



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 4

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Tama M̄na (April) 2023

## Trial District Court Will Begin Implementing Jury Duty

Submitted by Comanche Nation Court Staff

Some of you will receive a summons in the mail informing you that you have been chosen to report for jury duty. Upon receiving a jury summons, you may feel inconvenienced or uninterested in participating. For some, being selected for this duty may feel more like a burden than a privilege. You may have to miss work for a day or two, scramble to find childcare, or completely rearrange your schedule. However, there are relatively few instances when most of us in life can really make a significant difference in our community. Serving on a jury is one of those instances.

What you do on that jury impacts not only the parties to the lawsuit but also their families and the community. If you were a party in a jury trial, you would want someone who could be fair and objective. You should afford others the same respect. Juries are an integral part of our justice system. They are used in criminal and civil cases with the same goal: determining truth and the fair and equitable application of the law. In a jury trial, the judge determines the law to be applied in the case while the jury decides the facts. Thus, jurors become a part of the court itself. Jury service helps to support fairness in trials by providing impartial viewpoints from individuals, your peers, who are selected from the community.

To be eligible for jury service in the Comanche Nation District Court on a criminal case, the current Code of Criminal Procedure provides that an individual must be a resident within the boundaries of the Comanche Nation Indian Country, i.e., Service area (seven counties), and at least 18 years of age, regardless of race or tribal citizenship. Non-Indians and non-member Indians residing within the Comanche Nation's service area will likely have some tie to the tribe, either through employment, housing, marriage, etc.

A jury consisting of a fair cross-section of the community is important to the Comanche Nation and its court. Past U.S. Supreme Court decisions have severely limited the authority of Indian tribes to prosecute non-Indians and non-members in tribal court. While the U.S. Congress has acted to lessen these restrictions, it is important that tribal courts demonstrate that all persons, even non-members, can receive a fair trial by a jury of their peers. Tribal courts can show this by having a juror pool drawn from a fair cross-section of the community that doesn't systematically exclude any group, including non-Indians. A tribal court that meets these challenges contributes to the sovereignty of the tribal government and lessens the incentive for the U.S. Supreme Court to impose more restrictions on tribes.

Receiving a jury summons does not automatically mean you will serve on a jury. You will report to the court as ordered to go through the jury selection process, where only six individuals and one alternate will actually serve on the jury for a particular trial. When you report as summoned, you will become part of the jury pool — a group of randomly selected prospective jurors. The judge may question this group to find those who should be excused from jury service. A smaller number of those in the pool are then called up to sit in

See JURY DUTY, Page 4

## Rita Coosewoon Receives the Lucille McClung Lifetime Achievement Award



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche elder and language advocate, Rita Coosewoon, receives the Lucille McClung Lifetime Achievement Award from the Comanche Language and Culture Preservation Committee (CLCPC) during the March 4 Comanche Business Committee Meeting, held at the tribal complex. She received the award for her lifetime dedication to preserving the Comanche language and culture. LEFT: Coosewoon proudly holds up the award. RIGHT: Coosewoon is presented with a Pendleton blanket from Francis Monenerkit, family member of McClung, whom the award is named, and the CLCPC President, Carolyn Codopony.

## Adequate Housing Can Sustain Culture and Address Homelessness

Submitted by Nora Sovo/Comanche Nation Housing

Underlying housing disparities have impacted tribal communities across the nation, leading to high rates of homelessness, displacement and generational divides. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reported that Native Americans are overrepresented in the national homeless population. While homelessness in the tribal context often refers to living with family or friends instead of living on the street, it is one of the root causes of overcrowded living conditions.

Poor living conditions can increase the likelihood of tribal members moving away from their tribal communities in search of adequate housing. Since many tribal nations lack the necessary resources to prevent this from occurring due to limited funding, it poses a great risk to their culture's strength and longevity between generations.

To break the cycle of housing instability, homelessness and culture gaps, adequate housing and supportive resources hold the key. The Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA) has recognized this growing issue and has strategically implemented several programs to prioritize Elders and assist enrolled members



Courtesy Photo

with housing.

CNHA offers assistance through its rental program, student housing program, homeownership lease purchase program, home improvement program, elder home rehabilitation program, elder outreach program and down payment and closing cost grant program.

"Housing affects many aspects of life. If we can improve housing for our tribal members, we can help them improve their overall quality of life," said Russell Sossamon, executive director of CNHA. "The majority of our programs are in place to combat homelessness, displacement and overcrowding. Our team is focused on strengthening our community through housing assistance to promote longevity for generations to come."

Serving more than 2,000

Comanche Nation members last year, one recipient credits CNHA's student program for helping him through his journey with homelessness. "CNHA not only supported me through college, but they helped me get on my feet at a time where I was homeless, staying on friends' couches and struggling to figure things out," said Major Pewenofkit.

Since the majority of our programs are dependent upon funding, we strive to prioritize the programs that serve those with the greatest needs and benefit the community as a whole, specifically our Elder programs. "Prioritizing Elders is one of the greatest ways to directly strengthen our culture and ensure persistency," said Sossamon.

Last year, the Elder programs reached a record amount of tribal members, supporting more than 1,400 Elders. "Our housing authority has made my house truly feel like home. Knowing that I have a safe roof over my head and access to reliable resources, gives me the assurance I need to focus on other areas of life," said an Elder of Comanche Nation and previous recipient of CNHA's Elder Program.

See HOUSING, Page 4

## Tax Commission to Collect Oil & Gas Taxes from Outside Operators

Submitted by Wenona Journeycake/Tax Commission

The Comanche Tax Commission was created in April 1995. From inception, the Tax Commission was created to enforce and administer all Tribal tax laws. Among the duties of the Tax Commission is to "assess, collect, and issue receipts for such taxes as are imposed by Act or Ordinance of the Business Committee..." (Sec. 204, (a) of Comanche Tribe General Revenue and Taxation Act of 1995).

In November of 2021, Mr. John David Wahnee/CN Business Committee Secretary/Treasurer, stated in an article posted in The Comanche Nation News that protecting our people's resources is of the highest regard, to be only behind the protection and safety of its people. Included in this article was information framing the responsibilities of the Comanche Nation's Oil & Gas department and the importance of collecting Severance Tax Revenues, which include; billing and collection of current oil and gas severance taxes (in addition to taxes that are in arrears) access fines and penalties to non-complying producers, cancellations of non-productive leases, and to engage with new producers willing to invest in production.

Beginning in March of 2023, with the assistance and guidance of Bernard Allen-Bey of Natural Resources Research, the Oil and Gas department of the Tax Commission will begin reaching out to producers that have collected and intend to collect resources from Comanche Nation trust lands. The Tax Commission will begin with a specific area of trust lands and will expand efforts accordingly throughout this project of collection of taxes, license fees, and application for licenses.

It is important to note that the collective efforts of the Tax Commission for the Oil and Gas Severance Tax revenues are specifically for Operators, Producers, and Leases. These enforcement priorities are not directed at tribal members. The goal is to make these Operators, Producers, and leases accountable to the taxation law and to gain revenue on these resources since the beginning of the Taxation Act.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Wenona Journeycake at the Tax Commission at (580) 595-3313.



### NOTICE:

Resolutions for General Council must be submitted by 5 p.m. April 10, to be placed on the General Council's agenda. Forms for resolutions can be requested from the Elections Office at (580) 492-3544 or at elections@comanchenation.com.

COMANCHE NATION | 2023

# ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2023  
WATCHETAKER HALL  
COMANCHE NATION HEADQUARTERS  
LAWTON, OKLAHOMA

DOORS OPEN: 9:00 A.M.  
MEETING STARTS: 1:30 P.M.  
(IF QUORUM IS ESTABLISHED)

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## THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Tama M̄ra (April) 2023  
New Spring 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 May edition is 5 p.m., April 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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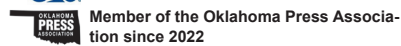
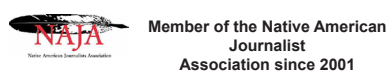
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# Government

## Nine Resolutions are Presented at March 4 CBC Meeting

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**Editor's Note: This is an overview of the March 6, 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.**

The Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. The Secretary/Treasurer, John Wahnee, conducted a roll call. Comanche Business Committee (CBC) No. 2, Ross Kahrahr, was absent during the roll call. A quorum is established. Wahnee did the invocation.

CBC No 3, Alice Kassanavoid, motions to approve the February 4, CBC meeting. CBC No. 1, Hazel Tahsequah seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Executive Officer Reports**

Chairman, Woommavovah thanked Vice Chairman, Dr. Cornel Pewewardy for conducting a professional CBC meeting in February when he was out sick. He reported that he attended all required meetings. He had the opportunity to go before Congress Department of Agriculture with the Food Distribution Director, Jamie Prouty, and 15 tribes from across the US. They discussed issues and concerns about the Food Distribution process. He attended the National Congress of the American Indian (NCAI) State of the Nations Address. He met with the NCAI President to discuss building partnerships with the federal government and tribal leaders and hear lessons learned dealing with Congress.

Vice Chairman, Pewewardy reported that he attended all the required meetings and was invited to the University of Oklahoma Native Nations Institute to be on a panel that discussed protocols and engagements with tribal nations in Oklahoma. He said he gave his overview of how to respond to engagements culturally. He said that they talked about the structural inequalities in education on a national level. Locally, he said he is a part of the Mayor of Lawton's Council's mission on race relations. The Cheyenne Arapaho community contacted him about creating their charter school, and he will work with them to help them reach that goal. He added that it is a great endeavor for their self-determination.

Secretary/Treasurer, Wahnee reported he carried out the duties of the Secretary/ Treasurer as stated in Article XII of the Comanche Nation Constitution, "Duties of Officers," Sections Three (3) and Four (4). He has been monitoring the requirements of meeting the annual audits, and all audits are current. He worked with the Tribal Administrator, Julia Mantzke, on getting the tribal audits to the newspapers which were published. He also reviewed the financial office and the Tax Commission operations and will make a motion to consolidate the finance office with the Tax Commission; the justification is that the finance office has not had a director for eight months. The Tax Administrator has multiple degrees in finance. He said combining both will help bring better services to the Nation. Wahnee makes the motion to consolidate the finance office with the Tax Commission. Kassanavoid seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

He also reported that the ARP has assisted in the following: General Assistance – 33%, \$36,457,843.18; Food Assistance – 44.26%, \$4,399,728.38; School Assistance – 54%, \$557,712.05; Home Repairs – 34%, \$35,500,000; and Rental Assistance – 92%, \$9,500,000. This totals 83% expended on Comanche people.

**Committee and Board Reports**

Indian Health Board- CBC No. 3 – Kassanavoid reported that IHS renovations are continuing in Pharmacy and are expected to be completed by November of this year. The next project will be working on the Emergency Room. If tribal members have a complaint or concerns, they must contact the Patient Advocate.

Cow-Calf Program- CBC No. 4 – Robert Komahcheet reported the program has the following: 72 cows; 23 bull calves, 25 heifers; 15 steers; and one bull, totaling 136 head of cattle. They are planning on pulling the first steers for processing.

Tax Commission- Secretary/ Treasurer – Wahnee reported that the Tax Commission has a net position of \$2,642,499. They welcome Wynona Journeycake as the new Oil and Gas Supervisor.

KCAILUC-Chairman – Woommavovah reported they are updating land leases and working on future economic development projects on KCA land. The KCA Board approved the Comanche Academy PTA 5K Fun Run and Bubble Walk on April 4 at the Ft. Sill Indian School in Lawton. They will soon be interviewing for the KCA Director position.

Comanche Nation Housing Authority- CBC No. 3 – Kassanavoid reported that the Elders Outreach Assistance has reached over 1,200 contacts as of February 2023. They are waiting on BIA funding to begin a new program for out-of-area tribal members, which will be a one-time assistance for home repair. Once the funds are received, there will be announcements to apply for it.

Enterprise- CBC No. 3 & No. 4 – Kassanavoid reported their annual meeting on February 25 at Watchetaker Hall. Board members in attendance were Billy Komahcheet, Alice Kassanavoid, and Robert Komahcheet. CBC in attendance were John Wahnee, Alice Kassanavoid, Robert Komahcheet, and Ross Kahrahr. They gave updates on the Comanche Nation Construction and Numunu Staffing.

**Resolutions**

**Resolution No. 20-2023-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1278 – Wahnee motions to approve the resolution. Kassanavoid seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 21-2023-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1279 Adults - Kahrahr motions to approve the resolution. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 22-2023-** ECDC Outdoor Playground Resolution - Kahrahr motions to approve the resolution. Kassanavoid seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 23-2023-** Realty Carry Over Funds Resolution - Kassanavoid motions to approve the resolution. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 24-2023-** Transportation Additional Route Resolution - Kassanavoid motions to approve the resolution. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 25-2023-** CIP Property and Procurement Building Resolution - Kassanavoid motions to approve the resolution. Wahnee seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

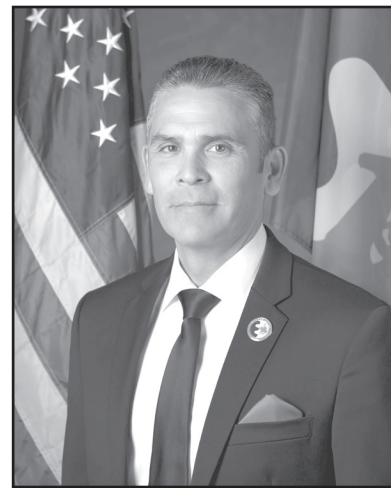
Anthony Jones of Dorsey and Whitney LLP was introduced.

**Old and New Business**

Tribal member Tanisha Cable Burgess questioned the letter of removal from the interim election board she received from the CBC. A lengthy discussion followed about the events that led to the letter. Kahrahr makes a motion to have an investigation done and to suspend Woommavovah until the investigation is completed. Pewewardy seconds it.

See MARCH CBC MEETING, Page 4

*From the Chairman's Desk*

**The Law of Influence: It's about OTHERS**

*The true measure of leadership is influence – nothing more, nothing less. ~ John C. Maxwell*

This law states that the greatness of a leader is not measured by the position one has but by the amount of lives one influences. Without influence, you will never be able to lead others.

No matter what we think or do, we all lead. We all have people in our lives that look up to us and follow our lead. Some lead on a higher scale, and some on a smaller scale. Despite how big or small your influence is, you are a leader. The question you need to ask is not, 'Am I a leader?' but 'What type of leader am I?'

There are great leaders, and there also are some very bad leaders. If you are a bad leader, your leadership will be in the lower levels because you can only influence those who are in the lower leadership level themselves. There are seven major areas you must look into to evaluate your leadership.

**1. Character – Who you are**  
True leadership always begins within a person. You don't attract people you WANT, you attract people who you are ALIKE. There are many great leaders who lost their influence simply because they neglected the importance of character. Back when I was in my early twenties, I was heavily involved in some key positions in my Army career. The expectations of my character and how I lead my unit were at the forefront of my mind, and I chose to lead with character. Character matters. If you want to increase your leadership level, you MUST focus on character. Choose to be more than what others expect from you. It might seem hard in the moment, but it's always worth it in the long term.

**2. Relationships – Whom you know**  
Leadership depends on relationships. The deeper the relationships, the stronger the leadership potential. Build enough of the right kinds of relationships with the right people, and you can become a real leader in an organization. Relationships are always a high priority for me. I go the extra mile and choose to smile at people, stretch out a hand, and ask a question instead of waiting for someone else to come to me. Stop hiding behind your excuses and choose to reach out to others. Choose to make a difference!

**3. Knowledge – What you know**  
Information is vital to a leader. Even though knowledge won't make you a leader, it's necessary if you want to become a great leader. Do your homework, and spend time getting to know your people, your environment, your team, and your community before you try to lead.

**4. Intuition – What you feel**  
You need to know that leaders recognize and influence intangibles like energy, morale, timing, and momentum. Leaders always choose the higher road.

**5. Experience – Where you've been**  
The greater the challenges you've faced as a leader in the past, the more likely followers are to give you a chance in the present. Just like knowledge, experience doesn't make you a leader but expands your leadership level once you have it. I could talk for days about my own experiences as a young leader. I started to lead early, in my teenage years. And I made some mistakes. But instead of giving up, I chose to learn from my mistakes, improve and turn my mess into a message. You, too, can learn to lead. Your past failures don't prove anything other than that; you're on a journey. Don't give up, and you WILL get better!

**6. Past success – What you've done**  
Nothing speaks to followers like a good track record. I had no track record when I started to lead as a teenager. But by constantly learning, trying, and improving, I have established a great track record and career. More than 30 years later, I am still running and servicing thousands of our Comanche People and our community. Since then, I've built my own (successful) track record with many other organizations, teams, and individuals around the globe. The longer you lead and the more you improve, the more successes you'll collect along the way. You will grow the number of people who pay attention to your actions. Choose to build your house slowly, with integrity, and you will reap the benefits.

**7. Ability – What you can do**  
The bottom line for followers is what a leader is capable of. They want to know that you can deliver. Over the years, I've learned that it's not too hard to surprise people positively. About 80% of people out there fail to deliver on their promises. We live in a society where people have big mouths but empty hands. If you choose to fulfill the expectations, people will notice. But if you go the extra mile and go above and beyond, you will end up among the top 2% who exceed expectations. People like that because they live at a higher standard and can be counted on. They don't over-promise to please people. They know how to say 'no' to the good so that they can focus on the 'great.'

If you can't influence people, then they will not follow you. And if people don't follow, you are not a leader. Regardless of what anybody else tells you, remember that leadership is influence – nothing more, nothing less.

Dear GOD, you revealed to me my true level of influence on others. Show me my weaknesses, so I may submit them to You for Your grace, strengthen me to better serve You through leadership, and increase my influence with others. Teach me to be the salt in the light to others, not to benefit myself, but to add value to others. And above all empower me to place my family first when it comes to leadership. Let my influence begin with modeling a faithful life. Amen.

To your success, Comanche Strong-Stronger TOGETHER!

URA,  
Chairman Woommavovah

**Comanche Nation Court  
WILLS CLINIC  
10 A.M. - 2 P.M., April 22  
at the Comanche Nation  
Tribal Court Building  
Comanche Nation Complex**

# Comanche Cache Casino Appoints New General Manager

Longstanding team member Shandi Tahhahwah selected to operate gaming property

Comanche Cache Casino has announced the appointment of longtime team member Shandi Tahhahwah, who is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation and has spent the entirety of her 15-year career with Comanche Nation Entertainment, as its general manager.

“As we continue expanding and providing both jobs and economic growth to our communities, Shandi’s dedication to consistently improving overall customer experience and innovating operations has directly supported our efforts,” said Mia Tahdooahnippah, CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment. “She has a proven track record of success and the skills to lead our company in the right direction.”

In her new position, Tahhahwah is responsible for overseeing all casino departments and operations, supervising team members and establishing collaborative work environments, determining company goals and managing financial operations.

Tahhahwah joins Comanche Cache Casino from her role as operations manager at Comanche Nation Casino. Since joining the company in 2007, she has held a variety of titles across three different properties, including marketing manager and internal auditor with the Comanche Nation

Gaming Commission, where she also contributed to writing the Tribal Internal Control Standards (TICS).

“I am proud to work with executives like Shandi, who demonstrate our Comanche leadership and culture, and bring the Comanche Numunu (family) spirit to our properties,” said Tahdooahnippah. “When you walk in any of our properties, you will always know you’ll have a good time and feel like family.”

**ABOUT COMANCHE NATION ENTERTAINMENT**  
Comanche Nation Entertainment operates Comanche Nation Casino in Lawton, Comanche Red River Hotel Casino in Devol, Comanche Spur Casino in Elgin, Comanche Star Casino in Walters and Comanche War Pony Casino. Comanche Cache Casino is scheduled to open in 2022. Its Comanche Travel Plazas, Smoke Shops and Quick Stops are located throughout Southwest Oklahoma.

True to its tribal heritage, Comanche Nation Entertainment is committed to family. It treats its team members like family and supports vital community services in the towns where it operates. Its mission at all of its properties is to provide a fun and exciting experience for guests, a safe and rewarding environment for team members and prosperity for the Comanche Nation.

For more information on Comanche Nation Entertainment properties, visit [www.comanchenationentertainment.com](http://www.comanchenationentertainment.com) or follow the company on Facebook.



Courtesy Photo Tahhahwah



Courtesy Photo

## Comanche Academy Students Receive Spring Break Meals

Comanche Cares coordinates donation drive with local businesses

Comanche Cares, a community giving initiative by Comanche Nation Entertainment, ensure students at the Comanche Academy Charter School have food during Spring Break.

Comanche Nation Entertainment CEO Mia Tahdooahnippah offered thanks to the many organizations that donated food, gift cards, money, and food bags for the students, including Spotted Feather, Imperial, Indian Nation, Bears Den Charitable Foundation, City Mart, and Walmart. “Supporting our community and students is a top priority for us, and we’re so grateful to our community partners for their support,” said Tahdooahnippah.

Comanche Cares regularly donates to food initiatives in Southwest Oklahoma, where Comanche Nation Entertainment operates six gaming establishments, a hotel, Travel Plazas, Quick Stops and Smoke Shops. “We understand the need for food can have a tremendous impact in our communities,” said

Tahdooahnippah. In 2021, The Regional Food Bank said 208,110 children and more than 500,000 people in Comanche County dealt with food insecurity.

Kristi Gonzalez organized the Operation Manager of Comanche Smoke Shops food drive to combat students’ food insecurity during the break. “What started as a request for a few hundred dollars was met with an overwhelming response totaling \$4,000 in food and monetary donations,” said Tahdooahnippah.

Donations included non-perishable food items, reusable bags, baskets, and monetary donations.

To learn more about Comanche Nation Entertainment, visit [www.comanchenationentertainment.com](http://www.comanchenationentertainment.com). For more information about Comanche Academy, visit [www.comancheacademy.com](http://www.comancheacademy.com).

**ABOUT COMANCHE CARES**  
Comanche Cares is a community-giving initiative from Comanche Nation Entertainment. Comanche Cares organizes charitable events year-round, with drives for school supplies, food, and toys. For more information, visit [www.comanchenationentertainment.com](http://www.comanchenationentertainment.com).

## HOUSING

Continued from Page 1

As servants to the Comanche Nation, CNHA’s initiatives seek to better the lives of fellow tribal members and address the issues that pose the greatest threat to the community. We currently serve seven counties, including Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Kiowa, Tillman for federal grant programs and in Stephens and Grady for the elder and home improvement programs.

To learn more about CNHA’s housing initiatives, call (580) 357-4956 or visit [www.comanchehousing.com](http://www.comanchehousing.com).

## WIOA Announces Annual Career Fair

The Comanche Nation Workforce (WIOA) will have its annual Career Fair 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., May 12, at Cameron University’s McCasland Ballroom, located at 2800 W. Gore Blvd., Lawton.

There will be numerous colleges and military representatives present, as well as refreshments, and door prizes. WIOA staff asks participants to bring their resumes and dress to impress and be ready to interview for work positions. The event is open to the public. For more information, call WIOA, (580) 492-3257 or email: [workforce@comanchenation.com](mailto:workforce@comanchenation.com).

## MARCH CBC MEETING

Continued from Page 3

onds the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion died in a 3/3 vote, with the chairman not voting.

Kahrahr motions to follow the resolution procedures to suspend the chairman and to have an investigation done about the removal of Burgess as an interim election board member. Pewewardy seconds it. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion failed 4/3 with Woommavovah breaking the tie.

Michael Burgess said online gaming may get passed in Oklahoma and asked does the gaming have a backup plan if it happens and the tribal casinos face a downturn in-house gaming.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to go into Executive Session.

Carol Codopony asked to be on the agenda to discuss a DHS grant and asked to make a Comanche Language and Culture Preservation Committee (CLCPC) presentation.

Codopony, the president of the CLCPC, presented Rita Coosewoon with the Lucille McClung Lifetime Achievement Award for her dedication to the Comanche language and culture. She was presented with a Pendleton Blanket.

The CBC agreed to put Codopony on the Executive Session agenda.

Kahrahr seconds the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion carries 6/0/0 at 11:38 a.m.

Pewewardy makes a motion to come out of the Ex-

ecutive Session. Wahnee seconds the motion. The Motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution 26-2023** – Transportation Dept. Emissions Grant. Kahrahr makes a motion to approve, and Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution 27-2023** – Child Care Licensing – Child Care Licensing - Kassanavoid makes a motion to approve, and Wahnee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Pewewardy motions to rescind the letter sent to Tanisha Cable Burgess dated February 17 regarding removal from the interim Election Board. Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion fails 3/4/0, with Woommavovah breaking the tie vote.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to make Fred Codynah the director of sales at the Comanche Nation Museum Gift Shop. and Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0. Kassanavoid motions to remove Tanisha Cable Burgess from the interim Election Board. Wahnee seconds the motion. The motion carries 4/3/0, with Woommavovah breaking the tie vote.

Wahnee motions to rescind **Resolution 150-2021** regarding Implementing the COVID Vaccine Mandate. Kahrahr seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

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

## JURY DUTY

Continued from Page 1

the jury box to be questioned by the lawyers. The lawyers’ goal is to eliminate those who may be biased toward the party they represent or have other background issues that could prevent a fair trial. The judge will excuse jurors who may be biased and unable to render an impartial verdict. Those remaining in the jury pool are called as needed to replace those excused at this stage and will undergo the same questioning process. To finish the selection process, the attorneys can attempt to have some choice on who sits on the jury by exercising up to four “preemptory challenges” each.

By using these challenges, the lawyers can have a juror removed even though that person made it past the prior stages of questioning. Jurors should understand that being eliminated from the jury panel during this last step does not reflect their ability or integrity. The lawyers don’t have to give a reason for removing a juror at this last step. When that last step is completed, if you are not excused, you will be placed on the jury for that trial.

The Comanche Nation’s Tribal Court looks forward to welcoming you to be a part of the court in an upcoming jury trial.

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

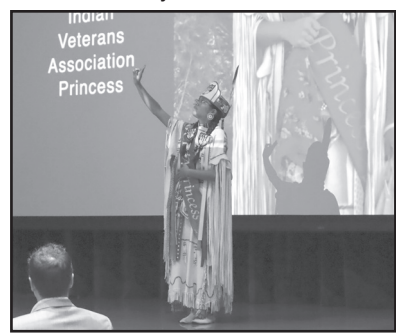
## Timeline for 2023 Comanche Nation Elections

Comanche Nation ELECTION OFFICE	
ELECTION CALENDAR DATES	
Last day to request an absentee ballot for the General Election	April 28, 2023
Early In-Person Voting (General Election) Friday	May 12, 2023
General Election Saturday	May 13, 2023
Absentee Ballots due at the Lawton Post Office by 12:00 pm	May 13, 2023
Election Certification by 5:00 pm Tuesday (3 <sup>rd</sup> calendar day if no run-off needed)	May 16, 2023
Last day to request an absentee ballot for the Runoff Election	May 26, 2023
Early In-Person Voting (Runoff Election)	June 9, 2023
Runoff Election	June 10, 2023
Absentee Ballots due at the Lawton Post Office by 12:00 pm	June 10, 2023
Election certification by 5:00 pm Tuesday (3 <sup>rd</sup> calendar day)	June 13, 2023

P.O. Box 1289 | Lawton, Ok 73502 | [elections@comanchenation.com](mailto:elections@comanchenation.com) | Ph: 877.492.4988 | [www.comanchenation.com](http://www.comanchenation.com)



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



The Oklahoma City Chapter of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma (AICCO) held a luncheon on March 8, at the First Americans Museum in Oklahoma City. Guest Speakers were Comanche Nation Chairman Mark Woommavovah and George Tahdooahnippah, CEO of Numunu Holdings. Signing the Lord’s Prayer to begin the event was the 2023 CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin, pictured. Woommavovah gave a history of the Nation and a brief State of the Nation, explaining where the Comanche Nation is today, highlighting some tribal programs, such as the language program and the Comanche Academy Charter School, and how they are embedding the language and culture in the youth. Tahdooahnippah spoke about Numunu Staffing and Numunu Construction and explained how Comanche Enterprises works with and goes after federal contracts. The men were given gifts of appreciation, pictured, and networked with other tribal leaders and business representatives who attended. Top: Comanche tribal members who attended the meeting gather for a photo.

# Programs

## Community Health Representative (CHR)/EMS/FIRE/Injury Prevention Explains Programs

The purpose of the Community Health Representative, EMS, Fire, and Injury Prevention Programs is to serve as an advocate and facilitator for individuals/families of Native American descent who reside within their service area: Comanche, Cotton, Tillman, and portions of Caddo, Jackson, Jefferson, and Stephens counties to gain access to comprehensive health, fire and injury prevention services. Currently, they are the only CHR Program that is a combination of all rolled into one. These programs go hand in hand with each other and are able to provide more services, ranging from health education, emergency care, fire support, and suppression and safety education. The CHR/EMS/FIRE/Injury Prevention has recently become an EMRA (Emergency Medical Response Agency) with the State of Oklahoma Department of Health, allowing us to render care when needed in emergencies.

The CHR program offers transport of any tribal-affiliated member to and from their doctor's appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays; tribal members must call the office in advance with their appointment dates to be on the schedule. Along with fire suppression and service calls, Comanche Nation Fire will come out and do control burns on your property, contact the office to check on dates for control burns. The Injury Prevention Program provides safety education on preventing injury by providing car seats and fire education to any tribal-affiliated member. They provide fire extinguishers and training on using one, smoke alarms, and carbon monoxide detectors. They also provide bike helmets, baby gates, and outlet covers.

For more information, contact Laura Trusty at (580) 492-3600 or by email at [laura.trusty@comanchenation.com](mailto:laura.trusty@comanchenation.com)

## Higher Education Student of the Month Krista Hubbard

Krista Hubbard, is an English PhD student who is concentrating in American Indian Literature and Cultural Studies at the University



Courtesy Photo

### Hubbard

of Oklahoma.

She is the daughter of Frank E. Hubbard and the late Gaylyn Sue "Susie" Campbell Hubbard from Lawton, Okla. She is the granddaughter of James L. Campbell and the late Anita Pennah Campbell; great-granddaughter of Jane Pennah-Hendrix and Bert Perdosophy, and Clara Leona Moses-Campbell and William "Bill" Campbell; great-great-granddaughter of Sarah *Tissy-wahwoonard* and John Pennah, and descendant of Mike Big Cow (*Co-he-Tuc-Kah*), *Tahdo-Toe*, and *So-He* Big Cow, who was a soldier scout for Troop L, 7th Calvary. She is the former Comanche Nation Princess 2011-2012, and former Comanche Indian Veterans Association Princess 2004-2011. She is also an Auxiliary member of the Comanche Little Ponies, an Auxiliary member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association, and a member of the Comanche Princess Sorority.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English at Cameron University, where she graduated summa cum laude with honors. She earned her Master of Education degree also at Cameron University. She will be graduating with her PhD this spring 2023 at the University of Oklahoma and aspire to be a university professor so that she can share her love of reading, writing, and Comanche culture with everyone. *Ura!*

## Higher Education Student of the Month Naomi Robinson



Courtesy Photo

### Robinson

She is the daughter of Frank E. Hubbard and the late Gaylyn Sue "Susie" Campbell Hubbard from Lawton, Okla. She is the granddaughter of James L. Campbell and the late Anita Pennah Campbell; great-granddaughter of Jane Pennah-Hendrix and Bert Perdosophy, and Clara Leona Moses-Campbell and William "Bill" Campbell; great-great-granddaughter of Sarah *Tissy-wahwoonard* and John Pennah, and descendant of Mike Big Cow (*Co-he-Tuc-Kah*), *Tahdo-Toe*, and *So-He* Big Cow, who was a soldier scout for Troop L, 7th Calvary. She is the former Comanche Nation Princess 2011-2012, and former Comanche Indian Veterans Association Princess 2004-2011. She is also an Auxiliary member of the Comanche Little Ponies, an Auxiliary member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association, and a member of the Comanche Princess Sorority.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English at Cameron University, where she graduated summa cum laude with honors. She earned her Master of Education degree also at Cameron University. She will be graduating with her PhD this spring 2023 at the University of Oklahoma and aspire to be a university professor so that she can share her love of reading, writing, and Comanche culture with everyone. *Ura!*

Understanding tornado terminology will help you anticipate your risk. According to the American Red Cross, "tornado watch" indicates that tornadoes are possible, while "tornado warning" confirms a tornado has been seen or detected. Tornadoes can form without much warning, but there are danger signs to look for:

- Dark skies, possibly tinted green
- A long, rotating cloud known as a funnel
- Roaring noises
- Hail
- Debris

If you see these signs and a tornado watch or warning has been issued in your area, take shelter immediately!

**Designate a Shelter**  
Establish shelter zones at home and work. If your home or office has a safe room, you already have a designated emergency shelter. If not, look for a secure place underground, like a basement or cellar. If these options aren't available, choose a small room without windows, such as a closet, on the lowest level of the structure. Once you designate a safe space, create an emergency kit to keep in the shelter so you'll have it on hand if you ever need to wait out a tornado or severe storm. These kits tend to include canned food, bottled water, essential medications, blankets, a radio, flashlights and batteries. Keep a change of clothes, a coat and spare shoes in your shelter, too. That way, you'll have everything you need if you have to hurry to safety without packing a bag.

**Practice Your Tornado Preparedness Plan**  
True tornado preparedness requires a plan. At home, make a family emergency plan and have a conversation with your loved ones about the importance of being prepared. At work, contact your Human Resources department to learn the safety procedures for tornados and other disasters, or use the guidelines from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to create a tornado response plan for your business. Practice your disaster response

Naomi Robinson, is a senior at Cameron University. She will be graduating in May 2023 with her Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education.

She is descended from Tahah, Cable, Mopope, and Tsatoke families, along with Chief Wild Horse and Chief Hunting Horse.

She plans on using her degree to start her career as an Oklahoma educator.

She hopes to make a difference in her own small way by teaching our future youth in a positive, fun, and emotionally safe environment.

## Adult Education Student of the Month Tori Brill



Courtesy Photo

### Brill

Tori Brill is 26 years old. She was born in Lawton, Okla. Her birthday is April 24, 1996. Her mother's name is Christina Apauty, and her father's name is Vandal Apauty. Her grandmother's name was Marcia San Augustine, and her grandfather's name was Manuel Portillo.

She's happily in a relationship with her best friend Harold Spottedbird.

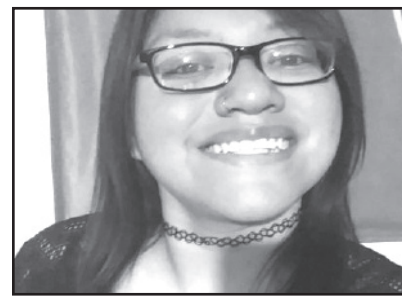
She very excited and grateful for this opportunity, seeing her name on a diploma is an accomplishment that she is honored to have. She couldn't have done it without the help of Comanche Nation Higher Education, a very special thanks to Jackie Holder and Quannah Karty for helping to motivate her and keeping her on track. Her parents and her boyfriend have been very supportive and pushed her along the way too.

If she had any advice to give she would say, "Your ability to create the reality that you want is directly determined by your willingness to experience the opposite. Saving money will make you feel broke while it's actually making you rich. Setting boundaries will make you feel alone while you're creating new

and healthy relationships in your life. Learning something new will make you feel dumb while it's actually making you more intelligent. Your ability to attain the thing you want is directly correlated with how willing you are to experience the opposite. You have to be okay with being uncomfortable to truly achieve success! I promise it will get hard, but these teachers along with having a great support system will help me along the way."

Brill can't wait to start college, she would love to work toward becoming a lawyer or going for a business management degree. She just knows whatever she does, she will keep these people in her corner and in her heart, because they have helped her achieve something she believed she couldn't. She is happy she could make everyone mentioned proud of her.

## Job Placement and Training Student of the Month Katelen Smith



Courtesy Photo

### Smith

Katelen Smith is the daughter of the late Don Smith and the late Leann Parker-Smith. She is from Anadarko Okla.

She was part of the Junior National Honor Society and National Honor Society, and graduated from high school in 2013.

Smith later attended Caddo Kiowa Technology Center for Early Childhood Development and received her CDA. After working a few years at a Headstart, she would like to return to CKTC for Digital Marketing Design.

Smith would like to complete her courses and take business classes in the future. Her goal is to have a good job and raise her family.

Smith would love to continue make apparel for herself and others.

## Prevention and Recovery Hosts Drug Awareness Training

The Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery (CNP&R) invites allied professionals, first responders, treatment providers, school administrators, social service providers, and community members to a Drug Awareness Training at the Comanche Nation Complex's Watchtaker Hall from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., on April 11, and 8 a.m. – Noon, on April 13. The address to the Comanche Nation Complex is 584 NW BINGO Rd., Lawton.

The training will include drug identification to support tribal justice and drug influence direction.

For more information, contact the CNP&R Outpatient Center (580) 357-3449 or email: [prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com](mailto:prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com).

## Child Support Services Announces Court Dates

### In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Frank Poafpybitty: CNC-SP-23-03; Petition to Determine Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- Charles Perez-Negron: CNC-SP-22-16; 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 HEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON.

# IT'S TORNADO SEASON!

## The Comanche Nation Emergency Management Offers Tips to Help Prepare Ahead of Time

### Know the Warning Signs

Understanding tornado terminology will help you anticipate your risk. According to the American Red Cross, "tornado watch" indicates that tornadoes are possible, while "tornado warning" confirms a tornado has been seen or detected. Tornadoes can form without much warning, but there are danger signs to look for:

- Dark skies, possibly tinted green
- A long, rotating cloud known as a funnel
- Roaring noises
- Hail
- Debris

If you see these signs and a tornado watch or warning has been issued in your area, take shelter immediately!

### Designate a Shelter

Establish shelter zones at home and work. If your home or office has a safe room, you already have a designated emergency shelter. If not, look for a secure place underground, like a basement or cellar. If these options aren't available, choose a small room without windows, such as a closet, on the lowest level of the structure. Once you designate a safe space, create an emergency kit to keep in the shelter so you'll have it on hand if you ever need to wait out a tornado or severe storm. These kits tend to include canned food, bottled water, essential medications, blankets, a radio, flashlights and batteries. Keep a change of clothes, a coat and spare shoes in your shelter, too. That way, you'll have everything you need if you have to hurry to safety without packing a bag.



Courtesy Photo

plans at least twice a year at home and at work. Regular drills help everyone learn the safety procedures for tornadoes, and they let you test and tweak your plan so you can be better prepared in a real emergency. Preparedness can help keep you safe if a tornado hits your town, but it may not be able to protect your property against the strength of these devastating storms.

### Sidebar Emergency Kit List

Before you begin collecting items to add to your kit, sit down and write out an emergency preparedness kit list. This will be your own personal checklist. Think about the essentials each individual in your household must have every day to keep them safe. Some items may include:

- Medications
- Eyeglasses or contact lenses and solution
- Hearing aids and batteries
- Clothing
- Food and water
- Money

If you have young children, it may be a good idea to include a favorite blanket or toy in the kit to remind them of home during an otherwise stressful time. While writing out your kit list, get your kids involved in the emergency preparedness process to help them better understand what to do if the unexpected strikes.

After listing out the essentials, think about what you may need to bring with you if you were instructed to evacuate your home. These items may include:

- Photocopies of important documents, like birth certificates, insurance information, driver's licenses and bank account information.
- Phone numbers, including family members, insurance agents, work contacts and kids' schools.

### What to Have in an Emergency Kit

Along with your personal items, there are essential items every disaster kit should have to help you and your family in the event of an emergency. Browse the following lists to determine what you and your family may need in case a tornado, hurricane or other disaster strikes your neighborhood:

- **Technology**
- Extra cell phone
- Chargers or reserve power banks
- Portable, battery-powered emergency radio
- Extra batteries

### SUPPLIES

- First aid kit
- Multi-tool pocket knife
- Flashlight
- Flares
- Non-electric can opener
- Sturdy rope
- Duct tape
- Whistle
- Blankets
- Sanitation supplies

Personalize your emergency kit to match your family's needs. For example, if you have pets or young children, you may need to add supplies that can keep protected from disasters, too.

### Where to Put Your Emergency Kit

After you've gathered all your disaster supplies, it's time to assemble your kit. Place each item into a sturdy, waterproof container. Then, store your container in a place that can be easily accessed in an emergency, like a closet near the front door or near your garage.

By building an emergency preparedness kit today, you can better prepare for tomorrow's risks.



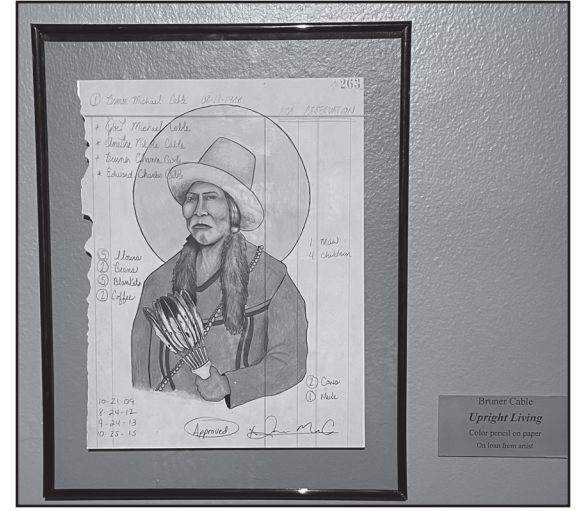
# Prevention & Recovery Recap Activities During February and March



Atticus Mathews graduated from the residential treatment program and the CNP&R team celebrated alongside other program residents on January 28 with a ceremony at the CNP&R Outpatient offices in Lawton.



On February 25, CNP&R held its third annual powwow at Watchtaker Hall at the Comanche Nation Complex. The powwow promotes sobriety and healing within the community and recognizes those recovering from addiction.



On February 23, *The Art of Recovery* showcase opened at the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center with artwork from clients in the residential treatment program. *The Art of Recovery* will be displayed for six months at the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center in Lawton.

Please join the Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery (CNP&R) team in congratulating Comanche Nation citizen Atticus Mathews on his graduation from the residential treatment program! The CNP&R team celebrated Atticus' graduation alongside other program residents and his loved ones on January 28, with a ceremony at the CNP&R Outpatient offices in Lawton. Prior to his graduation, Atticus earned his GED and has since been furthering his education at Baccane College in Muskogee. CNP&R would like to send a special thanks to the Comanche Nation Higher Education staff member Quanah Karty and CNP&R's Grant Activities Supervisor, Jay Mule, for assisting Atticus in reaching his educational goals. All at CNP&R wish Atticus nothing but the best as he embarks on these next steps in his recovery and in life.

February saw CNP&R host

two major events for the department: The Art of Recovery and Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery's Annual Powwow. On February 23, The Art of Recovery showcase opened at the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center with artwork from clients in the residential treatment program. Residential clients worked on several pieces through various mediums over a 14-week program facilitated by Circles of Care Project Director and local artist, Shailah Ramos. Using art therapeutically allowed the clients the opportunity to process feelings of depression, anxiety, and unresolved trauma. Clients received certificates at the grand opening of the showcase to congratulate them for completing the program. The Art of Recovery will be displayed for six months at the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center in Lawton. On February 25, CNP&R held its third annual

powwow at Watchtaker Hall at the Comanche Nation Complex. The powwow promotes sobriety and healing within the community and recognizes those recovering from addiction. Thanks to Comanche Nation citizens and the local tribal community, the powwow was a huge success! A total of 15 contests were held with prizes thanks to many Comanche Nation departments. Congratulations to all the contest winners, and again, thank you all who showed up and made it such a massive success! *Ura!*

March was a month heavy with trainings! On March 6, the Native Spirit Project, with help from the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board, facilitated a Talk Saves Lives training for Indianhoma educators. Talk Saves Lives is a short, 60-minute training intended to introduce the topic of suicide prevention to individuals. At the same time, CNP&R employees and

employees from Comanche Nation Child Care attended a Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) training hosted by the Native Spirit Project. Essentially, YMHFA trains adults how to discuss mental health with young people and provides tools for responding to potential mental health crises. To continue the youth focus of March, the Indigenous P.O.W.E.R. program hosted two S.T.E.A.M. camps for Native American youth. Held March 16 and March 17, at Watchtaker Hall, camp participants engaged in culturally-relevant activities like tipi building, beading, and mural painting to supplement their knowledge of science, technology, engineering, art, and math.

Look out for CNP&R in April! The Native Spirit Project and Motive for Movement Program will be hosting a community discussion about suicide prevention and substance use prevention and treatment

on April 4 at 6 p.m. at the Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Education Center in Lawton. On April 8, CNP&R will host their annual Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt at the Comanche Nation Powwow Grounds from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the community, and ALL ages are welcome! Lastly, Indigenous P.O.W.E.R. will host another parent education night on April 20. Keep up-to-date with all CNP&R does by following their Facebook pages – Comanche Nation P&R, Comanche Nation Native Spirit Project, and Comanche Nation IAMNDN.

If you or somebody you know is a tribal member of a federally-recognized tribe needing counseling services, CNP&R can help provide referral and funding assistance. If you need resources or are experiencing a mental health crisis, call or text 988 to be connected to the 24/7 confidential lifeline.

**COMANCHE NATION INDIAN CHILD WELFARE**

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**BECOME A FOSTER PARENT**

THE COMANCHE NATION NEEDS THE HELP OF THE PEOPLE. IF YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF A CHILD WHO IS UNABLE TO BE WITH THEIR OWN FAMILY, BECOME A FOSTER PARENT. PLEASE HELP US TO PRESERVE OUR CULTURE BY PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN AND THE FUTURE OF THE COMANCHE NATION.

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Comanche Nation Indian Child Welfare  
2210 W Gore Blvd.  
Suite 3  
Lawton, Oklahoma 73501  
580-492-1140

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Lawton, OK 73505

580-583-1227

Nate@keystoneroofing.construction

OK Roofing Reg. #80004231



# OTE Comanche for Tribal Attorney



**Forrest Tahdooahnippah**  
Dorsey & Whitney LLP

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Dorsey & Whitney, home of  
Forrest Tahdooahnippah

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50 South Sixth Street  
Suite 1500  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

200 Crescent Court  
Suite 1600  
Dallas, TX 75201

# *Udah, Michelle Nevequaya*

## *Comanche Nation Sr. Princess 2022 - 2023*

### *Outgoing Honor Powwow March 18*

Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff



Morgan Tosee being honored during the gourd dance session of Michelle's going out dance.



Looking emotional with tears in her eyes, Comanche Nation Princess, Michelle Nevequaya, takes one of her final trips around the drum.



Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavoh honors Nevequaya with a Comanche Pendleton Blanket and cash that was thrown in her honor.



Brother and sister duo Aaron and Alyssa Nevequaya, active duty serving in the military during the grand entry.



Young ladies participating in the Scalp Dance, a traditional Comanche dance.



Gentlemen adorned in their best to dance with the Outgoing Comanche Nation Princess.



Ronald Monoessy Jr. during the gourd dance portion of the Michelle Nevequaya Princess pow-wow.



Rare photo of the Nevequaya siblings all together in the arena for little sister Michelle's going out pow-wow.



Anthony Monoessy Sr. gives his best moves during the Straight Dance Special contest.



# Ft. Sill Honors and Celebrates 'Legacy of the Warrior and the Ft. Sill Soldier' March 9



Courtesy Photo

Ft. Sill Garrison Commander Colonel (COL) James (Jim) H. B. Peay IV. and Post Commanding General, Brigadier General (BG) Shane P. Morgan receives Pendleton blankets from Tina Emhoolah with the assistance of LTC Corrie Brice on March 9, during the "Legacy of the Warrior" luncheon.



Courtesy Photo

Students from the Comanche Academy Charter School have storytime at the "Legacy of the Warrior" luncheon to showcase their lessons in the Comanche language.

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Fort Sill honored and celebrated the camaraderie and legacy of the relationship between Native warriors and Fort Sill on March 9 with a luncheon titled "Legacy of the Warrior and the Ft. Sill Soldier," held at the Patriots Club on base.

Tina Emhoolah, coordinator and volunteer at the Fort Sill Historical Museum, said the Legacy of the Warrior and the Ft. Sill Soldier is a piece she created for the Ft. Sill museum two years ago.

"Spending time at Ft. Sill and recent events brings back precious memories. Culture, Customs, and Teachings to live by are very powerful in my personal life," she said.

"As a child, one custom I witnessed at Cache Oklahoma in the Cahoma building was Adoption. The meaning in our culture was-is direct and simple. Four brothers stood together facing the east and placed a young man before them. Everyone was instructed to be still and quiet and to pay attention. After the speech was given, the drum rendered a war dance song, and we all joined in. That man was Kiowa, grandson of Hunting Horse and Satanta, and he went on to lead his people for six terms. It didn't change his tribe or home; it was an understanding of kinship. In another Adoption, we were playing outside on the swings, and the children were called in to bear witness. We were told to remember what we see and carry it into the future. Again, facing the east to where the sun rises, God, a Comanche man from the Tahah family, became their son. It didn't change his last name or discard anyone; we understood a kinship was established. This man went on in life to retire from the Navy

and was a founder of the Quannah Parker Powwow at Ft. Worth, Texas. Throughout my childhood, I witnessed many adoptions. In my adult life, my mother and husband's kinship were established. Two Elders, one Comanche, and one Kiowa, made them brother and sister. It didn't change where they came from or take anything from anybody. Sometimes navigating the English language loses or leaves out the meaning of our Old Indian ways. In teachings living, it is to understand and preserve it. My Grandpa made a choice that made a difference for me. He took me to the teepee, to the powwow; he held me up in his arms to feel the wind and rain and watch the lightning in storms. I had special moments absorbed in a museum, reading the newspaper and storytime every night. I learned to appreciate and understand that Grandpa gave me the greatest inheritance while he was alive. Through the gift of knowledge, he was never leaving me."

Place on Ft. Sill, such as Medicine Bluff, Code Talker Hall, and the Chief's Knoll, reflects the historical relationship and impact the Comanche Nation and other tribes have had on Ft. Sill.

The luncheon began with the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache (KCA) Veterans posting the flags. Comanche Academy Charter School student, Kylo Tahsequah, recited the Pledge of Allegiance in the Comanche language.

Distinguished Guest Speakers had stories to share about their service to the country while staying rooted in their Native culture, including Gunnery Sergeant, Danielle Kenney of the Apache and Na-



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The KCA Veterans posted the flags March 9, during the Legacy of the Warrior luncheon at the Patriot Club on Ft. Sill.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

KCA Veterans Auxiliary member, Cheryl Takawana, visits with a guest during the "Legacy of the Warrior" banquet March 9 on Ft. Sill.

vajo tribes.

She was born and raised on the Ft. Apache Indian Reservation in Whiteriver, Ariz. Her first trip to Oklahoma was to attend Riverside Indian School, graduating in 2004.

"I used to dance with the Apache Club there," she recalls.

After graduating, she enlisted in the Marines.

"I enlisted in Arizona. The Marines took me to California, then to Indiana, then to Virginia, back to Arizona, Florida, and now here in Oklahoma."

While in Florida, she visited Fort Marian, where her Apache ancestors were held.

"They were first taken and then split up to Fort Marian, some went to Pensacola, and I got to take my children there, and we got a special tour. When they found out we were Apache, they took us to a separate room and showed us some extra pictures. It was pretty emotional. We went to Pensacola on my way here; we stopped to see where they were held and where they thought some of the pictures were taken. After that, we went to Alabama, where they were taken to the Alabama barracks. There is just a sign with a podium and pictures, and the place is completely closed off," Kinney said.

Now that she is in Oklahoma, she added that she is happy to have both her kids with her. She took her family to see the Apache sites on Ft. Sill.

"My mom has a master's in Anthropology, and she is fluent in Apache, so when I took her to see the gravesites, she could translate some of the names there."

Retired LTC Ronda

Williams of the Comanche Nation was also a guest speaker. She is a retired U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery officer with over 22 years of active duty, including two combat tours and one operational deployment.

Other speakers included retired SSG Kris Killfirst, who spoke about working on the deadliest attack helicopters, the Apache helicopter. Retired W4 Tony Washington of the Buffalo Soldiers and Emhoolah also spoke at the luncheon.

Indian Tacos were served for lunch. In preparation for The Legacy of the Warrior Luncheon on March 9, Emhoolah taught Chef Dany Mayberry how to make Indian Tacos.

"You should have seen the Kitchen! I was waiting for Chef Danny to come out like Arlene in "Smoke Signals," hold his beautiful cute little frybread, and pull it in half! The Patriot Club served more than 280 patrons for the Indian Taco Buffet and at least 100 more VIPs and Guests. Lawton/ Ft. Sill America, it just keeps getting better and better," Emhoolah said.

The Comanche Academy Charter School students stole the audience when they took the floor for Storytime.

The Master of Ceremonies, LTC Corrie Brice, said many firsts happened at the event, and he feels those who attended will not forget it.

"It was the first time Indian Tacos were served for a lunch buffet AND were all made by the Patriot Club Chef and staff were taught the recipe and the process by a descendant of Chief Quanah Parker. For the first time, not one but TWO teepees were placed freely in front of the

historic Patriot Club, one of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, and one of the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma. The first time the Color Guard consisted of Kiowa, Comanche, Apache KCA Veterans, an active duty US Army Soldier and a US Marine, and members of the Buffalo Soldiers Association, all carrying the Colors to the sound of Native American singing and drumming. It is the first time the Pledge of Allegiance was spoken in Comanche and English, and the first time the Lord's Prayer was spoken in Comanche and English, the first-time little children read a short story in Comanche and English. The first time a guest speaker received a standing ovation from an audience with tears in their eyes from her speech. The first time Kiowa Songs were sung to present the Colors, honoring the American Flag side by side with the flags of the Kiowa Tribe, the Apache Tribe of



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Academy Charter School student, Kylo Tahsequah, recited the Pledge of Allegiance in the Comanche language.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

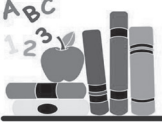
The 2023 Comanche Indian Veteran's Association Princess, Arlene Schonchin, visits with guest speaker, Gunnery Sergeant, Danielle Kinney during the "Legacy of the Warrior" luncheon on March 9.

Oklahoma, and the Comanche Nation," Brice said.

He thanked those who helped make it a success, which included The Fort Sill Museum - Noelle Scarfone and Dr. Scott Neel; The Historic Patriot Club - Tennille Russell and Chef Danny.

Fort Sill MWR and Marketing -Shelton Moore; Comanche Nation Language Department Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center Comanche Nation Prevention And Recovery Center; Apache Tribe of Oklahoma; KCA Indian Veterans Organization; Buffalo Soldiers Association; Fort Sill Garrison Command Team; and the United States Army Field Artillery School PAO - Judy Oman.

The hope of growing partnerships was expressed by both military and tribal leaders. Those who gathered for it also hope the luncheon will become an annual event.




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KIOWA TRIBE HEAD START NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 -2024 SCHOOL YEAR


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AGES 3 TO 4 YEARS OLD AT NO COST TO FAMILIES.

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Applications Accepted Throughout the Year  
Open to the Public  
For more information call (580) 654-6396 or (580) 654-2544



# 2023 Comanche Nation Department Phone Directory



## 2023 Comanche Nation Headquarters Department Phone Directory & Hours of Operation

DEPARTMENT	PHONE #	FAX #	HOURS	
Administration	580-492-3240	580-492-3796	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Anadarko Outreach	405-247-4942	405-247-3796	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
E.K.G. Assisted Living Center	580-699-3736	580-699-7595	24/7 Facility	
Capital Improvement	580-492-3302	580-492-3826	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Caregivers	580-492-1146	580-492-5297	M-Th/7:30am-6:00pm	
Child Care Program	580-699-3991	580-699-3992	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Child Support	580-80-4641	580-280-4628	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
CHR/FIRE/Injury Prevention	580-492-3600	580-492-5595	M-F/5:00am-4:00pm	
Dallas, TX Outreach Office	214-941-1050 x.274	214-983-0942	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Diabetes Program	580-280-4674	580-280-4676	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
ECDC Apache	580-588-3114	580-588-3119	M-F/7:30am-5:30pm	
ECDC Lawton	580-699-7211	580-699-3992	M-F/7:30am-5:30pm	
Emergency Management Hotline	580-492-3628		24/7 on call services	
Election Office	580-492-3629	580-492-3702	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Elderly Center	580-355-2330	580-355-2365	M-F/7:00am-4:00pm	
Enrollment	580-492-3371	580-492-6389	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
E.P.A. Office	580-492-3754	580-492-3733	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Finance	580-492-3295	580-492-5953	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Fitness Center	580-248-0005	580-492-5953	M-F/8:00am-8:00pm	
Food Distribution	580-492-3325	580-492-3744	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Funeral Home	580-351-0045	580-351-0093	M-F/9:00am-5:00pm	24/7 on call services
Grants Department	580-492-3620	580-492-5805	M-Th/7:30am-6:00pm	
Grasshoppers	580-492-3246		M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Higher Education	580-699-7218	580-492-4017	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Historic Preservation	580-492-1153	580-595-9733	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Human Resources	580-492-3570	580-492-4820	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Indian Child Welfare	580-492-1140	580-699-5110	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Information & Technology	580-492-3333	580-592-5740	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Law Enforcement 1	580-492-3260	580-492-3830	24/7 Facility	
Dispatch 1	580-492-3261		24/7 Facility	
Dispatch 2	580-492-3262		24/7 Facility	
Law Enforcement 2	1-877-TRIBAL-911		24/7 Facility	
Maintenance	5880-492-3355		M-F/7:00am-5:30pm	
Museum & Cultural Center	580-353-0404	580-353-0407	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	Saturday/10:00am-2:00pm
Gift Shop	580-595-4941	580-595-4937	M-F/8:30am-4:30pm	Saturday/10:00am-2:00pm
N.A.G.P.R.A.	580-492-1150	580-699-8844	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
New Pathways	580-492-3752	580-492-3825	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
O.K.C. Outreach	405-974-9631		M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Optometry	580-699-5386	580-699-5389	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Prescription Assistance	580-699-5534	580-699-5537	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Prevention & Recovery	580-492-3614	580-492-5029	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Prev. & Rev.-Outpatient Office	580-357-3449	580-354-9211	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Gravel & Tinhorn/Private Drives	580-492-3308	580-492-3799	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Property & Procurement	580-492-3291	580-492-3731	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Public Information Office	580-492-3381	580-492-3709	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Realty	580-699-3818	580-699-3815	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Social Services	580-492-3357	580-492-3742	M-F/7:30am-6:00pm	
Student Services	580-492-3280	580-699-7242	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Tax Commission	580-595-3315	580-595-3318	M-F/7:00am-6:00pm	
Transportation	580-492-3269	580-492-3799	M-Th/7:30am-6:00pm	
Transit	580-492-3389	580-492-6240	M-F/8-5 (Admin. Staff)	M-F/5:00am-7:00pm (Drivers)
Transit Outreach	405-648-3809		M-F/5:00am-7:00pm (Drivers)	
Tribal Court	580-492-3822		M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Voc.Rehabilitation	580-492-3605	580-699-7241	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
W.I.O.A.	580-591-0203	580-699-7240	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Youth Program	580-492-3288	580-492-4349	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Education Center	580-591-0203	580-699-7240	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
Comanche Language	580-699-5513		M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	
American Rescue Plan (ARP)	580-492-5658	580-492-6089	M-F/8:00am-5:00pm	

### COMANCHE NATION TOLL FREE NUMBERS

Comanche Nation Complex	1-877-492-4988
Child Support	1-877-357-2627
Funeral Home	1-888-522-0963
Higher Education	1-877-703-2288
Comanche Nation Housing Authority	1-877-263-7042

#### Physical Address:

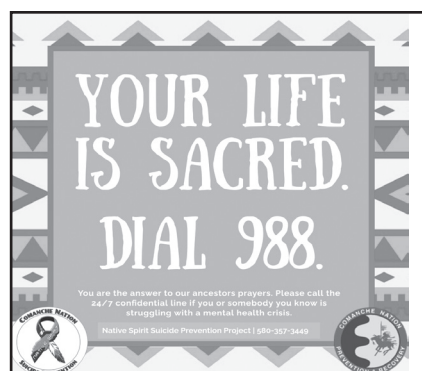
584 NW Bingo Rd Lawton, Ok 73507

#### Mailing Address:

PO Box 908 Lawton, OK 73502



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# Scenes From 2022-2023 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Bluesky Tosee Outgoing Honor Powwow



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Nation Princess Michelle Nevaquaya and Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Bluesky Tosee poses together at Bluesky's Outgoing Powwow on March 11.



Photo by Heaven Williams/News staff

Dominc Gutierrez, dancing during inter-tribal.



Photo by Heaven Williams/News staff

Hat & Boot Dance, was one of the special contest during the pow-wow.



Photo by Heaven Williams/News staff

Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Bluesky Tosee, Gourd Dancing at her Outgoing Honor Powwow on March 11.



Courtesy Photo

Women fill the arena during the Scalp Dance at the Bluesky Tosee pow-wow.



Photo by Heaven Williams/News staff



Courtesy Photo

2022-2023 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Bluesky Tosee's Special



Courtesy Photo

Dancers participate in the Two Step social dance.

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Photo by Heaven Williams/News staff

# COME PLAY WITH US!

## ROCK 'N' WHEEL



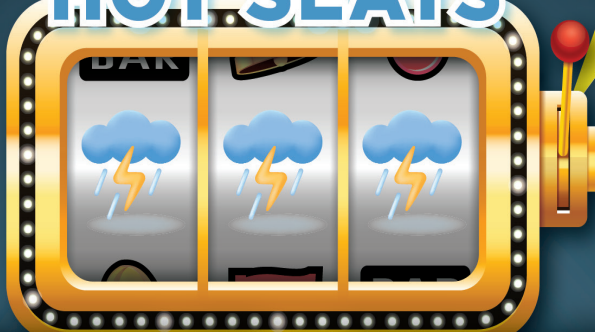
**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
APRIL 1-29 • 7PM-11PM

**It's Time to Rock Your Winnings!**

You get to spin to win for Cash or Comanche Credit on our Progressive Jackpot Wheel. It starts at \$2,000 Cash and grows by \$1,000 each night until someone wins! Or win up to \$200 in Comanche Credit and drawings are every 30 minutes. Earn E-drawing entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 8AM-11PM, April 1-29. Rock Out A Winner!

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## STORMIN' HOT SEATS



**WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS**  
APRIL 5-MAY 31 • 2PM-9PM

**IT'S RAININ' WINNERS!**

Pick the best seat in the house and you can win up to \$200 in Comanche Credit! Play your favorite slot machine for at least 2 minutes to qualify with your Comanche Rewards Card and drawings are every 30 minutes.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## COME GET THE CHOPPA!

**MONDAYS**  
APRIL 3-24  
10AM-11PM

**Get Your Amazing Kitchen Gifts!**  
Earn 200 points on Mondays to receive a gift beginning April 3-24.



While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## Comanche Elder's Day

**EVERY SUNDAY • 6AM-10PM**

Comanche Rewards Club members who are Comanche Tribal Elders receive \$20 Comanche Credit automatically loaded to your Comanche Rewards Card every Sunday! You will also receive a delicious, complimentary breakfast at Numunu Grill from 6AM-11AM.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## Burger of the Month

**PIZZA BURGER**

**YOU WANNA PIZZA ME?**  
Certified Angus Beef patty infused with minced garlic and parsley, topped with mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, marinara sauce on a pizza seasoned brioche bun.  
April Special: \$7

**COMANCHE BURGER CO.**



# COMANCHE NATION CASINO

## APRIL SHOWERS

**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**

APRIL 7-29 • 7PM-11PM

**We'll Shower You With Cash!**

Climb into our cash cube and grab all the cash you can! Earn E-drawing entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 8AM-11PM, April 1-29. Drawings every hour. Be a cash cube winner and rein in a stash of cash!

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



## A Brentwood April

**MONDAYS**  
APRIL 3-24  
10AM-11PM

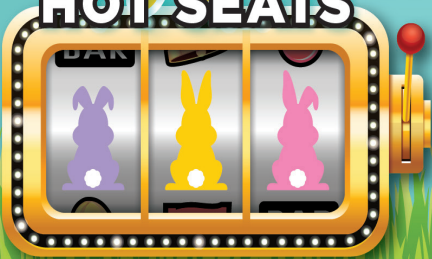
**Get In Your Greens With These Gifts**

Earn 200 points on Mondays to receive a gift beginning April 3-24.

While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



## Hoppin' HOT SEATS



**WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS**  
APRIL 5-27  
4PM-9PM

**EVERY BUNNY LOVES A WINNER!**  
And you can be a big winner - up to \$200 Comanche Credit when you pick the best hot seat in the house! Play your favorite slot machine for at least 2 minutes to qualify with your Comanche Rewards Card and drawings are every 30 minutes. Hop in to win!

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## Comanche Elder's Day

**THE 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH • 11AM-8PM**

Comanche Rewards Club Members who are Comanche Tribal Elders receive \$20 Comanche Credit automatically loaded to your Comanche Rewards Card the 1st Wednesday every month. You will also receive a complimentary meal on us!

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

## T-SHIRT TUESDAYS



**APRIL 4-25 • 9AM-10PM**

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

Limit 1 shirt per week per member. While Supplies Last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



# COMANCHE RED RIVER HOTEL CASINO

## HEROES DAY



**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.

# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page



## Asparagus Ham Dinner

### Ingredients

- 2 cups uncooked cork-screw or spiral pasta
- ¼ Pound fresh asparagus, cut into 1 inch pieces
- 1 medium sweet yellow pepper
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 6 medium tomatoes, diced
- 6 ounces boneless fully cooked ham, cubed
- ¼ Cup minced fresh parsley
- ½ Teaspoon salt
- ½ Teaspoon dried oregano
- ½ Teaspoon dried basil
- 1/8 to ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- ¼ Cup shredded Parmesan cheese

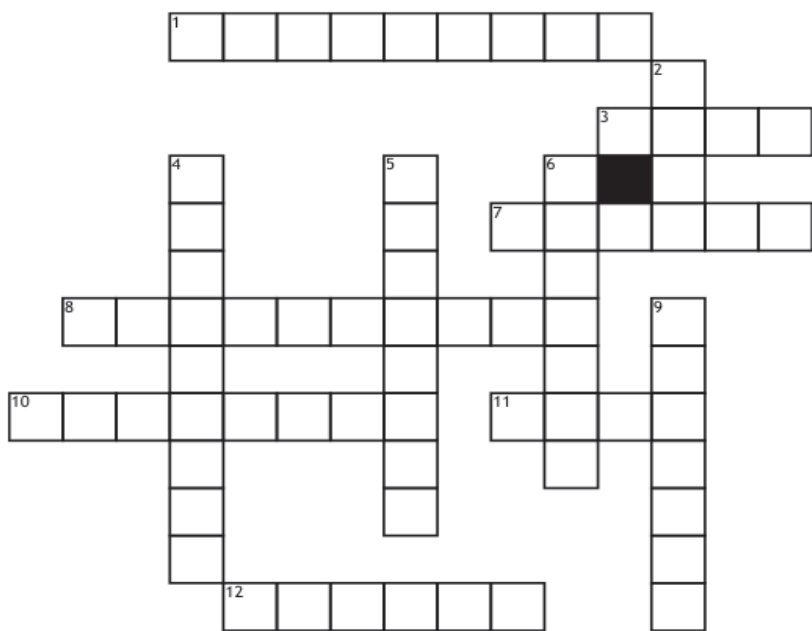
### Directions

1. Cook pasta according to package directions.
2. In a large cast iron or another heavy skillet, sauté asparagus and yellow pepper in oil until crisp-tender.
3. Add tomatoes and ham; heat through.
4. Drain pasta; add to mixture.
5. Stir in parsley and seasonings.
6. Sprinkle with cheese.

## APRIL 2023

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

## Spring Time Crossword Puzzle



### Across

1. A type of flower that is tall and yellow
3. Something you can fly in the wind.
7. You can grow vegetables and flowers here
8. Something you can eat that is pink and green.

10. You will need this when it rains!
11. A frog lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Season that starts in March

4. Was once a caterpillar
5. A sport that is usually played in the spring.
6. Something colorful that happens after it rains.
9. An insect that is red and has spots.

### Word Bank

- |           |         |         |            |
|-----------|---------|---------|------------|
| Sunflower | Spring  | Garden  | Butterfly  |
| Umbrella  | Rainbow | Bird    | Baseball   |
| Pond      | Kite    | Ladybug | Watermelon |

## Spring Season Word Search

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?



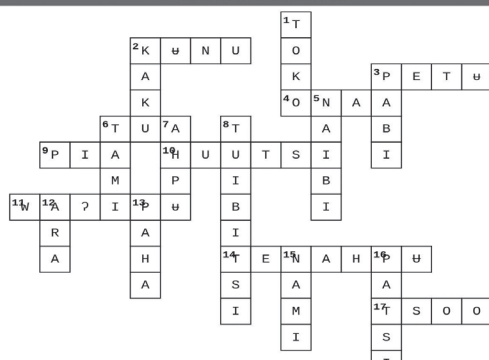
- |                   |                   |                            |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| TAMAROI (SPRING)  | HUUTSUU (BIRD)    | WEYAKOROO (BUTTERFLY)      |
| TOMOBI (CLOUD)    | SONIPU (GRASS)    | EKAKWITSUBAITU (LIGHTNING) |
| NWETU (WIND)      | UMARU (RAIN)      |                            |
| TABUKINA (RABBIT) | TABETOI (SUNRISE) |                            |

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



## Comanche Crossword Answer Key

IT'S ALL RELATIVE



- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2. The father of one's father        | 1. The father of one's mother           |
| 3. Female offspring                  | 2. The mother of one's mother           |
| 4. An extremely young child          | 3. Older male sibling                   |
| 6. Male offspring                    | 5. Female child from birth to adulthood |
| 9. Female parent                     | 6. Younger male sibling                 |
| 10. The mother of one's father       | 7. Male parent                          |
| 11. Adult female person              | 8. Male child from birth to adulthood   |
| 14. Adult male person                | 13. The brother of one's father         |
| 17. The parent of one's grandparents | 15. Younger female sibling              |
|                                      | 16. Older female sibling                |

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

## CAN YOU FIND ALL EASTER EGGS HIDDEN IN THIS NEWS-PAPER?



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.

## The Quilt Lady Too, LLC

Machine Quilting & Custom Quilts

Melissa Nickell-FaGalde

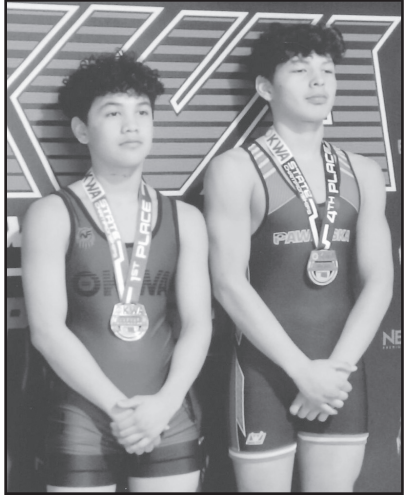
600 W. Wyoming Ave, Cyril, OK 73029

806-420-8620

TheQuiltLadyToo@yahoo.com

# People, Places, & Things Happening

## Wildcat Brothers Celebrating a Win at the OKWA



Courtesy Photo

### Jimmie Wildcat and Vann Wildcat

Vann and Jimmie Wildcat, enrolled Comanche, also descendants of the Pawnee and Osage nation, won at the Oklahoma kids wrestling association (OKWA) tournament in Tulsa during the February 17 and 18 weekend.

Jimmie Wildcat, 12 years old, won first place in the 140-pound weight class, in the 12 and under age division. He wrestled four times and pinned all of his opponents.

Vann, 14 years old, placed fourth in the 155 pound weight class in the 15 and under age division. He wrestled 5 times and finished with a record of 3 wins and 2 losses.

Vann and Jimmie's parents are Beaushee and Mary Bighorse Wildcat of Pawhuska, Okla. Paternal grandparents are Darell and Carla Tahmahkera Wildcat. Maternal grandparents are the late Carl and Viola Hauzipta Tahmahkera. Great grandparents are the late George "Woogie" and Eva Toahinpah Watch-

etaker.

## Herr Celebrates Ten Years With Highway Patrol



Courtesy Photo

### Jennifer Herr

Tribal member Jennifer Herr is an Emergency Communications Officer and just celebrated five years with the Oklahoma highway patrol in December 2022. Herr has been in Emergency Communications for over 10 years.

Additionally, Herr was elected in October 2022 as the Oklahoma APCO representative. APCO International is the world's oldest and largest organization of public safety communications professionals.

On February 23, Herr, as well as many other Oklahoma 911 agencies, spent the day at the Capitol speaking with legislators about ensuring reliable 911 service across the state, as well as continuing the push for dispatchers to be federally recognized as First Responders.

## Lewis Qualifies for State After Placing Third in Weight Class



Courtesy Photo

### Aaliyah Lewis

Tribal Member Aaliyah Lewis is a Walters High School Senior. For the second year in a row, Lewis has qualified for state.

Lewis recently competed in regionals and received third place in her weight class and is also the strongest squat in the south. Last year Lewis was Walters's first-ever female powerlifter, and this year, Walters has a whole team of female powerlifters.

Lewis will be attending Oklahoma City University (OCU) next year with a scholarship for competitive cheer and will gain a scholarship for the Olympic weightlifting team.

## Tselee Placed First in the BPA State Contest



Courtesy Photo

### Deja Tselee

Tribal member Deja Tselee is a senior at Fort Cobb High School and is also a second-year student at Caddo Kiowa Technology Center.

Tselee and her teammates from Caddo Kiowa Technology Center placed first in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) State contest in the computer animation contest in Tulsa, Okla. They will all now go on to nationals in April, which will be held in Anaheim, California.

## Davidson Takes Third at State Competition



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Homecoming Princess Kyleigh Davidson, eighth grader at Walters Middle School, placed third at Junior High State powerlifting and is the first female powerlifting medalist for Walters.

## Owens Accepted into National Honors Society



Courtesy Photo

Tribal member Hannah Owens is a Freshman at Eisenhower High School in Lawton, Okla. On March 8, Owens was given an acceptance award by the Dwight D. Eisenhower chapter of the National Honor Society.

## Coleman Walks in the Red Dress Fashion Show



Courtesy Photo

Tribal Member Tytiana Tahah Coleman, a senior at Bacone College and a 2023-2024 Comanche Nation Sr. Princess candidate is seen modeling in the Red Dress Fashion Show, which was part of the Redress Awareness Event. The dress name is Sovereignty Dress and the designer is Jennifer McAaffrey Thiessen.

## StrongHearts Celebrates Six-Year Anniversary

StrongHearts Native Helpline celebrates six year anniversary operating a culturally appropriate helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives affected by domestic and sexual violence. It's a celebration of breaking down barriers to safety and empowering Native people across the nation that has kept advocates fueled and the number of contacts growing.

"We've seen monumental growth in our contacts and our ability to provide support and advocacy to our relatives," said Lori Jump, chief executive officer, StrongHearts Native Helpline. "The statistics clearly show that our relatives are seeking what has been missing for years - a connection to culturally appropriate, anonymous and confidential support and advocacy."

In the first seven months of operation, StrongHearts tallied 468 contacts. However, that number grew each subsequent year. By the end of 2022, StrongHearts advocates had answered more than 40,000 contacts via call, text and online chat.

StrongHearts met the ever increasing need for advocacy by incorporating additional support systems and expanding hours of operation:

- In 2020, online chat and sexual violence advocacy were launched.
- In 2021, text advocacy was launched and hours of operation expanded to 24/7.

This past year, StrongHearts filled key leadership positions with Sonia Palmer, chief operations officer and Chelsea Singleton, human resources manager who work to support the growth in staff and infrastructure.

To sustain continued growth, plans include:

- Working more closely with Tribes and Tribal events.
- Increasing external relations and outreach efforts.
- Bolstering staffing structure and support for employee well-being.
- Leveraging data and resources to advocate for change at a policy level.
- Increasing the capacity for long-term sustainability.

Culture Makes A Profound Difference "Culture makes a profound difference in building trust, safety, and belonging," Jump explained. "Our advocates are Native and our culture is the basis for providing the most welcoming, understanding and caring form of advocacy. It is on a path toward healing that StrongHearts advocates provide peer support, crisis intervention, safety planning, referrals to Native-centered service providers and general information about jurisdiction and legal advocacy."

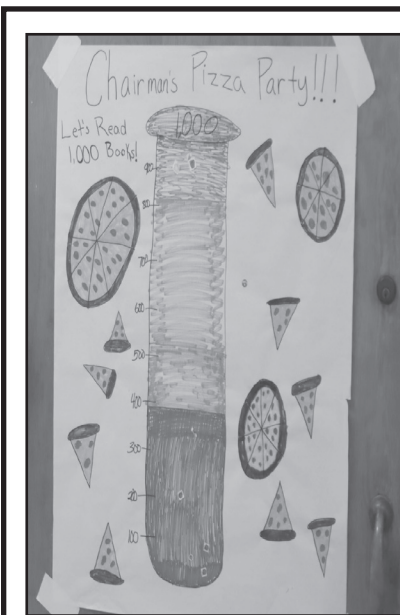
Removing Barriers To Safety StrongHearts was born out of the knowledge that in spite of alarmingly and disproportionately high rates of violence experienced by Native Americans only a small percentage reached out for assistance. While there are many reasons why victim survivors do not reach out, for Native people, barriers to safety include a lack of available resources and a lack of trust between Native people and organizations outside of their communities.

## Prevention and Recovery Hosts Drug Awareness Training

The Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery (CNP&R) invites allied professionals, first responders, treatment providers, school administrators, social service providers, and community members to a Drug Awareness Training at the Comanche Nation Complex's Watchtaker Hall from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., on April 11, and 8 a.m. - Noon, on April 13. The address to the Comanche Nation Complex is 584 NW BINGO Rd., Lawton.

The training will include drug identification to support tribal justice and drug influence direction.

For more information, contact the CNP&R Outpatient Center (580) 357-3449 or email: prevention.recovery@comanchenation.com.



Photos by Heaven Williams/News staff

**CHAIRMAN MARK WOONMAVOVAH THROWS A PIZZA PARTY.** After attending an award ceremony at the Charter school for how many books they read Chairman Woommavovah challenged the kids to read 1,000 books in one month, validated by only the parents and teachers. The children completed all 1,000 in just two weeks. The Chairman said he was extremely proud of them.

## DR. CORNEL PEWEWARDY (Comanche-Kiowa)

### Unsettling Settler-Colonial Education

Dr. Cornel Pewewardy (Comanche-Kiowa) is Professor-of-Practice in the School of Education at Kansas State University; Professor Emeritus in Indigenous Nations Studies at Portland State University; and Vice-Chair of the Comanche Nation. He has dedicated his life's work to educating administrators and teachers at all levels about the Transformational Indigenous Praxis Model. Cornel Pewewardy discusses strategies for community to inform, heal, uplift, and raise consciousness.



Hosted by the Office of Native American Initiatives; The Commons; the KU School of Social Welfare; and the KU Alumni Association in conjunction with the KU FNSA Powwow & Indigenous Cultures Festival. Anyone needing assistance may contact the staff at The Commons at thecommons@ku.edu

**JAYHAWK WELCOME CENTER / 1266 Oread Ave**  
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<https://bit.ly/Pewewardy>

**4:00PM CDT**  
**THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 6**





**COMANCHE NATION**

**PREVENTION & RECOVERY PRESENTS**

# EASTER CELEBRATION

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH**  
11 AM - 2 PM

**ALL AGES WELCOME!**

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**COMANCHE NATION POWWOW GROUNDS**

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FACE PAINTING ○ SNOW CONES**

**EGG HUNT CATEGORIES:**

**AGES: 0-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, 13-15, 16-17, 18-61, 62 & UP**

**THIS IS A SAFE AND SOBER FAMILY EVENT. DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND WEAPONS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THE COMANCHE NATION IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, OR THEFTS THAT MAY OCCUR AT THIS EVENT.**



## ATTENTION Graduates

Graduating students earning one of the following:

- GED
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- Doctoral Degree

SAMPLE PHOTO

**We would love to honor your accomplishment!**

Please submit your name, school, major/degree and a clear photo to [highered@comanchenation.com](mailto:highered@comanchenation.com)

**Deadline Friday, April 21, 2023**

**2023 OKLAHOMA INDIAN NATION JR. PRINCESS**

*Bella Youngman Portillo*


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**BELLA REPRESENTS THE COMANCHE, CHOCTAW, AND ARAPAHO NATIONS.**

I AM THE DAUGHTER OF PAULA COOPER AND THOMAS PORTILLO. MY COMANCHE, CHOCTAW, ARAPAHO HERITAGE, I AM THE MATERNAL GRANDAUGHTER OF JODY YOUNGMAN & THE LATE LONNIE COOPER, THE GREAT GRANDAUGHTER OF ERMA YOUNGMAN & THE LATE TONI KOMAH, THE GREAT GREAT GRANDAUGHTER OF THE LATE BERT & THE LATE LENA HOAWAH YOUNGMAN.

I AM THE PATERNAL GRANDAUGHTER OF THE LATE MANUEL PORTILLO & THE LATE MARCIA MAHSETKY, THE GREAT GRANDAUGHTER OF THE LATE MARCY MAHSETKY & THE LATE ONEDA BLACKSTAR, THE GREAT GREAT GRANDAUGHTER OF LATE RHONDA MOTAH & THE LATE OTTO THOMAS BLACKSTAR.



# Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

## Community Events

Arlene Schonchin, has served as the 2022 - 2033 CIVA Princess, as she will continue to serve an additional term as the 2023-2024 CIVA Princess. She has represented CIVA organization with great pride and honor as she will continue to be a great asset to the organization.

Veterans of the CIVA would like to congratulate to serve an additional term.



Courtesy Photo

Arlene Schonchin 2023-2024 CIVA Princess

## March CIVA Monthly Meeting

On March 2, CIVA held its three meeting for the 2023 calendar year. CIVA Headstone and Marker Placement Coordinator, George RedElk, opened with a prayer as the CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Opening remarks were made by CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko.

Birthday recognitions were made to Major Kent Tomah, CIVA Auxiliary, Fran Sapcutt, Elizabeth Plata and Cheryl Takawana. The monthly meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary members, Tavia Torralba and Shirley Pohawpatchoko.

After the meal, a roll call was conducted by CIVA Secretary, Dominic Pawlowski, and a quorum was established. The February Monthly Minutes, Treasure Report and the Veterans and Auxiliary reports were presented and approved. Old Business and New Business were discussed for the upcoming fiscal year.

## CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary Welcomes a New Auxiliary Member

During the March monthly meeting, Jolene Schonchin, was welcomed into the CIVA Auxiliary. She had successfully completed her trial period and was presented her CIVA Auxiliary service shawl and blanket and medallion.

On behalf of the Veterans of the CIVA we welcome Schonchin, into the CIVA Family.



Courtesy Photo

New auxiliary member, Jolene Schonchin, receives her blanket and shawl from auxiliary president, Tavia Torralba.

## Funeral and Honor Guard Details



Courtesy Photo

Captain Ron Parker (Numu Pukutsi) U.S. Army

On February 17, an Honor Detail was requested by Cindy Famero, the daughter of Captain Ronald Parker, at the Fort Sill National Cemetery.

During the Internment Ceremony, Captain Parker's military biography was read by Lanny Asepermy, as his flag was unfolded by Vietnam War Veterans, Roger Tehauno and George RedElk. A round of volleys (gun salute) was provided by the Comanche Nation Police Department and a final salute was conducted during internment.

Captain Parker's flag was presented back to his daughter, Famero by George RedElk.

The Honor Detail consisted of Veterans and Auxiliary members. The U.S., Comanche Nation, and the U.S. Army were displayed.



Courtesy Photo

Lanny Asepermy, reading Captain Parker's biography as the Parker family looks on.



Courtesy Photo

Captain Parker's flag being presented by Vietnam War Veterans, Roger Tehauno and George RedElk.



Courtesy Photo

Captain Parker's flag being presented back to his daughter, Cindy Famero by George RedElk.



Courtesy Photo

Seaman Carl Eldon Atauvich, U.S. Navy

On February 21, a Funeral and Honor Guard Detail was requested by the Atauvich as the services were conducted at the Watchetaker Hall, Comanche Nation Complex, with burial at the Deyo Mission Cemetery, Cache, Oklahoma.

Carl Eldon Atauvich, enlisted in the United States Navy on January 12, 1956, and served until December 22, 1959, (three years, 11 months and 10 days) earning the rank of Seaman.

He was a Deckhand and served as a Gunner. He took his Boot Training at the Naval Technical Training Center in San Diego, Cali., and was assigned to the Deck Department onboard the USS Midway (CV-41), an Aircraft Carrier. The USS Midway (CV-41) was part of the 7th Fleet, with their homeport in Alameda, Cali.

While at their homeport, Seaman Atauvich, boxed and played softball. As a Boxer he had 13 wins and one loss record. As a Softball Pitcher winning 23 straight games and was named Most Valuable Pitcher of the Fleet.

The USS Midway (CV-41) participated in the Second Taiwan Strait Crisis between Taiwan and China from August 23 to October 6, 1958. Seaman Atauvich, "manned" his gun for 44 straight days at intervals of four hours on and four hours off during the crisis. Aircraft from the USS Midway (CV-41) shot down of number of Chinese MIG Fighter jets without a single loss. During the crisis, Seaman Atauvich, shook hands with the President of Taiwan, Chiang Kai-Shek, when he came onboard the Midway (CV-41) and thanked the Sailors for their service.

Seaman Atauvich, also served in Hawaii, Okinawa, the Philippines, Japan and the coast of China.

His awards include the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Navy Marksmanship Medal.

The Funeral and Honor Guard Detail consisted of Veterans and Auxiliary members. The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA and the U.S. Navy flags were displayed in Watchetaker Hall.

CIVA Chaplain offered a word of prayer as his military biography was read, a final roll call was conducted as well as a final salute.

At the Deyo Mission Cemetery, the U.S., Comanche Nation, and the U.S. Navy flags were displayed. Honors were conducted by the U.S. Navy Honor Guard and the CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary. A round of volley (gun salute) was provided by the Comanche Nation Police Department as taps was being played.

Seaman Carl Eldon Atauvich, flag was folded by representatives from the U.S. Navy Honor Guard and presented to the Atauvich family.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Funeral and Honor Guard Detail. Pictured are Lyman Guy, Roger Tehauno, CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko and CIVA Chaplain, Jimmy Ray Cad-do.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Chaplain, Jimmy Ray Cad-do offering a word of prayer to the Atauvich family.



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Nation Police Department providing a firing squad to honor Comanche Nation Veterans during their funeral and burial service.



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Glenn Samuel Tehauno, U.S. Air Force

On March 2, a Funeral and Honor Guard Detail was requested by the Tehauno family as the services was conducted at the Little Washita Methodist Church, Fletcher Oklahoma, with burial at the Little Washita Cemetery.

Glenn Samuel Tehauno, served in the U.S. Air Force from October 31, October 30, 1976. He completed his Boot and Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas and completed the U.S. Air Force Security/Police Academy also located at Lackland Air Force Base.

He was stationed state side before being transferred to Iraklion Air Station in Greece which is located on the Island of Crete. He was discharged at McGuire Air Force Base, Baltimore, Maryland, on October 30, 1976.

Tehauno was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, U.S. Air Force Good Conduct Medal, U.S. Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon.

The Funeral and Honor Guard Detail consisted of Veterans and Auxiliary members. The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA and the U.S. Air Force flags were displayed in the Little Washita Methodist Church.

CIVA Veteran, George RedElk offered a word of prayer as his military biography was read, a final roll call was conducted as well as a final salute. At the Little Washita Cemetery, the U.S., Comanche Nation, and the US Air Force flags were displayed. Honors were conducted by the US Air Force Honor Guard and the CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary. A round of volley (gun salute) was provided by the Comanche Nation Police Department as taps was being played. Sgt. Glenn Samuel Tehauno's flag was folded by representatives from the U.S. Air Force and presented to the Tehauno family.



Courtesy Photo

The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA and the U.S. Air Force flags displayed during the Funeral Service.



Courtesy Photo

Pictured are CIVA Sgt of Arms, Clifford RedElk, CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Roger Tehauno, George RedElk, CIVA Auxiliary Leader, Tavia Torralba, Elizabeth Plata, Cheryl Takawana and Linda Tehauno.



Courtesy Photo

U.S. Air Force Funeral and Honor Guard representative presenting the U.S. Flag to Wilma Riggs.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko presenting the Comanche Nation Flag to Wilma Riggs.

## Marking the 20 Year Anniversary of the Start of Operation IRAQI Freedom (OIF)



Courtesy Photo

108 Comanches served during the Iraqi and Afghanistan War. March 20, marks the 20-year anniversary of the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Operation Iraqi Freedom, commonly known as the Iraq War, was authorized when Iraq was found to be in breach of stockpiling and importing weapons of mass destruction. Airstrikes began on Saddam Hussein's Presidential Palace and military targets. There were nearly 70,000 ground troops and 15,000 warships in the region.

On December 15, 2011, nearly after nine years of the conflict, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other top military leaders observed the official end to Operation Iraqi Freedom. According to the Department of Defense, nearly 4,500 U.S. military personnel were killed

Continued on Page 17



Continued from Page 16

and nearly 32,000 wounded in the Iraq War. It is estimated more than 3.6 million Veterans served in the Post 9/11 World Trade Center Terrorist Attack era.

Many Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans have HEALTH ISSUES AND HEALTH PROBLEMS due to toxic chemicals, shrapnel, explosions, other head trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). CIVA Veterans encourage eligible Veterans to seek health care and resources accessible to them. All Comanche Iraq Veterans should consider applying and or reapplying for health care and benefits. Remember, "We honorably served and did what was asked of us, but what we experienced in Iraq did not stay in Iraq".

As we commemorate the 20 year anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom, set aside some time to tell our Comanche Nation Veterans how much we appreciate them.

Here are a few faces of our Comanche Veterans who served during Operation Iraqi Freedom



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Joseph D. Gonzalez**  
 U.S. Army  
 Purple Heart Recipient



Courtesy Photo  
**SSG Frankie D Patterson**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Gregory A. Poahway Steen**  
 U.S. Marine Corps



Courtesy Photo  
**SSGT Aaron Wermly**  
 U.S. Air Force



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Lindsey Huston Griner**  
 U.S. Marine Corps  
 Only known Comanche female Veteran to be decorated for Gallantry, Heroism or Valor, earned the honorary title of *Numu Pukutsi*



Courtesy Photo  
**CPL Dominic Pawlowski**  
 U.S. Marine Corps & SFC  
 OKARNG



Courtesy Photo  
**SPC VENA J. TAHKOPFER**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Kristopher W. Wermly**  
 U.S. Army  
 1LT OKARNG



Courtesy Photo  
**LCPL Brandon S. Allen**  
 U.S.M.C.



Courtesy Photo  
**SSG Tennyson Ray Kerchee**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**QM1/ Kevin G. Pohawpatchoko**  
 U.S. Navy & U.S. Navy Reserve



Courtesy Photo  
**SSGT Benny Tahmehkera Jr.**  
 U.S. Marine Corps



Courtesy Photo  
**LTC Rhonda L. Chalepah Williams**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**PFC Jeffery Alexander Almand**  
 LAARNG



Courtesy Photo  
**LCPL Eagles B. Mahseet**  
 U.S. Marine Corps



Courtesy Photo  
**LTCOL Dave S. Portillo**  
 U.S. Marine Corps



Courtesy Photo  
**PAUL TATE JR.**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**LTC Gerald A. Woomavovah Jr.**  
 U.S. Army Reserve



Courtesy Photo  
**SFC Jeffery Lynn Almand**  
 U.S. Army  
 Purple Heart Recipient



Courtesy Photo  
**LTC Richard Martinez**  
 OKARNG



Courtesy Photo  
**SSG Deborah A Niedo Rettig**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**SSG Michael F. Tenequer**  
 OKARNG



Courtesy Photo  
**LTC Mark E. Woomavovah,**  
 U.S. Army  
 Comanche Nation Chairman



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Christopher D. Chebahat,**  
 U.S. Marine Corps  
 Purple Heart Recipient



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT JOHN B. McCLUNG**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**SPC Rudy V. Rodriguez**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Terry L. Daukei Torres**  
 U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**Raymond E. Woothtakewahbitty**  
 ORARNG, U.S. Army



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Dustin Chrismon**  
 U.S. Marine Corps Reserve



Courtesy Photo  
**SGT Jennifer A. Newbauer,**  
 U.S. Army Reserve 2000-08,  
 LtCdr Navy Reserve 2010



Courtesy Photo  
**LTC Lisa Smith**  
 U.S. Air Force



Courtesy Photo  
**CPL Joshua J. Ware**  
 U.S. Marine Corps 2002-05  
 Killed in Action on 11/16/05,  
 earned the honorary title of *Numu Pukutsi*



Courtesy Photo  
**MSG Glendal B. Yackeschi**  
 OKARNG



Courtesy Photo  
**SSG Michael J. Frickie**  
 U.S. Army

# Obituaries

## James "Jimmy" Harold Myers Jr.



Courtesy Photo

### Myers

James "Jimmy" Harold Myers Jr. went to be with his Lord and Savior on February 2, with his loving family by his side in Lubbock.

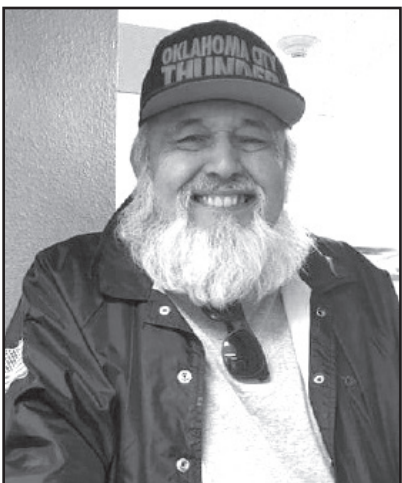
A Celebration of Life Service was February 10, at the First Baptist Church in Waurika with Pastor Bruce Humphries officiating. A Private burial under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home followed.

Myers was born December 27, 1972, in Duncan to James Harold Myers Sr. and Carole Rider. Myers was raised by Carole Billy Wright. He graduated from Empire Hire School. He worked at Haliburton for 25 years and eight months he was currently a service supervisor level 3. He married Decole Natasha James, on October 12, 2004, in Las Vegas. Myers was a member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. He loved guns, shooting Tannerite, he was a Dooms Day prepper, very patriotic, enjoyed riding ATV's on the river with his family and friends.

Myers is survived by: wife Decole; children: Taylor Myers, Gunner Myers, Weston Myers all of the Home in Waurika. Son Gage Myers is currently stationed at Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo, New Mexico; brothers and sisters: Kip Antuna, Kheri Myers, Jamey Myers Hunter, Tracy Myers Harris, Teri Hughes and husband Clint, Gavan Parker and wife Jeana; stepchildren: Melisa Glover and husband Justin, Vickie Contreas and husband Flo and Strutton husband Rodney; mother and Stepdad Carole and Billy Wright.

He is preceded in death by: father James Harold Myers.

## Anthony Michael Robles "Tony"



Courtesy Photo

### Robles

Anthony Michael Robles "Tony" The son of Ralph Robles and Veronica Sekulich. Born May 8, 1951, in Oklahoma City. Grew up and attended school in Florida. He served a term in the army. Robles attended the University of Florida, before achieving a Bachelor's Degree at Cameron University in Lawton.

Robles worked for the Walters and Anadarko school system in the JOM Department. And also worked for the Indian Child Welfare. He retired due to illness and lived out his retirement in Cyril, Okla. Robles enjoyed time with his loving wife Elizabeth Robles and his granddaughter Amanda Tanequodde,

Ragon Hornsby, Lilly Belle Eckiwaudah, Cami Eckiwaudah, great-granddaughter Laylah Autaubo.

Robles is survived by his wife Elizabeth Robles. Brothers, Patrick Robles of Florida; Stewart Sekulich of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Sister Stephanie Sekulich of Lawton, Okla. Four sons, TJ Robles and Jared Robles of Florida; Arnold Eckiwaudah and Andrew Eckiwaudah of Cyril, Oklahoma. Daughter, Arnetta Wilson of Chickasha, Okla.

Robles is preceded in death by his parents Ralph Robles and Veronica Sekulich; and daughter Sheila Echiwaudah.

A final viewing was held on February 14, at the Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

## Michelle Tooahimpah Tate



Courtesy Photo

### Tate

Michelle Yvette Tooahimpah Tate, 54, of Fletcher, Okla., went to her Heavenly home on February 12.

The prayer service was at the Little Washita United Methodist Church, Fletcher, Okla., on February 16, and the funeral service was at Little Washita UMC on February 17, committal service followed at Little Washita Cemetery under the direction of Whinery-Huddleston Funeral Home.

Tate was born on December 26, 1968, to Jackie Tooahimpah Tate and Doris Jean Edge. She was enrolled in the Comanche Nation and also of Kiowa descent. She is a descendent of Chief Wildhorse, Comanche George, *Hi-we-ni* and *Chah-Toe-bitty*. Tate was a member of Little Washita United Methodist Church.

Tate loved attending pow wows and began dancing as a young child as a southern cloth dancer and later a fancy feather dancer. She performed at Six Gunn Territory in Ocala, FL, where she also hoop danced. As she became an adult she danced around the arena in her shawl and gourd danced. She enjoyed the pow wow world. She was a very talented beadworker and loved listening to the beautiful music of the many southern and northern drum groups as she completed her art. Tate also loved Comanche Hymns and listening to the *Numu Tekwap/Comanche Language*. She loved watching wrestling. She was a big fan of OU football and basketball, OKC Thunder and the Dallas Cowboys.

After Tate graduated from Fletcher High School, she attended Rose State College where she studied business. She then attended Cameron University with a major in Criminal Justice. While with CU, she was admired by her service to others as well as helping when anyone was in need. She was trustworthy and dependable and was elected Treasurer in the CU Native American Club where she served on the committee the years she attended.

She started employment with the Lawton Correctional Center operated by the GEO Group where she worked as a Correctional Officer for over 10 years. She had to stop employment due to medical reasons.

She is survived by her sisters, Kimberly and husband Jason Wolf, Julia and husband Timmy Lewis, Debbie Jones and Rena Edge and her brothers, Junior Edge and his wife Pearl. Uncle and aunts Paul and Val

Tooahimpah Tate Sr, Ernest and Cora Tooahimpah Tate Jr, two aunts, Freda Tooahimpah Tate and Rose Tooahimpah Tate. Her cousins/siblings, brothers John and his wife Lorie Keel, sister, Charlotte and her husband Lee Juarez, Elvis and his wife Rachel Keel; Tate's daughter Kaitlin Sarah Juarez, and Dearest Friend Kammie Hilliard both of the home. And many more beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces and close friends.

Tate was preceded in death by her father, Jackie Tooahimpah Tate, her mother Doris Jean Edge, paternal grandparents Ernest and Virginia Tooahimpah Tate Sr, maternal grandparents Robert Geionety and Ruby James. Cousin/sister Norma Elizabeth "Liz" Hoahwah.

Memorial Donations can be made to the American Renal Association.

## Carl Eldon Atauvich



Courtesy Photo

### Atauvich

Carl Eldon Atauvich, 89, of Camp 7 of Cache Okla., passed away on February 16, with his loving family by his side. Atauvich was born to Lee Atauvich and Rose Yokesuite on December 14, 1933.

Atauvich married Carla Tahah Atauvich in 1960 and to this marriage 11 children were joined together as one family. Atauvich attended Fort Sill Indian School at a very young age until he graduated. Then he went on to attend Haskell Indian Nation College.

In January 12, 1956, he enlisted into the Navy until December 23, 1959, earning the rank of Seaman. While in the Navy he was the pitcher for his ships team and a boxer.

After the military he went on to attend college in Durant, Okla., earning his certification in Small Engine Repairs. He worked for the Wildlife Refuge and built the picnic tables across Mt. Scott. He then worked out at Fort Sill Base as a carpenter. He was employed for the Comanche Nation HIP, served as the Director for Comanche Nation Housing Authority for five years and served on the Board of Commissioners of CNHA.

His hobbies included fast-pitch softball as a pitcher that won many tournaments to include having his own team, Cache Chiefs, he was an admirable Gourd Dancer, Captain of Camp 7 Hand game Team and an avid Oklahoma Sooner fan. He loved going casino traveling and hanging out with his grandchildren and being bossy.

He is survived by spouse of oldest daughter, George Wermey, Karla Sue Kowena, Steve Cable and spouse Darla, Carlene, Donna, Tonyelle and spouse Gary Unah, and Donnelle, Kent and spouse Pam; sisters, Arlene Kemp and Eleanor McDaniel; 40 grandchildren; 56 great grandchildren; 17 great great grandchildren; and many, many adopted family.

He is preceded in death by his parents; children, Gerri, Letta, Dale, Renita, Owenetta, and Beakay Clark; sister, Barbara Hoyt; brothers, Vernon, Vandell, and Willis Nauni; both in law, Pat McDaniel; son in laws, Kenny Kowena, Del Wermey, Dennis Wermey, and Bernie Maxey; grandchildren, Steve Cable Jr., Shanelle Aitson, Sarah Wermey, and Gabrielle Aitson.

A viewing was held on February 21, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home. The Prayer Service and Funeral Service was held at Watchetaker Hall on February 21, and February 22. Burial followed directly after the funeral service at Deyo Mission Cemetery under the direction of the Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

## Randy Laurenzana



Courtesy Photo

### Laurenzana

Randy Laurenzana, 66, of Fort Cobb Okla., went to his heavenly home February 17. Funeral service was February 24, at First Caddo Baptist Church, in Fort Cobb, Okla., and burial followed at Ft. Cobb Cemetery, under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Laurenzana was born on May 18, 1956, in Oklahoma City, Okla., to Rudy and Charlene Williams Laurenzana. He grew up in Ft. Cobb, and graduated from Fort Cobb High School, where he played baseball and was an active member of FFA.

Laurenzana also attended Caddo Kiowa Technology Center in Fort Cobb, where the beginning stages of his chosen profession took place. He left his hometown and continued his education at Oscar Rose State College, where he obtained a degree in Radiologic Technology which he loved. He worked as an x-ray technician for 40 years at various hospitals, before retiring in 2018 from Integris Baptist.

He was a member of the Comanche Tribe and was also of Caddo descent. At an early age Laurenzana developed a love for hunting and fishing, especially with his beloved brother Chris, and it continued on into his adulthood, with his cousins and good friends. Laurenzana was a simple man, that loved being an X-Ray tech, taking care of patients, people watching, telling stories and was always on a mission, with a smile on his face to make people laugh. His love for his family was deeply rooted and from the youngest to the oldest, he made sure that everyone knew they were loved.

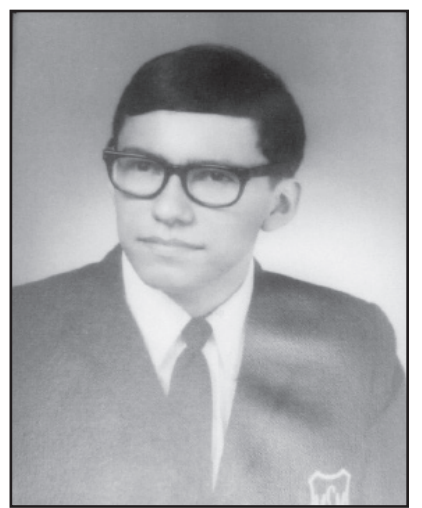
He will be greatly missed by all, and also his fur babies Gator and Stecker. We will see you again, you will be waiting with stories to tell.

Laurenzana is survived by his soulmate of nine years, Debbie Bailey, numerous cousins and friends, also Debbie's sons and their families whom he loved as his own.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rudy and Charlene Williams Laurenzana; brother Chris Laurenzana; grandparents: Herman and Alice Laurenzana and Charles and Bertha Parton Williams; uncles: Hubert Halfmoon, Ray Williams, Alvin Williams, Bruce Williams, Larry Pahcody, Dave Autaubo, and Melford Williams; aunts: Evelyn Autaubo, Carol Pahcody, and Zelma Williams; cousins: Clara Babe Cazares Brucie Williams, Tommy Halfmoon, Bill Williams, Becky Halfmoon, Shirley Judd, Rick Cazares, and Glenn Pahcody.

A special thanks to Carnegie Hospital for working so diligently to save him.

## Glenn Samuel Tehauno



Courtesy Photo

### Tehauno

Glenn Samuel Tehauno, 70, of Fletcher Oklahoma passed away on February 22.

Tehauno was born on October 15, 1952, in Oklahoma City, Okla., to Samuel and Naomi (Conneywerdy) Tehauno. Sam and Naomi married in February, 1939, at the Little Washita Methodist Church NE of Fletcher, Okla. and welcomed four children, Tehauno being the third. He attended and graduated from Mount Saint Mary's High School in Oklahoma City, Okla.

In October of 1972, Tehauno decided to serve his country and joined the United States Air Force where he served for four years. Including one year and 16 days overseas. He completed his Obligation in October of 1976 where he earned the rank of E-4 (Sgt).

Tehauno went on to work in security at Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E) for 25 years. He was a proud full blooded Comanche Tribal member and a direct descendent of Comanche Chief, Ten Bears (*Paru-asemena*). Tehauno became an excellent photographer over the years and loved fishing and cheering on his favorite team, the Texas Rangers and he was an avid Gun collector.

Tehauno was preceded in death by his parents Samuel Tehauno and Naomi Tehauno, brothers Charles Reuben Tehauno and Terry Neil Tehauno, maternal grandparents Charles and Julia Conneywerdy Wahnee paternal grandmother Thurma Cau Cau Tehauno and nephews Christopher Samuel Moreno and William Franklin Riggs.

He is survived by his sister, Wilma Tehauno Riggs, nieces Mari Beth Lodes and Lisa Tehauno and Nephews Charles Reuben Tehauno II (Chip) and Earl Moreno Jr. And In addition, adopted daughter Heather McConnell and grandson Cole.

He was loved by many and will be sorely missed.

## Darlene Joyce Tahdoahnippah Codopony-Mathews



Courtesy Photo

### Mathews

Darlene Joyce Tahdoahnippah Codopony-Mathews, went to be with her Heavenly Father on February 23. Mathews was born

Continued from Page 18

on September 21, 1945, to Day and Lela (Yellowwolf) Tahdoahnippah in Lawton, Okla., but was raised by Dick and Hazel (Yellowwolf) Codopony.

Mathews grew up in Cache and attended Cache schools where she graduated. While at Cache she was an outstanding student and athlete. She earned her Nursing Degree and Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Cameron University. In addition to serving as a Nurse for much of her professional life, Mathews also worked for the Comanche Nation Social Services Department as a Social Worker and for the Comanche Nation Housing Authority as a Director of Housing Management.

She proudly served as the Comanche Nation Princess in 1961 and later served as the original PIO Historian for the Comanche Nation Princess Sorority.

Mathews also was an active member of the Ittanaha Club, a Native American student alumni organization at Cameron University.

From her union with Michael Boos they raised three sons.

She is survived by three sons: Keith Boos and wife Liberty and Justin Boos of Cache and Christian Boos of Lawton and her beloved dog Joshy of the home; five stepchildren: Anetta Townsend, Janet Sue Shunkamolah, John Mathews, William M. Curleychief, and Ron T. Anquo; two sisters: Lavena Honea of Cache and Marlene Cooper of Mustang; brother and wife: Patterson and Charlene Tahdoahnippah of Cache; daughter-in-law: Anita Doxtator of Lawton; grandchildren: Kreg Boos, Kristel Boos, and Kinzee Boos; great-grandchild: Zane Richey; and many nephews, nieces, and extended family members.

She is preceded in death by her husbands: Alex Mathews and Leonard M. Anquo; parents: Dick and Hazel Codopony and Day and Lela Tahdoahnippah; brothers: Leroy Tahdoahnippah, Videll Tahdoahnippah, Ferrill Codopony, Albert "Butch" Pahdocony, and Vincent Tahdoahnippah; grandparents: Oscar and Ada (Wyma) Yellowwolf, grandparents Tahdoahnippah and Towaucy, Codopony and Tachey; brothers-in-law: Ben Honea and Benny Cooper; sisters-in-law: Sheila Tahdoahnippah and Luella Tahdoahnippah; and her pet dog Mootsie Gwah.

**Wilhemina Jean Freese**



Courtesy Photo

It is with a heavy heart that our beloved Mother, Wilhemina Jean Freese, passed away on February 27.

Freese was born to Frank & May (Kosechequetah) Mejia in Lawton on November 5, 1934. The Mejia family resided in Walters since the children were very young.

Freese, was not only a very hard working, beautiful, strong Comanche woman but also very intelligent as she received a full scholarship to the University of Oklahoma after graduating High School.

Freese worked in civil services until her retirement. She and her husband Harvey D.N. "Frosty" Freese raised their four children in Lawton and always had an open door to so many children in the neighborhood.

Freese is survived by her daughters; Jeri M. Freese, Teri L. Smith both of Lawton, sisters; Maria Peavy, Camilita Edwards both of Walters. Brother; Nick Mejia of Tennessee. Grandchildren; Esther Wanton, Chris Smith, Jacob Smith, Brittini Smith- Briggs, Justin Freese, and Marco Freese. 18 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Freese is preceded in death by sons Jim Freese and Larry Freese, Grandson Matthew C. Smith, Parents Frank and May (Kosechequetah) Mejia, sister Delores Dranger, brothers Don Mejia and Raymond Kosechequetah. And husband Harvey D.N. "Frosty" Freese.

There are no services at this time.

**Willis Attocknie Jr.**



Courtesy Photo

**Attocknie**

Willis Attocknie Jr., 76, passed away on March 3, in Lawton, Okla. He was born on November 27, 1947, to Roberta Hawzipta Attocknie and Willis Attocknie Sr.

Attocknie was a member of the 1st Baptist Church in Lawton, Oklahoma. Attocknie was enrolled with the Comanche Nation; he was also of Kiowa Descent. He graduated from Lawton High School in Lawton, Oklahoma. In his early years he was employed with different banks as an accountant. He also did several other jobs. He loved playing baseball and watching all sports. Will loved to watch track, High Jumping.

He is survived by his sister, Fanchon Attocknie; brother, Alvie Attocknie; nephews, Darin Attocknie, Kevin Attocknie, and Keith Attocknie; aunt, Nettie Soontay Sandoval; great nephew, Dalton Attocknie; and great niece, Emmily Attocknie.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Jesse and Linward Attocknie; nephew, Darin Attocknie Jr., grandmother, Alice Soontay; uncles, Howard Soontay Jr., Richard Soontay, Robert Soontay, Hank Tomahsah; and aunts, Bernice Key, Kertha Hogan and Cora Tiddark

A Viewing was March 7, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel. The Funeral Service was March 7, at the Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed at West Cache Creek in Apache, Okla., under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

**Quentin Cordero Suina**



Courtesy Photo

**Suina**

Quentin Cordero Suina, 27, of Albuquerque, NM passed away unexpectedly on February 13. He was born on October 19, 1995, to Greg and Adria Suina.

Suina liked to sing Comanche Hymns and he liked to gourd dance. He graduated high school from Riverside Indian School in 2014. Sunia attended the Comanche Nation College and SIPI.

Sunia was a member of the 4-H Club "Trail Blazers" for many years. While a member Suina attended 4-H Horse School, learning all aspects of caring for horses with over 175 youth participants. Suina won awards for Showmanship competition.

Suina enjoyed attending pow-wows and spending time with his Oklahoma family. He was a OU and Dallas Cowboy fan.

Suina liked camping and learning about Comanche and Cochiti Pueblo history.

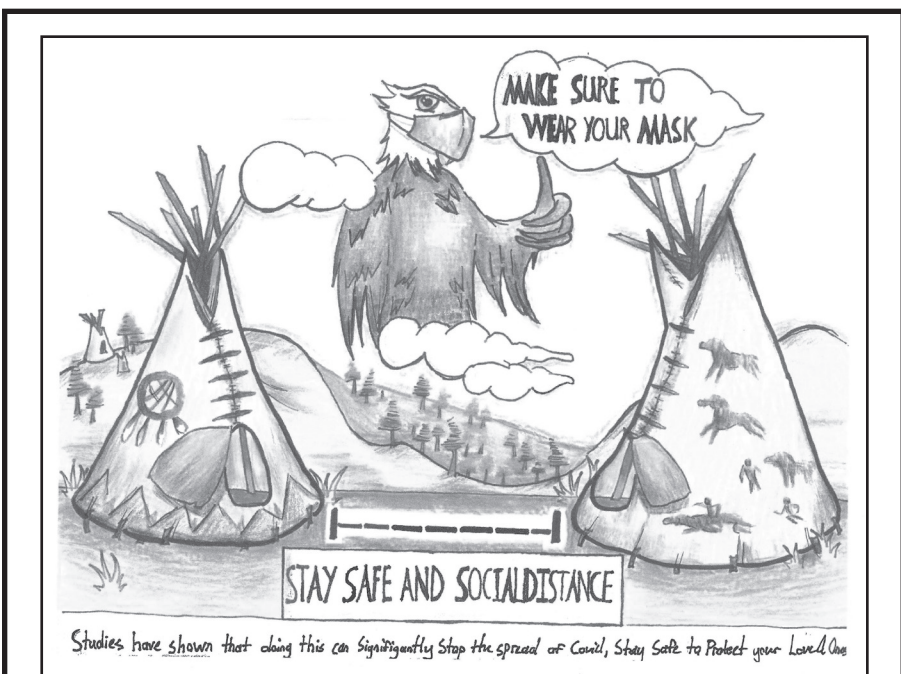
Suina loved his pet "Baby" which traveled everywhere with him,

she was his pride and joy and he treated her like his child.

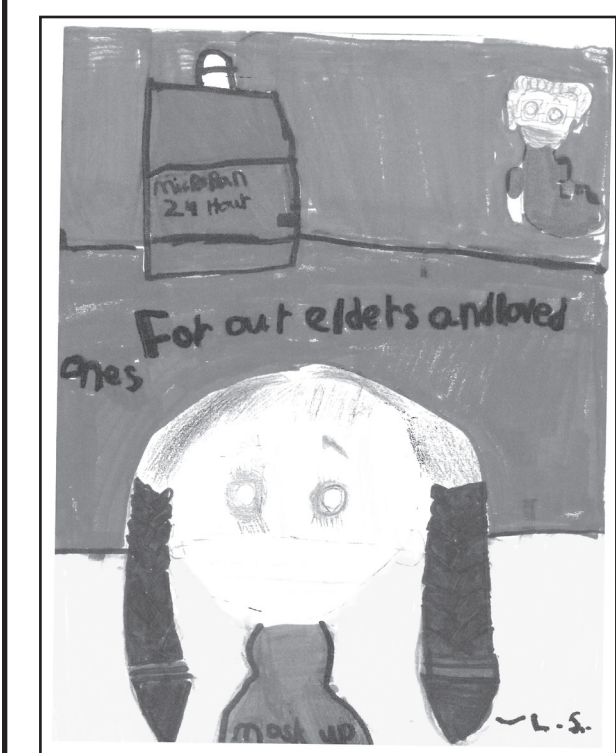
Suina is survived by his parents of the home; brother, Rory Suina of Albuquerque, NM; sisters, Lillene Suina of Hayward, Cali., and Sophie Suina of Albuquerque, NM; nephews, Isaac, William, Braiden, Adrian, Marques, Porter; nieces, Lakeyia, Rylei, Aubree, Lillianna; uncles and aunts, Murray Rhoads Jr. of Cassville, Mo, Melanie and Gaylon Mottah of Lawton Okla., and Jolene and Lynn Schonchin of Elgin, Okla.; grandmother, Ada Suina of Cochiti, NM; grandparents, Kaylene & Erik Kimple of Manteca, Cali.; a special extended mother, LaNora "Momma" Parker; and a large Suina family from Cochiti Pueblo, NM; along with many grandmothers, aunts, uncles, nephews, and nieces.

Suina is preceded in death by his sister, Adria Pasqualita Kaylene Suina; grandmother, Arlene Wockmetooh Jimenez; great grandmother, Lillie Tomahsah Tieyah; great grandfathers, Roy Wockmetooh and Antonio Suina Cochiti Pueblo.

A Prayer Service and all-night wake was held on February 23, at Comanche Reformed Church. Funeral Service was February 24, at Comanche Reformed Church with Donna Chaat-Pewo and Mickey Weryackwe officiating. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.



Studies have shown that doing this can significantly stop the spread of Covid, Stay Safe to Protect your Loved One



**YOUTH ARTIST UPDATE.** Since February, Parker Wiegand's poster, above, has placed First, in his Division, in the regional competition and will move on to compete at the National level. Laylah Sovo's poster, left, placed Third in the regional competition in her Division. Both will receive awards at the Regional level, including the states of Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana and Kansas and all of the Tribes within those

**COMANCHE NATION WORKFORCE**

**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM SUMMER SESSION**

**Application Available: April 3rd**  
**Application Deadline: May 5th**

First come first served  
**MUST HAVE PASSING GPA**  
New for 2023! Introducing payroll direct deposit

**Any Questions?**  
Call: (580) 492-3257  
Email: workforce@comanchenation.com  
Address: 1608 SW 9th St  
Lawton, OK 73501

# Dear TCNN

Letter to the Editor

Dear TCNN:

The following is a Proposed Council Resolution for the Annual Meeting on April 15, 2023: Council Resolution No.--

**THE COUNCIL DIRECTS THE COMANCHE BUSINESS Committee TO DO 16 PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the Tradition of Sovereignty of the Comanche Nation, since time immemorial, which long predates the existence of the United States, establishes the inherent sovereign powers and rights of Comanche Self Government; and WHEREAS, each of the 16 positive projects has an estimated value, savings, or beneficial result or profits and most have increase employment, which all Comanches can work together to support; and NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Council, the Supreme Governing Body of the Comanche Nation, pursuant to the Comanche Constitution, Article VI, Section 7 (I), has the Authority to direct the Comanche Business Committee to do the following:

1. An Accounting System. Sole sourced, no bid contract since 2007.
2. A Credit Union. Deposit Gambling machine money and do per caps.
3. Criminal Misappropriation Budget Laws. Restitution and laws with teeth.
4. Hire an Economic Staff. No one at the Complex to do business plans.
5. Hire a Grants (Planning - Research & Development) Department Staff
6. Tribal General Welfare In-

come Exclusion Act Program. Elder & SS income

7. 638 IHS Planning Grant to compact Comanche Health Services. This project is not overnight. Takes years, we have no accounting system.
8. Agribusiness federal proposal. Idle lands. Crops, stock, orchards, irrigation.
9. 100% wholly owned & operated Comanche Construction Company.
10. Utility, Railroad and Oil & Gas Severance Taxes on oil co. Need revenue
11. Comprehensive Enrollment Audit Budget. Council approved Audit. Prevent Election Fraud.
12. Home health Care & Hospice federal proposal.
13. Do a Hotel & Convention Center by the Lawton Casino.
14. Do a Bingo at the empty Nations of Fun Building by the empty Water Park or other location, as required by an approved Council Resolution.
15. Hire a Consultant(s) to develop a HUD Section 202, Elder Housing Project, application/proposal. Site Location & Drawings.
16. Establish a Land Committee. To evaluate and advise on land purchases and on lands held. The CBC does not have enough time to devote to this area, concerning our future.

CERTIFICATION  
The foregoing Council resolution was adopted at an annual meeting of the Council held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at the Comanche Headquarters, Lawton, Oklahoma by a majority vote of abstaining, a quorum present.

Thomas Narcomey

Dear TCNN,

The Suina family (Adria, Greg, Rory, Lillene, Sophie) and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews would like to thank our friends and family for the outpouring of support and affection during our difficult time.

Thank you to the Comanche Nation Funeral Home, Marilyn Hataway, and the staff. Thank you to the Comanche Reformed Church for opening its doors for us to spend time with our son through the night. We would like to thank Cheryl Pewewardy, Sallie Tonips, Phyllis Narcomey, the Cable family, Cliff and Cheryl Takawana, Renea Toahy, Carlotta Nowell and all who brought flowers and food said prayers, sang hymns, said words of comfort to the family, and took time out of their lives and schedule to be with us. It is through people like you that Jesus shows His love for us. Thanks for all you've done, and we thank God for you.

Ura,  
Numi Sutai

Adria (Rhoads) Suina

## Comanche Nation Higher Education Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Scholarship-2023

Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino, who served for over thirty years as a classroom teacher, is the first and only Native American to be inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. Lorentino's teaching career was inspired by events in her childhood. It took an Oklahoma Supreme Court action on the part of Mrs. Lorentino's parents to allow Dorothy to attend public schools in Oklahoma in 1918. It also was the first major test of the 1924 Citizen Act and a landmark decision for all Native American children at that time.



Dorothy Lorentino seized the opportunity to go to a public school and in turn spent her career of 34 years teaching in Special Education. Mrs. Lorentino's story spans almost a century examining how policy makers denied her and all Native American children from attending public schools, and how Lorentino provided leadership in the struggle to overcome educational barriers for Native American children. In honor of Mrs. Lorentino's accomplishments and dedication, the Comanche Nation would like to acknowledge her memory with a scholarship dedicated in her name for four (4) special students at the 2023 Graduation Banquet.

This scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$2,000 and will be made payable to the school of the recipient's choice.

Requirements:

- Must be attending an accredited 2 or 4 year college/university.
- Must be enrolled as a full-time student.
- Submit a theme essay in response to prompt
- Must have GPA of 3.0 or above.
- Provide most recent official transcript
- Provide College Letter of Admissions
- Provide Comanche CIDB
- Provide Recent Photo.

Applicants for the scholarships will be judged on the information within the essay submitted. Winners will read their essay at the Comanche Nation Higher Education Graduation Banquet on Saturday, June 10, 2023. The deadline for the Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Memorial Scholarship must be received by Friday, May 1, 2023.

**ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BE CONSIDERED.**

Send Scholarship Applications to:  
Comanche Nation Higher Education  
ATTN: Memorial Scholarship  
PO Box 988  
Lawton, OK 73502

If you have any questions, please call the Comanche Nation Office of Higher Education at (580) 699-7211

Comanche Nation Higher Education  
**GRADUATION**  
*Banquet*  
SAVE THE DATE!  
SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023  
7:00PM-9:00PM

"After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And suddenly there was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken by fear of him that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead and now he is going ahead of you to Galilee; that is where you will see him.' Look! I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell his disciples. And suddenly, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him and, clasping his feet, they did him homage. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; there they will see me.'

- Matthew 28:1-10

**COMANCHE LITTLE PONIES**  
53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebration  
May 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 - Mother's Day Weekend  
Comanche Co. Fairgrounds, Expo Center  
920 S. Sheridan Rd., Lawton, OK

The Pow Wow is FREE & Open to the Public ~ Please bring your own chairs  
All Singers, Dancers, Princesses, Clubs & Organizations are Cordially Invited  
Arts & Crafts Vendors, Concession Stands, Raffles & Silent Auction

A Special Invitation to All Mothers ~ Happy Mother's Day!

COMANCHE LITTLE PONIES PRINCESS 2023-24' - GRAISON YELLOWFISH

**PROGRAM**

Friday 4:00 pm Cedar Ceremony (Open to All)  
5:00 pm Gourd Dance  
6:00 pm Scalp & Victory Dance  
7:00 pm Song for CLP Princess  
7:30 pm Gourd Dance Resumes  
10:30 pm End of Program

Saturday 12 Noon Gourd Dance  
2:00 pm New Member Initiation  
5:00 pm Supper Break  
6:00 pm Grand Entry & Contests  
11:00 pm Host Organization Special & Announcement of Contest Winners

**HEAD STAFF**

Master of Ceremonies ~ Gene Sovo  
Head Singer ~ Hah-Tee Delgado  
Head Gourd Dancer ~ Donald Tosee  
Head Lady Dancer ~ Melanie Motah  
Head War Dancer ~ Billy Komahcheet  
Host N. Drum ~ Young Buffalo Horse  
Arena Director ~ Travis Codynah  
Arena Director ~ Charles Tahah

Entire Event LIVE STREAMED via  
**LORENTINO**  
PRODUCTIONS

**~ CONTESTS ~**

Men's Grass ~ Men's Traditional ~ Men's Straight  
Women's Buckskin ~ Women's Jingle  
(16 yrs. +) 1<sup>st</sup> \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$300, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$200

Men's Fancy Dance (16 yrs. +)  
Women's Cloth (16 yrs. +)  
1<sup>st</sup> \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$300, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$200, 4<sup>th</sup> \$100

Boys & Girls Tiny Tots  
(both categories combined, 0-6 yrs.)

Jr Boys (combined) & Jr Girls (combined)  
(7-15 yrs.) 1<sup>st</sup> \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$75, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$50

Special Men's Straight Dance Contest (55 yrs. +)  
Sponsored by the Family of Comanche Little Pony Princess Graison Yellowfish in Honor of Edward Yellowfish

Women's Applique Contest (all ages scrub dance)  
Sponsored by Margaret Wallace & Family in Honor of Granddaughters

Special Invited Guests  
Comanche Nation Princess 2023-24'  
Comanche Nation Jr. Princess 2023-24'

Location: Comanche Nation Powwow Grounds, 584 N W Bingo Rd Lawton, OK 73507  
(580) 699-3347  
gburgess@comancheacademy.com

www.comancheacademy.com

Contact info: Gail Burgess (580) 699-3347  
gburgess@comancheacademy.com  
Not responsible for accidents or theft

**CACS**  
TAMAROSINSHIKANA  
Saturday, April 22nd,  
2023

MC: Mike Burgess  
Head Singers: Kenneth Cozad Sr. & Kenneth Cozad Jr.  
Head Man Dancer: Frank Swift  
Head Lady Dancer: Ellen Tahkahwah-Martinez  
Head Little Boy: Comanche Academy Brave - Isaac Coosewoon-Lonewolf  
Head Little Girl: Comanche Academy Princess - Yesenia Atison  
Arena Director: Lonnie Haun-Gooah  
Co-Host: Walters Service Club

1:00 pm Gourd Dance  
5:00 pm Supper Break  
6:00 pm War Dance Contests:  
Registration opens at 1 pm

Special Invite to:  
Tribal and Organizational Princesses  
All Native American Clubs & Organizations

Location: Comanche Nation Powwow Grounds, 584 N W Bingo Rd Lawton, OK 73507  
(580) 699-3347  
gburgess@comancheacademy.com

www.comancheacademy.com

Contact info: Gail Burgess (580) 699-3347  
gburgess@comancheacademy.com  
Not responsible for accidents or theft

# Milestones

## Happy Belated Birthday!

- February 19 - Sophia Spear Whitewolf "From, Mom & Dad."
- March 7 - Jacob Post
- March 9 - Averl Austin
- March 13 - Joshua White-wolf "From, Mom & Dad."
- March 24 - Cree DuBray
- March 26 - Teta Thompson Toho
- March 26 - Rachel Collins
- March 28 - Kaydrian Aitson

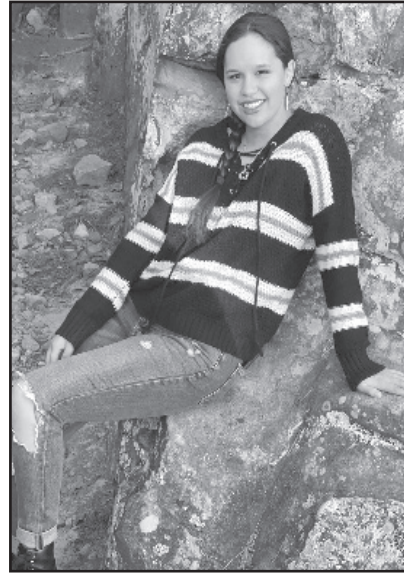


**Happy 18th Birthday**  
Ty Jacob Gallegos  
April 15

~Much love to you from, Mom, your brothers, sisters, aunties, papa, and memaw.



**Happy Birthday**  
Chantal Beatrice Locke  
April 17



**Happy 18th Birthday**  
Clara Williams  
April 21

~I Love You Forver Now. Love, Mom and Dad.



**Happy Birthday**  
Vylet Skye Stonecalf  
April 22

~Wishing you a most Happy Birth-day. Love you bunches. From, Mom, your brothers, sisters, aunties, uncles, papa, and kaku.

## Happy Birthday!



- April - Dalylih Amorina Guerrero
- April 4 - Dylan Tahchaw-wickah
- April 5 - Daphne Wang
- April 15 - Ty Jacob Gallegos
- April 17 - Chantal Beatrice Locke
- April 18 - Tru Duy
- April 21 - Clara Williams
- April 22 - Vylet Skye Stonecalf
- April 23 - Lloyd Heminokeky Jr. "Happy Birthday Dad! Love, your family!!"
- April 28 - Phil Duy
- April 29 - Spencer Paddyaker



**Happy 28th Birthday**  
Spencer Paddyaker  
April 29

~Love, Mom and Dad.



**Happy 14th Birthday**  
Dalylih Amorina Guerrero  
April

~Love always, Mom and Big Brother Ian.



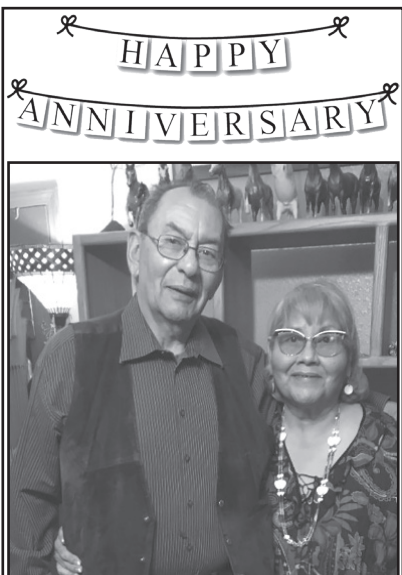
**Happy Belated Birthday**  
Rachel Collins  
March 26

~From Ariane and Mom.



**Happy Belated 1st Birthday**  
Kaydrian Aitson  
March 28

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



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
~Wishing my Hubby a Happy 54th Wedding Anniversary. Thank you for being the wind beneath my wings. May our love continue to flourish.  
April 19, 1969  
**Celebrating 54 years of marriage!**



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
Johnny and Laura Juarez  
April 16, 1998  
**Celebrating 25 years of marriage!**



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
Amanda Whitewolf Suani & Faafetai Suani  
April 30, 2022  
**Celebrating 1 year of marriage!**



**Happily Married**  
February 14, 2023  
**Congratulations!**  
Sunny Large & Andrew Maldonado

**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

- APRIL 5: 10 AM - 2 PM
- APRIL 10: 10 AM - 2 PM
- APRIL 19: 10 AM - 2 PM
- APRIL 26: 10 AM - 2 PM

APRIL 22  
WEEKEND WILLS CLINIC  
10 AM - 2 PM  
(COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURTHOUSE)

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

**Save the Date**  
Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Program's Earth Day Event

When: Friday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2023  
10am-2pm

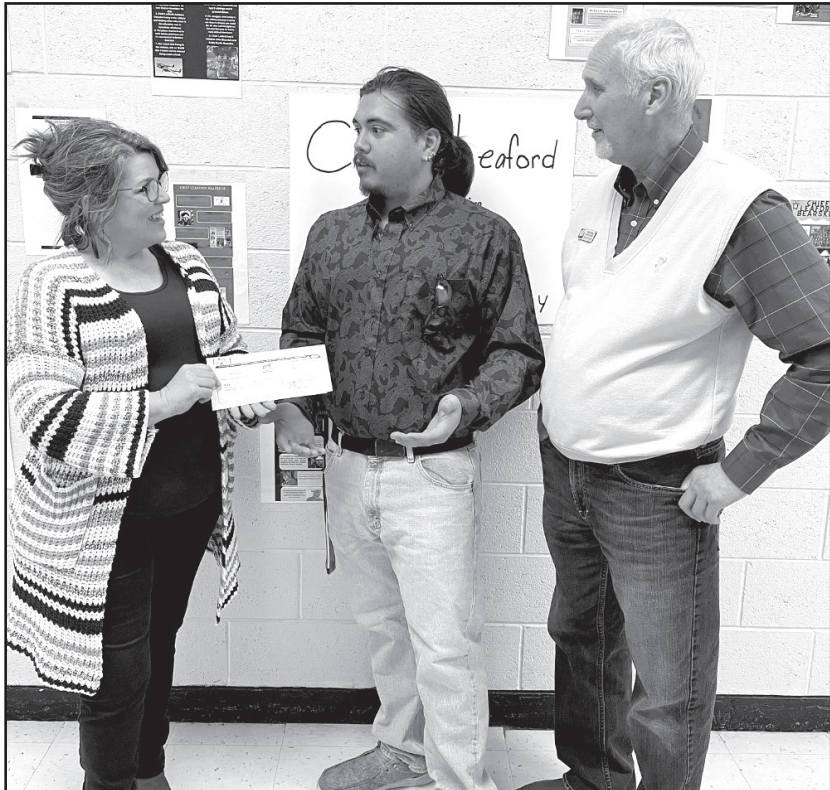
Where: Watchetaker Hall  
(Comanche Nation Complex)

For more information:  
Please contact The Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs  
Phone: (580) 492-3754 Fax: (580) 492-3722

# Tribal Business

## Tseena Enterprises, LLC Donates \$5000 to Aviation Program

Submitted by Tribal Member Micheal Burgess



Courtesy Photo

A generous cash donation in the amount of \$5,000 was presented to Chief Leaford Bearskin Aviation Academy by Tseena Enterprises, LLC. owner George S. Briscoe, III. Tseena Enterprises, LLC., located in Miami, Okla., is a Comanche owned business with a focus on Engineering and Aviation. Briscoe is currently enrolled at Nebraska Indian Community College where he is studying Wildlife Biology and Engineering. Briscoe is a drone enthusiast who explores the use of drone applications

in wildlife study.

Briscoe is strong supporter of the Chief Leaford Bearskin Aviation Academy. His family has a long history of military and governmental service. Briscoe is a member of the Miami Masonic Lodge #140 and member of the Valley of Perfection, Scottish Rite in Tulsa.

Briscoe's cash donation will be used to offset the cost of disassembling and moving the Redbird MX2 simulator to Wyandotte Public Schools.

## Native-owned Business Launches to Help Native Communities Receive Broadband Funding and Access

**Tribal Ready's Virtual Tribal Broadband Office helps tribes access testing tools and information that will more accurately record broadband maps**

Tribal Ready, a Native American-owned-and-governed company with decades of experience in communication network design and delivery to unserved and underserved areas, is launching an outreach program to ensure that Indian Country is accurately mapped for broadband access. Accurate broadband mapping is essential for Tribes to receive funding from the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

Funds from the program are allocated based on an FCC map known as the Fabric. Estimates indicate that location data in the Fabric may be incorrect in the vast majority of cases in rural areas, either by omission or error. Tribal Ready helps Native communities challenge the data and advocate for their concerns about the process.

"It is incumbent on Tribal leaders, citizens, and allies to gather data on a scale large enough to ensure that Tribal nations receive the billions of dollars that are available and necessary to complete broadband expansion projects," said Joe Valandra, CEO of Tribal Ready. "Tribal Ready has created a Virtual Tribal Broadband Office to give Tribes free speed testing tools and information that will make it possible for them to access their fair share of funding."

It's estimated that Indian Country should receive at least \$5 billion from the BEAD program if the data were accurate.

"High-speed broadband is a resource – a means to an end," said Scott Dinsmore, vice president of external affairs at Tribal Ready. "It takes resources to achieve sustainable high-speed networks and the world-class access to economic, education, healthcare and other benefits that come with it."

Tribal Ready believes that the best way to achieve this is for leaders in Indian Country to focus on creating data and guidelines that help states design fair and inclusive challenge processes. At the same time, the company is committed to ensuring that Tribal data sovereignty is secure and protected.

Tribal Nations are encouraged to sign up for the Virtual Tribal Broadband Office by visiting Tribal Ready's site.

Follow Tribal Ready on social media:

Twitter - @TribalReady

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LinkedIn - Tribal Ready, Inc.

About the Company Founders

**Joseph Valandra**, president and CEO of Tribal Ready, Inc., is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota. He has more than 25 years of experience in executive-level leadership roles in the public, private, government, and non-profit sectors, including an extensive background in Tribal economic development. Using his collective experiences in government, business, and gaming, Valandra has launched various ventures uniquely focused on the technological development, marketing, and deployment of products and services designed to benefit Native nations. He is deeply committed to hard work and determination, leading to expanding opportunities for all Natives. [joe@tribalready.com](mailto:joe@tribalready.com)

**Scott Dinsmore**, vice president of external affairs at Tribal Ready, Inc., is Pakan'yani Maidu of Strawberry Valley Rancheria. Calling upon over 20 years of award-winning experience in network, sales, and marketing, Dinsmore has bridged the divide for large and small organizations looking to expand their footprint and forge a path into the future. He founded a 501c3 non-profit (The One Native Nation Foundation, Inc.) to provide scholarships for Native American youth from both federally recognized and unrecognized tribes. Scott believes connecting Native communities to the highest quality broadband service available is fundamental to Tribal data sovereignty and self-determination. [scott.dinsmore@tribalready.com](mailto:scott.dinsmore@tribalready.com)



Courtesy Photo

Co-owners of Knight Lawn Care a Comanche owned business are from L: Scotty, Richie and Cody.

Richard Knight III, is one of the co-founders of Knight Lawn Care.

Knight said that he and his brothers, Scotty and Cody wanted to start their own business for years. Knight said, "We are just three Comanche enrolled brother of Geronimo, Okla. We are proud of our name and want to continue success as our dad and mom did when they had their own business in the past."

The Knights come from the Mihecoby (check spelling) Cable and Knight families.

Their services usually go a 50 mile radius, but will consider further distances. Comanche tribal elders will be given preferences and be the main priority, according to Knight.

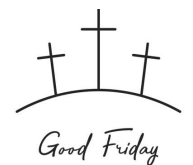


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*Good Friday*

**The Comanche Nation Offices will be closed April 7, for Good Friday. Offices will re-open on April 10.**



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*Come by and visit with tribal leadership, departments, and staff. Light refreshments will be served.*

**When:**  
Thursday, April 13, 2023

**Time:**  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Where:**  
8014 N. Western Ave. Suite D  
Oklahoma City, OK

**Who's Coming:**

- Tribal Leadership
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- Workforce (WIOA)
- Youth Services
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- Social Services
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