



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

# THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

## Lords of the Plains

VOLUME 26 EDITION 2

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Positsg Mna (February) 2025



### Comanche Cache Casino Grand Opening

**February 21**  
Acting Manager Brian Weryavah is anticipating the opening

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Brian Weryavah is the acting general manager for the new Comanche Cache Casino. The soft opening will be on February 12, with a grand opening on February 21.

He said he's ready to get open and operational.

"I'm ready to see new faces. It's been a while since I have been out on the floor interacting with guests," Weryavah said. "I did in previous positions, but I'm, you know, not as frequent as I will be as a general manager of a property."

He has many things he's looking forward to, including opening a property.

"With, you know, all the shiny new bells and whistles, I'm looking forward to a new set of clientele of...working with and being able to interact with and hopefully draw people from the west side of Oklahoma to come to our property," Weryavah said. "And then also see familiar faces that I've seen...previously working in the other casinos. I've been in different positions over the years, so there's lots of guests that I still see on a day-to-day basis or frequently whenever I'm out and so forth."

Those positions have varied over the past two decades. "Whenever I started with Comanche Nation Entertainment in 2003, I started out as the food and beverage manager for just Comanche Nation Casino. After that, I was promoted to purchasing manager for Comanche Nation Entertainment, so I was the purchasing manager that took care of all of the purchasing needs for all of our properties at that point," Weryavah said. "After that, I became an acting operations manager. I was asked to fill that role. And I did that for 10 months, and then I was promoted to general manager of Comanche Spur Casino. And I did that for 10 months. And then I was promoted to general manager of Comanche Red River Hotel and Casino. And then I was promoted to director of food and beverage, which I did that for the last five years until being appointed in this new position."

He said the most significant difference of the Cache Casino will be its size and where guests come from, and he hopes to attract guests from smaller communities.

"It helps to bring the smaller communities to the property. I hope to make this something...very successful and a travel destination for our guests," Weryavah said.

He said the view of the Wichita Mountains is another highlight of the property. They're also a franchise of proactively researching and obtain-Wahlburgers and will be the first in Oklahoma.

## Comanche Nation Gaming Commissioners, Entertainment Board Members Are Sworn-In



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

From left, Joshua Mihesuah, Tanisha Burgess and Rudolph Laurenzana Jr. were sworn-in to be the Comanche Nation Gaming Commissioners on January 23 at the Comanche Nation Tax Commission Building in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Cheryl Lewis and Margaret Corley were sworn in to be on the Comanche Nation Entertainment Board of Directors January 23 at the Comanche Nation Tax Commission Building in Lawton, Oklahoma.

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On January 23, Comanche Nation Chairman Forrest Tahdoahnippah swore in new gaming commissioners and Comanche Nation Entertainment Board of Directors at the Comanche Nation Tax Commission.

Two of those sworn in were Margaret Corley and Tanisha Burgess.

Corley, who swore in to be on the Entertainment Board of Directors, said the job is to work directly with Comanche Nation Entertainment to ensure its success.

She said she's excited to be on the board and is looking forward to the unity that has been absent.

"It's important for me as a

tribal member because I'm always looking for ways to better serve our nation," Corley said. "And this role that I've been given, I'm very proud of and I'm really looking forward to working directly with all the people that will ensure its success as well as my own."

Burgess was sworn-in to be Vice Commissioner of the Comanche Nation Gaming Commission. She said she'll be a part of regulation oversight of all gaming properties.

Burgess said the goals for right now are to follow all policies and procedures and is excited to move into the role.

"It is a big job. You're not only looking out for yourself and the

employees of the commission as well as the casinos, but it's the nation as a whole, and that's a big job," she said. "And I'm glad to be part of a board that will help making sure that we're protecting the integrity of the Comanche Nation."

Cheryl Lewis was also sworn in for the Comanche Entertainment Board of Directors, while Joshua Mihesuah and Rudolph Laurenzana Jr. were sworn in for the Comanche Nation Gaming Commission.

Comanche Nation Business Committee Members and Tribal Administrator Lisa Dawsey were in attendance.

### Tribal Administrator Lisa Dawsey Gives Quarterly Report

Submitted by Lisa Dawsey/Comanche Tribal Administrator

Dear Comanche Nation Tribal Members,

It has been an honor to serve as your Tribal Administrator during these first few months. Together, we've made significant progress in key areas that affect our community's growth, well-being, and cultural preservation. I'm pleased to share the highlights of our accomplishments so far and outline what's ahead.

Thank you for your trust and collaboration as we continue building a stronger future for all tribal members.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Dawsey  
Tribal Administrator

#### OUR FIRST QUARTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Improving Tribal Services
- Created a Pay Scale, Updated the Organizational Chart, Revised Human Resources Policies and Procedures, created upward evaluation, updated ACE bylaws, and created Fair Bylaws.
- Streamlined administrative processes by creating Standard Operating Procedures to reduce the delay in processes by cross training.
- Creating avenues by utilizing outreaches that allow our tribal members to be updated on government activities or programs.
- Securing New Funding
- Proactively researching and obtaining grants to fund education, infrastructure upgrades, and cultural preservation programs.
- Obtained grant training for our directors and/or staff to be able to obtain more federal funding for tribal



Courtesy Photo

Dawsey

programs to service more tribal members.

#### Supporting Our Community

- Hosted four community Outreaches in Anadarko, Oklahoma City, Dallas and Albuquerque to actively service tribal members with programs allowed outside of the surrounding counties.
- Launched a haunted forest by requesting can donations to feed our fixed income elders who have utilized the Social Service LIHEAP Program.
- Building Our Economy
- Collaborated with Insurica, Great Plains Vo-Tech, Pryor to launch a job training program for our employees and a training program for elders and tribal members regarding finances.
- Seeking funding to update our community centers in Walters, Apache and Cache.
- Creating opportunities for tribal members to access the Comanche Nation Gift Shop by online shop-

ping, created a gift shop during the Comanche Nation Fair which generated increased revenue by having it on site and accessible to all visitors

#### Preserving Our Culture

- Seeking grant opportunities for the language program to work with our tribal members and youth by preserving the Comanche Language through education.
- Met with Fort Sill leaders, other tribal entities and Tribal Historic Preservation Office to collaborate on ways to work together.

#### CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

- Resource Gaps: Departments are securing grants to be able to reallocate CNG funds and this will ensure departmental critical projects receive the support they need.
- Service Delays: Collaborated with Directors to review forms, streamline processes, and create new workflows to improve response times for emergency and community services.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

##### Here's what's next:

- Combining Duplicate Programs and Expanding Programs: We are combining duplicate services (i.e. Grandparents Raising Grandkids, Burial Assistance to Funeral Services) to provide more resources for tribal members in need in one area instead of going to several departments for assistance. Establishing the Angel's Program to assist our elderly and disabled tribal member's needs.
- Strategic Planning: A long-term vision to develop our tribal headquarters building identification by numbering the buildings, develop our infrastructure by increasing electrical

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### Applications are Being Accepted for the 2025-2026 Comanche Nation Princess, Jr. Princess, and Princess Director



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

From left: The 2024 Comanche Nation Princess Director Fiona Kerchee, 2024-2025 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin and the 2024-2025 Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee dance in at the 2024 American Indian Exposition in Anadarko, Okla.

Submitted by Fiona Kerchee/Comanche Nation Princess Director

Applications are now being accepted for the 2025-2026 Comanche Nation Princess, the 2025 -2026 Comanche Nation Junior Princess, and the 2025-2028 Comanche Nation Princess Director.

Candidates need to submit a photo, biography, and a Comanche Nation application for either a princess or director by 5 p.m., February 28.

Applications can be emailed or picked up at the CHR Office, 4 SW D Ave., Lawton, Okla., or at the PIO Office, located on the Comanche Nation Complex campus.

#### Comanche Nation Princesses Qualifications

- For Comanche Nation Princess Age 16-22 years of age. Must be 16 years of age by February 28.
- For Comanche Nation Jr. Princess: 12-15 years of age. Must be 12 years of age by February 28.
- Must be an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation
- Must not be married
- Must not have children
- Must not be cohabitating with anyone outside of her family
- Must conduct herself in a respectable, courteous and decent manner
- Shall promote education and awareness of the Comanche culture and tradition

#### Qualifications for Comanche Nation Princess Director

- Must be 28 years of age or older. Must be 28 years of age by February 28.
- Must be an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation
- Must promote education and awareness of the Comanche traditions and cultural ways
- Is responsible to supervise and give guidance to both the Comanche Nation Princess and the Comanche Nation Jr. Princess
- Must assist the Comanche Nation Princess and Comanche Nation Jr. Princess with their schedules, events, and representation of the Comanche Nation.

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**THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS**  
**Positsg Mna (February) 2025**  
*Sleet Month*  
The award-winning *Comanche Nation News*, the official communication of the Comanche Nation, is available at no charge upon request. The deadline to submit information for the March Edition is 5 p.m., February 15.  
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

- PIOT/CNN Staff**
- Jolene Schonchin**, Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com -Telephone Number-(580)492-3382
  - Paula Karty**, Assist. Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com-Telephone Number-(580)492-3383
  - Stacey Heminokky**, Administrative Assistant- Email: Stacey.Heminokky@comanchenation.com Telephone Number (580) 492-3385
  - Natascha Mercadante**- Online Reporter- Email: Natascha.Mercadante@comanchenation.com - Telephone (580) 492-3381.
  - 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. Please submit a first and last name. 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 500 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.**

**Comanche Nation Officials**

**Chairman**  
Forrest Tahdoohnipah  
Email: Forrest.Tahdoohnipah@comanchenation.com

**Vice Chairman**  
Diana Doyebi Sovo  
Email: Diana.Sovo@comanchenation.com

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Robert Tippeconnie  
Email: Robert.Tippeconnie@comanchenation.com

**Committeeman No. 1**  
Hazel Tahsequah  
Email: Hazel.Tahsequah@comanchenation.com

**Committeeman No. 2**  
Ross Kahrahrah  
Email: Ross.Kahrahrah@comanchenation.com

**Committeeman No. 3**  
Alice Kassanavoid  
Email: Alice.Kassanavoid@comanchenation.com

**Committeeman No. 4**  
Jordan Fox  
Email: Jordan.Fox@comanchenation.com

**Tribal Administrator**  
Lisa Dawsey  
Email: Lisa.Dawsey@comanchenation.com

To contact officials:  
**Office of the CBC/Chairman:**  
Telephone: (580) 492-3573  
**Comanche Nation Address:**  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, Okla. 73502  
Toll Free: (877) 492-4988  
**Physical Address:**  
584 Bingo Rd., Lawton, OK 73505

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# Government

## A Total of 12 Resolutions and Two Motions Presented at the January CBC Meeting

**Editor's Note:** This is an overview of the January 4, 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.

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoohnipah, called the January CBC Meeting to order at 10 a.m. The Comanche Nation Secretary/Treasurer, Robert Tippeconnie, conducted roll call.

**Resolutions:**

- Resolution No. 01-2025-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1351 Minors. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 02-2025-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1352 Adults. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 03-2025-** Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1353 Does Not Meet Blood Quantum. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 04-2025-** Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1354 Outside of Parameters. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 05-2025-** Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1355 No Allottee. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 06-2025-** Transportation Resolution to Add Routes to Inventory and Long-Range Plan. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 07-2025-** CBC Resolution to Enact Open Records Policy. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 08-2025-** CBC Resolution to Support Formation of Elk Valley Tribal Management Association. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 09-2025-** CBC Resolution Approving 10 Year Tobacco Compact. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 10-2025-** CBC Resolution for Grant Application to Dept. of Energy for Tribal Clean Energy Grant. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 11-2025-** CBC Resolution to Extend Comanche Academy License. The resolution passes 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 12-2025-** CBC Resolution to Appoint Comanche Nation Gaming Commissioners and Comanche Nation Board of Directors. The resolution passes 5/0/1.

**Motions**

- Motion to Post Revisions to Election Ordinance The motion passes 6/0/0.
- Motion to Post Supportive Comments of IRS Regulations The motion passes 6/0/0.

### Comanche Spur Casino General Manager Leads Casino to Record-Breaking Success

Comanche Nation Entertainment (CNE) recognizes the exceptional performance of Comanche Spur Casino and its General Manager Kellie McCarthy, whose leadership has driven the casino to new heights of success.

As General Manager, McCarthy has led Comanche Spur Casino to achieve record-breaking milestones. The success is a direct result of its personalized service and welcoming atmosphere.

She has also helped the casino excel in operational efficiency by adopting innovative strategies that set it apart in the gaming industry. Additionally, the local partnerships and charitable initiatives she has instilled at Comanche Spur Casino have demonstrated a strong commitment to community engagement.



Courtesy Photo McCarthy

“The Comanche Spur Casino has been a part of my life since I was young,” said McCarthy. “My mom and grandma used to take me to the old Spur to grab burgers and nachos. It’s amazing to now be part of its legacy.”

“CNE extends its gratitude to McCarthy and the entire Comanche Spur Casino team for their contributions to our organization’s ongoing success,” said Steven Doyle, CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment. “Their commitment exemplifies the values and mission of our organization—to provide exceptional entertainment experiences while supporting the growth and prosperity of the Comanche Nation.”

For more information about Comanche Spur Casino, visit <https://www.comanchespurcasino.com/>.

### REPORT

Continued from Page 1

capacity, address the septic issues, ensure our buildings are in compliance and reduce safety risk, Information Technology is working with Insurica Risk Management to ensure we are protected from cyber attacks, Information Technology is almost finished with creating a secure access for tribal members to view the Comanche Nation Business Committee meetings creating marketing opportunities for our departments that obtain revenue for economic development, expanding our fair grounds for the next upcoming Comanche Nation Fair, hosting language workshops for our youth at community centers by collaborating with Youth Services for cultural preservation efforts, and...

- Enhancing Digital Access:** The digitization of tribal records throughout the departments will improve efficiency and accessibility for all members.
- Hosting Community Meetings:** Plans are underway to host Community gatherings to share knowledge, information, hear suggestions or complaints to address tribal members concerns, and strengthen the tribal communities.

**STAY CONNECTED**  
Want to stay informed? Sign up for updates text Comanche 411247 or follow us on Comanche Nation of Oklahoma on Facebook,

## From the Chairman's Desk



Maruaweke Numunuu:

This month is the premier of a new documentary film regarding the Comanche Academy Charter School entitled “A Healing Journey.” The film is very well made and captures the raw emotions that are raised by discussions around the suppression of our language and culture that occurred at boarding schools. I hope and pray that the film is picked up by a major platform like Netflix or Hulu, and that it can spark some financial support for Comanche Academy from the broader society.

We as a Nation are fortunate to be on the cutting edge of primary education by having a charter school. Comanche Academy is not the only indigenous-focused charter school—there are about sixty Native American charter schools nationwide. But, Comanche Academy is one of the only chartered schools chartered by a Tribe itself (rather than a local district chartering an indigenous focused school), and we are therefore at the forefront of a burgeoning educational movement. In fact, Oklahoma is only one of a few states that even allows Tribes themselves to charter schools. The ability to charter schools is powerful—schools establish norms that children will carry for the rest of their lives. For this very reason—the power of schools to indoctrinate—boarding schools were weaponized against us. And, for this same reason, we can use schools to instill cultural values and language fluency in our children. Please do what you can to support Comanche Academy. Support can take a lot of forms, especially non-financial. The biggest support is to enroll your children in the school. Other than that, you can go watch the film, attend their culture nights on Wednesdays, or attend their powwows and other events.

Of course, beyond culture and language, schools must teach the reading, writing, math, and science skills that our children will need to thrive in the modern society. To do this, I am asking that we invest more gaming revenue into our student services program and youth program (especially the youth afterschool program). We also need a position that can serve as a type of “Education Czar”—which would be a person that can hold all schools (not just Comanche Academy) accountable to educate our children adequately for the next generation of jobs, especially those schools that receive supplemental federal funding on account of our tribal members’ attendance. We are currently in budget season, and the budget is looking to be very tight once again. This means that sacrifices are likely going to be called for, and certain programs will have to be trimmed in order to be able to make additional investment into the student services and youth programs. Sacrifice is not easy, but our children’s education is worth it.



the Comanche Nation PIO’s Facebook page and newspaper, *The Comanche Nation News*.  
**Got Questions or Ideas?**  
We value your input!

Email us at [administration@comanchenation.com](mailto:administration@comanchenation.com) or call (580) 492-3240.

Together, we’re building a brighter future!

Let’s continue to work together to make progress for our tribal community. Thank you for your support and collaboration.

**Lisa Dawsey**  
Tribal Administrator  
Comanche Nation

# Programs

## CHR Begins Medication Delivery

The Community Health Representatives (CHR) offers a medication delivery service. This includes personal medical supplies.

The medication delivery services are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only.

The requirements for the delivery service:

- Must be an enrolled member of a Federally Recognized Tribe and live within the Comanche Nation CHR service area
- Medication must be ready for pick up
- If medication requires any identification, it will not be picked up
- CHR will only pick up medication at the Lawton Indian Hospital
- For all other pharmacies and medications requiring identification, you must call and schedule a ride for the CHR program to take you to pick up the medication
- Items from the Comanche Nation Diabetes Awareness Program and Comanche Nation Prescription Assistance Program are also deliverable

For more information, call (580) 492-3758.

## Child Support Announces Court Dates

In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Eric Landers: CNCSP-23-35; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Brooke Paz: CNCSP-24-07; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Thomas Silverhorn: CNCSP-24-46; Petition for Establishment of Child Support

Section 609 (c) Rule 3 of the Comanche Nation Court Codes 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. 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.

## Glenda Goseyun retires from Comanche Nation after 14 years

Glenda Goseyun joined Comanche Nation Workforce program in 2010 as receptionist under the direction and training of the late Keith Yackeyonny. She then worked as Job Developer for 10 years for WIOA program. Goseyun then transitioned to the Prevention and Recovery program in 2020 as Cultural Coordinator for four years.

She conducted Comanche language, sewing, regalia making, medicine forging, canning foods, traditional foods making, sweat lodging, meditation and counseling workshops. Glenda will always be known as their "Kaku", as they looked to her for advice, kindness and most of all love.

She would like to thank Prevention and Recovery, Robert Tippeconnie and Tribal Administrator Lisa Dawsey for the retirement party. Goseyun also expresses her gratitude to the late Keith Yackeyonny where she learned her work ethics on how to respect and work for your Comanche people. She will be greatly missed.



Goseyun Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

**ASSOCIATE JUDGE SIMON RETIRES. Comanche Nation Court Associate Judge, Ralph Simon, retired on January 15, after seven years of service. A reception was held in his honor where attorney Ryland Rivas Jr. presented Simon with a plaque commemorating his work at the Comanche Nation Court.**

## Housing Authority Reminds about the Importance of Pipe Maintenance in the Winter

Colder temperatures have set in our area, and water pipes can be affected indoors and outside. From dripping pipes and faucets to burst pipes, the winter's freezing temperatures can cause the water in pipes to freeze and potentially burst due to the expansion of water when it turns to ice. This is especially true for exposed pipes in unheated areas like garages or crawl spaces.

Dripping pipes and faucets can be caused by several things, including:

- Temperature changes
- Abnormal water pressure
- Air in the pipes
- Corrosion: As pipes age, rust and corrosion can cause tiny leaks that drip. This can be accelerated by acidic or high mineral content water.

Pipes usually burst when subjected to extremely low temperatures for an extended period, typically from one to three days, depending on the temperature. This risk is exceptionally high for pipes located along exterior walls.

Investing time and effort towards maintenance offers you and your home more long-term benefits, such as saving money, time and reliability.

A few steps to ensure pipes withstand the winter months are:

### Check and inspect your pipes

It is always good to regularly check pipes, under sinks and outdoor pipes, look for drips around the pipes and dripping faucets. If you find leaks or drips contact a professional to check it out.

To prevent pipes from freezing:

1. Drip a small amount of water from faucets
- Dripping a faucet can prevent frozen and burst pipes if you turn on the faucets before or soon after the temperature drops. If temperatures will be below 20 degrees Fahrenheit for at least three hours or your power goes out in the winter, plan to drip your faucets. Ideally, drip your faucets before the cold strikes or within the first two hours.
- Even if the inside of your home doesn't fall to 20 degrees Fahrenheit, pipes located in unheated outdoor areas such as garages and crawl spaces or in exterior walls with minimal insulation can still freeze.
- Insulate pipes
- Insulate indoor and outdoor water supply lines and pipes, especially in unheated areas such as crawl spaces and garages.
- Consider adding insulation to exterior walls with pipes.
- Drain your water sprinkler supply lines before winter.
3. Use heat tape on heat cables
4. Seal leaks
5. Secure outdoor hoses, valves and faucets
6. Adjust the thermostat
7. Open cabinet doors

Save yourself both time and money by maintenance of pipes, especially during the winter months. With the average cost of piping an apartment of home from \$2,000 to \$10,000, taking proactive measures to maintain your water system can help you avoid expensive repairs or replacements.

If you have any questions regarding pipe maintenance, call (580) 357-4956.

**The Grasshoppers tree trimming and yard cleanup will be in the Lawton, Okla. area on Mondays through Fridays, February 3-28. For more information call (580) 492-3247**

**ATTENTION COMANCHE NATION MMIP FAMILIES**



If you have a family member or loved one who is a Comanche Missing or Murdered Indigenous Person (MMIP), please reach out to our office if you would like to share their story.



**CONTACT**

(580)919-1506

mmip@comanchenation.com

584 NW Bingo Road

Lawton, OK 73507



**COMANCHE NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOT LINE (580) 919-1098**

**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.

**DATES**

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

FEBRUARY 21  
10 AM - 2 PM  
WILLS CLINIC  
(COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURTHOUSE)

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

COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT

**WILLS CLINIC**

Friday, February 21, 2025  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Comanche Nation Tribal Court Building  
Located at Comanche Nation Headquarters  
584 NW Bingo Rd.  
Lawton, OK

# Programs

## 7000 Languages and Comanche Nation Language Department Launch New Online Course to Preserve and Revitalize the Comanche Language

7000 Languages, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating free online language-learning tools for Indigenous and endangered languages, is proud to announce the launch of a new Comanche Language course. Developed in collaboration with the Comanche Nation Language Department, this course offers learners the opportunity to explore and connect with the Comanche language, spoken by fewer than 50 individuals today.

Comanche, a member of the Central Numic branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family, shares close linguistic ties with Shoshone and Panamint. The course introduces the orthography adopted in 1993 and provides essential vocabulary for everyday communication, supporting both beginners and community members in their language-learning journey.

"Language is a vital link to culture, identity, and history," said Stephanie Witkowski, Executive Director of 7000 Languages. "Through our partnership with the Comanche Nation Language Department, we hope to make the Comanche language accessible to Tribal members, as well as anyone who wants to learn, helping to preserve this invaluable heritage for future generations."

The course is available for free at [www.7000.org/language/comanche](http://www.7000.org/language/comanche) and for enrolled Comanche Tribal Members at: <https://www.talkcomanche.org/learn-comanche-language>

For more information about 7000 Languages and its mission to support Indigenous and endangered languages worldwide, visit [www.7000.org](http://www.7000.org).

## Family Assistance Center

The Comanche Nation Family Assistance Center serves as a safe haven for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and human trafficking. We provide a wide range of services to include temporary shelter, 24-hour crisis hot line, counseling, assistance with resumes, housing application, budget classes, group presentations, etc. The center also provides some services to victims that do not need a safe haven.

Their mission is to educate, empower and advocate for Native Americans to strive to protect their families and communities from crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault, especially against their women and children.

This program is funded primarily through federal grants and relies on the generosity of the community for donations of certain items such as soap, shampoo, bath towels, face towels, paper towels, Kleenex, bleach, laundry soap, baby diapers (all sizes), socks, house slippers, current magazines, children clothes, etc. For additional program services, call (580) 492-3590.

## CNOEP Recycling Program: Recent Impact

The CNOEP Recycling Program is excited to share some encouraging recycling results! Thanks to your efforts, in the month of December they've collectively recycled:

- 377 lbs. of plastic
  - 260 lbs. of aluminum
  - 2,667 lbs. of cardboard
- These numbers represent not just waste kept out of landfills, but valuable resources being reused to create new products. Every time people recycle, it helps conserve energy, reduce pollution, and preserve natural resources.

A huge thank you to ev-

eryone who is contributing to this effort—you're making a real difference! But the work doesn't stop here. Every small action counts, and the CNOEP encourages everyone to keep recycling and make conscious choices about the materials we use. Together, we can continue to reduce our environmental footprint and create a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Keep recycling, keep making a difference!

## CNOEP Assist With Neighborhood Clean-Up

The CNOEP has been working hard at keeping Mother Earth and communities beautiful. Recently the CNOEP assisted with a neighborhood clean-up for the Madische area from December 3, 2024 to January 8, 2025. Their efforts included removing tires, old appliances, and any other household or unwanted items. Multiple roll off were provided to allow the community to toss what they wanted. In total, they disposed of 2.27 tons of household waste, 20 tires, and plenty of appliances and metal scrap. The CNOEP appreciates all the effort to make communities cleaner and greener.

Stay tuned for future events such as Earth Day and Tribal Youth Environmental Initiative Camp. Stay up to date with their social media and please give them a like and follow on their Facebook profile at "Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs." They will be posting tips to stay warm, environmental updates, recycling highlights and sometimes fun facts.

The third Sunday in February is World Whale Day. Let's bring some awareness for the whale population and how far they've come in whale conservation efforts.



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

## CNOEP Valentine Tips

Here are some eco friendly Valentine's Day ideas to celebrate love while also being kind to the planet.

- **Local flowers:** Gift flowers from local flower shops. This helps reduce the carbon footprint of importing flowers.
- **Potted plants:** Instead of cut flowers that wilt quickly, gift potted plants that can be enjoyed long term.
- **Reusable items:** Consider

eco friendly alternatives like reusable coffee cups, water bottles, or a sustainable bag.

• **Upcycled gifts:** Look for second hand books, upcycled jewelry, and vintage items these unique items can hold special meaning.

• **Handmade gifts:** Create a personalized gift like custom art, handmade card or scarf.

• **Bike ride or walk:** Take a leisurely bike ride or walk through a scenic area.

• **Homemade bath bombs or scrubs:** Create your own spa experience with natural ingredients like coconut oil, sea salt or essential oils. This is a thoughtful and sustainable gift.

• **Eco-friendly candles:** Make candles by using beeswax, soy wax, or other natural materials.

• **Environmental Tip of the Month: Reduce Single-Use Plastics by Switching to Reusables**

One of the simplest yet most impactful changes people can make is to reduce the use of single-use plastics. Items like plastic bags, straws, bottles, and utensils contribute significantly to plastic pollution.

• **How to do it:** Use reusable bags: Cloth bags can be used in cars or by doors to make shopping more sustainable.

• **Carry a reusable water bottle:** Invest in a durable, insulated bottle to avoid disposable plastic bottles.

• **Opt for reusable straws:** Carry a stainless steel, bamboo or silicone straw in bags or cars.

• **Choose reusable containers:** Take containers to restaurants and coffee shops or for takeout instead of using single-use plastic packaging.

Small changes like these can make a big difference in reducing plastic waste and protecting the environment.

## February 2025 Adult Education Student of the Month Aubrey Mithlo



Courtesy Photo

**Mithlo** Aubrey Mithlo is the son of Eugene Jr. and Sandra Mithlo. The grandson of the late Eugene Sr. and the late Audrey (Tosee) Mithlo, the late Wardlaw and the late Sharon (Pohawpatchoko) Lee.

Mithlo is a proud public school teacher at Cache Middle School. Mithlo teaches 7th grade Eastern World Geography and 8th grade US History.

Currently, he is working towards obtaining his principal certification.

The Adult Education program has helped Mithlo tremendously with all fees for certification testing and application fees.

## February 2025 Higher Education Graduate Student of the Month David Haralson



Courtesy Photo

**Haralson** David Hoahwah Haralson began his academic journey by attending Fort Lewis College in Du-

rango, Colorado, in 2010, supported by their Native American Tuition Waiver Scholarship. He graduated with a B.A. in Liberal Studies, focusing on Theatre, Music, and English. Two years later, he completed a Master of Education degree from his alma mater.

Haralson began his career as an alternative school teacher in Denver, Colo., before transitioning to a role as a nonprofit music educator. Currently, he is seeking a Student Affairs Administration Graduate Certificate at Colorado State University, in hopes of becoming a college advisor.

He attributes his success to the unwavering support of the CNHE staff and his family—Elonzo ("Curtis"), Jaqueline, and Genevieve. In his free time, he enjoys recording and playing music with friends and is learning Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

## February 2025 Higher Education Undergraduate Student of the Month Cassidy Kisner



Courtesy Photo

**Kisner** Cassidy Kisner is currently a junior at Pittsburg State University. Kisner is majoring in Recreation Services, Sport, and Hospitality.

Her ultimate goal is to work for a major league baseball team (hopefully the KC Royals) running their fan operations department.

Kisner is the oldest of four children born to Adrienne and York.

A fun fact about Kisner is that she is deathly allergic to strawberries, and she knocked out her front tooth playing softball (on April Fool's Day)!



## ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

### Election Voting and Powwow

The election of the Comanche Nation Princess, Jr. Princess, and Princess Director will be 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., April 4 at Watchetaker Hall, Comanche Nation Complex 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. April 5 at the Patriot Room (Old Conference Room), Comanche Nation Complex.

Voters must be 18 years old and older to vote. Must present a valid ID.

The powwow will take place on April 5 at the Watchetaker Hall, Comanche Nation Complex. It will begin at noon with a Cedar Ceremony, followed by Gourd Dance, a supper break at 5 p.m., and the crowning of the 2025-2026 Comanche Nation Princess and Jr. Princess at 7 p.m.

For more information about the election or powwow, contact Fiona Kerchee at (580) 919-3711 or by email: [Fiona.Kerchee@comanchenation.com](mailto:Fiona.Kerchee@comanchenation.com)

## February 2025 Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Kameron Mullins



Courtesy Photo

**Mullins** Kameron Mullins is the son of Ashley Arneechee and Rayshon Mullins. Mullins' grandparents are Angie Carrillo and Vincent Sapcutt.

Mullins is currently going to barber school at Elite Academy located in Lawton, Oklahoma. Mullins is on pace to complete his classes and earn his barber license in order to become an established barber.

After receiving his barber license, Mullins plans on moving out of state with his family to work in a barber shop, and maybe perhaps own one of his own.

**Comanche Nation Offices will be closed on February 17 for President's Day, and will re-open for business on February 18.**

COMANCHE NATION LANGUAGE COMMUNITY CLASSES

**03 & 18**

**APACHE, OK COMANCHE COMMUNITY CENTER**

6 - 8 PM 309 JULIA MAHSEET RD

**03 & 18**

**CACHE, OK CAHOMA BUILDING**

6 - 8 PM 752 NW QUANAH RD

**06 & 20**

**LAWTON, OK JAMES COX AUDITORIUM**

INSIDE DOROTHY SUNRISE LORENTINO EDUCATION CENTER

6 - 8 PM 1608 SW 9TH ST.

# Hundreds of Families Gather to Bring in 2025 at the Prevention & Recovery's Annual New Years Eve Bash

Story and Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery held its annual New Year's Eve Bash on, December 31, 2024 at the Great Plains Coliseum in Lawton, Oklahoma.

According to Prevention and Recovery Director Don Ramos, the event promotes a fun, safe and drug-free environment for the community.

He said about 700 to 800 people attended the event this year.

Ramos wanted to thank his staff who helped put on the event.

"They've done a wonderful job this year," he said. "I'm truly amazed by the staff, but Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery has done a wonderful job putting this together tonight. They make it a whole lot easier."

The event included a snack bar, cotton candy, a DJ, a balloon maker and a photo booth.



DJ Marty Mar (Martin Flores) kept the dance floor full with an array of music for everyone during the Dec. 31, 2024 Prevention and Recovery's New Years Eve Bash at the Comanche Great Plains Coliseum.



John Pansze of Oklahoma Magic makes balloon animals and objects for children at the annual New Year's Eve Bash, hosted by the Prevention & Recovery Program.



From left, the Elgin Jr. JOM Princess Bella Hilliard, Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin, and the Cache JOM Princess Macayla Hoahwah enjoy the celebration.



Comanche elder Delores Twohatchet celebrates New Years Eve with her son, Deron.



The Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee, center, hangs out with the 2023 Apache Princess, Amaya Harris, and the 2023 Comanche Nation Princess McKenzi Sovo during the Prevention & Recovery's New Years Eve Bash.



Terry and Denise Poemoceah enjoy the company at the New Years Eve Celebration in Lawton, Okla.



Stephen Robertson with his family enjoys the last hours of 2024 at the Prevention & Recovery's Annual Sober New Years Bash.

## Comanche Little Ponies New Year's Dance, held December 28, 2024, Closes 2024 with a Big Celebration



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche veterans, from left, Alex Akoneto, Elizabeth Robles, JW Marshall, Tennyson Kerchee and Benny Tahmahkera bring in the flags at the Comanche Little Ponies' New Years Powwow during the Grand Entry on December 28, 2024, while the Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee, Comanche Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin, and the Otoe Missouri Princess, Emmary Elizondo lead the dancers into the arena.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Morgan Tosee dances next to his grandson, CJ Tosee, who was the Head Little Boy Dancer for the December 28, 2024 Comanche Little Ponies New Years Powwow.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

LEFT: Comanche Little Ponies member Mike Cable, Gourd Dances during the celebration held at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Little Ponies Princess, Graison Yellowfish, participates in the Two Step at the Comanche Little Ponies Powwow held at the Comanche Nation Complex.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

RIGHT: Elizabeth Robles, who is currently serving in the US Navy, was honored at the Comanche Little Ponies Powwow.

# People, Places and Things Happening

## Blazing Trails: Norman Leveille's Legacy of Service



Courtesy Photo

Norman Leveille is a man of many hats. By day at Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA), he is the Procurement and Facilities Manager, but after a hard day's work, he goes on to lead the Geronimo Volunteer Fire Department as its Chief.

The youngest of nine children, Leveille was born in Anchorage, Alaska. In 1966, his family moved to Geronimo, Oklahoma and has called the city home ever since. He began his first job as a teenager, working as a butcher at Mallow Grocery—a since closed-down local grocery store. Leveille studied business at Cameron University for three years, but after his mother's passing, he stepped up to support his family by re-entering the workforce.

Leveille went to work at Goodyear Tire Manufacturing for a total of 18 years before stumbling upon a hiring ad in the local newspaper for a safety officer at CNHA. Unsure of what it would entail, Norman decided to take his chance and began his 17-year journey with CNHA. In that time, Leveille worked his way up from Safety Officer to Interim Maintenance Supervisor to his current position of Procurement & Facilities Manager.

ilities Manager.

"When I first joined CNHA, I wasn't sure what to expect, coming from my experience at Goodyear where we focused on making a product," said Leveille. "Transitioning to an organization that provides a service has been incredibly rewarding. It's an honor to serve tribal members—whether it's assisting with repairs or connecting them to programs that help them find affordable housing. Knowing I can make a difference in their lives is truly fulfilling."

As the Procurement & Facilities Manager, he is responsible for the upkeep and functionality of properties, including the complex and warehouse facility. He oversees safety and security—both physically and electronically—through monitoring for malware and allocating resources to maximize funds. Leveille also acts as the liaison between CNHA and law enforcement.

But Leveille's commitment to the community does not end after he clocks out at CNHA. Once his workday wraps up, Norman picks up his radio, straps it to his belt and stands ready to serve as the Geronimo Volunteer Fire Department Chief. Leveille has been serving with the Geronimo Volunteer Fire Department for over four decades. When he first joined, the department operated with just three trucks but has since expanded to a fleet of 11. The team now includes 20 members who serve Geronimo's population of approximately 1,300.

Having joined as a teenager, Leveille has witnessed the community's growth over his lifetime and has countless stories to share about his experiences with the fire department. From rescuing animals stuck in trees, saving people from flooding to helping deliver a baby, there is no task that Leveille won't lend a hand to help with.

"Helping my own neighbors and Tribal members is what truly means the most to me," said Le-

eille. "I once helped an older gentleman with what I thought was just a small fire, but he told me he couldn't have managed it without us. That's the kind of gratitude that reminds me why I do what I do—it's about making a difference in people's lives."

The Geronimo Volunteer Fire Department conducts a fire prevention program each year to teach students about fire safety protocols, one of Leveille's favorite activities. The department brings a fire truck to the school, giving students a tour and teaching them how it operates.

Although Leveille is always ready to answer a call for help, when he's not saving the day, he can be found enjoying the outdoors—whether it's hunting, fishing or grilling. He also takes pride in his family and cherishes time with them. Leveille has been married to his wife Sherry for 35 years and they have three sons: Dillon, Dallan and David. Dallan and David also serve alongside their father on the Geronimo Volunteer Fire Department.

Leveille's life is a testament to dedication and service. Whether at CNHA or as Fire Chief, he's made a lasting impact on his community through his commitment to helping others. His story shows that one person's contributions—rooted in love for family, community, and a desire to make a difference—can have a profound and lasting effect.

## Raquel Ramos Receives Prestigious Arard

Raquel Ramos will be honored with the Generational Impact Award at this year's Bloom From Within: A Journey To Inner Radiance event, February 8, in Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Ramos is the Prevention Manager, Whole Child Prevention and Wellness, National Indian Education Association. She has inspired countless lives with her vision, lead-



Courtesy Photo

ership, and unwavering commitment to creating lasting change for future generations.

Her dedication to uplifting others truly embodies what it means to "Bloom From Within."

Ramos will be celebrated for her remarkable achievements.

## Leonard Peltier Granted Clemency



Courtesy Photo

Peltier

On January 19, the outgoing President of the United States, Joseph R. Biden Jr., granted the Executive Grant of Clemency to Leonard Peltier to take effect February 18, and he will serve the rest of his sentence at his home.

According to Native News Online, Peltier, 80, has spent nearly 50 years in federal prison after being convicted for the 1975 deaths of two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He has maintained his innocence throughout his imprisonment.

"It's finally over – I'm go-

ing home." Peltier said in a statement. "I want to show the world I'm a good person with a good heart. I want to help the people, just like my grandmother taught me."

A White House statement cited Peltier's advanced age, deteriorating health and the extensive support for his release from tribal nations, Nobel Peace laureates, former law enforcement officials and human rights organizations.

"This commutation will enable Mr. Peltier to spend his remaining days in home confinement but will not pardon him for his underlying crimes," according to a White House statement.

The decision comes after decades of campaigns by Native American leaders and organizations who have questioned the fairness of Peltier's trial and conviction. Even the former U.S. Attorney whose office handled Peltier's prosecution and appeal supported granting clemency.

The White House noted Peltier's "close ties to and leadership in the Native American community" as a factor in the decision.

The commutation of Peltier's sentence comes after increased advocacy from tribal leaders, congressional members, human rights advocates and even former prosecutors who were involved in the case.

More than 120 tribal leaders, including National Congress of American Indians President Mark Macarao and Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, signed a letter urging Biden to grant clemency. In December 2024, Macarao raised Peltier's case directly with Biden during a flight on Air Force One, highlighting that Peltier was among the oldest surviving Indian boarding school survivors.

Peltier, an enrolled citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, spent three years at the Wahpeton Indian School in North Dakota as a child.

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If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. -1 Corinthians 3-8

**"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."**

**-Matthew 11:28-30**

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Comanche National Museum & Cultural Center presents: MANY *ame* A Tim Saupitty Exhibit

EXHIBITION DATES: February 3 - March 1, 2025

"MEET THE ARTIST" EVENT: Saturday, February 8th 10 AM - 2 PM Meet Tim Saupitty in person. Light refreshments will be served.

Immerse yourself in the captivating artistry of Tim Saupitty, drawing inspiration from the rich heritage of the Comanche people and brought to life through his masterful use of bold, dramatic colors and sweeping brushstrokes.

COMANCHE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER 701 NW Ferris Ave, Lawton, OK 73507 For information call: 580-353-0404

COMANCHE NATION M.M.I.P. FUNDRAISER Valentine's Day Dance FEAT. DJ PANDA Cake Walk Potato Dance contest Sweetheart Couple contest Dance contest Admission: \$3 Single \$5 Couples Kids Free SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15TH, 7-10 PM Watchetaker Hall 584 NW Bingo, Lawton ok 73507 Any questions, please contact 580-713-8999 or email: mmip@comanchenation.com

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



Financial Tip: Checking Accounts and Managing Fees

One of the first steps in managing your money is opening a checking account. Whether it's at the local bank or credit union or an online account, a checking account is beneficial. But with this benefit, one has to keep an eye out for fees, because fees can be an expensive hassle!

But first, let's look at why having a checking account is a great idea!

- Safety First - Cash is insured by the FDIC or NCUA for a balance up to \$250,000! Money in a jar, your locker, or wallet is not.
- Direct Deposit - This is the easiest way to get paid! Either from your employer or retirement benefits.
- Budgeting - This is one of the tools you will be able to track how much money has come in and gone out.

But what about fees?

- Account maintenance fees - Before opening an account, check and see what fees are associated with the account. Also make sure you know what you have to do to avoid fees.
- Overdraft fees - These can be very costly. Check your spending record and account to see how much you are spending. Make sure you have enough money to cover what is spent. This includes any ATM fees you may have incurred.
- ATM Fees - Try to use in network machines. If you are not close to an ATM, check and see if you can get cash back by doing a small transaction.

Having and maintaining a good banking relationship is an important step in taking care of your financial health. A checking account will help you with everyday living and future spending.

# 81st Annual Caddo County Basketball Tournament

Photos by Stacey Haminokoky/News Staff



Rowyn Fite, 2025 Runner-Up!



2025 Caddo County Tournament Champions, Cyril Lady Pirates!



Khloe Goombi, 2025 Champ!



Khloe Goombi, Sophomore at Cyril.



2025 Caddo County Tournament Runner-Up, Lookeba-Sickles Lady Panthers.



Champ Buckner, Senior at Apache.



BB Lookingglass, So. at Apache.



2025 Caddo County Tournament Runner-Up, Binger-Oney Bobcats.



Rowyn Fite, Junior at Lookeba.



Rowyb Fite, Junior at Lookeba.



2025 Caddo County Tournament Consolation Winners, Boone-Apache Warriors.



Tatum Howlingwater, Senior at Apache.



Tatum Howlingwater, Senior at Apache.



2025 Caddo County All-Tournament Team. Left to right; Khloe Goombi, So. at Cyril High; Rowyn Fite, Jr. at Lookeba-Sickles High; & Holli Jo Harvey, Jr. at Apache High.



Jakob Harvey, Junior at Apache.



Holli Harvey, Junior at Apache.



Breanna Howlingwater, Junior at Apache.



Chris Vasquez, Sophomore at Binger-Oney.

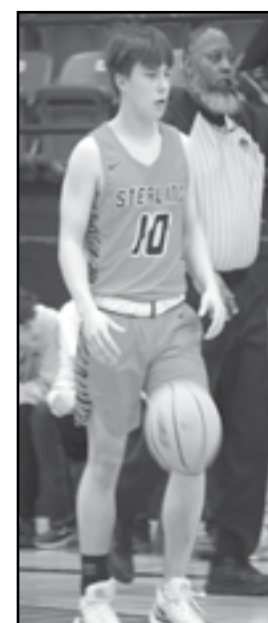


Khloe Goombi, Cyril Pirates. Lanai Tselec, Junior at Ft. Cobb

# 2025 Comanche County Basketball Tournament

2025 Comanche County Basketball Tournament Results:  
 Girl's 3rd Place: Geronimo BlueJays Vs. Sterling Lady Tigers. Final score: Geronimo, 49 / Sterling, 36  
 Boy's 3rd Place: Chattanooga Warriors Vs. Walters Blue Devils. Final score: Chattanooga, 58 / Walters 46  
 2025 Girl's Champions, Walters Lady Blue Devils. Final score (overtime): Walters Lady Blue Devils, 43 / Chattanooga Lady Warriors, 38.  
 2025 Girl's Runner-Up: Chattanooga Lady Warriors.  
 2025 Boy Champions, Sterling Tigers. Final score: Sterling, 60 / Big Pasture Rangers, 44.  
 2025 Boys Runner-Up: Big Pasture Rangers.  
 Congratulations to all teams!

Photos by Paula Kerty/News Staff



Sterling Tiger Tukker Hughes.



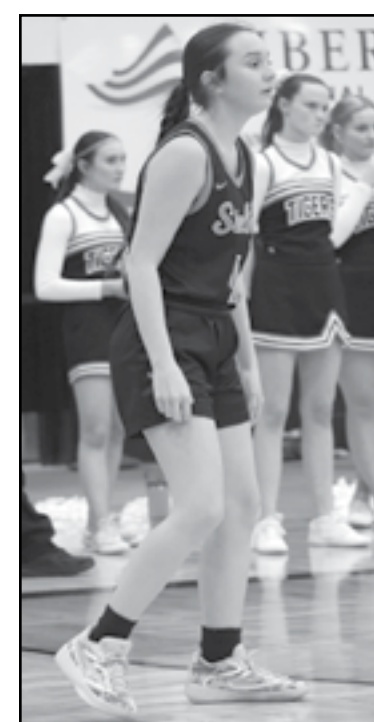
Hughes guards Lane Tinsley, from Big Pasture High School.



Tukker Hughes, Junior. Sterling Tiger Champion.



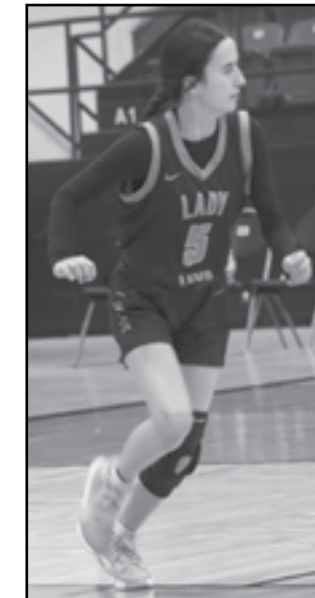
2025 Comanche County Runner-Up, Maddie Koweno, Sophomore at Chattanooga High School.



Sterling Lady Tiger.



Evan Wauqua, Junior at Chattanooga High School.



Third Place Winner, Alison Daly, Senior at Geronimo High School.



Trevin Reed, Sophomore at Walters.



Chattanooga Lady Warriors and the Sterling Lady Tigers go head-to-head.



Chris Vasquez, Sophomore at Binger-Oney.



Khloe Goombi, Cyril Pirates. Lanai Tselec, Junior at Ft. Cobb



2025 Caddo County All-Tournament Team. Left to right; Khloe Goombi, So. at Cyril High; Rowyn Fite, Jr. at Lookeba-Sickles High; & Holli Jo Harvey, Jr. at Apache High.



Jakob Harvey, Junior at Apache.



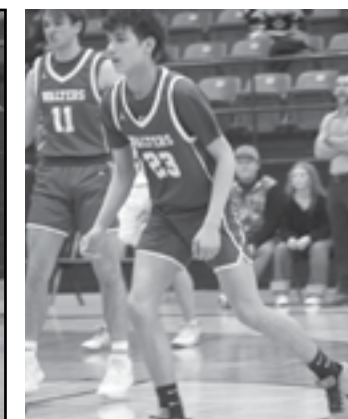
Holli Harvey, Junior at Apache.



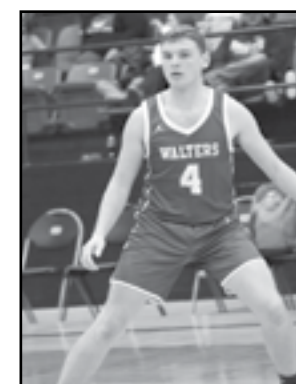
Breanna Howlingwater, Junior at Apache.



Laila Tissychy, Sophomore at Indianaha High School.



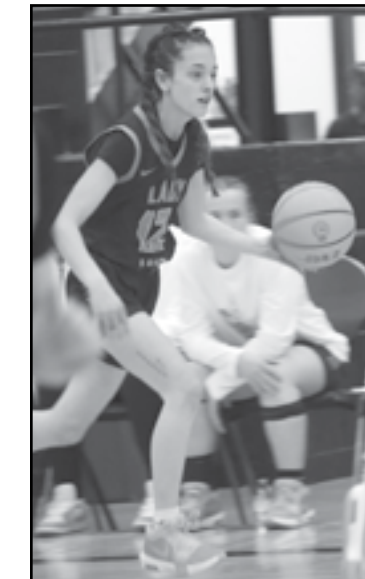
Trevin Reed, Sophomore at Walters High.



Camden LaPierre, Senior at Walters High School.



Kelton Sutherland, Sophomore at Walters High School.



Abbey Huffman, Sophomore at Geronimo High School.



Geronimo BlueJays Cheerleader.



Abbey Huffman, Sophomore at Geronimo High School.



The Fletcher Lady Wildcats and the Indianaha Lady Warriors compete.



Sergio Maldonado, Senior at Geronimo High School.



Ayanna Mithlo, Freshmen at Sterling High School.



Laila Tissychy, Sophomore at Indianaha High School.



Ayden Mithlo, Junior at Big Pasture High School.



Isabela Ramirez, Sophomore at Indianaha High School.

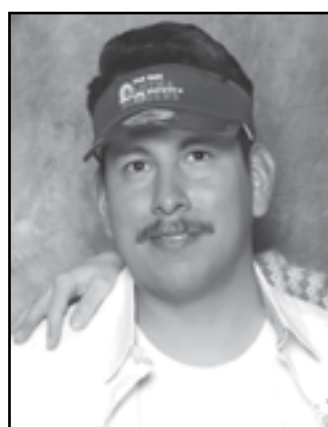
# Milestones

## HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

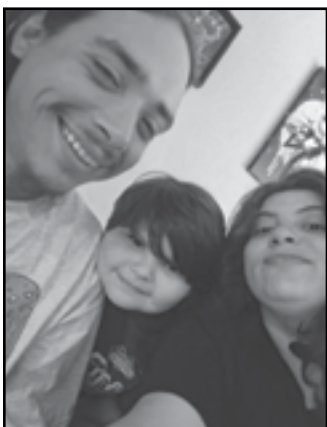
January 13 - Whitney Alex Shay Jasinski  
January 16 - Anthony Alan Froehlich



**Happy Birthday Stefano Ruiz-Harrison February 1**  
~ Happy Birthday from your siblings!!



**Happy Birthday Keaton Ruiz-Harrison February 1**  
~ Happy Birthday from your siblings!!



**Happy Birthday Marshall 'Chubs' Kerchee February 1**  
~ We love you and are proud of you!



**Happy 22nd Birthday Anthony Alan Froehlich January 16**



**Happy 18th Birthday Whitney Alex Shay Jasinski January 13**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

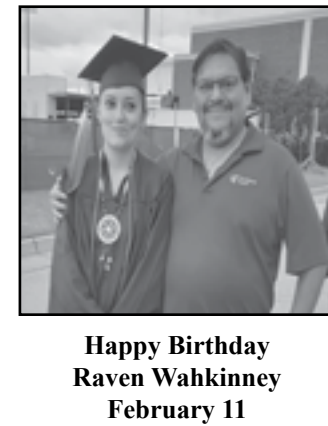
February - Nahmi Denise  
February - Nivee Poafpybitty  
February 1 - Marshall 'Chubs' Kerchee  
February 1 - Stefano Ruiz-Harrison  
February 1 - Keaton Ruiz-Harrison  
February 5 - Nancy Nauni  
February 7 - John Pritchard  
February 9 - Khloe Goombi "Happy Sweet 16 Khloe!! Love, your family!!" ♥  
February 9 - Thomasina Rose Akoneto  
February 11 - Raven Wahkinney  
February 12 - Kenslee Niedo  
February 12 - Skylar Paige  
February 17 - Lillene Suina  
February 20 - Amber Tiddark  
February 23 - Richard Het-tich  
February 23 - Eli Laurenzana  
February 24 - Jovi Walker Wermey Owens  
February 24 - Edwin Akoneto  
February 24 - Norman "Sonny" Nauni, Jr.  
February 27 - Joey Wahkinney  
February 29 - Suzanne Simmons



**Happy 11th Birthday Nivee Skye Poafpybitty February**  
~ XOXO Mom, Mimi, Nahmi, and Taylor



**Happy 7th Birthday Nahmi Denise February**  
~ XOXO Mom, Mimi, Nivee and Taylor



**Happy Birthday Raven Wahkinney February 11**  
Joey Wahkinney February 27



**Happy 13th Birthday John Pritchard February 7**  
~ Happy 13th Birthday John!! We love you, Mom and Dad.



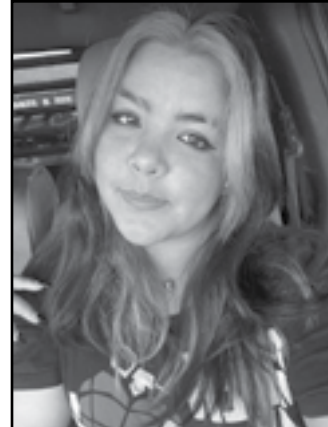
**Happy Birthday Thomasina Rose Akoneto February 9**



**Lynn and Jolene Schonchin February 12**  
Celebrating 25 years of Marriage!



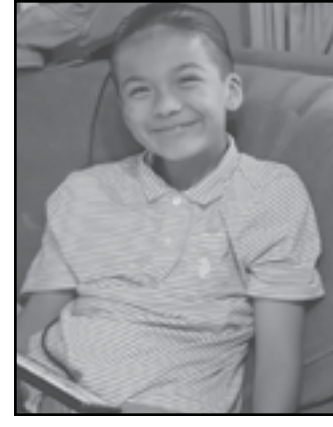
**Happy Birthday Kenslee Michelle Niedo February 12**  
~ Happy Birthday! We love you baby girl! Love, the Niedo Family.



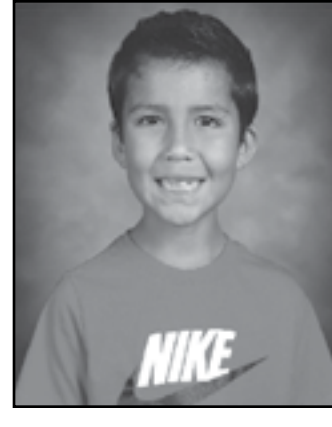
**Happy Birthday Skylar Paige February 12**  
~ Happy Birthday Baby Girl! Hope you have a Blessed day. Love, Mom and sister Arianna.



**Happy Birthday Amber Tiddark February 20**  
~ Happy Birthday, Amber T!! We all love you and we're all so proud of you!



**Happy 10th Birthday Eli Laurenzana February 23**  
~ We love you son. We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad.



**Happy 9th Birthday Jovi Walker Wermey Owens February 24**  
~ Happy Birthday to my youngest Jovi Walker Wermey Owens. You will always be Daddy's Jovi Love. ♥

# Obituaries

## Stephen Kaudle-Kaule "Candyman"



**KaudleKaule**

Stephen Kaudle-Kaule "Candyman" was born in Lawton, Oklahoma to Wilma Chibitty. He was raised by his grandparents John and Dana Chibitty in the Mt. Scott/ Paradise Valley area. He leaves behind his wife Rose Edith; sisters; Dawn Buffalohead; Glenna Niedo and brother in law Ron Niedo; Lena McClung and Dana Bedeker; three sons; Steven Jr., Brandon, and Bruce; brother; Leonard Chibitty; brother in laws; Billy, Ben, Clint, Jack, and Loyd; daughters; Leiani and Jennifer; 12 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

KaudleKaule attended school in Elgin. He also attended Riverside Indian School where he was a state champion cross country runner. He also excelled at boxing. He went on the work for the Pawnee Tribe as a Wildland Firefighter. Stephen was an avid Sooner fan, hunter, and fisherman. He loved the outdoors and his beloved dog Sooner.

KaudleKaule was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and also belong to the Comanche Little Ponies.

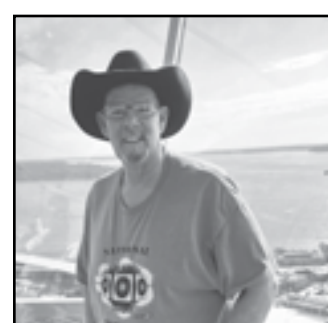
He is preceded in death by his parents Wilma and Felix Flores; grandparents John and Dana Chibitty; brothers Thomas, Sammy, and Charles; sister Christina Herrera, Marlene Ulloa, and Delores KaudleKaule, and Denise Turtle; brother in laws Harley Buffalohead, Thomas Primeaux, Chester Primeaux; sister in law Anita Favell; grandson Trenton "Bubba" Molina.

Pallbearers: Balciente Herrera, Edward Tahahwah, David Chibitty, Bruce Johnson, Preston Hernasy, and Felix Flores.

Honorary Pallbearers: Ron Niedo, James Donald, Billy Primeaux, Billy Saupitty, Jack Helsey, Leonard Chibitty, Bobby Oldbear, Berwin Moses, Richard Chibitty, Eugene Big Soldier, Little Leonard Elam.

## Ricky Arterberry

Papa Rick, went to his heavenly home on January 4, 2025, at the age of 59. He was born on April 17, 1965, in Lawton, Oklahoma, to Jimmie Wayne and Beatrice "Sue" Roach Arterberry. A proud member of the Comanche



Courtesy Photo

**Arterberry**  
Tribe, his Comanche name was Thud-a-koo.

Arterberry entered the U.S. Air Force in January, 1984, and served honorably for 20 years. He specialized in missile maintenance, patient advocacy, and physical therapy, eventually retiring as a TSgt in February, 2004. He completed two deployments in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Arterberry loved spending his time with his children and grandchildren, attending their events and creating lasting memories. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, fishing and golfing. In recent years, he enjoyed traveling, visiting casinos, and working toward becoming a social media influencer. Above all, Arterberry was

most proud of his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jimmie Wayne and Beatrice "Sue" Arterberry; his brother, Terry Arterberry; uncles Melvin Guy Roach Jr., Howard Roach, Stacy Kassanavoid, and James Wilson; and cousins Mark Kassanavoid and Shannon Lay.

Arterberry is survived by his children: Ricky Arterberry Jr. and his children Phoenix and Maddox; Joshua Arterberry and his children Aspynn, Hinley, and Kixx; and Brooke Robello and her husband Marcus, with children Kameron and Kendall. He is also survived by brother Jimmy Arterberry, sister Kathy Daniel, aunts Arlene Wilson, Linda Roach, Virgie Kassanavoid, Suzanna Roach, and uncle Harley Roach. Numerous cousins, nephews, nieces, aunts and uncles. His extended family and loving fiancé, Angie.

Papa Rick's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. He never met a stranger and always treated everyone like family.

## LaHoma Knight



Courtesy Photo

**Knight**  
LaHoma Knight, went to her heavenly home on December 7, 2024, with her daughters by her side. She was born on December 13, 1937, to Lorene (Cable) Tahmahkera and Joseph Weryavah.

She worked for Lawton Manufacturing (Hagger Slacks) until retirement in 1987 to become a Full time Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Most people would perceive her as a shy and quiet woman, but those who knew her sensed the funny, outgoing woman that loved to laugh and joke. She loved playing cards, old school soul music, chocolate kisses, Juicy

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12

Fruit Gum and Coca Cola, Good Looking Men and a good movie- 'Tom Jones was her favorite.' Most of all she loved her grandkids, that was her life, that's what brought her joy. She was a member of the Nazarene Church in Cache and a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

Knight is survived by two daughters; LaDonna and Vincent Stevens of Lawton, Cheryl and Charles Sanders of Cache, two sons; Richard Knight of Cache and Frank Ortega of Lawton. One sister, Betty and John Chasenah, of Lawton, 14 grandchildren 29 great - grandchildren, numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Knight is preceded in death by her husbands; Donald Wilhelm and Richard Knight, Parents: Lorene and Franklin Tahmahkera and Joe Weryavah. Sons: Donald 'Manny' Wilhelms and Lawrence 'Greenman' Wilhelms, Sisters; Barbara Chasenah, Phyllis Mowatt, Jolene Tahah and Deborah Tahmahkera, Brothers; Ben Tahmahkera, Carl Tahah and Rod Hoahway, Nieces; Lynette Ortega, Linda Lorentz, Sonya Kopaddy, Shelli Sanchez, D'ann Ortega, Mary Ann Morrow, Marcia and Francis Mowatt, Nephews; Greg Weryavah and Dan Cooper Tahmahkera, Grandsons; Nate Morrow and Daniel Elam.

hymns. She loved to dance and had a comedic gift about her spirit to where she was the funniest person in any room and most importantly she loved her kids and grandkids dearly, especially her tsaa-tsaa, her great granddaughter.

Mowatt is survived by her children, her two daughters, TJ Mowatt, Norman Okla., and Ashley Mowatt, Lawton; her son Trevor Bright; Cache. Her grandkids Marcus Mowatt, Aiyana Mowatt and daughter Londynn "Toogies" Williams, Jashon Mowatt, Tasia Mowatt and Naima Mowatt Aiton. Her siblings, Virgie and Rick Komahchee, Cache; Karen Davis Wells, San Antonio; Mike Yokesuite Mowatt, Cache Okla., Suzanne Simmons, Lawton; Stephanie Yokesuite Fagan, Marlow Okla., Tracy Saupitty Dean, New Mexico; Linda Saupitty Brandvold, Lawton; Sonya Sovo, Lawton; Tim Saupitty, Lawton; James Saupitty, Lawton. She is also survived by numerous cousins, aunts, nieces and nephews close relatives and good friends that were very dear to her. She is going to be missed dearly. Her last wishes were to hold on to Gods hand and love one another.

She is preceded in death by her parents Clifton "Elo" Mowatt and Janelle Mowatt; grandparents Lilly Yokesuite, Lester Poahway and Spencer Mowatt and Rachel Ivy Pewo Mowatt; brothers Richard Saupitty and Donald Sovo, and sister Diana Saupitty Poemoceah. Her aunts Louella Yokesuite, Lillian Yokesuite, Uncles Sammy and Scott Kopaddy and Donnie Yokesuite. Nephews, Oliver Poemoceah, Jeffrey Saupitty McClung and Christopher Simmons.

## Patty Mowatt



Courtesy Photo

**Mowatt**  
Patty Mowatt, was born Teresa Louise Davis to Sandra Marie Yokesuite and Robert Davis on May 11, 1965, at the Lawton Indian Hospital. She was then adopted by Sandras eldest sister and brother in law, Janelle Yokesuite Mowatt and Clifton "Elo" Mowatt, and was renamed Patricia Kay Mowatt.

Mowatt fought a lengthy battle with cancer and chose to take her journey to be with her parents and loved ones on December 15, 2024, in Cache Oklahoma., with her family by her side. Mowatt was a member of the Comanche Nation, and grew up in Indianola Okla., where she attended school and went on to high school at Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, Okla. She attended Great Plains Area Vo-Tech and took Accounting.

Mowatt married Terry Bright and they had three children TJ and Ashley Mowatt and their son, Trevor Bright. They lived in Indianola until 2001 before moving to Cache and she later moved on to Lawton and Pawnee Okla., before returning to back to KCA country and finishing her life in Cache amongst her family.

Mowatt loved spending time with her family and friends, was a homemaker and enjoyed camping at powwows, round dance and going 49, making her ndn jewelry and beading children, she loved watching the weather and was super fascinated by tornados, she loved to laugh and was silly by default and could terrorize around like no other, she believed heavily in Comanche ways, enjoyed telling stories, playing guitar, singing and karaoke and loved her classic rock, Motown, and Comanche

hymns. She loved to dance and had a comedic gift about her spirit to where she was the funniest person in any room and most importantly she loved her kids and grandkids dearly, especially her tsaa-tsaa, her great granddaughter.

Anthony, Samantha, Sara, Gracie, Micheal (Bo), Becky, Willard, Justine, Chrystal, Sharron, Vanessa, Bubba G. and many more cousins and other family members.

Tiddark is preceded in death by grandparents: Nipper and Cora Tiddark and John and Marie Carr; uncles: Buddy Tiddark and Timothy; aunt Babydoll Tiddark.

## Craig Eldon Cable



Courtesy Photo

**Cable**  
Craig Eldon Cable ("Craigy" "Squiggy" "Squirrel" "Craigy Mac") entered into eternal rest on December 22, 2024. He was born to John Robert Cable and Carlene Ataavich-Collins on September 11, 1984. Cable was a proud full blood member of the Comanche Nation.

Cable earned his GED and pursued a career in I.T. He went on to obtain a certification in Information Technology from Great Plains Technology Center in May of 2015. He was immediately hired into the Comanche Nation I.T. Department on June 1, 2015. He worked for the Comanche Nation for a total of nine years and six months.

Cable proudly served the Comanche Nation programs and employees. He also assisted in the live streaming and set up of the CBC Meetings, General Council Meetings, and The Comanche Nation Fair. Cable was also a beloved member of the Association of Comanche Employees (A.C.E). Cable had a calm and reassuring nature, which radiated throughout his whole life. He departed to his heavenly home suddenly, and his absence is felt tremendously by all whom had the chance to know him.

He is survived by his mother Carlene; he shared a beloved relationship with Kristine and helped raise her son DJ; siblings Christopher Cable of Camp 7 Cache, Oklahoma., Caleigh, Tyler and Taylor Collins of Carrollton, Texas; brothers and sisters Deon, Devon, Sean, Garrett, Geramey, Keenen, Keeven, Michael, Greg, Corey, Brandon, Geordon, Joey, Rebecca Tahchawickah, Amy, Shonda, Hannah, Amanda, Kasey, Kari, Kendra, Kalicia, Tanisha, Ginny, Gail, and Nicole; Aunts and Uncles whom he took as his moms and dads Donna, Tonyelle and Gary Unah, Steve and Darla Cable, Sue Kowena, Donnell, and Kent.

He is preceded in death by his father John Robert Cable, maternal grandparents Carl Eldon Ataavich and Carla (Tahah) Ataavich; paternal grandparents Vernon and Gloria Cable; aunts Geraldine Wermey, Arletta Wermey, Renita Cable-Maxey, Owenetta Ataavich Long and Norma Cable; uncles Dale Cable and Tony Cable.

## John Robert Cable (Robbie)



Courtesy Photo

**Cable**  
John Robert Cable (Robbie), was born on March 19, 1963, at the Lawton Indian Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma to Gloria Wermey Cable and Vernon Cable, Sr. Cable passed away December 25, 2024, at the age of 61 years old. He would have been 62 in March. He was a member of the Komah Memorial Church of the Nazarene in Cache, Oklahoma, and a proud member of the Comanche Nation. Cable attended Cache Public Schools and Graduated from Cache High School. He worked various job in and around Dallas, Texas and the Lawton, Oklahoma areas for many years before being disabled after a heart condition several years ago. Cable was an avid pool player and played in various pool tournaments throughout Lawton and other areas. He was also an avid sportsman he especially enjoyed softball and played for numerous local leagues as a catcher.

Cable is survived by one son: Christopher Cable; four sisters and their companions: Charlene and Pat Tahdoahnippah; Verna and Ron Burgess, Billie and Ken Kreger, Glenda and Joe Goseyun, and two brothers: Vernon Jr. and Carol Cable and Terry Don Cable. One uncle: George Wermey, plus a host of many nieces, nephews, cousins and other Cable family cousins and special pool friends.

Cable is preceded in death by his son: Craig Cable; Parents: Gloria Wermey and Vernon Cable, Sr., Josie and Bert Cable, Sr.; Brother: Tony Phillip Cable; Sister: Norma Cable Adame; Niece: Penelope Cable. Uncles: John Donald Jr. and Betsy Wermey; Aunts and Roberta Wermey; Gents: Peggy and Nick Tahchawickah, Sr. Jeri Wermey and Leatrice Wermey; Cousins: Nick Tahchawickah, Jr.; John Donald (Jutes) Wermey, III, and Grandmother Agnes Wermey.

## Frank Louis Oberly Sr.



Courtesy Photo

**Oberly**  
Frank Louis Oberly Sr., 81, of Norman, Oklahoma., departed this life December 26, 2024.

Oberly was born on March 22, 1943, in Lawton, Okla., to Eva Winnerchy Oberly and Acey Oberly Sr. He grew up in Walters and was a 1961 graduate of Walters High School, where he was the quarterback of the Blue Devils football team and led them to the state quarterfinals, the best finish in school history. Oberly later graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1965 with a degree in Business Administration and Accounting. His love for OU sports, especially football and softball, remained a central part of his life.

After graduation, Oberly moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where he worked as an accountant for three years. It was during this time that his son, Sean, was born. He returned to Oklahoma and worked for Wolf & Company Accounting Firm in Oklahoma City before founding his own firm, Frank L. Oberly, CPA, Inc. His firm provided accounting services to tribal nations, businesses, and organizations across Indian Country. Oberly operated his firm for over 40 years until his

retirement in 2014. The firm was a family business, with his brother Gary, hometown friend Edwin Akoneto, his son Sean, and his nephew Marty Seymour working alongside him among others.

Oberly was deeply involved in several organizations, including serving as a founding member of the OU American Indian Alumni Society, a board member for the OU Alumni Association, a lifetime member of the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA), and also as chair of the Episcopal Council of Indigenous Ministries.

Oberly was passionate about his Comanche and Osage heritage. He eagerly looked forward to setting up the Oberly Camp at the Comanche Homecoming Powwow every year and served on the powwow committee to ensure a memorable experience for all attendees. He also participated in his Osage traditions, dancing at the annual InLonSka as a ZonZoLi committee member and he served as a whipman in the annual June dances. Oberly served his people in tribal government as Secretary-Treasurer of the Comanche Nation, as Treasurer of the Osage Nation, and Chairman of the Osage Nation Gaming Commission.

Oberly was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, John Oberly and Sarah Petsemioie; maternal grandparents; Casper Tissoyo and Nellie Winnerchy and his father, Acey Oberly; his mother, Eva Winnerchy Oberly; and his siblings: Yvonne Wahahrockah, Jacqueline Seymour, Acey Oberly Jr. and Johnny Oberly Sr.

He is survived by his four siblings: Margaret Kelley, Martin Oberly, Gary Oberly, and Sara Oberly; and his three children: Sean Patrick Oberly, Jennifer Lauren Oberly Wolf, and Franklin "Hud" Louis Oberly Jr.

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# Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

## Message from the Comanche Indian Veterans Association's Commander



Courtesy Photo

### CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno

Greetings to the Comanche Nation. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Commander of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA). We had a very eventful year in which we participated in numerous activities throughout the year. I, and the Veterans of the CIVA look forward to serving you this next year. We provide Funeral and Memorial details, setting Military Headstones, Honoring Veterans, Home Visits (Curtailed due to the COVID epidemic), Co-Host Pow Wows, Assist Veterans as needed, Meet with Fort Sill Officers and other details as needed.

For our Assistance you can reach us at (580) 583-4082.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you this coming year.

### Roger Tehauno

Commander  
Comanche Indian Veterans Association

### CIVA Monthly Meeting

On January 2, 2025, CIVA held its monthly meeting in the CIVA Patriot Room. A call to order was conducted by CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno followed by a prayer from CIVA Secretary Dominic Pawlowski. CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno led the Pledge of Allegiance. Birthday blessings were given to CIVA Associate member James Czerniak and CIVA Auxiliary member Lisa Pawlowski. The evening meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary member Linda Tehauno.

After the evening meal, CIVA Veteran Lanny Aseperry and CIVA Auxiliary member Linda Tehauno presented A Quilt of Valor to CIVA Associate member James Czerniak in closing Aseperry shown the completed glass and door panels for the Patriot Room and thanked Intertribal Visions on the installation.

After all the presentations, CIVA Veterans conducted their monthly meeting as Old and New Business were discussed.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno birthday wishes to Lisa Pawlowski and James Czerniak.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Auxiliary member Linda Tehauno placing a Quilt of Valor on James Czerniak.



Courtesy Photo

Lanny Aseperry showing the completed work by Intertribal Visions of the window and door panels in the Patriot Room.



Courtesy Photo

### Funeral and Honor Guard Details

CIVA conducted Funeral / Memorial Honor Detail at the request by family members and the Comanche Nation Funeral Home on behalf of Ricky Arterberry, U.S. Air Force Veteran and Samuel Allen, U.S. Navy Veteran. During both ceremonies the military biographies were read as their flags were presented to the family.

The Honor Detail consisted of Veterans and Auxiliary members. The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA and the U.S. Navy flags, U.S. Air Force and the Comanche Code Talker flags were displayed.



Courtesy Photo

### In Honor and Memory of USAF Technical Sergeant /E-6

#### Ricky Devon Arterberry

Ricky D. Arterberry, served in the U.S. Air Force from 1984-2004 and retired as a Technical Sergeant E/6. He took his basic training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas and served his primary specialty in Physical Therapy and later designated as a Missile Maintenance Specialist. TSgt Arterberry and was deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. His duty assignments include 27th Special Operations Medical Operations Squadron, Cannon AFB, New Mexico and the 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Technical Sergeant Ricky D.

Arterberry was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal with two (2) Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal with two (2) Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with four (4) Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal with one (1) Bronze Star, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon with four Oak Leaf Clusters, NCO Professional

Military Education Ribbon with two (2) Oak Leaf Clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon.

The Comanche Nation, Comanche Indian Veterans Association would like to thank Technical Sergeant Ricky D. Arterberry for his service to God and Country.

### In Honor and Memory of Machinist Mate-Petty Officer 2nd Class /E-5 Samuel Steven Allen



Courtesy Photo

#### Allen

Samuel Steven Allen enlisted in the United States Navy on 30 April 1973 and served until 30 March 1977 earning the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class /E5. He took his initial (Boot Training) at the Naval Training Center (NTC) Orlando Florida and upon graduation he attended Machinist Mate (A)-School at the Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC), Great Lakes Illinois.

Upon graduation he was designated as a Machinist Mate who work on main propulsion on a ship. Petty Officer Allen served onboard the USS Roark (DE 1053) a Destroyer Escort homported at Naval Station, San Diego. He went on 2 Western Pacific cruises with ports of calls in Hong Kong, the Philippines, Fiji Islands, Hawaii and New Zealand. Petty Officer

Allen has a total Sea Service of 3 years, 4 months and 25 days. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and Cold War Letter of Recognition and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. It is noted he is a (grandson of combat wounded World War I Code Talker Samuel Tabbyosevit). The Comanche Nation, Comanche Indian Veterans Association would like to thank Petty Officer Samuel S. Allen for his service to God and Country.

### CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie



Courtesy Photo

Clara Yazzie pictured with Acting Duty U.S. Navy Service Member Mason Herrera.

CIVA is Honored very proud of our Princess and her accomplishments. She is very active in Supporting our Comanche Veterans, Native American Church and the Elgin Public Schools and their JOM Program.

What is very impressive is that she designs and makes ties & dresses as she was invited to the Riverside Indian School Annual Fashion Show. CIVA is fortunate to have Clara Yazzie as our CIVA Princess.

Keep up the good work!!!!



Courtesy Photo

Clara Yazzie in the Riverside Indian School Fashion Show.

### Comanche Veteran Spotlight

#### 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!



Courtesy Photo

#### Coffey

CIVA would like to thank Rusty W. Coffey for submitting his military biography and responding to the Comanche Nation Veteran information needed. U.S. Army (Spec. 4) Rusty Wallace joined the Army in 1990 and took his Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

He reported to his first duty station at Ft. Carson, Colorado in (1990 - 1992) with B-Btry-3/29 Field Artillery and later reported to Camp Casey, South Korea in 1992, with 1/15 Field Artillery. Rusty W. Coffey ended his time in service on December 07, 1992, as a Specialist (Spec 4, E-4).

His awards include: The National Defense Medal, U.S. Army Good Conduct Medal, U.S. Army Service Ribbon, M-16 Marksman Rifle, Hand Grenade Expert, U.S. Army Lapel Button. He is a Life Member and currently hold the title of Commander of VFW Post 5890 in Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

He is married to my lovely Wife Karen Coffey as they reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico. CIVA Commander, Officer's, Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary thank Rusty W. Coffey for his Service to God and Country.

**SONIA AND PATRICK ATTOCKNIE**  
**(580) 483-9326**

**Indiahoma Native American Club**  
**Indian Taco Fundraiser**  
**February 16, 2025**  
**IHS Auditorium**  
**11am-2pm**  
**Taco/Drink/Dessert**  
**\$10**  
**For more info**  
**Lena McClung**  
**580-699-4083**

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## UPDATE YOUR DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY

The Beneficiary form allows for you to choose the recipient of the remaining Per Cap and/or Elders funds that are allocated to you at the time of your death.

**Who can you choose?**

- A Spouse
- Parents
- Children
- Grandchildren
- Other Relatives
- Friends
- A trust
- A charity

**What happens if you do not choose a beneficiary and you die?**

The estate law of Oklahoma will choose for you. This will lead to a delay in the payment of any outstanding allocations of per capita or elders to your beneficiaries.

If you have questions about who to choose, contact your legal or financial advisor for assistance. If you would like to update your beneficiary designation information, contact Per Cap Assistance at **(877)585-4177**.

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**Kamakutu**  
Comanche Love

**happy Valentine's Day**

From the Comanche Nation PIO/News



# COME PLAY WITH US THIS FEBRUARY!



## COMANCHE NATION CASINO



## COMANCHE SPUR CASINO

### WANT TO GET AWAY GIVEAWAY



**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
FEB 1-28 • 7PM-11PM

7PM-10:30PM • DRAWING EVERY 30 MINUTES TO WIN \$100-500 CASH!

**11PM GRAND PRIZE DRAWING**  
**\$2,000 TRAVEL VOUCHER!**

RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 50 POINTS EARNED 8AM-11PM



### SWEET WINNINGS

**SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS**  
FEBRUARY 8-23 • 7PM-10:30PM

**DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES TO WIN \$100-\$200 COMANCHE CREDIT!**

**11PM DRAWING FOR \$2,000 CASH!**



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

**FEB**

## Burger of the Month

**VALENTINE BURGER**  
February Special: \$7

**COMANCHE BURGER CO.**

## 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