



Yellowfish Ten Bears Tabanika Big Looking Glass Eschiti Moway Otter Belt Parker Whitewolf Horseback Wildhorse

THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Comanche Strong, Stronger Together

VOLUME 22 EDITION 7

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mta (July) 2021

COMANCHE NATION ARP AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN PROGRAM

American Rescue Plan Questions are Answered

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The applications for the Comanche Nation American Rescue Plan (ARP) are streaming in, and many tribal members have questions about whether their applications were received if they turned it in online.

"If you turned in a completed application online, then an email confirming your application will be sent to you," said Rhianna Nelson, ARP Coordinator. "This confirmation is to verify we received your ARP application."

Other Frequently Asked Question are answered about the Comanche Nation American Rescue Plan (ARP).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. I did not receive a third CARES Act Check. Will I receive one with the ARP?

A. Yes, the Comanche Nation ARP staff is working on processing and mailing the checks to the Comanche Tribal Members who did not receive a third CARES Act check. They will be mailed in bulk once the checks are processed.

Q. What if I made an error on the Comanche Nation ARP Application?

A. If you made an error on the application, call the Comanche Nation American Rescue Plan Office at (580)-492-6173, leave name and a good telephone number, and a staff member will call you back. The staff can edit your application with submitted corrections. You can also contact the ARP office via email at ARP@comanchenation.com.

Q. When will the first round of ARP funds be released?

A. The funds will be mailed out on July 16, 2021 through the US Postal Service or if you chose direct deposit that will be the first date of disbursement. Mailings and direct deposit will be done weekly.

Q. Can someone use my role number to fill out the ARP application?

A. Once a Comanche Nation Roll Number is used, it cannot be used again, and will not allow the person filling out the application to continue until the role number is changed. They will get a message saying that role number has already been used. Call the Comanche Nation American Rescue Plan Office at (580) 492-6173 or email the office at ARP@comanchenation.com

Q. I am not on the Comanche Nation roll, but my child is. Can I apply on my child's behalf?

A. Yes, fill out the ARP application with the parent's information, and include the child's name and Comanche enrollment number.

Q. I applied for food assistance on the application. What will I receive?

A. You will receive a \$250 Walmart grocery card. It can only be used for groceries, and will not accept non-grocery items.

Q. I applied for the home repair. What will I receive?

A. If the application is completed with the proper paperwork of verification of home ownership and other necessary documentation, each home will receive up to \$35,000 for home repair. It is per household upon providing work quotes for the repairs, proof of ownership, and CDIB with each application.

Dr. Cornel Pewewardy Sworn In as Vice Chairman of the Comanche Nation



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Chairman, right, Mark Woommavovah, swears-in Vice Chairman, Dr. Cornell Pewewardy June 15, at the Comanche Nation Complex's Comanche Code Talker Room, with a packed audience. Assisting with the Swear in-In Ceremony is Comanche Business Committeewoman, Alice Kassanavoid.

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Absentee voters had the most impact on the June 12, Vice Chairman Run-off Election. With absentee votes of 672 out of the total ballots of 1,102, they carried 60.98% of the election totals.

Dr. Cornel Pewewardy won the run off election by 58 votes, having a total of 580 votes, against incumbent LaNora Parker, who had a total of 522 votes.

The Swearing in Ceremony took place June 15, at the Comanche Nation Complex's Comanche Code Talker Room. It began with a greeting from Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, who commemorated the outgoing Vice Chairwoman, Lanora Parker.

"She served us with dignity, honor and respect," he said.

Chairman Woommavovah presented her with a Comanche Pendleton.

"It is my distinct honor to serve the Comanche Nation, and I came to congratulate Cornel in his new position, and I believe that the slogan is very true. 'Comanche Strong, Stronger Together'. I would also like to say I appreciate our CBC. They are very united, and communicate very well for progress. I really believe we are on a new Comanche Decade of Progress because we do

work together."

She ended by thanking her supporters.

"God bless the Comanche Nation."

The Oath of Office was conducted by Chairman Woommavovah and CBC No.3, Alice Kassanavoid.

Following the Swearing In, Dr. Pewewardy spoke to the Nation.

"Thank you for electing me as your new Vice Chair. I am humble by your confidence that I will be able to lead and represent you on the Comanche Business Committee. We acknowledge it with respect, the Comanche People's traditional territory and the land of the City of Lawton stands and the Southern Plains People whose historical relationship with the land continues to this day. The land is a part of our teachers, and we lift up the land as much as the land lifts us up. Thereby, we are lifted by others. Of course, I would not be standing here if it was not for my immediate family; my parents Doc and Mary Lee Pewewardy, along with my life's partner Dr. Nacona Pewewardy. She could not be here today because she is recovering from a total knee replacement just a few days ago, but she sends her blessings."

He gave acknowledgment to his brothers LaNeal Pewewardy,

Donald Komartley, and his sisters Cheryl Pewewardy, and other family members and friends. He included his former students, teachers, mentors, spiritual advisors, elders, the Creator, and the Ingenious Peoples Day Committee

"I am thankful for their support and appreciate their sturdy challenge they have provided the City of Lawton to make the invisible visible. I wish to mention, in particular, my mother's best friend, Aurillia Craig, who I see as my mother, in the Comanche way."

He expressed his gratitude to his campaign volunteers.

"This Swearing In Ceremony is a gathering of young and old representing so many aspects of the contemporary Comanche community. Many other tribal leaders, educators, allies, and non-Indigenous peoples. I pay respect and tribute to the current Comanche Business Committee, and you do have a strong Comanche Business Committee. I have taken the elected Oath of Office and have sworn faithfully and partially to serve the Comanche Nation. To me, this oath is about the Comanche citizenry. In other words, Comanches both local and far away from the complex, those are just as important as those who are

See, SWEARING IN, Page 4

Tribal Administrator Position To Be Known As "Chief of Staff" Pending Tribal Council Approval

Submitted by Forrest Tahdoahnippah/
Comanche Tribal Attorney

On June 5, the CBC voted to change the name of position of Tribal Administrator to Chief of Staff, subject to approval from the Tribal Council. The change would be in name only, and will not affect the duties, qualifications, or oversight of the position, all of which are set forth in the Comanche Constitution. It is the opinion of the Tribal Attorney that a change in name of the position is constitutionally permissible so long as the duties, qualifications, and oversight are unaffected.

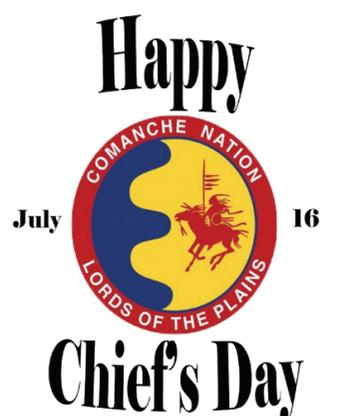
The Comanche Constitution does not mandate, or even itself use, the term "Tribal Administrator." Rather, the Comanche Constitution refers to an "Administrator/Manager." This position has customarily been referred to as the "Tribal Administrator," and the CBC now wishes to change this custom. It is not uncommon or unusual for a government to re-name positions, or departments, as a matter of managing internal affairs. For instance, the U.S. Constitution refers to an Army and Navy, but these departments have been placed together under a Department of Defense (formerly known as Department of War), and the Navy has been renamed to create two distinct military branches, the Navy and Marines. These changes are not constitutionally suspect because the entire Department of Defense remains under the command of the President as Commander-in-Chief.

Likewise, the renaming of the Tribal Administrator to Chief of Staff would not be constitutionally suspect so long as the Chief of Staff remains under the direction of the CBC and continues to meet the constitutional qualifications and perform the constitutional duties set forth for the "Administrator/Manager."



Courtesy Photo

BILLBOARD MASTERPIECE. Manitou Gallery is one of Santa Fe's top galleries. Manitou Gallery represents Comanche artist Nocona Burgess, as shown on the billboard on I-25 north of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Burgess will be featured in a show titled "Comanche Kiowa" at Manitou Gallery during Indian Market, taking place August 19-22. For more information, go online to www.noconaburgess.com.



REWARDS CREDIT CARD

We make it easy to choose the credit card that is right for you - Low Rate or Preferred Points Rewards. It's the only card you need for everything you need to do.

WORLD/PREFERRED POINTS REWARDS CREDIT CARD

Features

- No annual fee.
- Low introductory rate for the first six months.¹
- Competitive ongoing APR.¹
- 25-day interest-free grace period on all purchases. No grace period on cash advances.

Benefits

- 24-hour toll-free live customer assistance available at 800-367-7576.
- Online account information available 24/7 at www.cardaccount.net.
- Rental car collision damage waiver protection and a host of extraordinary MasterCard benefits.
- Unlike some card offers, the APR¹ for purchases and cash advances is the same. We do not charge a higher rate for cash advances.

1. Please see application for information about current APRs and fees.



Apply Online at cnb1901.com/creditcards

UPDATE YOUR DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY

This form allows for you to choose the recipient of the remaining per capita or elders funds that are allocated to you at the time of your death.

Who can you choose?

- A Spouse
- Parents
- Children
- Grandchildren
- Other Relatives
- Friends
- A trust
- A charity

What happens if you do not choose a beneficiary and you die?

The state estate law will choose for you. This will lead to a delay in the payment of any outstanding allocations of per capita or elders to your beneficiaries.

If you have questions about who to choose, contact your legal or financial advisor for assistance. If you would like to update your beneficiary designation information, contact Per Cap Information at (877)585-4177.

More Than Banking, It's Family!

City NATIONAL BANK & TRUST

877-585-4177
CNB1901.COM/COMANCHE

MEMBER
FDIC

THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mtra (July) 2021

"Fourth of July 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 August 2021 edition is 5 p.m., July 15, 2021.

Contact:

The Comanche Nation News

P.O. Box 908

Lawton, Okla. 73502-0908

Telephone: (580) 492-3381

Fax: (580) 492-3709

Email: pio@comanchenation.com

TCNN Staff

- Jolene Schonchin, Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com -Telephone Number-(580)492-3382
- Paula Karty, Assist. Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com-Telephone Number-(580)492-3383
- Hannah Tehauno Reporter/Photographer- Email: Hannah.Tehauno@comanchenation.com-Telephone (580) 492-3385
- Stacey Heminokky, Administrative Assistant- Email: Stacey.Heminokky@comanchenation.co Telephone Number (580) 492-3621
- News items of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
- Photographs will be copied and will become the property of TCNN. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
- The Milestones Page (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. The Passings/Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. TCNN publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. Obituaries are written for tribal members only.
- TCNN will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations. The guidelines for flyer submission are: Pow-wow flyers have to be from an established Comanche organization. There has to be contact person and number on the organization's annual flyer.
- We reserve the right to edit all material. Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed. Letters to the Editor must be signed with a legible name, and have a 1,500 word limit. The letters to the editor or articles contained in the *The Comanche Nation News* does not reflect the views or opinions of the PIO staff.

Comanche Nation Officials

Chairman

Mark Woommavovah

Vice Chairman

Dr. Cornel Pewewardy

Secretary/Treasurer

John David Wahnee

Committeeman No. 1

June Sovo

Committeeman No. 2

Diana Doyebi

Committeeman No. 3

Alice Kassaravoid

Committeeman No. 4

Robert Komahcheet

Tribal Administrator

Julia Mantzke

To contact officials:

Comanche Nation

P.O. Box 908

Lawton, Okla. 73502

Toll Free: (877) 492-4988

Physical Address

584 Bingo Rd.

Lawton, OK 73505



Native American Journalists Association

Member of the Native American Journalist Association since 2001



Member of the Society of Professional Journalists since 2010

Follow The Comanche Nation News



The Comanche Nation News



TCNNPIO



Instagram

comanchenationpio

Government

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

Story by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the June 5, 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, Mark Woommavovah, 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.

Vice Chairwoman, LaNora Parker, began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion made to approve the minutes of the May, CBC meeting by Committeeman No.1, June Sovo. It was seconded by Parker. The motion carries 6/0/1.

Resolutions

List No. 61-2021: Enrollment List No. 1200. The applicants have been verified and are eligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

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

List No. 62-2021: Enrollment List No. 1201. The applicants are ineligible for membership with the Comanche Nation Tribe.

Committeeman No. 3, Kassaravoid, made the motion to approve. Sovo, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 63-2021: Comanche Nation Language- Grant Submission. ARP. Emergency Native Language Funding.

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

List No. 64-2021: Comanche Nation Law Enforcement-Grant Application and Grant Opportunity.

Committeeman No. 4, Robert Komahcheet Jr., made the motion to approve. Kassaravoid, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 65-2021: Prescription Assistance - Policy Amendment. Increasing the dental procedures from up to \$500 dollars and to \$1,000 dollars.

Sovo-Doyebi, made the motion. Kassaravoid, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 66-2021: Realty-Rogers Lane Parking Lot. The Realty program requests to expand the improvement of the parking lot of the property owned by the Comanche Nation. They request to use funding from the Land Acquisition Budget.

Sovo, made the motion. Komahcheet, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 67-2021: Realty-Acquisition of Property.

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

List No. 68-2021: KCA-Board Members.

Sovo-Doyebi, made the motion. Parker, seconds the motion. The

motion carries 5/1/1.

List No. 69-2021: 5 Day Work Week. Tribal Government and Offices to remain open five-days a week. The hours of operation will be determined by the programs based on the services of the tribal members. The Government offices will begin the 5-day work week starting Monday June 7th, 2021.

Kassaravoid, made the motion. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 70-2021: Comanche Nation Smokeshop - Operational Transfer.

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

List No. 71-2021: Comanche Nation Enterprises - Bank Signatory.

Kassaravoid, made the motion. Sovo-Doyebi, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 72-2021: Change Signatory for the 93638 Contracts through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Remove Chairman, William Nelson Sr., and add Chairman, Mark Woommavovah.

Sovo-Doyebi, made the motion. Parker, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 73-2021: Realty program. Provides the authority to the Chairman to negotiate the purchase of land. The Comanche Business Committee authorizes Chairman, Mark Woommavovah to negotiate the purchase of fair market price.

Kassaravoid, made the motion. Komahcheet, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

List No. 74-2021: The Comanche Nation Received the First Drawdown of the American Rescue Plan COVID-19 recovery funds in the amount of \$87,025,738.64. The COVID-19 Pandemic is the worst public health crisis in generations and has had measurable and in measurable negative impacts on the Comanche Nation Government, Businesses, tribal members, and tribal communities. The Comanche Business Committee approves the ARP preliminary spending outline as an extension of the ARP Rebuild, Recover, Stronger Together plan. The Individual Assistance pursuant to a program developed by Administration, provide COVID impact relief of a total of up to \$1,200 to every Comanche Tribal Member, irrespective of age, income or residency, within the ARP and relevant to the United States Treasury policies, regulations and guidance and the Comanche Business Committee approved a schedule of two payments to every Comanche Tribal Member upon them submitting an application and the schedule is as follows: First Payment, up to \$1,200 upon application in July 2021. Second Payment, up to \$1,200 upon application in February 2022.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. and went in to Executive Session.

From the Chairman's Desk



"Honest conviction is our courage; the Comanche Constitution is our guide." - Chairman Mark Woommavovah

Our vision at the Nation: Comanche Strong-Stronger Together

The potential of an organization is always greater than that of an individual. Our Nation working together possesses limitless possibilities. I am a firm believer in the T-E-A-M Principle: Together Everyone Accomplishes More. "Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." - Andrew Carnegie

Our Comanche Nation vision "Comanche Strong-Stronger Together," is powerful because our people believed in the vision and even more powerful our people lived the vision every single day. As Comanche people, we need to continuously share the vision, so our Comanche people can adapt and adjust. Sharing our vision with others in a way that compels them to act this is the secret to a successful vision.

A powerful vision pulls in ideas, people and other resources. It creates the energy and the will to make change happen. It inspires individuals and our Comanche Nation to commit, to persist and to give their best.

Good vision statements have common components: It is written in the present, not future tense. They describe what we will feel, hear, think, say and do as if we had reached our vision now. It is summarized with a powerful phrase. ... It describes an outcome, the best outcome we can achieve. ... It uses unequivocal language. ... It evokes emotion. ... It helps build a picture, the same picture, in people's minds.

Where there is no vision the people perish.
- Proverbs 29:18

Dr. Pewewardy, Jones to receive NCORE's Suzan Shown Harjo Systemic Social Justice Award

Submitted by ncore@ou.edu



Pewewardy

The National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education recognized two leaders in the area of social justice at its 33rd annual conference, which took place virtually June 7-11. Dr. Cornel Pewewardy and Dr. Barbara Jones was presented with the Suzan Shown Harjo Systemic Social Justice Award during the conference's keynote session, June 9.

The award is given to individuals who have accomplished extraordinary achievements in social justice and advocacy work. Both Pewewardy and Jones have demonstrated transformational change in the areas of race and ethnicity, spurring changes in law, policy, and organizational and community practices.

"We are thrilled to honor two extremely exceptional individuals this year, both of whom have changed countless lives and communities through their years of hard work and dedication," said Dr. Belinda Biscoe, senior associate vice president for University Outreach/College of Continuing Education.

Dr. Cornel Pewewardy (Comanche-Kiowa) is professor emeritus, Indigenous Nations Studies, at Portland State University. His research explores the theoretical and philosophical foundations of postcolonial Indigenous research paradigms that focus on historical and political insight into the lingering impact of colonization, considering the issues faced by Indigenous peoples today and identities to survive in the 21st century. Now retired from higher education, Pewewardy teaches an online doctoral-level course at the University of Washington Tacoma, Cameron University, the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma and Bacone College.

"Dr. Pewewardy is a well-deserving higher education administrator, professor and researcher whose career spans many decades of work focused on the ongoing effect

of colonization and its impact on indigenous peoples," Biscoe said. "His scholarship and its application have transformed the lives of individuals and communities."

"Dr. Pewewardy has committed his life's work to advocating for Indigenous people, particularly within the field of education," added Heather Shotton, director of indigenous education initiatives with OU's Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education's Educational Leadership and Policy Studies department. "His scholarship and advocacy has inspired generations of educators, scholars, and students. We have all been tremendously blessed by commitment to bettering educational futures for Indigenous people."

Jones is dean and professor emerita of economics, Alabama A&M University College of Business and Public Affairs. She has taught at several historically Black colleges and universities in the south, focusing her research on labor force participation among Black women. She joined the youth council of the Oklahoma City NAACP at the age of 14 and was a leader of the 1958 Katz Drug Store sit-in as a high school student. Throughout her career, Jones has been committed to advancing the civil rights and well-being of Black Americans and has mentored many students along the way.

About the Suzan Shown Harjo Systemic Social Justice Award

The Suzan Shown Harjo Systemic Social Justice Award, created in 2015, is inspired by the life and work of Suzan Harjo, an unwavering champion, thoughtful leader and advocate whose talents as a poet, curator, author, national political leader and legal advisor created action on the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978), American Indian Museum Act (1989), American Indian Graves and Repatriation Act (1990) and the elimination of the Native American cultural appropriation in sports mascots. Her activism has translated to tangible outcomes for the greater good of underrepresented communities nationally and internationally.

**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

Official Voting Results for the June 12, 2021 Run Off Election

COMANCHE NATION OF OKLAHOMA

2021 RUN-OFF ELECTION

June 12, 2021



UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

VICE CHAIRPERSON	CACHE	WALTERS	OKC	APACHE	LAWTON	ANADARKO	EARLY LAWTON	EARLY COMPLEX	VOTE BY MAIL	HAND COUNT	TOTAL	%
DR. CORNEL PEWEWARDY	40	16	16	23	51	8	44	26	355	1	580	53%
LANORA J. PARKER	49	8	19	14	42	9	26	38	317	0	522	47%

100%

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned election officials of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate abstract of the votes cast in the Run-Off Election held on Saturday, June 12, 2021. We further certify that said election was held in accordance with the Election Ordinance of the Comanche Nation.

Wenona J. Parker
CHAIRPERSON

Brian Gates
MEMBER

Kari Stue
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

[Signature]
MEMBER

[Signature]
MEMBER

[Signature]
MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

US Boarding Schools to be Investigated, According to U.S. Department of Interior

Kalle Benallie - Indian Country Today/ The Associated Press and ICT reporter Aliyah Chavez contributed to this report

The U.S. Department of Interior will formally investigate the impact of federal Indian boarding schools, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland announced before tribal leaders on Tuesday.

The new "Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative" will result in a detailed report compiled by the Interior and will include historical records of boarding school locations, burial sites and enrollment logs of children's names and tribal affiliations. Haaland made the announcement virtually at the 2021 National Congress of American Indians mid-year conference, a four-day gathering for tribal leaders, policymakers, and partners to discuss issues currently facing Indian Country.

The unprecedented move will ultimately aim to create healing by understanding the true scope of boarding schools in the U.S., Haaland said.

"I know that this process will be long and difficult. I know that this process will be painful. It won't undo the heartbreak and loss we feel. But only by acknowledging the past can we work toward a future that we're all proud to embrace," Haaland said who is a citizen of Laguna Pueblo.

The initiative will make "a comprehensive review of the troubled legacy of federal boarding school policies" from as early as the 19th century.

The agency says it will proceed in phases to collect information. Tribal nations, Alaska Native corporations and Native Hawaiian organizations will be formally consulted to clarify "the processes and procedures for protecting identified burial sites and associated information," the agency said in a news release.

As news spread across Indian Country, tribal leaders reacted saying the investigation is important and needed.

"This troubling history deserves more attention to raise awareness and to educate others about the atrocities that our people experienced, so that they can better understand our society today and work together to heal and move forward," Navajo Nation President Jonathan

Nez said in a statement.

"It brings to question now: How many of those kids that were taken away all came back? And are some still considered missing and where may some of these kids be?" Nuvangyaoma said.

"I think it's going to reignite maybe some emotions for some elders who have, you know, a history with this," he added.

The chairman praised Haaland and her role in the Biden administration.

"Had it been somebody else, not of a Native background, Native culture, would this actually be getting the attention that it's getting today? My thought is no," Nuvangyaoma told Indian Country Today. "So I would align with everybody else in that same thought, in that concept because we do have a Native American woman, a strong woman at the helm who understands some of these concerns, is probably the only reason why this is being brought up now as a scenario."

On social media, Native and non-Native people reacted, commending Haaland's actions. Some added they are nervous to learn the findings of the report.

"I hope families will have closure if their relatives are found," one person wrote on Twitter.

"This is huge. I grew up knowing about these sites bc both of my grandparents survived them (only by life, not sure if their hearts totally survived) and my father made sure I knew the stories. Horrifying to think of how much this is going to uncover on record," another wrote.

The agency added available historical records will be surveyed from federal repositories like the National Archives, the American Indian records repository and non-governmental organizations that operated Indian residential boarding schools.

A final written report will be submitted to Haaland by April 1, 2022, and will be supervised by the office of the assistant secretary for Indian Affairs.

"We must shed light on what happened at federal boarding schools," Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan

Newland, citizen of the Bay Mills Indian Community, said. "As we move forward in this work, we will engage in Tribal consultation on how best to use this information, protect burial sites, and respect families and communities."

The initiative, Haaland said, was created after the discovery of 215 unmarked graves of Indigenous children by Canada's Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation at the Kamloops Indian Residential School. Many believe it is likely more graves will be found at the U.S. Indian boarding schools.

Federal boarding schools first started with the Indian Civilization Act of 1819 when the U.S. enacted laws and policies to establish and support Indian boarding schools across the nation. For over 150 years, Indigenous children were taken from their communities and forced into boarding schools that focused on assimilation.

A key point of Haaland's included the federal government's attempt to wipe out tribal identity, language and culture and how that past has continued to manifest itself through long-standing trauma, cycles of violence and abuse, premature deaths, mental disorders and substance abuse.

She added a story of her own grandmother who was loaded on a train with other children from her village to be shipped off to boarding school. This story was also highlighted in a recent op-ed Haaland penned for the Washington Post. She said many families have been haunted for too long by the "dark history" of these institutions and that the agency has a responsibility to recover that history.

"I don't see it as my role to be the voice for all Native people, but rather to amplify your voices so that American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities have a seat at the table to speak for themselves," Haaland said. "By sitting at this table together, we can build a better relationship for future generations that is not rooted in the worst parts of our past."

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Continued From Page 1

right here. You are in our presence, you are in our spirit, we will not forget you, no matter where you live. I will not only challenge myself but I will encourage those who are already in office to manifest *Numunu* revitalization by reclaiming our culture, preserving our language by drawing wisdom from the ancestors, and for our elders for contemporary healing and wellness that can sustain a bright and loving future for the generations to come. I will try to make my decisions based on seven generations, not just now. As your new elected Vice Chair, I will do my best to take into account each of your interests and your voices on many issues we are facing in this dark age of uncertainty as we confront two pandemics at the same time; COVID-19 and racial terror. As elected officials, it is crucial for us to engage and examine how we talk, how we teach and write about inequality as an object of critique that we will surly faced in upcoming years, and the topics I addressed during my campaign. Now that we are at the tail end of COVID-19, it is not the first time the Comanche People faced dark ages of uncertainty, as we currently confront these pandemics. We are *Numunu*. We are resilient, our life story is one of survivance."

He added it is an honor to stand where his father, the late Samuel Doc Pewewardy, stood decades ago also as the Vice Chairman of the Comanche Nation.

"As your vice chair, I want to create a safe place for stability and respect. A space where our people are welcomed to attend any of the CBC meetings and feel affirmed to express their concerns without fear of retaliation by our elected officials, by our administrative officers or by the workers within the staff. That is critical to the culture protocol and important. Even more important, I hope to bring to my former role the love, the great hope, the enthusiasm that I have for the Comanche Nation, and the beauty and experiences that it offers."

He explained his concern about Indigenous people being invisible by local and national media, being counted as "other" on polls and being noted as not being significant, and not being represented in data. He also expressed his support of the

Missing Murdered Indigenous Women's group.

"We have to lift up each other in these dark moments and time. Given the impact of COVID-19, Indigenous people have suffered the most than any other ethnic group in the country. Last week, the Center of Disease Control estimates that 6,585 American Indians/Alaskan natives have died from COVID-19, the highest rate of any ethnic group in the United States. That estimate likely falls short of the actual death toll."

He added the state of Oklahoma Native children and most likely per capita to be victims of brutality from authority, to be killed by the police, to be arrested and incarcerated.

"When our children go back to school this fall, there has to be a bigger focus on identity building, a focus on anti-biased curriculum, and an understanding of the relationships between communities of color, starting with improved professional development for local teachers that includes culture humility training. Communities of color are facing doubled down threats and racism related to COVID-19."

He said the CBC has their work cut out for them, but he would not have it any other way.

Watch the entire swearing in ceremony online at the Comanche Nation website, www.comanchenation.com.



Programs

Advantages & Disadvantages of a Virtual Court Hearing For a Survivor of Domestic Violence

People may feel relieved to learn that they may be able to attend a proceeding or even testify through an application on their computer or smart phone, from home. Others may feel more nervous with a virtual proceeding. There are advantages and disadvantages.

Advantages

Safety: Virtual court feels easier for some survivors because it gives them a feeling of safety. They don't have to be in the same building or courtroom as the abuser. They do not have to worry about running into the abuser while standing in line to clear security or seeing the abuser on their way to the restroom.

Distance: Often survivors can testify from a different city or stay from the courthouse location. This is very convenient for survivors who have moved away out of fear. Transportation and childcare are less complicated and costly when survivors can testify from their own homes.

Blocked Views: In some jurisdictions, if a survivor has an order of protection, the judges are willing to block the abuser from seeing the victim and the victim from seeing the abuser. Survivors can ask their lawyers about this in advance but should not count on permission; it's not routine. However, even if the survivor can see the abuser on the screen, the image is usually small.

Disadvantages

Dislike of Technology: Some survivors find that technology makes them nervous.

Impersonal: Sometimes survivors have trouble conveying their full humanity to the judge and/or jury from a tiny screen. Judges may miss non-verbal cues of how upset the survivor is such as seeing her sigh, wring her hands or tapping on her legs.

Technical Glitches: Sometimes the technology does not work. This is most commonly a user error, but it is of little comfort to a survivor who has waited weeks or months for a hearing, only to discover that she could not turn on her mic and the hearing had to be rescheduled.

Be prepared. Its best to contact your local domestic violence prevention program and request the assistance of an advocate to help you prepare for the virtual hearing. For additional information call the D/V Prevention Specialist Ms. Penny Hammonds, (580) 492-3590.



Courtesy Photos

A total of 25 head of black bred Angus cattle was delivered to the Comanche Nation June 24, near the Red River.



Left to right Tyler Glover, Tony Komahcheet, Stephen Lee, Tim McIntosh, Ron RedElk were there to help with the delivery of the cattle.

Comanche Land and Cattle

Submitted by Steven Lee/Comanche Nation Realty

On June 24, the Comanche Tribe received 25 head of bred black Angus cattle delivered at the Comanche Nation property near the Red River.

For several months the Realty Dept. has been improving fences and reclaiming land the tribe had leased along the Red River to begin our a Cow/Calf Operation.

"The Comanche Business Committee authorized \$300,000 out of New Business start a cow calf operation, which included acquisition of 25 head of bred black Angus cattle from Glover Farms," explained Steven Lee, of the Comanche Nation Realty Department.

"Other equipment acquired was a truck, 32' trailer, medicine for cattle, ear tags, water troughs, and feed to maintain livestock. Tony Komahcheet will be leading the operation, with volunteer advisors Tim McIntosh, Ron Redelk, and Dianna Gale Doyebi Sovo," he added.

The plan for the cattle is to start small, and to maintain their relationship with the Glovers, and eventually supply Comanche casinos and tribal members with premium beef.



You Can Watch the Comanche Business Committee Meetings Live By Going to livestream.com



Photos by Hannah Tehauno/ News Staff

COMANCHE KIDS CAMP. The week of June 21, the Comanche Nation Youth Program held a Teaching Enrichment for Kids Camp, at the Comanche Nation Tribal Complex. The week was full of participants doing many activities, such as coloring shirts, and putting up a tipi. The Youth Director, Randi Attocknie, said their focus has been on creating a safe environment for the youth to explore and experience their culture, and create bonds and friendships that will last a lifetime. She added their goal in being a youth-led program is truly taking shape.



Comanche Nation Enrollment OUTREACH EVENT

When and Where

Date and Time:
7/28/21 and 7/29/21
10:00a.m - 3:00p.m

Location:
The New Anadarko Outreach Center
602 West Virginia
Anadarko, OK 73005

Assistance with:

- CDIB CARDS
- Enrollment Applications
- Change of Address
- Name Change
- Direct Deposit
- Beneficiary Forms/Heirship
- Tax Withholding
- Eagle Feather Permit Forms

COMANCHE NATION ARP
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN PROGRAM

Online Application
▶ Individual Assistance
▶ Food Assistance

"Comanche Strong. Stronger Together."

Do you or any one you know need help with the Comanche Nation ARP application?

The Comanche Nation Elderly Center staff is available to assist any Tribal Member with the submission of the application.

Monday thru Friday from 8AM until 4PM

We are located at
1107 SW H Ave.
Lawton Ok. 73501
580-355-2330

We can not provide application information, we can only assist with the submission of the application. You will need the following information.
E-mail address, CDIB, banking information for direct deposit (if applicable)



Courtesy Photo

VACCINATION FOR PREVENTION. Comanche tribal member, Craig Cable, receives his first dosage of the COVID-19 vaccination on June 8, at the Emergency Services Building. The Vaccination Clinic was available to everyone 12 years old and older.

Programs

Prevention & Recovery Hosts Prevention Activities and Opens New Residential Women's Unit and Grief Counseling



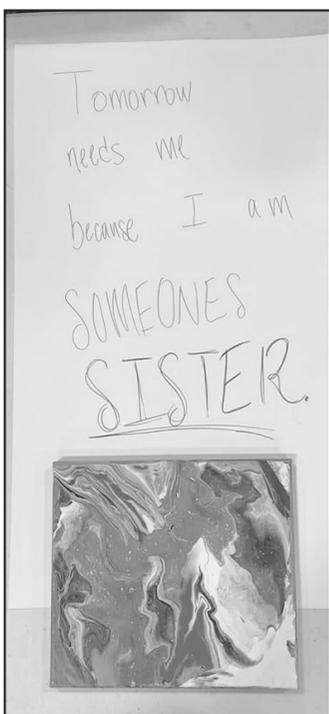
Shiann Famer at the June 9, "Be Kind to Your Mind" Camp, creating art through acrylic pour technique. Around 30 students participated in the free event.

Story and Photos Submitted by the Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery Staff

The Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery (CNPR) department hosted their first Mindfulness Camp "Be Kind to Your Mind" on June 9, for Native youth. They had discussions about mental health, positive coping skills, art therapy, self-care, "Why Tomorrow Needs You" and even played some *Numu tekwapu* BINGO during lunch! The group also went to the Comanche Complex Powwow Grounds and talked about our culture, resiliency, and reconnecting with their spirituality and being present. The youth are loved, sacred and strong, and the staff hopes that this event reminded them of that. *Ura* to the youth prevention programs (Circles of Care, Project Strong Life (*Taa Natsuwii Numunaina*), Indigenous P.O.W.E.R., IAMNDN, and Native Spirit Suicide Prevention Project) and CNPR staff that helped put on this event!

CNPR's Indigenous P.O.W.E.R. Program also hosted a Summer Fun Day for the students enrolled in the tutoring program throughout the spring semester! They had a total of 30 kids enrolled and were so proud of their success and resilience through a very difficult school year due to COVID. CNPR staff are grateful to have a hand in the education and future of our youth. Stay tuned for more upcoming events dedicated to our young people!

Over the past couple months, the CNPR Outpatient office has been in contact with Colin Cash, the founder of "Sober Squad." Also referred to as "Team Sober Squad" across Indian Country, Sober Squad is a recovery community that originated on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Colin and other Squad members, such as Randell Sam and Gary Benjamin, connect individuals to the



One of many displays when students were asked why their families need them sober.

hope of recovery and create avenues to recovery in their communities by accompanying people to meetings, having Friday night pizza dinners, arranging public parades, and hosting community Recovery and Wellbriety walks. During a ZOOM meeting in May, CNPR was formally invited by Cash to hold their own "Comanche Nation Sober Squad" team. This program will have outreach/wellbriety events, group meetings, community & family outings, and much more in efforts to bring families together. Be on the lookout for future Comanche

Nation Sober Squad events! The staff is ready to help our People heal one step at a time.

The CNPR Inpatient women's unit officially opened Wednesday, June 2. Four participants have moved in, leaving only one open bed left. This unit has been in the works for two years. The Creator continues to give open pathways and dedicated staff committed to bringing this vision to fruition. Women are traditionally the backbones of our families and tribal communities. They help keep our culture alive, and take care of our People from youth to old age. They are focused on reconnecting participants with that cultural identity and reminding them of their importance in our community.

CNPR is now offering assistance to Comanche enrolled tribal members experiencing grief related to suicide or severe trauma. Eligible applicants may receive assistance for clinical sessions with a referral to a licensed therapist. Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements and provide the requested documents in order to be considered for grief counseling through the Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery Outpatient Treatment Center. For more information, please contact the Outpatient Center at (580) 357-3449 or by email at prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com.

Child Support Program Notice of Publication

RONALD YELLOWFISH: CNC-SP-21-23, Petition for Establishment of Child Support.

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 Comanche Nation Newspaper.

All parties are responsible for updating current information with CNCSP PRIOR to set court date, (580) 280-4641.

Congratulations to Transit on Receiving the Safety and Training Award



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff
Brian Stillwell, Transit Director, and Rebecca Tahchawwickah, Safety Coordinator/Transit Asset Management, proudly stand together while holding their Safety and Training Award.

On May 21, the Comanche Nation Transit Program attended the Oklahoma Transit Association Annual Conference and Expo located in Enid, Okla., and received an Award of Excellence in Safety and Training.

There were five categories throughout the conference which included; Safety and Training, Transit System of the Year, Transit Professional of the Year, Marketing Cam-

paign, and Innovation. Comanche Nation Transit was chosen for Safety and Training.

The Oklahoma Transit Awards of Excellence in Safety and Training recognizes the finest efforts in providing safe, reliable, efficient and coordinated public transportation that meets the mobility needs of all Oklahomans as well as efforts to build, promote and advocate for public transit. All entries were judged by the programs and initiatives they took in the year 2020.

Rebecca Tahchawwickah, Comanche Transit Safety Coordinator/Transit Asset Management, was tasked with creating a safety management system and a safety program that would work for them. They did a lot of research using Federal Transit Administration guidance and rules, learned as much as possible at conferences and networking with other transit agencies and seeing what worked for them. As a department, they confided in one another and drew input from Brian Stillwell, Transit Director, to the Bus Operators.

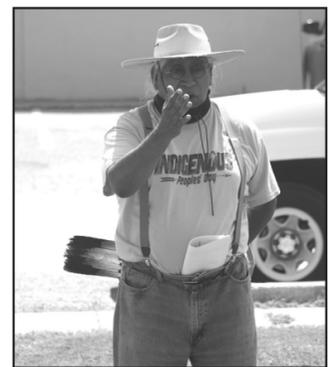
"I can't create the Safety Management System without the entire team. I got everybody's input on everything I did. I also went to a lot of Transit conferences. I was able to go in and create an entire program which included Safety Procedures Booklet, Safety Training for Hazards and Risks, Mobility Device Securement Training, COVID-19 Response Protocol, and Reasonable Modification for all Passengers. This program has made a difference in our system and transformed us to be a better service. We are committed to safety and what it takes to accomplish it. In Comanche Nation Transit, Safety is not just another priority, it is a standard," said Tahchawwickah.

For more information about this award you can visit the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvmylzfAzI>, or contact the Comanche Nation Transit at (580) 492-3318.



Photos by Hannah Tehauno/ News Staff

CHARTER SCHOOL CEDAR CEREMONY. On June 22, a Cedar Ceremony was held at the Comanche Academy Charter School, located at 1701 NW Taft Ave., in Lawton, Okla. Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, Vice Chairman of the Comanche Nation, rendered "The Love Comanche song," explaining it's more than a memorial song, it's a song that says, 'I love you.' The school is scheduled to open in August.



Follow the Comanche Nation Public Information Office:



TCNNPIO



comanchenationpio



The Comanche Nation News

Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy/CIVA

Have We Forgotten

71 years ago, on December 5, 1950, Lt. Col Meech Glen Tahsequah departed Iwakuni Air Base, Japan on a bombing mission into North Korea – he was assigned to the 3rd Maintenance Squadron as the pilot on a B-26 Invader bomber carrying a crew of only a radioman and navigator.

Due to extremely inclement weather and a solid cloud cover they had to drop most of their “pay-load” and seek targets of opportunity. Their navigation and communications equipment became inoperative making it difficult to return to air bases in Seoul and Teagu, South Korea. They were running low on fuel. The aircraft ran out of fuel about 30 miles north of Susa, North Korea (located about 62 miles south of the capitol of North Korea, Pyongyang) and crashed.

Tahsequah and his crew parachuted from the aircraft. The navigator was rescued the following day while Tahsequah and his radioman were not found. It is thought that Tahsequah may have landed in the Korea Bay west of Susa or taken prisoner as his name was used for propaganda – no one will ever know.

On February 28, 1954, the Department of the Air Force declared Tahsequah as killed in action – body not recovered. Tahsequah will forever be 35 years old.



Courtesy Photo

Lt Col Meech Glen Tahsequah

Tahsequah was born near Beaver Creek east of Walters, Okla., on October 27, 1918, to Charlie and Mabel Sapcutt Komah. His mother died shortly thereafter and Vera Komah and his father raised him.

After attending school at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. and Cameron Jr. College he enlisted into the Army Air Force as an Air Cadet on July 14, 1941. He trained as a pilot at the Tarrant Field Airdome Fort Worth, Texas with the Army Air Forces Flying Training Command for B-24 Liberator and B-26 Marauder bombers.

After his training he was assigned to the 376th Bombardment Group – during World War II they were based in Libya, Egypt, Italy and England. In all he flew 31 combat missions logging in over 300+ combat flying hours.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism three times, the Air Medal three times and the Purple Heart twice for combat wounds.

He is survived by a daughter, Paula and husband Bernard Newbauer of Comfort, Texas, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Tahsequah is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Evelyn Landrum Tahsequah Oliver, sons Donald Glen, twins Gary Wayne and Larry Wallace Tahsequah, brothers Austin, Kenneth and Lester Komah and sister Pauline McCully.



Courtesy Photo

Daughter Paula Newbauer

There are over 14,000 American Legion Posts in the United States. On May 21, the only American Legion Post named after a Comanche had their grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony of Meech Tahsequah American Legion Post 6 located at 1310 NW 47th Street in Lawton.

The ceremony began at 10 a.m. with an opening prayer by George Red Elk; the reading of Tahsequah's bio by the Post Commander, Charles Baker; commentaries from Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, and CIVA Historian, Lanny Asepermy; the Comanche POW/MIA song by Dr. Cornel Pewewardy; and closing prayer by Red Elk. Refreshments were served after the ceremony.

An attendance of about 60 people was present including 11 CIVA veterans, eight Auxiliary members and the CIVA Princess.



Courtesy Photo

American Legion Meech Tahsequah Post #6 sign

At 1 p.m. a Memorial gravesite service was held at Highland Cemetery dedicating an “In Memory” military marker in honor of Tahsequah. The marker was placed, on May 18, at the request of Tahsequah's daughter, at the foot of his parents, Charlie and Vera Komah and between his veteran brothers Lester and Kenneth Komah. The CIVA provided a funeral detail for the service with Lanny Asepermy officiating. The Air Force, who considered this a funeral, provided a Memorial Service detail which included a flag folding and presentation, firing squad and bugler detail.



Courtesy Photo

Flat bronze military marker of Lt Col Meech Tahsequah.

The service began with an opening prayer by Jimmy Caddo, welcome and condolences by Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko, remarks by Asepermy, a Comanche hymn by CIVA Princess Mercedes Banderas, reading of the obituary by namesake, Meech Tahsequah, from Huntington Beach, Cali., reading of Tahsequah's military history by Lt Col (Retired) John Peterson, a B-52 bomber pilot and Vietnam War veteran, a roll call by Asepermy, and honors by the Air Force.



Courtesy Photo

Richard Sapcutt and Lanny Asepermy rendering final honors.



Courtesy Photo

Air Force Honor Guard

May Monthly Meeting

The CIVA monthly meeting was held on May 6, in the Comanche Veterans Patriot Room, Nine veterans, seven Auxiliary and eight guests attended the meeting.

A meal was provided by Auxiliary Leader, Shirley Pohawpatchoko, and Tavia Torralba. The opening prayer was given by Ramonah Davis followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introduction of guests.

After the meal, birthday greeting were rendered to Davis and guests Frankie Patterson. Michael Waddle, from Berryville, Ark., was presented with the new Combat Service medallion by George Red Elk and Lyman Guy presented Patterson with a Blue and Black Veterans T-shirt and Comanche Veterans hat.

Active duty Sailor Evashawn Poemoceah presented a Pendleton blanket to the CIVA - Kevin Pohawpatchoko accepted the blanket.

During the business session the April minutes, Treasurer, Veterans and Auxiliary Spoils reports all passed. Other business included the Coronation of Princess in Waiting, Mercedes Banderas, on May 15, at the Comanche Nation grounds; dedication of Meech Tahsequah American Legion Post 6 and his “In Memory” marker at Highland Cemetery on May 21; attendance for the 961st Engineer Battalion (Task Force Comanche) change of command ceremony in Seagoville, Texas, on June 12, by the Commander and Auxiliary Leader, Davis and Nona Mihecoby and the Princess and Mary Imotichey; Color Guard for the Quanah Parker Medicine Mounds Gathering in Quanah, Texas, on June 18; and Color Guard and Co-host for the 54th annual Tia-Piah Pow-wow on June 26-27. Red Elk closed the meeting with a blessing at 8:21 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

Honors were presented to Michael Waddle; Evashawn Poemoceah; and Frankie Patterson.

2021-22 CIVA Princess Coronation

On May 15, a Coronation Ceremony for incoming CIVA Princess, Mercedes Banderas, was held at the Comanche Nation Dance Grounds.

The ceremony began with an Opening Prayer by George Red Elk; a cedar blessing by Jimmy Caddo; the National Anthem sung by Banderas and signed by out-going Princess Trinity Rae Ahtone; the Comanche Flag song by Robert Tehauno; and welcome

by Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko.

Ahtone was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and bouquet of roses. Ahtone then presented Banderas with hair ties, a necklace, banner and Princess Crown while the Auxiliary members presented her with her Service Shawl and Blanket, a Princess Jacket, Shawl Bag, two extra Princess Banners, a bouquet of roses and a stipend.

Banderas will represent the CIVA until Armed Forces Day 2022.

The ceremony concluded with the CIVA War Dance song as Banderas made a solo round after which she was joined by her grandparents, the CIVA veterans and Auxiliary, her family and friends.

The Auxiliary provided cake and punch after the ceremony.

Ahtone will be a senior at Eisenhower high school and is the daughter of Eagles Sr. and Megan (Stone) Mahseet and Carleton “CJ” Ahtone.

Banderas is 13-years old and will be a seventh-grader at Apache middle school. She is the daughter of Richard Banderas and the granddaughter of Richard Banderas and Mary Imotichey.



Courtesy Photo

Out-going CIVA Princess, Trinity Ahtone, receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from CIVA Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko.



Courtesy Photo

Bill Volker placing eagle feather in the crown of new CIVA Princess, Mercedes Banderas.

Memorial Day Ceremony



Courtesy Photo

“Kneeling at the Cross” statue with the dog tags of each of the 13 Fallen Warriors of the Comanche Nation.

On May 31, the 45th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony was held in Watchetaker

Hall and the CIVA Court of Honor.

The ceremony began at 11 a.m. with a prayer by CIVA Chaplain, Jimmy Caddo, followed by a welcome by Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko. The National Anthem was led by Princess Mercedes Banderas followed by the Comanche Flag and Memorial Songs by the Sovo singers. U.S. Army Paratrooper Ramonah Davis did a roll call of the 13 Fallen Warriors of the Comanche Nation – they are: Johnnie Rivas, Kill In Action, June 6, 1944; Melvin Myers, Kill In Action, June 14, 1944; Eli Hosetosavit, Kill In Action, August 1, 1944; Ben Trevino, Kill In Action, August 3, 1944; Thomas Chockpoyah Kill In Action, August 7, 1944; Gilbert Vidana Kill In Action, September 16, 1944; Henry Kosechata, Died Of Wounds, May 1, 1945; Henry Conwoop, Died Of Wounds, May 3, 1945; Dennis Karty, Died In Captivity, March 30, 1952; Meech Tahsequah, Killed In Action, February 28, 1954; Russell Pesewonit, Killed In Action, July 22, 1966; Robert Pahcheka, Killed In Action, October 22, 1968; and Joshua Ware, Killed In Action, November 16, 2005.

The names of eight Comanche servicemen that died while on active duty was called by Iraq War veteran Dominic Pawlowski – they are: Teddy Tahsuda, February 3, 1943 in a hotel fire; Forrest Sunrise, January 1, 1944 in a military training accident; Chester Teyyah, July 9, 1950 in a military vehicle accident; Wendell Weryackewe, June 7, 1954; Elbert Vidana September 9, 1955 in an auto accident; Anthony Tahsequah, November 23, 1983 in an auto accident; Richard Wichita, August 3, 2003 in an auto accident; and William Kerchee January 20, 2007 by a drunk driver.

Since Memorial Day 2020 through Memorial Day 2021 12 Comanches have passed away. Their names were called by Vietnam War veteran Lyman Guy. They are: Bobby Pewo, June 9, 2020; Gillis Miller, November 13, 2020; Lester Kosechata, January 14, 2021; Marlon Kasanavoid, January 21, 2021; Raymond Nauni Jr., January 28, 2021; Rudy Yokesuite, February 6, 2021; Tommy Johnson, February 13, 2021; Eddie Mahseet, February 26, 2021; Don Mejia, February 28, 2021; Aubrey Bread, March 7, 2021; Edward Tahhahwah Sr., April 19, 2021; and Robert Parker, April 26, 2021.



Courtesy Photo

Victoria Plata and Christine Plata Armstrong after placing the wreath in honor of the Fallen Warriors of the Comanche Nation – they are the great-nieces of the first Fallen Warrior, PFC Johnnie Rivas.

The ceremony closed with a Memorial song. Box lunches were provided for the 74 attendees including CIVA members Kevin and Shirley Pohawpatchoko; George and Clifford Red Elk; Dominic and Lisa Pawlowski; Lanny and Shelley Asepermy; Ra-

monah Davis; Lyman Guy; Ron Parker; Richard Sapcutt; Rhonda Williams; Jimmy Caddo; Christine Armstrong; Frankie and Suzanne Patterson; Princess Mercedes Banderas; Mary Imotichey; Nona Mihecoby; Liz and Victoria Plata; and Tavia Torralba.



Courtesy Photo

Placement of the 13 wooden Fallen Warrior crosses on the east side of the dance grounds on May 17.

James M. “JIM” Patterson Funeral

On June 3, a Celebration of Life service was held in the Apache, Okla. United Methodist Church, for James M. “Jim” Patterson. His final resting place is Fairview Cemetery east of Apache.

He was born on July 24, 1936, at the Kiowa Indian Hospital in Lawton, Okla., and passed away on May 28, 2021.

Patterson served in the Army from October 20, 1954, to October 2, 1957, earning the rank of Specialist Three. He completed Basic Training at Fort Bliss, Texas, and Advanced Individual Training, as a Military Policeman, at Fort Gordon, Ga.

SP3 Patterson served at the Vint Hills Farms Station near Warrenton, Va., where he performed security duties with the U.S. Army National Security Agency Signal Intelligence and Electronic Warfare Facility.

He completed his military service, as a Military Policeman, with the 272nd MP Company, Berlin Command in Berlin, Germany. SP3 Patterson was discharged at Camp Chaffee, Ark.

He served on the Comanche Nation Tax Commission and Gaming Board for many years.

Lanny Asepermy presented honors by reading SP3 Patterson's military bio. His high school classmate, Maxine Weryackwe Werny, sang a Comanche hymn after which Asepermy played Taps.



Courtesy Photo

Jim Patterson in 1955



Courtesy Photo

Jim Patterson in 2020

Continued from Page 8

June Monthly Meeting

On June 3, the CIVA held their monthly meeting in the Comanche Veterans Patriot Room. As always the meeting began with a prayer, Pledge to the Allegiance and meal. Birthday greetings were given to Clifford Red Elk, Mary Imotichey and Christine Armstrong before the meal, provided by Liz and Victoria Plata, was served by the Auxiliary.

After the meal honors were presented SPC William Parker Malone. He served in the Army 2012-16 including deployments to Shindand Air Base, Afghanistan from May to September, 2014, and to Baghdad Air Field and Al Asad Air Base, Iraq from May to October, 2015. He also served at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Fort Huachuca, Ariz. and Fort Campbell, Ky. and was TDY to Africa. He was an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Operator.

His awards include the Air Force Aerial Achievement; Army Commendation, Good Conduct; National Defense Service; Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign; Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary medals; the Army Service and Overseas ribbons; and the Army Aviation Badge.

He is the son of William and Debbie Parker Malone. SPC Malone is the great-great grandson of Quannah Parker – 17 family members attended the meeting.

After honors the business session began with the passing of the May meeting minutes, the Treasurer, Veterans and Auxiliary Spoils reports. Old business was finalizing the Task Force Comanche (961st Engineer Battalion) Change of Command ceremony in Seagoville, Texas, on June 12, the Color Guard for the Quannah Parker Society Gathering in Quannah, Texas, on June 17-18 and the Co-host and Color Guard for the Tia-piah Pow-wow on June 26-27.

New Business was a presentation from VFW Post 1193 Quartermaster Bob Medina and the Danny Garza funeral detail on June 10. Nine veterans, 10 Auxiliary, the Princess and 18 guests attended the meeting that adjourned at 8:24 p.m. with a prayer by George Red Elk.



Courtesy Photo
Father Bill Malone, William Parker Malone, wife Tristan and mother Debbie Malone.

Funeral Detail and Celebration of Life Service

On June 5, George and Clifford Red Elk and Lanny Asepermy provided a bugle and casket flag folding and presentation detail for Carmen Dewayne Smith (February 16, 1956 – May 28, 2021, age 66 years) at Memory Lane Cemetery in Anadarko.

Smith served in the Marine Corps from 1976-78. The detail was requested by Ray and Martha's Funeral Home by the Smith family.

Also on June 5, Dominic Pawlowski and Ramonah Davis presented military honors for the family of Danny Ray Garza (January 31, 1955 – May 23, 2021, age 66 years) at the Open Door Church of God in Walters.

Garza served in the

Marine Corps from 1973-77 and the OK Army National Guard from 1977-87.

His funeral was June 10, at the Fort Sill National Cemetery. A detail was requested by the widow, Angelia Figueroa Garza, a member of the Comanche Nation.



Courtesy Photo
Dominic Pawlowski and the widow of Danny Garza, Angelia Figueroa Garza.

New Photo



Courtesy Photo

SSG Frankie Dale Patterson

Frankie Dale Patterson, served in the Army from May 19, 1994, to May 31, 2016, earning the rank of Staff Sergeant.

He completed Basic Combat and Advanced Individual Training, as an Infantryman, at Fort Benning, Ga.

SSG Patterson served as an Infantryman his entire career. His duty stations include Fort Benning, Ga. three times; Fort Drum, N.Y.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Bliss, Texas and overseas in Korea, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Iraq and Afghanistan. His combat deployments totaled 43 months. SSG Patterson served with the 101st Airborne, 1st Infantry and 1st Armored Divisions during his combat deployments.

He served as a Grenadier, Machine Gunner, Team Leader, Squad Leader Weapons Squad Leader twice, Drill Sergeant, Military Advisor, Raven Master Trainer, Platoon Sergeant and S-3 Operations NCO.

His awards include the Combat Infantryman, Air Assault, Drill Sergeant Identification, Driver and Mechanic with/Driver Wheeler Vehicle Bar and Jungle Expert Badges, Bronze Star, Army Commendation (5 awards), Army Achievement (8 awards), Good Conduct (7 awards), American Defense, National Defense Service, Armed Forces Expeditionary, Afghanistan Campaign with/1 Battle Star, Iraqi Campaign with/3 Battle Stars, Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary, Korean Defense Service, Armed Forces and NATO medals and the NCO Professional Development with/Numeral 2, Army Service and Overseas with/Numeral 3 ribbons.

It is noted that he is one of two Comanches to earn the Drill Sergeant Identification Badge and Campaign Hat while on active duty (the other is Lanny Asepermy) and one of three Comanches to earn the Jungle Expert Badge (the others are Cloyce "Chuck" Choney and Edmond "Eddie" Mahseet). He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Lawton.

After Action Reports

Sgt Carmen Dewayne Smith Funeral

June 5, 2021
Memory Lane Cemetery in Anadarko, Okla.
and
Celebration of Life Service for
Sgt Danny Ray Garza
June 5, 2021
Open Door Church of God in Walters, Okla.

On June 5, George and Clifford Red Elk and Lanny Asepermy provided a Bugle and Casket Flag folding and presentation detail for the family of Sgt Carmen Dewayne Smith (February 16, 1956 – May 28, 2021, 66 years of age) at Memory Lane Cemetery in Anadarko, Okla.



Courtesy Photo

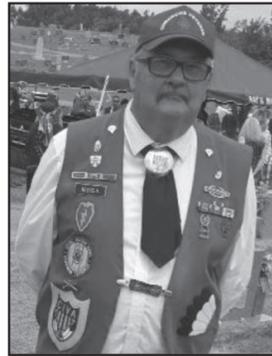


Courtesy Photo
George Red Elk



Courtesy Photo

Lanny Asepermy



Courtesy Photo

Clifford Red Elk

The detail arrived at Memory Lane at 10:40 a.m. and set-up the U.S., OK and USMC flags, dressed and waited until 12:10 p.m. for the funeral procession to arrive.

A funeral service was held at the Bethel Baptist Church in Anadarko beginning at 10 a.m. prior to the gravesite service.

After the opening prayer by Pastor Ted Mercer, George and Lanny presented the casket flag, Clifford played Taps and the flag was folded.

The flag was presented to the sister of the deceased, Karen Smith-Thompson, by George.



Courtesy Photo

George Red Elk and Lanny Asepermy waiting for the hearse carrying the casket of Sgt Carmen Dewayne Smith to arrive at Memory Lane Cemetery in Anadarko, Okla.



Courtesy Photo

George Red Elk and Lanny Asepermy folding the flag of Sgt Carmen Dewayne Smith.



Courtesy Photo

George Red Elk presenting the flag to the sister of Sgt Carmen Dewayne Smith.

Condolences followed after the casket was lowered and the vault was closed. The flags were retrieved and cased and the flag stands were removed.

The service ended at

12:35 p.m. The detail enjoyed at "to go" meal at Subway.

It is also noted George gave Lanny 15 demerits for forgetting his beret (he used Clifford's beret for the service).

The following After Action Report was written and submitted US Army Paratrooper Ramonah Davis:

On Saturday, June 5, a Celebration of Life Service for former Marine and retired Master Police Officer, Danny Joe Garza was held at the Open Door Church of God in Walters, Okla.

The service, which had a packed house, started promptly at 1 p.m., with Pastor Roger Nolan opening the service, then recalling memories of Danny Garza.

The Obituary was read by Michael Lowers, next Pastor Patrick McClung, spoke recalling a number of instances between their families, clearly indicating the love and respect they had for one another, stating Danny "Lived life for the fullest." A number of people spoke of both dear and hilarious accounts of Garza, including quite a few police officers who served with Garza.

CIVA Member, Dominic Pawlowski then read the Military Bio of Marine SGT Danny Joe Garza. The services ended at about 2:45 p.m. Representing the Comanche Indian Veterans Association were Dominic Pawlowski and Ramonah Davis.



68TH ANNUAL POWWOW COMANCHE HOMECOMING

July 16-17-18, 2021

Sultan Park ~ Walters, OK

Gourd Dance: 1PM-5PM

Flag Lowering: 4PM-430PM

Supper Break: 5PM-6PM

Gourd Dance: 6PM-7PM

7PM-11PM

Calling Song, Intertribal, Round Dance, Contests

HEAD STAFF

MC: Martin Flores & Haa-Tee Delgado

Head Singers: Kenneth & Howard Cozad

Head Man Gourd Dancer: CJ Ahtone

Head Lady Gourd Dancer: Jolene Schonchin

Head Man/Lady War Dancers: Chosen Nightly

Co-Host: Walters Service Club

AD's: Ashley Kerchee, Travis Codynah, Larney Silverhorn

Memorial Flags to be Flown:

Friday: Eldridge "Peaches" Tahdoahnippah

Saturday: Melvin Kerchee Sr.

Sunday: In Loving Memory of all the Covid Victims

For more information please contact:

Jacob Liles 580.956.4634 or Fiona Kerchee 580.956.4453



CONTESTS

Golden Age Women-Combined (50 & up)

Golden Age Men-Combined (50 & up)

\$400-\$300-\$200-\$100

Adult Women (18-49) Cloth

Adult Women (18-49) Buckskin

Adult Men (18-49) Fancy

\$400-\$300-\$200-\$100

Adult Men (18-49) Straight

\$900-\$600-\$300-\$100

Teen Girls (13-17) (no more than 3 or will be combined)

Buckskin, Cloth, Fancy/Jingle

Teen Boys (13-17) (no more than 3 or will be combined)

Straight, Fancy, Traditional/Grass

\$200-\$100-\$75

Calling All Queens Contest

Former and Current

Must have princess banner to participant

2021 CLASS OF



*Kevin Michael Joco II
Eisenhower High School*



*Tawny Betty
Tennant High School*



*Hayley Fricke
Cache High School*



*Shayna Hawery
Anadarko High School*



*Ashree Lloyd
Oklahoma Virtual Charter Academy*



*Hayley Mathis
TCOR & Great Plains
Technology Center*



*Jade Bozimer
Gerontimo High School*



*Alexis O'Brien
Cache High School*



*Juliana Pogrebe
Walters High School*



*Brayden Pheasant
Lawton High School*



*Ashlyn Smith
Pauls Valley High School*



*Larissa Smith
Cache High School*



*Layla Nelson
Lawton High School*



*Ruby Smith
Cache High School*



*Violet Stonecalf
Elyria High School*



*Jake Valdez
MacArthur High School*



*Krista Yachegony
Cache High School*



*Mahalia Donald
Eisenhower High School*



*Maria Smith
Lawton High School*



*Doreth Turner
Cache High School*



*Mia Motah
Moore High School*



*Macy Motah
Moore High School*



*Katelyn Zienup
Cache High School*



*Gracey Lewis
Checotah High School*



*Angelina Steinmeyer
Epic Charter School*



*Lauren Blackstar
Apache High School*



*Tregah Roster
Highland High School*



*Alex Cody Hill
Anadarko High School*



*Dan Quig Dawsey
MacArthur High School*



*Chance Perez
Indiavona High School*

2021 CLASS OF

Continued from Page 10



Ariana Parker
Norman High School



Sierra Ashley
Lawton High School



Andrew Clayton Teelee
Stillwater High School



Briana Hernandez
Cache High School



Alysa Underwood
Clizen High School



Aidan Henry
Mince High School



Aaron Navagaya
Elgin High School



Henry Pohampatcheko
Cache High School



Destinee Red Elk Williams
Epic Charter School



Trent Gonzalez
Lee High School



Robert Poo Eugene Todd
Cache High School



Trevor Gonzalez
Midland College
Advance Diesel Technician



Corletta Gail Burgess
Bachelor of Arts
Native American and Indigenous Studies



Jennifer Brewer
University of Oklahoma
Master of Social Work



Molly Tomah
Arizona State University
Bachelor of Science



Antonia Caddle
Texas A&M University
Bachelor of Science



Christine Maheshly
Metro Tech Center
Radiology



Allison Steinhilber
University of Oklahoma
Socio-Cultural Anthropology



Brittany Michele Froelich
Western Oklahoma State College
Bachelor of Science



Ryla Phillips
Community Care College
Certified Medical Assistant



Ashleigh White
Cameron University
Associate of Applied Science



Keltah Hensley
Cameron University
Bachelor of Science



Elia Ashley-Robles
Southern Nazarene University
Bachelor of Science



Jada Silverthorn
Texas Women University
Bachelor of Science



Christopher Joseph Noel Gallo
Duke University
School of Medicine



Parker Boles
Oklahoma Panhandle State University
Bachelor of Science



Jennifer Crow
Elite Academy of Cosmetology



Isfanie Anderson
Elite Academy of Cosmetology



Alec Green
University of Central Oklahoma
Bachelor of Science



Steve Coronado, Jr.
Texas Women's University
Bachelor of Art



Victoria Hensley
Cameron University
Bachelor of Science



Zhannan Conroyewentz
Northern Oklahoma College
Bachelors of General Studies



Natalie Elliot
University of Oklahoma
Bachelor of Art



Pamela Harris
Northwest Indian College
Business Management and Tribal Governance



Kalce Herbert
Northern Oklahoma College
Associate of Applied Science



Alena Rivera
University of Houston
Bachelor of Arts

People, Places & Things Happening

Yazzie Competes at the 2021 USA Gymnastics Development Program

Tribal member, Shawn Yazzie (Navajo/Sac&Fox/Comanche) was able to compete at the 2021 USA Gymnastics Development Program Nationals Championships in Florida on May 16. Yazzie placed in the top 20 in the Nation for Level 8 gymnastics by placing 18 overall and medaling 3rd on Floor. With so many talented gymnast in the U.S. he was the only Native American.

Atauvich-Callahan Comanche Actress



Courtesy Photo

Atauvich-Callahan

Tribal member, Alannah Atauvich-Callahan, has been acting since she was 19 years-old and the past year and a half she has been a part of some really good gigs. Atauvich-Callahan has been selected as a background actor for several films such as "Beauty of Love", "CIA ape", "13 minutes" (starring Trace Atkins, Thora birch, and Amy Smart, "Dotty and Soul" and a couple of lifetime movies. She is also a part of the new FX series "Reservation Dogs" by Sterlin Harjo and director Wakiti which premieres on FX and Hulu in August 2021. She is also in the movie "American Underdog: The Kurt Warner so yet" as a background actor set to be released this year.

Atauvich-Callahan, biggest role is for the Wichita and Affiliated tribes Opioid Response Program- to which she has been selected as a supporting actress as "Rebecca". This film will premier at Redskin Theatre in Anadarko sometime in June 2021.

Atauvich-Callahan, is also a Comanche Nation Higher Education scholarship recipient, going to Abilene Christian University for her Doctor of Education. She was a Gate Millennium scholar in 2005, while she was attending the University of Oklahoma.

Atauvich-Callahan's family is DeroY Atauvich, Poaffabity, and Moon Vernon Atauvich, Pearl Atauvich family, Angela Atauvich, and her father is Gene Atauvich.

Colorado and Nevada Pass Bills Banning Native "Themed" Mascots, Logos, and Team Names

"There's a distinction between honoring the history of a people and reducing their treasures, religious imagery, their faces, their bodies, their families, their most precious beliefs to a caricature."

-- CO State Senator Jessie Danielson (D-Wheat Ridge, SB 21-116 co-sponsor)

On June 3, Colorado state legislators passed Senate Bill 21-116 (SB 21-116). It now awaits final approval by Governor Jared Polis. SB 21-116 prohibits "the use of American Indian mascots by public schools, including charter and institute charter schools, and public institutions of higher education as of June 1, 2022." According to SB 21-116's text, the bill "will provide another step toward justice and healing to the descendants of the survivors of the Sand Creek Massacre, most notably the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, as well as other American Indians in Colorado who have been harmed or offended by these discriminatory mascots."

Notably, this bill will not apply to schools on tribal lands or

schools that consult with and receive approval from a federally-recognized Tribal Nation by June 30, 2021. However, Tribal Nations can revoke such approvals at any time. Schools that do not meet this criteria have until June 1, 2022 to retire their Native "themed" mascots, logos, or team names. If a school fails to make the change by June 1, 2022, the bill imposes a fine of \$25,000 per month until a new mascot is chosen.

According to NCAI's school mascot tracking database, there are 28 schools representing 14 districts in the state of Colorado that use Native "themed" mascots, logos, or team names. Nationally, there are still more than 1,900 schools employing Native "themed" mascots.

Atauvich Selected for OKCPWC 2021-2022 Princess



Courtesy Photo

Tribal member, Kasey Atauvich, has been selected as Oklahoma City Powwow Club (OKCPWC) 2021-2022 Princess! Atauvich is from Cache Okla, what is known as Camp 7 area. Her Comanche name is "Weh-Wah-No-Eet Tatsinuup" meaning Shining Star.

Atauvich's parents are Gary and Tonyelle Atauvich-Unah. Kasey is a freshman at Cameron University. In her spare time her hobbies are traveling to powwows, meeting new people, doing beadwork, sewing, and painting. She also participates in Native American Sign Language. She loves spending time with her grandfather Carl Atauvich and playing handgame with her family.

Congratulations to Cable and Stillwell For Winning the WHS Boys Golf Scramble



Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to Steve Cable (L) and Brian Stillwell (R), both of Comanche Nation Entertainment, for winning the Walters High School (WHS) Boys Golf Scramble on June 12 at Lakeside Golf Course. Their team had the highest bid on Cruz Perez (center) who was their third man in a two man scramble, in the auction of the boys golf team prior to the start of the scramble.

They would like to say Thank you to everyone who participated in the scramble, purchased ads or helped with the scramble in any way. Your generosity allowed them to raise over \$6,000 to help with the trip to Nationals later this month and the purchase of their state rings. They couldn't do it without your support.

StrongHearts Native Helpline: My Experience With Gaslighting

A story. "I was pregnant with our first child when I drove him to the doctor's office. He said that he broke his ankle when he jumped down from the back of his truck and rolled his foot. The nurse came in and examined his ankle. She explained that the break likely occurred when the other man in the altercation kicked him. Tears rushing to my eyes, the nurse looked at me and said, "Don't worry, he's going to be fine."

"My tears were not for his well-being and he knew it. They were for the instant betrayal I felt when I realized he had lied to me. Little did I know the extent to which his lies would permeate every aspect of our lives."

What is Gaslighting?

A common technique of abusers, dictators, narcissists and cult leaders alike, "gaslighting" is an abuse tactic in which a person gains power by making a victim question reality. Abusers refuse responsibility for any wrongdoing and instead blame their victim. It is often difficult for victims to recognize the abuse.

ADHD and Gaslighting

"I live with ADHD or Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder which is a neurodevelopmental disorder that causes the person to have trouble paying attention (to details) and controlling impulsive behaviors like shopping. A person with ADHD often forgets or loses things. They have a hard time resisting temptation and tend to take unnecessary risks. I've learned, these traits are exploitable."

According to Dr. Stephanie Sarkis - people suffering this disorder are especially vulnerable to a person with a narcissistic personality - one who tends to be selfish with a sense of entitlement. A narcissist has an inflated ego with a deep need for attention and admiration. Dr. Sarkis describes the gaslighter as a constant liar and master of deception. They deny wrongdoing and use what is near and dear to you as ammunition.

"In my case, my abuser became excessively jealous of our son. He treated him poorly and at times, put him in harm's way. He did it to spite me, to scare me and to show me that in his household, he was in control. He even admitted when our son was just six months old that he was starting to hate him because I loved him so much. He said it was unfair that his own mother didn't love him like I loved our son. At the time, I was busy being a mom and didn't see it as a manipulation meant to garner my attention."

They Called Me Crazy

Gaslighters are masters at manipulation and finding the people they know will stand by them no matter what, such as a parent. They turn people against you. You may start to doubt who to trust and that's exactly what the gaslighter wants because isolating you gives them more control.

They tell you and/or others that you are crazy. This is one of the most effective tools of the gaslighter. The gaslighter knows if they question your sanity, people will not believe you when you tell them the gaslighter is abusive.

"I didn't know that his family called me, "Crazy," but in retrospect, it was crazy to love a man who could in one breath make me feel like no else mattered and in the next like I wasn't worth a dime." (Read more about Projecting and Cheating, Love Bombing and Devaluing in the full story at strongheartshelpline.org)

Food For The Soul and Recovery

Over time, a victim of gaslighting may start to believe that they cannot trust themselves, or that they have a mental health disorder. They may have anxiety, depression, isolation, confusion and psychological trauma. The long-term impact on someone's mental health and self-esteem is often devastating but there

are ways to cope.

Recovering from gaslighting takes time. Victims should never blame themselves. You are not responsible for the abusive behavior.

"For me, my healing takes place when I travel to distant places and see beautiful things. I call it food for the soul. I find peace in my visits to the Redwoods in northern California. The trees have lived for more than a thousand years. My ancestors — who were once free to roam the continent — saw these very same trees. I feel whole when standing among the Redwoods of Stout Grove.

Find food for your soul. Practice listening to your thoughts, feelings."

Learn to trust your instincts again. To read the full story, visit StrongHearts Native Helpline's website at strongheartshelpline.org. Advocates are available 24/7 to chat online or call/text 1-844-7NATIVE

StrongHearts Chat Advocacy One-Year Report

In May 2020, StrongHearts Native Helpline (1-844-7NATIVE) introduced online chat advocacy. The service was precipitated by an urgent need that StrongHearts noted as victim-survivors of domestic, dating and sexual violence were having to shelter-in-place with their abusive partners during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chat advocacy users connect with a highly-trained advocate in a free, anonymous and confidential one-on-one chat session. There is no need to download an app or any software to use it. Users simply click the Chat Now icon on the StrongHearts website. Chat advocacy also increased accessibility for individuals who may be hearing impaired or those who may be uncomfortable or unable to vocalize a call for support. In 2021, the service became available 24/7.

Based on chats documented during the first 12 months of chat advocacy from May 18, 2020 to May 16, 2021, StrongHearts Native Helpline answered a total of 942 chats from across the United States. Chat users are primarily working age Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) victim-survivors seeking help during the day when they may be away from their abusive partner and have more access to a computer or smartphone. Eighty-one percent of chat users found StrongHearts through a search engine, such as Google or social media.

Additional report findings:

Who is using chat advocacy?

- 62% are IPV victim-survivors
- 26% are sexual violence victim-survivors

- 12% are non-IPV victim-survivors

- What are chat users' ages?
- 41% are aged 34-51
 - 37% are aged 22-33
 - 18% are aged 13-21
 - 4% are aged 52+

What do Native victim-survivor chat users need?

- 70% peer support
- 30% shelter
- 28% legal advocacy

"I so appreciated this chat feature," noted one chat user. "It looks like I'm texting a friend so I feel safe to do it."

"This report reflects only data that was self-disclosed by chat users and does not necessarily represent every contact to StrongHearts Native Helpline," said StrongHearts Director Lori Jump (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians). "However, our report strongly indicates that chat advocacy is a much-needed service for our Native American and Alaska Native relatives."

Kassanovoid Competes in Olympic Qualifying Rounds



Courtesy Photo

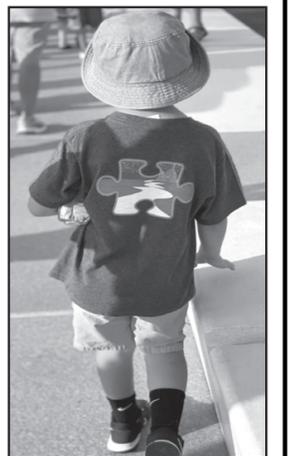
Tribal member, Janee' Kassanovoid, is competing in the Women's Hammer US Olympic Trial qualifying round in Eugene, Oregon. As of press time, she advanced to the second trial.

The 2017 and 2018 Big 12 Champion in the hammer, she was a three time all American in the event for Kansas State University. She is the fourth best mark among the American hammer throwers, with a throw of 75.50m/247-08 at the USA Track & Field Throw Festival last month in Arizona. NBCSN will have coverage on the event.



Courtesy Photos

WALK FOR AUTISM AWARENESS. Tribal member, Lucas Owens, pictured Left, and his team "Lucas without Limits" participated in the Annual Piece walk in Oklahoma City's Bricktown on June 12, to bring awareness to Autism. Lucas is big brother to Jovi and Caleb. A huge thank you from his family to everyone who has walked with Lucas, and supported him.



Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday

- June 3- Liam Stone
- June 6- Tracey McClung-Pack
- June 12- Robert Bruce Bigbee
- June 17- Rodger Cable
- June 22- Monica McClung
- June 23- Vivian Hall
- June 26- Kryst Dawn Parker
- June 30- Jennifer Lynn-Komahcheet



Happy Belated 3rd Birthday
Liam Stone
June 3



Happy 6th Birthday
Deanna Raylene
From Mom, Dad and Andrew



Happy Birthday
Matthew Kaywaykla
July 1



Happy Birthday
Laura Mahsetky
July 1



Happy Birthday
Terisa Brinkman
July 6

Happy Birthday

- July- Deanna Raylene
- July- Kevin "Menace" Tahdooh-nippah
- July 1- Matthew Kaywaykla
- July 1- Laura Mahsetky
- July 3- Hayden Goombi
- July 5- Kelly Komahcheet
- July 6- Terisa Brinkman
- July 7- Olivia Skeen
- July 7- Jaci Nicole Fagan
- July 8- Arlene Schonchin
- July 10- Joseph Albert Tahsequah
- July 18- Gen Hadley
- July 18- Hayden G. Knight
- July 21- Ben Roach Aquilar
- July 22- Jordin Heminokeky
- July 22- Bella Codynah
- July 23- Trevor Pewewardy
- July 24- Pete Coffey III (Roscoe)
- July 26- Rebecca Paddyaker
- July 27- Steven Wahnee
- July 30- Karen Cozad
- July 30- Kennison and Isabelle Poorbuffalo-Tahah
- July 30- Idris Santana Tehauno



Happy 2nd Birthday
Jaci Nicole Fagan
July 7
From Grandma, Papa, and Auntie Melynn



Happy Birthday
Joseph Albert Tahsequah
July 10
From your family Mom, Ed Jacob, Riley, Sugar, Bear and Chi-Chi. We love you and are so proud of you!



Happy Birthday
Gen Hadley
July 18
From your kids and all the grandkids! We love you!



Happy Birthday
Ben Roach Aquilar
July 21



Happy 5th Birthday
Jordin Heminokeky
July 22



Happy 50th Anniversary
Clifford and Cheryl Takawana



Happy Birthday
Bella Codynah
July 22



Happy Birthday
Trevor Pewewardy
July 23



Happy Birthday
Kennison and Isabelle Poorbuffalo-Tahah
July 30
From the Poorbuffalo and Tahah Families



Happy 1st Birthday
Idris Santana Tehauno
July 30

In Loving Memory

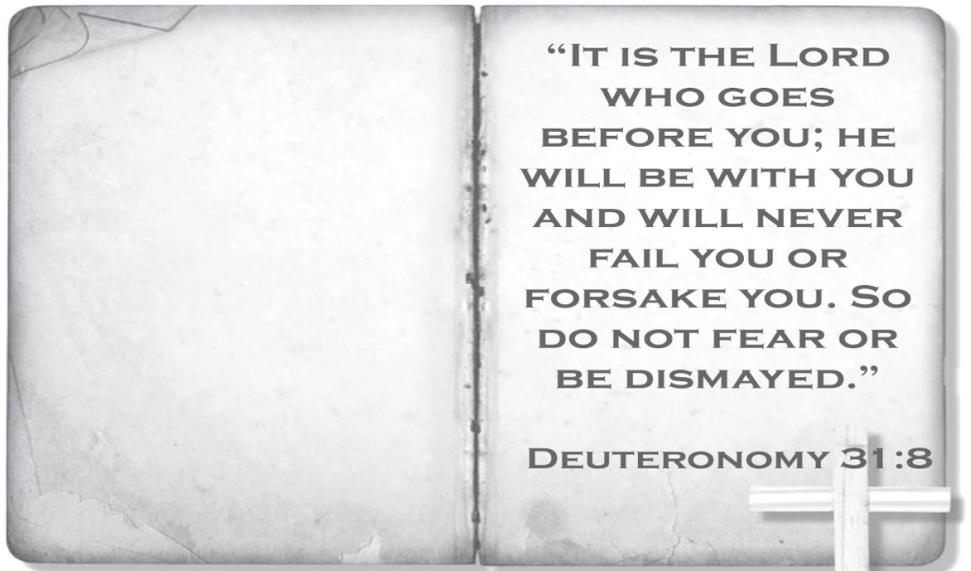
- Aunt Lawanna Wahnee
June 29
- Donald Wahnee
July 19
- Buddy Tiddark
July 25
- Woody Kopaddy
July 26

From your family.
We love and miss you always!

COMANCHE NATION CHR/EMS/FIRE

The following are calls that the department has ran from May 15 to June 14. It gives the date, time, type of call, address with town, and any assisting agencies.

- 5/18 9 a.m.: Standby, Flower Mound Road & Tinney Road-Lawton, Tribal Police
- 5/21 2:04 p.m.: Grass Fire, 15836 NE Tony Creek Road-Apache, Fletcher Fire Dept., Elgin Fire Dept.
- 5/24 7 a.m. Medical, 8501 NW Madische Road-Lawton
- 6/5 10 a.m.: Standby, 584 NW Bingo Road-Lawton, Tribal Police
- 6/8 10:49 a.m.: MVA (2 vehicle), 4 Mile Road & Tacklebox Road-Lawton, Apache EMS, Kirks, Wichita Mountain Estates Fire Dept., Meers Fire Dept., Tribal Police, Wildlife Refuge, OHP
- 6/9 10:15 a.m.: Fire Investigation, 12 NW Red Elk Drive-Lawton
- 6/11 12:13 a.m.: Medical, 4222 SE Bedford Drive-Lawton
- 6/12 9:00 a.m.: Grass Fire (control burn), Green Meadow Acres-Elgin, Porter Hill Fire Dept.
- 6/14 9:07 p.m.: Medical, 180 Red Elk Drive-Lawton, Kirks, Wichita Mountain Estates Fire Dept., Porter Hill Fire Dept., Tribal Police, Comanche County Sheriff, OHP



Positive mental health: Through a cultural lens
Brought to you by the Native Spirit Suicide Prevention Project

Share stories	Create art	Burn medicine
Cook a family meal	Beadwork	Sweat lodge
Make offerings	Quilting	Gathering traditional plants & medicines
Laugh often	Play music	Drink healing teas
Learn & speak your language	Dancing	Go to the mountains
Wear/make regalia	Sing your songs	Borrow energy from the Earth & Sun
Visit with a friend/relative/elder	Pray	Take a walk out in nature

SEND A TEXT • SAVE A LIFE
741741

Add the Crisis Text Line number to your phone now. It could save a life later.

741-741
My friend is with me, and she needs your help
I'm here, and I'm listening

www.nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention

COMANCHE NATION PREVENTION & RECOVERY

GRIEF COUNSELING

IT'S OKAY TO REACH OUT FOR HELP

We are here for you

Our department is now offering grief counseling for tribal members who have attempted suicide or are experiencing suicidal behaviors/thoughts.

We are also providing assistance for family members who have lost loved ones to suicide or have experienced an extreme traumatic event.

For more information, please contact us at:
580-492-3449
prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com

The Comanche Nation News
August Edition Deadline
July 15
Email:
stacey.heminokeky@comanchenation.com
Mail:
Comanche Nation/PIO
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73501
Contact: (580) 492-3385



**COMANCHE NATION
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
HOT LINE**

(580) 492-3628

Obituaries

Margot Ann Knifechief



Courtesy Photo

Knifechief

Margot Ann Knifechief, of Phoenix went to her heavenly home on April 23.

Graveside service was May 1, at Memory Lane in Anadarko. Burial was under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

She was born in Lawton at the Indian Hospital, graduated from Haskell University, she will be lovingly remembered by her grandchildren. She worked for Social Services of Orange County; she is the last surviving Tier 1. She's remembered in the pow-wow world as a Southern Traditional Senior Woman Dancer and background singer, she sang with various drum groups; enjoyed traveling to pow-wows all over the U.S. She enjoyed her grandchildren and great grandchild.

Preceded in Death by: Fred Bozo Werny(Father) Ruth E. Seager Hunt Werny (Mother) Diana Werny (Sister) and Thomasine Werny Ross(Sister).

Survived by: Jeff Werny (Brother) Orange, Cali.; Children Thomas M. Knifechief & Spouse Margaret Knifechief Norman; Meriah A. Knifechief & Spouse Loretta Knifechief Phoenix, Ariz., Jinalice K. Perkins & Spouse Johnny Medina Phoenix, Ariz., Lewis P. Perkins Flagstaff, Ariz., Silas M. Perkins Phoenix, Ariz.: Lovingly Remembered by: Joshua Acosta, Aaron Ross, Lucas Ross, Stanley Ross, Dana Welch; Grandchildren: Eric Stoney, Fawn K Knifechief, Diana A. Knifechief, Nadine K. Perkins, Meriah R. Knifechief, Francine P. Perkins, Aaliyska Knifechief, Alyssa R. Perkins, Pedro L. Perkins, Andee R. Knifechief, Isaiah Medina, and Lorae B. Perkins.

Winford "Buddy" Wauqua



Courtesy Photo

Wauqua

Winford "Buddy" Wauqua, 74, of Lawton went to be with his Lord and Savior on April 23, at home.

Wauqua was born on October 11, 1946, in Lawton to Ethel and Johnny Wauqua. He spent majority of his life in Walters, Oklahoma and was a member of the Westside Baptist Church. His love for breeding and training quarter horses was his passion in life. He enjoyed rodeos, pow-wows, long visits with friends and family and tending to his horses. Wauqua had a love for his grandchildren that was like no other and he was a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

Wauqua is preceded in death by his mother and father, brothers: Mike, Norris, Johnny and Woody

Wauqua, sister: Lynn Sue Wauqua and grandsons: Michael and Greyson Wauqua.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne Wauqua of the home. Children: Mike Wauqua and Misty of Pflugerville, Texas, Jeanne Wauqua Campbell and Chris of Creede, Colo., Roshuanda Wauqua Rodriguez of Hebronville, Texas, and Merranda Montoya and Monte of Lawton. His sister: Dolly Desselle and Sam of Lawton and brother: Elkin Wauqua of Fort Cobb. Nine grandchildren: Lin, Levi, Madison, Dana, Ranelle, Rainney, River, Shyanne and Nathan. As well as 15 great grandchildren and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Graveside service was April 28, at Walters Cemetery with Edward Eschiti and Videll Yackeschi officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Robert Baldwin Parker



Courtesy Photo

Parker

Robert Baldwin Parker, went to his heavenly home on April 27.

Graveside Service was May 3, at Saddle Mountain Cemetery with Pastor Sharon Tapatto officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Parker was proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. He was born in Lawton to Simmons and Iona (Aunko) Parker on October 10, 1946. He served in the U.S. Airforce from January 3, 1967 until December 15, 1970. Parker worked for the U.S. Postal service as a mail carrier.

He is survived by: wife Georgia Parker of Bethany; brother: Johnny Parker, Ft. Cobb, five sisters: Elaine Parker of Lawton, LaNora Parker of Lawton, Mary Moon of Anadarko, Martha Meat of Ft. Cobb, Elizabeth Howard of Oklahoma City, two daughters: LaDonna Ortle of Lawrence, Kansas and Dianne Parker of Oklahoma City; two sons: Ronnie Williams and Audie Williams; grandchildren: Robert, Giovanni, Billy, Jim and Molly Mae; numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by parents; brother Anthony Parker.

Tylaya Najai Ashby



Courtesy Photo

Ashby

Tylaya Najai Ashby— Beloved daughter of Tykwane Ashby and Cayla Nelson. She was born February 28, and went to be with our Heavenly Father on May 8.

She was joy personified, she loved mornings and being outside. She loved spending time with mommy and cuddling while watch-

ing Tom and Jerry with daddy. She loved laughing at big brother and sister, they could always make her smile. Ashby was a beautiful ray of sunshine in this world that will forever shine in the hearts of those that love her.

Psalm 139:13-14 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well."

She is survived by: her father and mother Tykwane Ashby and Cayla Nelson, Siblings: Tobyas Woods, Zaya Woods, and Chanelle Ashby, grandparents; Benicio Ashby, Barbara Baroni, and Rhianna Nelson; uncles and aunt, Dante Ashby, Dominic Ashby, and Tynishia Manley. As well as many more loved ones that will miss her dearly. You are forever in our hearts, Tylaya Najai.

Funeral services was May 13, at the Deyo Mission Cemetery with Pastor Louise Harris officiating.

Donna Jeanne (Strecker) Wallace



Courtesy Photo

Wallace

Donna Jeanne (Strecker) Wallace, 69, of Chattanooga passed away at home on May 11. She was born on February 2, 1952, in Lawton, to Oscar Theodore Seyfarth II and Mabel Topetchy. She was a military child who traveled around the world before settling in Oklahoma, graduating in 1970 from Southeast High School in Oklahoma City

Wallace married Randy Strecker in June of 1972, and they made their home in Chattanooga where they welcomed three children. Following Randy's passing, Donna married George Steven Wallace. Wallace worked for the city of Lawton in various departments alongside her late husband Randall (Randy) Strecker for over a decade. She then continued her education at Cameron University earning a degree in Elementary Education and a Masters in Early Childhood education.

She began her teaching career as the very first Pre-K teacher in Chattanooga, a position she held for 18 years before retiring in 2017. Wallace's passion was teaching, and she cherished all of her students. One of her greatest pleasures was decorating for Halloween so that she could see all of her students, past and present, when they came to trick-or-treat. Wallace was so loved by her students and the town of Chattanooga. Words cannot express the affection the education community holds for this dear lady. Wallace loved all living things, especially her dogs. She found joy working in her yard and took her "Kaku" duties very seriously, attending every ballgame, birthday and class function. After retiring, Wallace immersed herself in the Native American culture. She took Comanche Language classes and Native American beading, where she developed close and lasting friendships. Wallace will be forever remembered.

Wallace was preceded in death by her parents and first husband, Randall (Randy) Strecker.

She is survived by her second husband, George Wallace; her children, Jeremy Strecker and Jodi of Boise City, ID, Heather Carothers and husband Dee of Indianahoma, and Shane Strecker of Chattanooga; four grandchildren, Koby, Konnor, Alex,

and Hailey; brother Buddy Seyfarth; numerous nieces and nephews.

A Graveside Service on May 17, at Deyo Mission Cemetery. Following the service, the family received visitors at the Chattanooga Community Center.

Luella Grace Yokesuite Saupitty Lumbert



Courtesy Photo

Lumbert

Luella Grace Yokesuite Saupitty Lumbert, went to be with her Lord on May 13, in Lawton.

Lumbert was born in Lawton to Lillian Yokesuite on May 3, 1937. She was acknowledged by her father Nathan Eckiwaudy later in life they both made up for the lost years. She graduated from Corn Bible Academy. Lumbert worked as a housekeeper at various motels. She loved spending time with her family especially the grand kids and great grand kids. She was a very good piano player and played for the churches. She was a proud full blood member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

She is survived by: five children: James Saupitty, Timothy Saupitty, Shannon Hunter all of Lawton; Tracy Dean of Albuquerque and Linda Saupitty of Apache; sister Brenda Ashington of Lawton; 22 grandchildren: Richa, Jeffery, Ursula, Tishia, Kanessa, Tristen, Angelica, Raven, Richard II, Cassandra, Aryonna, Jessica, Heather, Devin, Micadorie, Holden, Sarah, Leslie, Colin, Keith, Kevan, Alyssa; 39 great grandchildren, many other family members and friends.

She is preceded in death by: mother Lilly Yokesuite; two children Diana Poemoceah and Richard Saupitty; grandson Oliver Poemoceah; great granddaughter Esatella Hasley, great grandson Jordan Saupitty; Siblings: Janelle Yokesuite Mowatt, Donnie Yokesuite, Sandra Yokesuite Davis, Lillian Yokesuite Simmons, Winifred Yokesuite Sovo, Carlton Kopaddy and Sammy Kopaddy.

Graveside service was May 19, at West Cache Creek KCA with Tina Baker officiating.

Isaiah (Zay) Nathaniel Whiteshield



Courtesy Photo

Whiteshield

Isaiah (Zay) Nathaniel Whiteshield, 16, of Lawton Okla... passed away on May 16.

He was born on January 13, 2005, in Lawton to David Ramos and Antonia Whiteshield. He was a sophomore at Eisenhower High School, where he was loved by many of his teachers. He really enjoyed playing basketball and online video games, but his real passion was skateboarding. He was really dedicated and won several trophies. His greatest

reward from skateboarding was all the friends he made and inspired to pick up the board.

He always said "All you need is a little speed." He'll be remembered for his kindness, loving spirit and outgoing personality. He had a smile that would light up the room.

He is preceded in death by his great grandparents, Theodore and Lydia Niedo, George and Nellisa Ebanks, Clarence and Sally Chalepah, and Randy Whiteshield. His cousin Duane Scott Murray II and Aunt Emily Gray.

He is survived by his father and mother, sisters Laisha Whiteshield and Destiny Ramos, nephew Kamari Epps of the home. Grandparents Thomas Chalepah, Elaine Whiteshield, Teddy Ebanks, Zenia Niedo. Aunts; Lititia Chalepah, Corinne Whiteshield, Selena Whiteshield, Michaelene Niedo Murray, Nicole Ebanks, Elanor Ramos and Martha Negron. Uncles: Bryan Whiteshield, Steve Blythe Jr., Robert Ramos, Teddy Ebanks Jr., and Tryon Ebanks.

Prayer service followed visitation. Funeral service was May 25, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home. Burial was at Deyo Mission Church Cemetery.

Renee Climer Zuk



Courtesy Photo

Zuk

Renee Climer Zuk, age 56, of Oklahoma City, went to be with her Heavenly Father on May 27.

Zuk was born on May 6, 1965, in Lawton, Okla. She was a proud member of the Comanche Tribe. She attended Putnam City North High School and graduated in 1983. She attended UCO in Edmond, Okla. She worked in sales and network marketing for many years and operated her own business until she retired. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends and all who knew her.

Zuk is survived by: her two children, Zachary Zuk and Zoie Zuk of Oklahoma City, her mother, Daphne Ticeahkie of Oklahoma City, her grandmother, Dorothy Ticeahkie of Lawton, and her sisters, Catherine Denney of Weatherford, and Erica Bread of Elgin, and her brother, Joey Bread of Norman, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Zuk was preceded in death by her fathers, James Climer and Donald Bread, her grandparents, Charles Lindy Ticeahkie, Charles and Evelyn Bread, Ruth Taylor Tingley and Jess Climer.

Funeral service was June 4, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home with Rev. Fred Ticeahkie, Rev. Jan Ticeahkie and Rev. Sandy Ticeahkie officiating. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.



Continued from Page 14

Casey Decann Southerland



Courtesy Photo

Southerland

Casey Decann Southerland, passed on May 30, at Oklahoma City.

She was born June 24, 1986, and lived in Walters all her life. She enjoyed spending time outdoors and playing games with her children. She also liked to cook out and go to the Casino, but most of all, she loved taking photos of everything. She had hundreds of photos.

Southerland is survived by her children: Ian and Courtlynn Southerland, her sister April Padgett, Grandmother Dolores Mejia Dranger, Uncle Rick Dranger and wife Diane, many other aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. And special friend Darrell Spence.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Cheryl Dranger, her father Vincent Kosechata, Grandfather Clarence Dranger and her Nephew Caleb Kosechata as well as other cousins.

Graveside was at Walters Cemetery. Dinner was served at the Fellowship Hall at Brown Church South of Walters immediately following the service.

Roy Samuel "Chief" Wockmetooh



Courtesy Photo

Wockmetooh

Roy Samuel "Chief" Wockmetooh, 62 years, went to be with his Lord on June 2, in Lawton, Okla. A prayer service was held June 4, at Petarsy Indian Methodist Church in Richard Spur. The funeral was June 5, at Petarsy Indian Methodist Church.

He was born November 18, 1958, at the Lawton Indian Hospital in Lawton, Okla., to Ronny and Ethlene Coffey Wockmetooh-Orozco. He was named after his two grandfathers, Roy Wockmetooh and Samuel Tehauno.

During high school, he was employed at Kentucky Fried Chicken as a cook, and knew the "original" fried chicken recipe, which he proudly kept a secret, although he would cook it for his family often. He graduated high school in 1977 at David W. Carter High School in Dallas, Texas. His Senior year, he was given an MVP for baseball. Following high school, he was scouted out and was given the opportunity to play professional baseball with the Texas Rangers as a pitcher. He and his sister, Melanie, won several disco dance contests throughout the Dallas/ Ft. Worth area, and had a collection of trophies.

He married Christina Diaz in 1986 at Alameda, California. They had four children Anthony Diaz, Roy Wockmetooh Jr, Nicholas Wockmetooh and Christina Nicole Wockmetooh.

He moved to Tulsa, Okla., and worked with his family at El Chico Restaurant. He then moved to Lawton, Okla. with his father. He was a professional concrete finisher for several decades. In his spare time,

he liked to golf, spend time with his family, and loved to watch OU and the Dallas Cowboys, which he was a devoted fan of both. He loved to laugh and tell jokes. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his mother, Ethlene Orozco of Lawton; brothers, Ronny D. Goodeagle Wockmetooh of South Dakota, Anthony Bobelu of Edmond; and Murray Rhoads of Cassville, Mo. Sister, Maurita Jo Wockmetooh Jimenez of Cherokee, North Carolina; Adria Suina of Albuquerque, Melanie Mota of Lawton; Jolene Schonchin of Elgin; Ronna Kay Potts of Elgin; Collette Tahah Dupoint of Walters; and Michele Bobelu of Oklahoma City; Grandmother, Anna Wockmetooh Tahmahkera, of Cache, Okla.; Children, Anthony Diaz of Las Vegas, Nevada, Roy Wockmetooh Jr. of Las Vegas, Nevada, Nicholas Wockmetooh of Las Vegas, Nevada and Christina Nicole Wockmetooh of Las Vegas, Nevada. Aunt and Uncle, Eric and Kaylene Kimple of Manteca, Cali.; Uncle, Joe Jimenez, of Cache, Okla., Aunt and Uncle Roger and Linda Tehauno of Fletcher; Uncle Adrian Tehauno; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and friends.

Preceded in death by his father, Ronny Wockmetooh; Brother, Ronald "BB" Wockmetooh; grandfathers Roy Wockmetooh and Samuel Tehauno; Grandmothers, Lillie Tomahsah Teyyah; Marie Tehauno Tahbonemah, Blossom Starr, Pasquerita Ruiz; aunts Arlene Wockmetooh Jimenez, Pasquerita Wockmetooh Tahah, and Pamela Pratt Bobelu; cousins Stephanie Bobelu Enamorado, Adria "Kid A" Suina, Kenneth Tahah, and Christopher Bobelu.

He was a descendant of Pete Coffey, Chief Wildhorse and Chief Whitewolf.

Martha Lou Jackson

Martha Lou Jackson, was brought home to Our Creator on June 8, at 82 years of age. Born July 10, 1938, from the Lawton area, she resided with her surviving husband, Paul Queen, in Broken Arrow, Okla.

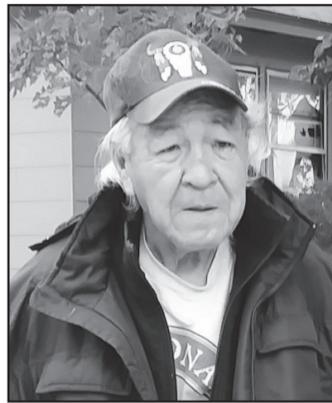
She is preceded in death by her parents, the late James Pocowatchit and Mary (Monetathchi) Pocowatchit. Her daughter, Marjorie Elaine Jackson, and siblings, Harold, Cletis, Cleta and Rodrick. Brother Dennis joined his sister shortly after.

Jackson is also survived by children: Vincent, Melissa and Patti Jackson. Grandchildren: Tracy, Alisha and Jamie Jackson. Siblings: Ben, Bessie, Mildred, Gerald, Gloria and many wonderful, beautiful great-grandchildren.

Jackson enjoyed many travels throughout her lifetime within the states and afar. Being one of few full-blooded members of the Comanche Nation, she attended many powwows within many tribal nations with her family and friends over many years. Her dedication as a mother and grandmother to many was something we will all dearly miss, but we know she is with Our Creator and we will see her again.

Jackson was laid to rest at the Otipoby Cemetery in Lawton, Okla.

Dennis Pocowatchit Sr.



Courtesy Photo

Pocowatchit

Dennis Pocowatchit Sr., of Lawton went to be with his Lord and Savior on June 10.

Funeral service was at Watchtaker Hall with June Sovo officiating.

Wake service was at Watchtaker Hall.

Burial followed at Otipoby Cemetery on Ft. Sill under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Pocowatchit was born on September 28, 1948, to Mary Monetathchi and James Pocowatchit in Lawton. He grew up in the Richard Spur area. Pocowatchit was a proud full blood member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. He enjoyed listening to his oldie's music, spending time with his family especially his grand kids. He worked as automotive mechanic throughout his lifetime.

Pocowatchit is survived by: sisters Bessie Pocowatchit of California, Mildred Pocowatchit of Oklahoma City, Gloria Pocowatchit of Elgin; brothers: Vincent (Ben) Pocowatchit and Gerald Pocowatchit both of Lawton; two children Denise Pocowatchit and Dennis Pocowatchit Jr. both of Lawton, three grand kids: Antonio, Nani and Andre and two great grand kids: Adrian and Adalaya.

Pocowatchit is preceded in death by: James Pocowatchit; mother Mary Monetathchi; brothers: Tilley, Cleatis & Rodrick Pocowatchit; sisters: Martha and Cleata Pocowatchit. Nephew: Ricky Pocowatchit; uncle: Eldrige (Peaches) Tahdooahnippah; aunts: Margie (Birdlegs) Tahdooahnippah and Jean Monetathchi.

Safe In God's Keeping

*I am home in Heaven
Oh, so happy and so bright.
There is perfect joy and
beauty
In this everlasting light.*

*All the pain and grief are over
Every restless yearning past.
I am now at peace forever
Safely home in heaven at last.*

*Do not grieve so sorely
For I love you dearly, still.
Try to look beyond earth's
shadows
Pray to trust our father's
will.*

*When your work is all complete
He will gently call you home.
Oh, the rapture of that meeting
Oh, the joy to see you home.*



Visiting Lakes and Rivers

Spending time in natural bodies of water—like lakes, and rivers—is a great way to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends. While this can help you stay active, it is important to know that the water we swim, play, wade, and relax in can also spread germs and make you, and those you care about, sick.

Germs found in the water and sand (swim area) often come from human or animal feces (poop). One way germs can be carried into swim areas is by heavy rain. Water from heavy rain picks up anything it comes in contact with (for example, poop from where animals live) and can drain into swim areas. These germs can also come from humans or animals pooping in or near the water.

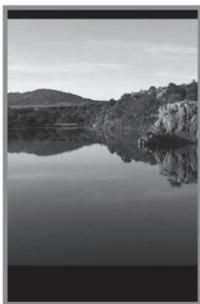
Water contaminated with these germs can make you sick if you swallow it. It can also cause an infection if you get into the water with an open cut or wound (especially from a surgery or piercing).

Know before you go

- Before you head out, check online (<https://www.travelok.com/state-parks/lake-conditions>) to find out if the swim area is currently monitored, is under advisory, or has been closed for health or safety reasons. This is especially important after a heavy rain.
- If your body's ability to fight germs is already affected by other health problems or medicines, check with your healthcare provider before swimming in oceans, lakes, rivers, and other natural bodies of water.

Stay out of the water if

- Signs say the swim area is closed.
- This may be due to high levels of germs in the water which make it unsafe for swimming.
- The water looks cloudier than usual, is discolored, or smells bad. Cloudy water can be a warning that there are more germs in the water than normal. Discolored or smelly water could mean there is a harmful algal bloom (HAB) in the water.
- Heavy rain picks up anything it comes in contact with (for example, human and animal poop). This rainwater can drain into the swim area, making the water cloudier.
- Harmful algal blooms in the water can make humans and animals sick.
- You see any pipes draining into or around the water.
- Water in pipes can pick up animal or human poop and bring germs into the swim area, especially after heavy rains or rainfalls after long periods of drought.
- You are sick with diarrhea. Germs in diarrhea can get in the water and make other swimmers sick if they swallow the contaminated water.
- You have an open cut or wound (especially from a surgery or piercing). If you do go in the water while a cut or wound is still healing, use waterproof bandages to completely cover



Creeks and streams often contain harmful germs and may not be monitored for water quality. Swimming or playing in creeks and streams can put you at risk for waterborne illness or infection.



Spring Cleaning
Drive Thu Event
Cache, Walters, Apache
May 2rd - 20th, 2021



Community		TIRES	ELECTRONIC	HOUSEHOLD	Bulky App	Cardboard	Aluminum	Plastic	Scrap metal	Paint
Cache	May 3rd - 6th	107	5	11	10		3			
Walters	May 10th - 13th	839	8	55	3	1		5		1
Apache	May 17th - 20th	51	11	60	13	3	1	12	16	2
Total		997	24	126	26	4	4	17	16	3

*Table shows number of people served

Comanche Nation Office of Environmental hosted a spring-cleaning event during the month of May. The program posted flyers in the community and utilized social media to spread the word of the dates and times that the event was taking place. Rain or shine the Environmental staff was out assisting the tribal members as well as members of the community with their appliances, household trash, scrap metal, and household waste. We had a great turn out and will look forward to holding future events.



Comanche Summer at Palo Duro Canyon, Texas

Comanches Travel to the Historical Site of Palo Duro Canyon June 19 to Celebrate an Evening of Comanche Culture



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

“Comanche Strong, Stronger Together” is Spreading all over Comanche Country



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Why clean air ducts?

In addition to normal accumulations of dust and dirt found in all homes with air ducts, there are several other factors that can increase the need for regular HVAC system cleaning:

- pets
- cigarette or cigar smoke
- water contamination or damage to the home or HVAC system
- home renovation or remodeling projects

Some occupants are more sensitive to these contaminants than others. Allergy and asthma sufferers, as well as young children and the elderly tend to be more susceptible to the types of poor indoor air quality that air duct cleaning can help address.

Your heating and cooling system is the lungs of your home. The system takes air in and breathes air out. Homeowners become more aware of IAQ concerns from doing routine inspections of their home.

Through normal occupation in a home, we generate a great deal of contaminants and air pollutants, such as dander, dust, and chemicals. These contaminants are pulled into the HVAC system and re-circulated 5 to 7 times per day, on average. Over time, this re-circulation causes a build-up of contaminants in the duct work.

While dirty ducts don't necessarily mean unhealthy air in your home, school or workplace, they may be contributing to larger health issues or harboring contaminants that could cause serious problems for people with respiratory health conditions, autoimmune disorders or some environmental allergies.



You can put in an application at Comanchenation.com or visit us at our office to fill out an application

Stay tuned next month for a IAQ check list you can use at home



Comanche Nation office of Environmental Protection
8527 NW Madische Rd Lawton, OK 73507
Phone: (580) 492-3754 Fax Number: (580) 492-3733



Photos by Hannah Tehauno/News Staff



CONGRATULATORY POTLUCK. On June 22, Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee held a Potluck Supper in honor Of Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, Vice-Chairman of the Comanche Nation at Comanche County Fairgrounds located in Lawton, Okla. Travis Komahcheet, left, entertained the congregation with his talent of playing contemporary flute music. Pewewardy introduced the new staff and board members of the Comanche Academy Charter School, pictured above. He expressed his gratitude by becoming the new Vice-Chairman Of the Comanche Nation. Pewewardy stated he is very proud to join a very educated CBC.



Sorren Deaney
Universal Technical Institute
Associate of Occupational Studies



Amber Helge
Cameron University
Bachelor of Science



Tate Richardson
Western Oklahoma State College
Allied Health Science



Justin Boos
University of Colorado-Boulder
Masters of Education



Mallory White
Oklahoma Baptist University
Bachelor of Arts



Heather Makos Cuy
University of Central Oklahoma
Master of Behavioral Science



Ashley Gustafson
South Dakota State University
Masters in Public Health



Wenona Journeygoode
University of Oklahoma
College of Law



Brittany Parker
Cameron University
Bachelors of Science



Aubrey Mittle
Cameron University
Masters of Education



BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

The Comanche Nation Indian Child Welfare Department needs the help of our people. If you have the ability to meet the needs of a child who is unable to be with their own family, become a foster parent. Please help us to preserve our culture by protecting our children and the future of the Comanche Nation.

Comanche Nation Indian Child Welfare
2210 W Gore Blvd.
Lawton, OK 73501
580-492-1140

icw@comanchenation.com



SERVING OF ALL OF CADDO COUNTY,
FLETCHER, ELGIN AND LAWTON AREAS

Heating and Air

SALES-INSTALLATION-REPAIRS
Competitive Pricing on ALL Parts & Equipment

Duct Cleaning Services • Blown Insulation

We Accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover Cards

Call 580-353-9358

W & R MECHANICAL L.L.C



Native American Owned & Operated

Email: wrmechanical@gmail.com

DEAN'S

Drive  Thru

PAWN SHOP

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS



2617 S. Robinson Ave. OKC, OK 73109

www.DeansPawn.com

(405) 239-2774



"OKC's Oldest Pawn Shop"



Follow us on Instagram

www.facebook.com/DEANSPAWN

@DEANSPAWNSHOP



**REDUCE YOUR RATE.
RECLAIM YOUR PAYMENT.**

**REFINANCE
YOUR VEHICLE LOAN**

GET UP TO **\$500***

CASHBACK

PLUS, NO PAYMENT FOR 90 DAYS!

*The cash back is based on 1% of the total loan amount (\$10,000 minimum), not including any additional loan dollars toward ancillary products (Guaranteed Asset Protection (GAP), Vehicle Service Agreement). The cash back will be deposited into your Fort Sill Federal Credit Union savings account within one business day of loan funding. Maximum cash back amount is \$500. Cash back amounts are subject to all applicable taxes and are the responsibility of the member. Not available on current FSFCU loans. Offer good from June 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021.

APPLY ONLINE AT [FSFCU.COM](https://www.fsfcu.com)

580.353.2124 | 800.654.9885

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA 



RATES AS LOW AS 3.49% APR*
FOR 60 MONTHS | NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS!

*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is the advertised base rate. Loan rate and term are subject to credit worthiness. Terms will vary based on collateral and minimum finance amount. Other restrictions may apply. Not available on current FSFCU loans. All loans are subject to approval. Payment example for 60 months at 3.49% is \$18.22 for each \$1000 financed. Rates offered May 1, 2021 through Aug 31, 2021.