



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

# THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

## Lords of the Plains

VOLUME 25 EDITION 7

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Pia Nohi Tabeeni Maa (July) 2024

### CIVA Princess Recognized by City of Lawton



Courtesy Photo

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

On June 11, Comanche Indian Veterans (CIVA) Princess, Clara Yazzie, was recognized with a Mayoral Citation at the Lawton City Council Meeting. The citation reads as follows.

“Mayoral Citation Presented to:

**CLARA YAZZIE**  
2024-2025 COMANCHE INDIAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION (CIVA) PRINCESS  
“On behalf of the citizens of the City of Lawton, I, Mayor Stan Booker, am pleased to confer upon you this Mayoral Citation in recognition of your dedication and craftsmanship in creating handmade poppy pins. Your commitment to honoring our fallen soldiers and preserving the Memorial Day poppy tradition has been invaluable to our community.

Your exceptional talent as a seamstress and heartfelt dedication to this cause inspire us all. By stepping forward, you ensure that an important tradition, which might otherwise be lost to your generation, continues to be remembered and cherished.

The City of Lawton is proud to recognize you for your positive impact and commitment to honoring our heroes and for rising to the highest level of “Some Kind of Wonderful”.

In witness whereof, I hereto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, to be affixed hereto this 11th day of June, 2024.”

Yazzie created handmade poppy pins for Memorial Day and presented Mayor Booker with a pin and handmade tie during a City Council Meeting.

“As parents, we are very proud of her and we will continue to support her in whatever decision she makes,” said Darrel Yazzie, Clara’s father.

This was the fourth Mayoral Citation given by Mayor Booker since May 2023.

### Lisa Dawsey Wins Tribal Administrator Position

#### A Meet and Greet was held June 21



Newly elected Tribal Administrator, Lisa Dawsey, addresses the tribal members during the Meet and Greet held June 21 at the Comanche Nation Complex’s Code Talker Room.

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Lisa Dawsey won the June 15 Run Off Election with a total vote of 776 votes (60%) against Justin Boo’s total votes of 507 (40%). Also winning the Runoff Election was the law firm Crowe and Dunlevy with a total vote of 737 (59%) against Ceiba Legal PC’s vote of 523 (41%).

A Meet and Greet was held the afternoon of June 21, to allow tribal members the opportunity to welcome Dawsey into her new position.

After a welcome from Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest

Tahdooahnippah, Dawsey addressed the crowd.

“I stand before you today filled with immense gratitude and humility. This election is not just a personal achievement and I am deeply honored to have your trust and support.

First and foremost, I would like to start with a verse from Colossians 3:16 -17 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing hymn and spiritual songs to



Photos by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche elder, Franklin Akoneto, greets the newly elected Tribal Administrator, Lisa Dawsey, June 21 at the Comanche Nation Complex’s Code Talker Conference Room.

God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” I want to thank God first, then each and every one of you who believed in me supported my campaign, and cast your vote. Your confidence in my vision and leadership is profoundly humbling.

A special thank you to my incredible campaign team. Civa Gandy, Raquel and Donnie Ramos, Harry and Jerry Tahsequeah. From **See MEET AND GREET, Page 4**

### Comanche Nation Housing Authority’s Programs Break Previous Year’s Record Number of Tribal Members Served

#### CNHA’s 2023 programs reach nearly 4,000 Comanche Nation families

Submitted by Comanche Housing Authority Staff

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, reached more than 3,952 tribal families in 2023.

Breaking its own record set in 2022 of 2,430 tribal families served, CNHA supported tribal families through the following programs and grants:

- Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)
- Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG)
- Homeowners Assistance Fund (HAF) Program
- Indian Community Development Block Grant ARP Act (ICDBG-ARP)
- Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive (IHBG)
- Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)
- Elder Home Rehabilitation Program
- Elder Outreach Program
- Home Improvement Emergency Repair Program (HIP)

“Through a collaborative effort with the Comanche Nation Business Committee (CBC) and their program staff, they have consistently innovated their strategies to identify

those in need and optimize it’s outreach,” said Russell Sossamon, executive director of CNHA. “In 2023, they prioritized maximizing their resources and as a result, they successfully reached the most families in their organization’s history.”

Among the nearly 4,000 tribal members reached, CNHA assisted over 1,280 Comanche Nation Elders. It served a total of 243 Elders through its Elder Home Rehabilitation Program and more than 1,000 Elders through its Elder Outreach Program.

“As we continue to serve our tribal members and community, we place the needs of our Elders at the forefront,” Sossamon said. “Each of our programs and grants help us work towards achieving homeownership, self-sufficiency and safety for each tribal member in need.”

With the assistance of CNHA’s grants and homeownership programs, 10 tribal families were able to pay off their homes in 2023 and another 14 tribal families received down payment assistance to purchase a home. Its initiatives also included providing emergency home repairs, ongoing maintenance for 295 CNHA owned properties, upgrades to ensure livable standards, home expansion to reduce overcrowding, improvements for accessibility, among

others.

“In order to reach as many tribal families as we did, we vigorously apply for federal funding and grant programs,” Sossamon said. “These programs are extremely competitive, and we are proud of the amount CNHA has been able to secure for our community.”

CNHA was the first Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs (SPONAP) to be awarded an ICDBG grant in 2011. They have received \$13,800,480 since that first award and completed rehabilitation of 938 homes for low-income Tribal members through the ICDBG grant program.

The housing authority also receives additional funding and assistance through the Comanche Nation and its General Council. These tribal funds are the sole source of funding for its Elder home repair and emergency home improvement programs. Most recently, in a joint effort between the CBC and CNHA, the Elder Outreach Program was launched in late 2021, which has since served nearly 5,000 Elders.

CNHA currently operates in seven counties – Caddo, Comanche, **See HOUSING, Page 4**

Comanche Nation News  
PO Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502

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



### Comanche Nation Enterprises, Inc. Announces Partnership with Bank for Loan Program to Tribally Owned Small Businesses

Submitted by CNE Staff

Comanche Nation Enterprises (CNE), Inc. announces partnership with Equity Bank for distribution of the first tranche of the SSBCI (State Small Business Credit Initiative) Loan Participation Program to tribally owned small businesses. The Program is a part of the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Investing in America Small Business Opportunity Program (SBOP) – a U.S. Treasury competitive grant program funded by the SSBCI.

The program was reauthorized and expanded by President Biden’s American Rescue Plan and is a nearly \$10 billion program to support small businesses and entrepreneurship in communities across the United States by providing capital and technical assistance to promote small business stability, growth and success. SSBCI provides funding to states, the District of Columbia, territories, and Tribal governments (collectively, participating jurisdictions) for programs that catalyze lending and investing in small businesses, build ecosystems of opportunity and entrepreneurship, and create high-quality jobs. SSBCI is designed to catalyze private capital in the form of loans to and investments in small businesses, especially in historically under served communities and among entrepreneurs who may have otherwise lacked the support needed to pursue their business ambitions. SSBCI includes two programs: the Capital Program and the Technical Assistance (TA) Grant Program. Under the Capital Program, participating jurisdictions implement credit and equity/venture capital programs to provide capital to small businesses. Under the TA Grant Program, Treasury supports programs that provide legal, accounting or financial advisory services to qualifying small businesses. Oklahoma’s designation for their capital program is the Loan Participation Program which provides credit support through the purchase of a portion of a loan made by a lender or through a direct loan alongside a private lender.

Comanche Nation Enterprises, Inc. obtained \$3.88 million, issued in tranches of \$1.1 million, in funding and has been actively searching for a lender to partner with for distribution. Alisha Herrera, the Regional President for NOK with Equity Bank, has been working with CNE CEO, Marlon Stevens, on various business ventures intended to bring profit to the Comanche Nation, making the partnership with Equity for the Loan Participation Program an ideal situation for both parties. Alisha states, “Equity Bank is proud to partner with the Comanche Nation. We are looking forward to fostering a long-lasting **See LOAN PROGRAM, Page 4**

## NOTICE

Due to receiving the gift cards at a later date, the application for the Youth Program’s School Clothing Assistance will now be accepted July 22nd – October 1st. Call The Youth Services Program, (580) 492-3288.



# Happy Chief’s Day

## July 19



# THE BEST BANK FOR YOUR BUCK

Open an account today!

Checking

Savings

Business



**City NATIONAL BANK & TRUST**  
*More Than Banking, It's Family!*



877-585-4177  
 CNB1901.COM/COMANCHE-PRIDE  
 @cnb1901



THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS
Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mtra
(July) 2024
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.

Contact: The Comanche Nation News
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, Okla. 73502-0908
Telephone: (580) 492-3381
Fax: (580) 492-3709
Email: pio@comanchenation.com

- PIO/TCNN Staff
Jolene Schonchin, Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com
Paula Karty, Assist. Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com
Stacey Heminokey, Administrative Assistant- Email: Stacey.Heminokey@comanchenation.com
Heaven Williams, Reporter/Photographer - Email: Heaven.Williams@comanchenation.com
Natascha Mercadante -Online Reporter - Email: Natascha.Mercadante@comanchenation.com
News items of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
Photographs will be copied and will become the property of TCNN.
The Milestones Page (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only.
TCNN will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations.
We reserve the right to edit all material. Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed.

Government
A Total of 21 Resolutions
Presented at June
CBC Meeting

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the June 1, 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.

Chairman Forrest Tahdooh-nippah called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. The approval for the April and May minutes was passed by a vote of 6/0/0.

Resolutions

- Resolution No. 59-2024- Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1330 Minors. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 60-2024- Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1331 Does Not Meet BO. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 61-2024- Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1332 No Allottee. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 62-2024- CNHA Resolution Grant Application HUD -PRICE. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 63-2024- CNHA Resolution Grant Application HUD-IHBBG. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 64-2024- CNHA Resolution Grant Application DOE Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 65-2024- CNHA Resolution Grant Application HUD-ICDBG. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 66-2024- CNLE Resolution MOU with Lawton Police Department for CLEET Training. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 67-2024- CNLE Resolution Grant Application DOJ (COPS) Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 68-2024- MMIP Resolution Tribal Victims Services Set Aside Grant. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 69-2024- CIP Reso-

- lution for Property and Procurement Building Change Orders. Tabled.
Resolution No. 70-2024- Prev. & Rec Resolution Grant Application SAMHSA-TOR. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 71-2024- EPA Resilience US Dept. of Energy Grid Resilience Formula Grant. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 72-2024- CN Enterprise Resolution Authorizing Approval to Pay Olsson Invoice of \$255K. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 73-2024- CBC Resolution OST Signatories. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 74-2024- CBC Resolution to Change Signatories on Financial Accounts. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 75-2024- CBC Resolution to Amend KCAILUC Members. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 76-2024- CBC Resolution for Travel. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 77-2024- CBC Resolution for CBC Meeting Procedures. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 78-2024- Tax Commission Resolution Authorizing Bobby Bolton to Examine Records. Tabled.
Resolution No. 79-2024- Tax Commission Resolution Removing and Appointing Tax Commissioners. Resolution passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 80-2024- Tax Commission Resolution Regarding Supervision of Tax Administrator and Tax Commission Employees. Resolution passes 6/0/0.

Nick Hutchins is New Tax Administrator for Comanche Nation



Courtesy Photo

The Comanche Nation Tax Commission is under new leadership with Nick Hutchins taking over as the Tax Administrator on March 25. His short-term goal is to fix the oil/gas severance taxes from the operators who have either failed to pay due to oversight or just not following the taxation act that was set in place in 1995. He said in a statement, "It seems like I'm always fixing something someone broke and the Comanche Nation People need to know the "why's and where's" this revenue sits at the moment." "My job is to ensure the Comanche Nation people are getting the exact revenue that is owed to them." His other short-term goal is to identify some weaknesses in the taxes that Comanche Nation is being short-changed on and to ensure the dollars coming in are accurate and on time. The following taxes are presently the revenue stream for the Comanche Nation:
Sales Taxes from the Casinos and Smoke Shops
Alcohol Taxes
Motor Vehicle taxes from registration with new and renewals
Tobacco Taxes
Fireworks Vendor License & Taxes
General/ Vendor Business Licenses
Oil/Gas Operator Licenses
Retail/Wholesale Tobacco License
Alcohol and Beverage License
TERO Taxes
Lodging Taxes
ATM Transaction Fee Taxes
Comanche Nation Seal Protection Request Fees
The Comanche Tax Commis-

sion has reorganized its staff positions to better align and to have the right people in the right jobs. For example, an Assistant Tax Administrator has been added to allow dual and numerous projects to be divided up for better control and timeliness in accomplishing each task. It also serves as a check and balance to ensure responsibility and accountability are in place. An Oil/Gas Supervisor has been posted to hire a permanent individual with the oil/gas severance taxes experience from the financial and operational side of this position. An administrative assistant has also been posted to work closely with the tax administrators freeing up the other staff members to focus on TERO, Vehicle Registrations, Oil/Gas Assignments, and a myriad of other responsibilities that comes with administrative assignments within Tax Commission. According to Hutchins, the oil/gas severance taxes are being investigated and researched to bring this to closure within 6-8 weeks. A short-term consultant will be considered to work closely with the Tax Administrator starting the beginning of June of 2024. The other top news is the Abandoned Oil/Gas Well Grant that is being worked on and submitted by the middle of May. The Kiowa Tribe staff are also working closely with the Comanche Nation Tax Commission staff as a way to collaborate and work as a team. Hutchins' long term goal is to grow more revenue as he works with the land management, realty and business enterprise staff members within Comanche Nation. Some areas they are visiting and reviewing consists of storage facilities, travel stops, hemp/cannibals, just to name a few. The last big item is that the Comanche Nation Tax Commission

From the Chairman's Desk



Maruaweka Numunuu:

I recently attended the Sovereignty Symposium hosted by the Oklahoma City University School of Law. As a result, weighing on my mind currently is what it means to be "sovereign." Tribal sovereignty has always been under attack. In 1831, Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court John Marshall wrote that Indian Tribes are "domestic dependent nations." Even today, nearly two hundred years later, Tribal sovereignty depends heavily on the will of Congress in exercising its "plenary power." Fortunately, Congress has passed many federal statutes to promote Tribal sovereignty, self-governance, and self-determination. My goal as your Chairman is for our Tribe to begin to take full advantage of these statutes. Today, I am working on taking greater advantage of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to get greater funding and more flexibility for our programs.

At the same time, Tribal sovereignty is not entirely dependent on Congress. Indian Tribes have inherent sovereignty and may enact their own laws to govern their internal affairs. Again, my goal as your Chairman is for our Tribe to take full advantage of our inherent sovereignty. We will enact and use our own laws to promote the well-being of our Tribal members including—collecting oil and gas taxes, developing a more robust TERO Department, promulgating ordinances regarding ethics and breach of public trust, amending our constitution, and enacting vendor contracting codes.

Inherent sovereignty, however, requires the Tribe to enforce its laws. Each Tribal member, Tribal employee, Tribal contractor, and Tribal vendor is bound by Tribal law and must respect Tribal law to the same extent as federal law. Enforcing our own laws against those that disregard them requires using our own resources. Each year the Tribal Council approves a budget during the General Election in May. That budget becomes effective in October at the start of the new fiscal year. Therefore, as your Chairman, I have to work within the confines of budgets set by prior administrations until the October of my second year (or approximately halfway through my first term).

Nonetheless, where there is a will, there is a way, and we will find a way to protect and promote our sovereignty. Prior generations fought for our sovereignty without gaming revenue or tax commission revenue. It is our turn to continue to the fight for our sovereignty.

Comanche Nation Tribal Court
District Court
MAY 09 2024
FILED
Court Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF:
Coosewoon-Chasenah, Kaylub, Matthew
An Enrolled Member of the Comanche Nation.

Case No. NC-2024-0005

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: ALL CREDITORS or INTERESTED PARTIES

Take notice that Kaylub Coosewoon-Chasenah has filed in the above Court a Petition to have the name changed as follows, to-wit from: Kaylub Coosewoon-Chasenah to Kaylub Huffman.

The petition will be heard on the 24th day of June, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. located at the Comanche Nation Complex, 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton, Oklahoma. If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Change of Name should not be granted by the Court you should file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing or appear and present the same at the above time and place.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 9th day of May, 2024.



By: Javasha Omahiah
Court Clerk
Comanche Nation Tribal Court

Petitioner:

Name: Kaylub Coosewoon-Chasenah
Address: 311 NW 5th street, Cache, Oklahoma 73527
Telephone Number: (580)-647-3218

This month's financial tip brought to you by
City NATIONAL BANK & TRUST

Let's Get Saving!
Reasons to Save: Vacation, Holidays, School Expenses, Down Payment on a Home or Vehicle, Emergency Fund
We Can Help!
Open a Savings Account
Decide on a Goal
Pay Yourself!
Be Flexible
Don't Give Up!

will be hosting the next OITA (Oklahoma Intertribal Tax Association) conference on June 4. There will be approximately 30+ Tribal representatives across the State of Oklahoma who are tax administrators, vehicle tag agents/supervisors, attorneys and other distinguished guests who will be speaking on numerous tax issues affecting Native Americans across the state.

Comanche Nation Officials
Chairman: Forrest Tahdooh-nippah
Vice Chairman: Diana Doyebi Sovo
Secretary/Treasurer: Robert Tippeconnie
Committeeman No. 1: Hazel Tahsequah
Committeeman No. 2: Ross Kahrahrhah
Committeeman No. 3: Alice Kassanavoid
Committeeman No. 4: Jordan Fox
Tribal Administrator: Lisa Dawsey
Contact information and social media links for TCNNPIO.

# The Official June 15 Run Off Election Voting Results



## COMANCHE NATION OF OKLAHOMA 2024 RUN-OFF ELECTION June 15, 2024

### OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR	CACHE	WALTERS	OKC	APACHE	LAWTON	ANADARKO	EARLY LAWTON	EARLY COMPLEX	ABSENTEE	HAND COUNT	TOTAL	%
JUSTIN BOOS	54	19	15	15	35	9	40	50	268	2	507	40%
LISA DAWSEY	80	10	22	14	74	14	89	57	415	1	776	60%
UNDERVOTES	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0		
TRIBAL ATTORNEY												
CROWE & DUNLEVY	80	18	14	11	51	11	80	65	409	0	739	59%
CEIBA LEGAL, PC. (TIMOTHY HARJO)	51	11	24	18	57	11	45	38	268	0	523	41%
UNDERVOTES	4	0	0	0	2	1	2	4	11	0		

### 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 15, 2024. We further certify that said election was held in accordance with the Election Policy of the Comanche Nation.

*Cameille Wetselline*  
*Don Chase*  
*C. Martin*  
 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

*Alannah Atauvich-Callahan*  
*Cherry Martinez*  
*Kay Ahhaitty-Smits*  
*Sharon McDaniel*  
*Adolphus Marshall*

*Charlotte Niyah*  
*Deloris Woospitti*  
*Kay Ahhaitty-Smits*  
*Sandra Toyekoyah*  
*J.W. Marshall*

## LOAN PROGRAM

Continued from Page 1

relationship and supporting the Nation and its members in their continued growth and success." CEO Steven's considers Equity Bank a strong ally for Comanche Nation to move forward with new enterprises, "CNE is proud to partner with Equity Bank in the administration and management of the SSBCI Loan Participation Program for the Comanche Nation. Equity Bank has demonstrated its commitment, access to financial resources, and possesses the required technical knowledge in the SSBCI program while ensuring the Comanche

Nation and tribal members are offered access to capital for small business operations." CNE is working with the tribe to organize a community event, alongside Equity Bank, as an official launch for the loan program, where tribal members will be able to ask questions about the program, apply for the loan, and open accounts with Equity Bank. For those tribal members with interest in opening a small business but unsure of how to get started, the Small Business Administration (SBA) <https://www.sba.gov/> and Tribal Government Institute (T.G.I)

APEX Accelerator <http://www.tgiok.com> are free resources aiding and promoting growth for new and existing small businesses. These programs, among others, will also be in attendance, to provide answers to tribal members during the program launch event. Details and event date announcement will be coming soon. For more information about Comanche Nation Enterprises, Inc. and access the loan application visit <https://www.comanchenationenterprises.com/> Email: [info@comanchenationenterprises.com](mailto:info@comanchenationenterprises.com) Or call (580)-280-2363

## HOUSING

Continued from Page 1

Cotton, Kiowa and Tillman for federal grant programs with the addition of Stephens and Grady for the Elder program. The HIP emergency program is available to Tribal homeowners throughout the country. To learn more about its programs or to apply, call (580) 357-4956 or visit [www.comanchehousing.com](http://www.comanchehousing.com). ABOUT COMANCHE NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY

Nation Housing Authority (CNHA) provides rental and housing assistance to low-income and other enrolled members of the Comanche Nation through a number of its service programs, including the down payment and closing cost grant, Elder home rehabilitation program, rental program, student housing program, homeownership lease purchase program and CNHA emergency home repair program (HIP). CNHA

currently operates in seven counties – Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Kiowa, Tillman for federal grant programs. Tribally funded programs include the addition of Stephens and Grady for Elders and nationwide for emergency HIP program. For more information about program requirements and low-income guidelines, call (580) 357-4956 or visit [www.comanchehousing.com](http://www.comanchehousing.com).

The Comanche



To: Chairman Forrest Tahdoahnipah  
 Date: June 18, 2024  
 CC: Comanche Nation Business Committee  
 From: Terry Perryman, Chairman, Election Board  
 Re: Certification of Runoff Election

**Results of Runoff Election for Tribal Administrator**  
 Lisa Marie Dawsey

**Run-off for Tribal Attorney:**  
 Crow & Dunlevy

**Election Board**

*Terry Perryman*  
Terry Perryman, Chairman

*Charlotte Niyah*  
Charlotte Niyah, Secretary

*Cameille Wetselline*  
Cameille Wetselline, Member

*Sandra Toyekoyah*  
Sandra Toyekoyah, Member

*Deloris Woospitti*  
Deloris Woospitti, Member

*Alannah Atauvich-Callahan*  
Alannah Atauvich-Callahan, Vice-Chairman

*Cherry Martinez*  
Cherry Martinez, Member

*Kay Ahhaitty-Smits*  
Kay Ahhaitty-Smits, Member

*Sharon McDaniel*  
Sharon McDaniel, Member

*Adolphus Marshall*  
Adolphus Marshall, Member

Comanche Nation Election Office  
 P.O. Box 1289  
 Lawton, OK 73502  
 (580) 492-3785

## Appreciation Celebration

MC: WALLACE COFFEY  
 HEAD SINGER: BUBBA HORSE  
 HEAD STAFF: COMANCHE NATION YOUTH DANCERS  
 AD: LARNEY & UNSEE SILVERHORN  
 SECURITY: JAMES WADE

### TRIBAL ATTORNEY & COUNSEL



Zane Anderson (Potawatomi), Mike McBride III (Chair, Indian Law & Gaming Practice), Randall Yates (Tlingit & Hanida), Logan Hibbs (Choctaw)

Dinner 4-5:30  
**FRIDAY  
 JULY 26**  
 Gourd Dance 6-9

SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL COMANCHE  
 ELDERS, ORGANIZATIONS & FAMILIES

Sponsored by family & friends

## MEET AND GREET

Continued from Page 1

early mornings to late nights, you stood by me, strategized, and to make this possible. I am grateful for your passion, creativity, and commitment.

I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to my family (Husband Darone, sons - Craig, Tevin, and Dan-Quez. My parents Joyce and Dirl Burruss. Sister Chrisee) and friends.

They have been my pillars of support and have always been there for me through thick and thin throughout this journey. I couldn't have done it without your love, encouragement, sacrifices and unwavering belief in me has made me who I am today.

I also want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers and supporters, (especially Lorrie Fox and Verna Cable-Burgess) who gave their time, energy, and resources. Whether you made phone calls, passed out my fliers, hosted events (Cindy Famera and Dr. Pewewardy, Non Locals, Keta Eshop, Crowe and Dunlevy, Ceiba, and Baliente Herrera), or simply spread the word, your efforts have made a significant impact.

I would also like to acknowledge my opponents in this election. Thank you for your passion and for engaging in a fair and respectful campaign. Your ideas and per-

spectives have enriched the dialogue and have challenged us to think more deeply about our tribal community's needs and future.

Now, as we celebrate, I want to reaffirm my commitment to the promises made during this campaign. This is just the beginning. I am dedicated to working to fulfill the shared vision of the Chairman, tribal council, and most importantly the tribal members to address the issues that matter most to our community.

This new beginning is a testament to the power of unity, collaboration, and the belief that together, we can achieve great things. I invite each of you to stay engaged,

share your ideas, and work with me to create the positive change we envision.

In conclusion, I want to thank you once again for your trust, support, and belief in our vision. I am deeply honored to serve and represent you. Let's move forward together, with determination and hope, to build a brighter future for our tribal community.

Have a wonderful evening and thank you from the bottom of my heart."

To contact Dawsey, call the Office of the Tribal Administrator, at (580) 492-3253 or (580) 492-3255.

# Programs

## Child Support Services Announces Court Dates In the Comanche Nation

### Tribal Court

**Russell Eckiwadah:** CNC-SP-15-54; 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.

## Comanche Gift Shop Summer Fest

The Comanche Nation Gift Shop is hosting a Summer Fest on July 13.

Comanches and other tribal members can set up and sell their products and it's free!

They open at 10 a.m., but you can set up as early as 8 a.m.

Must bring your own tables, chairs, shelters, and power source. 701 NW Ferris Ave, Lawton, Okla. Ph: (580) 595-4941

## CN Gift Shop Sale

The Comanche Nation Gift Shop is having a Walters' Pow Wow Sale on July 15-20.

Get 25% off your highest-priced item, and get your normal discount off your next item!

- 20% off for Comanche Elders.
- 15% off for Comanche Members.
- 10% off for other Tribal Members and Military

Must present a card, or have your name already in our system. (Items marked down are not eligible for an additional discount) Hours: 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturdays  
701 NW Ferris Ave, Lawton, Okla.  
Ph: (580) 595-4941

## July Adult Education Student of the Month Thersina Hope



Courtesy Photo

### Hope

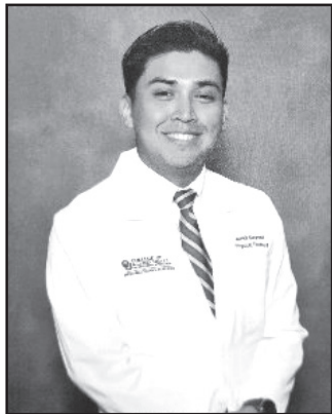
Thersina Hope comes from three great tribes: Comanche, Chickpea, and Sioux. Hope is a mother to a young man and three fur babies. Hope has her medical assistant certification and just finished her CNA and now enrolled in the nursing program at the Great Plains Technology Center.

With the help of the Comanche Tribe Education Department, she can achieve her goals that she set for herself. Hope always knew that she wanted to be a doctor and help people since she was a little girl.

When Hope is done with her journey, she wants to travel to different native communities to give back and help out where she can. Hope said, I love my native heritage and culture.

So again, Hope thanks her tribe and God, her family, and especially her parents for helping her and the support. Without any of that Hope wouldn't be able to succeed. So again, thank you.

## July Higher Education Student of the Month Derrick Stevens



Courtesy Photo

### Stevens

Derrick Stevens, is Comanche and Cheyenne. Stevens currently serving in the United States Marine Corps as an assistant section leader of 1st Battalion 23rd Marines at Anti-

Tank Training Company in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma as well as pursuing a Doctorate of Physical Therapy at the University of Oklahoma. Being a proud member of the Comanche Nation, from the Tahmahkera family, Stevens learned how few Native Americans have not taken on health care careers. There are roughly 110,000 physical therapists in the U.S., and only 0.3% are Native. A clinic Stevens observed at for physical therapy was an Indian hospital and he saw the many Native people that came through with their various problems. Unless they were athletes, he mainly observed older Native people. Stevens wants them to have a normal and a healthy as possible lifestyle that way they can continue to pass on traditions to their children and grandchildren.

While perfecting his craft in the art in the rehabilitation sciences, Stevens is an active member of the Native American Student Association on campus. In his first year, his peers suggested he apply to become an officer in the organization to employ his leadership capabilities. Stevens has achieved great success as he has been nominated to serve as Outreach Officer. Stevens' role is to advertise the organization as well as make themselves known not just to the campus but to the Native American Community. NASA had hosted an event for undergraduates to interact with the Health Sciences Center students and this event was called Future Natives in Healthcare. This gave the undergraduate students in their third or fourth year to engage with graduate students and would share their experiences, give advice, and share their journey to get to this school. Because Stevens is a physical therapy student, he shared his experience with the program as well answered any questions regarding it.

In July of 2025, his Marine Corps contract will come to an end, being one of the biggest milestones of his life. Stevens wish to continue his duty to this country, while also practicing his degree Stevens would have worked tirelessly to earn. Joining the

Army or the Navy to practice physical therapy has been on his mind for years now and will continue to drive him forward. Stevens also has aspirations to work for IHS to give back to his fellow Native people. Stevens also has been interested in working for the VA to continue to work with veterans. It is apparent Stevens has several options after earning his physical therapy doctorate and Stevens intend to apply himself exuberantly to whichever path he choose.

## July Higher Education Student of the Month Mahala Donald

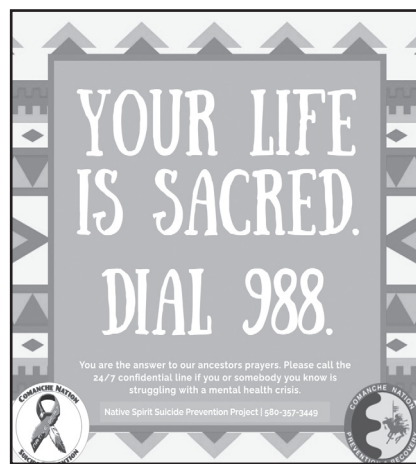


Courtesy Photo

### Donald

Mahala Donald is from the Chibitty family. Donald is the daughter of Jannetta Chalmers and the granddaughter of the late Christina Herrera.

Donald is currently attending Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Donald is majoring in sports management with the intent of becoming a sports agent in the future.



## July Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Catherine Howell



Courtesy Photo

### Howell

Catherine Howell, her Comanche name is *Tūtaatū Wai? Pū* which means Little Woman.

Howell, was selected as the Student of the Month and she is so grateful and overjoyed to have been selected.

Howell is a 24 years old and a mother her three-year-old daughter Lena Mae Howell. Howell is currently a student at the Paul Mitchell School in Norman, Okla.

Howell is a Ten Bears descendent and from the *Quahada* band of Comanches. Her parents are Sam and Rachel Howell. Her maternal grandparents are the late Lewis Kowena and the late Lena Kowena. Her maternal great-grandparents were Felix and Katie Kowena (Koweno). Her maternal great-great grandparents were Frank Chikova and Mary Kowena (Wife-per).

Howell so thankful and honored to share her culture through cosmetology and to be in this industry and represent her *Nūmūnū* people. *ū kamakātū nū!*

**LEGAL AID CLINIC FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS**

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

PROVIDED BY GREAT PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES

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

### DATES

- JULY 3: 10 AM - 2 PM
- JULY 10: 10 AM - 2 PM
- JULY 17: 10 AM - 2 PM
- JULY 24: 10 AM - 2 PM
- JULY 31: 10 AM - 2 PM

JULY 12  
10 AM - 12 PM  
(COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURTHOUSE)

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



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**HONORING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.** The Comanche Nation Youth Services Graduation Banquet and Award Ceremony took place June 14 at the McCasland Ballroom, Cameron University to honor high school graduates. The ceremony kicked off with the Comanche Nation, Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin, performing the opening prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and a welcome from the Comanche Nation Youth Services Director, Dena Landers, and the Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoahnippah. The keynote speaker was Joshua Poahway. Poahway graduated from Cache High School in 2019 and is in his third semester at Arkansas Tech University to earn his master's degree in Kinesiology, Strength and Conditioning Studies. Chairman Tahdoahnippah presented certificates to 203 Comanche high school graduates. There were several door prizes for the graduates that ranged from gift cards to televisions and mini-refrigerators. All of the graduates received gift bags from the program. LEFT: Elgin High School graduate, LeAnn Tahsequah receives a certificate from the Youth Services Director, Dena Landers. TOP RIGHT: Madison Downs was the recipient of the 2024 Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Scholarship. BOTTOM RIGHT: Indiahoma High School Graduate, Rebecca Burgess, receives a certificate from Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoahnippah.

# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

## JULY 2024

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

### Sheet Pan Honey Mustard Chicken and Potatoes

#### Ingredients

- 1 ½ Pounds fingerling potatoes, halved
- 1 ½ Tablespoons olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 4 ½ Tablespoons coarse ground Dijon mustard, divided
- 2 Tablespoons honey, divided
- 3 Cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tablespoon chopped fresh thyme leaves
- 6 Bone-in, skin-on chicken thigh

#### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Lightly oil a baking sheet or coat with nonstick spray.
2. Place potatoes in a single layer onto the prepared baking sheet. Add olive oil; season with salt and pepper, to taste. Gently toss to combine, and place potatoes cut side down.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together 3 tablespoons Dijon, 1/2 tablespoon (1 1/2 teaspoons) honey, garlic, thyme, 1 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper.
4. Using paper towels, pat the chicken dry. Place chicken in a single layer around the potatoes on the prepared baking sheet. Spread the Dijon mixture evenly over the chicken; season with salt and pepper, to taste.
5. Place into oven and bake until the chicken is almost cooked through and the potatoes are tender about 40-45 minutes.
6. Whisk the remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons Dijon and 1 1/2 tablespoons honey in a small bowl. Brush the tops of the chicken with the Dijon mixture. Place into oven and bake until the chicken is cooked through, an additional 5 minutes.

### Lemon Blueberry Cheesecake Cupcakes

#### Ingredients

- 12 Lemon Oreos
- 2 Blocks cream cheese softened
- 3/4 C. Powdered sugar
- 2 Tbsp. Lemon juice
- 1 Tsp. Lemon zest
- 1 Tsp. Pure vanilla extract
- Pinch of kosher salt
- 1 1/2 C. Heavy cream
- 1/4 C. Blueberry preserves

#### Directions

1. Line a cupcake pan with cupcake liners then place an Oreo into the bottom of each cup. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese with a hand mixer until smooth, then beat in powdered sugar, lemon juice, lemon zest, vanilla, and salt. Add heavy cream and beat until fluffy and stiff peaks form. Spoon cream cheese mixture over Oreos.
3. Using a small spoon, dollop a small amount of blueberry preserves into the center of each cheesecake. Use a toothpick (or a small skewer) to swirl.
4. Refrigerate until firm, about 4 hours.

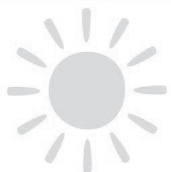


### Summer Season Word Match

Match the Comanche words and their pictures.



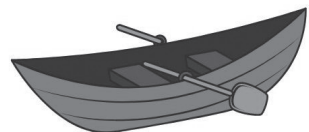
naniná?ooki



taaka pitsip̄



pakwabi



mutsikwa



tabe



tatsinuupi



pawobi puuku



PiaNohitabeni



ṁṁ?it̄

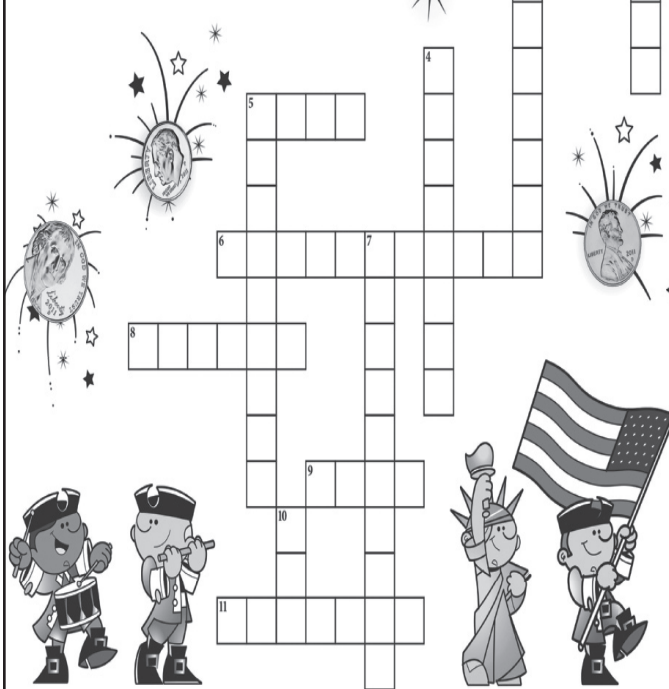


nohi?nuraa



### Fourth of July

#### CROSSWORD



#### ACROSS

3. Fill in this famous quote common among Patriots: "No \_\_\_\_\_ without representation!"
5. The Star-Spangled Banner was written about the American \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Independence begins with "We the people."
8. British tea was dumped into the harbor during the \_\_\_\_\_ Tea Party.
9. The colors of the United States are red, white and \_\_\_\_\_.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ is the power or right to act, speak, or think how you want.

#### DOWN

1. This general went on to become our first president.
2. The National \_\_\_\_\_ is sung before many sports events.
4. There were \_\_\_\_\_ states in 1776.
5. These things light up the sky on the Fourth of July.
7. During the American \_\_\_\_\_, the colonies wanted to separate from Great Britain.
10. A \_\_\_\_\_ dollar bill has George Washington on it.

### Colors

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**Across:**

5. red
6. green
9. black
10. orange
11. grey

**Down:**

1. blue
2. purple
3. yellow
4. orange
7. brown
8. pink

**WORD BANK**

EKAPIT̄	PUHIPIT̄	EBIPIT̄	EKA?OHAPIT̄
OHAPIT̄	TUHUPIT̄	OT̄PIT̄	EKA?EBIPIT̄
ESIPIT̄	TOSAPIT̄	TOSA?EKAPIT̄	

### Hot Weather Ready

Whilst staying green

**Water Bottle**  
Carry your water bottle with you and use the refill app to find refill locations.

**Houseplants**  
By filling your house with houseplants you can naturally reduce the temperature indoors.

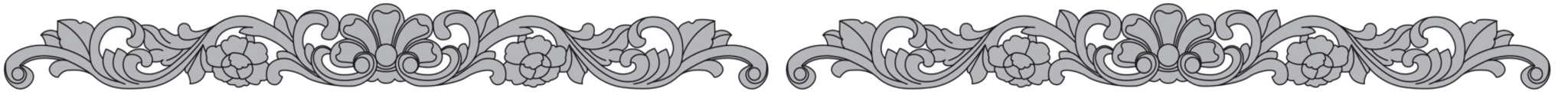
**Water Bottle**  
Carry your water bottle with you and use the refill app to find refill locations.

**Swap to LED**  
Halogen and incandescent lamps give off heat. Swap to more energy efficient LED's

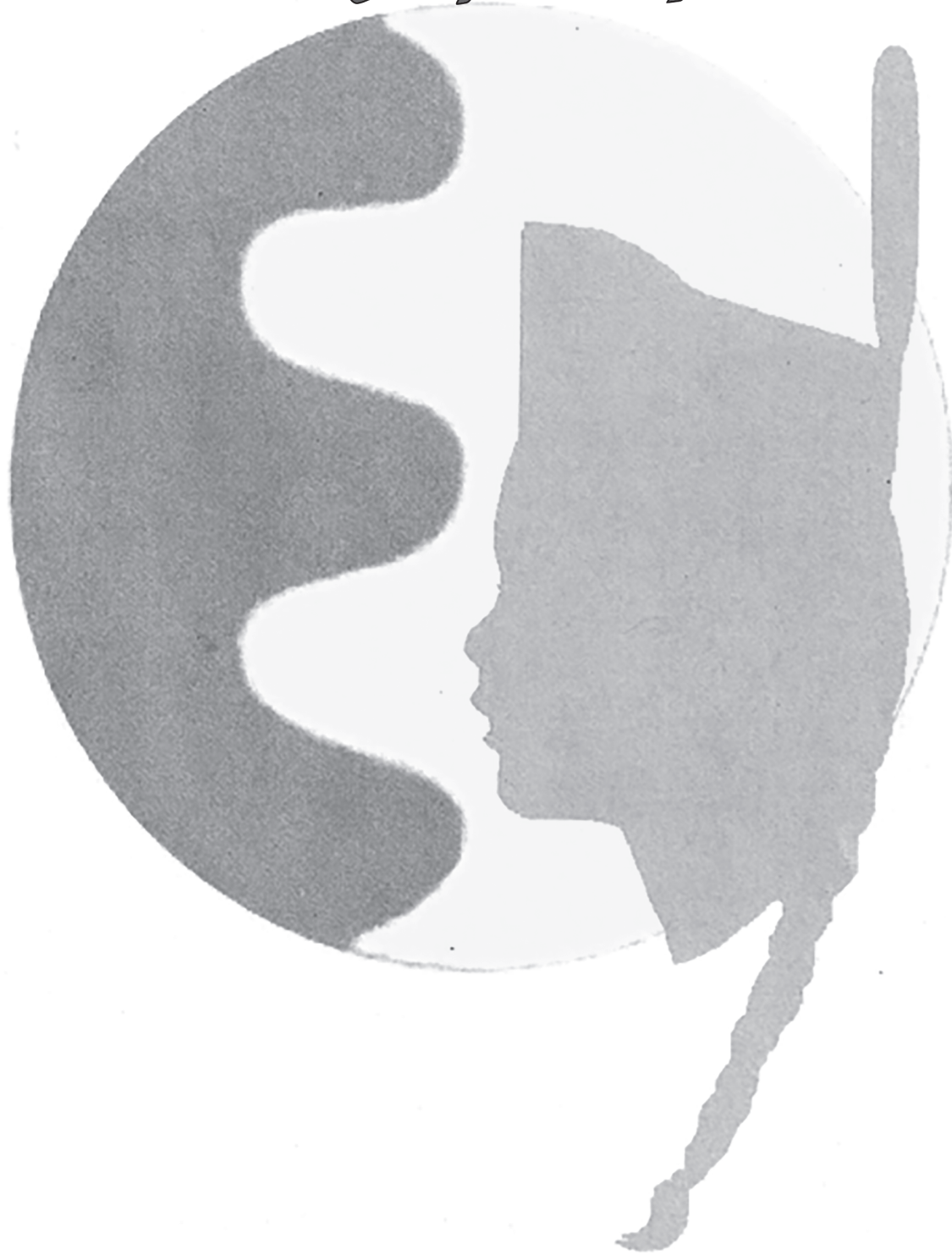
**Close your curtains**  
Close your curtains or blinds to help stop hot rays shine through your windows



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).



# *100 Years of Comanche Royalty 1924-2024*



## *Calling all Comanche Nation Princesses*

**The Comanche Nation Princess Sorority will have a Special Exhibit at the Comanche Nation Museum to commemorate 100 years of Comanche Princesses. All Comanche Nation Princesses are welcome to display any Princess items such as crowns, regalia, banners, shawls, blankets, buckskin dresses, cloth/broadcloth dresses, etc. to highlight the year they represented the Comanche Nation.**

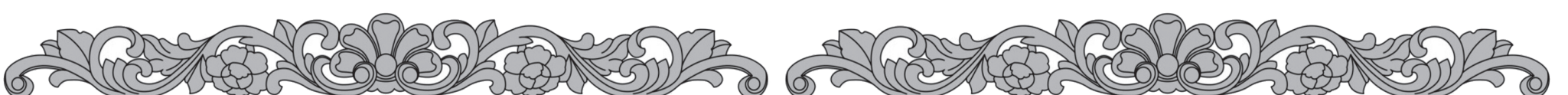
**The deadline to sign up items to be on display is JULY12. Paperwork must be filled out for the items to be on display, and all items will be returned.**

**Call:**

**Ashleigh Mithlo - 580-730-5199**

**Fiona Kerchee - 580-956-4453**

**Jolene Schonchin- 580-583-2649**



# Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

## CIVA Activities

### Funeral Detail

None to report this period.

### CIVA French Delegation Final Preparations to attend the 80th WWII D-Day Anniversary

On May 22, the CIVA French Delegation held their final video conference call in the Comanche Nation, Code Talker Meeting Room.

CIVA French Delegation had the opportunity to meet with their host families and to discuss any last minute details with Association Tilly 1944 coordinator, Stephanie Jacquet. KSWO News was invited to attend the video conference call and conducted interviews with CIVA Commander, Roger Tehauno and Nona Gail Mihecobay who is a daughter of a Comanche Code Talker.



Courtesy Photo

Video Conference call with Stephanie Jacquet.

### CIVA 48th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association hosted their 48th Memorial Day Ceremonies on May 27, at Watchtaker Hall, Circle of Honor and the CIVA Court of Honor. Tribal Fallen Warriors were remembered during this sacred Ceremony.

### 48th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association Veterans Association held its 48th 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, Roger Tehauno served as the Master of Ceremonies and conducted the Opening Prayer. 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 Secretary, Domic Pawlowski and lastly a Roll Call was conducted by the Comanche Veterans that passed away since Memorial Day 2023 by CIVA Vice-Commander, Frankie Patterson.

The placement and Laying of the Wreath were made by CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie and Auxiliary Leader Tavia Torralba along with CIVA Commander, Roger Tehauno. CIVA Veteran, Clifford Red Elk played Taps in Honor of our Fallen Comanche Veterans.

After the Memorial Day Ceremony, family, friends and guest placed American Flags around the CIVA Court of Honor. After the Memorial Day Ceremony, lunch was provided and served by the CIVA Auxiliary.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno providing welcoming and opening remarks.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie providing opening remarks.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Co-Chaplain Ramonah Davis conducting Roll Call of Fallen Comanche Warriors.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Veteran Mark Davis rendering Honors to a Fallen Comanche Warrior.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Veterans, Princess, Auxiliary and the Sovo Singers group photo-Memorial Day 2024.

### CIVA Monthly Meeting

No 2024 June monthly meeting was conducted.

### Color Guard Detail

On June 8, CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary served as Color Guards during the Comanche Nation Higher Education Banquet held at Cameron University in Lawton Oklahoma.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno and CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie after placement of the wreath.

### 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, Princess and Auxiliary at Memorial Gardens Cemetery.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Veterans, John McClung, Clifford Red Elk and Clifford Takawana bringing in the colors.

## Pewewardy One of Three Distinguished Educators Selected for Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame

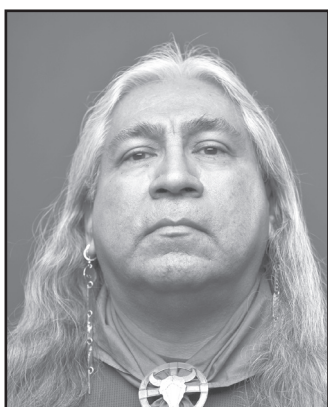
The Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame proudly announces the induction of three exemplary educators — Robert Franklin, Kevin Hime, and Cornel Pewewardy — whose impactful careers have significantly shaped education in Oklahoma and beyond. The induction ceremony will take place on November 1 at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club.

Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame President Eugene Earsom also lauded the inductees.

“This year’s honorees are unlike any class before them in the breadth, depth and diversity of their work,” Earsom said. “Education is not a monolith. This class illustrates the far-reaching yet distinct impact educators can make, and we are thrilled to induct them in the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame.”

For more than half a century, Pewewardy’s distinguished research and scholarship have profoundly influenced public and higher education, particularly for Native American students, educators and administrators. He has challenged and expanded the understanding of Indigenous education, teacher training and tribal leadership preparation in Oklahoma and nationwide. Colleagues also praise his mentoring relationships with students and early career faculty.

Pewewardy is Comanche and Kiowa and former Vice Chair of the Comanche Nation. He currently serves as an associate professor at the University of Central Oklahoma, a professor-of-practice at



Courtesy Photo

### PEWEWARDY

Kansas State University, and as an adjunct faculty member at numerous colleges and universities in Oklahoma and across the country. He’s also an author and frequent presenter on Indigenous education issues.

Beginning as a recreation assistant for the-then Sequoyah Indian High School in Tahlequah in 1975, Pewewardy went on to serve in education roles throughout the United States through positions with the Bureau of Indian Affairs; the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, N.M.; the University of Oklahoma; the University of Minneapolis; Saint Paul (Minnesota) Public Schools; the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha; Cameron University in Lawton; Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio; Haskell Indian Nations University and the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS; Comanche Nation College in Lawton; Portland State University in Oregon; and Kansas State University. He also founded Comanche Academy Charter School in Lawton.

Pewewardy has bach-

elor’s and master’s degrees from Northeastern State University (Tahlequah), a master’s degree from New Mexico State University, a post-graduate certificate from the University of New Mexico and a doctorate from Pennsylvania State University.

Fives times, he has been named the Big XII Outstanding American Indian Faculty of the Year, and he also received the Crystal Eagle Award for Outstanding Leadership at the University of Kansas. The National Indian Education Association (Lifetime Achievement Award), the University of Kansas Endowment Association, Portland State University, the Oregon Indian Education Association, the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education also have recognized him for teaching excellence.

“Dr. Pewewardy’s illustrious career is testimony to his profound impact on the state educational community and his unwavering dedication to enhancing Indigenous education,” said Belinda Biscoe, senior associate vice president for the University of Oklahoma’s Senior Associate Vice President for Outreach at the College of Continuing Education. “His efforts have enriched the educational landscape and fostered a greater understanding and appreciation of Indigenous cultures and perspectives.”

For more information and ticket information, contact Lease at (405) 692-3190 or sharon.lease@macu.edu.

**DIVORCE?  
WRITS?  
WILLS/CODICILS?  
ATTESTATIONS?  
Notary Services**

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 Teyah  
(580) 678-2052 or (580) 492-5455



# People, Places, & Things Happening

## Lockhart Awarded at Promotion

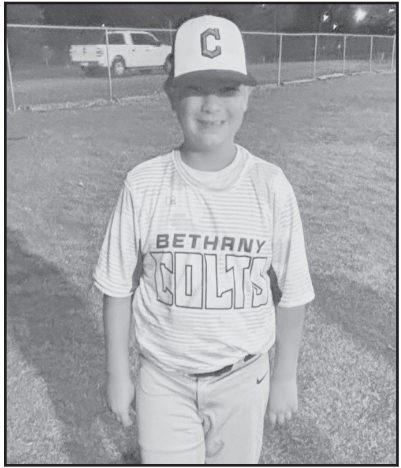


Courtesy Photo

### Lockhart

Tribal Member Sia Lockhart won the Presidential Academic Award at her fifth-grade promotion ceremony. Lockhart is an incoming 6th grader and will attend Bethany Middle School.

## Lockhart Wins Baseball Championship



Courtesy Photo

### Lockhart

Tribal Member, Lennox Lockhart is an incoming fourth grader attending Bethany Elementary and is on the Bethany Colts Baseball Team. Lockhart played catcher for the first time this season and helped lead the team to be the champions of his 10u baseball team.

## Stumblingbear Receives Prestigious Award



Courtesy Photo

### Stumblingbear

In April, Tribal Member Sayle Danell Stumblingbear, was selected for the dispatcher of the year for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Law Enforcement. Stumblingbear traveled to Artesia, N.M., where she received an award, a banquet, and an honorary memorial.

Stumblingbear started with the BIA Law Enforcement as a dispatcher in 2016 located in Anadarko, Okla. During this time, she received several awards. As an American Indian Woman, she wanted to be an example and encouragement to all upcoming women and men in the professional workforce.

Stumblingbear is the daughter of Victor and Jan Stumblingbear. Her grandmother is Marion Nauni Simmons and her grandfather is the late Virgil Yeahquo. Step grandfather is Weldon Simmons. Her Comanche Descendants are the late Raymond and Violet Nauni. Stumblingbear's Kiowa descendants are the late Victor, Stella River, and Harold and Hyacinth Yeahquo. She is the proud mother of one daughter, Remi Evelyn Danell Stumblingbear.

## Natuv Inc. Places Third in Golf Tournament



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

**LEFT TO RIGHT: Robbie Komahcheet, Robert Komahcheet, Shawn Komahcheet, Loui Pohawatchoko**

On June 3, at the Lawton Country Club, the Lawton Police Officers Association held a golf tournament where Natuv Inc. placed third and Robbie Komahcheet won the Longest Drive Award.

The inaugural golf tournament is used to raise funds for local athletic programs. 25 Corporate teams and sponsors from around the United States participated.

## Wahkinney Directs and Premieres New Film "How the Land Remembers Us"



Courtesy Photo

### Wahkinney

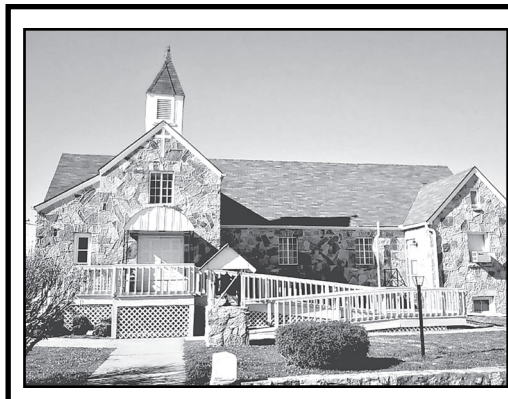
On June 9, tribal member, Jared Wahkinney premiered a film he directed at the Mountains of Color Film Festival in Jackson, Wyoming. The short documentary film, "How the Land Remembers Us", tells the story of Indigenous artists belonging to the 27 ancestral tribes of Yellowstone National Park and their participation in an art project titled "Yellowstone Revealed" during 2022, Yellowstone National Park's 150th birthday. The film shows the relationship between the Indigenous Artists and the Landscape, and their celebration of being back in their homelands after 150 years of separation.

While Wahkinney made his directorial debut and film premiere, he also participated as a mentor in a BIPOC filmmaking lab through a National Geographic Society grant and the Mountains of Color Film Festival. He was paired with youth from the Wind River Reservation and the Jackson area to talk about filmmaking practices, and Wahkinney focused on discussing filmmaking through an Indigenous Lens. The mentors and Mentees built relationships through the weekend outdoor experiences, film screenings, and workshops.

During this weekend, Wahkinney also received the award of Distinguished Alumni for Native American Jumpstart, a non-profit based in Jackson, WY that provides funding for Native American students in their internships.

"How the Land Remembers Us" will continue being submitted to film festivals and the team is still fundraising for opportunities like that. Also, it's focused on fundraising to create impact in communities and inspire other Indigenous Organizations and Tribal Nations to make their presence known in National Parks.

Wahkinney, based in Oklahoma City, is a filmmaker and photographer, a Visiting Indigenous Scholar at Salish Kootenai College, and the Indigenous Communities Project Manager for the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program.



**Comanche Reformed Church  
Hymn Singing  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m. July 9  
201 NW Mission Blvd., Lawton  
Everyone is welcome**

## Historic Preservation Office Hosts Summer Solstice National Day of Prayer at Medicine Bluffs

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On June 20, Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Office held a National Day of Prayer for Sacred Site Protection event at Medicine Bluff in Fort Sill.

Comanche Tribal members gathered for a morning of prayer and telling of stories.

Those who wanted were cedared and explored the sacred grounds, including a hidden creek.

Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Officer Martina Minthorn said that during summer solstice, tribes across the United States offer prayers to protect their sacred sites.

"Across Indian country, a lot of people are facing desecration of these lands, and so we want to ensure that these places are protected for generations to come," she said. "These places are a place of prayer, of healing, of vision, and so that's what we want to ensure that, you know, these places will be protected for generations to come."

Minthorn said these places are sacred and holy sites.

"We want to ensure that they are protected. We want to ensure that we are having and giving access to these places, and so that the desecration of these lands are protected and kept holy," she said. "And so, this is something that across Indian country we're facing with different Instagram, "Oh come to this location," then they leave trash, or they write their ini-

tials on petroglyphs or, you know, harming those lands, and so it's taking away from the serenity of that location."

The Comanche Elder's Council partnered with Historic Preservation, while Transit provided rides to Medicine Bluff; Comanche Nation Police Department gave an escort. Prevention and Recovery picked medicine for the event as well.

Minthorn said Comanche Nation Chairman Forrest Tahdooahnippah, who was in attendance, helped build the relationship with Fort Sill. Their Cultural Resources Department and police also participated in the event.

"It was just good to see us coming together as a tribe, to work as a tribe, to be able to bring all these different entities together," she said. "We're thankful for the language program. They offered our prayers in Comanche. We sung some songs. We heard some Native American church songs. It was good to see the young people there with their Kakus, their elders and everything, just everybody full circle. So, it was just beautiful to witness that sun come up, and for all the animals, the birds, everything coming to life, and just being able to witness that and just that peacefulness we all felt this morning. It was beautiful."

The event takes place annually, and historic offices nationwide organize their events.

"So, they'll be doing

an event in Washington D.C. at the United States Capitol, and so bringing awareness to all these different sites," Minthorn said. "And so, this is just an event that we plan throughout the year and when we start picking our medicines because that's what we give out to everybody that comes. So, we have to go and harvest these at a certain time. And so, we're thankful that we can have the help and then preparing them and then having our food. We have a fellowship meal every time we do just to break bread after we offer those morning prayers and songs. And so, it just takes a little bit of time, but definitely, we look forward to it every year."

She said it's a good time for renewal, looking ahead and changing for the better.

"We're thankful for the youth that are here, and I want these kids to witness what we're doing today," Minthorn said. "And so, again, that's why we said prayers for the generations to come. We want to be able to hold on to our identity as Comanche people, to be able to know where we come from, know our history, understand our language."

Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee and Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin were also at Medicine Bluff and performed the Lord's Prayer.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**Comanches gathered at Medicine Bluffs on the morning of June 20, to welcome the Summer Solstice with prayers and songs.**



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

**The Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee, right, and the Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin, prayed the Lord's Prayer through sign language at the ceremony.**

# CNOEP First Annual Wildlife Explores Environmental Camp 2024



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

All the Wildlife Explores and the staff gather after lunch for a group photo on the first day of the camp. There was a total of 41 participants that attended the two day Wildlife Explores Environmental Camp on June 12 and 13.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

A participant admires the old abandoned Prairie Dog Town while learning about their depopulation.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

Day one of the camp the Fort Sill Apache Tribe taught the children about the history of medicinal teas, how to make them.

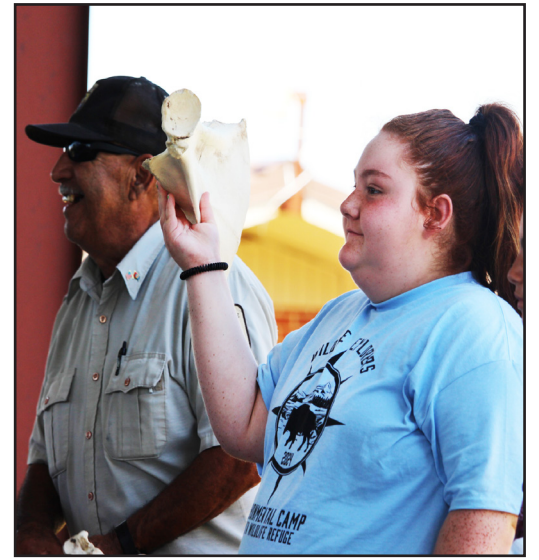


Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

Nick Plata teaches the children about how the bones of the Bison were used as tools a long time ago.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

The Comanche Nation's station taught the children how to make pinch pots. The children sculpted and designed the pots and laid them out in the sun to dry. While they were designing them, the Director from Delaware Nation spoke about the different plants and which ones to stay away from during the camp.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

As the Wildlife Explores Environmental Camp comes to an end, the children participated in a scavenger hunt where they walked around the Visitors Center and found facts about the wildlife. Sarah Williams gives the child a clue to finishing the hunt.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

Two children bead their medicine bags on the first day of the camp, lead by Martin Flores. Flores taught the children what the bags were used for in the Native culture.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

All the tribes gather to the water station and talk about water health and how to monitor it. The children tested the waters themselves to see how the water affects the environment.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

On the first day of the camp, the temperature was rising so with the help of the Wildlife Refuge Fire truck the children had the chance to cool down after lunch.



Photo by Heaven Williams/ News Staff

Nick Plata teaches the history behind the abandoned Prairie Dog Town. The children listened while admiring the scenery. This was the first stop of many on day two of the Wildlife Explorers Environmental Camp.

**Story by Heaven Williams/ News Staff**

On June 12 and 13, the Comanche Nation Office of Environmental program, in collaboration with the Caddo Nation Environmental, organized a two-day camp at the Wichita Wildlife Refuge. The camp aimed to educate and engage children from various tribes, including the Fort Sill Apache Tribe, Delaware Nation, Apache Tribe, Kiowa Tribe and the Wildlife Refuge. A total of 41 kids from diverse tribal backgrounds participated in the camp, fostering a rich cultural exchange and shared learning experience.

During the first day of the Wildlife Explorers Environmental Camp, children had the opportunity to rotate through eight stations and engage in a variety of activities.

These activities included crafting pinch pots out of clay, conducting water quality tests, preparing medicinal teas, setting up and breaking down a teepee, and creating their own medicine bags. Each activity was rooted in indigenous traditions and history, allowing the children to appreciate the cultural significance and practical applications of these practices in today's world.

The second day of the camp involved a guided tour of the Refuge led by Nick Plata and Quinton Smith from the Wichita Wildlife Refuge, who served as knowledgeable and engaging tour guides. Equipped with journals, the children documented interesting facts, sketched the natural surroundings, and participated in

two scavenger hunts. At the first stop, they visited an old prairie dog town that had been impacted by environmental changes. The children gained a firsthand understanding of the interconnectedness of human actions and ecological consequences, underlining the importance of environmental stewardship.

The director of the CNOEP, Christina Cooper, said, "It was a sad thing to witness. The cause of death to so many prairie dogs was undetermined but it still could have been a possibility that humans played a part in their depopulation. It was also eye-opening for the kids to see that first hand instead of reading about it."

Continuing the tour, the group visited the Bison Coral, where

Plata shared insights into different types of bones and their traditional use as tools by Native Americans. Martin Flores from IAMNDN enriched the experience by sharing captivating stories about Bison, inspiring the children to appreciate the deep cultural significance of these animals. The day concluded with a sponsored lunch for all participants and staff, generously provided by Friends of the Wildlife Refuge. To cap it off, everyone partook in an engaging scavenger hunt at the visitor's center, further strengthening their connection to the natural environment and wildlife at the Refuge.

CNOEP wanted to give a huge thank you to all the tribes that participated and to the Comanche

Nation CHR and the Transit program for helping out with this event. Also, a special thanks to the Wichita Wildlife Refuge for hosting the first annual Wildlife Explorers Environmental Camp.

"This is the first of many events we're planning with this Youth Initiative Grant. Next, we're looking into renting out a movie theater to watch the upcoming movie "Twister" to teach about different types of weather, how to look for signs, and how the weather affects our environment. So, stay tuned for what we have next," Cooper said.

**TRY THE APP!**

**Comanche Nation Transit**  
 Open the First Saturday of Every Month!  
 Call **580-492-3389**  
 To Schedule Your Ride!




**DOWNLOAD TODAY**

GET IT ON **Google Play** | Download on the **App Store**

GET THE APP

**BACK TO SCHOOL**  
 CLOTHING & SCHOOL SUPPLY ASSISTANCE  
**JUNE 26TH - OCTOBER 1ST, 2024**  
 COMANCHE ENROLLED STUDENTS IN PRE-K THROUGH 12TH GRADE WILL RECEIVE A VISA GIFT CARD




WACHETAKER HALL  
 AUG 3, 2024 9AM - 2PM

**BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**  
 SUPPLIES FUN MUSIC

STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE BACKPACKS | SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
 COMANCHE CDIB REQUIRED



**City NATIONAL BANK & TRUST**  
 MEMBER FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

**Is your address current to receive your 2024 Per Cap pre-mailing packet?**

If you are unsure, please call Per Cap Assistance at **877-585-4177** or Enrollment at **580.492.3371**.

You may also update your address at **comanchenation.com**

877-585-4177 CNB1901.COM/COMANCHE-PRIDE



**DEAN'S**  
 Drive Thru  
**PAWN SHOP**  
 NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS



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

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

**Heating and Air**  
 SALES-INSTALLATION-REPAIRS  
 Competitive Pricing on ALL Parts & Equipment

Duct Cleaning Services • Blown Insulation

We Accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover Cards

**Call 405-829-1207**  
**W & R MECHANICAL L.L.C**



Native American Owned & Operated  
 Email: **wrmechanical@gmail.com**

**ON-SITE CPR**  
 FIRST AID CLASSES, LLC

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

**City NATIONAL BANK**  
 Employment Opportunities!

**www.cnb1901.com/careers**





# 2024 JULY POWWOW

## HEAD STAFF

### Master of Ceremonies

Kevin "Bubba" Sovo

### Head Singer

Anthony Naudi

### Head Gourd Dancer

Dennis Plumley

### Head Man War Dancer

Danny Niedo

### Head Lady

Barbara Monoessy

### Security

Walters Service Club

### Head Little Boy

Dominic Gutierrez

### Head Little Girl

Chrissie Lonelodge

### Arena Directors

Freddy Banderas

Modesto Schonchin

Thursday | July 18 | 2pm - 10pm

2PM: GOURD DANCE / 5PM: SUPPER BREAK / 6PM: EVENING SCHEDULE

COMANCHE NATION COMMUNITY CENTER  
905 E MISSOURI AVE, WALTERS, OK

## CONTESTS

Prettiest Shawl - Sponsor, Jorja Oberly Valandra

Tiny Tots - Sponsor, IAMNDN

Jr Girls Cloth - Sponsor, The Niedo Family

Jr Girls Buckskin - Sponsors, McClung & Romos Families

Jr Boys Combined - Sponsor, The Aitson Family

Teen Girls Combined - Sponsors, Gwen Kerchee & Susan Parker

Teen Boys Straight - Sponsor, Patterson Tahdooahnippah Family

Womens Cloth - Sponsor, the OKC Fabric Market

Womens Buckskin - Sponsor, F. Tahdooahnippah Family

Mens Traditional - Sponsor, Louie Pohawpatchoko Family

Mens Fancy - Sponsor, The Oberly Family

### Special Invite to:

Comanche Nation Sr Princess

Bluesky Tosee

Comanche Nation Jr Princess

Arlene Schonchin

### Walters Service Club

#### Princesses:

Sr: Kyleigh Davidson

Jr: Tatum Burgess

Little Ms: Olivia Roberson

### Walters Service Club Officers & Contacts

President, Mari Lavatai: 580-704-7516

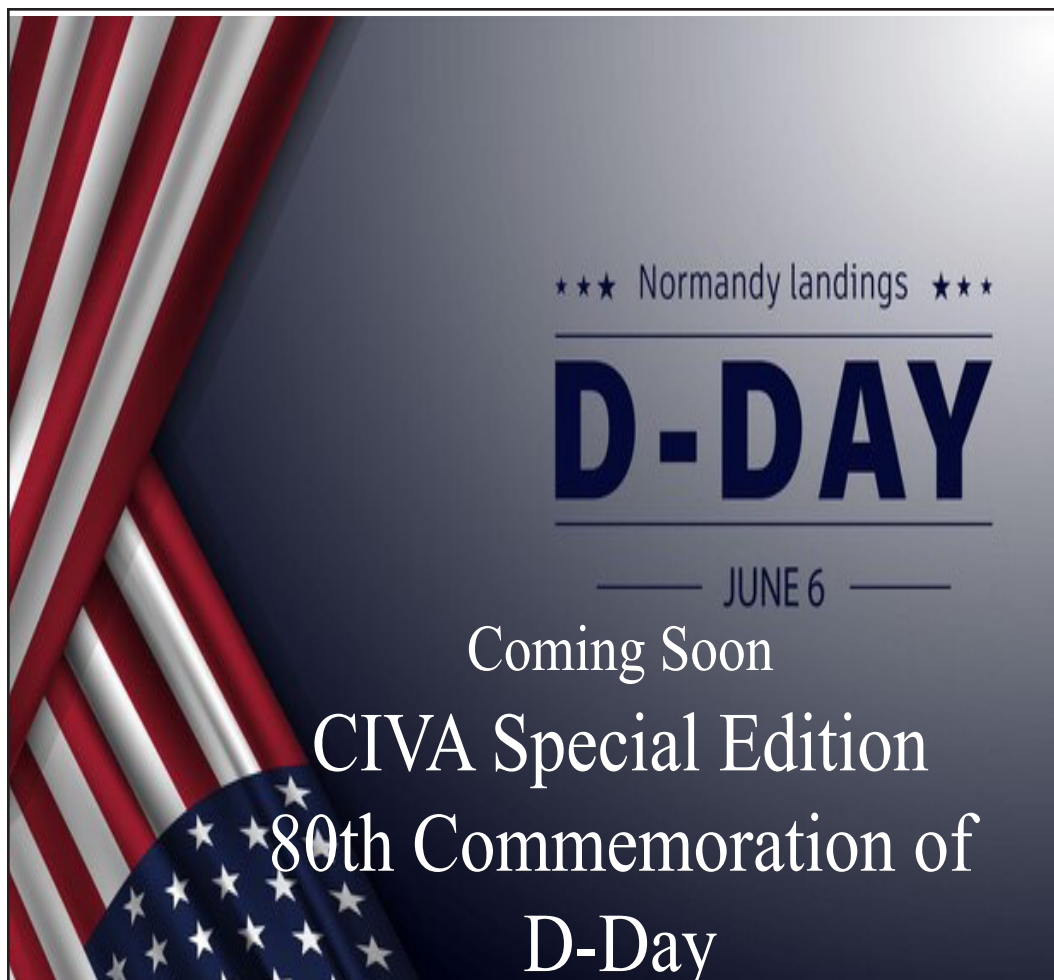
Treasurer, Eva Asenap: 580-458-9458

Vice-President, Ruth Factor: 405-887-4700

Secretary, Cecily Brigoli: 580-919-9666

Walters Service Club not responsible for theft, injury, damages or accidents. Alcohol & Drug-free environment.

Vendors welcome: Fee- donation item or \$20. NO FOOD VENDORS.



## Comanche Cares Hosting Annual Back-to-School Supplies Drive

### Donations to benefit Southwest Oklahoma students

Comanche Nation Entertainment's community giving initiative, Comanche Cares, is once again stepping up to help Southwest Oklahoma students get ready for the upcoming school year. Its annual School Supplies Drive is now accepting donations at all Comanche Nation Entertainment properties Tuesdays through Thursdays, between noon and 10 p.m. until July 25.

"The school supplies drive is a way for us to work together in supporting our local students," said Steven Doyle, CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment. "The generosity of our team members, guests and the wider community is what provides our students with access to the necessary resources to succeed in the classroom."

Donations can be dropped off at the following locations:

- Comanche Nation Casino in Lawton, 402 SE Interstate Dr.
- Comanche Red River Hotel Casino in Devol, 196747 Highway 36
- Comanche War Pony Casino in Devol, 250652 E 2000 Rd.
- Comanche Star Casino in Walters, 263171 Highway 53
- Comanche Spur Casino in Elgin, 9047 U.S. Highway 62

Comanche Rewards Club members who contribute supplies will receive up to \$50 in Comanche Credit upon presenting their donation receipt. The offer is redeemable once per member, per day, per property.

For more information on how to contribute to the Comanche Cares School Supplies Drive, visit [www.comanchenationentertainment.com](http://www.comanchenationentertainment.com).

#### ABOUT COMANCHE CARES

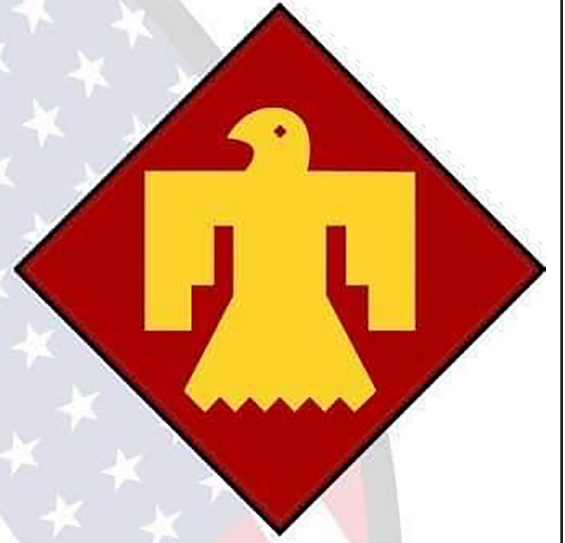
Comanche Cares is a community giving initiative from Comanche Nation Entertainment. Comanche Cares organizes charitable events year-round, with drives for school supplies, food and toys. For more information on the program and how to donate, visit [www.comanchenationentertainment.com](http://www.comanchenationentertainment.com).

# Comanche Homecoming Celebration Daily Agenda

## Friday, July 19th, 2024



- Veteran Flag to be flown: Tony Komah.
- Honored Veteran: Rhonda Williams.
- Honored Elder: Lola Nahquaddy Ototivo.
- Flag raising by CIVA: 8:00 AM
- Opening prayer & welcome.
- Brush Dance: 11:00 AM.
- Gourd Dance: 12:00 PM.
- Recognition of Honored Veteran, reading biography of Rhonda Williams and Honor Song.
- Read biography of Tony Komah and Honor Song.
- Flag Retreat: 3:30 PM.
- Supper Break.
- Evening Gourd Dance: 6:00 PM.
- Honored Elder Recognition, reading of biography of Lola Ototivo and Honor Song.
- Grand Entry: 7:30 PM.
- Kiowa-Comanche-Apache (KCA) Veterans Organization.
- Contests: Tiny Tots, Jr. Boys, Jr. Girls, Teen Boys, Teen Girls.
- Announce winners for Tiny Tots, Jr. Boys, Jr. Girls, Teen Boys, Teen Girls Contestants.
- Closing Prayer.



## Saturday, July 20th, 2024

- Veteran Flag to be flown: Charles Malone Chemah
- Honored Veteran: DeAnn Nibbs LeBeau
- Honored Elder: Pat Tahdooahnippah
- Flag raising by CIVA: 8 AM
- Cornhole Tournament, Horseshoe Tournament and Turtle Race: 10:00 AM.
- Food Vouchers @ Arena: (Campers must be present): 11:00 AM.
- Opening Prayer: 12:00 PM.
- Scalp & Victory Dance.
- Gourd Dance.
- Recognition of Honored Veteran, reading biography of DeAnn Nibbs LeBeau and Honor Song.
- Read biography of Charles Malone Chemah and Honor Song.
- Flag Retreat: 3:30 PM
- Supper Break.
- Evening Gourd Dance: 6:00 PM.
- Honored Elder Recognition, Reading of biography of Pat Tahdooahnippah and Honor Song.
- Grand Entry: 7:30 PM.
- Kiowa-Comanche-Apache (KCA) Veterans Organization.
- Contests: Golden Age Women, Women's Cloth, Women's Buckskin, Women's Fancy Shawl & Jingle Dress (Combined).
- Closing Prayer.
- 49 Contest.

## Sunday, July 21st, 2024

- Veteran Flag to be flown: Geprge Red Elk
- Honored Veteran: Eleanor Atauvich McDaniel
- Honored Elder: Phillis Gwoompi Mata
- Flag raising by CIVA: 8:00 AM.
- Comanche Hymn Service: 10:30AM.
- All tribal hymn singers welcome to join in.
- Opening Prayer: 12:00 PM.
- Gourd Dance.
- Recognition of Honored Veteran, reading biography of Eleanor Atauvich McDaniel and Honor Song.
- Read biography of George Red Elk by CIVA and Honor Song.
- Flag Retreat: 3:30PM.
- Supper Break.
- Evening Gourd Dance: 6:00 PM.
- Honored Elder Recognition, Reading of biography of Phillis Gwoompi Mata and Honor Song.
- Grand Entry: 7:30 PM by Kiowa-Comanche-Apache (KCA) Veterans Organization.
- Contests: Golden Age Men, Men's Straight, Men's Fancy, Men's Traditional & Grass (Combined).
- Host organization, the Comanche Homecoming Organization Special.
- Announce winners of Golden Age Men, Men's Straight, Men's Fancy, Men's Traditional & Grass (Combined) contests & 49 Contest.
- Closing Prayer.

**DAVID'S** *Roof Brakes*

**TRAILER REPAIR &** *Airbags*

**MOBILE SERVICE** *Welding*

*Flooring*

*Electrical*

*King Pins*

*Dollie Legs*

*Side Panels*

*Roll Up-Swing Doors*

**PHONE: 214-445-8362**

“Rest in God alone, my soul! He is the source of my hope. He alone is my rock, my safety, my stronghold, so that I stand unwavering. In God is my safety and my glory, the rock of my strength.

In God is my refuge; trust in him, you people, at all times. Pour out your hearts to him, God is a refuge for us.

Psalm 62:5-8

# Otipoby Cemetery Honors Memorial Day with Annual Gathering

Story and Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Otipoby Cemetery, the oldest Comanche cemetery on record, held its annual Memorial Day gathering on May 27. Several families came to pay their respects to family members and lay an array of flowers on them. As the morning turned into the afternoon, Cliff Takawana, the cemetery's committee chair, welcomed everyone. Chairman Forrest Tahdoohnipah also welcomed the families. Also present was the Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin.

Following the welcoming and introductions, Comanche veteran Clyde Narcomey talked about the importance of maintaining the cemetery because it is not a KCA cemetery, as some believe.

Phyllis Narcomey gave the history of the Cemetery.

"After the Jerome Agreement was signed by the Comanches, Apaches, and Kiowas, the cemetery land became the allotment of James Otipoby. It was later sold to Hugh, his brother. He deeded 2.43 acres to the Otipoby Indian Cemetery Association or Nahwats Cemetery.

The cemetery was first used as a burial site when it was a reservation under the Medicine Lodge Treaty. Four white people were the first to be buried here. The first Comanche was Werpsono, who was buried in 1888. She was the mother of Nahwats and Tannee, who was the mother of Rev. Robert Chaat.

The cemetery was known as Nahwats cemetery and Chahtinneyque cemetery also Otipoby. When World War II began Ft. Sill purchased it in the land expansion and named it Comanche Cemetery after the purchase.

Phil Narcomey, in 1946 began helping his father-in-law, Hugh Otipoby with the cemetery. A few families had continued decorating their family's graves while the cemetery was closed, even when the roads were all closed.

During a meeting with The Lawton Community Relations Council, Phil Narcomey told the group of the need for the Otipoby-Nahwats cemetery. Which included marking and identifying the unmarked graves. Gillet Griswold, Ft. Sill Museum Di-

rector, and Col. E.M. Mahney, Chief of Staff were present. Mahney became much interested in the project of developing the historical old cemetery.

On November 3, 1965, Mr. Griswold met with the elderly Comanche informants who became the first Comanche tribal cemetery committee. Those present were, Hoke Smith Watchetaker, Toots Petarsy Pahdocony, Susie Ahdosy, Ella Pewewardy, Maud Blevins, Poiewheup, Minnie Monetathchi Bointy, Charley Pokoro, Hugh Otipoby, Edgar Monetathchi, Phil and Gladys Narcomey.

The group gathered at the cemetery to identify the graves. Maude Blevins, the niece of Nahwats, identified most of the graves. It is believed since she lived near the cemetery, that she must have attended many funerals. The group identified 90 graves out of 160. The group elected Phil Narcomey to be Chairman.

After three years the project was finished in time for the Memorial Day services in May 1968. At the commemoration of this historic event present were an Army Honor Guard, Griswold, and Comanche Elders.

The cemetery is the oldest of the tribes' cemeteries, being used since 1886. It was closed for 19 years, from 1942 until 1961.

Members of the community met at Petarsy Mission to organize March 12 1984. Phil Narcomey was elected First Chairman of this new group, which is still active. Clifford Takawana is the current Chairman.

Griswold micro-filmed the BIA Allotment Book of 1901 to get Comanche names. Gillet Griswold laid the foundation of the work for identifying the graves, his staff of army personnel worked many hours of research on Comanche Enrollment files. Griswold made a map of the cemetery graves, and also markers for the unmarked graves."

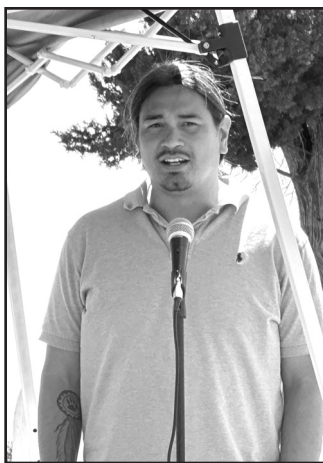
Ed Tahhahwah Jr. and Ed Tahhahwah III sang a Southern Ute renewal song.

Michael Cizek honored the veterans present and presented them with a token of appreciation.

The event ended with a potluck meal.



**Comanche Elder, Cheryl Pewewardy was recognized as the Honored Elder of 2024 with a plaque. It reads, "The Otipoby Cemetery Committee recognizes Cheryl Pewewardy as honored Elder for outstanding and dedicated service to the Comanche people in times of joy and sorrow. She always has a kind word to say and is always willing to help. May 28, 2024."**



**Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoohnipah, welcomes the families to the Memorial Day gathering at Otipoby Cemetery.**



**Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin, greets the families at the Otipoby cemetery annual Memorial Day gathering.**



File Photo

**The Otipoby Cemetery on Fort Sill in 1965. Charlie Pokoro (seated), Robert Chaat, Ralph Chaat, Ernest Doyebi Jr., Phillip Narcomey, Maude Blevins, Lucille Cizek, Ellen Goodin, Joe Goodin, Hugh Otipoby, Rev. Robert Coffey, Dana Chibitty, Steve Chibitty, Anna Coffey, Susie Ahdosy, Lena Chibitty, George Watchetaker, Toots Pahdocony, Minnie Bointy, Jesse Otipoby, Joyce Connavichnah, and Sara Pohocsucut. Photo courtesy of Barbara Goodin.**



**Mike Cizek recognizes Comanche veterans Clyde Narcomey, Jimmy Tiddark and Cliff Takawana during the Memorial Day gathering at Otipoby Cemetery May 28.**



**Comanche Elder, Ed Tahhahwah Jr. and his son Ed Tahhahwah III sing a Southern Ute Renewal Song, while Ellen Tahhahwah Martinez shields them from the sun during the annual Memorial Day Gathering at Otipoby Cemetery.**



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**SUPPORTING FAMILIES.** The Comanche Youth Dancers performed June 1, at the Comanche Nation Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Conference to support foster care families. The 2024 Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee and the 2024 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin, performed the Lord's Prayer and the youth dancers gave dance demonstrations in various categories. There were activity stations, and a tipi demonstration was given by Martin Flores.



Comanche Nation  
Language Department

**COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS**

# Learn Comanche Online!

**2 Courses Available!**

Learn Comanche at your own pace on our new online learning platform!

**50+ Lessons**

**Register Here!**



**See [talkcomanche.org](http://talkcomanche.org) for more information**



# Milestones

*Happy Belated Birthday!*

June 29 - Francis Mack

*Happy Birthday!*



**Happy Birthday  
Ruby Zavala  
July 8**

*~ From the fam. Love you!*



**Happy 15th Birthday  
Arlene Schonchin  
July 8**

*~ We love you and are proud of you.  
Mom, Dad, and Mojo.*



**Happy Birthday  
Valentine Zavala  
July 9**

*~ From the fam. Love you son!*



**Happy Birthday  
Adria Suina  
July 22**

July 3 - Hayden Goombi  
*"Happy Birthday!! Love, your family!"* ♥

July 5 - Kristopher Sovo

July 8 - Ruby Zavala

July 8 - Arlene Schonchin

July 8 - Sierra K. Sovo

July 9 - Valentine Zavala

July 10 - D Clo Kosechata

Larsen

July 22 - Adria Suina

July 23 - Austin Zavala

July 24 - Spencer Ray

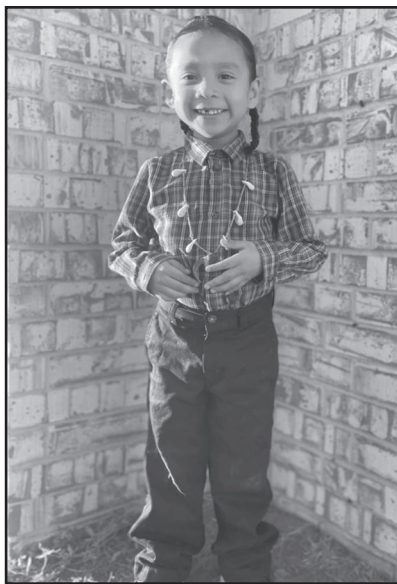
July 29 - Brennah Chasenah

Henson



**Happy Birthday  
Austin Zavala  
July 23**

*~ From the fam!*



**Happy Birthday  
Spencer Ray  
July 24**

*~ Love, Mom, Dad, Bubbas, Sissy's  
and Mack Mack.*



**Happy 1st Birthday  
Francis Mack  
June 29**

*~ Love you so much!!*



**Happy Birthday  
Brennah Chasenah Henson  
July 29**

*~ From, Ben and Marc*

**The Comanche Nation**

News

August Edition

Deadline:

July 15

Email:

stacey.heminokky@comanchenation.com

Mail:

Comanche Nation/PIO

P.O. Box 908

Lawton, OK 73501

Contact: (580) 492-3385



From  
**The Comanche Nation  
News/PIO Staff:**  
Jolene, Paula, Heaven,  
Natascha  
&  
Stacey!



**Greg and Adria Suina  
July 26, 1980**

*Celebrating 44 years of Marriage!*

**Happily Married**



**Congratulations!**

*On behalf of the Karty and  
Gonzalez Family. We are happy to  
announce and congratulate Antonio  
M. Gonzalez and Shelby Sanders  
and their seven beautiful children.*



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

**Oklahoma State Handgame CHAMPIONS!!!!!!** Team Roan Horse won the 2024 Oklahoma State Handgame on June 8, at the Comanche Community Building in Apache, Okla. Roan Horse came all the way up from the losers bracket with one lose to Lil Bit of South Side, in the double elimination tournament. Congratulations to team Roan Horse, who will now host the 2025 State Handgame tournament next year.

## COMMUNITY WELLNESS AND SAFETY SERVICES SURVEY

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT SERVICES AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA?

Tell us what you think!

If you complete a quick survey, by scanning the QR code below, you can enter to win a \$25 Wal-Mart Gift card! Your responses are completely anonymous and confidential! Once you have completed it, email your name to:

[laura.gould@comanchenation.com](mailto:laura.gould@comanchenation.com)

Drawing for 4 separate winners will be July 15, 2024 (You may only enter one time)

Thank you for your feedback!



For more information:  
Laura Gould  
Call 580-492-3590



**JOHN TSOODLE**  
Owner

1313 Van Kirk  
Mtn. View, OK  
73062

tel. (580) 375.9602  
tel. (580) 375.9766  
[redtipiplumbing@yahoo.com](mailto:redtipiplumbing@yahoo.com)  
[www.redtipiplumbing.com](http://www.redtipiplumbing.com)



**RED TIPI  
PLUMBING**

Veteran Owned

LICENSED & INSURED



**JOHNSON & SONS**  
CONTRACTORS, LLC  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

**TIM JOHNSON**  
Owner

Phone: 580-291-3256 • Email: [bigtim50@live.com](mailto:bigtim50@live.com)





# COME PLAY WITH US THIS SUMMER!



## COMANCHE NATION CASINO



## COMANCHE SPUR CASINO

### SUMMER LOVIN'

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
JULY 5-27, 2024



7PM-11PM • DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES  
WIN \$100-\$500 CASH AND COMANCHE CREDIT!  
11PM DRAWING BEAUTIFUL  
OUTDOOR PATIO SET

RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY  
10 POINTS EARNED 8AM-11PM

Members may claim only 1 prize per night. All members are eligible for the Grand Prize Drawing at 11PM. Photo/product image may differ from actual prize awarded.

Comanche Rewards Club  
**EXCLUSIVE!**  
See Comanche Reward Club For Details.

### YOOHOO! BIG SUMMER BLOWOUT!

EVERY SATURDAY  
& SUNDAY  
NOW-JULY 28, 2024  
7PM-11PM

DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES TO WIN  
\$50-\$500 COMANCHE CREDIT OR CASH!

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING  
SUNDAY, JULY 28 • 11PM  
2024 BASS BUGGY 16XL SELECT



RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY  
25 POINTS EARNED  
10AM-11PM

Comanche Rewards Club  
**EXCLUSIVE!**  
See Comanche Reward Club For Details.

Members may claim only 2 prizes per night. All members are eligible for the Grand Prize Drawing at 11PM on July 28, 2024. Photo/product image may differ from actual prize awarded.



### SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

TUESDAYS-THURSDAYS  
NOW-JULY 25  
NOON-10PM

BRING IN BRAND NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
AND YOUR JUNE/JULY RECEIPT TO RECEIVE  
UP TO \$50 IN COMANCHE CREDIT!

Offer is redeemable once per member, per day, per property.

Comanche Rewards Club  
**EXCLUSIVE!**  
See Comanche Reward Club For Details.

### Comanche Elder's Day



EVERY SUNDAY!

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

See Comanche Rewards Club for details.



## COMANCHE NATION ENTERTAINMENT

ComancheNationEntertainment.com



# PERSONAL "WHATEVER" LOANS

Perfect for covering all of your back-to-school essentials!

**START HERE**  **FSFCU.COM**

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA

