



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 2

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Positsr Mna (February) 2023

The Accountability Act Resolution is Rescinded at the January CBC Meeting

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

After being in effect for six years, Resolution No. 0107-08, also known as the Accountability Act, was rescinded during the January 7, Comanche Business Committee (CBC) meeting.

The resolution was passed at the Jan. 7, 2017, CBC Meeting under the leadership of former Comanche Nation Chairman William Nelson. It passed with five 'Yes' votes and one 'No' vote.

The resolution catalogs a list of acts that would disqualify tribal members from running for office or being employed with the Comanche Nation as well as the Workforce Program:

"If any elected Comanche Nation Business Committee member, employee, or appointee (past or present) from this date of 1-7-2017, knowingly:

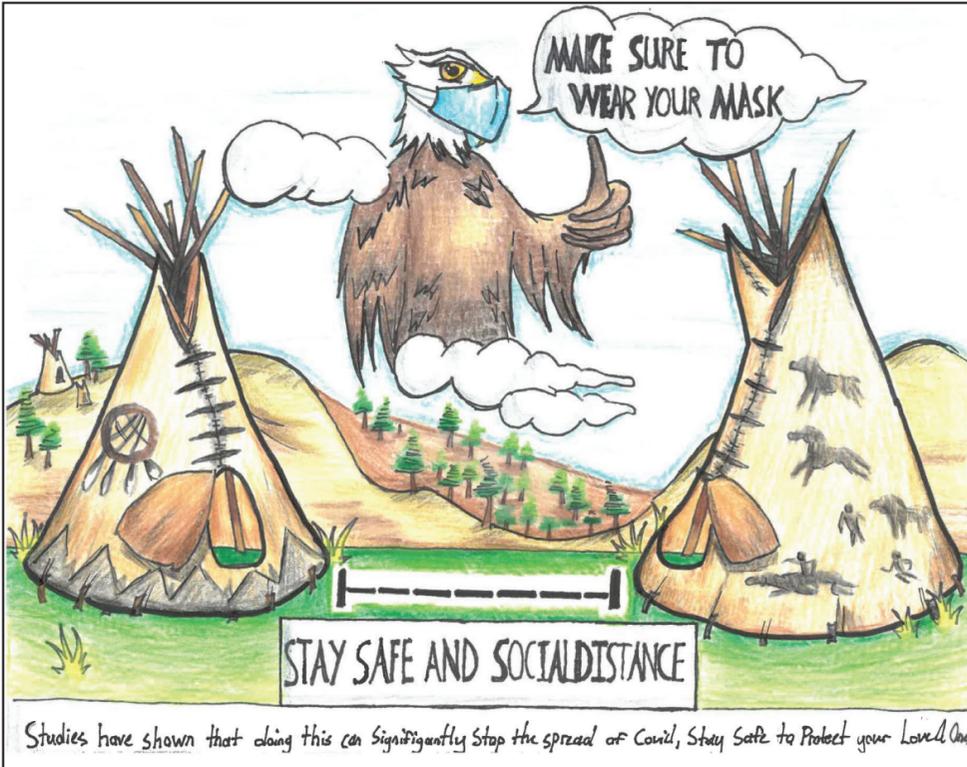
1. Overspend(s,t) a Tribal Council Budget line item without a proper resolution.
2. Move(s,d) a Tribal Council Budget line item without a proper resolution.
3. Borrow(s,ed) from a Tribal Council Budget line item without Tribal Council consent.
4. Use(s,d) a Tribal Council Budget line item for collateral without Tribal Council consent.
5. Remove(s,d) any Comanche Nation member on the established membership roll.
6. Add(s,ed) any Comanche Nation member without following Constitution ARTICLE THREE.
7. Ignore(s,ed) or impedes a direct order of the voting supreme power of the Tribal Council.
8. File(s,ed) lawsuit on the Comanche Nation for personal monetary gain.
9. Assist(s,ed) and helps non Comanche Nation members that file lawsuit on the Nation.
10. Ha(s,ve) defaulted on loans, charge accounts, mortgages, payroll advances, or drawdowns from the Comanche Nation.
11. Is under investigation for misappropriation, fraud, kickbacks, theft, perjury, and any other investigated crimes against the Comanche Nation Government and all other entities.
12. Ha(s,ve) signed "sole source" contracts without Business Committee (legal quorum) documented approval Beit: Memorandum or appropriate Resolution.

These twelve (12) ACTS will be promulgated as: "Wanton Malicious Behavior" (WMB). The severity of (WMB) cannot, should not and will not be tolerated. The adopted penalty for "Wanton Malicious Behavior" (WMB) is as follows:

- A. YOU CANNOT BE NOMINATED FOR ANY ELECTED OFFICE FOR TEN (10) YEARS.
- B. YOU CANNOT BE EMPLOYED BY ANY COMANCHE NATION ENTITY FOR TEN (10) YEARS.
- C. YOU CANNOT BE APPOINTED TO ANY COMANCHE NATION ENTITY FOR TEN (10) YEARS."

"I have always felt this Accountability Act has no due process in any of it," CBC No. 1, Hazel Tahsequah, said in the Jan. 7, CBC Meet-

See ACCOUNTABILITY ACT, Page 3



Courtesy Photos



WINNERS OF SAFETY POSTER CONTEST. The Comanche Nation Housing Authority held its annual Safety Poster Contest the end of December 2022. The goal of the contest was to promote safety awareness in various topics such as COVID prevention, cyber bullying, fire, distracted driving, and home fire escape plan, to name a few. Winning in the 7th & 8th grade category is tribal member Parker Wiegand, who lives in Wisconsin. He is the grandson of Willie Pekah. Winning the K-3rd Grade category is Laylah Sovo. She is the daughter of Daisy Cozad and Ahtakee Sovo. Both created posters about COVID safety and awareness, and received a check for \$200.

Oklahoma City Outreach Office Opens in New Location & Under New Directorship

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Oklahoma City Outreach Office has opened and is now helping tribal members in the area.

Mary Austin, the director, said she is excited about her new position and looks forward to assisting in many ways.

"I think our outreach should be able to provide all kinds of resources for the tribal members. With some of the economic hardships that are going on right now, some people have too few resources. I want to help, whether for the community programs in this area, WIC, foodbank, or providing our people with those outside resources when our nation cannot help in those areas. For the elders, offer them the resources in this area. I want this to be commonplace for tribal members, to come, look at the



Courtesy Photos

events happening in our Nation, get help, and just be pointed in the right direction."

Located at 8014 N Western



Austin

Ave, it is a part of the Wilshire Square offices near Nichols Hills. "It is a newer building, and it is in a great neighborhood," Mary Austin, director, said. "We are located south of Nichols Hills, between there and Britton. It is off of Wilshire, and we are in Wilshire Squire. It is easy to get here if you are coming off of I-35 because there is only one exit, and it is called Wilshire Blvd."

Some of the assistance offered at the facility include tribal enrollment, Higher Education, emer-

See OKC OUTREACH, Page 5

Medical Director at CHR Programs Offers Opportunities for Growth

By Heaven Williams/News Staff

The Comanche Nation CHR program and the Fire department achieved a milestone in improving the services offered to their tribal members and the surrounding areas inside the Comanche Nation.

One of the purposes of adding a medical director for these agencies is to improve the quality and level of care offered in the case of an emergency response. The Comanche Nation Fire Department will become Emergency Medical Response Agency Licensed (EMRA). This means that personnel will be allowed to perform emergency medical care up to the level of Oklahoma State Licensure, with the care that is directed by the medical director. No one works outside their scope of practice.

The qualifications CHR/Fire has to have are licensed workers with EMTs and hands-on experience. There's much paperwork in the pre-hospital EMRA application, giving them a response plan and the right equipment.

Currently, the CHR and the Fire department don't have any protocols in place, but once the State comes and inspects all the equipment and the department gets its license, they will be able to help more. This means that lifesaving emergency medical care will be upgraded from basic First Aid to life-saving training for all the staff members within CHR/Fire department.

Having the EMRA license allows for more extensive treatments like giving oxygen, breathing treatments, and providing emergency care until an ambulance arrives. They will also be able to assist with events like the Comanche Nation Fair, Walters Homecoming Powwow, and 5K runs that programs put on that require medical stand-by.

Laura Trusty and her husband will teach the EMR class to all the CHR, Fire, and some from Emergency Management. The process is taking the classes along with bookwork, some hand on class time, and then the test that is taken at Voc Tech. Once the test is passed, everyone will be EMR licensed.

"I am hoping we'll be able to get our EMRA and go out into the field within the next month or so. The worst feeling is when you know that you can help but can't because you don't have the licenses or equipment to. So, I'm excited to get onto the field and help the Comanche people," said Trusty.

In addition, by having a medical director, all staff from the CHR program and the Fire Department will have to complete a quarterly mandatory. The medical director, Dr. Wordon, will provide this training, allowing all required continuing education to renew each staff's state license every two years. This is a big step forward for the great people of the Comanche Nation.

Comanche Nation News
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March 31, 2023

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THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

PositsꞤ Mna (February) 2023
Sleet 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 March edition is 5 p.m., February 15.

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- **News items** of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
- **Photographs** will be copied and will become the property of TCNN. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
- **The Milestones Page** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. The Passings/Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. TCNN publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. The Obituaries Page is 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 an 800 word limit. The letters to the editor or articles contained in The Comanche Nation News does not reflect the views or opinions of the PIO staff.**

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Government

Six Resolutions Pass at the January CBC Meeting; Comanche Nation Gaming CEO Contract is Renewed

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the January 7, Comanche Business Committee Monthly Meeting, and not the official minutes. To obtain a copy of the official minutes, please contact the Office of the Chairman, (580) 492-3251. You can watch the meeting in its entirety online at comanchenation.com.

Chairman Mark Woommavovah calls the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

The Secretary/Treasurer, John Wahnee, conducts roll calls. A quorum is established.

Comanche Business Committee (CBC) No. 3, Alice Kassanavoid, makes a motion to approve the January meeting agenda. CBC No. 4, Robert Komahcheet seconds it. The vote is 2/2/1. The chairman breaks the vote to approve the agenda.

Rev. Michael Keahbone provides the invocation.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to approve the December 2022 CBC Meeting minutes. Komahcheet seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Executive Officer Reports

Woommavovah reports that he attended all required meetings in December. He thanks the programs that participated in Elder Day.

The Comanche Nation Vice Chairman, Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, reports he attended all required meetings in December. He is a part of the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education and helped pass a resolution to advance self-determination in education. He attended the Ft. Sill Apache litigation at the state capital and was happy to represent the CBC. He is working with the Higher Education Director to plan an education summit.

Wahnee reported he follows the Comanche Constitution Article XII- Duties of Officers Sections Three (3) and Four (4). He reviews the financial reviews of all the tribal entities to ensure no financial findings or issues. He also ensures records and minutes of the legal CBC meetings are being recorded by Dodson Court Reporting Company and sends notices of the meetings to the CBC. All resolutions and minutes are sent to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Anadarko, Okla. agency.

He added that he was informed that another local tribe's financial information was breached, and as a result, that tribe had to close one of its casinos. Because of that, he is reviewing all the software that is being used at the gaming and tribal government offices to ensure the Comanche Nation's information is not compromised or hacked.

Wahnee reports that in the AARP budget, there is a little over \$1.1 million left in home repair and around \$345,000 in rental assistance. Around 82% of the AARP budget has been spent directly to help the Comanche tribal members. The remaining balance is around \$16 million.

The audits have been completed with no financial findings.

Committee and Board Reports

Indian Health Board- CBC No. 3 – Alice Kassanavoid – They meet on the first Thursday of every month. There are ongoing renovations at the pharmacy. They are going to start renovations for the emergency room. If tribal members have complaints or concerns about the hospital, they can contact the Patient Advocate.

Cow-Calf Program- CBC No. 4- Robert Komahcheet – No calves were born in December. A total of 21 calves were vaccinated. A total of 23 black Angus heifers were purchased. One cow died due to the cold weather. The Comanche Nation owns a total of 129 heads of cattle. Seven heifers are due to give birth. The remaining budget is \$290,000.

Conservation District- Chairman Mark Woommavovah-

They did not meet in December.

Tax Commission- Secretary/Treasurer - John Wahnee – They are increasing efforts to increase revenue with TERO fees and fees to use the Comanche Nation seal/logo. The oil and gas department will send letters to operators to inform them they may be subject to additional taxes when operating on tribal lands.

KCA Land Use Committee -Chairman Mark Woommavovah – They are in the process of hiring a new KCA director and have opened it up for more applicants to apply.

Housing Authority - CBC No. 3 – Alice Kassanavoid – She will give a report next month.

Resolutions

Resolution No. 01-2023- Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1269 - Wahnee motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1, Hazel Tahsekuah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 02-2023- Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1270 - Komahcheet motions to accept the resolution. The Comanche Nation Vice Chairman, Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 03-2023- Realty Resolution Trust Land Over 5% - Kassanavoid makes a motion to accept the resolution. Komahcheet seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

There were discussions about the sale and purchase of trust land, probates, and how it can be added to the Comanche Nation constitution.

Resolution No. 04-2023- CHR/EMS/FIRE Resolution to Obtain a Physician Medical Director - Kassanavoid motions to accept the resolution. Komahcheet seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 05-2023- CBC Resolution Authorization to Participate in Tribal Opioid Settlement - Kassanavoid motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 2, Ross Kahrahrh seconds it. The motion carries 3/3/1.

Resolution No. 06-2023- CBC Resolution to Renew Comanche Nation Entertainment CEO Contract - Kassanavoid motions to accept the resolution. Komahcheet seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0. –

A lengthy discussion about Mia Tahdooahnippah's qualifications, work history, and the Comanche Nation Gaming and Entertainment under her direction.

Old/New Business

Tribal member Tanisha Cable Burgess asked when the CBC will appoint a temporary election board until nominations can be taken at the Annual Meeting in April. Kassanavoid said the CBC is scheduled to address it in Executive Session and will create a temporary board.

Comanche tribal member Debra Hendrix said she would like to see the CBC make a motion to replace the billboard signs in the area with photos of MMIW, eagles, programs, and items that are about the Comanche people. A discussion followed.

Keahbone urges all tribal members to read the report about the boarding schools released by the Secretary of Interior, Deb Holland.

Burgess asked what the status is about the CBC reviewing the Accountability Act and possibly rescinding it.

Kahrahrh makes a motion to explore developing a planning department. Wahnee adds the wording of the motion needs to follow the Comanche Nation Constitution by appointing a committee. Kahrahrh complies. Tahsekuah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Dr. Pewewardy motions to have a one-day educational summit and to create a subcommittee or steering committee to discuss contemporary educational issues and gather evidence-based research to set future

From the Chairman's Desk



“The greatest among men are those who serve the greatest number.” – Chief Ten Bears

In order to adapt ourselves to life's many changes, we must first learn to get along with others. Things can always go our way, benefit us the most, put us in the limelight, or only advance our careers. The “me-first” attitude does not serve a person well for very long. Looking to what we can get rather than to what we can give seems to be a national pastime. I suspect that individuals believe they are holding onto their identity when they refuse to compromise; however, in most of these daily circumstances, they are the real losers.

Negotiation takes practice and expertise and can be elevated to an art form. When done correctly, our long-term success depends on it as much as we depend on water to drink and air to breathe. Remember TEAMWORK is a step on the ladder of success. An even higher step is the formation of a like-minded alliance. In order to reach the summit, you must let go of the desire to be right.

Being right means little unless you are truly happy. In pursuing success, it is wise to remember that a very real ingredient of success is the ability to get along with and be liked by others. Let me repeat that, “the ability to get along with and be liked by others.” Without this component, any success would be very hollow indeed.

The Universe rewards a giver. When you give without expectation of return, you create a cycle that revolves around back to you. Ultimately, you are the recipient of the good you put out in the Universe. Start a ripple of giving right now and watch out for the wave of goodness you will soon create! Remember, "what goes around comes around." Make what comes around to you only good by starting the ripple that creates the wave.

Proverbs 11:24 – *Givers never lack One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly but comes to poverty.*

“Comanche Strong-Stronger TOGETHER!”

URA
Chairman Woommavovah

goals and objectives for an education strategic plan. Tahsekuah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Woommavovah makes a motion to discuss the Accountability Act in Executive Session. Tahsekuah seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Burgess asked about the status of the hemp resolution that was passed last year. Woommavovah said they would follow up on it. Tribal member Randi Herring added that the tribe should invest in the growing industry of cannabis and hemp.

Wahnee makes a motion to go into the executive session. Komahcheet seconds the motion. The motion carries at 12:05 p.m.

After coming out of Executive Session, Kassanavoid motions for the CBC to attend the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) in April. Kahrahrh seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Komahcheet motions for the Chairman to travel to RAIN Leadership Conference in Albuquerque, NM. Kassanavoid seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Tahsekuah motions to rescind the Accountability Act, Resolution Number 0107-08. Kahrahrh seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Tahsekuah makes a motion to move the Law Enforcement under the direction of the Tribal Administrator. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid makes a motion for tribal law enforcement to begin an investigation. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kahrahrh makes a motion to purchase the Wolf Pack Cannabis LLC DBA (doing business major meds) and any other assets for the business, such as storage units, the cannabis grows, and the dispensary license, located at 809 Interstate Drive, Lawton, Okla. Upon due diligence, the purchase price is pending

property and business statements, including cash flow, liabilities, assets, income statements, and other pertinent documents. Wahnee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid motions to negotiate the renewal of the tribal district court judges' contracts. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid motions to appoint the temporary election board members: Marilyn Tiger, Tanisha Cable, Charlette Nieyah, Brandy Herring, Sandra Chasenut, Francine Frisch, and Francine Monenerkit as the alternate. Dr. Pewewardy seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid makes a motion for the CBC to travel to NIGA in March. Kahrahrh seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wahnee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Continued from Page 1

ing. “There were people who found out that they owed money to the tribe, and they paid it. After that, when they tried to run for office, they were told they could not run 10 years. I think that is ridiculous.”

She made the motion to rescind the resolution, and it passed unanimously.

Since its rescind, the Comanche Nation Human Resources Department and Workforce Program have updated their employment process to eliminate the points of the Accountability Act. The qualifications to run for any tribal office position or appointment will also be amended.

Programs

Child Support Program Announces Court Dates

In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Duane Gardner Jr.: CNC-SP-16-39; Motion to Modify Child Support
- Steven Harris: CNCSP-22-27; Petition to Determine Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- Anthony Lopez: CNCSP-22-32; Petition to Register Foreign Order
- Jamie Mihecoby: CNC-SP-22-34; Petition to Register Foreign Order
- Ricky Miller: CNCSP-16-33; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Jacob Nunley: CNCSP-16-30; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Aliciana Paddyaker: CNC-SP-22-22; Petition to Determine Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- Silas Reeder: CNCSP-22-06; Motion to Modify Child Support
- Wuhyahkey Satoe: CNC-SP-22-24; Petition to Accept Transfer

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.

**Elder Council
Monthly Meeting
10 a.m., Feb. 6,
2023
Watchetaker
Hall - Comanche
Nation Complex**

Family Services Offers Five New Year's Resolutions that Teach You Self Help for Verbal Abuse

How do those New Year's resolutions help you? They are all verbal abuse self-help strategies that empower you, making positive change easier.

1. Reach Out to Your Loved Ones
Your family and your friends are the support group that can be there for you, to lift you up, and remind you how valuable you are when verbal abuse has convinced you otherwise. Sometimes it can be easy to wait for your friends to call you, or expect others to put in that maintenance, but self-help for verbal abuse requires you to take the lead. I think it's imperative to realize that putting forth the effort to talk to and see your loved ones is so incredibly important. Stop waiting for the call, make the call.

2. Make Yourself a Priority
Abusive relationships make it easy to lose yourself, to forget to do things for your own happiness. Forget about appeasing the people mistreating you and do something just for you. Do things to invest in yourself, your future, your happiness. Thinking about going back to school or work? Do it. Thinking about changing your hairstyle or buying yourself those new boots you've been wanting? Do it. Go get yourself a massage or plan a lunch date with your best friend. You'll be happy you did.

3. Raise Your Standards and Set Boundaries

Battling verbal abuse has a way of diminishing any standards you once had for yourself. Promise to remind yourself, again and again, you deserve to be treated with respect and decency. When verbal abuse is being used toward you, try to set boundaries in a collected and rational way that won't escalate any hostility. Rather than raise your voice or use name-calling to defend yourself, explain that you don't deserve to be treated that way. You are open to discussion but won't respond to degrading comments or aggressive language.

4. Distinguish Yourself from the Verbal Abuse You're Battling
Sometimes verbally abusive relationships can overwhelm everything else in your life. It can become so difficult to see any positives anywhere -- in yourself, your environment, the future, etc. Remember you are distinct from the abusive relationship you are currently involved in. You existed before and you will exist after, and you exist now. This is something terrible you are going through but it is not who you are or who you have to be.

5. Take Responsibility and Own

Your Power

Battling verbal abuse may make you feel like a victim. While you are a victim of verbal abuse, you are also responsible for your own decisions. You decide to stay or leave, you have the power to change your circumstances. When you are feeling hopeless and like there's nothing you can do, snap out of it. You have the power to do anything you want, no one owns you, and no one can take your power from you.

Self-Help for Verbal Abuse
I hope these self-help tips for verbal abuse help you create healthy resolutions. Well wishes to you in the coming year.

APA Reference

Sullivan, E. (2018, January 1). Build Self-Help for Verbal Abuse into New Year's Resolutions, HealthyPlace. Retrieved on 2022, December 30.

Help is available contact Comanche Nation Family Assistance (Women shelter) 580-492-3590.

February Higher Education Student of the Month Adam Chebahtah



Courtesy Photo

Chebahtah

Adam Chebahtah, is the oldest son of Jeffrey (USMC) and Heidi Chebahtah and the fourth grandson of Clifford Don Jr. (USMC) and Sandra Chebahtah.

After receiving degrees in Biblical & Theological Studies (B.A.), Old Testament & Semitic Languages (M.A.), and Theology (M.A.) from Biola University, Chebahtah pursued a Th.M. in Old Testament from Wycliffe College/University of Toronto, and he is currently a Ph.D. student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at UCLA with an emphasis on Hebrew Bible.

His research focuses on parallels between Israelite and Egyptian religions. He plans to pursue a university teaching career after completing his doctorate.

February Higher Education Student of the Month Dena Landers



Courtesy Photo

Landers

Dena Landers, is the daughter of Scott Landers and Millicent Nevaquaya-Beasley and Millicent Nevaquaya-Beasley and Mitchell Beasley. Her paternal grandparents are the late Joe and Linda Landers and her maternal grandparents are Frances Beasley and the late Malcolm and Bessie Nevaquaya.

Landers is from Elgin, Okla., but currently resides in Cache, Okla., with her son, Rashied. She is currently a junior at Cameron University, where she obtained a 3.5 GPA for the fall 2022 semester and is pursuing a major in Family and Child Studies with a concentration in Family Studies.

Her long-term goal is to continue to work for Comanche Nation Youth Services and be an advocate for Native youth and their families. She plans to use what she acquired in college to help Native youth reach their educational and personal life goals.

Adult Education Spotlight Stephanie Akoneto



Courtesy Photo

Akoneto

Stephanie Akoneto is from Walters, Okla. Her parents are Edwin and Mattie Akoneto.

She was chosen for the Spotlight because she has taken several Short-term courses for Medical Billing and Coding while working and taking care of her daughter.

Akoneto is now employed at the Lawton IHS as a Medical Support Assistant.

Job Placement and Training Student of the Month Lindsey Red Elk



Courtesy Photo

Lindsey Red Elk, is the daughter of Rocky and Christy Red Elk. She is from Cache, Okla., and is currently attending Great Plains Technology Center (GPTC) in the Practical Nursing Program.

Red Elk has previously attended GPTC over the past year where she became certified as a CNA and phlebotomist. She and her class are half way through the nursing program, which she will graduate in July.

After becoming a licensed LPN, she plans to further her education by attending RN school.

LEGAL AID CLINIC FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS

COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURTHOUSE
584 NW BINGO RD, LAWTON, OK

PROVIDED BY GREAT PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES

LEGAL COUNSEL WILL BE ON SITE TO ASSIST TRIBAL MEMBERS WITH LEGAL ADVICE AND UNDERSTANDING FILINGS WITHIN OUR TRIBAL COURT.

DATES

FEBRUARY 3: 10 AM - 2 PM

FEBRUARY 10: 10 AM - 2 PM

FEBRUARY 15: 10 AM - 2 PM

FEBRUARY 22: 10 AM - 2 PM

FEBRUARY 18
WALK-IN LEGAL CLINIC
10 AM - 2 PM
(COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURTHOUSE)

FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION CALL COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT AT (580)492-3822

Comanche Nation Tribal Court
District Court
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Court Clerk: *[Signature]*

**IN THE COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT
DISTRICT COURT**

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF
NAME OF:)
ALYSSA ELIZABETH SHORT)
An enrolled member of the Comanche)
Nation.) Case No.: NC-2022-0005

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: ALL CREDITORS or INTERESTED PARTIES

Take notice that Alyssa Elizabeth Short has filed in the above Court a Petition to have the name changed as follows, to-wit from: Alyssa Elizabeth Short to Alyssa Sara Elizabeth Daley.

The petition will be heard on 02/01/2023 at 10:30 AM located at the Comanche Nation Courthouse, 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton, Oklahoma.

If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Change of Name should not be granted by the Court you should file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing or appear and present the same at the above time and place.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 21st day of December, 2022.

By: *[Signature]*
Court Clerk/Deputy
Comanche Nation Tribal Court
584 NW Bingo Dr.
P.O. Box 646
Lawton, OK 73502
Ph: (580) 492-3822

[SEAL]

Programs

Prevention & Recovery Highlights Recent Events

The Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery (P&R) Department hosted several events within the months of November 2022 and December 2022. A strong family unit and community connectedness are two of the most important protective factors when it comes to prevention of the use of drugs, alcohol, and suicide as well as the sobriety of those in recovery.

Their Community Opioid Intervention Pilot Project organized a two-day event at Riverside Indian School, reaching an estimated 318 students and school personnel. In the great spirit of collaboration, the P&R programs facilitated a variety of prevention activities and mental health presentations for students in grades 4-12. It's department also held a Sober 49 event with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office on Black Friday, which included contests like best 49 songs, hand drum, war cry, and lulu. There were 263 community members in attendance for this event. IAMNDN put on their second annual "Culture is Prevention" day for Native American Heritage Month. The event was held at the Comanche County Expo Center, which had an assortment of cultural activities for our youth to participate in, such as art, archery, hand game demonstration, beading, and language class.

The P&R's Circles of Care program coordinated a Mental Health Seminar, "Building Trauma Responsive Communities," to build capacity within community and professional workforces related to mental health and social service fields. The keynote speaker, the renowned Dr. Daryll Tonemah, was joined by Ashley Morrison, who provided a guided medita-

tion to close the seminar.

On December 14, 2022, the Native Spirit Suicide Prevention Project and IAMNDN presented their first Numunu Hubianuu (Comanche Hymn Singing) event in an effort to promote hope and healing through our culture and fellowship. The Comanche Nation Language Department joined us for the event, had a hot chocolate station, and provided extra hymnals for participants. The program hopes to continue building this event for the community to enjoy and attend.

On New Year's Eve, the P&R hosted their largest and most popular event of the year: Island Vibes New Years Eve Bash. This event is the epitome of what this department envisions for our community: a fun, safe, and sober environment for families to celebrate and spend quality time together. They had the largest turnout that they have ever had, which had 978 attendees registered; however, they estimate that around 1,200 community members participated throughout the night.

The program staff wants to thank our community, Comanche Nation departments, and leadership for continuously supporting our events and initiatives.

"Everything we do is for the betterment of our people, and we are grateful that you all share this vision with us," Bonnie Johnson, Program Director, said. "As the new year begins, please keep an eye and ear out for future events and community and workforce training!"

You can follow the P&R on social media by searching Comanche Nation P&R, Comanche Nation Native Spirit Project, and Comanche



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Meet the 2022-2023 IAM NDN Princess, LeAnn Tahsequah

Nu nahnumunuu tsa Tahsequahnuu, Tahdoohrippahnuu, tuasu Poemoceahnuu.

LeAnn Tahsequah is a Junior at Elgin High School where she is very invested with her Comanche language class and the Comanche Nation Youth program.

In her Comanche Language class, she has excelled in her language learning skills and is ambitious to keep learning her language. Along with the language, she has learned about her culture, my ancestors, and their ways of life before and after colonization, all the way to contemporary tribal politics with the Comanche Nation. Learning all this has helped her learn her identity and allowed her to go home and share the skills she has learned with her family.

"This class has inspired me to want to continue to acquire the necessary tools to educate those around me about our cultural ways as indigenous people" said Tahsequah.

In her time with the Comanche Nation Youth Program, she has learned the duties and responsibilities of working with the younger Comanche generation and how important it is to pass on cultural traditions so the identity of the Comanche people will continue to grow strong. Working with the program has also taught her about her cultural ways of life.

In the youth program, she had the opportunity to educate the Comanche children in how to be active not only with culture but also being active to maintain a healthy lifestyle and break patterns that were created from intergenerational trauma.

Tahsequah's goal for the rest of her high school career is to be more involved with Comanche youth and not only to teach them to be more involved with their culture but to love their culture and who they are so they don't struggle as much when they become adults with their identity, as well as helping her community to be more culturally aware.

After high school, she intends to attend Fort Lewis College and major in psychology.

"I want to become a substance abuse counselor and help indigenous people get away from the drugs and alcohol killing off LeAnn Tahsequah people daily," Tahsequah said.

Comanche Nation Environmental Programs Annual Tire Drive

<p><u>What will be Accepted:</u> Tires up to 24 inches. Nothing larger will be accepted. Tires still on the rims</p>	<p><u>What will NOT be accepted:</u> Semi Tires Agriculture Tires</p>
--	---

Dates and Locations as follows:

<p>Locations:</p> <p>Cache OK, CN Community Building</p> <p>Walters OK, CN Community Building</p> <p>Apache OK, CN Community Building</p> <p>Office of Environmental Programs</p>	<p>Dates:</p> <p>Feb 7th – 9th (9am - 4:30pm)</p> <p>Feb 14th – 16th (9am - 4:30pm)</p> <p>Feb 21st – 23rd (9am - 4:30pm)</p> <p>Feb 28th – March 2nd (9am - 4:30pm)</p>
--	---

For more information please contact the Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs @ (580) 482-3754

OKC OUTREACH

Continued from Page 1

agency assistance in housing improvement, optometry, and prescription assistance, to name a few.

Austin said she would like to see more assistance in prevention and recovery.

"I would like to touch in depth with Prevention and Recovery because that is a big concern. I want to offer more assistance here," Austin said.

As the director, Austin added she wants to offer classes at the center, from cultural to helping tribal members become self-sufficient.

"In all the years I worked in the tribe's Workforce, I have been a big advocate for people to become more self-sufficient. I want to offer my areas of expertise regarding work

search, resume building, and other areas to help our tribal members become more self-sufficient. I would also like informational classes here to help build the nation through traditional knowledge, like Comanche language classes and bead working," she said.

"On the health side, offer information about diabetes awareness, have a flu shot clinic, and the car seat program. This will also be a polling site for tribal members to vote in our elections. We also want to help when it is time for Student Services to help our tribal students and to have school supplies here," Austin added.

For more information about the assistance offered at the outreach office, call (405) 974-9631.

SAVE THE DATE!

Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery Powwow

Saturday, February 25, 2023
Watchetaker Hall @ 1:00 PM
Comanche Nation Complex

MC's: Edmond Nevaquaya, Martin Flores & Jay Mule

Head Singer: O.J. Littlecook

Gourd Dance Session:

Headman: Devin Toahy

Headlady: Rhianna Nelson

Evening Session:

Headman Dancer: Jeffrey Lightfoot

Headlady Dancer: Paula Cooper

Arena Director's: John Woosypiti & Daryl Galindo

Contest Coordinator: Anthony Monoessy, Sr.

Security: Billy Karty

Invited Organizations:

Ponca Nation Hope and Recovery Center

Osage Nation Counseling Center

THIS IS A FREE EVENT OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY. DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND WEAPONS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THE COMANCHE NATION WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS, INJURY, OR THEFT THAT MAY OCCUR AT THIS EVENT. CONTACT 580-492-3614 OR 580-357-3449 FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff



Photo by Heaven Williams/News Staff

CHARTER TEACHER RECEIVES MASTERS FROM OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY. On January 12, students and colleagues gathered for language and culture curriculum specialist Gail Burgess' surprise graduation ceremony at Comanche Academy charter school. She graduated with a master's in Indigenous People's Law from Oklahoma University. As for continuing her education, Burgess said she had been encouraged to get her doctorate. Burgess said she's considering continuing higher education.

The Comanche Nation Offices will be closed February 20 for President's Day
Offices will re-open February 21 for regular business.

Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

February Pick-Up Schedule for the Comanche Nation Food Distribution

FEBRUARY 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Frederick 1st Day	Frederick 2nd Day	Walters 1st Day	
	Walters 2nd Day	Cache 1st Day	Cache 2nd Day	Cache 3rd Day	TRUCK DAY	
	Cache 4th Day	Lawton 1st Day	Lawton 2nd Day	Lawton 3rd Day	Lawton 4th Day	
	CLOSED President's Day	Lawton 5th Day	Make-Up Day	Make-Up Day	Make-Up Day	
	Inventory	Inventory				

Greek Spaghetti with Chicken

Ingredients
 1 Package (16 ounces) of Spaghetti, broken into 2-inch pieces
 4 cups cooked cubed chicken breast
 2 packages frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry
 2 cans condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted
 1 cup of mayonnaise
 1 cup of sour cream
 3 stalks of chopped celery
 1 small chopped onion
 ½ Cup chopped green pepper
 1 jar diced pimientos, drained
 ½ Teaspoon lemon pepper seasoning
 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
 ½ Cup soft bread crumbs
 ½ Cup shredded Parmesan cheese

Directions
 1. Cook spaghetti according to package directions; drain. Return spaghetti to saucepan. Stir in the chicken, spinach, soup, mayonnaise, sour cream, celery, onion, green pepper, pimientos, and lemon pepper.
 2. Transfer to a greased 13x9-inch baking dish. Top with Monterey jack cheese, bread crumbs, and Parmesan cheese. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes or until heated through.



Valentine's Day Word Search

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

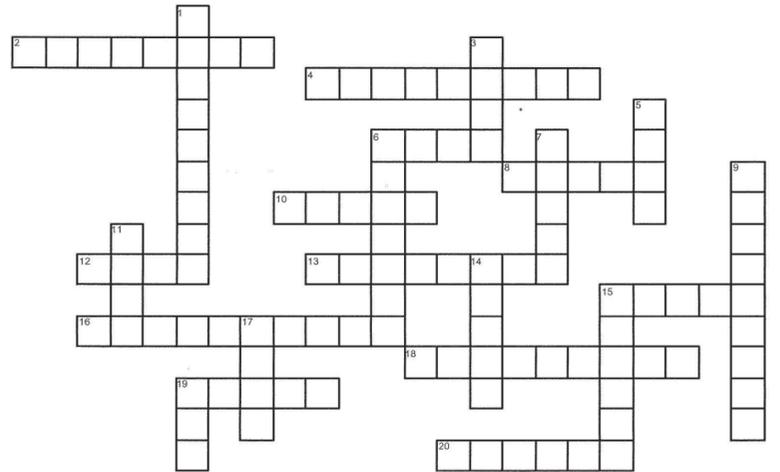


- TĤURAPĤ (SWEETHEART) NAISAPĤ (FLIRTATIOUS) HĤUPAKĤ (ARROW)
- KAMAKĤĤ (LOVE) MUHRAI (KISS) SĤRAKĤĤ (ADMIRE SOMEONE)
- PIHI (HEART) KWABARĤ (HUG)
- TĤPIHNA (CHOCOLATE) TOTSIIYA (FLOWER)

www.webonary.org/comanche
 www.talkcomanche.org



Valentine's Day Crossword Fun



ACROSS

- 2 A piece of jewelry worn around one's neck.
- 4 _____ and girlfriend.
- 6 "Be _____."
- 8 School children often exchange these on Valentine's Day.
- 10 He shoots invisible arrows to make people fall in love.
- 12 The most popular flower for Valentine's Day.
- 13 Valentine's Day falls on _____ 14.
- 15 "_____ Valentine's Day!"
- 16 A safe place to store jewelry. (Two words.)
- 18 My friend gave me heart-shaped box full of _____.
- 19 Bees make this substance, which is also a nickname for someone who is loved.
- 20 St. Valentine is known as the patron saint of _____.

DOWN

- 1 "Will you be my _____?"
- 3 Husband and _____.
- 5 In "XOXOXOX," an X represents this action.
- 6 Did the mail carrier leave any Valentines in your _____?
- 7 School children sometimes celebrate with a Valentine's Day _____.
- 9 A stuffed animal often given as a Valentine's gift. (Two words.)
- 11 "I _____ you."
- 14 Bow and _____.
- 15 Children may read and eat candy _____.
- 17 A man usually gives a woman a _____ when he asks her to marry him.
- 19 In "XOXOXOX," an O represents this action.

©2008, The Holiday Zone

http://www.theholidayzone.com/

Comanche Word Jumble answer key

Storytime
 Unscramble these Comanche Jumbles to form words related to the theme above.

#1 ĤKTURĤ
 TĤRĤKĤUĤ

#2 OAA?KAHNHTĤA
 OHA?AHNAKĤATĤ

#3 SKIĤNOO
 SĤOKĤNI

#4 NĤĤAK
 NĤĤKA

#5 HANKI
 KĤAHNI

#6 NAUĤAYRIHAB
 NAHUBIYARĤ

#7 UPIAHIPU
 PIABUUPI

#8 ĤPKOOIPTOA
 PIAKOTOOPĤ

#9 KSUMAHIPW
 KUSIWĤPIMA

#10 EWĤTOĤNKW
 WĤTOKWĤNĤ

Comanche JUMBLE

Advice a prairie dog is likely to give.

Arrange the circled letters to form the mystery answer, as suggested by the caption in the cartoon.

MYSTERY ANSWER
 KĤETA
 OHA?AHNAKĤATI
 TĤMAYOKĤKĤATĤ

Watch the story at <https://www.facebook.com/CNLanguage>
 For help with this jumble and more, visit <https://www.webonary.org/comanche>

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

2023 Comanche County High School Basketball Tournament (Girls)



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff



*McKenzie Huffman
Geronimo High School*



*Becky Burgess
Indianahoma High School*



*Morgan Curry
Sterling High School*



*Emily Martinez
Indianahoma High School*



*Ashlyn Clift
Sterling High School*



*Tatum Burgess
Indianahoma High School*



*Ona Johnson
Indianahoma High School*



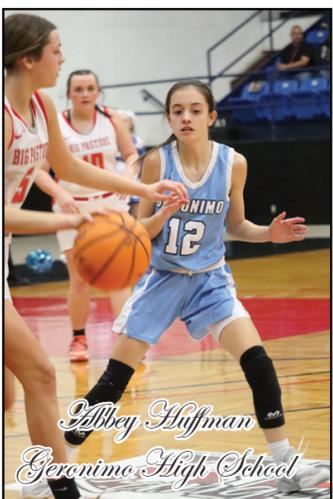
*Jessie Orlino
Walters High School*



*Allison Daly
Geronimo High School*



*Tayah Kaudle-Kaulay
Indianahoma High School*



*Abbey Huffman
Geronimo High School*



*Chrissa Gomez
Geronimo High School*

COME PLAY WITH US!

WANT TO GET AWAY GIVEAWAY

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
FEBRUARY 3-25 • 7PM-11PM

There's Winning & Traveling In Your Future!

Every Friday and Saturday night, you can win a \$2,000 travel voucher or up to \$500 Comanche Credit at your favorite place to play!

Drawings every 30 minutes and earn E-drawing entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 8AM-11PM, February 1-25.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

FOR THE LOVE OF HOT SEATS

THURSDAYS
FEBRUARY 2-23
2PM-9PM

FALL IN LOVE WITH WINNING AT NATION!

Win up to \$200 in Comanche Credit when you pick the best hot seat in the house! Just play your favorite slot machine for at least 2 minutes to qualify with your Comanche Rewards Card. Drawings every 30 minutes.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

DON'T GO BAKING MY HEART

MONDAYS
FEBRUARY 6-27 • 10AM-11PM

You're Going To Love These Gifts!

Earn 200 points on Mondays to receive a gift beginning February 6-27.

While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

FEBRUARY \$5 DRINK SPECIALS

- LOVE POTION #9**
Coconut Rum, Peach Schnapps, 151 Rum, Cranberry Juice & Pineapple Juice
- CHOCOLATE COVERED STRAWBERRY**
Strawberry Vodka, Chocolate Vodka, Strawberry Puree, Milk & Chocolate Syrup
- DIRTY SHIRLEY**
Vodka, Sierra Mist, Grenadine & Ice Cream
- TIE MY HANDS**
Vodka, Southern Comfort, Amaretto, Orange Juice & Grenadine

FEBRUARY

Burger of the Month

SPREAD THE LOVE BURGER

LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

Heart shaped Certified Angus Beef patty on potato roll, topped with cheddar cheese, red onion, purple cabbage, tomato & Cupid sauce.

February Special: \$7

COMANCHE BURGER CO.

COMANCHE NATION CASINO

SHOT TO THE HEART

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
FEBRUARY 3-25
7PM-11PM

WIN UP TO \$500 CASH!

Take Your Best Shot To Win Big!

Come play Skee Ball at the River to win up to \$500 Cash and \$100 Comanche Credit. Earn E-drawing entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 8AM-11PM, February 1-25. Drawings every 30 minutes.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

T-SHIRT TUESDAYS

FEBRUARY 7-28 • 9AM-10PM

Every Tuesday, earn 25 points to receive your T-shirt!

Heart Baker

MONDAYS
FEBRUARY 6-27
10AM-11PM

You'll Love Baking With Our Gifts!

Earn 200 points on Mondays to receive a gift beginning February 6-27.

While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

FEBRUARY \$5 DRINK SPECIALS

- LOVE POTION #9**
Coconut Rum, Peach Schnapps Liqueur, Pineapple Juice & Cranberry Juice
- BE MY VALENTINE**
Vodka, Watermelon Puree & Sierra Mist
- LOVE SPELL**
Coconut Rum, Orange Juice & Grenadine
- PINKITY DRINKITY**
Vodka, Splash of Strawberry Puree & Soda Water

PLAY & STAY

HIT THE JACKPOT, THEN HIT THE SACK!

Earn 250 points for a Sunday-Thursday stay or earn 500 points to stay any day!

Limit 1 per day and 3 per week. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

COMANCHE RED RIVER HOTEL CASINO

HEROES DAY

COMANCHE RED RIVER HOTEL CASINO
TUESDAYS

COMANCHE NATION CASINO
TUESDAYS

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

COMANCHE NATION ENTERTAINMENT

ComancheNationEntertainment.com

SENIOR DAY

COMANCHE NATION CASINO
MONDAYS

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



Kamakutu
Comanche Love

happy
Valentine's Day

from the Comanche Nation PIO/News

**ON-SITE
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onsitecprfirstaid.com
onsitecprfirstaid@gmail.com
405-829-2008

**ATTENTION COMANCHE
TRIBAL MEMBERS**

**TRUST LAND OFFERING
ALLOTTEE: 808 U no. 009500**

**DESCRIPTION OF FRACTIONATED LAND
SEC TOWNSHIP RANGE
COUNTY ST MERIDIAN 4
002.OOW TILLMAN OKLA INDIAN**

30/90 OF 156.79 ACRES. \$76,000

**CONTACT INFO:
KGB2913@AOL.COM**

**15/90 OF 156.79 IS ALSO
AVAILABLE IF INTERESTED.**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTE-
RIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**

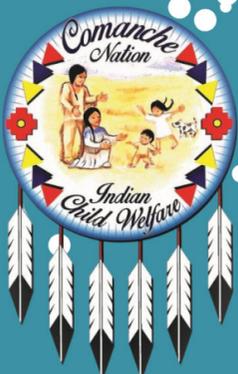
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Nate@keystoneroofing.construction
OK Roofing Reg. #80004231



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COMANCHE CHILDREN**



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NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS



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2617 S. Robinson-OKC, OK
www.deanspawn.com
405.239.2774
"OKC's Oldest Pawn Shop"

2023 Comanche County High School Basketball Tournament (Boys)



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff



*Jade Kechum
Fletcher High School*



*Julen LeGrand
Chattanooga High School*



*Connor Daly
Geronimo High School*



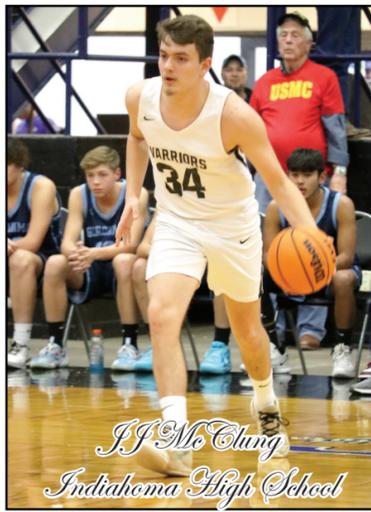
*Joseph McCarthy
Geronimo High School*



*Scotty Miller
Geronimo High School*



*Nate Anderson
Sterling High School*



*J.P. McClung
Indiahoma High School*



*Josyah Johnson
Indiahoma High School*



*Evan Mangua
Chattanooga High School*



*Sergio Maldonado
Geronimo High School*



*Coach McClung
Indiahoma High School*



*Christian Larue
Fletcher High School*



*Trento Locklear
Indiahoma High School*

Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

Funeral and Honor Guard Detail Ronald Parker



Courtesy Photo

Captain Ronald Parker U.S. Army

On December 19, 2022, a Funeral and Honor Guard Detail was provided for the family of Ronald Parker at the Comanche Nation Complex, Watchetaker Hall. Officiating the service was Rev. Jay Mule.

Parker served as the Photographer and Historian with the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) as he loved taking pictures of all CIVA activities and keeping and maintaining CIVA Historical documents.

He served in the U.S. Army between Nov. 21, 1967, to February 17, 1971, and earned the rank of Captain. Parker completed his Basic Combat Training at Fort Polk, La. and Advanced Individual Training as a Field Artilleryman, completed Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on Nov. 21, 1967, and served at Fort Carson, Colo., with the 5th Infantry Division.

Parker served during the Vietnam War between June, 1968, and Jan., 1970, as an Artillery Forward Observer with the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division.

His awards include six Campaign Stars, awarded the Bronze Star with/Valor Device for heroism (as noted on his DD 214), also awarded the Bronze Star twice for meritorious service, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/6 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device and three Overseas Bars, discharged at Fort Sill while serving with the 2nd Battalion, 31st Field Artillery, 4th Army, earned honorary title of *Numu Pukutsi*.

At the request of the family, CIVA Color Guards led the procession with the U.S., Comanche Nation, U.S. Army, State of Oklahoma and CIVA flags. Parker's military bio was read, Comanche Nation Police provided a firing detail and fired a round of three volley salute. Taps was sounded as his casket flag was presented and folded by the U.S. Army Honor Detail. The Comanche Nation flag was also folded and presented to his daughter.

January CIVA Monthly Meeting

On January 5, CIVA held its 1st meeting for 2023. CIVA Co-Chaplain, Monah David, opened with a prayer and the CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Opening remarks were made by CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, who thanked the Veterans, Princess, and the Auxiliary for their dedication for making FY22 a successful year.

Birthday recogni-

tions were made to CIVA Veterans, George RedElk, Mark Davis and Auxiliary members, Suzanne Patterson and Lisa Pawlowski.

The monthly meal was provided by Auxiliary members, Christine Armstrong, and Suzanne Patterson. After the meal, a roll call was conducted by CIVA Secretary, Dominic Pawlowski, and a quorum was established.

The November Minutes, Treasure Report and the Veterans and Auxiliary reports were presented and approved. Old Business and New Business was discussed for the upcoming fiscal year.

VA proposes rule that would waive co-pays for eligible Native American and Alaska Native Veterans

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs proposed a rule that would waive copayments incurred on or after Jan. 5, 2022, for eligible American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans. Upon publication of the notice, there will be a 30-day period for the public to provide comments on this rulemaking. VA will review the comments and develop the final rule.

If finalized as proposed, eligible American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans who have submitted appropriate documentation to the VA would no longer be required to pay copays for health care services.

The intent of this policy is to encourage Veterans to seek regular primary care treatment, which can yield better health outcomes. Copayments for more than three visits to community-based urgent care in any calendar year would still be required, as for all Veterans. Follow-up care provided by a VA-authorized primary care provider would be exempt from co-pays.

In addition, VA is proposing to make this copayment exemption retroactive to Jan. 5, 2022. If finalized as proposed, eligible American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans would be reimbursed for any co-payments paid on or after Jan. 5, 2022, upon submission of their official documentation to the Veteran Health Administration.

"American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans have played a vital role in the defense of the United States as members of the Armed Forces for more than 200 years," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "This rule makes health care more accessible and allows us to better deliver to these Veterans the care and health benefits that they have earned through their courageous service."

This regulation implements a requirement in the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 Public Law 116-315, signed Jan. 5, 2021.

Learn about VA benefits and programs for American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans and information about VA's recognition of Tribal Organizations for purposes of claim representation.

L. HOMANA PAWIKI
Tribal Government Relations Specialist | Pacific District (AZ, NM) Continental District (CO, UT)
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs | Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20420

Phone: (928) 776-5306 | Cell: (928) 308-3615 | Email: lorae.pawiki@va.gov

Website: <http://www.va.gov/TRIBALGOVERNMENT/>

The attached AR48 Proposed rule on the co-pay exemption for AI/AN Veterans is published in the federal register.

Link to the Federal Register published rule: <https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-00364>.

Service Member Spotlight

Please keep Tennyson and Darci Kerchee in your prayers as Tennyson is being deployed to Lithuania with Charlie Battery 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

Attached is Kerchee's biography as his service contribution will be updated.



Courtesy Photo

Tennyson Ray Kerchee SSG, U.S. Army

Tennyson Ray Kerchee, SSG, U.S.A 2008 (April, 1, 2008 - present), War on Terrorism (Iraq) w/B Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd field Artillery, 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division from January 2009 to December, 2009 at Forward Operating Base Warrior near Kirit, Iraq and from July-November 2011 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, took his Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training, as a Cannon Crewman at Fort Sill, has been stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, during his entire enlistment, scheduled to re-deploy to Afghanistan in June 2013, completed the Basic Leaders and Warrior Leader Courses, Korea rotation 2015 and 2017, Recruiting duties from September 2019 - March 2022 in Shawnee, Okla. Stationed back at Fort Hood, Texas 2022 and currently on his 6th rotation to Lithuania.

His awards include: the Combat Action Badge, Army Commendation, Army Achievement (5), Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Iraq Campaign w/2 Bronze Service Star and GWOT Medals, the Army Service, Overseas w/numeral 2 and NCO Professional Development Ribbons and the Meritorious Unit Citation.

Comanche Warriors War-time Service:

One Comanche served (for the U.S. Military) during the Indian Wars (1790-1890)



Courtesy Photo

Indian War medal

One Comanche served during the Spanish-American War (1898)



Courtesy Photo

Spanish-American War medal

A total of 62 Comanches served during World War I (1917-18), 23 in France, Italy, Germany and England.



Courtesy Photo

World War I medal

A total of 218 Comanches served during World War II (1941-45)



Courtesy Photo

World War II medals

A total of 143 Comanches served during the Korean War (1950-53)

A total of 103 Comanches served during the Gulf War (1990-91)



Courtesy Photo

Gulf War medals

A total of 108 Comanches served during the Afghanistan (2001-21) and Iraqi (2003-11) Wars, War on Terror Campaign.



Courtesy Photo

Korean War medals

A total of 343 Comanches served during the Vietnam War (1962-73)



Courtesy Photo

Vietnam War medals



Courtesy Photo

Afghanistan Iraqi War medals

Comanche Nation Veteran Information Needed

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association are updating the Comanche Veterans Master List. If you are an Honorably Discharged Veteran and you would like your military service updated and documented, please email Kevin Pohawpatchoko at k_pohawpatchoko@yahoo.com. Your military service history, documents, records, photographs and your DD-214 will be forwarded to Dr. Bill Meadows, Missouri State University, Department of Sociology-Anthropology/Native American Studies. He and his staff will digitize your military documents and update our Comanche Veterans Master List. Our Comanche Veterans military history and documents received will also help in the event of a Veterans passing. In closing, this is voluntary for the Comanche Nation Veterans and their families.

Comanche Nation Transit 25th Anniversary Celebration

Date: February 15th 2023
Time: 12PM to 1PM
Lawton Ok
We will have light refreshments!

Take a tour of the transit building and transit vehicles!
Come and celebrate 25 years of service with us!!

Open to the public and all Comanche Nation Departments are welcome!!

“He answered, ‘Have you not read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one? So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder.’”

Mathew 19:4-6

“Let me hear in the morning of thy steadfast love, for in thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to thee I lift up my soul.”

Psalm 143:8

People, Places, & Things Happening

A New Report Highlights Alarming Incarceration Rates of Native People in the U.S.

Data shows incarceration rates for native people are up to seven times higher than for white people

Submitted by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

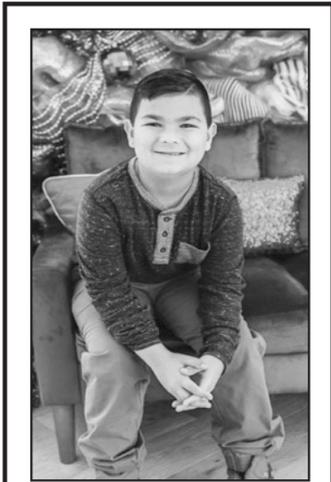
Native people are disproportionately incarcerated in the United States. Several factors contribute to a history of federal oppression and efforts to erode Native culture, a series of federal laws that rejected tribal justice systems in place long before European contact, historical trauma that has a lasting impact on the physical and mental well-being of Native people, a complicated jurisdictional structure that pulls Native people further into justice involvement, and a deficiency of representation for the accused in tribal courts. Although people accused of a crime in tribal courts are afforded the right to counsel, tribal governments are not constitutionally required to provide appointed counsel for the indigent. As a result, there are uncounseled convictions in tribal courts used against Native people in state and federal systems.

There are 574 federally recognized tribal governments in the United States, each with its own culture, sovereign government, the justice system, and historical relationship with the United States government. For this reason, interventions meant to address the over-incarceration of Native people should start at the tribal level. Tribes could impact disparity on a national level by providing supportive and restorative services for those involved in their own justice systems. Tribes could impact disparities by providing public defender services, in particular, the holistic public defense that employs a restorative approach. A holistic model of public defense addresses the issues that contribute to people's involvement in the criminal justice system and the collateral consequences of criminal charges

and convictions. Providing services that address underlying needs results in improved life outcomes that predictably result in less criminal justice involvement. This article highlights the Tribal Defenders Office (TDO) for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes which has implemented holistic defense in a tribal setting.

Initially modeled after the Bronx Defenders, the Tribal Defenders' holistic defense practice aligns with tribal values by going beyond the criminal case to view the accused as a whole person with a range of legal and social support needs that if left unmet will continue to push them back into the criminal justice system. Over the years, the Tribal Defenders' team has worked to integrate into the community, listen to feedback from clients and the community, and refine the program accordingly. Through twelve years of integrated practice, TDO staff learned several lessons that have shaped their success: services come first, invest in culturally relevant research and services, listen to clients and the community, and adhere to cultural safety.

Although the article promotes the holistic defense of the indigent as a solution to inequities facing justice-involved Native people, it also highlights other promising practices. Tribal systems have access to national organizations that support their efforts to address criminal justice challenges. There are tribal courts, victim services, probation departments, and reentry programs that have taken traditional restorative principles and applied them in innovative ways to promote healing, wellness, and community safety.



Courtesy Photo

LOCKHART VOTED SENSATIONAL CITIZEN. Tribal member Lennox Lockhart was voted as the second grade's Sensational Citizen of the second quarter. He is a direct descendant of Quannah Parker and the great grandson of Ann and Marsey Mahsetky. Lockhart enjoys playing soccer and basketball leagues and makes good grades in school.

Follow the Comanche Nation Public Information Office on Social Media:



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MMIW Movement Must Tell the Truth about Missing and Murdered Indian Men

Males make up the majority of missing and murdered Indian persons

Reports from the Department of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control reveal that men and boys represent a majority of missing and murdered Indian persons.

In 2022, the U.S. Department of Justice NamUs database revealed that 79 American Indians or Alaska Natives were reported as missing. A majority of these persons were men or boys: 42 males and 37 females.

The Centers for Disease Control reports that 75% of all Indian homicide victims are males. Nearly identical percentages of male and female Native Americans have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetimes: 81.6% of males and 84.3% of females, according to the Department of Justice.

In Washington State, for example, 27 American Indians went missing from 2000 to 2022: 13 males and 14 females. One of these persons was Matthew Dean, a member of the Makah Indian Tribe. He was last seen on January 14, 2020. Matthew Dean remains missing to this day.

In response, Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson established the "Washington State Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and People (MMIWP) Task Force". Take note of the group's name -- no mention of "men," only the de-gendered term, "people."

Accordingly, the most recent report of the Task Force highlights "women" 80 times, and mentions "men" only seven times. The report acknowledges that homicide is the "fifth leading cause of death for Indigenous men," but artfully omits the fact that homicide is the seventh leading cause of death for Indian females.

Revealing that disparity would expose the inconvenient truth that homicide is a greater problem for Indian men.

Following the recent meeting of the Washington State Task Force, one media account stated, "Murder is the third-leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women, and Seattle has the highest number of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls of American cities based on available data".

In years past, government officials and media accounts turned American Indians into non-persons. The travesty of discrimination continues to the present day, but with a new twist. Erasing the existence of missing and murdered boys and men is sexist, unfair, and wrong.

Courtesy Photo

HOLLIJO HARVEY SELECTED FOR THE CADDO COUNTY ALL-TOURNAMENT BASKETBALL TEAM. Hollijo Koassachony Harvey is the daughter of Wendy Koassechony Harvey and Jordan Harvey, grand-daughter of Keith and Ann Koassechony, Aniol, and the late Joe Harvey, is a freshman at Boone Apache High School.

2022 LARGE WEST ALL STATE SELECTION

AAA
THE NAT. ALL STATE ALL STAR

Dear TCNN

Letter to the Editor

Dear TCNN,
A Proposed Council Resolution for a HUD Elder Housing Project
 01/19/23

Another Project to add to the list of 14 Proposed Council Resolutions:

15. The Council directs the CBC to hire a consultant to develop a HUD Section 202 Elder Housing Project Application/Proposal.

The CBCs should work with the Council to do positive projects, like a Housing Project for about 15 units for homeless Elders. A Council Resolution and Referendum Vote would support this Project if passed. Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) and a deadline is printed in the Federal Register for free federal funds. Gene Pekah, Daniel Moore, and I did one in 1989 that was fundable but not approved because of the location by

the ballpark, which did not exist then. The cost of the project was \$777,000 of free federal grant funds. The cost is more than twice that amount now.

Ask Gene or Daniel, who stayed up two nights in a row without sleep to meet the deadline. We needed a different location (possibly the trust land North of the Police Station, which we may be able to purchase). And to revise the proposal and resubmit it. Trump took the funding away from the Section 202 Programs and the CDBG grants. We should buy land for funding and resubmit the proposal if funding is available now. The City of Lawton had to resubmit its 202 proposals twice to get them funded at the 10th and C locations. Lawton has another 202 Elder Housing Units at 1505 SW 11th. In addition, if there is money for CDBG grants available, we should hire

someone for our Capital Improvement Program. A person who can do these types of HUD proposals. We have lost millions by not doing CDBG grants for the past 30 or more years.

The CN Housing Authority Director is familiar with a Section 202 program for the Choctaws. Talked with him about this proposed project at an Elder Council Meeting on April 5, 2022. The project requires setting up a board. Maybe the Housing Authority Board, the Elder

Council Board or set up a new board. Must contract with an architect to do the drawings to provide for the units, an office, and handicap access.

The Grants Director & Computer Specialist has worked on the submission of federal proposals. She is familiar with the Federal

Register and federal submission procedures. If a proposal is not funded, it can be revised and re-submitted until approved, like the City of Lawton. Right now, no one is working on this elder project. If not placed on our council agenda in April 2023, we will have lost another year. We could have revised & resubmitted to help our elders 33 years ago. I still have a copy of the 1989 proposal but not the architectural drawings. Changes by HUD need to be reviewed. An economic or grant planning staff may be able to do this project if hired.

NOTE: We never owned 100% of the empty Water Park or the empty building next to it, but we paid for both constructions. Remember the KCA Bingo at the Ft. Sill Indian School Gym, which we operated for a few years starting in 1989? The Comanches operated the Bingo with an

agreement with the KCA. Most of the profits were used to fund the KCA Executive Office and staff until Paul Mercer, the CEO, was convicted of stealing. When we operated the Bingo, not one penny went to an outsider except Paul Mercer. We own part of the gym, not 100%, like the water park and the building. We could start a Bingo somewhere else, but it must be on trust land with a good location and have a building, and the Nation must own it or make another agreement with the KCAiLUC. Remember the torn tent to expand the Lawton Casino? The tent could not be repaired and given away, and the aluminum was sold for scrap.

**Thomas Narcomey
 Comanche Member**

Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday!

January 8 - David Rocha
 January 8 - Unsee Chasenah
 January 15 - Gino Freselli
 January 23 - Nami Chappelle
 January 24 - Sierra Chasenah
 January 28 - Kyrian LoRenz Aitson
 January 31 - Angelina Garcia

Happy Birthday!

February - Eric DeLoera
 February - Kaleb Morris
 February 1 - Julia Rossitti
 February 1 - Mashall "Chubs" Kerchee
 February 2 - Lomsi Black
 February 2 - Rosie Motah
 February 5 - Nancy Naudi
 February 5 - Antonio Garrison "Happy 18th Birthday!"
 February 7 - Jake Beasley
 February 9 - Khloe Goombi "Happy 14th Birthday Baby! Love, your family!"
 February 9 - Thomasina Rose Akoneto
 February 9 - Tarah L. Komah Ahhaitty
 February 10 - Richard L. Komah
 February 10 - Derek Harjo Jr.
 February 11 - Richard Parker Sr.
 February 11 - Nicholas Howard Whitewolf
 February 16 - Elias Youngman
 February 17 - Lillene Suina
 February 18 - Dean Toppah
 February 23 - Gary Chasenah Sr.
 February 24 - Edwin Akoneto
 February 24 - Norman Naudi, Jr.
 February 25 - Gabriel Dalby
 February 26 - Lennox Lockhart



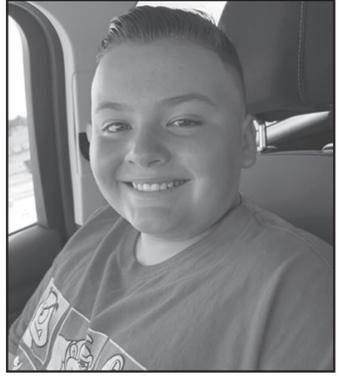
Happy Birthday
 Julia Rossitti
 February 1



Happy Birthday
 Marshall "Chubs" Kerchee
 February 1



Happy Birthday
 Lomsi Black
 February 2



Happy 12th Birthday
 Jake Beasley
 February 7

~We love you from your family.



Happy Birthday
 Thomasina Rose Akoneto
 February 9



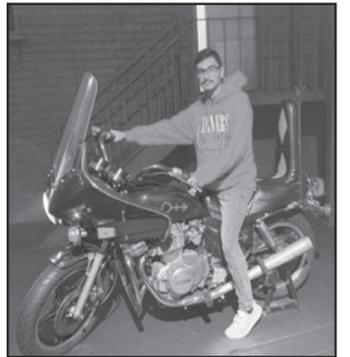
Happy 5th Birthday
 Derek Harjo Jr. "Baby Dee"
 February 10

~ Love, Mom & Dad.



Happy 71st Birthday
 Richard Parker Sr.
 February 11

~From your family with Love.



Happy Birthday
 Nicholas Howard Whitewolf
 February 11

~Love Mom Vanessa, Dad Kenny, siblings and nephew Kenneth James.



Happy 7th Birthday
 Elias Youngman
 February 16

~ Happy Birthday Bubba! We love you! From Mom and sisters.

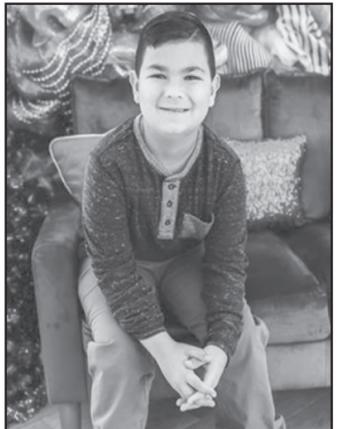


Happy 8th Birthday
 Dean Toppah
 February 18

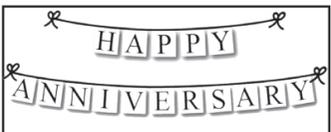


Happy 14th Birthday
 Gabriel Dalby
 February 25

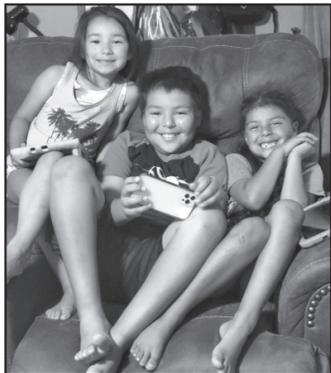
~From Mom, Jay, Riley, Nahmee all love you!



Happy 8th Birthday
 Lennox Lockhart
 February 26



Larney and Lisa Silverhorn
 February 23
 Celebrating 33 years of marriage!



Happy 11th Birthday
 Kaleb Morris
 February

~Momma and Daddy love you.



Happy 26th Birthday
 Eric DeLoera
 February



Happy Belated Birthday
 David Rocha "Dad"
 January 8

~ I pray that this year would be filled with joy, peace, and love. Hope you have a Blessed birthday. Love, your daughter Latrice.



Happy Belated Birthday
 Unsee Chasenah
 January 8

Happily Engaged

December 23, 2022



Congratulations!
 Thomasina Akoneto and
 Zachariah Quetone



Happy Belated 4th Birthday
 Gino Freselli
 January 15

~ Mommy & Daddy love you so so so much!



Happy Belated Birthday
 Nami Chappelle
 January 23



Happy Belated Birthday
 Sierra Chasenah
 January 24



Happy Belated 4th Birthday
 Kyrian LoRenz Aitson
 January 28



Happy Belated Birthday
 Angelina Garcia Aka "Nina"
 January 31

Love always, your big sister Latrice.

Obituaries

Judy Thompson



Courtesy Photo

Thompson

The beautiful Judy Thompson went on to be with her Heavenly Father, husband and son on the morning of November 9, 2022 due to multiple health conditions.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Charles Thompson and her wonderful son, William Bud Thompson.

She is survived by and deeply missed by her grandson Charles Thompson II, who she raised as her own son and his wife Angela Thompson along with their children, Aubrey & William Reed Thompson.

Thompson was an amazing lady with an amazing personality. She lit up a room and could strike up a conversation with anyone as if they were old friends. Don't think she ever met a stranger. She kept a meticulously clean house and took amazing care of her family. She wasn't a stranger to hard work. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation. She loved helping her husband tend to their yard and help with livestock. She was a loved Wife, Mother and Granny. She will be tremendously missed forever.

Gloria Ann Sayerwinnie



Courtesy Photo

Sayerwinnie

Gloria Ann Sayerwinnie, age 57, passed away November 17, 2022 in Oklahoma City. Sayerwinnie was born March 13, 1965, in Anadarko, Okla., to Elmer and Lynda Sayerwinnie.

Sayerwinnie was a beautiful woman and full of life. She loved all her children and grand kids, she enjoyed seeing them and spending quality time with each of her grandchildren and Great granddaughter. She was all they had and they were all she had, she made sure each of her kids and grand kids knew that she loved them very much.

Sayerwinnie, is survived by her five children, Dawanda Lynn Sayerwinnie, Nathaniel James Hernandez, Lena Ann Marquez, Raymond Allen Sayerwinnie, Candice Renae Guzman Sayerwinnie; 28 grand kids, Anita, Joanna, Lawrence (deceased), Teresa, Adrian, Gladis, little Nathaniel, Estrella, Rainflower(bunny), Pablo, Gabriel, Frankie, Eliza, little Raymond, Ariana, Mikey, Lluvia, Dulce, Ruby, Angel, Luis, Patricia, Anthony, Analicya, David(AJ), Catalina, Faith, Neveah; 1 great granddaughter, Esala Mae Gonzales; three surviving brothers, Elmer, Raymond, Sydney; and two deceased sisters, Margie, Cecilia.

Leha Verdejo-Cruz

Our Family has been devastated with the loss of Leha Verdejo-Cruz. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, friend and not only a daughter but my daughter.

On November 23, 2022, she took her last breath. She was just 58 years old. She was born to Mary Pe-

kah Verdejo and Ismael Verdejo on April 30, 1964. She is survived by her three children: Giovanna Cruz, Gianinna Cruz and Chlea Colon. She leaves behind her devoted husband Ramon Cruz.

Cruz always made others laugh with her silliness and always showed love to whoever she came across. She loved playing salsa music, getting her hair and nails done and spending time with her family and friends. She was a woman who loved deeply. There was never a dull moment with Cruz! Her cheerful and funny charisma will never be forgotten and she will forever be in our memories.

Cruz was one of my beloved children, who I, as her father always tried to lead her on the right path. I always tried to show her Unconditional LOVE, just as my father in Heaven has shown me. She knew of Christ Jesus and always tried to seek him! She lived in a constant eternal battle but she still refused to give up. She fought to hold on to her faith in Jesus and always spoke about how much she needed him. She never stopped trying but the battle wasn't hers to win. I believe that the Lord has shown her His Mercy and that she is at rest now.

She was my beloved daughter who I will never forget and I know many of you won't forget her either.

She will be greatly missed and she will forever be in our hearts!

Christopher Lynn Simmons



Courtesy Photo

Simmons

Christopher Lynn Simmons, was called home to his Heavenly Father on November 30, 2022. Simmons was born on December 18, 1987, to Tommy Corriveau and Suzanne Simmons at the Lawton Indian Hospital in Lawton, Okla.

Simmons attended his earlier school years at Apache Public Schools. He later received his GED and completed two years at Cameron University, majoring in Physics. He continued his education and received his certificate and license in Medical Horticulture. He was a proud Comanche Tribal Member and even worked for the Comanche Firefighters. Simmons' fun, loving, silly spirit will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his mother of Lawton; father of Colorado; Fiancé, Sierra Beaver of Pryor, Okla.; sister, Kandaniece "Kandi" Sadongei of Anadarko; brother, Bryan "Wayne" Simmons of Lawton; uncle, Gene Simmons of Apache; nephew, Easton Lee Hall of Anadarko; and countless aunts, uncles, grandparents, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by grandparents, Clifton "Pete" Simmons, Lillian Yokesuite-Simmons, Ronald Corriveau, Suzanne Neconie-Corriveau, Janelle Yokesuite-Mowatt, Winifred "Winnie" Yokesuite-Sovo, Sandra Davis, Luella Yokesuite, Clara Rose, Oscar Neconie, Oruille Neconie Sr., James Alfred Neconie, Charles Neconie, and Donna Davis; aunts and uncles, Diana Poemoceah, Richard Saupitty, Donald Sovo; cousins, Oliver "OJ" Poemoceah, Lauren "Soakie" Simmons, and Jeffery Saupitty-McClung.

Patricia Ann Jones



Courtesy Photo

Jones

Patricia Ann Jones, went to be with her Heavenly Father on December 1, 2022. She was born to Robert and Bertha Gray on October 19, 1931.

Jones graduated from Lawton High School and attended Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla. Over the years she worked for various companies as a Retailer and Bank Teller. She took pride in being a home missionary for the Southern Baptist convention.

She is survived by her four children: Cindy Yazza, Jayne Jones, Jerry Jones, and Julie Jones; along with many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Wallace Gray and Harold Gray; sister, Jean Meecham.

Funeral Service was held December 9, 2022 at Comanche Nation Funeral Home with Ross Pruitt officiating. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Tonya Marie Roulain



Courtesy Photo

Roulain

Tonya Marie Roulain, 56, of Anadarko was called home on December 21, 2022, in Oklahoma City, Okla., surrounded by family after a nine month battle with Pancreatic Cancer. She was born to Jerry and Thrisha "Pat" Roulain on October 20, 1966, in Lawton, Okla. She was the eldest of three children.

She attended school in Anadarko and Gracemont, Okla. Afterwards she made her home in Anadarko. She was married to Kevin R. Clayton and to this union three children were born, Alicia, Jessica, and Kevin Jr. Later in life she welcomed another son, Kinion with her partner Donald "Stubby" Jarvis Jr.

Throughout her adult years she held many jobs including Hallytex, Walmart, Curry's, Amazon, and Traders Steakhouse where she met and made numerous lifelong friends. Her favorite of them all was working at and running Traders Steakhouse. Throughout working in the restaurant industry, she touched many, any, lives and was known to pretty much everyone as grandma Ton or Momma Ton. She never met a stranger and whole heartedly devoted her life to her children and grandchildren. She had the kindest heart and most beautiful smile. She would help anyone that she could and would give you

the shirt off her back if she felt you needed it more than her.

She enjoyed going to the casinos with her special friends Linda Parton and Ricky Anderson. She loved to watch her grand kids play football and basketball and was their #1 fan all the way up until the end. She also enjoyed spending time with family and friends and cooking for any and everyone.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Pat Roulain; daughter, Natasha Scott; partner, Donald "Stubby" Jarvis Jr.; maternal grandparents, Ruben and Rhoda Whitebead; paternal grandparents, Howard and Ruth Roulain; uncles, Dennis Roulain, Howard "Sunshine" Roulain, David "Pete" Whitebead; aunt, Roberta Smith; and grandchildren, Kevin Luck and Bobby Jr.

She leaves to cherish her memory her children, Alicia and Anthony, Jessica and Bobby, Cheyenne and Sanina all of Oklahoma City, Kinion and Kevin Jr. of Anadarko; bonus sons, J.J. and Jeremy Vance of Anadarko and Aaron Rhodes of Oklahoma City; grandchildren, Devin, Trenton, Senee, Amare, Keiley, Jacoby, Jeremy, Attikus, Anthony Jr., Autumn, Kyrie, Adrian, Aven, and Alyssa; great granddaughter, Athena; one brother, Joel Roulain; one sister, Chassie Roulain; aunts, Verna Castillo, Lahoma Spray, LaRonda Roulain, Rolanda Blackburn, Charlene Trevino; uncles, Matthew Whitebead, Frank Roulain, and Bennie Roulain; nieces and nephews, Cheston, Daysha, Novon, Zathia, Kade, Gavin, and Saulyer.

Roulain loved and was loved by so many and will be missed by everyone who had the privilege to know her.

Viewing was held at Comanche Nation Funeral Home in Lawton, Okla., on December 28, 2022.

Services was held on December 29, 2022 at Bethel Baptist Church in Anadarko with Tom Worcester and Bobby Gonzales officiating. Interment was under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home at Murray Cemetery in Binger with a dinner to follow back at the church for family and friends.

The family would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers, kind words, memories and all the love shown throughout this difficult time.

Ronald Parker



Courtesy Photo

Parker

Ronald Parker, of Lawton went his heavenly reward on December 12, 2022.

Celebration of Life Service was December 19, 2022, at Watchtaker Hall with Rev. Jay Mule officiating. Military honors followed after service at Watchtaker Hall.

Parker was born on January 8, 1944, in Indianahoma to Baldwin and Marquerite (Tahchawwickah) Parker Jr. He graduated from Indianahoma High School and then was attending college when he was drafted to the U.S. Army.

He was inducted to the Army on November 21, 1967, and was relieved from active duty on February 17, 1971, as a Captain. He completed Basic Combat Training at Ft. Polk, La., and Advanced Individual Training, as a Field Artilleryman, completed Officer Candidate School

at Ft. Sill, commissioned a 2LT on 21 Nov 67, served at Ft. Carson, Colo., with the 51D, volunteered for Vietnam, served in Vietnam from June, 1968, to January, 1970, as a Artillery Forward Observer with the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Inf Div, earned six Campaign Stars, awarded the Bronze Star with/Valor Device for heroism (as noted on his DD 214), also awarded the Bronze Star twice for meritorious service, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/6 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device and three Overseas Bars, discharged at Ft. Sill while serving with the 2nd Battalion, 31st Field Artillery, 4th Army, earned honorary title of *Numu Pukutsi*.

Parker was a doting father and grandfather and spoiled everyone especially his grandchildren. Parker would drop what he doing to take his grand kids and their friends anywhere they desired sometimes multiple times a day. Parker loved to play bingo.

He was a proud full blood citizen of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma and a great grandson of Chief Quannah Parker. Parker was founder and director of the Quannah Parker Society, curator of Quannah Parker Museum in Quanah, Texas, and spent near 50 years brining Quannah Parker legacy to Quanah, Texas.

When he returned home in 2015 Parker was appointed as the Photographer and Historian with the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) and was loved by all. He spent long hours downloading and making files for the pictures. Parker retired from Indian Health Services after 35 years of Service. He worked Arizona, Alaska, Maryland, Denver and other places they needed IT support.

He is survived by: four children and their spouses: Cindy and Frank Famerio, Daryl and Loretta Hebb; Kim Tunnell and Randy Salinas; spouse Louella Parker; grandchildren: Prudencio, Noa, Francisco, Shiann, Mario, Quannah, Nieve, Jess, Buddy, Jacob, Ethan, Randall, Austin, Nelson, Allyssa, Sara, Rosalee, Gabriel; great grandchild Isla June; siblings: Jacquetta McClung, Sandra Chestnut, Don Parker, Joyce McSwain, Ardith Leming, Debra Malone and Annette Tiddark.

He is preceded in death by: daughter Winifred Parker Vanatta; parents Baldwin and Marguerite (Tahchawwickah) Parker Jr.; siblings: Norma Guerrero, Harold Parker, Buster Parker, Timothy Parker and Vincent Parker; Paternal grandparents Baldwin and Nora (Kosechequetah) Parker Sr.; maternal grandparents Pete and Maggie (Niedo) Tahchawwickah Coffey.

A New Year's Message From Heaven

I still hear the songs I still see the lights, I still feel your love on cold wintery nights.

I still share your hopes and all of your cares, I'll even remind you to please say your prayers.

I just want to tell you, you still make me proud, you stand head and shoulders above all the crowd.

Keep trying each moment to stay in His grace, I came here before you to help set your place.

You don't have to be perfect all of the time he forgives you if you continue to climb.

To my family and friends please be thankful, I'm still close beside you in a new special way.

I love you all dearly now don't shed a tear, cause in heaven I'm spending New Years.



UPDATE YOUR DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY

The Beneficiary form allows for you to choose the recipient of the remaining Per Cap and/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 estate law of Oklahoma 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 Assistance at (877)585-4177.

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jessie knight

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Savings Accounts
To Start Saving
With Every Debit
Card Swipe.

