

**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.**



# THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

VOLUME 22 EDITION 3

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Tahpook Mtra (March) 2021

## Caregivers Programs Re-Opens and Announce Guidelines

The Comanche Nation Caregiver Program has now reopened. They have moved from the Elder Center to the Administration building at the Nation's Headquarters.

They are now taking applications and all past participants should re-apply if they are interested in getting service through the program. Applications are available through the Comanche Nation web site or may call (580) 492-1146 to have one mailed.

The Elder needling service must need assistance in at least two "Activities of Daily Living" including

- Eating – do they need assistance with eating (spoon fed)?
- Bathing – does someone need to bathe or shower them each day?
- Dressing – does someone need to help dress/undress them each day?
- Toileting – do they need assistance when they must use the toilet?
- Incontinence – do they need and use diapers and do they need assistance with changing these
- Transferring – do they need help moving from bed to wheelchair?

Elders may also receive assistance with two or more "Instrumental Activities of Daily" including:

- Cooking
- Answering the Phone
- Shopping
- Assistance with Medication
- Housekeeping

### Qualifications for Participation

1. Enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. (CDIB submitted with application)
  2. Sixty-two (62) years of age or
  3. 100% disabled and receiving 100% disability payments through the state of Oklahoma. (Proof submitted with application)
  4. Must have recommendation for need of service through a Doctor's referral. (Doctor's recommendation form included in application.)
  5. Must have a need for services in at least two or more daily activities.
  6. Elders needing the most care will be given priority.
  7. Must submit completed application to Caregiver Program, P O Box 908, Lawton, OK, 73502.
  8. Caregivers will be required to take a drug test before becoming Caregivers paid through this program. This program will follow the Comanche Nation Drug-free Workplace Policy as stated in the Nation's Human Resource Policies and Procedures handbook.
- Caregivers will give service to only one Elder at a time for a 6-month period. After that time, each situation will be evaluated and those Elders receiving a new referral from their doctor stating the need for continued service may be renewed for service depending on applications in queue.
- Comanche Elders needing assistance may contact Georgia Gibson at the Caregiver Program by calling (580) 492-1146.

# SAFE & SOUND

## Comanche Tribal elders living at the Edith Kassanavoid Assisted Living Center Receive COVID-19 Vaccine



Cynthia Clay with Anna Tahmahkera, who celebrated her 103rd Birthday January 29.



Former Comanche Nation Chairman, Bernard Kahrahrah.



Gerald Burton



Evelyn May

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The residents of the Edith Kassanavoid Assisted Living Center have been safely tucked away in the safe haven of the living quarters, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, being cared for by staff who makes sure their safety came first on a daily basis. All of the residents recently received the COVID-19 vaccines.

Jennifer Williams, one of the nurses at the center, urges everyone to receive the COVID-19 vaccines, wearing face masks, and continue to social distance.

"In order for our residents to have visitors, see their families, and to return to some sense of normalcy, the case positivity rate must decrease, per the Oklahoma State Department of Health, who governs the rules and regulations of long term care centers and assisted living centers," explained Williams "We have kept our residents safe throughout this pandemic, and that is something for our staff to be

very proud of. I am grateful to work with such amazing people every day who put our elders safety first."

The daily schedule of the six Comanche elder residents consists of breakfast, in-room BINGO, Brain Exercises, Lunch, Activities such as Cornhole, Painting, Exercise, Board Games, dinner, and then movies.

LPN, Chivon Tahhahwah, added books are provided as well as daily readings, a library that residents can enjoy as well. The elders can go outside to the gazebo and walk on the grounds with staff.

Outside visitation is very limited.

"Our daily schedule visitation can occur through window visits, phone calls, and we have I-Pads that residents can zoom with their families. The staff always go the extra mile even before the pandemic. I feel honored to work with such amazing people. We decorate and

celebrate every holiday. We ensure every resident received Christmas and Valentines gifts. Also, we have kept our residents safe during this entire pandemic that truly shows the commitment to following Covid-19 guidelines and placing the safety of our residents first. "

The elders enjoy receiving letters and cards. The address is 1001 SE 36th St. Lawton, OK 73501.

The center also accepts donations of small items that can be used as prizes for games.

For more information, call Williams at (580) 699-3736.



## Qualifications for CBC and TA Positions & the Qualification Process Explained

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 17, and the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Comanche Nation will be accepting nominations.

"These are two very important positions," said Comanche Nation Chairman, William Nelson Sr., who is serving his second consecutive term, and will be passing his position to the next Comanche Nation Chairman.

LaNora Parker, who is serving her initial term as the Vice Chair of the Comanche Nation is eligible to run again.

Along with the CBC positions will be the Tribal Administrator (TA) position and the Tribal Attorney.

According to the Comanche Nation Election Policy of 2018, Section 303, "Qualifications of Candidates for CBC and Tribal Administrator,"

"A candidate for a position on the Business Committee or a candidate for the position of Tribal Administrator shall meet the following qualifications:

- a) Shall be a member of the Comanche Nation and at least twenty-one (21) years old at the time of election. (Constitution, Article IX §1)
- b) Shall not have been adjudged or convicted of any felony, a misdemeanor involving dishonesty, bribery, embezzlement, or of any improper misappropriation or obligation of tribal assets, any improper addition or removal from tribal rolls, any indebtedness to the Nation, or fail a drug test. (Constitution, Article IX, §2)
- c) Shall not have been recalled from a Business Committee office, in accordance with Article VIII of the Constitution, within three (3) years after the expiration of the term of office in which the person was serving at the time of recall. (Constitution, Article IX, §3)
- d) Shall not have completed a second consecutive term of office on the Business Committee within the previous three (3) years (any portion of a term shall count as a full term) pursuant to the Comanche Constitution, Article VI §8.
- e) Any person running for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or Secretary-Treasurer of the Comanche Business Committee shall possess a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited university pursuant to the Comanche Constitution, Article IX §4.
- f) Any candidate for hire for the Tribal Administrator/Manager position must have a Bachelor's Degree with

See QUALIFICATIONS, Page 3

**Comanche Nation:**

**2020 Audit** **Pages 4 - 7**

**Proposed FY 2021-2022 Budget** **Page 8**

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# Comanche Athletes Sign Letters of Intent to Play College Football

## Zach Cizek and Kevin Sovo II commits to play Division II College Football



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Zach Cizek, of Elgin High School, signed his National Letter of Intent to play Division II College Football with Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Okla., on National Signing Day, February 3.

Cizek was recently awarded: Class 4A- All Star Honors, Offensive Lineman 2020, District Honors 4A- Football Offensive Tackle of the Year 2020 and All District 4A- 1st Team Offensive Lineman 2020.

Cizek is also a member of the National Honor Society, Oklahoma Indian Honor Society and Superintendent's Honor Roll.

Cizek is the son of Rick and Dede Cizek.

Kevin Sovo II, of Eisenhower High School, signed his National Letter of Intent to play Division II College Football with Northeastern State University in Talequah, Okla., on February 5.

Sovo, 6'5, 318 lb., was named 5A-2 All District 1st Team, Offensive Lineman. Sovo was the only player from Eisenhower to garner 1st Team Honors.

Sovo is the son of Deann and Thomas LeBeau and Kevin "Bubba" Sovo. Sovo is also of Cheyenne Descent.

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\*Federal Poverty Guidelines

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**THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS**  
Tahpook Mta (March)  
"Cotton Wood Month"

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 April 2021 edition is 5 p.m., March 15, 2021.

Contact:

The Comanche Nation News  
P.O. Box 908

Lawton, Okla. 73502-0908

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

**Comanche Nation Officials**

**Chairman**

William Nelson

**Vice Chairman**

Lanora Parker

**Secretary/Treasurer**

John David Wahnee

**Committeeman No. 1**

June Sovo

**Committeeman No. 2**

Diana Doyebi

**Committeeman No. 3**

Alice Kassanavoid

**Committeeman No. 4**

Robert Komahcheet

**Tribal Administrator**

Julia Mantzke

**To contact officials:**

Comanche Nation

P.O. Box 908

Lawton, Okla. 73502

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# Government

## Seven Resolutions on the Comanche Business Committee February Meeting Agenda

Story by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

**Editor's Note: This is an overview of the February 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, John D. Wahnee, conducted Roll Call. A quorum was established with all Comanche Business Committee (CBC) members present.

Chairman, William Nelson Sr., began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion made to approve the minutes of the January, 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. 01-2021: Enrollment List No. 1186.** The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Committeeman No. 3, Alice Kassanavoid, makes the motion to approve. Committeeman No. 4, Robert Komahcheet, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

## IHS Receives an Additional \$1 billion for the Continued COVID-19 Response

The IHS is announcing the allocation decisions for \$1 billion recently received by the agency in additional COVID-19 funding to respond to the coronavirus pandemic.

Of the \$1 billion provided in the act, \$790 million will support testing, contact tracing, containment, mitigation, and related activities to monitor and suppress COVID-19 in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The bill also provides \$210 million for IHS, tribal, and urban Indian health programs to plan and prepare for coronavirus vaccines to ensure broad-based distribution, access, and vaccine coverage.

"The IHS sincerely values the support and the rapid and robust input from tribal and urban Indian organization leaders as we work together on a significantly accelerated timeline," said Acting IHS Director Elizabeth Fowler. "We will continue to work in partnership with our tribal and urban Indian organization partners to distribute these critical resources for the immediate support of our COVID-19 response."

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, Pub. L. No. 116-260, Div. M, Title III (Dec. 27, 2020) (CRRSAA), which includes \$1 billion in funding for IHS, tribal, and urban Indian health programs to prepare

**List No. 02-2021: Tribal Court Grant Submission.**

Kassanavoid, made the motion to approve. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

**List No. 03-2021: Tribal Court Grant Submission.**

Parker, made the motion to approve. Wahnee, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

**List No. 04-2021: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Department Guidelines. Tabled.**

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

**List No. 05-2021: Tax Commission Liquor Control Ordinance. Tabled.**

Kassanavoid, made the motion. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

**List No. 06-2021: Tribal Program Carry Over.**

Sovo-Doyebi, made the motion. Kassanavoid, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

**List No. 07-2021: Prevention & Recovery Grant Submission.**

Wahnee, made the motion. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/1.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Continued from Page 1

a minimum of three years' experience in high level budgeting, and management of government programs pursuant to the Comanche Constitution, Article V §8.

g) Candidates must also meet the requirements in the Accountability Act."

Bonnie Lemon, of the Comanche Nation Election Office, explains the process once someone is nominated for a CBC or TA position.

"Once the candidates are nominated, they will receive a candidate packet. The packets contain required forms for completion to include authorization for a background check, photo release, declaration, and general contact and background information," she explains.

"They MUST submit the candidate paperwork, along with all required documents (driver's license, CDIB, educational transcripts, etc.) by 5 p.m., the Monday following the Annual Meeting. Candidates must also appear for mandatory urinalysis testing at Allied Lab on the same Monday, by a specific, designated time (time will be specified in the candidate packets). Once the candidates are certified, the ballot will be constructed and mailed."

Lemon added the candidates are notified by phone, letter, and email. Failure to submit the paperwork or appear for the UA by the designated time will result in automatic disqualification.

For more information, contact the Comanche Nation Election Office at (580) 492-3384.

## Interior Department Welcomes Newest Members of Leadership Team

Department of Interior Press Release

The Department of the Interior announced additional members of the agency leadership team working to steward America's natural, cultural and historic resources, and honor our nation-to-nation relationship with tribes.

"As we work to advance President Biden's vision for a clean energy future that creates good-paying jobs, protects the environment, and powers our nation, we are thrilled to welcome our newest teammates. The diverse experiences of our staff will help us address the four intersecting challenges that the president has made a priority for his administration: COVID-19, economic recovery, racial equity and climate change — all of which disproportionately impact tribal communities with whom we have a critical trust responsibility," said Jennifer Van der Heide, Chief of Staff.

Previous leadership announcements can be found here and here.

Interior's political team proudly reflects the diversity of America, with more than 50% identifying as BIPOC (black, Indigenous and people of color) and 80% as women.

The appointees are listed below in alphabetical order along with their new role:

- Shakiyya Bland, Ed.D. - Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow, Office of the Secretary
- Daniel Cordalis - Deputy Solicitor, Water
- Nada Culver - Deputy Director, Policy and Programs, Bureau of Land Management
- Bryan Newland - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs

## Women are facing a National Emergency, and the American Rescue Plan is a National Solution

**VP Harris: "Mass exodus of women from the workforce is a national emergency, and it demands a national solution"**

Katie Rogers / The New York Times/February 18, 2021

Vice President Kamala Harris said on February 18, that the 2.5 million women who have left the work force since the beginning of the pandemic constituted a "national emergency," one that she said could be addressed by the Biden administration's coronavirus relief plan.

That number, according to Labor Department data, compares with 1.8 million men who have left the work force. For many women, the demands of child care, coupled with layoffs and furloughs in an economy hit hard by the pandemic, have forced them out of the labor market.

The vice president painted a dire picture of the reality that millions of American women are facing during the pandemic. "Our economy cannot fully recover unless women can participate fully," Harris said on a video call held with several women's advocacy groups and lawmakers.

As part of its \$1.9 trillion relief plan, the Biden administration has outlined several elements that officials say will ease the burden on unemployed and working women, including \$3,000 in tax credits issued to families for each child, a \$40 billion investment in child care assistance and an extension of unemployment benefits. Harris said that the package would "lift up nearly half of the children that are living in poverty" in the United States, a claim backed by a Columbia University analysis of the plan.

A recent Quinnipiac poll



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# 2020 Audit of the Comanche Nation is Released



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## Independent Auditors' Report

Comanche Business Committee  
Comanche Nation  
Lawton, Oklahoma

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the General Fund, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Comanche Nation Governmental Programs Department (the "Department"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements which collectively comprise the Department's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

The Department's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditors' Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Department's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### ***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the General Fund, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Department, as of September 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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### ***Other Matters***

#### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages i. through v. and budgetary comparison information on page 33 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### ***Other Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Department's basic financial statements. The combining General Fund financial statements on pages 34 and 35 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining General Fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

As discussed in Note A, the financial statements of the Department are intended to present the financial position and the changes in financial position of only that portion of the governmental activities, the General Fund, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Comanche Nation that is attributable to the transactions of the Department. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the Comanche Nation as of September 30, 2020, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 11, 2021, on our consideration of the Department's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Department's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

**Rose Rock CPAs PLLC**

Edmond, Oklahoma  
February 11, 2021

## COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

September 30, 2020

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS ("MD&A")

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of the Comanche Nation Governmental Programs Department (the "Department"), located in Lawton, Oklahoma, provides an overview and overall review of the Department's financial activities for the year ended September 30, 2020. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the Department's financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore, be read in conjunction with the Department's financial statements and the notes thereto.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Total governmental net position decreased by \$1.3 million, or 2% from the prior year. Net position classified as unrestricted represents \$12.0 million or 24% of the total governmental net position and may be used to meet the Department's ongoing obligations to its Tribal members and creditors.

Total governmental assets increased by \$17.3 million, or 29% from the prior year.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The basic financial statements presented include the Department's government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Government-Wide Financial Statements:** The government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities present information about the Department as a whole, divided into the following activity:

- **Governmental activities:** Most of the Department's basic services are reported here, including the general government, public works, education, public safety, public health and welfare, culture and recreation, and environmental management. State and federal grants, gaming revenues, and taxes finance most of these activities.

The governmental programs wide financial statements are designed to provide a broad overview of the Department's Governmental Program finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The statement of net position presents information on all of the Governmental Program's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position.

The statement of activities depicts how net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in the future fiscal periods.

Both of the governmental programs wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities).

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

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## COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED

September 30, 2020

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

**Fund Statements:** The accounts of the Department are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, net position, revenues, expenditures, or expenses, as appropriate.

The Department uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

**Governmental Funds:** Governmental funds are used to account for the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Governmental fund financial statements help determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Department's programs.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances. A reconciliation is presented to facilitate this comparison between governmental programs department funds and governmental activities.

The Department maintains individual governmental funds separately. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the major governmental programs department funds. The major governmental funds are the General Fund and the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Detail by general fund cost center is presented in the combining statements.

The Department adopts an annual budget for the General Fund.

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

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COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED

September 30, 2020

**GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

*Net Position*

Following is a comparative summary of net position as of September 30, 2020 and 2019:

	<u>Government Activities</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 43,087,879	\$ 25,806,713
Capital assets, net	33,202,086	33,154,211
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 76,289,965</b>	<b>\$ 58,960,924</b>
Current and other liabilities	\$ 25,005,180	\$ 6,925,710
Long-term liabilities	984,888	478,758
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 25,990,068</b>	<b>\$ 7,404,468</b>
<b>Net position:</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 33,202,086	\$ 33,154,211
Restricted	5,134,913	4,906,356
Unrestricted	11,962,898	13,495,889
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 50,299,897</b>	<b>\$ 51,556,456</b>

For the year ended September 30, 2020, net position for the governmental activities decreased by \$1.3 million. The following table summarizes the change in net position for fiscal year 2020.

The largest portion of the Department's net position reflects its net investment in capital assets, less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. As of September 30, 2020, the net investment in capital assets amounted to \$33.2 million.

The unrestricted net position of \$12.0 million at September 30, 2020 may be used to meet the Department's ongoing obligations to its Tribal members and creditors.

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED

September 30, 2020

**GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, CONTINUED**

*Change in Net Position*

For the years ended September 30, 2020 and September 30, 2019 the net position of the Department's governmental programs department changed as follows:

	<u>Government Activities</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 356,044	\$ 560,084
Operating grants and contributions	32,274,517	12,870,318
Investment income	286,760	428,504
Other	695,948	873,871
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>33,613,269</b>	<b>14,732,777</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Coronavirus relief	19,954,400	-
General government	13,610,422	21,867,828
Public health and welfare	6,494,533	7,566,190
Culture and recreation	1,535,900	2,050,396
Environmental management	112,506	162,234
Public safety	2,421,742	1,797,829
Education	3,622,381	4,375,889
Public works	3,298,371	3,535,992
Emergency distribution to Tribal members	-	23,444,821
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>51,050,255</b>	<b>64,801,179</b>
Decrease in net position before transfers	(17,436,986)	(50,068,402)
Net transfers	16,180,427	36,035,647
	<b>\$ (1,256,559)</b>	<b>\$ (14,032,755)</b>

The Department's governmental activities include an increase of \$19.4 million, or 151%, in operating grants and contributions revenues and an increase of \$20.0 million in Coronavirus relief expenses that were primarily due to additional funding and expenses related to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Department's governmental activities investment income decreased by \$0.1 million, or 14%, primarily due to stronger market returns in fiscal year 2019. In fiscal year 2019, the Department made emergency distributions to Comanche Nation Tribal members of \$23.4 million. There were no similar emergency distributions during the year ended September 30, 2020.

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

**COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED**

**September 30, 2020**

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**GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, CONTINUED**

*Change in Net Position, Continued*

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the Department. For the year ended September 30, 2020, the General Fund's total fund balance decreased by \$0.8 million, or 4%.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

*Capital Assets:* The Department's investment in capital assets for its governmental programs department as of September 30, 2020 and 2019, amounted to \$33.2 million (net of accumulated depreciation). The investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, and equipment.

**ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

The economy in Lawton, Oklahoma and the surrounding areas appears to be stable due to the presence of Ft. Sill and other industries; however, due to the ongoing pandemic, profit distributions to the Department from its gaming and other business enterprises could decrease as a result. Due to considerable uncertainty, management is unable to reasonably estimate the ultimate financial impact of the pandemic.

The Department continues to look for other opportunities in the business sector to bring additional funds to the Department to serve the membership.

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide our Tribal members, creditors, government and regulatory agencies, with a general overview of the Department's finances and to demonstrate the Department's accountability for the money it receives. Questions about this report or requests for additional financial information should be requested from the Comanche Nation's Treasurer.

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

**COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS, CONTINUED**

**September 30, 2020**

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**SECTION II--FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

Compliance Findings:

None

Internal Control Findings:

None

**SECTION III--FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

Compliance Findings:

None

Internal Control Findings:

None

Questioned Costs:

None

**PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

Compliance Findings:

None

Internal Control Findings:

None

# Comanche Nation Proposed FY 2021-2022 Budget

Comanche Constitution Article 5, Section 6 (D) and Revenue Allocation Plan 25 U.S.C. Section 2710 (b)(2)(B)(3)			
Tax Commission Contribution		Economic Development Cont.	
Bereavement Assistance	\$270,000	Land Acquisitions	\$1,200,000
CBC Salary	\$21,000	Assisted Living Facility	\$983,919
Chairman's Salary	\$67,500	Early Childhood Development Center	\$600,000
Child Support Services	\$148,188	Comanche Nation Housing	\$500,000
Comanche Indian Veterans Association	\$35,000	<b>Total Economic Development</b>	<b>\$14,954,369</b>
Comanche Tribal Princess	\$3,000	<b>Comanche Nation Gaming Contribution Funds:</b>	
Comanche JR. Princess	\$3,000	<b>Community &amp; Education - 25%</b>	
Comanche Language Planning and Development	\$489,108	Burial Assistance	\$1,000,000
Comanche Fair Director (Anadarko Expo.)	\$3,000	Gravel-Tin horns for Tribal Driveways	\$495,000
Tombstone Project	\$18,000	Caregivers	\$304,667
Church Donations	\$65,000	Family Enrichment (formerly Child Care Subsidies)	\$215,000
Transportation	\$226,000	CHR /EMS	\$930,329
Transit	\$825,000	Education Center	\$300,538
Optometry/Prescription/Diabetes-Fitness	\$1,812,000	Elder Center	\$355,177
<b>Total Tax Commission Contribution</b>	<b>\$3,985,796</b>	Elder Council	\$110,000
<b>Retail/Wholesale</b>		Emergency Management Direct Services	\$207,600
Community Center Apache	\$28,817	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	\$450,000
Community Center Cache	\$28,817	Indian Child Welfare (ICW)	\$323,686
Community Center Walters	\$28,817	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	\$121,020
Outreach - Anadarko	\$105,000	Higher Education	\$3,146,894
Outreach - Dallas	\$105,840	Home Improvement	\$1,500,000
Outreach - OKC	\$89,964	FAC-Womens Shelter	\$50,000
<b>Total Retail/Wholesale Contribution</b>	<b>\$387,255</b>	Injury Prevention	\$222,606
<b>Comanche Nation Gaming Contribution Funds:</b>		Native American Graves Protection/Repatriation	\$150,000
<b>Revenue Allocation - 40%</b>		New Pathways	\$175,000
Elder Payment	\$1,800,000	Social Services- Emergency Assistance	\$1,516,606
Per Capita Distribution	\$22,126,990	Student Services (K-12)	\$929,283
<b>Total Revenue Allocation</b>	<b>\$23,926,990</b>	Tribal Historical Preservation Program (THPO)	\$258,315
<b>Tribal Government - 10%</b>		Vocational Rehabilitation	\$95,979
Administration	\$1,324,449	Youth Program	\$422,000
Elections	\$246,312	Museum/Travel Center	\$908,900
Info Technology - Complex	\$495,000	Prevention & Recovery / Reintegration	\$765,769
Law Enforcement	\$2,600,000	<b>Total Community Education</b>	<b>\$14,954,369</b>
Legal Fees	\$417,000		
Enrollment	\$325,000	<b>KCA BUDGET 1/3 OF \$300,000</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>
Adult Education	\$186,151		
PIO	\$387,836	<b>2022 PROPOSED BUDGET</b>	<b>(RAP)</b>
<b>Total Tribal Government</b>	<b>\$5,981,748</b>	Elder's Payment/Per Capita Distribution 40%	\$23,926,990
<b>Economic Development - 25%</b>		Tribal Government 10%	\$5,981,748
New Business	\$3,506,059	Economic Development 25%	\$14,954,369
Capital Improvement	\$2,100,000	Community and Education 25%	\$14,954,369
Tribal Court	\$672,461	<b>Comanche Gaming (RAP) Total</b>	<b>\$59,817,476</b>
Water Park/Grasshoppers	\$955,000		
CN Fair	\$250,000	<b>Other Contributions</b>	
CN Homecoming	\$55,000	Tax Supplement	\$3,985,796
Youth Shelter CRY5	\$706,960		
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity (WIOA)	\$2,455,736	Retail/Wholesale	\$387,255
Job Placement & Training	\$560,000		
Realty Management/Land Management	\$409,234	<b>Total 2022 Budget</b>	<b>\$64,190,527</b>

# WE CAN'T DO YOUR GROCERY SHOPPING,

but we can streamline how you pay bills. Paying bills online has never been easier or more secure. Our bill payment service offers you a fast, convenient way to more effectively manage your money. Online bill pay is included in our Elite Checking account and is available with other checking accounts for an additional fee.



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# Programs



Courtesy Photo

## Comanche Housing Authority Lists Five Reasons Why it is Important to Change Air Filters

The filter is one of the simplest components of your home heating and cooling system, but it is also the most important.

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority wants you to have a system that runs as cleanly and as efficiently as possible. Air filter replacement is a very important part of this. Your air filter plays a crucial role in helping you maintain a comfortable home.

### A Clogged Filter Creates Inefficiency and Higher Costs

No other factor affects the performance and efficiency of your air conditioning system as much as a dirty or a clogged filter. A dirty filter can impede the air flow of your system. When the air filter is clogged with dust, dirt and grime, your furnace and air conditioner have to work twice as hard to move air through your home. This will drive up your energy bills, increase your carbon footprint and drain you of your budget.

Airflow is one of the most important factors that affect the efficiency of your system. When the filter gets dirty, it reduces the airflow to the furnace, forcing the air conditioning system to work harder to heat or cool the room. This will both wear down your system and increase energy costs.

### A Dirty Filter Pollutes the Air at Your Home

A dirty or contaminated air filter means that the blower is spreading dirty, airborne particles throughout your home. These particles include lint, dust, dirt, pollen, and even tiny microorganisms that aren't visible to the naked eye. This means that you and your family will constantly be inhaling polluted air. Breathing in polluted air can have a detrimental impact on your health by causing allergies and making asthma and other respiratory problems much worse.

There are certain things to consider however, before you decide on which air filter to buy. Certain air filters are great at removing contamination from the air. The efficiency of filters is measured by the Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) rating. The higher the rating, the more airborne contaminants you can expect your filter to remove from the air. They recommend a filter with a rating of at least 5. If you do however find an air filter with a higher rating, you can even consider buying a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter. Make sure to not buy a filter that has a rating of over 10 because these can severely restrict the airflow of your system.

### A Clogged Filter Increases Your Maintenance Costs

A dirty or clogged air filter will necessarily cause an increase

in your maintenance costs. If your blower stops working regularly due to dust particles lodged inside or if your ductwork needs regular cleaning in order to function properly, you will need to spend regularly on the care and maintenance of your air conditioning system. It's definitely not worth spending constantly on replacing and repairing the parts of your heating and cooling system and it makes far more sense to spend this money on replacing your air filters from time to time. If your air filter is clean, your system will continue to function properly and you will have to spend less money on overall system repairs.

### A Clogged Filter Reduces the Life of Your HVAC System

A dirty filter means that your system has to work extra hard to both heat and cool your home. Not only does this lead to inefficiency and greater utility bills, it can also cause your system to overheat and burn out. The excess strain placed on the blower and the entire air conditioning system can lead to the system breaking down completely. In fact we have found that a clogged or dirty filter is the number one cause of system failure. Putting off the replacement of a dirty filter means that you will probably have to pay a lot more when your system ultimately fails owing to the dirty filter. Stop waiting for that to happen and get your air filter replaced right away. A small cost now is far better than a large price to pay later on.

### A Cleaner Filter Leads to a Cleaner Home

Getting rid of your contaminated air filter can lead to cleaner air being dispersed throughout your home. This makes your home far more comfortable and will prevent any allergies caused by dust particles.

Now that you know just how important it is to change your air filter, you might wonder just how often you need to. There is no exact number of days in which you should consider changing your filter. It all depends on the strain you put on your filter and also what type of filter you have. But to be safe, for newer systems you should check your filter every 6 months and change it no less than once a year. These filters are usually 5-6 inches thick and designed to last much longer than older filter systems. Older systems that use the approximately 1 inch filters should ideally be changed every month.

## Elder Center Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Support Program & Title VI Part C Federal Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program

Comanche Nation Elder Center Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Support Program and Title VI Part C Federal Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program is a federal program which is open to ALL Native American Elders who are 60 and older for Caregiver support program and 55 years or older for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program.

Federal Caregiver Support Program is a federal program which is open to ALL Native American Elders who 60 years and older who reside in the service area Federal Caregiver Support program can assist with a monetary stipend to a Respite provider (Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Support Program DOES NOT pay the Caregiver), the Federal Caregiver Program is to "relieve" the Caregiver of day to day duties/tasks, so he/she may run errands, go to doctor appointments without the Care Receiver. Care Receiver must also have a certificate degree of Indian Blood (CDIB). However, due to Federal guidelines and regulations a Respite provider cannot have the same mailing address as the Care Receiver. Federal guidelines and regulations must be followed and a medical documentation must be signed by the primary physician before he/she is eligible for the program. Care Receiver must also need assistance with at least 2 activities of daily living (ADL's) such as grooming, bathing, dressing, oral care, managing medications or toileting. For more information, please contact Comanche Nation Elder Center Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Support Program and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program at (580) 355-2330 or email: kimberly.codynah@comanchenation.com or Director of Comanche Nation Elder Center, Marilyn Guerrero, marilyn.guerrero@comanchenation.com

Federal Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program, also a Federal program is open to ALL Native Americans who are 55 years and older with a CDIB and is raising their grandchild(ren) either formal or informally of Grandchildren and grandchildren MUST reside in the same home. Similar to Federal Caregiver Support Program, a monetary stipend is allocated to a Respite provider, NOT grandparent. This program is to "relieve" the grandparent for a limited amount of time. Limited school supplies is available to those who are on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. For more information contact Comanche Nation Elder Center Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Support Program and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program at (580) 355-2330 or email: kimberly.codynah@comanchenation.com, or Director of Comanche Nation Elder Center, Marilyn Guerrero, marilyn.guerrero@comanchenation.com

Comanche Nation Elder Center Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Support Program and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program has a limited "lending closet" available to all participants. They can provide blue pads, re-usable pads, pull-ups (small, medium, large, x-large or XX-large), disposable bath wipes, urinals for men and women, extenders, gait belt, canes, crutches, walkers, bath chairs and bedside commodes. Some items are on loan to other participants. All items are sterilized before they are loaned to other individuals. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren will have either the choice of traditional school setting and distant learning, in each case. Grand children will need school supplies and lending closet has a limited supply of school supplies. ( iPad (iPads are extremely limited)

Comanche Nation Elder is currently a non-contact environment and all applications are taken either by online, fax, email or pick-up/drop-off in mailbox. Contact, Kimberly Codynah, Title VI Part C Federal Caregiver Coordinator, Comanche Nation Elder Center (580) 355-2330 or (580) 699-8462-office, (580) 355-2365-fax or email: kimberly.codynah@comanchenation.com or Director of Comanche Nation Elder Center, Marilyn Guerrero, marilyn.guerrero@comanchenation.com

## Child Support Program List Cases

### In The Comanche Nation Tribal Court:

- Trina Bender: CNC-SP-19-37; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Kelly R. Cable: CNC-SP-14-12; Petition to Register Foreign Order
- Garrett Chasenah-Poemoceah: CNCSP-17-39; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Kevin Durant: CNC-SP-17-13; Petition for Determination of Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- Brandon M. Eidson: CNC-SP-20-31; Petition of Establishment for Child Support
- Jimmy P. Killfirst II: CNC-SP-20-12; Petition to Register Foreign Order
- Devin Q. Lopez: CNC-SP-19-47; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Nicholas Lopez: CNC-SP-18-019; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Justin Ostrowski: CNC-SP-19-50; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Thomas Portillo: CNC-SP-19-07; Petition for Establishment of Child Support

- Brian Tonips: FD-18-005; Application for Indirect Contempt

### In The Court of Indian Offenses for the Southern Plains Region:

- Ronald Anderson: CIV-13-32; Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment
- Danielle Renee Poolaw now Koassechony: JFD-02-A17; Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment
- Mable Mahseet: CIV-14-027; Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment
- Silas Reeder: CIV-17-086; Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment
- Julian Woosypitti: FD-2017-71; Petition to Accept Transfer of Jurisdiction

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. The CNCSP is needing the above name(s) to be placed in our upcoming *The Comanche Nation* Newspaper.

## Family Assistance Program Provides Tips on Self-Esteem 'Just Be Happy'

Self-Esteem: Healthy self-esteem is about being at peace with who you are and what you have to offer the world, accepting who you are and genuinely liking the person you have become. Building self-esteem will be a process that takes time and there are many ways you can try to improve it:

- Make a list of your strengths, achievements and what you admire about yourself.
- Think positively about yourself; you are a unique and valuable person.
- Challenge any negative thoughts about yourself.
- Do more things that you enjoy doing.
- Get enough sleep.
- Focus on your personal hygiene and feel good about how you look.
- Manage your stress levels.
- Do something that you have been putting off.
- Avoid people and places that treat you badly.
- Do something nice for others.
- Set a realistic challenge for yourself and achieve it.

These tips were compiled by Connie Sloane, a revitalization coach and Founder of the Soda Foundation.

Need a therapy session to boost your self-esteem contact the Comanche Nation women shelter, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., (580) 492-3590.



**Comanche Nation Offices will be Closed April 1 (4-day-a-week-offices) April 2 (5-day-a-week-offices) for Good Friday.**

**All Offices will re-open April 5, for regular business.**

## Follow the Comanche Nation Public Information Office:



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**COMANCHE NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOT LINE**

**(580) 492-3628**

# Comanche Academy Board of Directors Announce Updates as it Gets Closer to Completion; Receives \$325,000 Grant

Submitted by Comanche Academy Board of Directors



**Michael Figueroa**  
Superintendent/Principal  
Comanche Academy



Courtesy Photos

The renovation of the auditorium is one of many, as the charter school plans to open in August, just in time for the academic school year.

The Comanche Business Committee and Comanche Academy board signed the charter school contract January 17, 2020. A CBC resolution dated July 8, 2018 approved authorizing (First Nations Community School) Comanche Academy. During the June 29, 2019 Comanche Nation General Election, Comanche Academy was approved for \$475,000. Due to COVID pandemic this amount was reduced by \$25,000 to \$450,000 on August 8, 2020.

They would like to thank Dr. Cornel Pewewardy for his contribution to Comanche Academy. Dr. Pewewardy and Phil Gover initially introduced the concept of a charter school to the CBC the summer of 2017, Dr. Pewewardy submitted to the CBC the resolution for authorizing First Nations in July 2018. He also presented the General Council resolution for \$475,000 funding in April 2019. He stepped down or away from being the design team leader during the November 2, 2019 CBC meeting.

Becoming an accredited charter school requires an operating school board. Comanche Academy's board was established on December 30, 2019. Our current board mem-

bers are:

1. Jonathan Poahway, President
2. Dianna Butler, Vice-President
3. Justin Boos, Secretary/Treasurer
4. Karen Watson, Member
5. Sandra Mithlo, Member
6. Martie Woothtakewahbitty, Member
7. Gable Roubideaux-Davis, Member
8. Lenson Hearn, Non-Voting Member
9. Kristal Miller, CPA, Non-Voting Member

A signed contract with the Authorizer, Comanche Business Committee and the School Board is also required by the Oklahoma State Education Department to become an accredited and certified Oklahoma public charter school. Other requirements before becoming an accredited and certified public charter school is securing a location, 501c(3) status, attendance of required state training, Secretary of State non-profit corporation, and a finalized application addressing 34 items. These items are due to the State Department of Education (SDE) Accreditation office



**Blaze Murrow, a Comanche Nation Workforce employee, works with the maintenance to assist with the renovations.**



**Nolan Tahdooahnipah**  
Lead Maintenance Technician  
Comanche Academy

by December prior to opening date. April is the earliest we can request a school code from the SDE Office of Federal Program.

Charter Schools are required to request a school number/code from the Officer of Federal Programs at least 120 days in advance to the date of scheduled opening. After the receipt of the school number/code they become an accredited and certified charter school eligible to receive Federal and State funds for student enrollment.

Comanche Academy Superintendent / Principal is Mike Figueroa. He was hired in May 2020. He is an enrolled Comanche citizen. He has 16 years' experience as a Principal and 26 years as an administrator. In 2005, he was the founding Principal to open and operate a Charter School on the south-side of Oklahoma City. He possesses a current valid Oklahoma State Department of Education certification for Superintendent. He also has Oklahoma certifications for Principal, Physical Education/Health/Safety, Accounting, Business Law, Finance, Management, Marketing, Office Procedures, and Computer Information Protocol. He also has completed the Oklahoma State required Charter School Training.

Figueroa's cell is (580) 291-3634 and email is mfigueroa@comancheacademy.com

On August 8, 2020, the CBC approved Comanche Academy's

CARES Virtual Learning Support Program for \$433,000, 125 students. They proposed to provide Comanche students K-12 in a virtual homeschool program support, oversight, tutoring, monitoring process and daily contact. They had 136 students participating in the tutoring. On August 19, 2020, they received a check for \$100,00 for this program. It was formally closed by the CBC during the January 9, 2021 meeting.

They recently received approval for a \$325,000 grant from the Walton Family Foundation to assist with the opening of the charter school.

They have been doing minor facility repair with Nolan Tahdooahnipah, lead maintenance technician and Donnel Atavovich. Also Comanche Nation Workforce has provided assistance.

## Comanche Academy

**Office Hours:**  
Monday-Friday  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Office:**  
(580) 699-3347  
Fax: (580) 699-3349

**Email:**  
pnarcomey@comancheacademy.com

**Opening Date:**  
August 2021

**Grades to be served:**  
Prekindergarten – 1st grade will be offered for the opening year. Plans are to add a grade each year for the next 5 years, until we reach the 6th grade.



## Comanche Nation Workforce Outreach: Walters Community

### Applications for services available!

Documents needed: Picture ID, CDIB, SSC, Proof of Income (Federal), Proof Residency (Federal), and Proof of Public Assistance (Federal).

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
10:00am – 3:00pm

Walters Community Center (905 East Missouri Ave., Walters, OK 73572)

> Masks are required for entry <

For more information, please call 580-492-3257



## C.A.R.S.

Comanche Auto Repair & Service

Joe Laurenzana

Indian owned & operated

13230 NE Tony Creek Rd.

Elgin, Ok.

73538

580-215-9201

1968numsofwalters@gmail.com



# People, Places and Things Happening

## More Offensive “Indian” Mascots Retired as Mementum Continues into Early 2021

The Norwalk Community School District decided in July 2020 to undergo a rebrand of the mascot at Norwalk HS. The school will retain the “Warriors” name but retire any racially insensitive imagery. At a Board meeting last December, Tiffany Redman, the district’s communications coordinator, shared an update regarding the rebrand and gave a first look at unfinalized concept designs for a new logo. New designs could be voted on by students and staff as soon as this month.

### Shawnee Mission North High School (KS) “Indians”

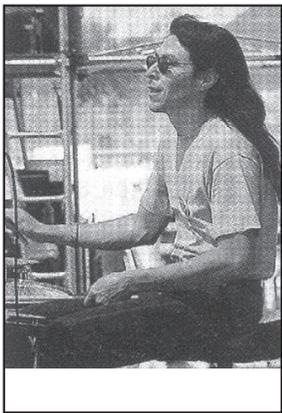
On January 25, members of the Shawnee Mission Board of Education voted unanimously to change the district’s non-discrimination policy, forcing mascot changes at four of its schools. Shawnee Mission North HS, Rushton ES and Shawanoe ES will retire their “Indians” mascots, while Belinder ES will retire its “Braves” mascot. Among other requirements, new mascots must not be derogatory or offensive toward a person or class of persons and must be culturally and racially sensitive and appropriate. The district plans on working with school principals to figure out new mascots by the end of the 2020-21 school year.

### Watertown High School (CT) “Indians”

Also on January 25, the Watertown Board of Education voted 4-3 to retire its “Indians” mascot. The retirement will take effect no later than July 1, 2022. The vote followed an August 2020 letter by a group of Watertown HS alumni and community members, who implored the BOE to retire the mascot. The Board also received letters in support of retiring the mascot from several local Tribes.

Watertown HS becomes the seventh school in Connecticut to retire its Native “themed” mascot since 2019.

## Tribal Member Clark Succeeds With a Musical Career



Courtesy Photo

Clark

Eddie Clark has made a successful career in a tough musical genre: blues drumming. For the past 18 years, he has been touring the United States and Europe, backing up blues artists like William Clarke, Lester Butler, Floyd Dixon, and Bill Doggett. He’s played in every sort of venue, from smoky downtown jazz clubs to major international blues festivals. Along the way he’s appeared on several CDs, including William Clarke’s 1996 release *The Hard Way*, which received the W.C. Handy Blues Award as top blues album of that year.

A three-quarter Comanche from Lawton, Okla., not exactly a “traditional” blues background, Clark can nonetheless lay claim to the kind of experiences that shape blues musicians. For example, his long-time friendship and musical as-

sociation with William Clarke ended with Clarke’s death in 1996. His subsequent gig with Lester Butler looked promising, with that artist’s CD, *13*, reaching number one in several European countries. But Butler, too, died suddenly, just one week after major shows in Belgium and Holland.

“Life can be cruel when you work so hard and end up with nothing,” says Clark. “But I keep on, and I’m proud and grateful to do what I do. I’m honored to have been and still be in the company of such great musicians.”

That company includes trumpeter Jeff Elliott. A principle sideman with Les McCann and Airtro for many years, Elliott now leads his own group. Clark has been on drums for the past four years. “Jeff is a music genius,” Clark enthuses. “I get a free music lesson every night.”

## StrongHearts Native Helpline Launches 24/7 Operations

StrongHearts Native Helpline (1-844-7NATIVE) announced today it will soon expand operations by offering advocacy services seven days a week, 24 hours a day. The expanded service launches on February 19.

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a culturally-appropriate, anonymous, confidential and free service dedicated to serving Native victim-survivors, concerned family members and friends affected by domestic, dating and sexual violence. StrongHearts Native Helpline is a project of the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center and the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

“Our goal is to make caring support available to as many Native American and Alaska Natives as possible,” said StrongHearts Director

Lori Jump (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians). “Victim-survivors need to be able to reach out when it’s safe for them, around-the-clock.”

According to the National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Partner Survey, Native Americans and Alaska Natives experience some of the highest rates of domestic and sexual violence in the United States. The study found that more than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native women had experienced violence in their lifetime, and one in three had experienced violence within the past year. The study also examined how this violence affects tribal communities and Native survivors. For American Indian and Alaska Native people, the study

found about half of women and nearly one in five men stated they needed victim services. With few options and supportive resources, Native American victims of abuse often go without assistance.

To address these inequities and better serve Native Americans and Alaska Natives, StrongHearts has been rapidly expanding. In 2020, StrongHearts launched online chat advocacy and sexual violence advocacy. As American Indian and Alaska Native communities continue to navigate the isolating effects of COVID-19, 24/7 expanded operations will allow those experiencing domestic and sexual violence to connect with a highly-trained advocate whenever they need free, anonymous and confidential support.

## Congratulations to the Oklahoma Dragons!



Courtesy Photo

Pictured above; Bryson Gilliam, Rashied Alattar, and Ezekiel Cooley. The Comanche Nation Youth Program would like to congratulate three Comanche Youth and their team for winning the Gym Times Hoops Ice Classic (8U division) basketball tournament on February 7.

## Indian Health Service Announces New Hotline to Report Suspected Abuse

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is announcing a new hotline dedicated to receiving reports of suspected child or sexual abuse within an Indian Health Service facility and/or by an IHS staff member. The hotline will allow personnel who are specially trained to take pertinent information necessary to immediately route calls and reports of suspected child abuse or sexual abuse.

“Protecting our patients and our employees from sexual abuse in a supportive environment is a priority at the Indian Health Service,” said IHS Acting Director Elizabeth Fowl-

er. “At the IHS, we strive for a culture of accountability in everything we do. This new hotline simplifies the reporting process allowing anyone who suspects child abuse or sexual abuse to have a direct line to personnel who are specially trained in responding to, and investigating this type of information.”

In collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General, the hotline’s experienced Office of Investigations are specially trained staff by law enforcement personnel in obtaining information about sus-

pected abuse. They will answer calls between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm eastern time Monday- Friday. Outside of these hours, callers may leave a message with information they would like to report.

Callers may report suspected child abuse or sexual abuse by calling the hotline at 1-855-SAFE-IHS (855 723-3447) or by submitting a complaint online on the IHS.gov website. This hotline may be used to report any type of suspected child abuse within the Indian Health Service, or any type of sexual abuse regardless of the age of the victim. The

person reporting by phone or online may remain anonymous.

Reporting child abuse to this hotline does not take the place of making a report to local law enforcement or child protective services as required under federal law. When child abuse is suspected or observed, mandatory reporters must still file a report of child abuse with the appropriate local law enforcement agency or the appropriate local child protection agency. Reporting to the 855-SAFE-IHS hotline is an additional step to safeguard patients and alert the agency regarding abuse.

IHS has implemented extensive measures to promote and enhance patient safety and accountability. In 2019, IHS released the Protecting Children From Sexual Abuse by Health Care Providers policy. The policy requires anyone with knowledge or suspicion of child abuse to report this information and provides guidance on where this information should be reported.

Follow the IHS via social media on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

## State of Tribal Nations ‘Strong’ Despite Crises

By Sarah Oven/ Cronkite News



National Congress of American Indians President Fawn Sharp said in the annual State of Indian Nations address that early moves by the Biden administration are encouraging, but that the federal government still has a long way to go to live up to its treaty and trust obligations to tribes. (Photo courtesy National Congress of American Indians)

WASHINGTON – The state of Indian nations is strong, but the federal government still needs to “come to terms with the right of tribal Nations to chart their own course and their rightful place,” a tribal leader said Monday.

National Congress of American Indians President Fawn Sharp, in a wide-ranging State of Indian Nations address, also pointed to long-running problems of disrespect for tribal sovereignty and of missing and murdered Indigenous women, as well as new challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The federal response to the pandemic on tribal lands illustrates the problem, said Sharp, who criticized what she called the bungled coordination of state and Indian health departments, saying tribes need a “single federal office and point of contact” for vaccine help.

She said COVID-19 has hit Indigenous communities particularly hard, and the federal government “simply must do better. The lives of our people and the future of nations are at stake.”

“Tribal nations should also be able to obtain covid-19 vaccine

supply from both the Indian Health Service and the states, not one or the other,” Sharp said.

In the congressional response, Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, acknowledged the challenges faced by Native Americans but also pointed to recent successes, including passage of Savanna’s Act and the Not Invisible Act. Those laws aim to strengthen the federal response to violence against Native Americans, particularly Indigenous women.

“Unfortunately, too many missing or murdered indigenous women have never received justice or resolution,” Murkowski said. “I agree with what tribal leaders have said that the MMIW crisis spans multiple policy domains, jurisdictions and regions. And so, the response must be multi-pronged.”

Sharp did acknowledge hopeful signs in the early days of the Biden administration. Those have included a presidential memo directing federal agencies to increase consultation with tribes and the nomination of Rep. Deb Haaland, D-N.M., to be the next secretary of Interior.

Sharp hailed Biden’s “historic nomination of Congresswoman

Deb Haaland as the first Native person to lead the Department of Interior, which more profoundly impacts the daily lives of Native people than any other federal agency.”

Haaland, an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Laguna and a “35th-generation New Mexican,” according to Sharp, has a “centuries-old connection to and reverence for” the land that would serve her well as secretary, Sharp said. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is scheduled to hold a confirmation hearing for Haaland Tuesday.

Sharp also welcomed Biden’s decision to rejoin the Paris Climate Accords, after the “past four years (when) the United States has been derelict in its own duty to act” on climate change, and his decision to reverse the Trump administration’s OK of the Dakota Access Pipeline through tribal lands.

But tribal governments “demand and deserve” to be treated like sovereign nations when the federal government is weighing projects that affect tribal communities, Sharp said, specifically citing the proposed copper mine at Oak Flat in southeastern Arizona.

“We demand and deserve a standard in which we come together as equal governmental partners working hand-in-hand to develop the laws and policies that advance the federal government’s trust and treaty obligations, or otherwise impact tribal nations and our citizens,” Sharp said.

“We have the right as Sovereign Nations to say yes or no and that right must be respected,” she added.

While Biden had ordered increased consultation with tribal governments, Sharp said that’s just a first step. The order must be “real, permanent teeth” by giving tribes the power to consent to construction and other activities being done on Native lands, she said.

“If the United States is truly committed to embracing our shared future with courage, it must formally acknowledge and reckon with the wrenching pain its failures continue to cause our tribal Nations and communities,” Sharp said.

Cronkite News is a reporting service of the Arizona State University Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. For more stories from Cronkite News, visit [cronkitenews.azpbs.org](http://cronkitenews.azpbs.org).

# Culinary Corner

## March Pick-Up Schedule for the Comanche Nation Food Distribution

March 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Inventory	2 Frederick 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	3 Frederick 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	4 Walters 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	5 Walters 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	6
7	8 Cache 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	9 Cache 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	10 Cache 3 <sup>rd</sup> Day	11 Cache 4 <sup>th</sup> Day	12 TRUCK DAY	13
14	15 Lawton 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	16 Lawton 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	17 Lawton 3 <sup>rd</sup> Day	18 Lawton 4 <sup>th</sup> Day	19 Lawton 5 <sup>th</sup> Day	20
21	22 Make-Up Day	23 Make-Up Day	24 Make-Up Day	25 Make-Up Day	26 Make-Up Day	27
28	29 Inventory	30 Inventory	31 Inventory			

### St. Patrick's Day Casserole

#### Ingredients

- 1 ¼ pounds red potatoes cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 4 cups chopped cabbage
- butter-flavored cooking spray
- 1 ½ pounds cooked corned beef, cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 1 ½ cups shredded Swiss cheese
- ½ cup coarse-grained mustard
- ½ cup white wine
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons ground black pepper
- 4 sheets phyllo dough, thawed
- butter-flavored cooking spray
- 1 tablespoon melted butter

#### Directions

1. Place red potato cubes into a large saucepan, cover with water, and bring to a boil. Cook potatoes over medium-low heat until tender, about 15 minutes; drain well.
2. Place chopped cabbage into a saucepan and cover with water; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer the cabbage until tender and softened, about 15 minutes; drain well.
3. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees

F (190 degrees C).

4. Spray a 9x13-inch baking dish with cooking spray.
5. Lightly toss potatoes, cabbage, corned beef, and Swiss cheese in a large bowl until well combined.
6. Stir together mustard, white wine, garlic powder, and black pepper in a bowl until smooth; mix into corned beef mixture.
7. Spread the mixture into the prepared baking dish.
8. Lay a phyllo sheet onto a work surface and spray with cooking spray. Place the phyllo sheet onto the casserole, folding the overhang back over the dish; spray the dry side of the overhang with more cooking spray.
9. Repeat three more times, spraying, folding, and respraying the phyllo sheet each time.
10. Brush the top of last sheet with melted butter.
11. Bake in the preheated oven until phyllo sheets are crisp and browned and the casserole is hot, 45 to 55 minutes.

# Fun Page





### Comanche Words of Spring

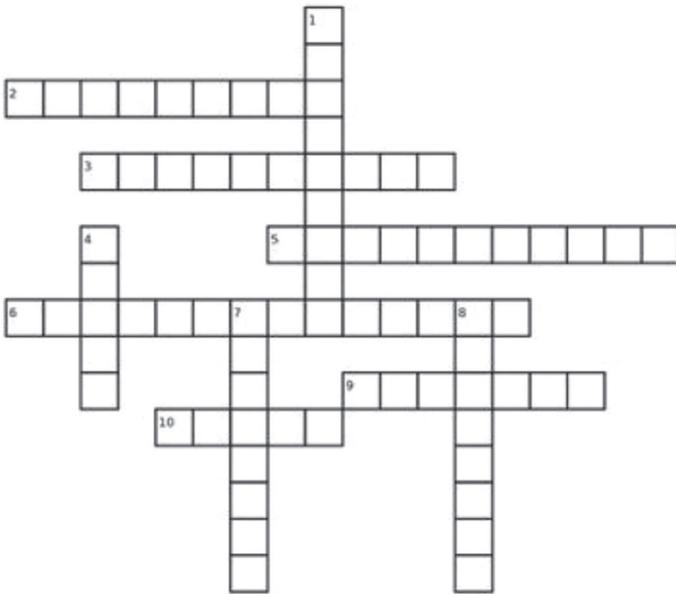
Remember: There may be more than one way to spell or say something.

**Across:**

- Spring
- butterfly
- rainbow
- lightening
- bird
- wind

**Down:**

- green grass
- rain
- sunrise
- flower



For assistance use our online dictionary  
[www.webonary.org/comanche](http://www.webonary.org/comanche)

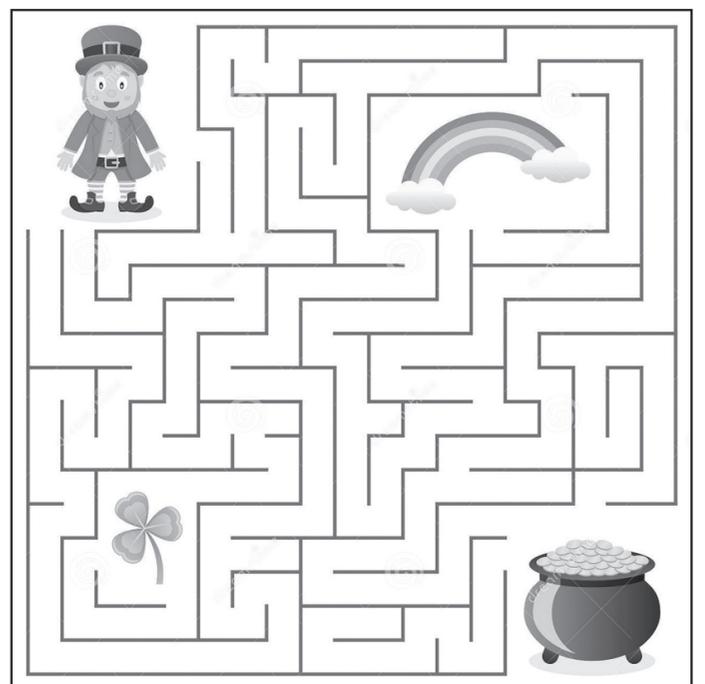
Directions: Color me.



Match each Season (**Suṁṁ** tomopu) to its correct Comanche (**Nṁmṁṁ**) spelling.

- |        |           |
|--------|-----------|
| Summer | Kwihne    |
| Fall   | Tahmaro?i |
| Winter | Yṁbani    |
| Spring | Taatsa    |

Directions: Help the Leprechaun find his way through the maze to his pot of gold.



Answer Key for "Animals in Comanche" that was published in the February Edition of TCNN.



### Animals in Comanche

Remember: There may be more than one way to spell or say something.

**Across**

- rabbit
- wolf
- buffalo
- turtle

**Down**

- dog
- bear
- horse
- mouse
- chicken



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# Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy/CIVA

## Veterans Gift Bag

A Veterans Gift Bag, which consists of a blue and black CIVA T-shirt, a Comanche Veterans hat, a Honorable Service medallion, and a CIVA challenge coin, a Comanche Nation Veterans vehicle tag, two Comanche Nation stickers, a CIVA coffee cup, a Comanche Nation flag was presented to Navy veteran, Ellis Torralba, in the Patroit Room on January 5.

Torralba served in the Navy from 1964-68, his Navy photo and military bio is in the February edition of *TCNV*. The presentation was made by Lanny Asepermy, Ron Parker and Clifford and Robert Alan Red Elk.

On January 19, Clifford Takawana presented a Gift Bag to Navy veteran, Christopher Brady, after the funeral of his uncle, Marlon Kassanavoid, at Post Oak Cemetery.

Brady served in the Navy from 1995-98.

A gift bag was also mailed to Navy veteran, Don Mejia, in Walters.

Mejia served in the Navy from 1961-66 including duty at the Navsta, Keflavik International Airport in Iceland.

If you are a veteran and have not received a Veterans Gift Bag please contact Lanny Asepermy at (580) 678-4629.



**Ellis Torralba**



**Clifford Takawana and Christopher Brady**

## Flags

The flags at the Comanche War Scout Circle of Honor and the Comanche Indian Veterans Association Court of Honor were changed out on January 9; the flags included two Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and POW/MIA and one Oklahoma flag. The large U.S. and Comanche Nation flags in front of the Nation HQs were also changed. The flags usually last 3-4 months before becoming unserviceable. Despite a very cold temperature of 35 degrees the detail, which consisted of Lanny Asepermy, George Red Elk, Ron Parker and Ramonah Davis, changed the flags in a little less than a hour.



**George Red Elk, Lanny Asepermy and Ramonah Davis preparing to change the Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force flags at the CIVA Court of Honor.**



Courtesy Photo

**A fresh coat of paint covers the concrete at the Court of Honor, a second coat will be added when the weather warms along with bricks bearing the names of 49 Comanche veterans.**

## William Parker Malone

Conducted an in-person interview with Comanche veteran, William Parker Malone, on January 16.

Malone served in the Army from July 10, 2012, to July 9, 2016. (3 years) earning the rank of Specialist. After completing Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., he began his first Advanced Individual Training (AIT), also at Fort Leonard Wood, as an underwater Combat Engineer Driver - he did not complete the school and was sent to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where he completed the 57-week Army Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Operator School as a Drone Operator. SPC Malone served the remainder of his military service with E Company, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR), as a Drone Operator, at Fort Huachuca and Fort Campbell, Ky. While at Fort Huachuca he deployed to Shindand Air Base, Afghanistan for four months. While at Fort Campbell he deployed to Baghdad Air Field and Al Asad Air Base, Iraq for five months. He also deployed to Africa. SPC Malone was discharged at Fort Campbell.

His awards include the Aviation Badge, Army Commendation, Air Force Aerial Achievement, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Afghanistan Campaign with/Campaign Star and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service medals and the Army Service ribbon.

He is currently the Project Manager of Comanche Clean and Safe, a COVID-19 sanitation company based in Purcell, Okla. On January 7, he married the former Tristan Rollins. He is the son of Deborah Parker and William Malone. His grandparents are the late Baldwin "Buster" (1918-2012) and Margierite Tahchawickah Parker (1921-2014) - he is the great-great grandson of Quanah Parker and Chony. He graduated from Wanette, Okla., (population 359) High School and has a Bachelors degree from East Central Oklahoma University in Ada, Okla. SPC Malone is an Eagle Scout.

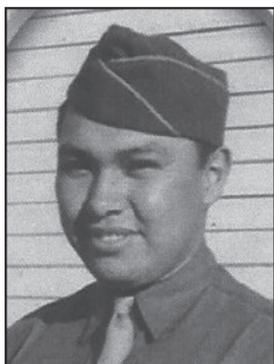


Courtesy Photo

**William Parker Malone Eagle Scouts**

An Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America organization. Only 4% of all Boy Scouts have earned this honor. In addition to William Parker Malone, Code Talker Forrest Kassanavoid, former Ardmore

All-State and OU football player Clifford Nom-ve-tah Takawana (son of Navy veteran Clifford "Beaver" and Cheryl Takawana) and Carter Caddo (grandson of Navy veteran Jimmy Caddo and son of Mark Caddo from Red Wing, Minn.) are Comanches that have earned this prestigious award.



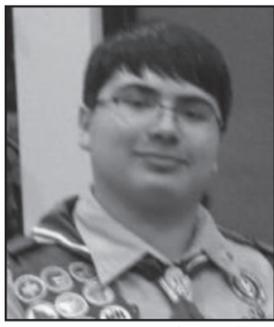
Courtesy Photo

**Eagle Scout Forrest Kassanavoid**



Courtesy Photo

**Eagle Scout Clifford Nom-ve-tah Takawana**



Courtesy Photo

**Eagle Scout Carter Caddo**

## Another WWI Veteran Identified

On January 18, while "surfing" the "Find a Grave" website another Comanche World War I veteran was identified.

The military marker of Homer Buffalo Tabbytite (1897-70) indicates he was a Private in the Army and served during World War I. He is the son of Troop L, 7th Cavalry Comanche veteran John Tabbytite (1872-1961) and Mary Buffalo (1857-1939). He is also the father of World War II Code Talker Anthony Tabbytite (1922-2004).

62 Comanches have now been identified as World War I veterans.



Courtesy Photo

**Military marker of Homer Buffalo Tabbytite**

## Funeral Details

Funeral details were provided for the families of Marlon E. Kassanavoid at Post Oak Cemetery on January 19, Lester Kosechata at Deyo Indian Mission Cemetery on January 22, Lee Victoria at the Fort Sill VA National Cem-

etry and Raymond Naudi Jr at Highland Cemetery both on January 29.

These details marked the 290, 291, 292 and 293 funeral details provided by the CIVA.



Courtesy Photo

**Marlon Kassanavoid**



Courtesy Photo

**Lester Kosechata**



Courtesy Photo

**Lee Victorian**



Courtesy Photo

**Raymond Naudi Jr.**

Kassanavoid was born on August 7, 1947, and passed away on January 12, 2021, at age 73 years. He was drafted into the Army on February 5, 1968, and served, with Honor, until January 25, 1970, (1 year, 11 months and 21 days) earning the rank of Specialist Four. After completing Basic Combat Training at Fort Polk, La., and Advanced Individual, as a Radio Relay and Carrier Operator, at Fort Gordon, Ga., he was assigned to the 201st Signal Company, 32nd Signal Battalion, U.S. Army Europe, for the remainder of his military obligation, at McNair Kaserne in Hochst, Germany for 1 year, 6 months and 2 days. SP4 Kassanavoid was discharged at Fort Dix, N.J. He was awarded the National Defense Service medal and the Sharpshooter Qualification Badge with/Rifle Bar. It is noted he was the son of Comanche Code Talker Forrest Kassanavoid (1921-96) and Numu Pukutsi Lawrence Kassanavoid (1946-2013). His mother is Marian Kassanavoid (1915-2009).

The detail consisted of Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Lanny and Shelley Asepermy, Ron Parker, Clifford and George Red Elk, Clifford Takawana and Jimmy Caddo. The Comanche Nation Police provided the firing squad and the Army a two-Soldier detail.



Courtesy Photo

**From left to right: two-soldier detail, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Lanny Asepermy, George Red Elk, Clifford Takawana, Jimmy Caddo and Shelley Asepermy.**

Kosechata was born on March 20, 1933, and passed away on January 14, at age 87 years. He served, with Honor, in the U.S. Navy from June 4, 1951, to May 16, 1961, (9 years, 11 months and 12 days) earning the grade of Aircraft Ordnanceman Second Class (E-5). His last duty station was at the U.S. Naval Air Station Barber's Point, Oahu, Hawaii, where he was discharged.

AO2 Kosechata served overseas for 3 years, 8 months and 17 days. He was awarded the National Defense Service with/Service Star medal. It is noted that AO2 Kosechata was a devout active member of the CIVA during the 1980's until the early 2000's. His obituary list Lester Kosechata and Mae Wauqua as his parents.

The detail consisted of Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Lanny and Shelley Asepermy, Ron Parker, George Red Elk, Clifford Takawana, Jimmy Caddo and Lyman Guy. Bubba Sovo sang a Comanche hymn, the Adobe Walls and CIVA Gourd Dance song. Caddo officiated the service. The Comanche Nation Police Department provided the firing squad and the Navy a two-Sailor detail.

Victorian is the father of Comanche member, Elizabeth LeBarre Mahseet. He was born on February 21, 1945, and passed away on January 21, 2021, at age 75 years, at the Lawton/Fort Sill VA Center.

Victorian was drafted into the Army and served from September 8, 1966, to September 6, 1968, (1 year and 29 days) earning the rank of Specialist Four. He was a Field Artillery Cannoneer. Victorian served 11 months and 28 days in Vietnam from January 29, 1967, to January 26, 1968, with the 8th Battalion, 6th Artillery, 1st Infantry Division based a Phu Loi Army Airfield, South Vietnam where he earned the Vietnam Service medal with/2 Campaign Stars.

Other awards include the Nation Defense Service, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device medals. He was discharged at Fort Sill.

The detail consisted of Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Lanny and Shelley Asepermy, George and Clifford Red Elk and Clifford Takawana. The Comanche Nation Police Department provided the firing squad and the Army a two-soldier detail.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA and Army funeral details and CNPD firing squad prior at the Fort Sill National Cemetery prior to the Victorian service.**

Naudi was born on March 26, 1944, and passed away on January 24, 2021, at age 76 years at the OKC VA Hospital.

He served in the Marine Corps from July 11, 1963, to June 15, 1967, (3 years, 11

months, and 4 days) earning the rank of Sergeant. After completing his Boot Training at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Center San Diego, Cali., and his Individual Training Regiment at Camp Pendleton, Cali., he was assigned to the 1st Marine Division Shore Party at Camp Delmar, Cali. In September, 1965, he arrived in Vietnam and served there for 1 year, 9 month and 7 days with the 5th and 7th Regiments of the 1st Marine Division. His combat service was with the Marine Military Police, Navy Corpsmen Section and Korean Marines. He was one of the first Comanches to serve in Vietnam. Sgt Naudi was discharged at Marine Air Station El Toro, Cali.

His awards include the Navy/Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, the Combat Action Ribbon, Good conduct, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service with/4 Battle Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm, Vietnam Civil Action Second Class and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device and the Commandant's Award for Expert Rifle Marksmanship. He is the son of World War II veteran, Raymond Sr (1916-93) and Violet Yellowfish (1918-2001) Naudi.

The CIVA Funeral Detail consisted of Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Lanny and Shelley Asepermy, Clifford and George Red Elk, Clifford Takawana, Jimmy Caddo and Ricardo Flores. The Comanche Nation Police Department provided the firing squad and the Marine Corps a two-Marine detail. Bubba Sovo sang the Comanche Marine Corps song.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA wreath fabricated by Fran Red Elk with CIVA funeral detail in background.**

## James Milton Johnson Sr.

James Milton Johnson Sr., served in the Navy from July 2, 1957, to July 22, 1960. He was a Hospital Corpsman. He was born on March 21, 1939, and passed away on January 23, at age 81 years. His final resting place is Highland Cemetery in Lawton.

## Comanche Nation Police Department Firing Squad

In November 2008, the Comanche Business Committee and Comanche Nation Police Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding that the Comanche Nation Police Department would provide a firing squad for funerals of Comanche veterans and non-Comanche veterans married to Comanche members.

Their first detail was on December 8, 2008, for Marlin Goombi Sr. at the Fort Cobb Cemetery. Since they have provided the firing squad for 224 funerals.

Continued from Page 14



**The Comanche Nation Police Department Firing Squad preparing to fire a volley at the Raymond Nauni service.**

**Meech Tahsequah American Legion Post 6**

The newly established American Legion Post 6 was scheduled to be dedicated and named in honor of Comanche missing in action – body not recovered veteran LtCol Meech Tahsequah on January 21. Lanny Asepermy, representing the CIVA, attended a meeting with the Post Commander and his officers on January 7 at 3710 NW 47th Street, Suite B in Lawton – the location of the Post. It was decided to reschedule the dedication until May 21, due to new COVID-19 strain and the current pandemic which has a record number of deaths and positive tests. Also by May more people will have received the virus vaccine.

The new Post will bear Tahsequah's name. There are about 12,000 American Legion Posts in the United States including about 285 in Oklahoma. American Legion Post 6 is the only Post in the United States and Oklahoma named in honor of a Comanche. The name was chosen thanks to the efforts of Post's adjutant, Bob Medina.

Medina is the owner of Aztec Eagle Business Solutions in Lawton and a certified Veterans Service Officer. He is also a Navy retiree who served, as a Navy Corpsman, from 1978-99 earning the grade of Hospital Medical Corpsman (HMC E-7). Medina is a veteran of the Beirut bombing in 1983 and the Gulf and Afghanistan Wars.

He is a native of Corpus Christie, Texas, and has lived in Lawton from 1973-79 and now since 1999. Medina is proud of his German/Mexican/Aztec/Mescalero heritage. He and his wife, the former Lori Terrell, have eleven children. He said, "there were no American Legion Post bearing the names of American Indians locally especially in the heart of Comanche country." After much research he selected Tahsequah to bear the name of the new Post because he is the only Comanche whose remains have not been recovered.

Tahsequah was born on October 27, 1918, in Lawton. He is the son of Charley Komah (1894-55) and Pansy Sapcut (1899-date of death not known). His siblings are Austin Komah (1913-74), Pauline McCully (1921-2012), Kenneth Komah (1923-73) and Lester Komah (1925-2006).

He enlisted in the Army Air Corp on July 14, 1941, and flew 31 combat missions in the European Theater during World War II earning the Distinguished Flying Cross three times and Purple Heart twice. During the Korean War his aircraft crashed after running out of fuel near Susa, North Korea on December 6, 1950. One crewman was rescued, he and the other crewman were never found – he was declared dead while missing in action – body not recovered on February 28, 1954. He is now memorialized at the Courts of the Missing, Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii; the National Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C.; the Ko-

rea War Memorial at Elmer Thomas Park in Lawton; the Comanche War Scout Circle of Honor; the CIVA Court of Honor; and Tahsequah Garden in front of the Nation HQs.

Tahsequah and his late wife, Evelyn Landrum Tahsequah Oliver (1920-2010) had three sons and a daughter – Donald Tahsequah (1941-61), twins Gary Wayne (1944-2011) and Larry Wallace Tahsequah (1944-44) and Paula Neubauer (DOB 1946) who currently lives in Com- fort, Texas.



**Meech Tahsequah prior to entering the military.**

**New Photo**

Received photo from Don Mejia. He served in the Navy from November 30, 1961, to July 29, 1966, earning the grade of Aviation Boat-swain Mate.

Mejia served at the Naval Training Center San Diego, Cali., Naval Base Charleston, S.C., Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Fla., and overseas, for 1 year, 11 months and 25 days at Navsta, Keflavik International Airport, Iceland.

He currently resides in Walters.



**Don Mejia in 1961**

**Comanches and the Army**

The Army was founded on June 14, 1775, as the Continental Army – on June 3, 1784, the United States Army was created. It is the oldest and most senior branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.



**Seal of the U.S. Army**

Of the 1,269 known Comanche veterans about 676 served in the Army, WAAC (Army Women Auxiliary Corps), WAC (Women Army Corps), Army National Guard or Army Reserve. This makes up 53% of all Comanches that served in the military.

**The First Soldiers**

On the first dye at the CIVA Court of Honor the very first name listed is Chebahtah – he is the First Comanche Soldier. He served in 1883 and again in 1885 with the Mescalero Detachment of Army Scouts.

From 1892-97 23 Comanches served with Troop L, 7th Cavalry and another 15 Comanches also served, as Army Scouts, at Fort Sill and

Fort Concho.

John Frederick LeBarre, served with Company F, 4th Texas Regiment, U.S. Volunteer Infantry beginning on June 20, 1898, during the Spanish-American War. His brother, Frank Lewis LeBarre, was the first of 62 Comanches to serve during World War I as he was drafted into the Army on June 25, 1917. He served in France during World War I and was wounded in action.

Edward Albert Nahquaddy Sr. followed LeBarre when he enlisted on February 24, 1918. He also served in France.

60 other Comanches followed as they were either drafted or enlisted beginning in April, 1918, including one Comanche that enlisted into the Navy in May 1918.



**Chebahtah 1852-1931**



**Eli Coffey Troop L, 1865-1954**



**Eustace Merrick Troop L, DOD 1909**



**John Tabbytite Troop L, 1872-1961**



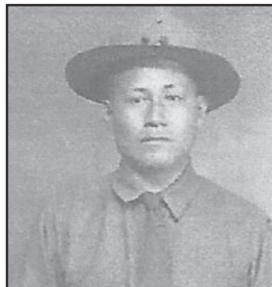
**To-es-sit aka Tu-essa; To-ace-sy, Troop L**



**John Frederick LeBarre (1879-1919), the only known Comanche to serve during the Spanish-American War.**



**Frank Lewis LeBarre (1894-1980) who served during World War I.**



**Edward Albert Nahquaddy Sr. (1894-1974) World War I Code Talker.**

**Fallen Soldiers**

Nine of the 13 Comanche Fallen Warriors were Soldiers. They are: Johnnie Rivas (Jun. 6, 1944); Melvin Myers (Jun. 14, 1944); Eli Hosetosavit (Aug. 1, 1944); Ben Trevino (Aug. 3, 1944); Thomas Chockpoyah (Aug. 7, 1944); Gilbert Vidana (Sep. 16, 1944); Henry Kosechata (May 1, 1945); Henry Conwoop (May 3, 1945) and Dennis Karty (Mar. 30, 1952).



**The first Comanche soldier to fall, Johnny Rivas, a member of the 82nd Airborne Division.**



**The second Comanche soldier to fall, Melvin Myers, a member of the 82nd Airborne Division.**

**Prisoners of War**

Seven Comanches were Prisoners of War. Six were Soldiers.

The Soldiers are: Bruce Klinekole (captured Apr. 9, 1942, liberated Sep. 1, 1945); Myers Wahnee Sr. (captured Mar. 20, 1944, liberated May 29, 1945); Cloyde Gooday (captured Sep.10, 1944, liberated Apr. 25, 1945); Samuel Trevino (captured Dec. 16, 1944, liberated Apr. 4, 1945); Samuel Pewewardy Jr. (captured Dec. 19, 1944, liberated Apr. 2, 1945); and Dennis Karty (captured May 18, 1951, died in captivity Mar. 30, 1952) – all are deceased with Pewewardy being the last living Comanche Prisoner of War. He passed away on February 23, 2009.

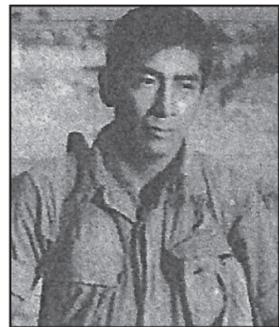


**Bruce Klinekole was a Prisoner of War and a survivor of the Bataan Death March.**

**NUMU PUKUTSI**

28 Comanches have been decorated with Gallantry, Heroism, Bravery or Valor and earned the honorary title of Numu Pukutsi. 15 are Soldiers.

They are: Calvin Atchavit (1893-1943) awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in France during WWII on Sep. 12, 1918; the Silver Star was awarded to Lee Toquohty (1931-2006) during the Korean War on Feb.12, 1951; Michael Waddle during the Vietnam War on Aug.26, 1968; and George Red Elk during the Vietnam War on Mar.18, 1969; The Soldiers Medal was awarded to Rudolph Kosechequetah Jul. 13, 1969 while in Vietnam; Bronze Stars with/Valor Device were all awarded during the Vietnam War to Richard Ortiz on May 7, 1968; Johnny Tiddark on Mar. 23, 1969, Lawrence Kassanavoid (1946-2013) on Sep. 29, 1969, Edwin Chappabitty Jr. twice on Oct. 11, 1969 and Feb. 21, 1970; Brown Yackeyonny Lightfoot (1943-2015) on Jan. 3, 1970; Cloyce Choney twice on May 1, and Jul. 6, 1970; and Kenneth Hernasy (1950-2004) on Dec.1, 1970; the Army Commendation Medals with/Valor Device were awarded to Amos Makes Cry during the Vietnam War on Mar. 18, 1969, Brown Yackeyonny Lightfoot during the Vietnam War in 1969, Lawrence Kassanavoid during the Vietnam War on Aug. 29, 1969; Edwin Chappabitty Jr. during the Vietnam War on Nov.23, 1969, and Kristopher Wermey during the Afghanistan War on Apr. 12, 1970; the Air Medal with/Valor Device was awarded to Joseph Plata (1949-2018) during the Vietnam War on Aug. 12, 1969; and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Star (for Bravery) was awarded to Lightfoot during the Vietnam War in 1969.



**Brown Yackeyonny Lightfoot was decorated three times.**

**A Few Distinguished Soldiers**

Ten Comanches have earned the rank of Lieutenant Colonel (O-5). Six are Soldiers. They are: Kyle Smith; William Clark Southard; Rhonda Williams, Richard Martinez; Mark and Gerald Woommavovah.



**LTC Richard Martinez currently serving with the Texas Army National Guard.**

Four Comanches have earned the enlisted grade of E-9. Two are Soldiers, Lanny Asepermy and Rudolph Kosechequetah.



**Sergeant Major Lanny Asepermy**



**Sergeant Major Rudolph Kosechequetah**

Edward Yellowfish Sr. (1921-93) and Thomas Hettich Jr. are the only Comanches to earn the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4. Both are Soldiers.

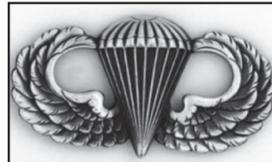


**Chief Warrant Officer 4 Edward Yellowfish Sr.**



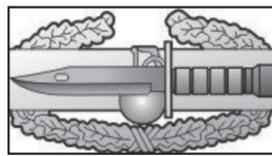
**Chief Warrant Officer 4 Thomas Hettich Jr.**

Rhonda Williams and Tahtziltoey Mithlo are the only female Comanches that are Airborne School graduates. Both are Soldiers.



**Airborne Jump Wings**

Rhonda Williams is also the only female Comanche Soldier to earn the Combat Action Badge.



**Combat Action Badge**

Seven Soldiers served as Combat Medics. They are: Ben Trevino (WWII); Samuel Chahtinney-ackque (WWII); Lonnie Komahcheet (Vietnam War); Kenneth Hernasy (Vietnam War); Michael Squire (Afghanistan War); Joseph Gonzalez (Iraq War); and Gregory Cole (Afghanistan War).



**Combat Medical Badge**

# Obituaries

## Robert Jay Goodin

Robert Jay Goodin, of Elgin, was born November 5, 1964, at the Lawton Indian Hospital to Barbara (Morris) and Kenneth (John) Goodin. He was 56 years old and a member of the Comanche Nation.

Due to Covid-19 restraints, a graveside service was held January 8, at Celestial Gardens in Cyril.

He grew up in Lawton and attended Lincoln Elementary, Central Jr. High and Lawton High School. He graduated from Cameron University in 1989 with a Bachelor's Degree in Music and was on the Dean's Honor Roll for seven semesters. He moved to Michigan to attend the Recording Institute of Detroit and received four certificates in Techniques, Theory and Studio Engineering.

He was an accomplished musician, playing guitar and keyboard, and had a beautiful singing voice. While attending Cameron he appeared in two musicals and was a member of the Cameron Singers, the Chamber Choir and the Lawton-Cameron Choir. He also composed songs and arranged music.

Currently, he was employed by the Apache Casino as a Cage Teller and had previously worked at Comanche Nation Casino for 16 years, where he became Main Bank Manager. While attending college he worked at Memorial Hospital in the Dietary Department for a time and then at local clubs as a disc jockey.

As a teenager he started riding horses and spent time with his father, brother and other family members going to rodeos and participating in parades and grand entries. They all loved fishing, too, especially at night when the big fish came out.

Goodin enjoyed working with wood and along with his father, built furniture for his home. The home where he lived was built over 100 years ago on his great grandmother's original land allotment.

He is survived by his parents, Barbara and Kenneth Goodin of Elgin; and brother David Goodin and wife Tarri, also of Elgin; Aunts Sharon Goodin, Elgin, Shirley Hartline, Chickasha, Letha Morris, Cyril; Uncles Rick Morris, Cyril and Mike Morris, Lawton. Cousins Carla Russell, MS; Bill Goodin, TX; Laura McGregor, Elgin; Christy Calhoun and Scott Hartline, both of Chickasha; Eva and Christina Morris, Cyril; Larry Travis, Chelsea Bennett and Cody Travis, Cyril; Shauna Richards, Dibble; Valorie Newton, Lawton; Bart Goodin, Cache; Janet Porter, Va.; and Jane Antonio, D.C.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Doris (Bosin) and Hugh Morris of Cyril; Ellen (Otipoby) and Joe Goodin of Elgin, Aunt: Arlene Maree Comer, Va.; Uncles: Steve Goodin and Bill Goodin, Elgin, and Archie Goodin, Cache.

## Marlon Elliot Kassanavoid



Courtesy Photo

### Kassanavoid

Marlon Elliot Kassanavoid, 73, of Indianoma went to his heavenly home on January 12.

Graveside service was January 19, at Post Oak Cemetery. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home with Military Honors.

Kassanavoid was born on August 7, 1947, in Lawton to Forrest

and Marian (Terasaz) Kassanavoid. He attended and graduated high school in Dallas.

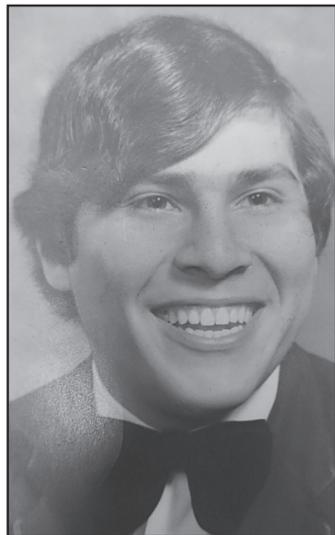
He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1969 and was in the Signal Corp during the Vietnam Era.

He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. Kassanavoid enjoyed watching YouTube Videos, going out to eat, watching the news, listening to music, spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by: sister Amaryllis of Indianoma; nieces and nephews: Stephanie Tahauno, Nancy Brady, Chris Brady, Anthony Frazier, Nicole Kassanavoid, Skylar Kassanavoid great nieces and nephews: Jonathon Ramirez, Matthew Ramirez, Justine Enriquez, Jessica McClung, Josh DeBartolo, Nick DeBartolo, Alyssa Bravo, Sierra Brady, Damien Brady, Ethan Frazier; other family and friends.

He is preceded in death by: parents Forrest and Marian Kassanavoid; sister Janice Sue Terasaz; brother Lawrence "Larry" Kassanavoid.

## Elrod Monoessy Jr.



Courtesy Photo

### Monoessy

Graveside service for Elrod Monoessy Jr. was January 20, at Post Oak Cemetery. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home. Viewing was January 19.

Monoessy, 61, of Lawton went to his heavenly home on January 14. He was born and raised in Walters, Oklahoma, to Elrod "Crutch" Monoessy Sr. and Barbara Jane Ahhaity. Attended Walters schools and later attended and graduated from Fort Sill Indian school in 1977 where he played golf, baseball & football. He worked as a roughneck/oilfield specialist for Lanex drilling 1981-1986, served as secretary treasurer for the Comanche Tribe from 1994-1995 & worked alongside Chad Yakeshi for the Comanche tribes buffalo program.

He survived by: his wife Cheryl Monoessy of the home, his son's Elrod Monoessy III of Lawton, Scott Kaulaity of Lawton, Gordon Allen Tahquechi of Massachusetts, Daughter's Shawna Hawzipta of Lawton & Patricia Ontiveros of Lawton. His grandson's Oscar, Rhys, Kal, Shane, Jaxson, Nathan, Azariah & Casey Jr. His granddaughters Kimberly, Adelita, Kayla, Ioleta, Alannah, Brooklyn, Ariana, Amilia, Mya & Valencia. His sisters Dobbin Knife Chief, Dorothy Tahah, Florence Starr, Althea Gibson, Wilnetta "Sukie" Monoessy her companion Gary Don Mitchell. Brothers Neal "Mack" Monoessy, Charles Berkeley Monoessy & many niece's, nephew's and grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by Elrod "Crutch" Monoessy Sr., Barbara Jane Ahhaity Monoessy, Ruby Mae Woodard, Bill "No Shame" Ahhaity, Christina Dawn Tahhahwah and Spencer Ray Monoessy

## Lester Kosechata



Courtesy Photo

### Kosechata

Lester Kosechata, age 87, of Ft Cobb, went to be with the Lord, January 14, in Skiatook, Oklahoma.

Graveside service at Deyo Mission Cemetery with Jimmy Cad-do officiating.

Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

He was born on March 20, 1933, in Walters Oklahoma to Walter Kosechata and May Wauqua. Kosechata married Jennie M Opp September 29, 1989, in York county Nebraska and enjoyed her companionship and love til she passed. Kosechata was a former director of Indian Housing Management, working with the Shawnee Nation, traveling between offices in Shawnee and Washington D.C. He managed, developed and sold multiple independent business throughout his lifetime. He graduated from San Jose State University in California in 1948 completing two degree's in mathematics and physics. Kosechata served with honor as part of the U.S. Navy and participated in the Korean war on the USS Coral Sea as part of flight crew, he was last stationed out of U.S. Naval Air Station Barber's Point, Oahu, Hawaii and was honorably discharged. He is one of the few remaining full blood elders of the Comanche tribe. As an elder Kosechata has participated in honoring CIVA members as a Head Man Gourd dancer. He participated throughout his life honoring his heritage through dancing and practicing religious and medical practices.

Kosechata is preceded in death by his mother and father, May Wauqua and Walter Kosechata, wife Jeannie Mae Kosechata, Ramona Lynn Kosechata daughter, Nada (Kosechata) Gorbet sister, Dorthy Lee (Kosechata) Baker sister.

Kosechata is survived by his seven of his eight children Lester Charles Kosechata, Michael Gene Kosechata, Ramona Lynn Kosechata (deceased), Donna Lee (Kosechata) LePlante, Cynthia Marie Kosechata, Lesley Kay (Kosechata) Purdom, Walter Nathan Kosechata and Jonathon Joseph Kosechata, several grandchildren and great grandchildren, three brothers, many nieces and nephews.

## Jessie Mildred Mendozarosas



Courtesy Photo

### Mendozarosas

Jessie Mildred Mendozarosas, wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She went to her heavenly

home on January 21.

Graveside was January 27, at Mt. Scott KCA Cemetery with Pastor Bill Foote officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Mendozarosas was born in Lawton, Okla., on January 10, 1946, to Earl and Daisy Perdasofpy Burgess Sr. She graduated from Elgin high school and went on to receive her bachelors in art from Cameron. She was a member of The Comanche Nation.

Mendozarosas was a life-long servant of the lord and attended Mt. Scott Comanche UMC.

She was survived by her beloved husband Miguel Mendozarosas, two children she loved dearly Angela Bordeaux (Mike), Sean Emhoolah (Jessica), loving grandchildren Cynthia, Bryce, Victoria, Zachary, Skye, Alexander, Christina, Nicholas, Mason, Lauren and a very special great-granddaughter Emma Emhoolah. Her sisters and brothers Julene Guitierrez of Espanola, New Mexico, Ronnie Burgess, Donnie Burgess, Barbara Dankowski, Martha Irving, Betty Luna, Leora Ramos and Earl Burgess Jr. Many nieces and nephews that all loved her very much.

Preceded in death her parents Earl and Daisy Burgess Sr.; her brothers Wayne "Pokie" Motah and Teddy Burgess Sr.

## James Milton Johnson Sr.



Courtesy Photo

### Johnson

James Milton Johnson Sr. went to his heavenly home on January 23, in Lawton.

Graveside service was January 28, at Highland Cemetery with Rev. Tony Elkins officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral.

Johnson was born in Lawton on March 31, 1939, to Harold and Bernice (Whitewolf) Johnson. He was raised in Lawton and graduated from Ft. Sill Indian School. He joined the Navy on July 2, 1957, and was honorably discharged on July 22, 1960.

Johnson enjoyed watching football, spending time his family and friends. He was a proud full blood member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

Johnson is survived by: sister Johanna Lambert and brother Arthur Thomas Johnson both of Lawton; two sons: James Johnson Jr. of Akron, Ohio and Joel Laurenzana of Elgin; six grandchildren: Jessica Cable, Alisha Cable, R.T. Cable, Sonia Attocknic, Stefanie Anderson, Kristin Johnson; 17 great grandchildren; two great great granddaughters; uncle Roderick Whitewolf of Lawton.

Johnson is preceded in death by: Parents Harold and Bernice Johnson Sr., wife Geri Johnson; daughter Lena Jeanie Johnson and two sons Edward Johnson and Randy Johnson; granddaughter Cathy Tasso; three sisters: Naomi Lyles, Edith Reyes, and Betty Elrod; brother Harold Johnson Jr., Edmond Gerald Bigbow; grandparents: Maude Chaat Blevins and Ed Whitewolf.

## Raymond "Dink" Nauni



Courtesy Photo

### Nauni

Raymond "Dink" Nauni went to his heavenly home on January 24.

Graveside service was January 29, at Highland Cemetery with Pastor Donnie Ahhaity officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Nauni born on March 26, 1944, to Raymond Moran Pevodah Nauni and Violet Penockquaddy Yellowfish Nauni.

On a Sunday afternoon after his mother went into labor on their way to attend Church at the Comanche Reformed Church in Lawton, Okla. He was born in the Walters Hospital, Walters, Oklahoma. Nauni was raised by his grandmother Ruby Suwybitten Pohawchiko Pevodah Nauni along with his brother Bobby his sister Marion and Cousin Haddon Nauni Jr., east of Walters until he moved to his parent's house in Lawton and went to Elementary school at Roosevelt Elementary School. After the 4th grade, he moved back to Walters to attend the 5th grade to the 8th grades. He moved back to Lawton to attend Central Jr. High and Lawton Senior High School. He participated in various Clubs and Sports while in school.

He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. which had been his lifelong dream to be a Marine, In July 1963 and served honorably to June 1967. While he was in Boot Camp, he was the Guideon Bearer for the platoon, this person is chosen to represent the platoon by the Drill Instructors and Staff, he was nominated to be Honor Man for the platoon #270, Second Battalion. Nauni was also the high shooter at the Rifle Range at Camp Matthews and graduated on November 26, 1963. He then went to the Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Onofre, at Camp Pendleton. He then went to College on his G.I. Bill in California.

Nauni served with the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, in the 1st Landing Support Battalion, of the Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, which was later converted and recommissioned as a new unit for Vietnam renamed the 1st Shore Party Battalion and a specially trained Helicopter Support Teams and combat Engineers unit at Camp Del Mar, on Camp Pendleton. He was with the first Marines to land in Vietnam in 1965, at Chu Lai, where his unit secured the Air Base and set up the perimeter with concertina wire for security from sapper and Mortar attacks. The Viet Cong had damaged the Air Field until no aircraft could take off or land because of the continuing attacks and with the holes and air-craft wreckage in the runway. His unit repaired the runway and set up a base camp on a hill near 7th Motors and LAAM's (Light Anti-Aircraft Missiles) units. He was one of the Battalions high shooters qualifying as an expert three years in a row and earning the Commandant of the Marine Corps award bar to his Expert Rifleman badge, and was assigned as the heavy weapons (0331) M-60's and 50 caliber machine guns squad leader for the northern perimeter which his unit maintained until his unit then moved to Da Nang air base and maintained the Northern Perimeter from attack while participating in small unit patrols and operations.

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He stayed until June of 1967, and was discharged at El Toro Marine Air Station, California. During his time in the Marine Corps., he served with the Military Police, Navy Corpsman unit, and Korean Marines. He was assigned as an aide and bodyguard for the Battalion Commander, Col. R. T. Taylor Jr. He was selected as a member of the Color Guard after he was commended at Battalion inspections and at the N.C.O. (Non-commission Officers) School for Outstanding military appearance and bearing while at Camp Del Mar. During his time in the Marine Corps., he was meritously promoted to Sergeant (E-5) he was offered Staff Sergeant (E-6) if he would reenlist, however, he wanted to pursue his education.

Nauni was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with device, USMC Good Conduct Medal, Commandant of the Marine Corps. award, Vietnamese Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnamese Civil Actions Ribbon, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Medal, Expert Rifleman Badge 1963, 1964, 1965. Numerous letters of commendation and awards. Nauni was an Agent Orange Disabled Vietnam Veterans.

Nauni earned an Associate Degree in Management, from Riverside City College, a Bachelors Degree from Cameron University, Lawton, Okla., and a Master of Business Administration for Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Nauni worked numerous jobs to include Sales, Construction, Oil Field pipe fitter, Laborer, Warehouseman, Property and Supply, Pharmacy Tech., Fork Lift operator, Heavy Truck Driver, Ambulance, Tanker, Wrecker, 25 Ton Lowboy Tractor driver, Business Development Specialist for the Comanche Nation, Johnson O'Malley Education Tutor, Director of Finance, Substitute Teacher for Lawton Public Schools, Teacher at Draughon College, Director of Education at the School of Technical Training, and teaching basic Law, Medical Classes, English, Math, Accounting and Computer classes. University of Southern Colorado as a lecturer, Webster University Adjunct Professor, Teaching at Fort Sill and Altus Air Force Base as a Graduate class professor of Finance and Budgeting, he was credential to teach for Pike Peak College. He was the Chief Executive Officer of the Comanche Nation Tax Commission, for many years.

He owned and operated a Tax Preparation business for many years, and he prepared Taxes for many people free of charge when they couldn't afford to pay him.

Nauni belonged to and served as an elected officer for numerous organizations such as the Safety Steward for the Longshoreman's Union in California, Chairman of the Walters Homecoming Powwow Committee, Secretary of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association, Deacon, Sunday School Teacher, Preaching Elder, of the Comanche Reformed Church, Vice-Chairman for the CRC Consistory. Chairman of the Reformed Church in American Indian Ministries committee. He was Vice-Chairman, and Treasurer for Oklahoma Intertribal Tax Association. He was a Member of the Comanche Little Ponies. The Comanche Indian Veterans Association, and the VFW.

Nauni was Baptized in the Comanche Reformed Church as an infant at two weeks old prior to his father leaving for Europe during WWII, He was taught how to sing Comanche Hymns by his father and loved to sing his fathers, grandfather's great grandfather's and uncle's songs, among the other Comanche hymns which he dearly loved. He took great pleasure in serving the Lord for many years. He was a preaching elder and preached Sunday Services when the Pastor was not available and preached at other Churches and Funerals and weddings as requested. He was a man of Prayer. Raymond was a Powwow Southern Straight Dancer and won all across the Western United States and in Oklahoma. The wins he was most proud of was the World Championship Southern Straight Dance Contest

in Fire Lake Arizona, the First Place Straight dance contest at Anadarko Fair, and First Place in the Comanche Walters Homecoming Powwow. He stopped counting the wins when he past one hundred wins.

Nauni has been quoted with in book such as: "Reformed Church in America", "Comanche Today", The "Comanches" Cowboys & Indians, "The Comanche Code Talkers". Raymond's Paternal grandparents were (Harry) Pevodah and (Ruby) Suwybitten (Pohawpatchoko) his Paternal Great Grandparents were (Frank) Chekovi and Nauni, his Paternal Great Great Grandparents were Mo-cho and ME-A-KAH.

His Maternal Grandparents were (Timothy) Penockquaddy (Yellowfish) and (Emma) Kakanusupini (Eckiwardy), this Maternal Great Grandparents were Paqueohaupith (Yellowfish) and Tahwehkee (Monassey)his Maternal Great-Great Grandparents were Ho-Yunny and Mah-Su-Tigh

Nauni married his true love Wanda Gates, who he met while she was working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Riverside California he would say "Just one look is all it took to fall in love with her!" He would say she was his flower in the desert. They married in San Bernardino, California on June 15, 1978. They have four children, one girl Brook Nauni- Powell and spouse Marshall Powell Jr., three sons, Raymond Derrick Nauni and spouse Maggie, Dominic Walker, and Daniel Nauni of the home.

Grandchildren are Brooklyn Nauni and spouse Phillip Beach, Casandra Powell-Thompson and spouse Dean Thompson, Celeste Powell, Javier Walker, Rocinda Nibbs, Alexandria and Catherine Horn. Great Grandchildren are Benjamin Toahty-Johnson, Kittie Toahty-Johnson, Stormy Toahty-Johnson, Tommy Chasenah, Raynyttah Nibbs, Gina Nibbs, Roshawn Nibbs, Michael Wixey.

Nauni had many students, friends, and relatives he is survived by. This includes his wife of the home, his children, sister Marion and her spouse Husky Simmons of Geronimo, sister Gwen Brinkman of Lawton, sister Christine and spouse Gus McCarthy of Lawton, Okla., brother Vandell of Cache.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brother Bob Nauni and sister-in-law Margaret Nauni and brother Willis Nauni.

### Kerwin Louis Pewewardy

Kerwin Louis Pewewardy, 63, of Lawton, Okla., passed away on January 25. The son of Samuel "Doc" Pewewardy, Jr., and Mary Lee Kaulaity Pewewardy was born on May 7, 1957, at the Fort Sill Reynolds Army Hospital. He was the youngest of six boys. During his early school years in Lawton, Pewewardy was known to be an exceptional athlete.

Pewewardy graduated from Lawton High School in 1976. He worked multiple jobs at the Fort Sill Army Base and Comanche Nation. Kerwin is Comanche and Kiowa and citizen of the Comanche Nation.

Pewewardy is survived by brothers Farley Pewewardy, Cornel Pewewardy, LaNeal Pewewardy and Zackie Pewewardy; and preceded in death by his brother, Stanton Pewewardy. He is also survived by many cousins, nieces, and nephews. His partner Alisha Pino survivors include: daughter Claudia Collazo, daughter Stephanie Quille, son Ping Lu, son Esteban Ramirez; nephew Vladimir; grandchildren Giovanni, Jade, Zion, Zeke, Rosasina, Leilani, Mateo, Jonathan, Dyland, and Jiali.

Pewewardy will be remembered for his signature laugh. His greatest joy was being around family and friends laughing and participating in Comanche and Kiowa cultural events. He enjoyed gourd dancing all over the country.

Pewewardy did not want a funeral service and left instructions where he wanted his ashes to be spread. Thank you for all of your prayers, support, shared memories, and especially for honoring the family's wishes.

### Rhoda Colleen Nevaquaya



Courtesy Photo

#### Nevaquaya

Rhoda Colleen Nevaquaya, 96, of Indianoma went to her Heavenly Home on January 27, with her loving family by her side.

Graveside services was February 1, at Post Oak Cemetery with Pastor Dean Edwards officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

CDC guideline was followed at the funeral home and at the burial. Face masks and social distancing was followed at all times.

Nevaquaya was born in Lawton on November 9, 1924, to Herman and Bessie (Parker) Asenap. She graduated from Indianoma High School and the attended Cameron Collge. In a typing contest Nevaquaya was the fastest typing on a manual typewriter at 120 words a minute.

She was a proud full blood member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma and a member of the Post Oak Church in Indianoma.

Survivors include her children: Terry Perryman (Kathy), Darlene Holmes (Dean), Bernadette Richardson, Bernard Tate Jr., Margala Asenap.; Special Nieces: Judy Gordon, Linda Yackeyonney, Sue Chance, Ardith Leming; Grandchildren: Todd, Tadd, Dean J, Deborah, Bethany, Tate, Lean, Feather, Jeremy. Great grandchildren: Ashlyn, Madison, Dakota, Addison, Reiko, Jordan, Tyce, Nolyn, Elyn, Turner, Kayden, Mila, Rowyn, Ryleigh and Bostyn.

Preceded in death by her husband, Bernard Tate, Sr, son Darryl Hernasey, daughter, Arlene Asenap, son, Mike Asenap, and grandson, Terry Perryman Jr.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Post Oak Parsonage Fund.

### Jeremy Levon Bennett



Courtesy Photo

#### Bennett

Jeremy Levon Bennett, 45, of Lawton, Oklahoma passed away January 26.

Born March 16, 1975, in Santa Barbara, California, Bennett's early childhood was spent in the California sun, running free on sandy beaches, riding bicycles, skateboarding, and burying G.I. Joe's in the mud. Bennett moved to Oklahoma as a teen with his father, and he met an entire new group of uncles, aunts, and cousins - who became his lifelong friends.

Music was a huge part of Bennett's life, inheriting a love of music from both parents. He began playing seriously when he came to Oklahoma, and friends and family have many stories of fabulous evenings spent playing music together. His funny compositions were an extension of his unique and goofy sense of humor. He especially enjoyed time spent with his wife and children, and he was proud of his work in the oil rigs. He never did anything half-way, and he was always held in high regard by bosses and co-workers alike.

Bennett was preceded in death by his father, Elmer Bennett. He is survived by his wife Ashley Roach Bennett, children Ashln Roach, Emily, and Ethan Bennett,

uncles Lewis and Jesse Bennett, mother JoAnn Ferns, Aunt Nancy Mason, and many more loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and a vast ocean of loving friends.

Graveside services was held at Washita Cemetery, Fletcher on February 6.

### Larry Shawn Kopepasah



Courtesy Photo

#### Kopepasah

Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories."

Larry Shawn Kopepasah, was born April 8, 1963, to Maudean Tabbytite Kopepasah and Lindis Moses Kopepasah in Lawton, Okla. He was the youngest of the four sons. They all lived in Lawton among many family members and friends until 1975, then they moved to Oklahoma City. His love of sports began at Wilson Elementary, Lawton, and continued in Webster Middle School, Oklahoma City, he made lifelong friends wherever he went. Then his sports continued at Southeast High School where he wrestled, played football, and tennis. He was quite the tennis player and continued playing after high school. During this time his love of music grew into all kinds of genres, but his love for Aerosmith outweighed them all - going to numerous kinds of concerts, especially Aerosmith.

After high school, he attended Rose State College, then moving on to UC Berkeley. Again, making many friends that lasted his lifetime.

He returned to Oklahoma, where he enjoyed his time with family and friends. He enjoyed fishing, OU football, concerts and mostly being with his family. He adored his mama and loved watching OU football with his brothers. And loved being the life of the party! And when it was time for the Kopepasah Family Gatherings, he would start shopping for the Christmas event months in advance. He would have to have the most perfect Bad Santa gifts! He loved his nieces and nephews with all his heart and would always say "Christmas is about the kids"

He always took every opportunity to make people smile and laugh, always so positive and happy, sharing it with everyone around him. He never knew a stranger, because everyone was his friend.

He met Tammy on New Year's Eve, 1999. There was an instant attraction. Soon after they became quite the couple, taking Tammy and her children on day trips to Mt. Scott, watching OU football, fishing, going to concerts and watching the sunset. Sometimes they even got to get a way without the kiddos!

On April 16, 2001, Larry and Tammy welcomed their son, Jakob Nathaniel into the world. The love and excitement on Kopepasah's face when he was handed his baby was immeasurable. He hardly put him down his first year of life. Kopepasah was on top of the world with Jakob by his side, they were inseparable. Kopepasah loved his son more than life itself, he would do anything for him. Kopepasah and Tammy also have a grandson, Asher, from their daughter Sarah. Asher loved his PaPa and his PaPa loved him, they enjoyed trips to the park. He always made sure Asher had all the toys and goodies he wanted. Again Kopepasah would say "It's all about the kids!"

His bond became greater when Jakob started playing football. There is something about a father son bond when their boy starts playing a sport. Every social media post was about Jakob. He was very proud of

him. He would have been very proud of him, no matter what he chose to do. They were the best of friends and always will be for eternity..

We take comfort in knowing he is with our Heavenly Father and will always be with Jakob and his family. Forever in our hearts! He will be missed by many family members and friends.

Kopepasah survived by his son, Jakob Kopepasah, Companion Tammeria Fade, Yukon, Okla; Stepchildren: Nicholas Hubbell and family, Suffolk, Va.; Sarah Elms and family, Yukon, Okla.; Sergeant First Class, Tucker Hubbell, Clarksville Tenn.

Mother: Maudean (Deanie) Tabbytite, Yukon; brothers: Brandon Kopepasah and family, Darell Kopepasah and family, all of Oklahoma City; Kyle Kopepasah and family Yukon; Lindis Moses Kopepasah of Washington and sister Rachael Kopepasah of Washington.

Preceded in death: His father, Lindis Kopepasah; grandmother, Bertha Mae Tabbytite.

Sunrise: April 18, 1963

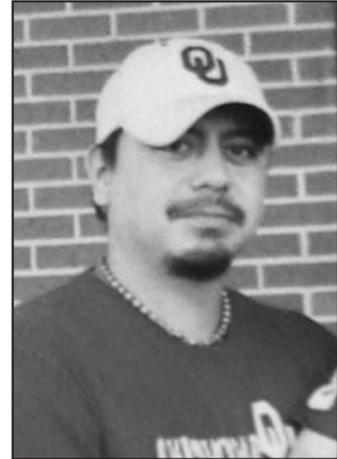
Sunset: December 22, 2020

Graveside services was January 4, at Deyo Cemetery. Brent Avery, officiating.

Casket Bearers: Jakob Kopepasah, Brandon Kopepasah, Darell Kopepasah, Kyle Kopepasah, Dean Pence.

Honorary Casket Bearers: Shane Clinton Kopepasah, Justin Cerday Kopepasah, Billy Salazar and Gus Salazar.

### Andrew Blaine Weryavah



Courtesy Photo

#### Weryavah

Andrew Blaine Weryavah was a truly one of a kind father, son, brother, grandson, uncle, nephew and friend. He left this world suddenly to return to his heavenly home on February 6, at the age of 37.

Graveside service was February 12, at Cache Creek KCA Cemetery west of Apache. Services were under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Weryavah was born on July 26, 1983, to Bert Weryavah and Sandra Hester in Lawton, Okla. He was a proud member of the Comanche tribe. Weryavah graduated Eisenhower high school in 2002 he also attended vocational college with a degree an information technology. He went on to open a construction company with his father He loved to supervise his crew. If you knew Weryavah you knew he liked to be his own boss, he also loved his dog Baby Girl.

Weryavah had a passion for playing baseball he pitched for the Eisenhower Eagles and he also played quarterback in high school for the football team. He always loved to watch his nieces and nephews carry on his love for the game. Weryavah was a proud OU fan and also loved his Patriots. His love for the game will continue and will always be remembered by the family.

Weryavah leaves behind his Daughter Kayla and his son Riley, his father Bert Weryavah & companion Marilyn Guerrero, His Mother Sandra Hester. His sisters Ariel Hazard and Brooke Weryavah, his step brother Dusty Pahdocony, his nieces and nephews Cameron Alize Joshua Grady and Nichole. His grandmother Joyce Hester and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He proceeded in death by: his paternal grandparents Andrew and Geraldine Weryavah his maternal Grandfather Arnold Hester alongside many uncles, aunts and cousins.

# Milestones

## Happy Belated Birthday

January 12- Destiny Arkeketa  
 February 3- Nitaya Arkeketa-Perez  
 February 5- Bonnie Dean  
 February 5- Nancy Nauni  
 February 5- Gwen Brinkman  
 February 5- Marcy Soto  
 February 9- Keyona Arkeketa Gonzalez  
 February 10- J.J. Yeahquo  
 February 14- Greg Dean  
 February 15- Kristian Arkeketa Gonzalez  
 February 24- Edwin Akoneto  
 February 24- Norman Nauni, Jr.  
 February 25- Marshall Powell  
 February 27- Jan Stumblingbear

## Happy Birthday

March 1- Matthew Asetamy  
 March 3- Kobe White  
 March 9- Erin West  
 March 9- Ryan Cintron  
 March 11- Noah Smith



Happy Belated Birthday  
 Destiny Arkeketa  
 January 12



Happy Belated Birthday  
 Nitaya Arkeketa-Perez  
 February 3



Happy Belated Birthday  
 Keyona Arkeketa  
 Gonzalez February 9



Happy Belated Birthday  
 Kristian Arkeketa-  
 Gonzalez February 15



Happy Birthday  
 Kobe Allen White  
 March 3



Happy 16th Birthday  
 Noah Smith  
 March 11



Happy 18th Birthday  
 Larissa Smith  
 March 14

March 11- Rose Edith Nauni (92)  
 March 14- Larissa Smith  
 March 15- Samantha Littles  
 March 16- Keegan Avra  
 March 19- Robbie Cable  
 March 23- Miranda  
 March 23- Zayden Littles

## Happy Anniversary

Alberta & Danny Avra  
 February 14- Celebrating 37 yrs



Happy 16th Birthday  
 Kalia Tanequodle  
 March 22



Happy Birthday  
 Zayden Littles  
 March 23

Happy Birthday  
 Robbie Cable  
 March 19  
 Best althaa ever, love  
 Nikki, Tish, Daniel,  
 Josie, too many to  
 name lol

The Comanche Nation News  
 April- Milestone  
 Deadline~ March 15  
 Email:  
 candace.todd@comanchenation.com  
 Mail:  
 Comanche Nation/PIO P.O. Box 908  
 Lawton, OK 73501  
 Contact: (580) 492-3621

# EGG MY YARD

Available in Lawton, Elgin, Cache, Duncan, Apache, Chattanooga, Snyder

Candy Stuffed  
 \$25 = 30 eggs  
 \$45 = 60 eggs  
 \$70 = 100 eggs

*This will help support the  
 dancers at Lawton Ballet  
 Theater.*

*To place your order please text:*  
 Nicole 405-829-0470  
 Katie 580-704-8228

Add ons  
 \$6 = 5 toy eggs  
 \$6 = stuffed animal  
 \$3 = personalized  
 letter

Bunny will arrive April 3 after 6pm



## Warrior Cafe

Richard and Stacie Chibitty, owners  
 900 Showplace Blvd. Indianahoma, OK

M-F, Daily 8:30 a.m.- 2p.m. & Evening 5p.m.-9 p.m.  
 Saturday 8:30 a.m.- 9 p.m.  
 Sunday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

warriorcafe@yahoo.com  
 (580)246-8339

www.facebook.com/warrior-cafe    GAME ROOM

“FOR SEE, THE WINTER IS PAST, THE RAINS ARE OVER AND GONE. THE FLOWERS APPEAR ON THE EARTH, THE TIME OF PRUNING THE VINES HAS COME, AND THE SONG OF THE TURTLEDOVE IS HEARD IN OUR LAND.

THE FIG TREE PUTS FORTH IT’S FIGS, AND THE VINES, IN BLOOM, GIVE FORTH FRAGRANCE....”

SONG OF SOLOMAN  
2:11-13

### 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



COMANCHE NATION WORKFORCE PRESENTS:

## AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING (ACT) ASSISTANCE

HOSTED BY: 

TEST DATE: APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 @ 8:00AM (TENTATIVE DATE)



Applications available March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 and located at 1608 SW 9<sup>th</sup> St., Lawton, OK 73505

**First come, first serve of fifty (50) youth applicants**

Federally Funded Event

For more information contact: Workforce Office @ 580-492-3257

- Must be an enrolled High School student at a local public school.
- Must be able to take ACT Test and ACT Written Exam.
- Required by ACT for student to have a form of photo identification.
- Must be between the ages of 16 and 19 years old (Junior & Senior grades).
- Must reside within Comanche and Cotton counties of Oklahoma.
- Must meet Department of Labor Income Poverty Guidelines.
- One (1) Youth per Household only.
- Open to those youth who did not participate in Workforce's hosted Driver's Education course with Wade's Driving School.



## DRIVER'S EDUCATION (ROUND 2)



Tentative Starting Date: April 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

- Wade's Driving School will be hosting the event.
- Wade's Driving School will set the schedule for student.
- Applications available March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and located at 1608 SW 9<sup>th</sup> St., Lawton, OK 73505.
- Deadline March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 or until all twenty (20) positions filled.
- Must apply in-person only.
- Must submit supporting documentation in-person only; no emailing or faxing.
- Supporting documentation include: one (1) form of photo identification (CDIB will not count), CDIB Card/Letter, Social Security Card, and Proof of High School Enrollment (current class schedule, Progress Report, Report Card, etc.).
- Incomplete applications will not be held nor accepted.

**MUST BE ENROLLED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT**

---

**MUST BE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 18 YEARS OLD**

---

**FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE OF TWENTY (20) YOUTH APPLICANTS**

---

**MUST BE COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBER ONLY**

---

**MUST ABIDE BY WADE'S DRIVING SCHOOL SCHEDULING**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
 Workforce Office @ 580-492-3257





# Comanche Nation Grasshopper Program

## !! ATTENTION ELDERS!!

The 2021 Grasshopper Program season is here to provide lawn mowing services to our Comanche Elders (62 and above) or 100% disabled tribal members that reside in Comanche, Caddo, Tillman, Cotton, & Jackson Counties.

Eligibility Requirements: In order to be eligible for services, applicants must be a enrolled Comanche Nation tribal member and:

- Elder must be head of household
- Reside in the home for which the lawn mowing services are being requested
- Be 62 years of age or older
- 100% Permanently Disabled, if under the age of 62

## How To Apply:

- Complete a Comanche Nation Grasshopper Program application via online
- Provide a copy of following documentation
- Picture ID (Driver's License, State ID, ect.)
- Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB card or tribal enrollment card)
- Proof of Residency (utility bill, rent receipt, lease agreement, deed to house, ect.)
- Proof of 100% Disability, if under the age of 62 (legal documentation)

\*\*Incomplete Applications will NOT be accepted\*\*

**Comanche Nation Grasshopper Program**  
 501 NE Lawrie Tatum Rd Lawton, OK 73507 Phone: 580-919-9105  
 Marshall Niedo (Grasshopper Supervisor)

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26TH ANNUAL  
**GET IT IN GEAR**  
**AUTO LOAN EVENT**

RATES AS LOW AS **2.74% APR\***

PLUS, NO PAYMENT FOR  
**90 DAYS!**



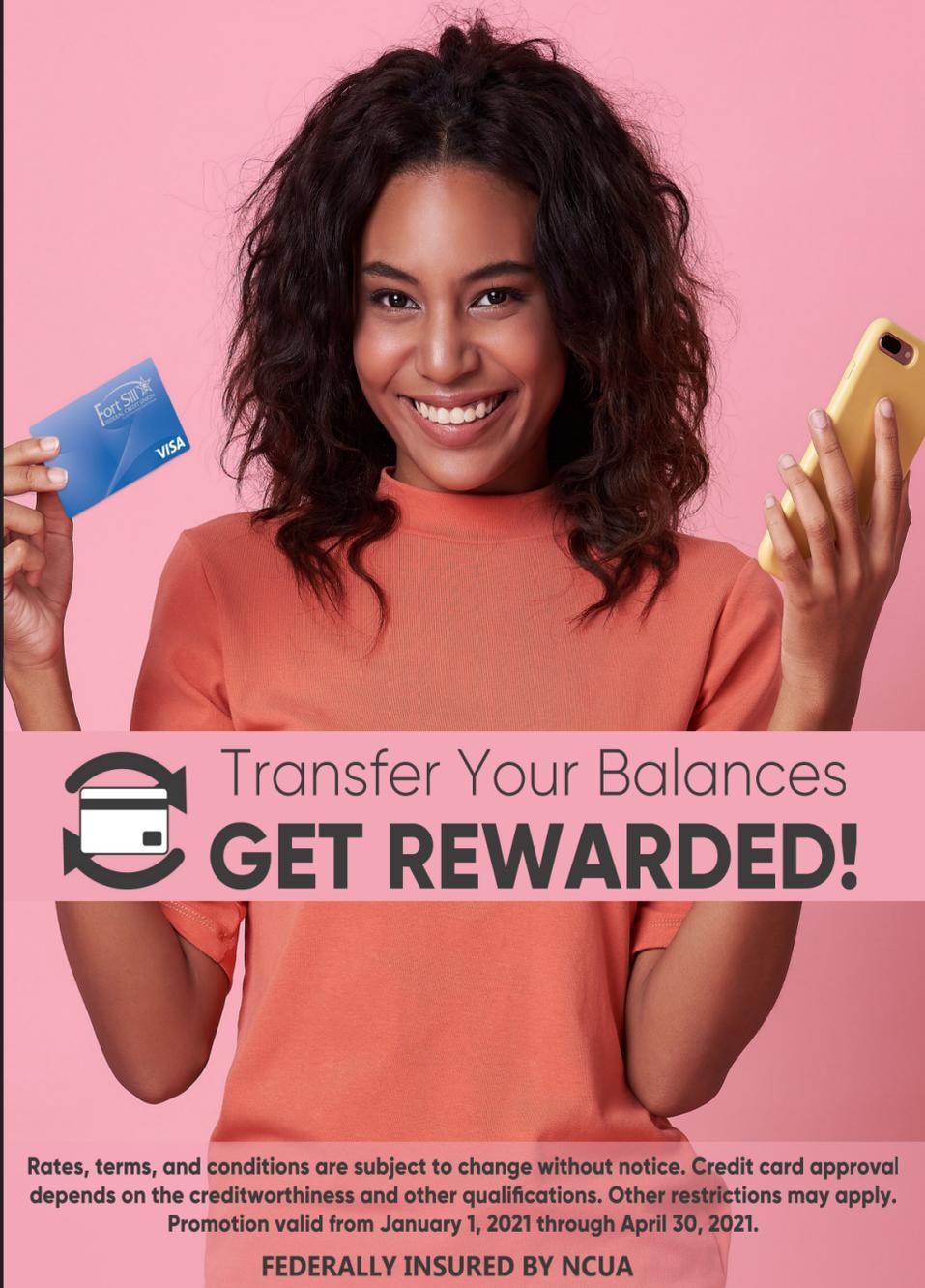
APPLY @ **FSFCU.COM/GIIG**  
 580.353.2124 | 800.654.9885

\*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is the advertised base rate. Rate is subject to credit worthiness. Other restrictions may apply. Not available on current FSFCU loans. All loans are subject to approval. Payment example for 48 months at 2.74% is \$22.05 for each \$1000 financed. Rates offered December 7, 2020 through March 31, 2021.

**FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA**



**uChoose Rewards®**



Transfer your credit card balances to a FSFCU **VISA® REWARDS CREDIT CARD!**

Competitive, low rates

No annual fee

No interest, 25-day grace period for repayment in full

Register your Visa® with **uChoose Rewards®** and automatically receive **5,000 uChoose POINTS!**

PLUS...10,000 uChoose Rewards® points for balance transfers of \$2,500 or less and 15,000 points for transfers over \$2,500

Earn one point for every dollar you spend with your card. Redeem your points for amazing rewards like travel, brand-name merchandise, event tickets, gift cards and more!

Register your Visa® at **uchooserewards.com**

For more information call **580.353.2124** or visit **fsfcu.com** today.



Transfer Your Balances  
**GET REWARDED!**

Rates, terms, and conditions are subject to change without notice. Credit card approval depends on the creditworthiness and other qualifications. Other restrictions may apply. Promotion valid from January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021.

**FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA**