June 24, at Mt. Scott KCA Cemetery under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Prayer Service was June 23, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel.

Whitewolf was born May 10, 1941, to Howard and Thelma (Edge) Whitewolf in Lawton. He grew up in Lawton and graduated from Elgin High School. He enlisted in the US Air Force in 1961. He was stationed in various duty stations across the world and was honorably discharged in 1965. He returned to Lawton where he settled and started his families. He worked at Riverside Indian School for 13 years where he retired. He enjoyed carpentry, spending time with his family and friends, and attending powwows where he and his father Howard formed the Esa Rosa Whitewolf family organization. He was a man of faith and wisdom who loved his Lord and Savior. He attended his home church at Mt. Scott Comanche Methodist Church. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and of Caddo descent. He will be truly missed.

He is survived by his wife Susan of the home, sons; Chris 'CC' Whitewolf and wife Carla, Stephen Whitewolf and Jeffery Polingyumtewa and wife Jennifer. Daughters; Michelle Whitewolf-Warledo, Amanda Whitewolf, and Jennifer Whitewolf and companion John Pina. Brother; Gordon Whitewolf and wife Regina, Sister; Wendy Pope, Uncle; Roderick Whitewolf, 12 Grandchildren and five great grandchildren, and Special Nephew Kenny Ray, numerous, nephews, nieces and other relatives.

He is preceded in death by; parents; son; Jeffery 'Boe' Whitewolf, daughter; Danielle Tsatoke, Sisters; Shirley Whitewolf Baras and Naomi Lyles. Grandson; Sean Toppah and Great Grandson Dash Whitewolf.

Lans Lamarr Saupitty

Courtesy Photo

Saupitty

Lans Lamarr Saupitty of Cyril went to his heavenly home on June 27, in Oklahoma City.

Graveside services was July 1, at Celestial Gardens in Cyril with Lloyd Heminokely officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Saupitty was born January 20, 1955, in Lawton to Tennyson and Martha (Lookingglass) Saupitty. He attended and graduated from Riverside Indian School.

Saupitty was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. Saupitty has been employed

Continued on Page 15

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by the Comanche Tribe for 17 years. Saupitty enjoyed watching movies, was a member of the Native American Church, loved going to peyote meetings, cooking large meals for his family, and spending time with his family and friends.

Saupitty is survived by: sister Laura Lawson of Lawton; brother Theodore Niedo of Cache; nieces: Zenia, Martheia, Fedora, Melanie, Kim, Diane, Dortha, Nancy, Allison, Bobby Sue, Francis; grandchildren; nephew Bobby Joe; many other family members and friends.

Saupitty is preceded in death by: wife Monika Saupitty; Tennyson Saupitty and Martha (Lookingglass) Codynah; step father Haddon Codynah; nephews: Malcolm Niedo and Michael Niedo Jr.

Tracy William Ahhaitty



Courtesy Photo

Ahhaitty

Tracy William Ahhaitty, 43, of Boley passed away unexpectedly June 29.

Funeral Service was July 9, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel with Ponce De Leon officiating. Burial followed at Deyo Mission Cemetery under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Ahhaitty was born May 3, 1977, to Billy G. Ahhaitty and Ella Faye Imotichey. He grew up in Lawton and attended schools. He enjoyed singing at the drum and dancing at the powwows. He was a straight dancer. Ahhaitty loved his family with a passion and he will be missed greatly. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

He is survived by his mother; Ella Faye Imotichey of Norman, Alicia Ahhaitty-Porter and husband TBo of Lawton, Araminta Ahhaitty and Franklin Autaubo of Norman, Nephews and Nieces; Da-mon Ahhaitty, Nathan Ahhaitty, Trenton Burgess, Steven Harris, Austin Ahhaitty, Marcus Harris, Vester Autaubo, Rocky Autaubo, and Isabell Autaubo. Grandchildren; Aurora, Holly, Aubrey, and Adrian. Aunts and Uncle; Mary Imotichey, Gina Neido, and Richard Banderas. Numerous other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his father Billy Gene Ahhaitty, Brother Billy Melford Ahhaitty, Maternal grandmothers; Opal Etta Poemoceah Imotichey, Isabel Nahquaddy, Lizzy Poemoceah, and Helen Tixsey

Debra Lynn Knox



Courtesy Photo

Knox

Debra Lynn Knox, "Debbie" was born on February 9, 1959, at the Lawton Indian Hospital to Rudolph Joseph and Velma Nauni Akoneto.

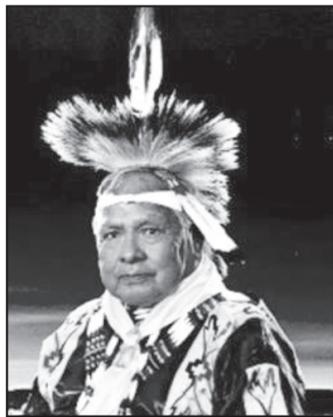
She attended Walters Public Schools and graduated in 1977. She studied Business Administration and Sociology at Cameron University. While attending Cameron, she was the Cameron Indian Club Princess. Knox was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and of Kiowa descent. In 1985 and for the next 13 years, Knox worked for the CN JTPA program as an intake specialist. She

then worked at Edna Hennessey's Cosmetic Specialty Labs for four years. She also worked in Medical Records at the Lawton Indian Hospital. She was currently employed as a Medical Support Assistant in the Family Practice Clinic. Debbie was a lifetime member of the Comanche Reformed Church in Lawton, Oklahoma. She served on the Comanche Homecoming Committee as Secretary from 1997-1998. She was a loyal OKC Thunder and OU Sooners fan. Knox loved her family dearly and especially enjoyed celebrating their birthdays. She always made a point to sing a very special version of "Happy Birthday" to each of them.

Knox is survived by her son: R.C. Knox and his companion Mandy Kaulay; her daughter: Angela Knox and her companion Junior Passi; her grandchildren: Ayla Rose Knox, Alyssa Kaulay, and her grand pup: Lola LaRae Knox; companion: Gerard Parker; her brothers and sister in law: Edwin and Mattie Akoneto and Franklin Akoneto; her special aunts: Rose Nauni and Margie Akoneto; her nieces: Tiffany Allen and her husband, Brandon and Stephanie Akoneto; her companions children: Joseph and Dara and their children Cayde and Joey. She also leaves behind a host of other family members, friends and work family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her maternal grandparents: Harry Nauni & Ruby Suwybiten Nauni; her paternal grandparents: Charles and Sadie Redhorn Akoneto and several very dear friends.

Bobby Pewo



Courtesy Photo

Pewo

Bobby was born on August 7, 1935, in Apache, Oklahoma. Pewo grew up in Apache and attended school in Apache and Fort Sill Indian School.

He joined the United States Marine Corp and served his country during the Korean Conflict. He then lived in Dallas, Texas, where he worked as a Machinist/Welder. He married Esther Anguiano on December 5, 1959, and they lived in Dallas until 1977 when they returned to Apache. Mrs. Pewo passed away on March 23, 2004. Pewo worked for Holly Tex Carpet Mill in Anadarko for many years before his retirement. He enjoyed pow-wow's and was known for Fancy Dancer and Straight Dance Styles of dancing. He won the American Indian Exposition World Fancy Dance Championship as well as numerous Straight Dance and Golden Age Championships. Pewo never met a stranger and will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his children and their spouses, Wilma and Alva Dee Tsoodle, of Apache, Okla., Billy and Tracy Pewo, of Anadarko, Okla., Camillo "Tommy" Garcia, of Dallas, Texas, David Garcia, of Dallas, Texas, Susan and Troy Marlowe, of Garland, Texas, Lydia "Lela" Garcia, of Grand Prairie, Texas; he was God Parent to Rita Rodriguez, of Dallas, Texas; adopted son, Eric and Heather Smith, of Pauls Valley, Okla.; his brothers and sisters, Deloris Aitson, of Elgin, Aurelia Craig, of Apache, Okla., Dusty and Sandy Miller, of Fort Cobb, Okla., Gaylon Miller, Jackie Miller, of Norman, Okla., Clarissa Shaw, Frankie Ware, of Anadarko, and Marie Ware, of Anadarko, Beverly Isaac of Richard Spur, Georgia Sapcut of Lawton, Yonovea Sapcut of Richard Spur, Henry Pewo, Lawrence Mithlo, Jasper Mithlo, Curtiss Pewo, Happy Pewo, Herbie Pewo, J.C. Pewo, Gayle "Chee" Bearshield, Pam Mithlo, Diane Downing, Marie Hatfield,

Carrie Desmais, and Jamie Pewo; 25 grandchildren, and numerous great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Alice Pewo Miller; his children, Wilson Pewo, Bobbie Jo Pewo, Daniel Garcia, Mary Barrientos, Alice Flores, and Norma Chalepah; his siblings, John Pewo, Jr., Wesley Miller, Carrie "Dodie" Miller Lowe, Juanita Mae Sneed, Redford Pewo, Bill Ware, Truman Ware, Tommy Sapcut, Butchy Sapcut, Wilbur Sapcut and Tommy Ware; his aunts and uncles, Velma Tooisgah, Ted Pewo, Sammy Pewo, Wilbur Pewo, Jr., Juanita Pewo Bentley, Pearl Pewo Ware, and Dorothy Sapcut; also preceding him in death are: Vernon "Chunky" Pewo, Calvin Pewo, Roberta Toehay, Milton Pewo, Sr., Madeline Soontay, Glenda Pewo-Mendez, Dennis Pewo, Carter Komardley, Evladean Komardley, Velma Doris Komardley, Victor D. Ware, Patricia "Tatoo" James, Marcella Delaware, Johnathon Tooisgah, Paula "Cookie" Peterson, Wilbur Pewo, Theodore "Possum" Pewo, Sammie "Sambo" Pewo, Jr., Damon Pewo, Elizabeth Bently, Sandra Washington, Wilbur Pewo, III, and Georgia Mae Pewo.

Clifford Ototivo Adams Sr.



Courtesy Photo

Adams

Clifford Ototivo Adams Sr., 32, Lawton went home to be with his heavenly father on June 30, with his loving family by his side. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

Grave side Service was July 9, at Highland Cemetery with Pastor Edwin Rivera officiating under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Adams was born a twin on April 7, 1988, to Lawton to Tommy Sr. and Jan Ototivo Chasenah. He was raised in Lawton and attending Lincoln Elementary, Central Jr. High and graduating from Tipton Public School. Adams won several awards and ribbons and trophies for his artwork. Adams enjoyed playing basketball with his brother's and cousins. He also loved doing tattoos, loved listening to music and being with family. He was an avid San Francisco 49er fan and enjoyed scratch-offs.

He is survived by his parents Tommy Sr. and Jan Chasenah of the home. His only son Klifford Ototivo Adams Jr. His brothers; Charles Martin Adams III of Lawton, his twin Clifton Ray Adams of Tulsa, and Terrance Christopher Ototivo of Walters. Sisters; Neosha Marie and Uriah Banderas of Anadarko, TeraLee and Kevin Konczakowski of Hatfield, Pa., Kelly Renee Adams of Lawton and Opal Chasenah, his special Lil Bro Christopher McCarthy and Special Sister Marian Mason. Nieces; Rachel, Chloe, Crissy, Neveah, Anna, Belle, Shavonda, and one nephew; Johnny Adams. Aunts; Carmen Ototivo and Linda and husband Glen McCarthy. and Uncle C.O. Ototivo.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents Clifford Sr. and Alma Ototivo, niece Lena-Rayanne Adams and Uncle Lewis Chasenah.



Larry Dewayne McClung



Courtesy Photo

McClung

Larry Dewayne McClung, a native of Cache, Oklahoma, went to be with the Lord on July 27. He passed at home with his loving family surrounding him.

McClung was born in Lawton, Oklahoma on October 24, 1947, to John and Lucille (Cable) McClung.

McClung attended Cache High School and joined the Army to serve his country in Germany and Vietnam. During his Military career he earned the Expert Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service with 4 Battle Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, Vietnam Campaign with 1960 Device and the 1st Logistical Command Shoulder Patch. McClung was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

After service he trained in

Miami, Florida, as a heavy equipment operator, and retired from the City of Lawton. McClung was a devoted husband, father and papa and spent much of his time with his family. He married the love of his life Vivian in 1970, and lived in Cache on the family allotment by the creek. In 1973 they had a daughter, Tracey Leigh McClung. McClung was loved by his nieces and nephews and spent time with them, instilling in them a love of the country life, complete with equestrian lessons Comanche style and swimming lessons in the creek. McClung was also a big OU Sooners football fan, avid golfer and enjoyed his hummingbirds.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Vivian McClung; his mother Lucille Cable McClung and father, John McClung; grandparents Bert and Josie Cable; great grandparents George and Yizah Cable and great grandfather Wissichy.

He is survived by his daughter and son in-law Tracey Leigh McClung Pack and Kevin of Lawton; granddaughters: Monica McClung and KaLeigh Hall of the home; sisters, Francene Monenerkit and husband Phil of Norman, and Patty Fuchs and husband Thom of Noble; brother Bert McClung of Cache, many nieces, nephews, other family members. He also leaves behind special friends; Wanda Robison, Jackie Willis, John Cumbej, and a host of friends at the Dove.

Grave side Services was July 30, at Cache KCA Cemetery.

Phyllis Attocknie



Courtesy Photo

Attocknie

Phyllis Attocknie, 73, Apache passed away peacefully August 13.

Funeral Service was August 17, at Watchetaker Hall at the Comanche Nation Complex with Arthur Attocknie and June Sovo officiating. Burial followed at Cache Creek KCA Cemetery west of Apache under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Wake Service was August 16, at Watchetaker Hall.

Attocknie was born August 30, 1946, in Lawton the eldest daughter to Francis Joseph "Joe A" Attocknie and Rosalie Nahdooahnippa-Codopony. She grew up in Oklahoma City and graduated from Capitol Hill High School. She attended Haskell Indian Nations University, the University of Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma University and obtained her Associates in Business Administration, Management and Accounting. Attocknie also attended Peace Corp training at OU and UCLA. She was a lifelong student as she always loved to learn and would impart her knowledge to others. She worked for the Indian Health Services (IHS) (HQs) in Oklahoma City, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) at the Anadarko Agency - Land Operations, Administration of Native Americans (ANA), IHS Lawton Indian Hospital, Oklahomans For Indian Opportunity - Accountant/Technician/Writer, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Comanche Nation, intermittently, for almost 40 years: Administrative Assistant Director of Health (5 divisions-CHR's/Substance

Abuse/Angels/Diabetes), Tribal Employment Rights (TERO), Environmental Protection Agency, Indian Child Welfare, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act - Tribal Preservation, and Grant Writer. She was a direct descendant of "Ten Bears"; granddaughter to Albert Attocknie and Isa Yellowfish; and Voris "Bill" and Ella Codopony. She was the current Tribal Administrator for the Comanche Nation and a PROUD member of the Comanche Nation.

She is survived by her sons; Patrick "Hoo-yah-wah-nah" and wife Sonia Attocknie of Apache, and Anthony "Noo-yeh" Alvarado of the home. Brothers; Randlette Attocknie and wife Mary of Oklahoma City, and Richard Attocknie and wife, Chery, of Carnegie, Nieces and Nephews she raised as her own; Asa, Rozanna, Alisa, Dana, Hah-Te, Nuh Nuh, Yahk, Randilynn, Mary Alice, Darla, and Francis "Hoosie". Grandchildren; Mame-Neta, Miko, Jeremy, Skye, Anna Rose, Angel, JJ, Matthew, Alysia, Sonny, Sonja, Hunter Lee, Anhinga, August, Alex, Hah-Te Jr, Sha, Tryston, Ariane, Dion, Dayton, Aaliyah, Gerald, and Corrina. Eleven Great Grandchildren and numerous other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; Joseph and Rosalie Attocknie, son; Tahkony "TJ" Oliver John Attocknie. Siblings; Vidala R. Attocknie, Francis "Bubba" Attocknie Jr. Esa Jewea Attocknie, Niece; Carla Attocknie, Grandson; Jady Attocknie and Great Granddaughter Mame-Neta Attocknie.



Courtesy Photo

Adson

Bacone College announces new director for the Center for American Indians Comanche Tribal member, Aaron Adson

On June 16, Bacone College announced the recent appointment of Aaron Adson, a Bacone alumnus and cultural and tribal liaison for the college, to the position of Director of the Center for American Indians.

Adson is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation who also represents the Pawnee and Dine' (Navajo) nations. He was born and raised in Pawnee, Oklahoma and is a member of the Native American Church. Adson earned his business degree with an emphasis in American Indian leadership from Bacone College in 2019.

"I feel thankful and honored for the opportunity to be the next Director of the Center for American Indians here at Bacone College," Adson

said. "First and foremost, I believe Native American culture begins in the home. Our intent and goal at Bacone is to provide a culturally aware environment that allows students to feel comfortable while studying away from home. Whether you come from a cultural background or are seeking cultural understanding while here at Bacone, we will provide a center of academics, recreation and spirituality that any of our students can relate to."

To learn more about Bacone College and its cultural and spiritual opportunities for students, please visit www.bacone.edu/future-students for a virtual tour, a cultural and spiritual video presentation by Adson, and a presentation on its historic art program

Oklahoma's 34th Red Earth Festival Announces new dates at Grand Casino Hotel Resort

The award-winning Red Earth Festival, recognized as one of America's top art festivals, has been rescheduled to Labor Day Weekend, September 5-6, at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort located minutes east of Oklahoma City on I-40 near Shawnee. During the first weekend of September, Oklahoma City will be the center of western and Native art and culture as people gather to celebrate the Native cultures that make Oklahoma unique.

The 34th annual Red Earth juried art market features original art by Native artisans in the beautiful Grand Casino Event Center. Festival guests will experience the artistic creations of some of America's most celebrated artists as they offer for sale exquisite examples of contemporary and traditional paintings, beadwork, basketry, jewelry, pottery, sculpture, graphics and culture attire. Native dance presentations, storytelling, musical performances, and consultations with art experts are featured throughout weekend celebrations.

For those interested in learning more about the Native American

artwork in their private collections, popular "Ask the Expert" sessions are scheduled Saturday, September 5 from 1-3 p.m. offering guests the opportunity to get an expert opinion on treasured American Indian pieces. Experts in the fields of beadwork, basketry, pottery, cultural items, jewelry, painting, rugs and blankets will be available for private consultations included with the price of admission. Guests are encouraged to bring up to three items for review.

Red Earth has garnered numerous accolades through its 40-year history – setting the standard for many of today's Native art shows. Red Earth was a finalist for the 2018 ONE Award for the Arts presented by the Oklahoma Center for Non-Profits, and the Oklahoma Travel Industry Association has twice named Red Earth Oklahoma's Outstanding Event. A recent USA Today 10 Best Reader's Poll named the Red Earth Festival one of the Top Ten Art Festivals in America.

The Oklahoma Travel Industry Association has awarded its Redbud Award for Oklahoma's Outstanding

Event to previous Red Earth Festivals, and USA TODAY has named the Red Earth Festival one of 10 Great Places to Celebrate American Indian Culture. The American Bus Association has listed the Red Earth Festival a Top 100 Event in North America placing it alongside such greats as the Indianapolis 500, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and the Calgary Stampede as one of the very best events.

Red Earth, Inc. is an Allied Arts member agency, an Adventure Road Travel Partner and is funded in part by the Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Oklahoma Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, and Oklahoma's News 4. Red Earth, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization with a mission to promote the rich traditions of American Indian arts and cultures through education, a premier festival, a museum and fine art markets.

Visit www.RedEarth.org or call (405) 427-5228 for additional information.

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PRESERVE OUR NATION ONE CHILD AT A TIME

Learn how to become a foster parent by calling the Comanche Nation Child Welfare office at 580-492-1140.



Dear TCNN

Letters to the Editor

Fighting for Our Lives on Two Pandemic Fronts

The Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee, City of Lawton, was founded on January 9, 2018 in a contentious Lawton City Council meeting. After three attempts, the City Council officially passed a resolution adopting Indigenous Peoples' Day on the Second Monday of October each year. With our theme "Making the Invisible, Visible," Indigenous Peoples' Day collectively exists to achieve self-determination through direct action and the resurgence of culturally responsive teaching and learning practices. The way George Floyd was murdered by a white police officer while three more white officers watched is a horrific example for why such work is needed across the nation, including Lawton.

The Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee offers condolences to Black Americans grieving over the violent loss of their beloved community members. Collectively, Peoples of Color, have faced racial prejudice and systemic injustice throughout U.S. history. Our experiences are not, however, historical artifacts. No. Our histories are our present as our lives continue to be rendered disposable.

Having grown up during the Civil Rights Era and being one of the founding members of the National Association for Multicultural Education, I'm witnessing this moment in

time being the most important and least understood sociopolitical movement of this generation. Data show Native/Indigenous populations are facing a disproportionate brunt of the COVID-19 epidemic with higher infection and mortality rates than the overall U.S. population. Understanding how the disease is affecting Native/Indigenous Nations is important to mitigating the damage. Thus, it is vital that we join in demanding a change in the educational institutions and social determinants of health and poverty. Critical education is the best way to address the poverty line for the next generations—not using Ruby Payne's culture of poverty theory, which suggests that it is poor people's behavior more than their economic plight that is problematic.

The Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee believe that cultural engagement is civic engagement. A strong sense of cultural identity naturally leads to a desire to participate in civic life. Native/Indigenous peoples are often underrepresented in Census figures and in political determinations. Making our strengths and resilience known and voices heard as a community is an important part of the work we do with the Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee. We can't simply believe in educational equity for Native/Indigenous students. In order to create transformational change, we have to create it by restoring our own inherent dignity, healing our own

people, and applying fundamental human rights to our communities.

As educators, it is crucial for us to engage and examine how we talk, teach and write about inequality as an object of critique in an age of uncertainty as we confront two pandemics: COVID-19 and racial terror. The way COVID-19 has unleashed anti-Asian and Asian American racism and violence has brought out a collaborative need for those that ally with us. When our children go back to school this fall, there has to be a bigger focus on identity-building, anti-bias curriculum, and an understanding of the relationships between communities of color, starting with improved professional development for local teachers that includes cultural humility training (as opposed to cultural competency). Communities of Color are facing doubled down threats and racism related to COVID-19, a result of both national discourse and incidents in our own schools and on college campuses. Our nation's continued complicity with structural racism has always yielded inequities across health, education and socioeconomic outcomes. COVID-19's impact has not only illuminated this but has magnified it, particularly here in southwest Oklahoma.

In the past days and hours, we are witnessing a growing surge of people in our city and across the country stand up and take serious ac-

tion in resistance against such "business as usual." There is increasing recognition of the ways in which state structures and institutions have failed us and are in fact the very tools with which these inequalities and tragedies are carried forth. The disparate rates of COVID-19 infection and death amongst Communities of Color due to ingrained structural inequality and bias, combined with increased visibility of repeated police brutality and killing of black people are most obvious current indicators of the implication of state structures in such ongoing violence, especially for Indigenous peoples who have survived the onslaught of colonialism and continue to restructure and reinvent the form and content of Indigenous activism within contemporary society.

Locally within Indigenous communities, we have seen the pain and anger already in our children when they hear ethnic slurs at sporting events, unkind name-calling from their classmates and noticing how they have been erased from Oklahoma history. Most of what I hear from our children about their public schools is that they feel totally invisible in the curriculum. We must increase the visibility of positive role models by increased hiring of Native/Indigenous people in every level of local K-12 schools to higher education institutions. Our children are the most likely per capita to be victims of brutality from authority, to

be killed by the police, to be arrested, and incarcerated. These examples underscore the persistence of coloniality.

Our great challenge now is to address the systemic racism that exists in all of our educational institutions and bring about the deep policy, practice, and, systems changes that must happen. Our words must be supported with strategic actions (not "feel good" statements of concern by educational administrators) to move us in a direction that ensures equity for all. We must continue to say: "What happens after the protest? The protest is the beginning, not the end." I recognize that is not a simple or quick task, and beneficiaries of systemic oppression resists change. It is, however, something we must continue to prioritize. The time is now for the Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee and those that ally with us to commit to actions that improve the lives of marginalized peoples everywhere around the globe and join the fight for an end to racial prejudice and systemic injustice.

**Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, Founding
Member of Indigenous Peoples'
Day and Professor Emeritus,
Portland State University; pewewardyc@yahoo.com**

Numunu are Invited to a Day of Gourd Dancing on the Tahdooahnippah Family Land, Aug. 1



Courtesy Photos



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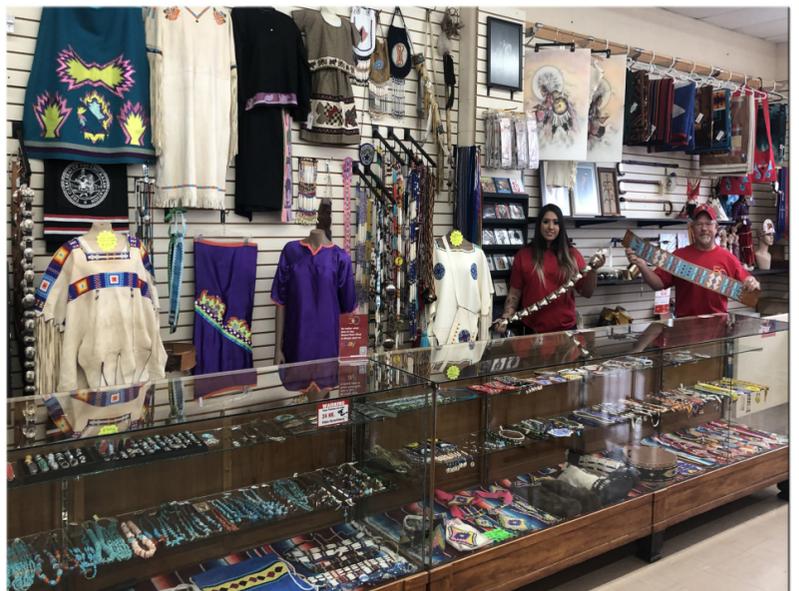
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