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# THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Lords of the Plains Comanche Strong, Stronger Together

VOLUME 24 EDITION 7

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Pia Nohi Tabeeni M̄ta (July) 2023

Comanche Nation News  
PO Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502

PSIRT STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
OKLA CITY, OK  
PERMIT NO 1541



Courtesy Photo

"The Ambassadors," by Eric Tippeconnic

## Eric Tippeconnic Honored at Symposium

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

One of the featured artists at the June 13-14 Sovereignty Symposium in Oklahoma City was Dr. Eric Tippeconnic, Comanche Nation member and tenured track Professor of American Indian Studies at California State University San Marcos. Dr. Tippeconnic was honored with the Sovereignty Award. He painted the original acrylic canvas piece "The Ambassadors," depicting two Comanche women on horseback. The image was utilized as promotional art for the symposium poster, shirts, and other merchandise. In addition, Tippeconnic's painting "Briefcase Warrior" was utilized as promotional art for the 2018 Sovereignty Symposium. "The Ambassadors" and "Briefcase Warrior" hang outside the Oklahoma State Supreme Court chambers in the Oklahoma Justice Center. In addition to his artwork, Tippeconnic has served as a panelist and moderator at the Symposium since 2017. The Sovereignty Award is premised on consistent contributions to the Sovereignty Symposium. Some of the past winners are Harvey Pratt and Susan Shown Harjo. Tippeconnic is the great-grandson of Tupi-Kuni, grandson of John Tippeconnic, and son of Norman Tippeconnic Sr.

"As Chairman of the Comanche, I have faith in our Comanche Nation and TOGETHER we are making a positive impact for our People. We are definitely "Comanche Strong!" said Mark Woommavovah, Chairman of the Comanche Nation.

Tippeconnic has a website, <https://www.ericippeconnic.com>, stating, "Comanche artist Eric Tippeconnic is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation on his father's side, and his mother hails from Copenhagen, Denmark. Tippeconnic's interest in painting and art was heavily influenced while growing up on numerous reservations and indigenous communities, as well as from traveling to Denmark each summer to visit his mother's side. Tippeconnic's cultural diversity and love of history and art from an early age helped develop his interest and passion for creating art from the moment he could hold a pencil. Using bright, rich, and vibrant color combinations, Tippeconnic utilizes his artwork to capture movement that serves as a metaphor for the viewer, which boldly states that Indigenous American cultures, while intimately connected to their history, are, in fact, contemporary, alive, and constantly evolving. Tippeconnic completed his Ph.D. in History at the University of New Mexico. He is the first Comanche to receive a Ph.D. in the field of History. Tippeconnic resides in southern California with his family and teaches at California State University San Marcos in the American Indian Studies department."

## Comanche Business Committeeman No. 3, Jordan Fox, Sworn-In June 16



Photos by Heaven Williams/News Staff

LEFT: Chairman Mark Woommavovah, right, swears in Jordan Fox as CBC No.3 with the assistance of Lori Fox, center.

Jordan Fox took the Oath of Office as Comanche Nation Business Committeeman (CBC) No. 3 on June 16 in the Code Talker Room at the Comanche Nation Complex. Fox won the Run Off Election against Robert Komahcheet by a total of 9 votes, with the voting results being 646 (50%) Fox and 637 (50%) for Komahcheet. Fox thanked everyone who supported him throughout the Election and said he was going to be a chaplone to the Tribal Members' voices. BELOW: Vice Chairman, Dr. Cornell Pewewardy, performing an honor song for the Comanche people.



Courtesy Photo

## Housing Authority Awarded \$2 Million Grant for Home Repairs

CNHA to rehabilitate up to 27 homes with 2022 federal funding

Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA), a Comanche Nation-affiliated organization that promotes self-sufficiency and provides affordable, safe and decent housing to low-income tribal members, received a \$2 million federal grant on behalf of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), marking its ninth consecutive year as a grant recipient. The funding will further CNHA's home rehabilitation efforts to increase access to affordable housing for tribal members.

"Ongoing housing rehabilitation is a necessity to provide safe and viable living spaces to tribal members," said Nora Sovo, deputy director of CNHA. "The grant's impact goes further than rehabilitating homes. It offers residents a chance to stay in the homes and communities that their families have helped build for generations."

CNHA received the grant as part of the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program, which services 55 tribal communities with this award cycle. As the ICDBG grant explicitly allows a focus on home repairs, CNHA plans to complete interior and exterior repairs in up to 27 homes over a three-year period.

Interior rehabilitations will focus on electrical panel upgrades, plumbing repairs and bathroom repairs, as well as installation of interior doors, cabinets, counter tops, plumbing fixtures, water heaters, flooring, insulation, duct work and HVAC units. Exterior rehabilitations will include the replacement and repair of roofs, exterior doors, siding, generator installation, garage doors and pin pad openers, foundation repairs and energy efficient windows.

"Once the grant is completed, we will have invested a total of \$2.7 million into our Nation's residents," said Sovo. "Our goal is to make critical and meaningful changes throughout our community that our tribal members can take pride in calling home."

The program is now accepting applications from Comanche Nation members who are living within CNHA's service areas and are income eligible. CNHA will service homes in need of rehabilitation services based upon living conditions and other eligibility requirements which include maximum home expenditure limits. All services must be completed within the grant's three-year term life.

CNHA currently serves five counties in Southwest Oklahoma, including Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Kiowa and Tillman, for their federal grant programs. To learn more about the ICDBG Home Rehabilitation Program or to apply, call (580) 357-4956 or visit [www.comanchehousing.com](http://www.comanchehousing.com).



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVATED. The Comanche Nation Emergency Management was activated by the Comanche Nation Chairman Mark Woommavovah June 15, following a severe thunderstorm that produced tornadoes in the Southwest Oklahoma area. TOP LEFT: Jared Kopaddy, Harry McClung and Kevin Geimausaddle remove a fallen tree on June 17. TOP RIGHT: Lynn Schonchin boards up a busted window June 16. BOTTOM: Jimmy Parker removes a fallen tree the afternoon of June 17.



# Happy Chief's Day July 14



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## THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mtra (July)  
Fourth of July Month

The award-winning *Comanche Nation News*, the official communication of the Comanche Nation, is available at no charge upon request. The deadline to submit information for the August edition is 5 p.m., July 15.

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- **News items** of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
- **Photographs** will be copied and will become the property of TCNN. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
- **The Milestones Page** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. The Passings/Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. TCNN publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. The Obituaries Page is for tribal members only.
- **TCNN** will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations. The guidelines for flyer submission are: Pow-wow flyers have to be from an established Comanche organization. There has to be contact person and number on the organization's annual flyer.
- **We reserve the right to edit all material. Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed. Letters to the Editor must be signed with a legible name, and have an 800 word limit. The letters to the editor or articles contained in *The Comanche Nation News* does not reflect the views or opinions of the PIO staff.**

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## Government

## A Total of Seven Resolutions are Presented at the June CBC Meeting

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**Editor's Note: This is an overview of the June 3, Comanche Business Committee Monthly Meeting, and not the official minutes. To obtain a copy of the official minutes, please contact the Office of the Chairman, (580) 492-3251. You can watch the meeting in its entirety online at comanchenation.com.**

Chairman Woommavovah called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Secretary/Treasurer conducted the roll call. All CBC were present, and a quorum was established. Wahnee conducted the invocation.

CBC No. 3, Alice Kassanavoid, motions to approve the minutes of the May 2023 meeting. CBC No. 4, Robert Komahchee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid motions to table Resolution No. 57-2023 until the July meeting. CBC No. 2, Ross Kahrahr seconds it. The motion carries 6/0/0.

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

Executive/General Council Officer Reports

Chairman Woommavovah reported he attended all required meetings. He and the Realty Director met with the BIA Director to discuss the fee-to-trust application process. He attended numerous graduation ceremonies for Comanche graduates at different high schools and colleges. He was the guest at the University of Oklahoma ROTC Commissioning Ceremony. He and the First Lady honored the CIVA Auxiliary Organization with a brunch to honor their commitment to service and dedication to the Comanche veterans. He was a part of the Comanche Little Ponies' annual powwow. He attended the honoring of Sallie Kerchee for 45 years of working at the Goodyear company. He attended the Comanche Elder Center's Wisdom Warriors Walking Club Banquet. He, along with the First Lady, the Comanche Nation Princess, the Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, and the CIVA Princess, represented the Comanche Nation at the Armed Forces Day Parade. He attended the CIVA Armed Forces Day Banquet. He, with five other tribal members, represented the Comanche Nation at the Tour de Meers Bicycle Race. He greeted the students and parents on the first day of summer school at the Comanche Academy.

Vice Chairman Dr. Cornel Pewewardy reported he attended the summer camp at Riverside Indian School. He attended all the meet and greets of the candidates running for office. He attended all required meetings. He met with the CEO of the Native American Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City for program planning. He spoke with students at the Sovereign Community School in Oklahoma City. He spoke at the MMIP at the Oklahoma State Capital. He attended the KCA Veterans Powwow and the Comanche Little Ponies Powwow. He thanked Oklahoma Legislatures Troy Caldwell and John Montgomery for overriding SB 429 regarding tribal regalia at graduations. He congratulated the parents of graduates and urged all tribal members to vote.

Secretary/Treasurer Wahnee reported he worked with the tribe's accounting firm to ensure all accounting was thorough and distributed a report to the CBC. He monitored the ARP Office and operations to ensure payments were getting processed. He attended the CIVA Armed Forces Day Banquet. He reviewed the Realty Department land holdings and reported a book now showing all the land owned by the Comanche Nation. It will be uploaded to the Comanche Nation website once updated. He is working on the fee properties under trust and waiting on the BIA to respond. He met with the Tax Administrator to ensure the CBC directions were provided for and complied with for the last six months. He monitored the entities' financial accounts to ensure they were complying. He worked with the IT Dept. and the Tribal Administrator

(TA) about upgrading the Nation's website.

## Committee/Board Reports from CBC

Indian Health Board- CBC #3 - They met on May 8 and were given updates on the Strongheart Study, and the acting CEO gave updates on the services units in Carnegie, Anadarko, and Lawton. Renovations are ongoing for the pharmacy. The next project is the Emergency Room. Any hospital complaints can be turned in to the Patient Advocate.

Cow-Calf Program- CBC #4 - They did not meet last month. Komahchee announced they are applying for a grant to have a meat processing plant.

Tax Commission- Secretary/Treasurer - Wahnee gave the report during the Executive Committee's report.

KCALUC-Chairman reported they are reviewing all leases and maintaining all of the KCA cemeteries. The committee is still looking for a director. The job description can be found on their website. He added the KCA will auction off the items at the waterpark and all funds will go to the KCA fund. A discussion followed about the KCA property and the water park.

CNHA- CBC #3 - Kassanavoid reported all CBC members were present for the meeting except for Ross Brandt (Kahrahr) who missed the last two meetings consecutively. They are awaiting BIA funds for a new program to assist out of area tribal members. The Housing's Elders Program is on a waiting list. All emergencies are going through the HIP Program.

Enterprise- CBC #3 & CBC #4 - Kassanavoid reported per the charter, the Enterprise is only required to give an annual report and that was given at their annual meeting held Feb. 25. They are looking to hire a CEO. The closing date is June 9; more information can be found on the Comanche Nation website.

## Resolutions

**Resolution No. 53-2023-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1292 - Kassanavoid motions to accept the resolution. Wahnee seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 54-2023-** Enrollment Eligible - Kassanavoid motions to accept the resolution. Komahchee seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 55-2023-** Tribal Court Lien Resolution - Kassanavoid makes a motion with the amendments given by the tribal attorney to accept the resolution. Komahchee seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 56-2023-** Law Enforcement Agreement with Cotton Co. Detention Ctr - Kahrahr motions to accept the resolution. Wahnee seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 57-2023-** Realty 909 SW D Purchase Resolution - tabled

**Resolution No. 58-2023-** Realty 5% BIA Lease Resolution - Kahrahr motions to accept the resolution. Pewewardy seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 59-2023-** ECDC Carryover Funds Resolution - Kassanavoid motions to accept the resolution. Komahchee seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 60-2023-** CBC Remote Attendance for Official Meetings Resolution - Komahchee motions to table the resolution. Kassanavoid seconded the motion. There are three "yes" votes and three "no" votes. Woommavovah is the deciding vote. He votes to table it.

## New and Old Business

Vice Chair- Freedom of Information Request - Vice Chairman Pewewardy motions to have the following from CEO of Comanche Entertainment, Mia Tahdoahnippah, in coordination with Comanche Nation Gaming Commissioner, Jonathan Ramirez, to provide the following: a hard copy receipt of Mark Woomma-

From the Chairman's Desk



## The Gold Standard

Where are you currently focusing your attention? What opportunities are you currently pursuing? If you were to see them, what rewards would they bring? Wealth? Promotion? Recognition? Awards? Let's put them in perspective. Take this quiz:

1. Name the three wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last three Heisman Trophy winners.
3. Name the last three winners of the Miss America contest.
4. Name five people who have won the Nobel prize.
5. Name the last decade's World Series winners.

How well did you do? How many names did you know? Half? Seventy-five percent? These people and teams, are the best in the world at what they do. They have proved that they have the magic touch in the area of expertise, and they have achieved great recognition. But what kind of impact have they made? More specifically, how much impact have they had on you? (Obviously not much if you can't even remember most of their names.)

Now I want you to take another quiz:

1. Name three coaches/teachers, who inspired you to achieve in school.
2. Name three friends who helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name three people who taught you something worth-while.
4. Name three people who made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Name three people whom you enjoy spending time.

You may not have scored 100% on the second quiz either but I'm sure your score was better than the first one. Why? Because these are the people who had the "magic touch," an impact in your life! Adding value to you was important to them. They focused on others not themselves. If you want to do something that will make an impact on your own life, then treat people better than they treat you, go the extra mile, help people who cannot help you, do the right thing when no one is watching, and keep your promises even if it hurts.

You can tell when people have the "magic touch," with others, because they create a legacy that outlives them and it's a legacy you can be proud of. As Comanche's we have a legacy, our families, our culture heritage, our tribal traditions, and Comanche pride... we are definitely "Comanche Strong-Stronger Together!"

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. (Psalm 78:4)

URA,

Chairman Woommavovah

vovah's children's book, "The Little Indian Runner," as purchased by Tahdoahnippah; A hard copy of the vendor's license for non-gaming business, and a hard copy of any updated renewal of the vendor's license. Tahdoahnippah took the floor and gave a history of the requested information and said she provided it to the CBC Administration and said it is up to the CBC if it gets distributed. Woommavovah gave a book history and said he paid for the publishing out-of-pocket. He has donated thousands of books to schools, daycares, libraries, and children's hospitals, to name a few. He added that he does not receive any profit from the book. All profits the book raises go to charities, mainly Autism Oklahoma, in honor of tribal member Lucas Owens, who is autistic, and has given \$1,500 to Autism Oklahoma this year. He provided photos of checks given to various schools and organizations. The motion fails.

Tanisha Burgess asked if the new election board had been sworn in. Woommavovah said they will after the run-off election is complete. A discussion followed.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to go into Executive Session. Komahchee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid makes a motion to come out of the Executive Session. Komahchee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid motions for the Chairman to attend the American Indian Governmental Military Awards in June and the Comanche Summer in Palo Duro Canyon. Komahchee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Pewewardy makes a motion

to convene a subcommittee to map out a plan for hosting an educational summit this fall to focus on preschool to post-secondary students. Kahrahr seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid motions for the CBC to travel to the Shoshone Language Reunion. Komahchee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Kassanavoid motions for the CBC to attend the Tribal Self Governance Conference in Tulsa at the end of the month. Komahchee seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Wahnee makes a motion to move \$ 1 million from the New Business account to the Enterprises and place it under the direction of the CEO for economic development to be expended by the CEO when hired. Kahrahr seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

The tribal attorney asks to entertain a motion that Martina Mint-horn be recognized as the Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Officer for the Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Office and the day-to-day point of contact for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for government-to-government consultation with the Nation with regard to her post locations for the construction of the cell tower within the Wichita Wildlife Refuge and asks Woommavovah to send a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to that effect.

Kassanavoid makes the motion. It is seconded by CBC No. 1, Hazel Tahsequah. The motion carries 6/0/0.

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

# Official Voting Results from the June 10 Run Off Election



**COMANCHE NATION OF OKLAHOMA**  
2023 RUN-OFF ELECTION  
June 10, 2023

**OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS**

SECRETARY/TREASURER	CACHE	WALTERS	OKC	APACHE	LAWTON	ANADARKO	EARLY LAWTON	EARLY COMPLEX	ABSENTEE	HAND COUNT	TOTAL	%
MIKE KEAHBONE	71	17	24	10	99	8	79	55	271	1	635	49%
JOHN DAVID WAHNEE	57	24	23	18	50	13	62	29	384	1	661	51%
<b>COMMITTEEPERSON NO.3</b>												
TANISHA SUE BURGESS	63	14	18	17	84	6	66	30	226	2	526	41%
ALICE MARIE KASSANAVOID	65	26	29	11	66	15	73	54	418	0	757	59%
<b>COMMITTEEPERSON NO.4</b>												
JORDAN LEE FOX	70	19	17	16	87	10	72	34	320	1	646	50%
ROBERT DOUGLAS KOMACHEET	58	22	29	12	60	11	68	50	326	1	637	50%
<b>TRIBAL ATTORNEY</b>												
CROWE & DUNLEVY	66	19	25	14	64	13	73	39	306	1	620	50%
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLC	56	18	20	12	76	6	59	42	323	1	613	50%

**CERTIFICATION**

We, the undersigned election officials of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate abstract of the votes cast in the Run-Off Election held on Saturday, June 10, 2023. We further certify that said election was held in accordance with the Election Policy of the Comanche Nation.

*Liz Ware*  
*Francene Frisch*  
*Jandra Chesnut*  
*Marilyn Tiger*  
*Joseph Fagin*  
*Elizabeth Phillips*  
*Key Amets*  
*Michelle Wetsellins*  
*Kimmy Brady*  
*Charlotte Tiger*  
*Francene Monerkit*  
*Key Penman*  
*Chelle Scott*

## State Bill 429 Effects Hundreds of Native Graduates in Oklahoma State Legislature Overturns Veto ; Law Goes Into Effect July 1

Story by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On May 1, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt vetoed Senate Bill (SB) 429. The veto comes about a week before some students' graduation.

Comanche Nation Vice Chairman, Cornel Pewewardy, said he helped write SB 429, which started about five years ago after he returned to Lawton, Okla. He shared the idea with Representative Trey Caldwell, stating that other states have passed laws protecting native students at graduation.

Pewewardy said he showed Caldwell various templates from states such as Oregon, Washington and California.

"As my understanding, there is nothing like this, and we need this desperately because I've been meeting with a lot of native students, and they were caught in the conundrum that they could not wear any tribal regalia at their graduations," Pewewardy said. "We went to work to craft such a bill."

The veto impacted one parent, Danielle Werito, from Elgin Public Schools. She said it was okay for her daughter, Anabah Werito, to wear a feather but not a beaded cap to graduation. Anabah talked to the senior sponsor, who said she couldn't walk across a stage if she wore a beaded cap.

Danielle said her daughter questioned why she couldn't wear a beaded cap, which is part of her heritage, but the school could host a baccalaureate with a religious prayer.

Werito said her daughter chose not to wear the

beaded cap to graduation.

"It is a tough decision, and we do not want to take away from any of the other kids that are still graduating in her class," she said.

Pewewardy said students could make a standpoint.

"This is quite the issue...just talking about one of the Comanche citizens [Anabah] who attends Elgin Public Schools, she was denied that right, and that's why we became advocates to ensure that superintendent knows that we're in opposition to his decision," he said. "And we base it on not only our resolution but...a religious right, a constitutional right and also self-determination public schools."

Werito said she'd attend more meetings, including school board meetings, to push for change.

"Because this problem just needs to stop," she said. "No kid should have to feel like this, especially a day or a day or two before their graduation. This is a celebration and an accomplishment for all. Not just Native Americans or minorities in general, every race."

She said Native citizens must find a way to fix the bills.

"We're going to have to get with Congress, and we're going to have to fix these laws," she said. "...Even like the bill Governor Stitt just vetoed, and it passed 90 to 1, and he is a citizen of a tribe that is here in Oklahoma...he should know how passionate we are about ourselves."

Pewewardy said the bill took multiple times to

pass, starting three years ago.

"It was unsuccessful; I don't think it got out of the house," he said. "So, we tried it again... [in 2022] the same way, and it got stopped at the house. But this year it passed not only the house and senate...but it got vetoed...by Governor Stitt."

He said the Comanche Nation advocates cultural enrichment and knows that students from Pre-K through doctoral programs will be confronted with institutional policy.

Pewewardy said it's been an uphill battle since Native Americans have been granted the right to vote.

"And to express ourselves in our own way, in our tradition and our language, has been our challenge," he said. "Because it's also been an uphill battle fighting against... Angelo conformity; meaning that you speak English only and we don't. I see English as a foreign language, actually. Our language is Numunu, the people's language."

Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, said the Comanche Nation responded to the veto of SB 429. He said the Comanche Nation passed a motion at a Comanche Business Committee meeting to send a letter to Stitt.

"What the governor did is he failed to uphold his duty to more than 156,000 native students in the public school system in Oklahoma," he said.

Woommavovah said it's an expression of students' legal rights.

"We're going to back

our students; we feel this is very important," he said.

He said the letter's significance is to voice the Nation's opinion against the bill's veto by Governor Stitt.

"We stand behind our culture. It's our pride for our students to express this, and it's also their expression of religion," he said. "So, we 100 percent back our students, and we do it through unity, and we do it through our nation."

Woommavovah said he hopes the Nation's voice reaches out to the leadership of the state of Oklahoma.

"Our tribal leaders are rallying to overturn this," he said. "We know the importance of expressing our culture and our cultural heritage. So, we're going to unify, and we're going to take everything we have, and we're going to fight to override this, and hopefully, the Senate and House override this veto."

Pewewardy said he was asked to remove his feather from his graduation cap due to policy regulations.

"I took the feather off and tucked it into my cap and gown; however, when I went to the stage, I was the next one up to get the diploma, and I pulled it out and put it back on my cap."

Woommavovah said the issue united the nation to help current and future students.

Pewewardy said it's about a 45-year-long history. He graduated from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and said his parents gave him an eagle feather.

"And I put it on top of my cap, and I stood in line

with hundreds of other students...and I guess my feather caught the attention of officers at the graduation ceremony," he said.

Governor Kevin Stitt's veto was overruled on May 25 by the Oklahoma legislature.

Thank you to the members of the Oklahoma Legislature who voted to override Governor Stitt on bills important to the Cherokee Nation and tribal citizens across the state," Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma Chuck Hoskin, Jr. said in a statement to Native News Online. "Nearly every legislator

voted to overturn the vetoes."

The law goes into effect July 1.

The Comanche Nation Public Information Office has contacted the governor's office but has not received a comment on the overruling.

**LEGAL AID CLINIC**  
FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS

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

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

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**DATES**

JULY 5: 10 AM - 2 PM  
JULY 12: 10 AM - 2 PM  
JULY 19: 10 AM - 2 PM  
JULY 26: 10 AM - 2 PM

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

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

# Three Comanche War Pony Casino Jackpot Winners Take Home Nearly Three-Quarters of a Million Dollars

Three guests strike big in the span of 21 days at a Comanche Nation Entertainment (CNE) Property



Devol, Okla. (June 14, 2023)— Comanche War Pony Casino, a premier Comanche Nation Entertainment (CNE) gaming destination in Devol, has defeated all odds in the span of 21 days. Three guests hit life-changing jackpots, totaling almost three-quarters of a million dollars in winnings.

"While we see jackpots hit at our properties often, three wide area progressive jackpots hitting in less than a month at one property is almost unheard of. Each gaming machine is linked to the same games at other properties throughout the state, so for a smaller casino to have this many jackpot hits truly defies the odds," said Jay Martinez, general manager of Comanche War Pony Casino. "Winnings this large can substantially help someone in their personal

life, whether that be paying for student loans, rent or helping out family. Nothing compares to seeing our guests walk away with these winnings."

The first jackpot winner was a guest from Wichita Falls, Texas who won \$280,367.51 from a \$10 bet. Following suit, a guest from Iowa Park, Texas claimed \$208,340 and the most recent winner, Renee from Corinth, Texas, took home \$177,428.60 while playing a Little Shop of Horrors slot machine.

Comanche War Pony Casino offers 250 top-of-the-line gaming machines. "Out of our 250 slot machines, three of them hit six figure jackpots in the span of one month and two of the jackpots came from the same game just a few machines apart," said Martinez.

Among its gaming machines, two of the jackpots

were acquired on a Jackpot Gold Standard slot machine and the other on a Little Shop of Horrors slot machine. The casino also offers a variety of other popular games, including The Vault, Gold Hills Lucky Mule, digital Craps machines, Cashnado and more.

"When we opened Comanche War Pony Casino last year, we intentionally installed some of the newest and one-of-a-kind games in Oklahoma to provide guests with an unparalleled experience," said Martinez. "It is safe to say the games have exceeded our expectations, offering our guests the chance to win life-changing lump sums and solidifying our motto of win more, play longer!"

The streak of jackpot winners at CNE properties started a month prior, with a guest at Comanche Travel

Plaza and Casino, located directly across the street from Comanche War Pony Casino, hitting the largest jackpot in the travel plaza's history. The guest won a total of \$336,000 on a The King of Coin gaming machine.

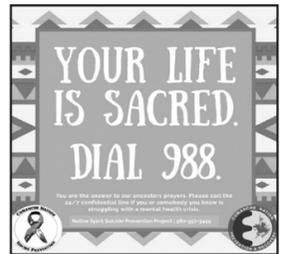
The casino is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to midnight Sunday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. To learn more about Comanche War Pony Casino, visit <https://warponycasino.com>.

**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, Comanche War Pony Casino in Devol and Coman-

che Cache Casino in Cache. 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.



Follow the Comanche Nation Public Information Office on Social Media:



TCNPIO



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The Comanche Nation News



@thecomanchenationnews



COMANCHE NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOT LINE (580) 492-3628

## Comanche Spur Casino Celebrates Two Decades of Gaming and Entertainment

Comanche Nation Entertainment (CNE) property reaches 20-year milestone

Comanche Spur Casino, one of six Comanche Nation Entertainment (CNE) properties in Oklahoma, is celebrating two decades of gaming, entertainment and service. The casino honored its 20-year milestone with a public celebration on June 24 with live music, food, prizes and gaming promotions.

"To witness and take part in Comanche Spur Casino's growth over the past 20 years has been nothing short of a privilege," said Mia Tahdooahnippah, CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment. "This type of achievement cannot be credited to just one event or person. Our local community, guests and team members are the reason this milestone became a reality. Each have contributed to Spur's success and growth, which is why this celebration is for everyone to come together and honor what we have all accomplished."

Located at 9047 U.S. Highway 62 in Elgin, the celebration kicked off at 4 p.m. with live music on an outdoor stage from Zack Crow and The Tito Lindsey Band, along with a performance inside the casino by DJ Suspense. Guests also enjoyed complimentary food, swag bags and hourly prize drawings for the chance to win up to \$200 in cash and

more. The event is open to the public and free to attend.

Originally opened in 2003, Comanche Spur Casino has grown substantially over the years, now offering more than 170 top-of-the-line gaming machines to guests.

The casino is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Thursday and 24 hours Friday through Sunday. To learn more about Comanche Spur Casino and its upcoming anniversary celebration, visit <https://www.comanchespurcasino.com>.

### 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, Comanche War Pony Casino and Comanche Cache Casino. Its Comanche Travel Plazas, Smoke Shops and Quick Stops are located throughout Southwest Okla.

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 prop-

erties 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.



Tito Lindsay of the Tito Lindsay Band



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Casino employees from left: Ursula Poemoceah, Mele Tuaila and Thomasita Portillo serving free lunch to guest attending the event.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Spur Casino staff members from left: Reba Elgersma, Cari Corriveau, Erin Hutton, Amber Tiddark, Michelle Perry, Gladys Tehauno and Kelci Kalaukahi pose for a quick picture.

# Programs

## Higher Education Student of the Month Clara Williams



Courtesy Photo

### Williams

This is Clara Paige Williams. She is attending Cameron University as a PLUS Scholarship Member. Williams is majoring in a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a concentration in Graphic Design.

Her parents are Thomas and Jennifer Williams. Williams feels so blessed to have such a wonderful family, as they have helped her flourish through every aspect of her life, and they have continued to encourage her throughout her college career.

Some of Williams' future plans include not only obtaining her degree in the fine arts, but also to continue some of her passions such as, writing short fictional horror stories along with arts and crafts such as embroidery, crocheting, cross-stitching, and my newest flame in the crafting world: beading.

Williams' last and longest hobby is also the driving factor in obtaining her college degree: Gaming. Williams intends on earning her degree with a concentration in Graphic Design so she can then branch off and be a part of the creative and intriguing world of game development.

## Higher Education Student of the Month Michelle Taylor



Courtesy Photo

### Taylor

This is Michelle Taylor, and she resides in the beautiful land of Southern California, surrounded by her loving family. Together with her dear husband, they are blessed with four remarkable children. A daughter currently exploring the wonders of college life in the lovely state of Utah. Oh, the adventures she must be having! And there's her son, spreading his kindness and compassion while serving a church mission in the enchanting paradise of Tahiti. What a noble endeavor! Lastly, she has two bright young sons who are flourishing in our local high school. They fill her heart with pride.

Now, let's talk about Taylor's passion, her friend. For a heartwarming 18 years, Taylor has had the privilege of teaching special education preschool. Oh, how she cherishes those moments spent with little ones! Each day brings new discoveries as she witnesses the incredible variations that make each child special. Just this year, Taylor had the joy of completing a Master's Degree in Autism Spectrum Disorders from Grand Canyon University. This journey has deepened Taylor's understanding of her beloved students, allowing Taylor to refine her approach and support them even better.

Looking ahead, Taylor's plans are crystal clear. Taylor intends to continue her meaningful work, teaching special education preschool and nurturing the development and growth of young students with special needs. It is a calling that fills her heart with joy and purpose.

Taylor cannot express enough the honor she feels for being chosen as the student of the month for the Comanche Nation. It truly touches her heart, and she wants to extend her heartfelt gratitude to the tribe for their gracious support in this endeavor. Thank you for embracing the spirit of kindness, family, and community.

## Job Placement and Training Student of the Month Stephanie Anderson



Courtesy Photo

### Anderson

Hello, this is Stefanie Anderson. Anderson is currently a cosmetologist. Anderson attended classes at Elite Academy of Cosmetology and received her Master Instructor certification. Soon after, she was hired as an Instructor at Elite Academy of Cosmetology.

## Child Support Services Announces Court Dates

### In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Eric Levi: CNCSP-23-15; Petition to Determine Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- Kara Rios: CNCSP-15-106; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Carlos Rios: CNCSP-15-106; Application for Indirect Contempt

Under Title 3 of the Comanche Nation Child Support Codes Rule 4 (E) (3) allows for service by publication in instances where the location of the subject is unknown, or when the subject of service has been unable to be served by traditional means. The CNCSP is needing the above name(s) to be placed in our upcoming Comanche Nation Newspaper.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT ALL COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT CHILD HEARINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT ALL COURT OF INDIAN OFFENSES CHILD SUPPORT HEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON.



Photo Submitted by Kevin Alba

**TURPIN WALKS IN FASHION SHOW.** On April 22, The First American Museum in Oklahoma City hosted this year's Teton Trade Cloth Fashion Summit, where Tribal Member Keilyn Turpin represented the Comanche Nation. The show featured Indigenous designers and models from all over the United States.



**NOTICE:**  
Comanche Nation  
Offices will be  
closed July 4 for  
Independence Day.  
Offices will re-open  
July 5.

Comanche Nation  
Offices will be  
closed July 14 for  
Comanche Chief's  
Day. Offices will re-  
open July 17.

# PIKEPASS™

## Convenience is coming your way!

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

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

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

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

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



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



# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

## JULY 2023

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

### Southwestern Pasta Salad

#### Ingredients

- 2 Ears of corn, shucked
- 1 16 oz. Box of medium shell pasta
- 3/4 Cup of sour cream
- 3/4 Cup of mayonnaise
- 1 1 oz. Packet of ranch seasoning mix
- 2-3 Chipotle peppers in adobo, seeded
- 1 Tsp. of lime zest
- 1 Tbsp. of lime juice
- 1/2 Tsp. ground cumin
- 1 Package of cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 15 oz. Can of pinto beans, drained and rinsed
- 2 Avocados, diced
- 1 Orange bell pepper, seeded and chopped
- 1/2 Medium red onion, chopped
- 1 Cup of chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 Cup of shredded Mexican cheese blend

#### Directions

1. Bring a large pot of salt water to a boil. Boil the corn until tender, 4 to 5 minutes. Remove the corn from the pot with a fine mesh strainer and rinse with cold water to cool.
2. Add the pasta to the same pot of boiling water and cook one minute longer than the package directions. Drain, rinse with cold water, and let cool.
3. In a blender, combine the sour cream, mayonnaise, ranch seasoning mix, two chipotle peppers, lime zest, lime juice, and cumin. Blend until smooth. Taste and blend in a third chipotle pepper, if desired.
4. Cut the corn off the cobs. In a large bowl, combine the corn, cooled pasta, cherry tomatoes, pinto beans, avocado, bell pepper, red onion, cilantro, and cheese. Fold to combine. Gently fold in the dressing. Serve chilled.



### Eggplant Rollatini

#### Ingredients

- 2 Medium eggplants, sliced into 1/4 thick planks
- 1 Tbsp. of salt
- 3/4 Cups of flour
- 1 Tsp. black pepper
- 1 1/2 Tsp Italian seasoning
- Extra virgin olive oil for frying

#### For the Filling

- 1 1/2 Cup of ricotta
- 1 Cup of shredded mozzarella
- 1/4 Cup of freshly grated Parmesan
- 1 Large egg
- 2 Cloves of garlic, grated
- 1/4 Cup chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 Tsp. salt
- 1/2 Tsp. black pepper
- 1/2 Tsp. crushed red pepper flakes

#### For Assembly

- 1 Cup of shredded mozzarella
  - 1 1/2 Cup of tomato/marinara sauce
  - 3/4 Cups of freshly grated parmesan
- Directions**
1. Lay eggplant slices on a large baking sheet lined with a cooling rack. Lightly season eggplant planks with salt on both sides and let sit for 30 minutes to release excess moisture. Pat dry with paper towels.
  2. In a large bowl, combine

flour, pepper, and Italian seasoning. In a large high-sided pan, heat three tablespoons of oil over medium heat until shimmering. Working in batches, coat eggplant evenly in flour mixture, shaking off excess, and add to the pan. Fry eggplant until golden, about 2 minutes per side; transfer to a plate. Repeat with the remaining eggplant, adding more oil to the pan as needed.

3. In a medium bowl, mix together all filling ingredients until smooth. Place one heaping tablespoon of filling onto the bottom of each eggplant slice and roll it up into a log.

4. Preheat oven to 375°. In a 9"x-13" baking dish, spread 1/2 cup tomato sauce in an even layer. Arrange rolled eggplant in a single layer over sauce. Top with remaining 1 cup mozzarella, 1 cup tomato sauce, and 3/4 cup Parmesan. Then bake until the sauce is bubbly and the cheese is melted, about 30 minutes.

### Strawberry Icebox Cake

#### Ingredients

1. 8 oz. Cream cheese at room temperature
2. 1 Cup of powdered sugar
3. 3 Cups of heavy cream
4. 1 Tbsp. vanilla bean paste or extract
5. 1 Tbsp. lemon zest
6. 20 Graham cracker sheets
7. 1 1/2 lb. Strawberries, sliced about 1/4 inch thick
8. 1/2 Cups of sliced almonds

#### Directions

1. Beat the cream cheese in the bowl of a stand mixer with the beater attachment until smooth. Add the powdered sugar; beat until smooth.
2. Scrape down the sides of the bowl. Add 1 cup of the heavy cream and beat at low speed until smooth. Add the remaining 2 cups of cream; beat at medium to medium-high speed until soft peaks form, increasing the speed as the mixture begins to thicken. Fold in

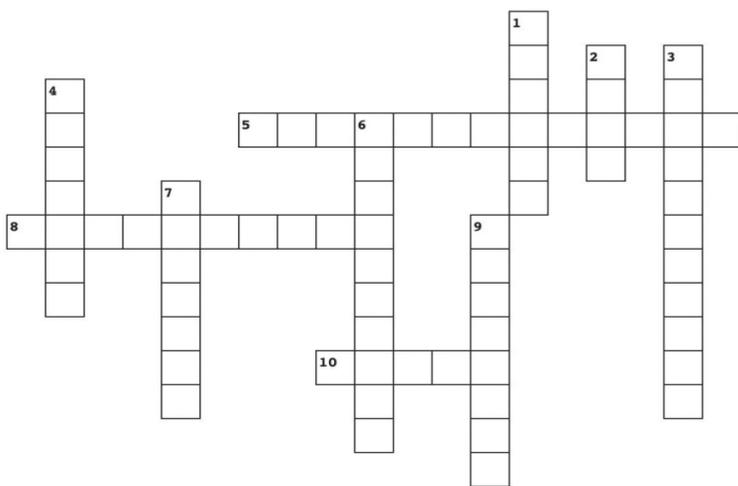
the vanilla and lemon zest.

3. Spoon 1/4 cup of the cream mixture into the bottom of a 9-by-9-inch pan or baking dish; spread into a thin, even layer.
4. Top with the graham crackers in a single, even layer, breaking them as needed to fit. Spread about 1 1/2 cups of the cream mixture over the graham crackers, smoothing into an even layer using a spoon or offset spatula. Top the cream mixture with an even layer of berries (about 1 1/2 cups). Sprinkle evenly with 1/4 cup of the almonds if using.
5. Repeat one more time, then top with a final layer of graham crackers, cream mixture, and berries.
6. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least four hours or up to overnight.

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](mailto:Heaven.Williams@Comanchenation.com).

## Comanche Crossword

SUMMER FUN



#### Across:

5. A U.S. holiday honoring of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776
8. A natural luminous body visible in the sky especially at night
10. Having a relatively high temperature

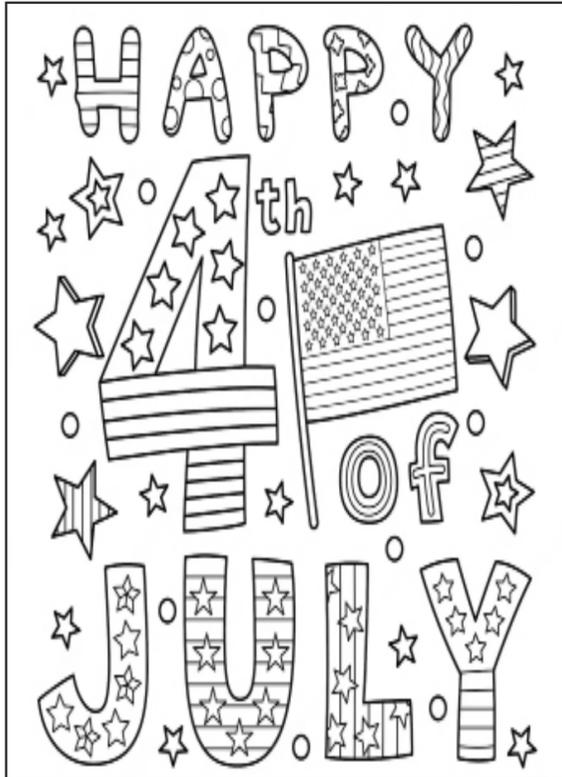
#### Down:

1. The warmest part of the year
2. A self-luminous gaseous body around which the earth and other planets revolve
3. To feel joy or great delight
4. To propel oneself in water
6. To engage in sport or recreation
7. A sweet flavored frozen food containing cream or butterfat
9. A fly with females that puncture the skin to suck their blood



Download the ILDA app!  
[www.talkcomanche.org](http://www.talkcomanche.org)

### Color



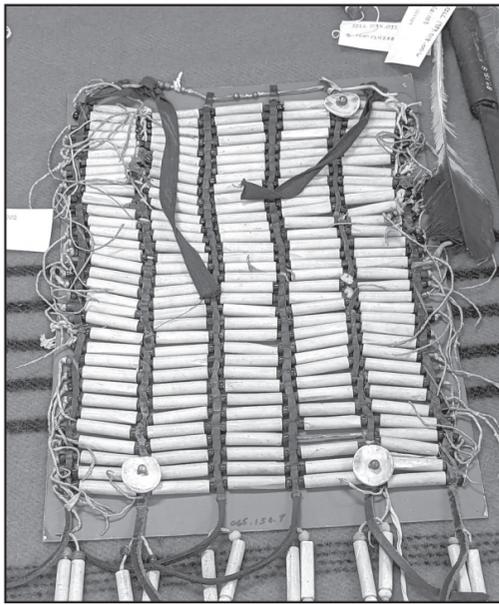
## Plants Answer Key

H	T	N	E	W	I	A	N	A	K	W	A	N	A
U	A	Y	T	T	R	O	T	P	T	K	E	R	
I	O	O	T	K	?	Y	O	E	W	U	O	I	
A	T	K	S	A	U	B	H	L	U	U	A		
B	U	?	A	Y	K	O	B	Y	U	?	S	Y	T
S	M	T	A	U	O	B	?	U	A	R	T	O	I
S	A	E	S	B	A	B	M	B	U	W	U	T	B
M	Y	E	I	K	?	T	A	A	B	T	M	E	U
I	A	K	T	H	I	T	O	?	H	R	U	S	M
W	U	R	O	L	U	?	I	T	K	L	M	O	H
K	V	M	U	K	?	I	M	S	I	U	Y	R	U
?	O	H	A	W	B	E	L	I	N	E	A	A	T
K	L	N	P	I	N	A	K	E	S	A	N	I	L
E	O	R	Y	S	I	P	A	T	E	E	S	T	I

- |                    |                         |                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SUKKŪI (SAND PLUM) | POHOOBĪ (SAGE)          | NAKWANA (BUFFALO GOURD)   |
| NAKŪTABAWĪ (PECAN) | ITSEE (BEAR ROOT)       | TUHMUBITAI (BLACK WALNUT) |
| MUMUTSI (YUCCA)    | TŪMAYA (SUMAC)          |                           |
| NASEKA (PERSIMMON) | YŪBAŪTSI (POSSUM GRAPE) |                           |
- Download the ILDA dictionary app!  
[www.talkcomanche.org](http://www.talkcomanche.org)
- FIND A SECRET WORD  
TŪSAASI (WILD BERGAMOT)

# Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum opens its Native American Collections

*The Intertribal Display Took Visitors on a 157-year journey of history*



Hundreds of historic artifacts were on display May 30 and May 31 at the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum. From left, a Comanche breastplate, a Native American Church drum belonging to Comanche Chief, Quanah Parker, a war shield, and a variety of moccasins from different tribes.

Story and Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

History added a chapter on May 30 and May 31, when the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum opened its Native American Collections to 150 members of various tribes to display artifacts from various tribes such as the Comanche, Kiowa, Apache, and Sioux that took the visitors on a 157-year journey. It was an emotional and spiritual excursion for many people who had the opportunity to experience.

The purpose of the event was an outreach of Fort Sill to have acts of healing and strengthening bonds with the local tribes. The staff said they are very honored to be a part of the event and hope that this helps in some way to build better bridges of communication and understanding between Fort Sill and the surrounding Tribes.

Some noted artifacts included items that belonged to Quanah Parker and his son, Baldwin, that had direct ties to the Native American Church. Other noted items included a hat belonging to Geronimo, a peace pipe that belonged to Sitting Bull, and a war bonnet of I-See-O, also known as Tahbonemah.

Members of the Native American Church cedared the items off the evening of May 30, followed by a series of Native American Church songs and a meal provided by the Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery Program.

"After seeing all of my great grandfather's things, now I know what it is to carry the Parker name. It was hard for me not to cry," said Jr. Comanche Nation Princess Vivien Parker. "My family always told me it is a big thing

to carry the Parker name." Deputy Garrison Commander, Julia Sibilla, moved the audience when during her opening remarks, she told everyone, "Welcome home."

Also in attendance were Fort Sill Leadership, including Acting Commanding General BG Morgan, Garrison Commander COL Peay, Deputy Garrison Commander Ms. Sibilla, Garrison Command Sergeant Major, CSM Taylor, and Tribal Leadership, including Apache Tribe of Oklahoma Chairman Mr. Cooper, along with their families.

Other items in the collection included moccasins, leggings, children's dolls, cradleboards, arrows, war clubs, shawls, and blankets.

On May 31, the event continued with members of the Kiowa tribe paying hom-

age to Kiowa's military hero, I-See-O, by setting up a drum in front of the museum and singing War Mother and Veteran songs throughout the afternoon.

"I am thankful for those who put this together. It is not an easy thing to do," said Charles Cozad. "This is very emotional for me. These things hold our traditions and culture God has given us."

Several princesses representing tribal nations and organizations were invited to the event.

"Because we could not invite many people, we invited the princesses. Not only do they represent themselves and their families, but they also represent their tribes and organizations," explained Tina Emhoolah, coordinator.

The princesses who attended included the Coman-

che Nation Princess, the Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, the Ft. Sill Apache Princess, the Comanche Homecoming Princess, the KCA Veterans Princess, the CIVA Princess, and the Walters Service Club Princess.

The princesses also toured surrounding museums and the Sherman House. The history of the Sherman House is that while visiting Fort Sill, General William Tecumseh Sherman narrowly escaped death at the hands of Kiowa warriors during a council held on the front porch here. May 27, 1871.

Watching the princesses walk to the Sherman House moved Emhoolah.

"The pictures of the girls and the spirit in them were

something to behold. There is power speaking through them and what we witnessed watching them bravely and determined together for the Sherman House. They all together learn who and what that house. The pictures convey to me that through education and the spirit of their ancestors, this Band of Sisters rose up, conquered the pains of the past, and claimed our future. It was like the legend of those women who rode horses and went into battle came alive in them," expressed Emhoolah.

The event concluded with a meal provided by the Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery Program. Visitors continued to view the artifacts throughout the afternoon.



From left, the Comanche Indian Veterans Association Princess- Arlene Schonchin, the Eugene White Thunder Descendants Princess - Kendal Hamilton, the Kiowa Comanche and Apache Indians Veterans Princess - Jaselyn Thompson, the Comanche Nation Princess, McKenzie Sovo, and the Ft. Sill Apache Princess, Alyssa Palmer proudly walk toward the historic Sherman House on Ft. Sill the afternoon of May 31.



The Princesses stand in front of the Sherman House on Ft. Sill after learning the history of home on the afternoon of May 31.



Courtesy Photo

From Left, White Thunder Descendants Princess - Kendal Hamilton, Comanche Indian Veterans Association Princess- Arlene Schonchin, Comanche Nation Princess McKenzie Sovo, Walters Service Club Princess Tatum Burgess, Comanche Homecoming Princess Kyleigh Davidson, Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Vivien Parker, Ft. Sill Apache Princess Alyssa Palmer, and Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indians Veterans Princess Jaselyn Thompson attend May 30.

## WALTERS SERVICE CLUB GOURD DANCE

COMANCHE COMMUNITY CENTER  
905 E. MISSOURI AVE.,  
WALTERS, OK.  
THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023  
6PM-10PM



CONTACTS:  
MARI WAHAHROCKAH  
LAVATAI: 580-704-7516  
-OR-  
EVA WAHAHROCKAH  
ASENAP: 580-458-9458

MASTER OF CEREMONIES:  
MIKE BURGESS

WALTERS SERVICE CLUB PRINCESSES:  
TATUM BURGESS - PRINCESS  
OLIVIA ROBERSON - LITTLE MISS

HEAD SINGER:  
KEVIN "BUBBA" SOVO

HONORED SINGER:  
DARRELL CABLE

HEAD MAN:  
GEORGE  
TAHDOOAHNIPPAH

HEAD LADY:  
KYLEIGH DAVIDSON

SPECIAL GUESTS:  
COMANCHE  
YOUTH DANCERS

ARENA DIRECTOR:  
ASHLEY KERCHIE

SPECIAL INVITE TO  
COMANCHE NATION SR. & JR.  
PRINCESSES

COMANCHE TRIBAL OFFICIALS

ALL TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS &  
PRINCESSES



### ACTIVITIES

LULU CONTEST

PRETTY SHAWL CONTEST

CAKE WALK



### CONCESSION

INDIAN TACOS

WALKING TACOS

& MUCH MORE

Hallelujah!

Blessed the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commands. His descendants shall be mighty in the land, a generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house; his righteousness shall endure forever. Light shines through the darkness for the upright; gracious, compassionate, and righteous. It is good for the man gracious in lending, who conducts his affairs with justice. For he shall never be shaken; the righteous shall be remembered forever. He shall not fear an ill report;

his heart is steadfast, trusting the LORD. His heart is tranquil, without fear, till at last he looks down on his foes. Lavishly he gives to the poor; his righteousness shall endure forever; his horn shall be exalted in honor. The wicked sees and is angry; gnashes his teeth and wastes away; the desire of the wicked come to nothing.

- Psalm 112



Not responsible for any theft, damages, or accidents. Respect that this is a drug-free environment. Vendors welcome & the fee is a giveaway item. We are not accepting any food vendors. Security is maintained by the Walters Service Club.



**70<sup>th</sup> Annual Comanche Homecoming Celebration  
July 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>  
Sultan Park Walters, Oklahoma  
2022-2023 Comanche Homecoming Princess  
Kyleigh Davidson**

**Head Staff Emcees:**

Kevin "Bubba" Sovo, Martin Flores

**Honorary Emcee:** Wallace Coffey

**Head Gourd Dance Singer:**

Berkeley "Berkey" Monoessy Sr.

**Head Gourd Dancer:** Danny Nieto

**Head Man War Dancer:** Watson Mithlo

**Head War Dance Singer:**

Larry Monoessy Sr.

**Head Lady Dancer-War Dance:**

Vylet Stonecalf

**Head Lady Dancer-Gourd Dancer:**

Rhianna Nelson

**Raising & Lowering of the flags:**

Comanche Indian Veterans Association

**Arena Directors:**

Glen Heminokey  
Ashley Kerchee  
Larney Silverhorn

**Honored Veterans**

Saturday: Roger Tehauno  
Sunday: Elton "Chubby" Permansu

**Contestant Coordinator:** Carla Whiteman

**Honored Elders**

Friday: Leonard Chibitty  
Saturday: Julian "Dobbin" Monoessy  
Sunday: Delbert Karty

**Co-Host:**

Walters Service Club,  
Comanche Indian Veterans Association

**Veteran Flags to be flown**

Friday: Strudwick Tahsequah  
Saturday: Edward Jerome Tahahwah Sr.  
Sunday: Edmond "Eddie" Mahseet

**Color Guard:**

KCA Veterans Organization

**CONTEST:**

Golden Age Women, Women's Cloth,  
Women's Buckskin, Women's Fancy  
Shawl/Jingle  
1<sup>st</sup> 1000, 2<sup>nd</sup> 800, 3<sup>rd</sup> 500, 4<sup>th</sup> 300  
Golden Age Men, Men's Fancy, Men's  
Traditional/Grass, Men's Straight  
1<sup>st</sup> 1000, 2<sup>nd</sup> 800, 3<sup>rd</sup> 500, 4<sup>th</sup> 300

49 Contest Friday & Saturday  
1<sup>st</sup> 500, 2<sup>nd</sup> 300, 3<sup>rd</sup> 200

Lookout for Event Flyers for Golf, Turtle Race,  
Horseshoes and Cornhole

**\*\*Tiny Tots\*\***

Special invite to the newly elected Comanche  
Nation Princesses

Jr Boys Combined, Jr Girls Combined, Teen  
Boys Combined, Teen Girls Combined  
1<sup>st</sup> 300, 2<sup>nd</sup> 200, 3<sup>rd</sup> 150, 4<sup>th</sup> 100

Arts/Crafts Vendors & Food Welcome. No Alcohol or Drugs Permitted. Not responsible for  
accidents or theft. Vender Contact: Brian Stillwell (580)583-0756  
Committee: Nolan Tahdoanippah, Fred Fodder, Edward Tahhahwah, Tanya Codynah

**70<sup>th</sup> Annual Comanche Homecoming Celebration  
HORSESHOE & CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT**

Sultan Park Walters, Oklahoma

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

\*PRIZES\*

Cornhole 1<sup>st</sup> 200, 2<sup>nd</sup> 150, 3<sup>rd</sup> 100

Horseshoes 1<sup>st</sup> 200, 2<sup>nd</sup> 150, 3<sup>rd</sup> 100

\$10 entry fee per team, 2 person teams, double elimination

For more information contact Wes Edison 580-512-6192

Location: the island

**Comanche Homecoming Princess Kyleigh Davidson's  
Wakaree Race**

Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Prizes

1<sup>st</sup> \$100

2<sup>nd</sup> \$75

3<sup>rd</sup> \$50

Best Dressed

Sultan Park Walters, Oklahoma

Location: the island



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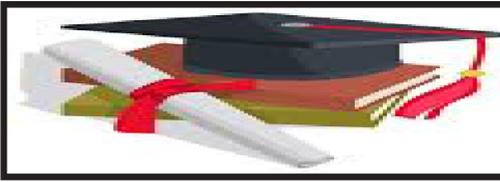
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# Graduation



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*Alannah Atawich*



Courtesy Photo  
*Alexis Howry*  
*University of Central Oklahoma*



Courtesy Photo  
*Alicen Miller*  
*Arizona State University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Alorah Hoahwah*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Amanda Long*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Amanda Scofield*  
*Western Governors University*



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*Amber Marshall*  
*Cowley County Community College*



Courtesy Photo  
*Anglena Ortiz*  
*Cameron University*



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*Ashley Smith*  
*Great Plain Tech Center*



Courtesy Photo  
*Atticus Matthews*



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*Bryden Wahnee*  
*University of Oklahoma*



Courtesy Photo  
*Briana Quetone*



Courtesy Photo  
*Briley Jones*  
*University of South Carolina*



Courtesy Photo  
*Brittany Tyler*



Courtesy Photo  
*Cammi Edwards*  
*Cowley College*



Courtesy Photo  
*Claudia Choney*  
*Fort Lewis College*



Courtesy Photo  
*Cody Sovo*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Dara Charino*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Daviaan Connywerdy*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Destiny Luna*



Courtesy Photo  
*Edward Tahhahwah III*



Courtesy Photo  
*Emilee Basham*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Emilo Alfaro*  
*Western Governors University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Erin "Sissy" Singleton*  
*Cameron University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Gail Tahhahwah*  
*University of Oklahoma*



Courtesy Photo  
*Hazel Codopony*  
*University of Oklahoma*



Courtesy Photo  
*Heather Lett*



Courtesy Photo  
*Heather Towne*



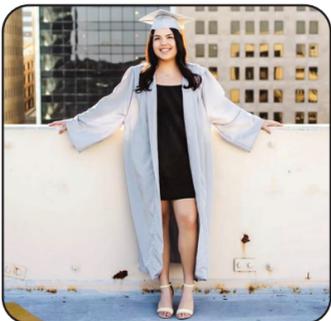
Courtesy Photo  
*Holden Bartosovsky*



Courtesy Photo  
*Irisha Lewis*  
*Cal-State University Channel Islands*



Courtesy Photo  
*Ivan Thomas Jr.*  
*University of Arkansas*



Courtesy Photo  
*Jayla Big Bow*  
*Rose State College*



Courtesy Photo  
*Jordan Rench*



Courtesy Photo  
*Julia Mantzke*  
*Oklahoma University*



Courtesy Photo  
*Karina Giampetroni*

# High School Graduates



*Katie Grubbs*  
University of Mobile



*Keliyah Hensley*  
University of Oklahoma



*Krista Hubbard*  
University of Oklahoma



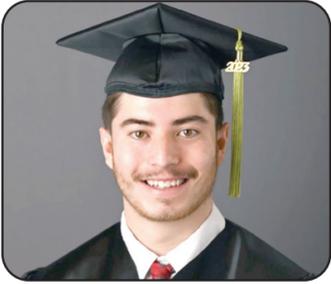
*Krista Yackeyonny*



*Kristen Ashbury*



*Kyleigh Neitzke*  
Cameron University



*Levi Caddo*  
Cameron University



*Lindsey Red Elk*  
Great Plains Tech Center



*Lizzie Bowles*



*Lottie Deere*  
Connor State College



*Marcella Stephenson*  
Oklahoma State University



*Mateo Pineda*  
Texas A & M University



*Mia Mota*  
Dorothy Lorentino Recipient



*Michelle Taylor*  
Grand Canyon University



*Mitchell Battise*  
Oklahoma State University



*Naomi Robinson*  
Cameron University



*Nicole Smith*



*Rachel Crummit*  
Utah State University



*Robert Sample*



*Shailah Ramos*  
Cameron University



*Shelby Cargill*



*Taelor Smith*  
Utah State University



*Tori Brill*  
GED Program Graduate

- |                                |                     |                        |                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Olivia Adams                   | Carlisle High       | Adam Miller            | Moore High            |
| Daniel Adams                   | Epic Charter        | Bella Minello          | Braswell High         |
| Ella Ahlmann                   | Derby High          | Burton Miner           | Ponca City High       |
| Alexandra Allan                | Epic Charter        | Trynadi Moffitt        | Putnam City North     |
| Corey Amparan                  | Fletcher High       | High                   |                       |
| Nolan Anquoe                   | Eisenhower High     | Jamie Molina           | Frontier High         |
| Mychal Attocknie               | Riverside Indian    | Barbara Monoessy       | Walters High          |
| School                         |                     | Mckayla Moreno         | Sulphur High          |
| Rocky Autaubo                  | Norman High         | Hayden Morris          | Norman North High     |
| Christian Avery                | Owasso Mid High     | Michael Murrow III     | Volcano Vista         |
| Jordan Barker                  | Epic Charter        | Abby Murrow            | Anadarko High         |
| Christiansen Bates             | Anadarko High       | Annabelle Muse         | Penn Foster           |
| August Bibbs-Nauni             | Destiny Christian   | Jayden Myers           | Eisnehower High       |
| Kenyon Big Bow                 | Anadarko High       | Hayden Nelson          | Walters High          |
| Gabriel Blackstar              | Chickasha High      | Zane Nelson            | Lawton High           |
| Cyrus Blackstar                | Walters High        | Athena Nevaquaya       | Bryan Adams           |
| Marshall Blane                 | Cache High          | High                   |                       |
| Angel Bohay                    | Eisenhower High     | Malaki Nevaquaya       | El Reno High          |
| Asher Bowles                   | Decatur High        | Keaira Nieto           | Indianola High        |
| Lorenzo Braxton                | West Depere High    | Gabriel Nieto          | Anadarko High         |
| Lindsay Brien                  | Cache High          | Kinlenn Nieto          | Epic Charter          |
| Mariana Bustillo-Palmer        | Anadarko            | Leilana Nieto          | Lawton High           |
| High                           |                     | Caden Okeeffe          | Carnegie High         |
| Autumn Butler                  | Cache High          | Zola Ortiz             | Albuquerque Academy   |
| Wesley Butler                  | Dover Senior High   | Mario Palmer           | Chickasha High        |
| Aniyah Caddo                   | Elgin High          | Leah Parker            | Red Mountain High     |
| Malachi Carattini              | Boone-Apache High   | Alexis Parker          | Riverside Indian      |
| Koby Carothers                 | Snyder High         | School                 |                       |
| Haley Carter                   | Cache High          | Andrea Pebeahsy        | Anadarko High         |
| Sydney Chasenah                | MacArthur High      | Angeline Pecorale      | Cache High            |
| Nichlas Chasenah               | Boone-Apache        | Adrian Pekah           | Canton High           |
| High                           |                     | Brooklyn Pelt          | Phillips High         |
| Nuka Nivy Chibitty             | Moore High          | Camerin Pewewardy      | Bethel High           |
| Mackyla Chibitty-Smith         | Indianola           | Leah Pewewardy         | Lawton High           |
| High                           |                     | Jakoby Pewewardy       | Pawhuska High         |
| Audrey Choney                  | Newkirk High        | Harmony Phillips       | Epic Charter          |
| Roddy Churchill                | Anadarko High       | Kaylee Phillips        | Epic Charter          |
| Jocelyn Codynah                | Epic Charter        | Lauren Pino            | Douglas Learning      |
| Nathaniel Connywerdy-Rodriguez |                     | Center                 |                       |
| Lawton High                    |                     | Arianna Poafpybitty    | Burke High            |
| Giovanna Conterez              | Families of Faith   | Savannah Poahway       | Epic Charter          |
| Tristen Contreras              | Gahr High           | Kevin Poemoceah        | Lawton High           |
| Michael Cook Jr.               | Anadarko High       | Neariah Poemoceah      | SCORE                 |
| Gracey Cooper                  | Broken Arrow High   | Kalestha Polite        | Apache High           |
| Micah Cozad                    | Moorhead High       | Tab Poolaw             | Norman High           |
| Abigail Craig                  | Apache High         | Christopher Portillo   | Gateway               |
| Conner Daly                    | Geronimo High       | Parker Price           | Yukon High            |
| Katen Daniel                   | Weatherford High    | Nathan Pueblo          | Walters High          |
| Kollinz Daniel                 | Weatherford High    | Angelina Puente        | Roswell High          |
| Sarah Daukei                   | Washington High     | Rilee Raines           | Del City High         |
| Margaret Deak                  | Lawton High         | Samuel Ramirez         | Monterey High         |
| Jody Lynn DeJesus              | Lawton High         | Donald Ramirez         | Monterey High         |
| Delila Delgado                 | Achademy of Rich-   | Alexis Reynolds        | Canadian              |
| mond County                    |                     | Ricky Rivas            | Southmoore High       |
| Codylekee Dickson              | Centennial High     | Akayah Roberson        | Lawton High           |
| Madison Downs                  | Cache High          | Kaleb Roberts          | El Reno High          |
| Austin Elam                    | Elgin High          | Jordan Rodriguez       | Shawnee High          |
| Collen Elkins                  | Geronimo High       | Melody Roubideaux      | Apache High           |
| Isaac Flud                     | Norman High         | Taeana Rowland         | Eisenhower High       |
| Som'Yea Freeman                | Franklin D          | Salma Russell          | James Pace High       |
| Roosevelt High                 |                     | Perry Sadongei         | Riverside Indian      |
| Samantha Fulnecky              | Nixa High           | School                 |                       |
| Elsia Garcia                   | Boswell High        | Jaxon Saenz            | Canyon High           |
| Antonio Garrison               | Lawton High         | David Salomon          | Skyline High          |
| Shane Gibson                   | Elgin High          | Dusti Satepauhoodle    | Apache High           |
| Storm Gishsey                  | Elgin High          | Georgianne Saumty      | Azle High             |
| Joseph Gomez                   | Epic Charter        | Joey Schad             | Boulevard Academy     |
| Mariah Gomez                   | Hidden Lake         | Jadiyah Scott          | Brodenton River High  |
| High Gabriel Gomez-Sayerwinnie | NW                  | Aaron Simmons          | Mansfield High        |
| Classen High                   |                     | Christopher Smith      | Lawton High           |
| Ashton Gorbet                  | Glenpool High       | Kiara Smith            | Topeka High           |
| Elizabeth Grossman             | Elgin High          | Shaylea Smith          | Drumright High        |
| Savannah Hankins               | Wheatland           | Nicholas Solis         | Sandia High           |
| Makenze Harris                 | Cache High          | Sierra Sovo            | Sterling High         |
| Dayvin Held                    | Cache High          | McKenzi Sovo           | Eisenhower High       |
| Nathaniel Hernandez            | Sovereign Com-      | Grace Sovo-Cook        | Mountain View-        |
| munity                         |                     | Gotebo                 |                       |
| Michael Hill                   | Marshall High       | Samuel Stillwell-Ulloa | MacArthur High        |
| Gerald Holloway                | Lawton High         | Trenton Stinson        | Indianola High        |
| G.Myles Honeystewa             | Westwood High       | Mackenzie Stonebraker  | Noble High            |
| Samantha Horne                 | Will Rogers High    | Ti W Swasho            | Edison High           |
| Coleton Houston                | Huntsville High     | Caden Tahbonemah       | MacArthur High        |
| Lancer Howe                    | Crow Creek High     | Tea Tahchawwickah      | Pawnee High           |
| Ayden Howell                   | Cache High          | Nacona Tahdooahnippah  | Elgin High            |
| Zoey Howry                     | Minco High          | Kevin Tahdooahnippah   | Cache High            |
| Destiny Huddleston             | Tahlequah High      | Ioleta Tahdooahnippah  |                       |
| Ty Jacob                       | Lawton High         | Eisenhower High        |                       |
| Joanna Johns                   | Cache High          | Blane Tahhahwah        | Elgin High            |
| Nicholas Johnson               | Elgin High          | Lizzie Tahsequah       | Elgin High            |
| Lisa Johnson                   | Cache High          | Marisa Tahsequah       | Rockwall High         |
| Phoenix Jones                  | Temple High         | Uriah Tate             | Cyril High            |
| Cayden Jones                   | Yukon High          | Elijah Tenequer        | Cache High            |
| Tyler Jones                    | Cache High          | Mario Tenequer         | Monument Valley       |
| Katelyn Kahrahrh               | Boone-Apache        | High                   |                       |
| High                           |                     | Jeffery Tenequer Jr.   | Anadarko High         |
| Jaime Kelley                   | A.C. Flora High     | Cameron Thomason       | Owasso High           |
| Ethan Kemp                     | Cache High          | Chasity Thompson       | Jena High             |
| Nathan Kiesecker               | Epic Charter        | Jaycob Tiddark         | Onward &              |
| Kobe Kihega                    | Eisenhower High     | Upward Academy         |                       |
| Jayden King                    | Lakewood Ranch High | Jaysia Tieyah          | Apache High           |
| Jed'Cree Kingfisher            | Norman High         | Emma Tippeconnic       | Etiwanda High         |
| Samantha Koassechony           | Timber              | William Tomah          | Vian High             |
| Creek High                     |                     | Elena Tonemah          | Boone-Apache High     |
| Jaidah Komahcheet              | MacArthur High      | Gabriella Toquothty    | Temple High           |
| Karissa Komahcheet             | Cache High          | Deja Tselee            | Ft. Cobb Broxton High |
| Mary Komahcheet                | Inidahoma High      | Elijah Valdez          | Anadarko High         |
| Mary Komesetaddle              | Elgin High          | Ysabel Velasco-Jenkins | North                 |
| Kenidee Koontz                 | Vanoss High         | Valley High            |                       |
| Dani Kopaddy                   | U.S. Grant High     | Charlemagne Vielleux   | Carlmont High         |
| Ryan Kosechata                 | Walters High        | Aaliyah Villarreal     | Walters High          |
| Justin Langford                | Walters High        | Jaden Wakinney         | Riverside Indian      |
| Ava Lannon                     | Connections Academy | School                 |                       |
| Lillian Large                  | Indianola High      | Lani Wahlenburg-Smith  | Eisenhower            |
| Jackson Larsson                | Lamar High          | High                   |                       |
| Gavin Laurenzana               | Narragansett        | Haley Ware             | Anadarko High         |
| High                           |                     | Stoney Ware            | Oklahoma Connections  |
| Tristan Lebarre                | MacArthur High      | Academy                |                       |
| Alec Lee                       | Epic Charter        | Kenzlee Wauqua         | Walters High          |
| Joseph Leveille                | Eisenhower High     | Sidney Waysepappy      | Elgin High            |
| Joshua Leveille                | Epic Charter        | Anabah Werito          | Elgin High            |
| Ayden Lewis                    | Fort Cobb-Broxton   | Kenneth Wermey         | Cache High            |
| Aaliyah Lewis                  | Walters High        | Willow Whelchel        | Huntsville High       |
| Michael Long                   | Cache High          | Cailyn WhiteEagle      | MacArthur High        |
| James Lopez                    | Eisenhower High     | Sonny Whitewolf        | ISOK/OVCA/K12         |
| Julian Love                    | MacArthur High      | Elijah Williams        | Ada High              |
| Erika Lown                     | Webb City High      | Emily Williams         | Elgin High            |
| Sadie Machado                  | Tishomingo Middle   | Talan Williams         | SCORE                 |
| Cornelius Mahsetky             | Anadarko High       | Clara Williams         | Elgin High            |
| Arianna Manley                 | Indianola High      | Hayla Wilson           | Chickasha High        |
| Adrian Marquez-Sayerwinnie     |                     | Kiana Wilson           | Star Spencer High     |
| Ardmore High                   |                     | Jaden Woomavovah       | Cache High            |
| Kendyl Marrero                 | Elgin High          | Skylar Yazzie          | Waukee High           |
| Jeremiah Martinez              | Lawton High         | Preston Ybarra         | Apache High           |
| Makayla McAdams                | Derby High          | Alex Yellowfish        | Eisenhower High       |
| John McCarthy                  | Anadarko High       | Sierra Zamorano        | New Albany High       |
| Michael McCarthy               | Indianola High      | Adrian Zepeda          |                       |
| Timothy McKinney               | Walters High        |                        |                       |
| Evelyn Mena                    | Lake Worth High     |                        |                       |
| Cole Mestas-Watts              | Hastings High       |                        |                       |
| Skylar Mihecoby                | Midland High        |                        |                       |
| Scotty Miller Jr.              | Geronimo High       |                        |                       |
| Macy Miller                    | Southmore High      |                        |                       |



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# Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Scarlett Codynah participates in the Grand Entry during the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow held at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
The flag of the late Clifton Ahhaity being folded by while veteran Pratt Wauqua salutes and family members of the Yellowfish Descendants stand at attention with their hands over their heart at the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow, May 27 at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Starting out young, a Tiny Tot dancer barely able to walk participates in the Tiny Tot contest during the Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow held May 27 at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Serving as Head Man Dancer, Charles Tahah and Head Lady Dancer, Kyla Tsoodle dance together heading the Grand Entry at Watchetaker Hall during the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow, May 27.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Head Lady Dancer, Kyla Tsoodle dancing on a Pendleton blanket holding a Money Tree branch while being honored at the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow held at Watchetaker Hall, May 27.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Tribal member, Billy Komahcheet shows off some of his best moves while participating in the Men's Straight Dance contest at the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow held May 27 at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Participating in the special Clown Contest, Tribal member, George Tahdoahnippah holds a clown mask while dancing.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Adorning a Joker mask while dancing in the special Clown Contest at the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow held May 27 at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff  
Performing his best contest moves a participant of the special Clown Contest dances to the beat of the pow-wow drum during the Annual Yellowfish Descendant Pow-wow held at Watchetaker Hall.

# Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

## CIVA Activities

Comanche Indian Veterans Association



Courtesy Photo

### 47th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony May 29 Watchtaker Hall & CIVA Court of Honor

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association held its 47th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Watchtaker Hall followed by placing a wreath at the CIVA Court of Honor and the Circle of Honor.

CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, served as the Master of Ceremonies as the Opening Prayer by was provided by the CIVA Chaplain, Jimmy Caddo. During the Memorial Day Ceremony, a Roll Call of Fallen Warriors was conducted by CIVA Co-Chaplain, Ramonah Davis, as well as a Roll Call of Comanche Veterans that died while on Active Duty by CIVA Veteran, Roger Tehauno and lastly a Roll Call was conducted by the Comanche Veterans that passed away since Memorial Day 2022 by CIVA Vice-Commander, John McClung.

CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, then dedicated the 47th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony to the late George RedElk, Ron Parker and to Joe Plata. The placement and Laying of the Wreath were made by CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin and Auxiliary Leader, Tavia Torralba. The Comanche Nation Police Department provided a firing detail as CIVA Sgt. of Arms, Clifford RedElk, played Taps in Honor of Fallen Comanche Veterans. After the Memorial Day Ceremony, family, friends and guest placed American Flags around the CIVA Court of Honor.

### In Honor and Memory of the 13 Fallen Warriors of the Comanche Nation



Courtesy Photo

**PFC Johnnie Rivas**  
Killed in Action  
June 6, 1944



Courtesy Photo

**SGT Melvin Myers**  
Killed in Action  
June 14, 1944



Courtesy Photo

**PFC Ben Trevino**  
Killed in Action  
September 16, 1944



Courtesy Photo

**PVT Eli Hosetosavit**  
Killed in Action  
August 1, 1944



Courtesy Photo

**PVT Henry Kosechata**  
Died of Wounds  
May 1, 1945



Courtesy Photo

**PVT Ben Trevino**  
Killed in Action  
August 3, 1944



Courtesy Photo

**PFC Henry Conwoop**  
Died of Wounds  
May 3, 1945



Courtesy Photo

**PFC Thomas Chockpoyah**  
Killed in Action  
August 7, 1944



Courtesy Photo

**CPL Dennis Karty**  
Died in Captivity  
March 30, 1952



Courtesy Photo

**LtCol Meech Tahsequah**  
Killed in Action  
Body not Recoved  
February 28, 1954



Courtesy Photo

**PFC Russell Pesewonit**  
Killed in Action  
July 22, 1966



Courtesy Photo

**Cpl Robert Pahcheka**  
Killed in Action  
October 22, 1968



Courtesy Photo

**Cpl Joshua Ware**  
Killed in Action  
November 16, 2005



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Chaplain, Jimmy Ray Caddo** providing opening prayer as CIVA Auxiliary Leader, Tavia Torralba and CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin bow their heads.



Courtesy Photo

**Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woomavooah** providing opening speech as CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko looks on.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Auxiliary Leader, Tavia Torralba** and CIVA Princess place a wreath on the Comanche Code Talker Memorial.



Courtesy Photo

**Family and Friends** placing American Flags around the Court of Honor.



Courtesy Photo

**Comanche Nation Police Department** providing a Firing Detail.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Veteran, Lanny Asepermy explaining the significance of the Comanche Code Talker Monument and CIVA Memorial Day Ceremony to CBC Member Alice Kassanavoid. Looking on is CIVA Veteran, Richard Sapcutt.**

**Sunset Memorial Garden Memorial Day Ceremony**

Veterans from the Comanche Indian Veterans Association was asked by the Lawton Rangers to place a wreath at the Memorial Gardens, during their Memorial Day Ceremony held in Lawton, Oklahoma.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Veterans marching in with the wreath at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery.**

**June CIVA Monthly Meeting**

On June 1, CIVA held its 6th meeting for the 2023 calendar year.

CIVA Chaplain, Jimmy Ray Caddo, opened with a prayer as the CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Opening remarks were made by CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko as Comanche Veterans, Tom Boyt, Bob Tippeconnie and Jason Sullivan were welcomed as they attended their 1st meeting with CIVA. Birthday recognitions were made to CIVA Sgt. of Arms, Clifford RedElk and Auxiliary member, Christine Armstrong.

A meal was served, after the meal a roll call was conducted by CIVA Secretary, Dominic Pawlowski as a quorum was established. The May Monthly Minutes, Treasure Report and the Veterans and Auxiliary reports were presented and approved. Old Business and New Business were discussed.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko and Clifford Red Elk, lead the color guard June 3, at the Warr Acres Multicultural Festival.**



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Color Guard stand at attention after bringing the flags for the Warr Acres Festival.**

**Color Guard Detail**

On June 3, The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) was asked to provide a Color Guard Detail from Roger Godwin, Mayor of Warr Acres for the Opening of the City of Warr Acres, 1st Annual Multicultural Festival which was held at the Cantera Event Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA and Code Talker flags were paraded in followed by the Auxiliary and Princess. CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin signed the National Anthem during the opening ceremonies.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin, joins the Comanche Nation Princess, McKenzi Sovo, the Jr. Comanche Nation Princess, Vivien Parker, in signing the Lord's Prayer on June 10 at the Comanche Nation Higher Education Graduation Banquet, which was held at Cameron University in Lawton, Okla.**

On June 10, The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) provided a Color Guard Detail for the Opening of the Comanche Nation Higher Education Banquet which was held in the McClasland Ballroom at Cameron University, Lawton, Oklahoma.

The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA and Code Talker flags were paraded in followed by the Auxiliary and Princess.

Comanche Nation Princess, McKenzie Sovo, Comanche Nation Junior Princess, Vivien Parker and CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin signed The Lords Prayer during the opening ceremonies.



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Color Guard, Auxiliary and the Comanche Nation Princess, Junior Princess and CIVA Princess in the background.**

**Comanche Nation Veteran information is needed.**

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



**Comanche Nation Flag Flown**

Master Sergeant, Thomas Harris, an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation was presented a Comanche Nation Flag to be flown during his deployment to the Middle East.

The Our Comanche Nation Flag was flown by the 457th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron "Spads" who are deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield. Aircraft 88-A0406 was piloted by Lt Col Ryan "Slider" Dekok, 301st Operations Support Squadron Commander.

The Comanche Nation Flag was flown on May 17, 2023 over the skies of Iraq and Syria supporting ground operations.



Courtesy Photo

**Pictured in front of an F-16 are Master Sergeant Thomas Harris and Lt Col Ryan "Slider" Dekok with and unknown Crew Chief.**

**CIVA Princess Activities**



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Princess, Arlene Schonchin, signs the Lord's Prayer on June 21, at the Comanche Nation Elder's Center's Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Conference at Watchtaker Hall.**



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Princess Arlene Schonchin signs the National Anthem at the Sunset Memorial Gardens Memorial Day Service May 29.**



Courtesy Photo

**CIVA Princess Arlene Schonchin signs the Hail Mary prayer at the gathering of Northwest Oklahoma's Priests and Deacons Appreciation Dinner June 15 in Lawton, Okla.**



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**The family of the late George Red Elk was honored at the CIVA's 47th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony May 29 at the Comanche Nation Complex.**



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**Lanny Asepermy salutes the Fallen Warrior display which included dog tags of the Comanche veterans who died during their duties at the CIVA's 47th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony May 29 at the Comanche Nation Complex.**

# People, Places, & Things Happening

## Douglas Wins First in Special Olympics



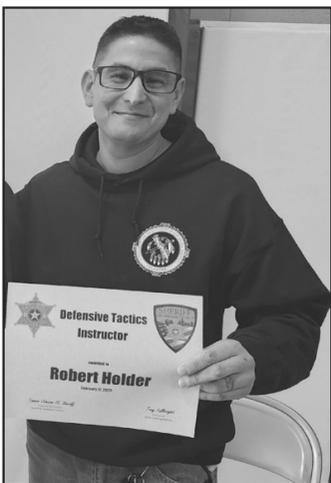
Courtesy Photo

### Douglas

Tribal Member, Lena Douglas, is a Sophomore at Norman High School and is the Daughter of Philip Douglas and Alice Kassanavoid and Granddaughter of Dennis and Romelia Kassanavoid of Cache, Okla.

Douglas competed in the Oklahoma Special Olympics held in Stillwater, Okla., and won first place in the 25m walk and second place in the softball throw competitions.

## CNPD Officer Robert Holder the New D.T. Instructor



Courtesy Photo

### Holder

On January, 9, through February, 17, the Comanche Nation Police Department sent Officer Robert Holder to the Oklahoma Defensive Tactics Instructor School in Moore, Okla. The class was instructed by the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office and Oklahoma Council on Law Enforcement and Training (C.L.E.E.T.) Troy Fullbright D.T. Master Instructor. The D.T. School lasted for two weeks in January, followed by another two weeks in February for a total of four weeks of training time.

Officer Holder, has practiced and taught Martial Arts for over 26 years in the style of Tae Kwon Do Do Kwan and currently holds the rank of fifth-degree black belt under Instructor Brent Roberts in Apache, Okla.

Officer Holder said, "When Comanche Nation Police Department approached me about becoming a D.T. Instructor, I knew this was my calling, and this was my chance to really be an asset to my department and for the Comanche Nation Tribal community and our local Law Enforcement agency."

Instructor Fullbright and now Oklahoma C.L.E.E.T. both use the Gracie Retention and Control for immediate enforcement. Royce Gracie is a retired Brazilian Professional mixed Martial Arts, UFC Fighter, and Gracie Jiu-jitsu Practitioner, and he attended one of the classes as an instructor.

The goal of these classes is to teach how to get a combative individual under control by using retention and control tactics; in doing so, it reduces possible injuries to the subject and the officers. Officer Holder added, "After attending the D.T. course, I learned so much about ground fighting, and I now have the opportunity to help my fellow offi-

## Grubb Sisters Finish School Year With Excellent Grades



Courtesy Photo

### Cameron Sky and Molliekay Cloud Grubbs

Tribal Member, Cameron Sky Grubbs finished her freshman year at Northshore High School in Slidell, La., with A's all year. Grubbs is on the Northshore volleyball team and was selected to serve as a School Ambassador and inducted into the Key and Beta clubs.

Mollie and Cameron are the daughters of Kim and Norris Grubbs; granddaughter of Joe and Linda Chebahtah; Great granddaughter of Mooney and Mollie Chebahtah; and the great great granddaughter of Chevato and Pihe.

Tribal Member, Molliekay Cloud Grubbs just completed her Sophomore year at Union University in Jackson, Tenn., where she majors in Business.

Grubbs has been on the President's list all year while also being a member of the Jillz Ultimate Frisbee Team. The Jillz recently competed in the National Championship Ultimate Frisbee Tournament. While they did not win the nationals, they earned the respect of their competitors and made great memories.

Grubbs is spending her summer serving on Mission Fuge Camp Staff as the mission mobilizer. Her job is to educate campers about missionaries around the globe and help raise funds to support them.

## StrongHearts Raising Up Elder Abuse Awareness

Despite the horror of being physically hurt and having their money or medication stolen, elders who are abused or neglected often endure the abuse without calling for help. As lifelong caregivers and protectors, many elders suffer in silence to maintain the well-being of their family, and that may include their abuser.

June 15, is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. A day to raise awareness and prevent elder abuse. It's a day to reflect on what it's like to become an Elder and the many challenges they face, such as: losing strength, muscle, and bone mass. Mental clarity can deteriorate and lead to memory loss. These inevitable vulnerabilities leave our elders at risk of being abused.

According to the National Council on Aging, most abuse occurs in the home and at the hands of family members.

"It's unacceptable when elders silently suffer abuse and neglect at the hands of those who should be protecting them," said CEO Lori Jump, StrongHearts Native Helpline. "Many elders refuse to report their abusers because they are closely related and want to protect their family, but there are so many more reasons that most people can't imagine."

- Love: Despite the abuse or neglect, victims continue to love their abusive partner or relative.
- Fear: Elders may fear retaliation if they report the abuse.
- Embarrassment: Worrying about what others might think or do to make matters worse.
- Lack of Resources: Many elders live on fixed incomes and may depend on their abuser for shelter.
- Accessibility: Elders may be unable to report if they do not have ac-

cess to cell phones, internet, and/or transportation.

● Polyvictimization and Normalization: For generations, Native people have endured multiple types of abuse at the hands of non-Natives - so much so that abuse seems normal - an everyday part of life.

Elder abuse is an intentional act or failure to act that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult. The abuser can be a family member, caretaker, or another person that the elder trusts. Types of abuse can include:

- Emotional abuse - causes mental pain, fear, and/or distress
- Physical abuse - the use of force to cause pain, injury, etc
- Financial abuse - improper use of an elder's money, property, or assets
- Caregiver neglect - a failure to meet basic needs (food, water, medical care)
- Sexual abuse - forced or unwanted sexual interactions of any kind
- Cultural and spiritual abuse

Learn the Signs of Abuse  
The signs of elder abuse may be difficult to spot as they could sometimes be the result of disease, side effects from medications, or similar reasons.

However, if you suspect that an Elder is being abused, be patient, talk, and listen to them. Be aware that they may say that they are being "disrespected" rather than abused. Other signs of abuse may include:

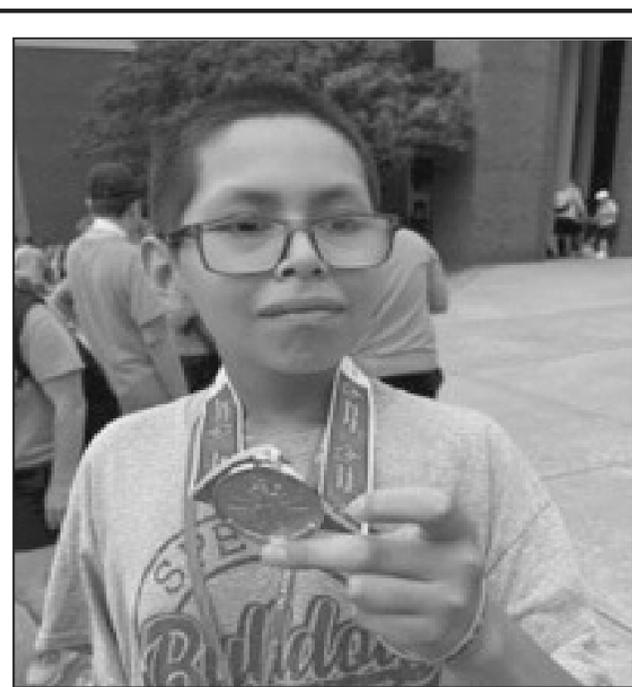
- Unexplained bruising or injury
- Changes in behavior
- Lack of interest in family or social events
- Loss of weight
- Not having necessary medical aids (glasses, walkers, teeth, etc) or adequate food, water, shelter

Education is always the first step. Understand the warning signs of elder abuse and pay attention to the elders in your

life. Ensuring that our elders are properly cared for can include:

- Offering to help those in your family that might be feeling burdened with the care of a loved one.
- Spending time with an elder and planning a rotating schedule if you have multiple caregivers.
- Bringing them nutritional foods like baked goods or, even better, fry bread.
- Talking and listening to their stories because elders have a lot of wisdom to share and appreciate.
- Every state has an Adult Protective Services division for those wishing to report abuse at [www.napsa-now.org/help-in-your-area](http://www.napsa-now.org/help-in-your-area).

Serving all individuals who reach out for their services regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other factor protected by local, state, or federal law, StrongHearts advocates are available 24/7 to provide support and advocacy, make referrals to Native centered service providers and connect our relatives to regionally available resources. Call or text 1(844)762-8483 or chat online at [strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org)



Courtesy Photo

**WERMY TAKES HOME MEDAL.** Tribal Member, Brandon Wermly, is in seventh grade and attends Cache Middle School. On May 17-19, Wermly participated in the Special Olympics and won a Bronze Medal.

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

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

**REASONABLE PREP FEES**  
Contact: Jewell Laurenzana Tieyah  
(580) 678-2052 or (580) 492-5455



**Comanche Reformed Church  
Hymn Singing  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
July 11, every other Tuesday  
Everyone welcome!**

**Lets Sing!**

## ROACH AND ROLAIN 2023 FAMILY REUNION



Courtesy Photo

### Roach and Rolain Family

On June 3, the Roach and Rolain Family Reunion took place in Hanford, Calif. Bombi Garcia said they all had a great time, and they wished the whole family could have been there.

# Milestones

## Happy Belated Birthday!

June 14 - Joia Pahcheka-Johnson  
 June 16 - Antonio Pahcheka-Valdez  
 June 22 - Israel Roach Aguilar  
 June 28 - Elizabeth (Liz) Chrismon



Happy Birthday  
 Hayden Goombi  
 July 3

~ Happy Birthday T!! May GOD Bless you with many many more. Love, your family! ♥

## Happy Birthday!



July - Jordyn Grae Haley  
 "Happy Sweet 16 Jordyn! We are so proud of the smart, beautiful, kind and funny young woman you are becoming. Hope you have an amazing 16th year! We love you more than anything!"

July 2- Mary Vivian Moon  
 July 2 - Martha Parker-Meat  
 July 3 - Hayden Goombi ♥  
 July 4 - JD Wauqwa  
 July 6 - Judy Tahah  
 July 6 - Terisa Brinkman  
 July 8 - Sierra K. Sovo  
 July 9 - Christine Brinkman  
 July 13 - Georgia Gibson  
 July 16 - Christian Berry Gilliam  
 July 18 - Jett Toyekoyah  
 July 21 - Ben Roach Aguilar  
 July 23 - Trevor Pewewardy  
 July 26 - Lebert Taunah  
 July 29 - Brennah Henson



Happy Belated Birthday  
 Antonio Pahcheka-Valdez  
 June 16



Happy Birthday  
 Christine and Terisa Brinkman  
 July 9 and July 6



Happy 74th Birthday  
 Georgia Gibson  
 July 13

~ Happy 74th Birthday to Georgia Gibson! I love you to the moon and back! From, Sassie J. Magpie.



Happy Belated Birthday  
 Joia Pahcheka-Johnson  
 June 14

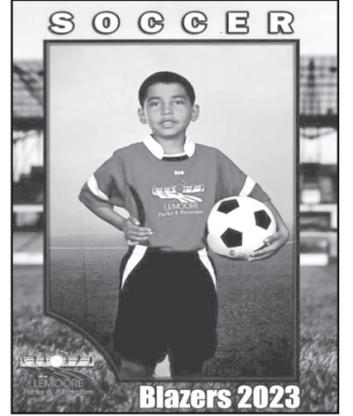


Happy 8th Birthday  
 Christian Berry Gilliam  
 July 16

~ Love, Mom & Dad.



Happy 4th Birthday  
 Jett Toyekoyah  
 July 18



Happy 8th Birthday  
 Ben Roach Aguilar  
 July 21

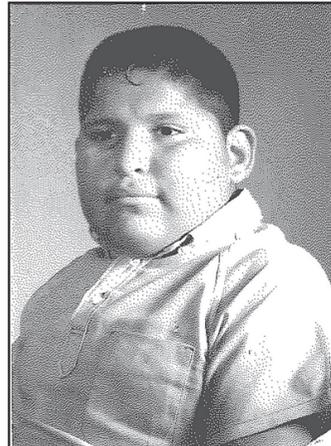
~ Great-Great Grandson of Ben Roach Sr. "His Name Still Lives"



Happy Belated 1st Birthday  
 Israel Roach Aguilar  
 June 22



Happy 22nd Birthday  
 Trevor Pewewardy  
 July 23



Happy Birthday  
 Lebert Taunah  
 July 26



Happy Birthday  
 Brennah Henson  
 July 29

~ From the Chasenah Family.



Happy Birthday  
 Arlene Schonchin July 8  
 Adria Suina July 22

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
 Dayne & Jo Ann Klinekole  
 July 27  
 Celebrating 50 years of marriage!

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

# Dear TCNN

Letters to the Editor

Dear TCNN,

The Conneywerdy Wahnee family would like to thank everyone for their kind words, thoughts, and prayers, during the loss of our dear Dinkers, Karon Conneywerdy Smith. We would like to give a special thank you to the Comanche Nation Police Department, The Comanche Nation Elderly Center, Comanche Nation Funeral Home, Intertribal Vision, Indian Memorial Church, MMIW, The Pregnancy Resource Center, Comanche Nation Workforce, Edith Kassanavoid Gordon Assisted Living Center, Modern Eyes, Johnnie Mantzke, Jodi Breedon Eshiti, Selma Herrera, Jessica Pohawpatchko, Precious Williams, Valorie Ardwin, Charles Eatman, Alexis Haggemiller, Teresa Lopez, and numerous others who lov-

ingly donated. Dinkers was loved by so many and will be greatly missed every single day. She lived a life of service and never met a stranger. She would welcome anyone with open arms and care for those in need. Thank you to everyone who helped to ensure she had a service she would of loved. We love you Dinkers.

The Candlelight Vigil was put on for Karon Conneywerdy Smith, Dinkers, Friday, June 9th, 2023. Several chapters of MMIW in Oklahoma were in attendance and made a beautiful night for family and friends to gather and pay respect to Dinkers, pray and sing together, and begin the healing process from such a tragedy.

-Jennifer Williams



Courtesy Photos



# Obituaries

## Markus Dewayne Pangus

Markus Dewayne Pangus, departed this life on May 9. He was born May 21, 1968 to Nancy Pangus.

He is preceded in death by mother Nancy Pangus, and sister Pamela Red Elk Blair.

He is survived by two brothers Timothy Pangus, Rocky Red Elk, and a son Zachary Pangus.

## Betty Sue Bread (Wyrick)



Courtesy Photo

### Wyrick

Betty Sue Bread (Wyrick) 74, went peacefully to the Promised Land May 11, with family by her side.

She was born to Scott and Julia Bread, December, 22, 1948. She was the youngest of six Brothers Larry, Richard, Darrell, Ronald & Aubrey. Wyrick was born and raised in Cache, Okla. She attended Will Rogers Elementary and Central Middle School where she was a 9th grade graduate. Later on in life Wyrick went on to become a private caregiver for Southwest Hospice for 10 years & Retired as a CHR for the Comanche Nation after 8 years.

Wyrick is survived by her Husband: James Wyrick, three children Jimmie Rivera, Larissa Paris & Tracy Perez. Her Sister in Laws: Patricia & Tijuata Bread. Best friends: Dusty Poco & Jim Couch. Her 10 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. And several nieces & nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents; Scott and Julia Bread. Grandmother Topay. Brothers; Ronald, Larry, Richard, Darrell, and Aubrey.

Wyrick truly was once of a kind, not only was she a caregiver, she was a mother and grandmother, she was a friend and most importantly a follower of Christ. When you came across Wyrick you seen a true testament, a strong feisty & loving woman who fought some of the toughest fights. She was an avid lover of spending time with her family and grandchildren. There was no smile greater than the one she had around family, especially her grandkids.

Wyrick knew no stranger, she welcomed everyone with open arms. You need a place to stay? She was there. You needed something to eat? She was there. She was a woman with great compassion and love for everyone she crossed. When you remember Wyrick, remember the strength she had, remember the love she gave and how she loved each and every person in their own special way.

There will never be another Wyrick and for that the world grieves the loss of a wonderful woman. But we must remember that she went to the most amazing place to be, Heaven. Remember the memories & Laugh not cry. Remember her love & feel it. Remember her strength & become it. She will truly be missed.

The family wishes to thank the ICU Staff and Physicians of CCMH, and Complete Hospice for their wonderful care.

## Andrew Nash Brymon Ahdosy



Courtesy Photo

### Ahdosy

It is with heavy hearts that the family announce the passing of Andrew Nash Brymon Ahdosy, known to his loved ones as Levi, on May 16. He was just 33 years old.

Ahdosy, was born on June 10, 1989, and lived a life full of passion and energy. He was a true lover of skateboarding and spent countless hours perfecting his skills on the board. Ahdosy had a natural talent for the sport and was always pushing himself to try new tricks and techniques.

In addition to skateboarding, Ahdosy was also a passionate advocate for cannabis legalization and enjoyed exploring all things related to the plant. He was a true believer in the healing properties of cannabis and worked tirelessly to educate others on its benefits.

Ahdosy will be deeply missed by his family and friends, who remember him as a kind and generous soul. He had a way of making everyone feel welcome and included, and his infectious energy, enthusiasm and belief in peace will be greatly missed. One of Ahdosy's greatest joys and drives to keep pushing on, was his love for his nieces and nephews. All kids loved him and he helped raise them all as his own. He was a safe space for them and was always there for them in their times of need.

While the family mourn his passing, they take comfort in knowing that Ahdosy lived life on his own terms and pursued his passions with unwavering dedication. His fight and resilience was a true testimony to his will to live and his faith in god. His memory will live on in the hearts of all those who knew and loved him.

Rest in peace, Levi. Don't worry, about a thing, because every little thing is gonna be alright. Love you 'til infinity and beyond.

## Karon Conneywerdy Smith



Courtesy Photo

### Smith

Karon Conneywerdy Smith, was born October 9, 1954, to Norma Jean Martin and Tyler Wahnee at the Kiowa Indian Hospital. Smith was better known as Dinkers. She was a member of The Lawton Christian Center and a proud member of the Comanche Nation. She tragically passed May 17, in Lawton, Okla.

Smith got her nickname when she was little from her favorite cartoon Dink's. She was a happy kid who couldn't wait to be big enough to walk to the corner store with her big sister and cousins.

She attended Bishop Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and

Roosevelt Elementary in Lawton. She attended Central Junior High School and graduated from Lawton High School in 1972.

After graduating High School she lived in Rhode Island and Indiana. She returned back to Lawton and met her husband Mark Smith and moved to Germany for a year then came home to stay. She later divorced.

She worked at several businesses throughout her life including Barefoot Gas Station, Torin Manufacturing, Stripes, Merry Maids, and more recently she cleaned the Pregnancy Resource Center and Indian Memorial Church. Smith lived a life of service.

She was preceded in death by a baby sister, her grandfather Charles Conneywerdy, her grandmother Julia Mohnassey Conneywerdy, her father Tyler Wahnee, her mother Norma Jean Martin, Aunts: Naomi Tehauno, Rena Dupoint, Gladys Tehauno, and Rita Wahnee. Uncles: Truman Conneywerdy, Amos Conneywerdy Wahnee.

She is survived by her sister Sharon Logsdon and her spouse Stephen of Lawton, Ok, Larold Conneywerdy and his partner Edwina of Lawton, Gerry Conneywerdy Wahnee of Lawton, Garold Conneywerdy Wahnee and his wife Karen of Lawton, Uncle Adrian Connywerdy, and Aunts Selma Herrera, and Carlene Escoto. Nieces Stephenie Pleasant and her spouse Michael of Lawton, Stacy Logsdon of Lawton, Christina Logsdon of Wichita Falls, Jennifer Williams and her spouse Anthony of Lawton, Nephews Skyler Wahnee and his spouse Yasmine of Norman, Conner Conneywerdy Wahnee and Taylor D. Conneywerdy Wahnee of Lawton. Great nephew Stephan Martinez and his spouse Kinyada of Walters, Seth and Stephen Pleasant of Lawton, Aurelius, Marshon, and Talan Williams of Lawton, Zander Logsdon of Wichita Falls, and great niece Marissa Helmen of Lawton. She also had three great great nieces she loved Samayah Jones, Elora Williams, and Adelaide Williams.

Her beloved fur baby Bezzy made his journey shortly after her, and they are reunited in heaven.

## Betty Loretta Simmons



Courtesy Photo

### Simmons

Memorial services for Betty Loretta Simmons, 77, of Geronimo, Okla., was June 20, at Comanche Nation Funeral Home with Pastor Steve Mallow and Lynn Munoz officiating. She went to be with her Father in Heaven on June 13, with her loving family beside her.

Simmons, was born September 16, 1945, in Lawton. Her parents were Ruth and Elton Simmons Tooahnippah Sr.

Simmons began her life in Geronimo and graduated from Geronimo High School. She attended Great Plains Vo-Tech, LPN classes and received her diploma and nurse's license. After three years at Cameron University, she graduated with an Associate's Degree in Nursing. She was employed as a Registered Nurse for many years, in various fields of nursing. She enjoyed meeting new co-workers, patients, and making friends. She retired from nursing in 2006, due to health problems.

She loved to travel and took her parents on many vacation trips throughout the U.S. When she was younger, she lived in California, Chi-

cago, Ill, and Dallas, Texas. She always wanted to go back to Chicago, she loved living there.

After her retirement she began making handcrafted Native American Dolls, and then showed them at art shows. She created a total of 180 dolls. Her doll exhibit now belongs to the Comanche Nation Museum in Lawton, Okla.

Our mom would like to be remembered for her work she did for the Lord as a Sunday school teacher at Petarsy Indian Methodist Church in 2006. Her family all attended church together there. These were some of her best memories of church.

Simmons was a loving mother to her sons Quinn (deceased) and Chad Simmons and to her special daughter Kathy Joyce Tasso (deceased). A loving Grandmother to Cody and Chantel Miranda, Shelly and Matt Burgess, Andy and Skyla Simmons, Special grandchildren Antonio and Keenen Tasso, Melody Roubideaux, Ava and Quinetta Simmons. Loving Great-grandmother to Kayden and Neveah Simmons, Jake Beasley, Hayden Hadley, and Owen Miranda. Loretta Ann Burgess. Family was the most important part of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents Ruth and Elton Simmons Tooahnippah Sr, very special companion Don Atkinson, brothers; Larry Simmons, Edwin Allen Simmons and Elton Simmons Tooahnippah Jr. Her paternal grandparents Wilson and Flora Simmons Tooahnippah. Her maternal grandparents Mary Hazel Heah Komah, Bob Tenequer Sr and special grandmother Jane Tenequer Woommavovah. Her

special maternal grandparents Kate Heah Komah and Mikey Tadanippah.

She is survived by her son Chad Simmons and his companion Raven Simmons Geronimo, Cody and Chantel Miranda Lawton, Shelly and Matt Burgess Lawton, Andy and Skyla Simmons Elgin, Brother, Weldon and Marion Simmons Geronimo, Sister Gloria Marie Eckiwaudah (deceased), brother-in-law Clyde Chemah, Sister Bonita and Carl Paddyaker Sr Cache, special sister Saadia Tasso Thompson Lawton, Aunt Barbara Crumbley (deceased), uncle Bob Tenequer Jr (deceased). Special sister Rebecca Howlingwater and Sandra Toyekoyah and her family. Niece Natalie Eckiwaudah, Nephew Dennis and Lynette Eckiwaudah and family Flagstaff, Arizona, Nephew Robert Simmons Cache, Lisa and Kermit Yackeyonny "Junior" and family Lawton, Jeff Simmons and family Geronimo, Jerry and Becky Simmons Geronimo, Dee Dee Jozwiak Cache, Ramona and Tommy Hancox Elgin, Eltona Vance and husband David, Geronimo, Melinda McCool and family Lawton, Nephew Elton Tooahnippah III and family, and Nephew Larry Simmons. I love all of you and God Bless!

She would like to thank everyone, family and friends for their love and support during her lifetime. "I have asked, and my lord had forgiven me." I now leave on the greatest journey of my life.

She was very thankful to be Native American and a very proud member of the Comanche Nation. She was baptized as a teenager at Geronimo Baptist Church and was a member of Petarsy Indian Methodist Church.



Come and Worship

## Memorial Indian Baptist Church

Invite you to come worship with us!

**Pastor Sean Bennally**

**Deacon Dale Ellsworth**

**Address: 4 Coombs Road, Lawton, Okla.**

**Sunday School 10 am - 11 am**

**Worship 11 am - noon**

**We have dinner every third Sunday of the month.**

**Our Menu consist of: Stew Meat, gravy, mashed potatoes, salad, fruit, and bread!**

**All are invited!**

**God Bless!**



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# COME PLAY WITH US!



**40 YEARS**

*Anniversary & Concert*

**SATURDAY, JULY 22**  
**COME CELEBRATE WITH US**  
**10AM-11PM • CONCERT 8PM**



**It's Our 40th Anniversary!**  
 Earn 40 points on your Comanche Rewards Club Card and receive a commemorative T-Shirt and fun swag bags plus a free concert at 8PM featuring The Gatlin Brothers!

While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



**TUESDAYS-THURSDAYS**  
**JULY 4-27 • NOON-10PM**

**We're Dedicated to Learning & Excellence!**

Bring in brand new school supplies and your July receipt to receive up to \$50 in Comanche Credit! It's cool to be in school - your future starts today!

Offer is redeemable once per member, per day, per property. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

*Comanche Elder's Day*



**GET YOURS TODAY!**

Stop in to any Comanche Nation property to pick up your exclusive Comanche Elder's Card on July 22-31.

You'll also receive \$40 dollars loaded on to your card when you sign up at the Comanche Rewards Club. Cards will be distributed from 11AM until the Comanche Rewards Club closes.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

**WHIRLIN' 40**

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

**Wanna Grab & Go Home A Winner?**

Whirl on in to win and grab all the cash you can every Friday and Saturday! Earn E-drawing entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 8AM-11PM, June 25-July 29 - drawings every hour.

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



**COOL FOR THE SUMMER**

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

**It's Time To Get Social With Your Ice Maker & Accessories**  
 Earn 200 points on Mondays for a gift beginning July 3-24.

While supplies last. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



*The Mean Green Machine*  
**JOHN DEERE**  
**GIVEAWAY**

**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
**JULY 7-29 • 7PM-11PM**

**GRAND PRIZE JOHN DEERE MOWER**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 29 • 11PM**

**It's time to come get your very own "Green Machine" and up to \$350 in Cash or \$100 in Comanche Credit!**

Every weekly winner from 7PM-11PM will automatically become a finalist and will be entered into our Grand Prize drawings on July 29! Earn E-drawing entries for every 5 points on your Comanche Rewards Card from 10AM-11PM July 1-29 and drawing are every 30 minutes. Be the Lawn Boss this summer!

Actual vehicle may vary from image shown. See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



**COMANCHE NATION CASINO**

**COMANCHE SPUR CASINO**

**HEROES DAY**

**COMANCHE NATION CASINO TUESDAYS**

**COMANCHE SPUR CASINO MONDAYS**

**HEROES CLUB**

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.

**COMANCHE NATION ENTERTAINMENT**

ComancheNationEntertainment.com

**SENIOR DAY**

**COMANCHE NATION CASINO MONDAYS**

**COMANCHE SPUR CASINO TUESDAYS**

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.