



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

# THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Lords of the Plains Comanche Strong, Stronger Together

VOLUME 24 EDITION 8

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Tatsa M̄ta (August) 2023

## Comanche Nation Adopts Madische Road



Photo by Heaven Williams/News Staff

**Chairman Mark Woommavovah touches the new sign as he sprints past it.**

Story by Sara Ticeahkie/Public Relations Officer

On July 12, The Comanche Nation partnered with Comanche County District 3, allowing the Nation to adopt and maintain Madische Road.

The two-mile-long road has long led its people and the community to Comanche Nation Headquarters for services, events, or a quick visit.

An unveiling ceremony began at the first of four adopt-a-road signs with Comanche Nation Chairman Mark Woommavovah thanking everyone in attendance.

Employees, Comanche tribal members and friends gathered around the veiled sign, anxious to witness a monumental moment.

The ceremony continued with a prayer by elder and Comanche Nation Language Consultant, Lloyd Heminokeky Jr., followed by the Comanche Drum Group, who performed a Comanche Flag Song.

Chairman Woommavovah said it was a great day for the Comanche Nation. "We adopted the road from Highway 49 northbound to McCracken Road," Woommavovah said. "Our team worked with Comanche County Commissioner Josh Powers to make this possible."

Comanche County District 3, Commissioner Josh Powers, was eager to work with the Nation on another project; he also provided and placed the four signs and cut the grass along the adopted road.

Comanche Nation's Transportation has worked with the county since the 90s to build roads in the surrounding service areas.

Transportation Inspector, Theo Niedo, said adopting a road isn't the same as building one. However, seeing the "proudly maintained by the Comanche Nation" sign as he drives to work daily is a tremendous honor.

"We [Transportation Department] are paving the way to providing a safe and efficient way to travel," Niedo said.

Comanche Nation's Office of Environmental Programs (CNOEP) has maintained the road far before the adoption, picking up trash and mowing the mile-long road.

Along with CNOEP, Comanche Nation's Grasshopper program offered to help with their services to ensure Madische Road is freshly mowed and stripped of its weeds.

Woommavovah said he is proud of this partnership with the county and the departments who stepped up to help. "The greatness of the community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members," Woommavovah said. "We are definitely Comanche strong, stronger together."

## Comanche Nation Celebrated 40 Years of Gaming Throughout the month of July



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Headlining the Comanche Nation Casino's 40 year anniversary was Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers Band. The concert was on July 22 at the Comanche Nation Casino, the event was free and open to the public.

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Throughout the month of July, Comanche Nation Entertainment celebrated 40 years of gaming.

CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment, Mia Tahdooahnippah, said Comanche Nation Entertainment was excited to celebrate the occasion.

"That's a great accomplishment to the Comanche people to be in gaming for 40 years," she said.

The passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in 1988 set forth the law for tribes to have gaming which started with high-stakes bingo for rural tribes to be self-sufficient and create jobs, Tahdooahnippah said.

"It's still about growing our

tribe and giving back to our people and...providing jobs, building roads, providing infrastructure; whether that be water, education, child care centers; all the things that our tribe and our nation has, that was the goal of gaming," she said. "...So, we don't have to rely on the federal government."

According to Tahdooahnippah, bingo began 40 years ago, on July 22, 1983, and since then, the tribe's budget has grown from \$10,100 to \$20,000. Then after the 2005 passage of compact gaming, which allowed class three gaming, grew the budget to \$60 to \$70 million.

She said they've seen their gaming grow over the years.

"In the last few years, we've had some great projects come up," Tahdooahnippah said. "We've added two new properties to our casino family, which is great because we haven't done any renovations or expansions since 2014."

She said they're finishing a property in Cache and hope to have continued growth.

"There's so much potential here in southwest Oklahoma," Tahdooahnippah said.

She said there's much tourism for customers and guests, focus-

See CASINO, Page 8



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

**SWEARING IN.** Members of the newly elected Election Board were sworn into office at 5:04 p.m., on July 19 in the Code Talker Room at the Comanche Nation Complex. From left: Charlotte Marie Niyah, Cherry Martinez, Cameille Wetselline, Alannah-Ataavich-Callahan, Terry Perryman, and Kay Ahhaitty-Smits.

## NOTICE TO COMANCHE NATION CITIZENS

On June 3rd, 2023 the Comanche Nation Business Committee formally adopted Comanche Nation Resolution No. 55-2023 by a vote of 6 to 0, authorizing the Comanche Nation Prosecutor, Jonathan M. Rohrer, to file liens on Per Capita payments to Comanche Nation citizens for the purpose of collecting outstanding Fines and Court Costs imposed by the Comanche Nation Tribal Court. Upon the filing of a lien on a Comanche Nation citizen's Per Capita payment, a hearing will be set for that individual to appear before the Tribal Court, and a notice of hearing will be sent out.

**If you fail to receive your yearly Per Capita payment and you have outstanding Court Fines, a lien may have been filed on your Per Capita payment, please direct any questions to the Comanche Nation Tribal Court at (580) 492-3822.**

Comanche Nation News  
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LAWTON, OK 73502

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Courtesy Photo

**Sunrise Tippeconnie**  
Incoming Director of Programming  
**deadCenter Film**  
Names Sunrise  
Tippeconnie  
Director of  
Programming

Mailchi.mp/deadCenter Film, Inc.

You heard it here first! Sunrise Tippeconnie has been selected as our next Director of Programming. Beginning August 1, Tippeconnie will team up with current Director of Programming, Sara Thompson, through the end of the year, ensuring a smooth transition for the programming team.

Tippeconnie, a Navajo and Comanche filmmaker, has a deep background in the movie industry, working as independent producer, director, gaffer and director of photography on numerous projects and on film crews in Oklahoma and around the country. He has collaborated with some of the most respected names in Oklahoma film, including deadCenter Film ICONs Sterlin Harjo and Erica Tremblay, and with A-list directors including William H. Macy, Nick Cassavetes, Michael Winterbottom and Martin Scorsese. His lengthy list of credits in film and television includes American Gods, Rudderless, Barking Water, Four Sheets to the Wind, My Blind Brother, Reservation Dogs, and Killers of the Flower Moon. Additionally, he has taught film courses in editing, narrative production, cinematography, screenwriting, and more at the University of Oklahoma for more than a decade.

"I have been privileged to experience deadCenter from viewership to programming, and have seen not only its importance in supporting artistic perspectives but its potential to unite communities," Tippeconnie said. "I am honored to be asked to join the story of deadCenter leadership as Director of Programming to nurture, strengthen, and expand these contributions of the festival and hope I can live up to those who come before and the needs of our expanding film communities."

"I've been in awe of Sunrise's film knowledge since first meeting him on the set of Pearl in 2008," said outgoing Director of Programming Sara Thompson. "I asked him to join the team in 2018 knowing he would elevate the program and take us to new heights. I'm thrilled to see where he takes deadCenter in this next chapter and can't wait to follow his journey."

They look forward to collaborating with Sunrise to create unforgettable film experiences across our great state, including the 24th Annual deadCenter Film Festival: June 6 - 9, 2024.

# COME PLAY WITH US!

## GETAWAY IN STYLE



**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
AUGUST 4-SEPTEMBER 30 • 7PM-11PM

**GRAND PRIZE FINALE**  
SEPTEMBER 30 • 11:30PM

**Get here to getaway in your very own 2023 Bronco Sport 4x4 Outer Banks!**

Win up to \$1000 in Comanche Credit every weekend and our 10PM, 10:30PM and 11PM winners are automatically finalist for the September 30, 11:30PM Grand Prize Finale. Three grand prize finalist choose a confetti box and if you pick the right one, you drive away a winner!

Earn E-drawing entries for every 25 for points on your Comanche Rewards Card on August 1 – September 30. Drawing every 30 minutes.

Earn double entries on Tuesdays & Thursdays. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

MONDAYS • AUGUST 7-28 • 10AM-11PM



**There's Nothing Better Than Camping!**

Earn 200 points on Mondays to receive a gift beginning August 7-28.

While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## Comanche Elder's Day



**EVERY SUNDAY!**

Comanche Rewards Club Members who are Comanche Tribal Elders receive \$20 Comanche Credit on your Comanche Rewards Card every Sunday.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## HOLE IN ONE

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS  
AUGUST 2-31 • NOON-10PM



**Drive For Show & Putt for Dough!**

Every Wednesday & Thursday, you can win up to \$100 in Comanche Credit! Stop in to play and earn 100 points on your Comanche Rewards Card, hit the kiosk, then putt for your prize! You can win once each day. This is how we roll!

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

**GET 3¢ OFF EVERY GALLON!**

**MEMBERSHIP HAS IT'S BENEFITS!**

Sign up for your Comanche Rewards Club Card and stop by the Comanche Red River Travel Plaza and Casino or Comanche Spur Quik Stop and use your Comanche Rewards Card to earn up to 3¢ off each gallon of gas. Be sure to grab a hot, delicious treat and a cold beverage as well! Use your card, get a gas discount and win with us!

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



## BACKYARD BBQ BASH

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS  
AUGUST 4-26 • 7PM-11PM



**It's The Perfect Way To Kick Off The Summer At The Spur!**

Win up to \$100 in Comanche Credit or our amazing grand prize at our 11PM drawing every Friday & Saturday night! Earn E-drawings entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 10AM-11PM August 1-26 and drawings are every 30 minutes.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

**COMANCHE NATION CASINO**

**COMANCHE SPUR CASINO**

**HEROES DAY**

COMANCHE NATION CASINO TUESDAYS

COMANCHE SPUR CASINO MONDAYS

HEROES CLUB

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

**COMANCHE NATION ENTERTAINMENT**

**SENIOR DAY**

COMANCHE NATION CASINO MONDAYS

COMANCHE SPUR CASINO TUESDAYS

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



# ***PIKEPASS***<sup>TM</sup>

## **Convenience is coming your way!**

Drivers with tribal car tags can now access the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority's cashless tolling services PIKEPASS and PlatePay!

Cashless tolling provides a convenient way to travel Oklahoma turnpikes without slowing you down.

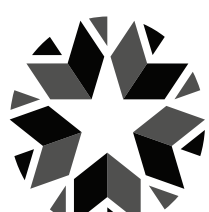
Customers with tribal plates can now open a PIKEPASS account or pay for their travels by checking PlatePay.com.

PIKEPASS users save an average of 50% compared with PlatePay users.

To learn more, sign up or pay an invoice, visit [www.PIKEPASS.com](http://www.PIKEPASS.com).



For direct payment access, scan the QR code or go to [platepay.pikepass.com/guest-payments](http://platepay.pikepass.com/guest-payments)



**OKLAHOMA**  
Turnpike Authority

# Programs

## August 2023 Higher Education Student of the Month Parker King



Courtesy Photo

**King**  
Tribal member Parker King comes from the Parker family of Apache, Okla.

King is currently studying Geography at the University of Alabama.

After he graduates, King plans on continuing his education with a master's degree in Geography to eventually become an urban planner.

## Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Destiny Luna



Courtesy Photo

**Luna**  
Destiny Del Rhea Luna, grew up in Cache, Okla. and graduated high school there. Luna is a resident of Lawton, Okla.

Luna is a wife, a mother of her two-year-old daughter and she also provides care for her 10 year old brother.

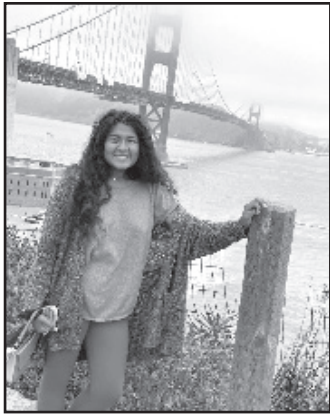
Luna is in the Great Plains Technology Center's LPN Program and will graduate in July. Following graduation, she will be finishing preceptor at the hospital in order to take board exams and get her license to be a nurse.

Luna's next future short term goal is to attend the OU RN, BSN program to further her education for Nurse Practitioners.

Luna loves working with and helping people, she loves being the one that comes when they call for help.

Everyday when she gets up, she takes a deep breath and let it out, "I am doing this for my family, our future and my self, said Luna.

## Higher Education Student of the Month Dreema Abila



Courtesy Photo

Abila

Tribal member Dreema Abila is a graduate of Howard Payne University (Class of 2021) and currently in her final year of her master's program at the University of San Francisco. Abila is studying Counseling Psychology. Her anticipated graduation date is May of 2024.

Alongside her graduate studies, she privately tutor children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the Bay Area. Abila is a huge advocate of lifelong learning and have a passion for aiding others in their journey.

Abila is the daughter of Adolph and Cecilia Abila of Altus, Okla., and the sister to Destiny Abila of Lawton, Okla., and Denise Knight of Moore, Okla. Abila is so grateful for the endless support from her family.

In the future, Abila hopes to obtain licensure in Marriage and Family Therapy and begin a doctoral program in Cognitive Neuroscience. Abila plans to work in the community serving marginalized populations and indigenous women of color.

## Child Support Services Announces Court Dates

### In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- **Justin Poafpybitty:** CNCSP-18-05; Application for Indirect Contempt

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 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.

**Please take note that all Comanche Nation Tribal Court child hearings will be conducted in person.**

**Please take note that all court of Indian offenses child support hearing will be conducted in person.**

## CNPD Officer Awarded 2023 Officer of the Year



Courtesy Photo

Pueblo

Comanche Nation Police Department Officer, Lacey Pueblo, is the Oklahoma American Legion 2023 Officer of the Year. The American Legion Department of Oklahoma selected Pueblo as the 2023 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. The award was presented at the annual Department Convention on July 15 in Shawnee, Okla.

Each year the American Legion Department of Oklahoma selects a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) of the year. Officers are nominated at the local post level who have surpassed the official duty requirements and have displayed a pattern of community service and professional accomplishment. This award especially recognizes heroic acts.

Pueblo was selected primarily for her actions that went well beyond what was called for when she, other officers from CNPD, and Comanche County Sheriff's Department responded to an auto accident that left a car and driver in the rain-swollen Medicine Creek.

The officers and CNPD Chief Niedo recognized Pueblo's actions. Pueblo's actions were judged with those of law enforcement officers across Oklahoma. Pueblo's record stood tall against stiff competition. Nominated by American Legion Post 306 members in Fletcher, Pueblo will now represent Oklahoma in the American Legion 2024 National LEO of the Year competition.

## YOUR LIFE IS SACRED. DIAL 988.

You are the answer to our ancestors prayers. Please call the 24/7 confidential line if you or somebody you know is struggling with a mental health crisis.

Native Spirit Suicide Prevention Project | 580-357-3449



**The Comanche Nation Offices  
will be closed  
September 4 for Labor Day.  
Offices will re-open September  
5 for regular business**

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

Packets/citations typed and prepared for Native Americans for issuance through BIA Court of Indian Offenses. (Additional BIA filing fees due at time of documentation)

**REASONABLE PREP FEES**

Contact: Jewell Laurenzana Tieyah  
(580) 678-2052 or (580) 492-5455



**COMANCHE  
NATION  
EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT  
HOTLINE**

**(580) 492-3628**



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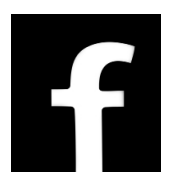


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**COMANCHE NATION  
HIGHER EDUCATION**

# College Day Career Expo

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Wednesday,  
September 20th  
2023**

**Great Plains  
Coliseum  
Lawton, Ok**

**T̃suabetai?eena**  
*Always Learning*

EVENT SPONSORED THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH:

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# Prevention and Recovery Ventures Across the Nation: A Recap of their Journeys



The male representatives of IAMNDN for the 2023 UNITY Conference that took place June 30 - July 4, in Washington, DC.



Anthony Monoessy Jr. participates in the 2023 UNITY Talent Show and Culture Night in Washington, DC.



The female representatives of IAMNDN for the 2023 UNITY Conference that took place June 30 - July 4, in Washington, DC.

Story and Photos Submitted by the Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery Program

The month of June and July saw two groups from Prevention & Recovery travel across the Nation as they represented Comanche Nation, P&R's residential treatment center and youth prevention programs.

Comanche Nation IAMNDN Youth Council had the privilege to attend this year's United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) National Conference in Washington D.C., titled "Healing the Spirit of Native Youth." The five-day conference was established in 1976 with the vision to offer a variety of opportunities for Native youth to engage in the ultimate cultural and networking experience with inspirations of creating future Native leaders. UNITY's Mission is to foster the spiritual, mental, physical, and social development of American Indian and Alaska Native youth, and to help build a strong, unified, and self-reliant Native America through greater youth involvement. In addition to workshops and general session gatherings, Youth Council get to reconnect with their regional caucuses and partake in a number of fun evening activities for youth to represent their tribal organizations and showcase their culture and talents.

This year, with the help of P&R staff, a number of facilitators, and tribal community members, the IAMNDN Youth Council individually handcrafted and stitched their very own ribbon shirts and ribbon skirts for UNITY's 47th Annual Grand Entry and their Traditional Ribbon Shirt/Skirt Day. Anthony Monoessy Jr., first-time UNITY attendee, took the conference by storm when he sang a round dance song in the Talent Show and again at Culture Night, each time encouraging the whole auditorium to join. Youth participants also attended the evening Gala where two Youth Council members, LeAnn Tahsequah and Atticus Mathews, were selected to model outfits created by famous Indigenous clothing designer, Norma Baker-Flying Space Horse, also known as Red Berry Woman.

After spending the evening at the Washington Monument viewing the annual Fireworks display, youth and chaperones were asked what their highs of UNITY were. Toci Johnson expressed "One of my highs, is that I'm here. I'm glad to see people gain their cultural identity because you need that in this world or you'll get lost." Nolan Poahway said being able to be at the UNITY drum, saying that

"it was a dream come true" for him.

Brayden Parker shared, "I feel like my connection with my culture gets stronger every year and I'm just very grateful for the opportunity to be here."

LeAnn Tahsequah gave her thoughts on UNITY, "It makes my heart happy seeing everyone here. I'm happy to be Comanche at the end of the day. We're lucky to be Comanche." Several other responses from the youth included meeting new people, learning about other cultures, and building new connections."

Harlequin Otativo, chaperone, Indigenous P.O.W.E.R. Project Director and previous IAMNDN Project Coordinator, said that her high was being around the youth on a day-to-day basis and watching them grow into the people they're becoming. She said these youth have had a tremendous impact on her life and she has enjoyed watching them grow from the kids she knew at the Youth Program to the teenagers and young adults they are now.

Ft. Duchesne, Utah hosted the Shoshone Reunion this year, where Prevention & Recovery staff and participants attended different cultural activities and events.

Glenda Goseyun, Cultural Counselor for the Prevention & Recovery residential center and Shoshone Reunion Planning Member, has been a part of these gatherings since 1997 when she worked with our Elders. She shared that several classes were held that gave attendees the opportunity to learn different skills and knowledge about Comanche/Shoshone history and Native American culture. In addition to participating in a workshop about the Shoshone and Comanche languages, they also listened to speakers about MMIW, historical treaties, and activism and land reclamation within tribal communities.

Bruner Cable and Ryan Cooley, Comanche tribal members and CNP&R participants, added that they were also able to partake in peyote meetings, cedar ceremonies, gourd dance and a handgame tournament. Cable said that he really enjoyed himself and expressed that the highlight of the Reunion for him was meeting new relatives.

"They treated me like family, like I'm a real good person, and that meant a lot. I think highly of them. They invited me out again in November for a peyote meeting and said to bring my kids. I really look forward to going," said

Bruner.

As Cooley reflected on his experience at the Reunion, "One of the most memorable parts for me was getting to meet new people. I got to meet a family at the peyote meeting that knew the Tenequers' down this way, which is my family. I thought that was pretty cool."

Cooley shared his other experiences, saying that he liked going to the language classes, crafting buckskin gloves, and sitting in on a Native American sign language class. He stated that it was a good experience for him and he felt like he learned a lot. Cooley said that even though we're separate tribes (Utes, Shoshones, and Comanches), we're really just one big tribe and that we all speak the same language, just a different dialect.

All three also noted that something they liked being a part of was the large giveaway that the Comanche Nation is given the chance to host during a time of sharing dances at a powwow and the annual parade.

Glenda Goseyun said that she is excited for the Comanches to host the Reunion in 2025 and expects to start planning as soon as possible. To see and learn more about

the Shoshone Reunion, you can look them up on Facebook.

Lastly, Prevention & Recovery would like to remind community and tribal members that the Outpatient Office offers Substance Abuse Education (SAE) classes that are free and open for participants to enroll. SAE is a 12-week, rotating class that provides participants the tools and skills to initiate recovery and maintain their sobriety. Classes focus on relapse prevention, substance use intervention, and early recovery education. CNP&R utilizes the 12-steps, and evidenced-based practices and curriculum.

When asked about SAE classes, Lara Priest, SAE Facilitator, responded that one of her main goals of the class is to provide a space where participants can share their experiences, destigmatize substance abuse and mental health help and help remove feelings of loneliness and isolation that one may experience during the recovery process. Classes are located at the Prevention & Recovery Outpatient Center at 807 SW F Ave Lawton, OK 73507. For more information about enrolling in class, call (580) 357-3449 or email us at [prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com](mailto:prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com).

## Outpatient Classes

### We Are Here To Help.



**Substance Abuse Education**  
 Rotating, 12 week classes.  
 Once A Week  
 Overview of 12 Steps.  
 Monday afternoon 12pm-1pm  
 Monday evening 5pm-6pm  
 Thursday evening 5pm-6pm


## Recovery is Beautiful

Lara Priest, Substance Abuse Facilitator  
 Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery  
 807 S.W. F Ave  
 Lawton, Oklahoma  
 580.357.3449  
[lara.priest@comanchenation.com](mailto:lara.priest@comanchenation.com)  
[prevention@comanchenation.com](mailto:prevention@comanchenation.com)  
[recovery@comanchenation.com](mailto:recovery@comanchenation.com)




## The Comanche Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office is hosting A Prayer Circle in Observation of the National Day of Prayer for Protection of Sacred Sites (Rescheduled Date)


**Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at Sunset at the Comanche Nation Powwow Arena**  
 Join us in prayer, song and cedaring of the Commemoration Date of the Comanche Nation vs. United States of America 2008  
 6:30 PM Dinner inside Watchataker Hall & 7:30 PM Suzan Harjo Guest Speaker



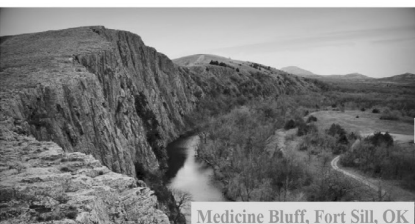
Pikes Peak, CO




Capulin Volcano, NM



Monument Rocks, KS




Medicine Bluff, Fort Sill, OK



Scotts Bluff, NE

Please, bring

Join us for the National Day of Prayer for the Protection of Native American Sacred Places. There will be gatherings and observations throughout Indian Country to offer prayers to protect our sacred lands.



Suzan Harjo

Mrs. Suzan Harjo will join us via Zoom at 7:30 PM to share her vision of the National Day of Prayer for Sacred Site Protection. She founded the Morning Star Institute, which promotes sacred land claims and protection for traditional cultural rights, artistic expression, and research. She served as the Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians. Mrs. Harjo helped with federal policy of the 1978 American Indian Religious Freedom Act, the 1989 National Museum of the American Indian Act, the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, & the 1996 Executive Order on Indian Sacred Sites. In 2014, Mrs. Harjo received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the United States highest civilian honor.

For More Info: Comanche Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office at (580) 492-1153

# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

## AUGUST 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Frederick 1st Day	2 Frederick 2nd Day	3 Walters 1st Day	4 Walters 2nd Day	5
6	7 Cache 1st Day	8 Cache 2nd Day	9 Cache 3rd Day	10 Cache 4th Day	11 TRUCK DAY	12
13	14 CLOSED Training	15 CLOSED Training	16 CLOSED Training	17 CLOSED Training	18 CLOSED Training	19
20	21 Lawton 1st Day	22 Lawton 2nd Day	23 Lawton 3rd Day	24 Lawton 4th Day	25 Lawton 5th Day	26
27	28 Make-Up Day	29 Make-up Day	30 Inventory	31 Inventory		

### Chicken Tomato Pesto Burrata Pasta

#### Ingredients

- 4 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- Juice of 1 lemon, divided
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 Tsp. Italian seasoning or dried oregano
- 4 Boneless skinless antibiotic free chicken breasts, pounded to even thickness
- 3 Slicing tomatoes, chopped
- 2 Cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp. freshly chopped basil
- 4 Slices mozzarella
- Freshly grated Parmesan, for serving

#### Directions

1. In a small bowl, combine oil, half the lemon juice, 1 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon pepper, and Italian seasoning (or oregano) and whisk to combine. Transfer to a large re-sealable bag along with chicken; seal and refrigerate for 30 minutes.
2. Heat grill over medium-high then add chicken, discarding excess marinade. Grill until charred and cooked to an internal temperature of 155°-160°, about 5 to 7 minutes per side.
3. Meanwhile, combine tomatoes, garlic, basil, and remaining lemon juice, and season with salt and pepper. While chicken is still on grill, top each breast with 1 slice mozzarella and cover until cheese is melted, 2 to 3 minutes. Top chicken with tomato mixture.
4. Garnish with Parmesan and serve.

### Chicken and Spanish Cauliflower Rice

#### Ingredients

- 1 Large head cauliflower
- 1 Pound boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/2 Teaspoon salt
- 1/2 Teaspoon pepper
- 1 Tablespoon canola oil
- 1 Medium green pepper, chopped
- 1 Small onion, chopped

#### Directions

1. Core and cut cauliflower into 1-inch pieces. In batches, pulse cauliflower in a food

- processor until it resembles rice (do not over process).
2. Toss chicken with salt and pepper. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat; saute chicken until lightly browned, about 5 minutes. Add green pepper, onion and garlic; cook and stir 3 minutes.
  3. Stir in tomato juice and cumin; bring to a boil. Add cauliflower; cook, covered, over medium heat until cauliflower is tender, 7-10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in cilantro and lime juice.

### Peach Dump Cake

#### Ingredients

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 2 Cans sliced peaches in heavy syrup
- 1/2 Tsp. almond extract
- 3/4 Cups of salted butter
- 1 Box yellow cake mix
- Toasted sliced almonds and vanilla ice cream, for serving

#### Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 375°. Spray a 9-by-13-inch dish with nonstick cooking spray. Add the peaches and the syrup from the cans, and drizzle with almond extract. Stir gently to combine.

2. Cut the butter into 1/2-inch cubes. Sprinkle 1/4 cup of the cubes over the peaches. Pour the dry cake mix over the peach mixture, patting into an even layer using your hands or a spoon. Scatter the remaining cubes of butter evenly over the top of the cake mix.
3. Bake until the top of the cake is golden brown and the peach mixture is bubbly, about 45 minutes.
4. Sprinkle the cake with the toasted almonds and serve with scoops of vanilla ice cream, if you like.

### Strawberry Lemon Trifle

#### Ingredients

- 4 Ounces fat free cream cheese, softened
- 1 Cup fat free vanilla yogurt
- 2 Cups fat free milk
- 1 Package instant lemon pudding mix
- 2 Teaspoons grated lemon zest
- 1 1/2 Cups sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 Tablespoon white grape juice
- 1 Prepared angel food cake
- Whipped topping and additional strawberries

#### Directions

1. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and yogurt. Add the milk, dry pudding mix and lemon zest; beat until smooth. In blender, process 1/2 cup strawberries and grape juice until blended.
2. Tear cake into 1-inch cubes and place a third in a trifle bowl. Top with a third of the pudding mixture and half of the remaining strawberries. Drizzle with half of the strawberry sauce. Repeat all layers. Top with remaining cake and pudding mixture. If desired, garnish with whipped topping and additional strawberries. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.



## Sports Word Search

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

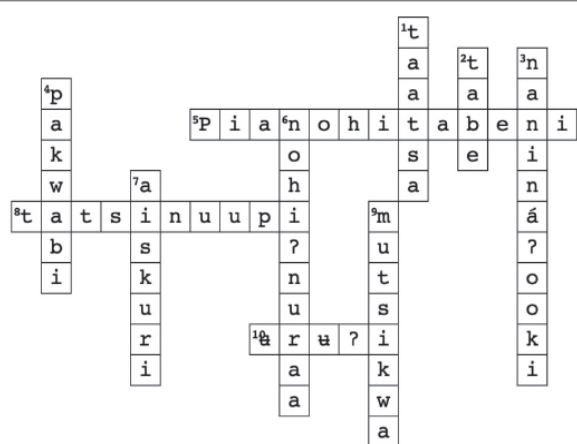


- TUNEHTS (RUN)
- YAI (LOSE A GAME)
- WFKUR (ARCHERY GAME)
- PAKWABI (SWIM)
- NFHPEE (BASEBALL)
- NATSIHTOOET (LACROSSE GAME)
- POHPIT (JUMP)
- NAMAPEE (BASKETBALL/VOLLEYBALL)
- WIHI (THROW)
- TUHPOTSE (BALL BAT)

Download the ILDA dictionary app!  
www.talkcomanche.org



### Comanche Crossword SUMMER FUN



- Across:
5. A U.S. holiday honoring the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776
  8. A natural luminous body visible in the sky especially at night
  10. Having a relatively high temperature
- Down:
1. The warmest part of the year
  2. A self-luminous gaseous body around which the earth and other planets revolve
  3. To feel joy or great delight
  4. To propel oneself in water
  6. To engage in sport or recreation
  7. A sweet flavored frozen food containing cream or butterfat
  9. A fly with females that puncture the skin to suck their blood

Download the ILDA app!  
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## A RECIPE FOR A Good Year

- 2 scoops of effort
- 2 scoops of kindness
- 1 scoop of curiosity
- 1 scoop of honesty
- 3 scoops of teamwork
- 1 scoop of excitement
- 1 scoop of fairness
- A sprinkle of pride in your work



Combine all ingredients and mix carefully with your hard work to create a wonderful school year.



We want to see what you are cooking! Send a picture of any of the recipes you try on the "Culinary Corner" page, and it will be in an issue of TCNN, and TCNN will mail you a gift of thanks. Email your name, picture, and which recipe you used to Heaven.Williams@Comanchenation.com.

# CASINO

Continued from Page 1

ing on beautiful scenery and Comanche culture.

“There’s a lot of room for expansion and growth that we can become a target market...worldwide, we can bring people to Oklahoma,” Tahdoahnippah said. “In other parts of the state, they’re doing just that.”

She said this includes the Red River casino, which has many people from West Texas and visitors coming in.

“We need another hotel; we need more space for our guests to come in and stay,” Tahdoahnippah said. “We want to be a world-class destination, and we want to bring worldwide travelers to showcase and teach them about our culture and what

we have.”

She has had several accomplishments over the years. One of them was in 2019 when Tahdoahnippah received the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association’s Chairman’s Award for her contributions to the success of Indian Gaming.

While Comanche Nation Entertainment was recognized in Oklahoma Journal Record’s Beacon Award for Charitable Influence in 2022.

Comanche Nation Casino held a concert featuring The Gatlin Brothers on July 22 to celebrate the occasion, which was attended by several CBC members, Comanche Nation Chairman Mark Woommavovah and Lawton Mayor Stan Booker.

# Beat the Heat: The Importance of Air Conditioning Maintenance in the Summer Months

Submitted by Nora Sovo/ Comanche Nation Housing Authority

In the midst of the hot summer months, it’s crucial to remember the importance of maintaining your air conditioning (AC) system. As the temperatures start climbing, AC units consume excessive energy and are more likely to malfunction or fail. To avoid such issues, regular air conditioning maintenance and filter replacements can help ensure access to a cool and comfortable indoor environment.

Investing time and effort towards maintenance offers you and your home more long-term benefits, such as saving money, time and reliability. Regular maintenance checks with a professional and filter replacements can extend the lifespan of your system, saving you from the hassle and expense of premature repairs or replacements. A well-maintained AC unit also operates more efficiently, reducing energy consumption and lowering utility bills.

A few steps to ensure your AC unit is ready to withstand the summer months are:

Schedule maintenance checks with a professional

While it is always good to do regular check-ins to make sure your AC is running smoothly, a once-annual air conditioning service is recommended. Even if your system is working correctly, it is good to have it checked out once a year by a professional.

Routinely replace or clean filters

AC filters should be cleaned or replaced every 90 days, if you have the filter that is less than one inch thick. If you are having problems or allergies, then it is recommended to replace or clean it every 45 days for max efficiency. Newer systems use a five inch thick filter that should last from six months to a year unless you have pets or a lot of dust getting in your home. Check it on a regular basis to monitor for excessive dirt and change when needed.

Other signs that indicate it is time for a filter replacement include excessive dirt, tears or damage. Homeowners should also note that

disposable cardboard filters are not meant to be cleaned. Otherwise, filters can be cleaned by hand.

Clean the area around the outdoor unit

It is easy to forget that debris, plants or weeds can block airflow in the outdoor unit, preventing the AC from working efficiently. Keeping the area around the unit clean ensures that nothing interferes with the system’s ability to work.

Save yourself both time and money by investing in air conditioning maintenance, especially during the summer months. With the average cost of a central AC unit being over \$7,500, taking proactive measures to maintain your system can help you avoid expensive repairs or replacements down the line.

If you have any questions regarding air conditioning maintenance, call (580) 357-4956 or visit [www.comanchehousing.com](http://www.comanchehousing.com).

Sept. 9th 2023

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Photos by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff



**WORKFORCE SUMMER FUN.** Participants of the tribe’s Workforce’s Summer Youth Employment Program had an afternoon of inflatable obstacle courses July 21, at the Comanche Nation Complex during a health and wellness workshop. ABOVE: Campers jump and duck their way through an obstacle. The health and wellness workshop was in partnership with IAMNDN to educate youth on self-care, mental health, LGBTQ subjects and underage drinking. LEFT: Michael Hoahwah jumps from an inflatable while he races an opponent (not pictured). Workforce used the day to promote health and wellness. After the competitions were complete, participants had hot dogs and hamburgers for lunch.

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You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shade of the Almighty,  
Say to the LORD, “My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust.”  
He will rescue you from the fowler’s snare, from the destroying plague,  
He will shelter you with his pinions, and under his wings you may take refuge; his faithfulness is a protecting shield.  
You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day,  
Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon.  
Though a thousand fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, near you it shall not come.  
You need simply watch; the punishment of the wicked you will see.  
Because you have the LORD for your

refuge and have made the Most High your stronghold,  
No evil shall befall you, no affliction come near your tent.  
For he commands his angels with regard to you, to guard you wherever you go.  
With their hands they shall support you, lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
You can tread upon the asp and the viper, trample the lion and the dragon.  
Because he clings to me I will deliver him; because he knows my name I will set him on high.  
He will call upon me and I will answer; I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and give him honor.  
With length of days I will satisfy him, and fill him with my saving power.

- Psalm 91

2023  
**Summer Health Fair**

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Hosted by Optometry

For More Information:  
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# Comanche Entertainment Celebrates 40th Anniversary on July 22 with a Concert and Giveaways



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

CBC member John Wahnee, along with former tribal chairmen, Ron Burgess, Wallace Coffey and Mike Burgess stand with their hands over their hearts while the National Anthem is sung.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Lawton City Mayor, Stan Broker and Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah sit amongst the crowd and get ready to enjoy the free concert by the Gatlin Brothers Band.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

One lucky winner hit a Huge Win during the Comanche Nation Casino's 40 Year Anniversary on July 22.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

TRIBAL VETERANS ORGANIZATION. The Comanche Tribal Veterans Organization (CTVA) held a Gourd Dance on June 24 at the Comanche Nation Complex's Watchetaker Hall. Pictured is the CTVA founder, Eleanor McDaniel, being honored.

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**COMANCHE NATION OUTREACH ACTIVITY**  
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**AUG. 25-26, 2023**  
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Come meet and greet with the Comanche Nation Chairman and representatives from the Nation

Programs in attendance:

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Optometry	WIOA	Housing
Historic Preservation	Museum	Language
PIO	Tax Commission	Diabetes Program
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Deadline to submit any corrections including address updates is Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

You may now update your address by going to the enrollment page at [www.comanchenation.com](http://www.comanchenation.com) and clicking on the Online Form.

If you did not receive a Pre-Mailing packet in the mail, contact **Per Cap Assistance** at 877-585-4177 to request your packet today.

# Comanche Homecoming Powwow Celebrates 70 Years



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Tribal member, Monte Potts participates in the gourd dance portion of the Annual Comanche Homecoming celebration held at Sultan Park in Walters, Okla.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff  
The 2023 Comanche Homecoming Powwow was kicked off with the Brush Dance to bring in the drum the afternoon of July 14 at Sultan Park in Walters, Okla.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Neahee Motah competes in the Tiny Tot contest during the 2023 Comanche Homecoming celebration held in Walters, Okla.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff  
Flag of Jerome Tahhahwah, flown July 15.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Comanche Nation Princess, McKenzi Sovo, being led by Aiden Mithlo, waves to the crowd at the 2023 Walters Rodeo Parade in downtown Walters, Okla.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Members of the KCA Veterans serve as the color guard for the grand entry during the 70th Annual Comanche Homecoming Pow-wow held at Sultan Park in Walters, Okla.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff  
Bill Volker and Troy Gourd Dance the afternoon of July 16.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff  
The July 16, election results for the Comanche Homecoming Committee are: President- Nolan Tahdooahnipah; Vice Chairman- Fred Fodder; Secretary-Tanya Codynah; and Treasurer-Ed Tahhahwah III. The positions are two year terms.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff  
Former Comanche Nation Princess, Shelby Mata, Scalp Dances July 15 at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff  
The Monetatchi Family enjoys an afternoon of gourd dance at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow July 15 in Walter, Okla.



Photos by Heaven Williams/News Staff  
2023 WALTERS SERVICE CLUB POW WOW. The Walters Service Club Pow Wow took place at the Comanche Nation Community Center on July 13, where they honored Elder Darrell Cable Sr., as the honored singer. BOTTOM LEFT: Comanche Nation Princess McKenzi Denese Sovo, Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Vivien Michelle Parker and Miss Indian Oklahoma Lily Painter waving at the crowd as they are introduced. BOTTOM RIGHT: Three women dancing in the prettiest shawl contest at the Walters Service Club Pow Wow.



Photo by Heaven Williams/News Staff  
Singers fill the air with beautiful songs during the Gourd dance session at the Walters Pow Wow on July 15.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Family members of the late Edmond Mahseet, stand together as a special memorial song is being sung in honor of Mahseet's flag being flown throughout the day on July 16, at the 70th Annual Comanche Homecoming celebration held at Sultan Park in Walters, Okla. Mahseet was a Marine veteran, who fought Hand-to-Hand combat in Vietnam.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Flag of Strudwick Tahsequah, flown July 14.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Head Lady War Dancer, Violet Stonecalf, Scalp Dances July 16 at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The 2023 Comanche Nation Princess, McKenzi Sovo and the 2023 Comanche Homecoming Princess, Kyleigh Davidson, Scalp Dance the afternoon of July 15 at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Men Gourd Dance the afternoon away July 15 at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The 'Indians for Indians' Radio Program broadcasts from the Comanche Homecoming Powwow the morning of July 15, with live singing at Sultan Park, Walters, Okla.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Winners of the Cornhole Tournament that took place July 15 at Sultan Park in Walters, Okla.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Third Place Winners of the Horse shoe Tournament that took Place July 15 at Sultan Park.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The winners of the Comanche Homecoming Turtle Race are from right: First Place Modesto Schonchin and his turtle, Wilma; Second Place Arlene Schonchin and her turtle, Flash; the 2023 Comanche Homecoming Princess Kyleigh Davidson; Third Place Nahnee Kerchee and her turtle, Child. Consolations to Hennie Yazzie and Bryson "Catfish" Kerchee. The turtle race was held July 15 at Sultan Park, Walters, Okla.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

From left: The Second Place and First Place winning teams for the Comanche Homecoming Horse Shoe Tournament that took place July 15 in Sultan Park, Walters, Okla.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Flag of Eddie Mahseet, flown July 16.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

From left, Ed Tahhawah Jr., Sonny Nauni, Anthony Nauni, Martin Flores and Ed Tahhawah III lead Comanche hymns the morning of July 16 at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow.



Photo by Heaven Williams/News Staff

All the dancers make their way into the arena for the Grand Entry on July 15. There were over 250 registered dancers in the Grand Entry.



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# YOUTH-LED POWWOW

*Uk? mhmukituk mhmuhnemiant ukhkana*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023 AT 1 PM

**Comanche Nation Tribal Complex: Watchetaker Hall**  
PROMOTING COMMUNITY CONNECTION, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT,  
HEALING, AND WELLNESS

## Contests - Registration Opens at 3:00 pm

Tiny Tot Boys 0-6

Junior Boys (7-12)

Fancy: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Straight: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Traditional: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Grass/Chicken: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Teens Boy (13-17)

Straight: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Fancy: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Traditional: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Grass/Chicken: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Tiny Tot Girls 0-6

Junior Girls (7-12)

Cloth: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Buckskin: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Fancy: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Jingle: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Cloth: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Buckskin: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Fancy: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Jingle: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Junior Adult Men's (18-26)

Fancy: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Straight: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Traditional: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Grass/Chicken: \$300, \$200, \$100, \$75

Junior Adult Women's (18-26)

Cloth: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Buckskin: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Fancy: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Jingle: \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100

Golden (Age 62+) Combined

Men's Northern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Men's Southern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Women's Northern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Women's Southern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Adult (27-61) Combined

Men's Northern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Men's Southern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Women's Northern: \$200, \$150, \$100

Women's Southern: \$200, \$150, \$100

1:00 pm Gourd Dance

5:00 pm Supper Break

6:00 pm Resume

7:00: Calling Song & Social Dancing

## HEAD STAFF

*mhmnenukituk*

CO-HOST: COMANCHE NATION RESIDENTIAL YOUTH SHELTER

Head Man: Emanuel Tahhahwah

Head Lady: LeAnn Tahsequah

Head Jr. Boy: Tomi Hawk Portillo

Head Jr. Girl: Jaylee Mule

Head Tiny Tot Boy: Isaac Coosewoon-Lonewolf

Head Tiny Tot Girl: Yesenia Aitson

Head Singers: Anthony Monoessy, Jr. & Ronald Monoessy, Jr.

MC: IAMNDN Youth Council

Arena Directors: Hunter Delgado, Corbyn Swift,  
Numunu Ruvalcava, & Christian Solis

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AND COMANCHE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL



# People, Places, & Things Happening

## Biden-Harris Administration Approves Grants to Improve Road Safety

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced \$20.9 million in grant awards for 88 Tribal projects to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries on Tribal lands. The grants from the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund for proven countermeasures such as pavement markings, rumble strips, and better pedestrian infrastructure, are one way in which the Biden-Harris administration is investing in communities across the country and addressing the unacceptably high number of roadway deaths, as laid out in the Department's National Roadway Safety Strategy.

Transportation-related injuries and fatalities affect Native American and Alaska Native populations at greater rates than other demographic groups, according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data.

"The crisis of traffic deaths on our nation's roads stretches across the country, and that devastation is experienced at even higher rates in communities of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and other indigenous peoples," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "The grants we are announcing today through our Tribal Transportation Program will improve, repair, and modernize infrastructure in communities of all sizes on Tribal land, making roads safer and saving lives."

"The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to making it safer for Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians to move throughout their communities by improving the infrastructure they count on to live their lives," said U.S. Transportation Assistant Secretary for Tribal Government Affairs Arlando Teller. "These grants, made possible through funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, represent our ongoing commitment to serving Tribal communities."

"The grants we're announcing today will improve the lives of everyone who lives and travels on Tribal lands," said Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt. "We're pleased to provide funding that can help Tribes install roadway departure countermeasures and infrastructure improvements like road shoulder widening as well as pedestrian paths to make travel for all road users safer while improving mobility, access, and economic opportunity."

The Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund grant awards announced today, for Fiscal Year 2023, will fund 29 safety plan projects, including grants for seven Tribes developing their first transportation safety plan, as well as the following:

- Grants for 37 roadway infrastructure safety improvement projects, including \$300,000 to the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana for the design of safety countermeasures along CC Bel Road, a high-risk roadway where several roadway departure crashes have occurred, as well as at two intersections where crashes have taken place;
- Grants for 15 data assessment and analysis activities-related projects, including \$45,000 to Michigan's Bay Mills Indian Community, which will conduct a road safety audit for pedestrian facilities in residential areas; and,
- Grants for nine projects to reduce roadway departures, including \$19,969 to the Native Village of Noatak in Alaska to apply countermeasures along roadway curves and at high-risk locations.

The President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides the largest funding level ever for the Tribal Transportation Program, including the Safety Fund, by increasing the total authorized from \$2.4 billion under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act to \$3 billion for Fiscal Year 2022 through 2026. The USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for

All discretionary grant program also provides funding to Tribes to develop comprehensive safety action plans, projects, and strategies to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.

## Chasenah Recognized for Hard Work



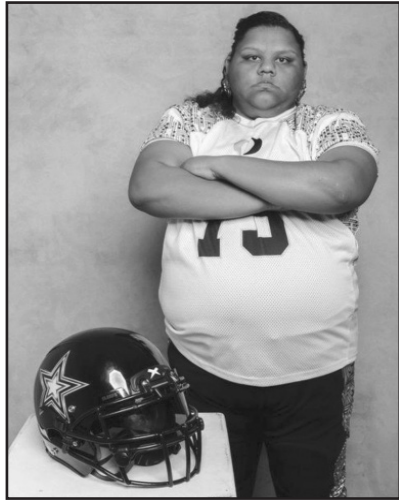
Courtesy Photo

### Chasenah

Tribal Member Gerald Chasenah was recognized for going above and beyond as he carried out two remodeling projects at the Watonga clinic for the Dental and Pharmacy departments.

Chasenah is described as eager to assist when needed, dependable and always conducts himself in a professional manner. While on the work site, he maintains a level of safety for both patients and employees. He also displays a high standard of craftsmanship which is clearly visible in his work.

## Churchill Champion of the 2023 WFA American Conference



Courtesy Photo

### Churchill

Tribal member, Kathrine Alvarez Churchill is in the Oklahoma City Lady Force. With a 24 to 6 win over the Nebraska Pride, they are the 2023 WFA D2 American Conference Champions, becoming the third straight team to make it into the big game the year after winning the D3 championships.

The lady forces battled the New York Wolves in the D2 National Championships on July 21 at the Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium and aired on the Women's Sports Network.



Courtesy Photo

### Connelly

## Connelly Receives Medal at 2023 National Tae Kwon Do Competition

Tribal member, Cierra Marie Connelly, recently competed in the 2023 National Tae Kwon Do competition in Fort. Lauderdale, Fla.

Connelly competed in seven events and medaled in four. She received a bronze medal for traditional weapons form, another bronze medal for power foot board breaking, a silver medal for repetitive hand board breaking, and a gold medal for repetitive side kick board breaking.

Connelly trains out of Takai Mine Tae Kwon Do in Albuquerque, New Mexico where she is currently ranked at a Brown belt level. Connelly is the great granddaughter of Wellington Mihecoby, a Comanche Code Talker in World War II.

## 2023 Comanche Graduate!



Courtesy Photo

### Sanchez

*Tsaaku Unu!* Congratulations to Tribal Member Megan Sanchez for graduating from the University of California on June 18, receiving her Bachelors of Science degree in Cognitive Science!

## Powell on the Road to Receiving a Doctorate

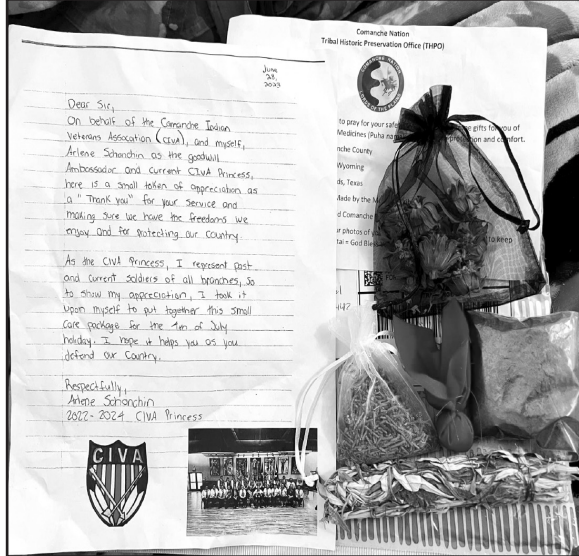
Tribal member and Washington State Resident Tyson Powell just finished his first year of graduate school in Nevada, where he's pursuing his doctorate degree in Physical Therapy.

Powell is a direct descendent of Quannah Parker.

## Comanche Indian Veterans Association Princess Reaches Out to Active Duty Military Personnel



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

What the 2022 Comanche Nation Princess, Michelle Nevaquaya, started during her reign, "Operation *Tekwaniwapi*" Care Package Project, Arlene Schonchin, wanted to continue as the 2023-2024 CIVA Princess. After announcing it on Social Media, she received requests from across the U.S. to send a CARE Package to active-duty men and women stationed around the world. Schonchin mailed 24 CARE Packages to celebrate Independence Day and has received positive feedback from some of the soldiers who received them. She wants to thank the Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Office, which donated traditional items to the Care Packages, such as cedar, Indian Perfume, and other items. She said she is very proud to carry on this project and thanks all servicemen and servicewomen for protecting the U.S. and their freedoms.



Courtesy Photo

**COMANCHE SUMMER.** Members of the Comanche Nation and other tribes participated in the annual Comanche Summer sponsored by the "TEXAS the Outdoor Musical." Comanche Summer was held June 30 and July 1. The performances, led by Benny Tahmahkera and Marla Nauni, featured Comanche dance demonstrations and songs.

# Milestones

## Happy Belated Birthday!

July 3 - Yesenia Aitson  
 July 17 - Nadia Garrison  
*"Happy Belated 21st Birthday! The family loves you."*  
 July 26 - Helios Xavier Sanchez-Pahcheka



**Happy Birthday**  
 Ariane Alvarado  
 August 1

*~ Happy Birthday Princess. Love, Mom, Rachel, and Precious.*



**Happy 9th Birthday**  
 Smith Gatsby McGuire  
 August 1



**Happy 7th Birthday**  
 Samuel Lopez  
 August 2

*~ Love, Mom, Dad, and Lil Nate.*



**Happy 17th Birthday**  
 Big Swole aka Nolan Poahway  
 August 4

## Happy Birthday!



August 1 - Monica Mason  
 August 1 - Smith Gatsby McGuire  
 August 1 - Ariane Alvarado  
 August 2 - Samuel Lopez  
 August 4 - Casey Isaac *"The family loves you."*  
 August 4 - Nolan Poahway  
 August 6 - Khylie Heminokeky-Gayton *"Happy 10th Birthday!! Love, your family!"* ♥♥  
 August 7 - Blake N. Sayer-winnie  
 August 14 - Zayne Johnson  
 August 16 - Kaylene Ronae Tahsahsanah  
 August 19 - "Z"  
 August 20 - LaRue Parker  
 August 21 - Jessica Mcclung  
 August 22 - Robert Komahchee Jr.  
 August 22 - Skylar Roy Tahsahsanah  
 August 24 - Analise Cable  
 August 25 - Victoria Banderas-"  
 August 25 - Leroy Esadooah  
 August 25 - Lazarus Jaycob Don Conklin  
 August 25 - Kyleigh Davidson  
 August 26 - Cheryl Jacob  
 August 26 - Robert Charles Knox *"GOD Bless you say-gee"*  
 August 30 - Daniel Parker



**Happy 9th Birthday**  
 Blakeyboy  
 August 7

*~ We love you, Mom, Dad, and family!*



**Happy 10th Birthday**  
 Zayne "Bub" Johnson  
 August 14

*~ We love you! Love, Momma.*



**Happy 10th Birthday**  
 Kaylene Ronae Tahsahsanah  
 August 16

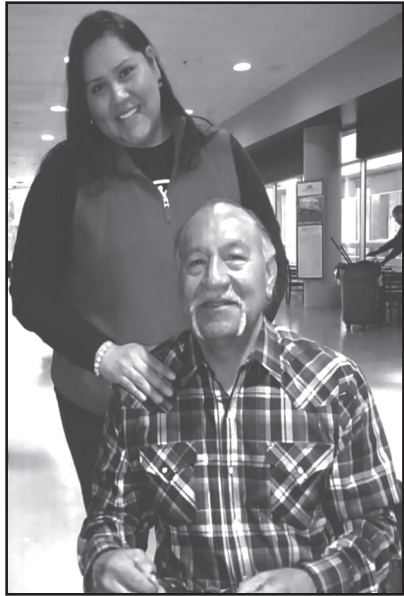
*~ From, Mom, Soila, Nana, Papa Zaylee, Jaylene and Skylar.*



**Happy 14th Birthday**  
 "Z"  
 August 19

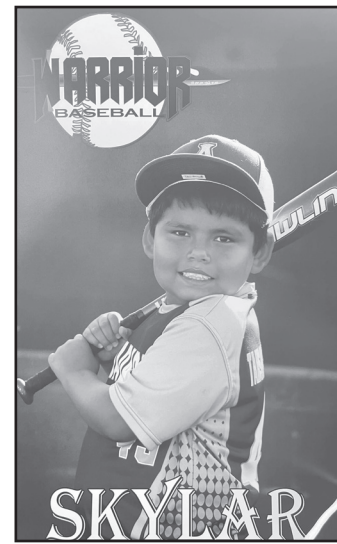


**Happy Birthday**  
 Jessica Mcclung  
 August 21



**Happy Birthday**  
 Robert Komahchee Jr.  
 August 22

*~ Happy Birthday Dad! May GOD Bless you with health and happiness! Love you as big as the sky! Love, Megan Feather.*



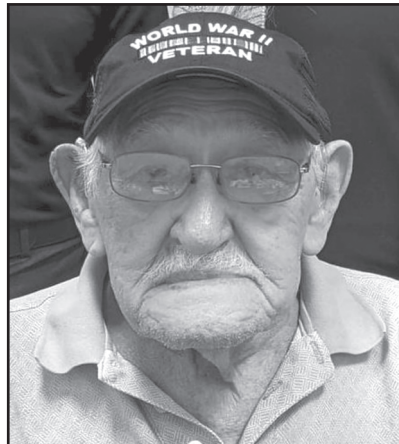
**Happy 9th Birthday**  
 Skylar Roy Tahsahsanah  
 August 22

*~ From, Mom, Soila, Nana, Papa, Kaylene, Jaylene and Zaylee.*



**Happy Birthday**  
 Analise Cable  
 August 24

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
 Gus and Christine McCarthy  
 July 15  
*Celebrating 40 years of marriage!*



**Happy 101st Birthday**  
 Leroy Esadooah  
 August 25

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
 Wayland and Jackie Wahnee  
 August 15  
*Celebrating 22 years of marriage!*



**Happy 39th Birthday**  
 Daniel Parker  
 August 30

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

**CORRECTION**  
 In the July 2023 edition of The Comanche Nation News, CBC member Jordan Fox was incorrectly identified as CBC No. 3. TCNN apologizes for the error.



**Happy Birthday**  
 Kyleigh Davidson  
 August 25



**Happy Birthday**  
 Lazarus Jaycob Don Conklin  
 August 25

*~ From, Mom, Geremiah, Eli, Trinity, and Abraham. We love you son/ brother so proud of you. Have an amazing day.*



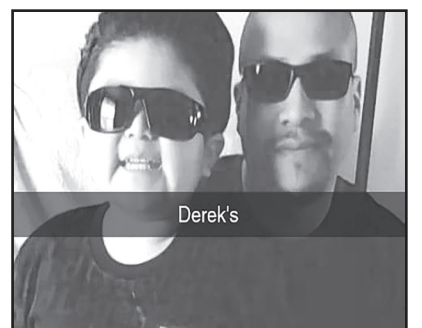
**Happy Birthday**  
 Victoria Banderas-Koweno  
 August 25



**Happy Belated 6th Birthday**  
 Yesenia Aitson  
 July 3



**Happy 12th Birthday**  
 Helios Xavier Sanchez-Pahcheka  
 July 26



**Happy Birthday**  
 Dee

*~ We love you! Love, Steph and The Jo's!*

# Obituaries

## Honorable Chairman Bernard Kahrahrhah: 11/04/1938 — 06/19/2023



Courtesy Photo

### Kahrahrhah

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Bernard Kahrahrhah, an esteemed Chairman of the Comanche Nation and Air Force Airman First Class. A venerable leader and tireless advocate for his people, Kahrahrhah, left an indelible mark on the Comanche Nation and the broader community through his dedication and service.

Born in Lawton, Kahrahrhah is a member of the *Penatuhka* Band and the *Wasape* clan and grew up immersed in the rich heritage of the Comanche people. Throughout his life, he exhibited an unwavering commitment to the preservation and advancement of Comanche culture and values.

He proudly served in the Air Force from July 8, 1958, until July 6, 1962, attaining the rank of Airman First Class and serving as an Aircraft Control and Warning Systems Specialist. Kahrahrhah's primary duty was to watch a radar for incoming Soviet aircraft flying to North America from the North Pole at a time of the highest tensions of the Cold War Era.

In his early years, Kahrahrhah was a champion fancy war dancer and later became a champion straight dancer and is renowned for his graceful style of dancing. He was involved in the Comanche War Dance Society from the 1970s through the 1990s, when there was considerable interaction, visitation, and gift-giving between the Comanches and the Poncas.

Kahrahrhah was elected to the position of Comanche Nation Chairman and served from 1984 through 1987. As Chairman of the Comanche Nation, his tenure was marked by thoughtful and principled leadership, and many advances to modernize the infrastructure of the Comanche Nation were initiated and are still in place today. He was instrumental in spearheading numerous initiatives that promoted economic development, education, and cultural preservation within the Comanche Nation. His advocacy at both state and national levels ensured that the voices of the Comanche people were heard and respected. Kahrahrhah was a man of integrity, compassion, and wisdom. His charisma and genuine concern for the well-being of his people earned him the love and respect of all who knew him.

He was one of the last remaining Comanches to have knowledge of the Comanche Big Horse Society and was also a key advisor on the Comanche "Thuwee" Black Knife Warrior Society through his dad, Roe, who was one of the last remaining original *Thuwee* members.

Kahrahrhah has also been a lifelong member of the 1918 Comanche Chapter of the Native American Church, and attended and worshipped with his dad Roe throughout Oklahoma and also a member of the Comanche Reformed Church. He was also the founder, originator, and coordinator of the Spirit of the Plains cultural event during the early 2000s, with displays and demonstrations of traditional arts, crafts, and native foods, with master artists of different types throughout Oklahoma. Kahrahrhah

served on the Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Board for several years for the Comanche Nation. Kahrahrhah was a lifelong supporter, along with his parents and family, of the Walters Powwow, which has evolved into the Comanche Homecoming since 1952. Kahrahrhah was a wealth of knowledge regarding Comanche history, traditions, dance, and song and a master of recollections of the oral history and stories of the Comanche people. He is a true treasure in all aspects of Comanche.

Kahrahrhah is survived by his sister, Alicia Kahrahrhah Wilson; sons: Bernard Nathan Kahrahrhah and Ross Bernard Kahrahrhah; daughters: Ramona Diane Foye (Kahrahrhah), Bernita R. Haney (Kahrahrhah), and Merrin Utah Baker (Kahrahrhah); grandchildren: Randall, Shawn, Henry, Catherine, Micco, Adonis, Aria, Raymond, and Richmond, and an entire Nation that mourns his loss. His legacy will continue to inspire generations of Comanche people and others who aspire to make a positive impact in their communities. May he rest in peace, and may his contributions to the Comanche Nation never be forgotten.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents Nathan Kahrahrhah, Utah, Bob Komahcheet, and Dorothy (*Nahmee*) Martinez, parents Roe Kahrahrhah and Bertha Komahcheet Kahrahrhah, siblings Phoebe Heath (Kahrahrhah), Carol Kahrahrhah, spouse Carol (Motah) Kahrahrhah, and grandchild Nathan Kahrahrhah.

## Jolene (Weryavah) Tahah



Courtesy Photo

### Tahah

Jolene (Weryavah) Tahah, 81, of Cache passed away peacefully June 24, with her loving family by her side.

Tahah was born Oct. 12, 1941, in Lawton to Joseph Weryavah and Lorene (Cable) Tahmahkera. She was a full-blooded member of the Comanche Nation and a *Wis-sis-che* Descendant. Tahah grew up in the Cache area and attended Cache School and the Fort Sill Indian School. She raised her children in Cache and Denver, Colorado. She learned to sew and perfect her beadwork, while living in Denver. She worked for 20+ years at the Haggar Slacks Company, which changed to KCA as a Final Inspector over completed work of others. She also worked at Warner Box & Display Company and a couple of Mexican restaurants.

Tahah was a very kind and generous person, who would sew Native American regalia for anyone who needed it e.g., dresses, shawls, pillows, etc. She was a member for several clubs e.g., Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA), Comanche Little Ponies, Comanche Homecoming, Walter's Pow-Wow Club, Comanche Service Group, Fort Worth Stockyard Pow-Wow, and the American Cancer Society.

Tahah is survived by her children: son Marlon and Janet Tahah of Cache; daughters: Judy Tahah, of Cache; Vicki Kosechata and Gordon Gowing of Cache; Dyana Lowe of Lawton; Deborah Tahah and Terrell Wery of Lawton; two sisters: Lahoma Knight of Cache and Betty Lou and John Chasenah of Lawton;

15 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and numerous family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Mary (Annie) Morrow; sisters: Barbara Ann Chasenah and Phyllis Mowatt; brothers: Ben Tahmahkera, Carl Tahah, and Rodrick Hoahwah; and grandsons: Nathan Morrow and Daniel Elam.

## Danny Lee Cannon



Courtesy Photo

### Cannon

Danny Lee Cannon entered into eternal rest on June 26.

He was born to Danny Lee Boyd and Mamie Raynel Prouty Cannon on February 8, 2001.

He was employed as a Mental Health Technician at Taliaferro Mental Health Center. He enjoyed helping others, and never wanted anyone to feel alone. He was a faithful servant of the Lord and volunteered at First Baptist Church in the M-28 ministry. He enjoyed praising and worshipping the Lord, and was a born-again believer. He loved life and he was always willing to put others before himself. And he was a devoted brother, son, and grandson. He was a proud member of the Co-

manche Nation and of Kiowa decent.

Cannon is survived by his Parents; Siblings: Mercedes Cannon, Daniel Cannon; Grandmother Janetta Prouty Whitethunder. Grandparents: Thomas and Sande Cannon. Grandmother: Debbie Lynn Boyd; Great Grandfather: Dennis Cannon; Aunt Jamie Prouty and Uncle Bobby Prouty. Aunts Marta Asepermy and Happy Karty. And several aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

He is preceded in death by special cousin Anthony Prouty; Uncle Eddie Mahseet; Great Grandfather Roman Prouty.

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*  
2 Timothy 4:7-8

## Mary Frances Rutledge



Courtesy Photo

### Rutledge

Mary Frances Rutledge, 89, went to her heavenly home on July 1, in Oklahoma City with her loving family by her side.

Rutledge was born on November 11, 1933, in Lawton to Addie Tachaco and Miller Wesley Stillwell. She graduated from Waurika High School.

Her husband was in the mil-

itary so they traveled to many places in the United States.

Rutledge owned Lee Blvd. Liquor Store for many years until she sold the store in 2009.

She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation, Comanche Reformed Church, the elder council and Women's Auxiliary Post 193.

Rutledge won the outstanding minority business in 2007. Rutledge enjoyed playing bingo, watching her grandchildren play sports, and spending time with her family especially her grandkids.

Rutledge is survived by: daughter Vicki Rutledge of the home, sons and spouses Mike and Tony Rutledge, Brad and Mary Jo Rutledge; brother Bert Stillwell; grandchildren: Ryan, and Sunny Rutledge; Michael Carrillo, Brian and Brandon Rutledge; great-grandchildren: Evan Rutledge, Alyssa Morgan, Jayden, Payton, Micah Carrillo; Nephews: Wesley, Brian, Randy Stillwell; Niece; Springs. Nephew and wife; Ronnie and Verna Burgess. Nephews; Quannah and Necona Burgess; Nieces; Terri and Crystal Weryavah.

Rutledge is preceded in death by: Mother Addie Tachaco; Father Miller Wesley Stillwell; sister Betty Murdock; brother Bill Weber; nephew Bertrand; nieces: Teresa Sharpe, Linda Weber, and Cricket Stillwell.



## I'm There Inside Your Heart

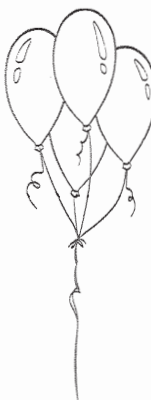
**Right now I'm in a  
different place  
And though we seem  
far apart  
I'm closer than I ever  
was...  
I'm there inside your  
heart**

**I'm with you when you  
grieve each day  
And when the sun  
shines bright  
I'm there to share the  
sunsets, too...  
I'm with you every  
night**

**I'm with you when the  
times are good,  
To share a laugh or  
two,  
And if a tear should  
start to fall...  
I'll still be there for  
you.**

**And when the day ar-  
rives  
That we no longer are  
apart  
I'll smile and hold you  
close to me...  
Forever in my heart.**

**- a poem by  
Rushifurus Angel**



# Birthday Pow Wow

For  
**Richard Sapcutt**

Join us to celebrate Richard's 83rd birthday!

**Saturday September 16, 2023** Watchetaker Hall, Comanche Tribal Complex, Lawton, OK

**Co-Hosts:** Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Association (KCA)  
Comanche Indian Veteran Association (CIVA)  
Native Marines Association  
**Color Guard:** Native Marines Association

Emcees: Wallace Coffey and TBA  
Head Singer: Parker Emhoolah  
Head Gourd and War Dancer: George Tahdoohnippah  
Head Lady Dancer: Jolene Schonchin  
Head Little Boy Dancer: TBA  
Head Little Girl Dancer: Elaysha Killsfirst-Wilson

**Schedule:**  
2pm - 5pm Gourd Dance  
5pm - 6pm Supper Break  
6pm - 7pm Gourd Dance  
7pm Grand Entry


**Contests**

Men's Fancy, Straight, Traditional Combined	\$200, \$150, \$100
Women's Cloth & Buckskin Combined	\$200, \$150, \$100
Jr. & Teen Boys Combined	\$100, \$75, \$50
Jr. & Teen Girls Combined	\$100, \$75, \$50

Potato Dance, Prettiest Shawl, Western Fancy Dance

**Security:** James Wade  
**Arena Director:** Freddie Banderas, Ashley Kerchee  
**Raffles & Tickets:** Susan Parker Whitewolf

No Alcohol or Drugs Permitted. Not responsible for accidents or theft.  
Vendors Welcome: Contact Fran Sapcutt 580-695-6013







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