



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 4

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Tama Mra (April) 2025

Comanche Nation News  
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### Annual Meeting Resolutions Deadline to Submit April 11

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

With the Annual Comanche Nation General Council Meeting taking place on April 19, the deadline to submit resolutions is 5 p.m., April 11. If approved, the resolutions will be placed on the Annual Meeting agenda on a first-come-first-serve basis.

The tribal council retains the right to alter the order of the resolutions on the agenda via motion. The sole reason that a Tribal Council resolution will be excluded from the agenda will be the advice of counsel if the Tribal Attorney determines that a resolution is unconstitutional or unlawful, it will not be placed on the agenda.

The CBC and officers shall have no say regarding what resolutions are on the agenda.

As a reminder, constitutional amendments may not be proposed by Tribal Council resolution. Any such resolutions will be excluded.

Tribal Council resolutions recommending the CBC explore constitutional amendments or suggesting committees explore amendments without suggesting specific wording are permissible.

Resolutions must be submitted via email to [TCR@comanchenation.com](mailto:TCR@comanchenation.com)

### Two CBC Positions Available for Nominations at Annual Meeting

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Two Comanche Business Committee (CBC) positions are available for nomination, according to the Comanche Nation Election Board. The positions are:

- CBC No. 1
- CBC No. 2

Tribal members who wish to run for an elected position can pick up a Candidate Package from the Comanche Nation Election Board.

2025 Election Dates

- April 19 - Annual Meeting
- April 22 - Last day to request an absentee ballot
- May 16 - Early In-Person Voting General Election
- May 17 - General Election
- May 17 - Absentee Ballots due at Lawton Post Office by noon.
- May 20 - Election Certification by 5 p.m.
- June 13 - Early In-Person Voting Run Off Election, if needed
- June 14 - Run Off Election, if needed.
- June 14 - Absentee Ballots due at the Lawton Post Office by noon, if needed
- June 17 - Election Certification by 5 p.m., if needed

The Comanche Nation Election Board reminds absentee voters to update their mailing addresses to ensure the absentee voting ballots will be mailed to the correct address.

For more information, contact the Comanche Nation Election Board at (580) 581-9883.



Courtesy Photos



Digital images of how the Comanche Red River Hotel and Casino two pool additions will look when completed, which is estimated to be this summer.

## Comanche Red River Hotel Casino to Expand with Groundbreaking Pool Addition

Submitted by Alexa Hetzel/Comanche Red River Hotel and Casino PR

Comanche Red River Hotel Casino is making a splash with the addition of two new pools, enhancing the resort-style experience for its guests. Construction was set to begin March 11, and is expected to be completed this summer.

“Creating a relaxing and inviting atmosphere at Comanche Red River has been a priority for us,” Sterling Ticeahkie, general manager of Comanche Red River Hotel Casino, said. “A pool area adds another layer to the guest experience, giving visitors even more ways to unwind and enjoy their stay.”

The new pool area will feature expansive poolside seating, private cabanas and a covered patio with additional countertop seating. Guests can also enjoy furnished seating with tables, a dog run area and a space for lawn games such as cornhole and pickleball.

Both of the pools will be approximately 60 feet long by 19 feet wide. Pools will be open to guests of all ages, welcoming families to make use of the new amenities.

“These new additions are part of our continued commitment to enhancing the guest experience,” said Steven Doyle, CEO of Comanche Nation Entertainment. “We’re looking forward to welcoming even more visitors and providing a resort where they can relax, dine, play and stay all under the same roof.”

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

#### ABOUT COMANCHE NATION ENTERTAINMENT

Comanche Nation Entertainment operates Comanche Nation Casino in Lawton, Comanche Red River Hotel Casino in Devol, Comanche Spur Casino in Elgin, Comanche

Star Casino in Walters, Comanche War Pony Casino in Devol and Comanche Cache Casino in Cache. Its Comanche Travel Plazas, Smoke Shops and Quick Stops are located throughout Southwest Oklahoma.

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

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

**COMANCHE NATION GENERAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

- ▶ DOORS OPEN: 9:00 A.M. START TIME: 1:30 P.M. (IF QUORUM IS ESTABLISHED)
- ▶ WATCHETAKER HALL
- ▶ OPEN TO ALL COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS
- ▶ NOON MEAL

### First Tribal Member Serve in the U.S. Space Force



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Emilio Jesse Alfaro

The U.S. Space Force was established on December 20, 2019, under the Trump Administration. It is sixth branch of the Armed Forces of the United States. The U.S. Army was the first branch of the Armed Forces as it was established on June 14, 1775. Other branches include the Navy (1775), Marine Corps (1775), Air Force (1947) and Coast Guard (1915).

The Space Force has 9,400 uniformed personnel – the Army has the largest number of military personnel with 954,875 Soldiers.

There are 1,311 known Comanches that have served in military. The first and only known Comanche to serve in the Space Force is Sgt. Emilio Jesse Alfaro.

Sgt. Alfaro enlisted in the Air Force on January 2, 2019. He transferred to the Space Force on February 4, 2021, until his discharge on August 31, 2023. His military occupation was Cyber Operations Journeyman.

Sgt. Alfaro completed Air Force Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB, Texas. He then served, as a Cyber System Operations student, at Keesler AFB, Mississippi. After his training he served as a Weapons Systems Support Technician with the 83rd Network Operations Squadron (NOS) at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. He completed his military obligation, with the Space Force, as Network Operations Supervisor with the 21st Communications Squadron at Schriever Space Force Base, Colorado.

During his service he earned many accolades including the 83rd NOS Airman of the Quarter twice in December 2019 and September 2020 and the 688th Cyberspace Wing Senior Airman Below the Zone also in September 2020.

Prior to his enlistment he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Cameron University in 2018. While in the Air Force/Space Force he competed the Security+, Computing Technology Industry Association course, earned an Associate of Science in Information Technology at the Community College of the Air Force, graduated from the Airman Leadership School, earned two Masters Degrees in Business Administration and Information Technology from Western Governors University and earned a Project Management Professional Certification from the Project Management Insti-

See SPACE FORCE, Page 3



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## Government A Total of 14 Resolutions Presented at the March CBC Meeting

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

By **Jolene Schonchin/News Staff**

The Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoohnippah, called the February CBC Meeting to order at 10 a.m. A quorum was established.

### Resolutions:

**Resolution No. 35-2025-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1359 Minors. Ross Kahrahrh made the motion to approve. Diana Sovo seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 36-2025-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1360 Adults. Sovo made the motion to approve. Kahrahrh seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 37-2025-** Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1361 Does Not Meet Blood Quantum. Sovo makes the motion to approve. Alice Kassanavoid seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 38-2025-** Enrollment Resolution List 1362 To Remove. Jordan Fox made a motion to approve. Kassanavoid seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 39-2025-** Injury Prevention Resolution for Grant Application IHSP 2025. Kahrahrh made a motion to approve. Robert Tippeconnie seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 40-2025-** Law Enforcement Resolution for Dept. of Justice (DOJ) COPS Grant. Kahrahrh made a motion to approve. Sovo seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 41-2025-** Law Enforcement Resolution for DOJ SMART Adam Walsh Grant 2025. Sovo made a motion to approve. Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 42-2025-** Transportation Resolution for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Funds. Sovo made a motion to approve. Kahrahrh seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 43-2025-** Natural Resources Resolution for Tribal Community Resilience Grant Funds. Kahrahrh made a motion to approve. Kassanavoid seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 44-2025-** Natural Resources Resolution for Carry Over Funds. Kassanavoid made a motion to approve. Kahrahrh seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 45-2025-** Natural Resources Resolution to Purchase East Gore Property. Kahrahrh made a motion to approve. Sovo seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 46-2025-** CBC Resolution Regarding Constitution Day and Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Fox made a motion to approve. Kassanavoid seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 47-2025-** CBC Resolution Amending Election Ordinance. Sovo made a motion to approve. Tippeconnie seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

**Resolution No. 48-2025-** CBC Resolution Appointing Ad Hoc Subcommittee Regarding Elder Care. Kassanavoid made a motion to approve. Sovo seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.

### A Precious Gift

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Gifts Eagle Feathers to CIVA



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Tribal elder Lloyed Heminokkey Jr., Vice Chairwoman Diana Sovo-Doyebi, Iowa Tribal Councilman Abraham Lincoln, employees of the Grey Snow Eagle House, along with members of the CIVA, pose for a picture at the Iowa Tribal Grey Snow Eagle House in Perkins, Oklahoma.

By **Natascha Mercadante/News Staff**

On March 5, Comanche Nation received 25 eagle feathers from the Iowa tribe in Perkins, Oklahoma. Comanche Nation Vice Chairman Diana Sovo-Doyebi and Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) participated in Operation Feather Give, which promoted tribal unity.

"We're very honored to be here," she said. "Us and our veterans came to represent the Comanche Nation, and this is a very good step in the right direction, a positive direction for our tribes in Oklahoma. Many times, we're so busy doing our own things within our own tribes. This is

a good step to bring them together and begin to work together because we, as Native American people, must work together in order to survive.

The eagle feathers will go to veterans. "Maybe hand-to-hand combat veterans. They will be instilled to those," Sovo-Doyebi said.

She said she felt good about the day. "Thank good Lord God Almighty for giving us a fair trip, and everything that's going on is in a positive direction," Sovo-Doyebi said.

Lloyed Heminokkey Jr. led a blessing and prayer at the Grey Snow Eagle House.

**Comanche Nation Offices will be closed April 17 for an employee event, and April 18 in observance of Good Friday. Offices will re-open April 21 for regular business.**



## From the Chairman's Desk



*Maruaweka Numnumm:*

Our Annual Tribal Council Meeting is this month. Our government is one where the Tribal Council is the "supreme governing body." I look forward to the discussions regarding important issues such as the budget and whichever Tribal Council resolutions are brought forth. One of the Tribal Council's duties at the meeting is to nominate persons to hold office on the Comanche Business Committee. Good luck to all the candidates running! I hope that this year's campaign brings forth some great plans for our future.

Tribal Council members, please think long and hard about which candidates to vote for. The Tribal government is a complicated machine. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Comanche Constitution, and other laws and regulations all constrain how we can spend our tribal funds. Often, I hear people proposing ideas that would violate one or more of these constraints. For instance, people may propose taking money from a program and adding it to the per capita payment—to do so would violate the Revenue Allocation Plan and IGRA regulations. Or, conversely, I hear people propose taking net gaming revenue and using it for a program without first deducting the 40% that is required to go to the per capita payment. So, please evaluate candidates' ideas critically so that we do not vote for candidates that have platforms that are not possible in the first place.

In fact, as a Tribe, we do not lack for ideas of any kind. Tribal members frequently put forth all kinds of great ideas as it concerns new business ventures, program improvements, government efficiencies and the like. The challenge we face as a Tribe is not a lack of ideas, but instead a lack of manpower to plan for and implement the numerous ideas that are banded about. Currently, the Comanche Business Committee has one full-time employee, me. What will advance our Tribe the quickest is if the Comanche Business Committee members are all full-time employees, dedicating their entire efforts to the advancement of the Tribe.

Candidates that have tangible experience with Tribal government, with business, and with execution of actual plans will add the greatest value to the Nation. Above all else, the Tribal Council should prioritize voting for candidates that have a proven record of work ethic and integrity. When evaluating candidates, ask them about their work ethic and integrity. If they have been on boards or committees—how often did they show up? Did they volunteer to take on additional duties? Also, ask them about integrity—what is their record concerning disclosure and transparency? If we have CBC members with the irreplaceable qualities of work ethic and integrity, we will ensure that our Nation has a bright future.



### SPACE FORCE

Continued from Page 1

His awards include the Air and Space Achievement, Air Force Good Conduct, National Defense Service and Global War on Terrorism Service medals, the Air Force Noncommissioned Officer Professional Military Education and Air and Space Training ribbons and Air and Space Longevity Service Award.

Sgt. Alfaro is an enrolled with the Comanche Nation and also of Apache descent. His parents are Valentine "Al" Sr. and Lucille Alfaro, his grandparents are Espiridon "Sonny" and Christina KaudleKaule Herrera and his great-grandparents are Samuel KaudleKaule (full-blood Apache) and Wilma Chibitty Flores (full-blood Comanche). He and his wife, Ksenia, have two children, Emilio Jesse Alfaro Jr. and Naomi Celeste Alfaro.

Sgt. Alfaro serves the Comanche Nation as a member of the Comanche Housing Authoring Board of Commissioners and is a Board-member of Comanche Nation Enterprise. He owns Alfaro's General Contracting.

**JOHN TSOODLE**  
Owner

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**THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS**  
Tama Maa (April) 2025  
"New Spring Month"  
The award-winning *Comanche Nation News*, the official communication of the Comanche Nation, is available at no charge upon request. The deadline to submit information for the May Edition is 5 p.m., April 15.  
Contact:  
The Comanche Nation News  
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Lawton, Okla. 73502-0908  
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  - News items** of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
  - Photographs** will be copied and will become the property of *TCNN*. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
  - The Milestones Page** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. 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.

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To contact officials:  
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584 Bingo Rd., Lawton, OK 73505

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# Programs

## Child Support Announces Court Dates

CNCSP is giving a complimentary notification to publish the following Notice of Publications in the April 2025 Edition of the Comanche Nation Newspaper for:

- In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court
- Andrew Dryden: CNCSP-24-20; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Bobby Komahcheet: FP-19-116; Motion to Transfer
- Joseph Lorman: CNCSP-24-44; Petition for Determination of Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- Sheldon Tawkoxy: CNCSP-21-43; Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment

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 Hearings will be conducted in person.

## Police Dept. Actions for the Month of February

- Accidents/Vehicle 2
- Alarm activations 13
- Animal calls/bites 3
- Arrests 2
- Assist to agencies 12
- Assist to citizens 20
- Building checks 221
- Controlled dangerous substance 10
- Citations 13
- Counterfeit money 1
- Court service 3
- Court service transport 1
- Damage to property 5
- Domestic violence 8
- DUI 1
- EOD 5
- EMR 2
- Fire S/W 4
- Stolen vehicle 1
- Property check 92
- Public intoxication 2
- Funeral escort 12
- Recovered property 1
- Reports 88
- Suspicious activity 14
- Theft 12
- Trash dumping 1
- Traffic stops 10
- Trespassing 6
- Welfare check 6
- Minor in possession 1
- Sex offence 1
- Total calls for service 308

## Fire Dept. Incident Report February to Beginning of March

- 25 fires
  - 12 medical responses
  - 3 tree cutting operations
  - 2 motorist assists
  - 2 control burns
- Now with a total calls for January 2025 to current
- 34 fires
  - 25 medicals
  - 7 tree cuts
  - 15 EM assists

High winds and dry terrain have contributed to the prevalence of grass fires, necessitating active engagement. The Comanche Nation Fire Department collaborates with other departments to provide assistance to both the local community and our tribal communities, ensuring the safety of our tribal members.

**CHR NOTICE:**  
The new telephone numbers for the CHR Program are  
**(580) 493-3602 or (580) 492-3758**

## April 2025 Adult Education Student of the Month Anabah Werito



Courtesy Photo

### Werito

Anabah Werito is currently enrolled in the Emergency Medical Services program at Red River Technology Center, located in Duncan, Oklahoma. Werito plans to complete the course in May 2025, and hopes to pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians exam this summer.

Werito recently obtained her Emergency Medical Responders license in January 2025.

Werito's goal is to use her EMT license to help fund her college education, and she aims to obtain a master's degree in developmental psychology.

## April 2025 Higher Education Graduate Student of the Month Joshua Tahmahkera



Courtesy Photo

### Tahmahkera

Joshua Tahmahkera is a dedicated professional currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration at Gies College of Business, University of Illinois. He hopes to use the skills gained from his MBA to grow in his role as a Business Process Analyst and eventually transition into a more data analytics-focused position.

Outside of work and academics, Tahmahkera is a film enthusiast, vinyl collector, and avid comic reader. A proud University of Oklahoma alumnus, he also enjoys watching the Sooners and college football.

Tahmahkera finds inspiration in both data and storytelling and is always looking for opportunities to learn and grow.

## April 2025 Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Deja Tselee



Courtesy Photo

### Tselee

Deja Tselee graduated from Fort Cobb-Broxton High School in 2023. Tselee attends Caddo Kiowa Technology Center, where she is

enrolled in the Digital Marketing Design program. Tselee will be completing from the program this summer.

Tselee wants to thank her parents for always standing behind her, and she would also like to thank the Comanche Nation Higher Education department for their support.

## April 2025 Higher Education Undergraduate Student of the Month Tiffany McIntosh



Courtesy Photo

### McIntosh

Tiffany McIntosh is the daughter of Greg and Nancy McIntosh. Her paternal grandparents are Jack and Doris McIntosh, and her maternal grandparents are Jack and Virginia Gomez. McIntosh was born and raised in Lawton, Oklahoma, but currently resides in Medicine Park, Oklahoma, with her daughter, Sarrayah.

McIntosh is currently a freshman at Cameron University, where she obtained a 4.0 GPA for the Fall 2024 semester. She is pursuing a degree in Business Administration.

Her long-term goal is to continue serving Comanche youth as the Office Manager of Comanche Nation Youth Services and to start her own side business. She thanks Comanche Nation and the Higher Education Department for their continuous efforts in aiding students who want to further their education.

**Save the Date**  
Comanche Nation Higher Education  
*Graduation Banquet*  
**June 7, 2025**  
Time and Location: To Be Announced  
Scholarship recipients earning:  
GED, Long-Term Vocational Certificates, Associate of Applied Science, Associate, Bachelor, Master, and Doctorate Degrees  
RSVP: 580-699-7218

**APRIL 2025**  
**COMANCHE LANGUAGE COMMUNITY CLASSES**

- 07 & 21** APACHE, OK APACHE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
6 - 8 PM 111 EVANS AVE
- 07 & 21** CACHE, OK CAHOMA BUILDING  
6 - 8 PM 752 NW QUANAH RD
- 10 & 24** LAWTON, OK JAMES COX AUDITORIUM  
INSIDE DOROTHY SUNRISE LORENTINO EDUCATION CENTER  
6 - 8 PM 1608 SW 9TH ST

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# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

**APRIL 2025**

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

## Pihna'a Nookopu

Sugar Cookies  
**Ingredients**  
1 c. (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature  
1/4 c. packed light brown sugar  
3/4 tsp. Kosher salt  
1 3/4 c. granulated sugar, divided  
1 large egg, room temperature  
1 large egg yolk, room temperature  
2 tsp. pure vanilla extract  
1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. baking soda  
2 3/4 c. all-purpose flour, divided

**Directions**  
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, using a hand held mixer, beat butter, brown sugar, salt and 1 1/4 c. granulated sugar until light and creamy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add egg, egg yolk and vanilla, beat scraping bowl with a spatula, until combined. Add baking powder and baking soda, beat until incorporated.

2. Reduce mixer speed to low and add half of flour. Beat until only a few streak remain, then add remaining flour, beat until incorporated.

3. Place remaining 1/2 c. granulated sugar in a small bowl using a 1-oz. cooking scoop or 2 spoons, scoop dough into balls about 2 tbsps each. Roll half of the balls in granulated sugar (reserve sugar for remaining dough) and arrange on 2 parchment lined baking sheets, spacing at least 2 inches apart. Refrigerate remaining unsugared dough balls until ready to bake.

4. Bake, rotating sheets top to bottom after 7 minutes, until just tinged with golden brown edges, 10 to 14 minutes.

5. Let cookies cool 5 minutes.  
Cookies can be made 3 days ahead. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.

## Puha Snukni Cobbler

Peach Cobbler  
1 qt. sliced peaches (if fresh, add 1 cup sugar and let stand for 1 hour)  
2 t. baking powder  
1 stick butter  
2 c. flour  
2 c. sugar  
1 1/2 c. milk

Melt butter in 9 x 13 pan. Make batter: flour, sugar, baking powder and milk, drop into butter by spoonfuls. Add sliced peaches by spoonfuls. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1 hour.

## Roasted Eka Paapasn

Red Potatoes  
2 lbs. red potatoes  
2 tsp butter, melted  
1 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp dried thyme  
1/4 tsp pepper  
Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Using vegetable peeler remove 1/2 wide strip of peel for around center of each potatoes. Place potatoes in small roasting pan. Combine butter, salt, thyme and pepper; pour over potatoes turning to coat. Roast until potatoes are golden and tender, 45 -

## Kukame?awo Nohkopu

Skillet Bread  
Mix the following ingredients in a plastic bag:  
2 cups flour  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 tsp. baking powder  
1 tbsps. sugar  
1/4 c. nonfat dry milk

When ready to use, add 1 cup cold water and mix quickly and thoroughly in the bag. Spread dough in hot greased skillet. Heat on both sides until browned. Eat hot or cold.

**Clothing Word Search**  
Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

**ANSWER KEY:**

- KWASU (SHIRT/DRESS)
- PITSOKO (PANTS)
- NAPU (SHOES)
- PIAKWASU (JACKET/COAT)
- YU?AKOROKO (SCARF)
- PUITSA?NIKA (EYEGASSES)
- TSONIKA (HAT)
- PIHIBOA (SKIRT)
- MO?ONARU?SO (GLOVES)
- WANANAPU (SOCKS)

Answer Key to the Word Search is on Page 14

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**  
Comanche Reformed Church  
YOU'RE INVITED

JOIN US FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

SUNDAYS DURING 11 AM WORSHIP

Comanche Reformed Church  
201 NW Mission Blvd.  
Lawton, OK

Meet in the church parsonage at 11 AM

Children's Church is led by Kay Mopope 580-730-0945

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THIS SUNDAY!

- Bible Stories
- Games
- Crafts
- Faith-Filled Fun

**CAC'S 3RD ANNUAL POWWOW**  
NamuTabookahni Nahka  
SPECIAL INVITE TO ALL PRINCESSES  
SATURDAY, APRIL 19 • 4 PM TO 10 PM  
FORT SILL INDIAN SCHOOL

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- MC: Edmond Nevoquaya
- Head Drum: Larry Monessay
- Head Man: George Tahdoohnipoo
- Head Lady: J.J. Schonekin
- Head Little Girl: Daphne Tanequodde
- Head Little Boy: Tomi Hawk
- Arana Director: Freddy Bander

**Co-Hosts**

- Indahama Powwow Club
- Comanche Youth Dancers
- Riverside Powwow Club

**PROGRAM**

- 4 PM Grand Dance
- 6 PM Supper Break
- 7 PM Grand Entry

# IT'S TORNADO SEASON!

## Comanche Nation Emergency Management Offers Tornado Safety Tips

By Jolene Schonchin/Comanche Nation Emergency Management PIO

According to the National Weather Service in Norman, Oklahoma saw a record-breaking 152 tornadoes in 2024.

Tornadoes are incredibly violent events and sufficient warning is not always possible. People need to be ready to take shelter immediately. Tornadoes are violently rotating columns of air that extend from a thunderstorm to the ground. Tornadoes can destroy buildings, flip cars, and create deadly flying debris.

A tornado can:

- Happen anytime and anywhere.

- Bring intense winds, over 200 miles per hour.
- Look like funnels.

**If you are in a Tornado or Severe Weather Warning:**

- Go to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio and your local news or official social media accounts for updated emergency information. Follow the instructions of state, local and tribal officials.

- Go to a safe shelter immediately, such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar or a small interior room on the lowest level of a sturdy building.

- Stay away from windows, doors, and outside walls.

- Do not go under an overpass or bridge. You're safer in a low, flat location.

- Watch out for flying debris that can cause injury or death.

- Use your arms to protect your head and neck.

- If you can't stay at home,

make plans to go to a public shelter.

**Preparing for a Tornado**

- Know your area's tornado risk. In the U.S., the Midwest and the Southeast have a greater risk for tornadoes.

- Know the signs of a tornado, including a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud, an approaching cloud of debris, or a loud roar like a freight train.

- Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and NOAA Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts. If your community has sirens, then become familiar with the warning tone.

- Pay attention to weather reports. Meteorologists can predict when conditions might be right for a tornado.

- Identify and practice going to a safe shelter such as a safe room built using FEMA criteria or a storm shelter built to ICC 500 standards. The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room or basement on the lowest level of a sturdy building.

- Plan for your pet. They are an important member of your family, so they need to be included in your family's emergency plan.

- Prepare for long-term stay at home or sheltering in place by gathering emergency supplies, clean-



Courtesy Photo

**April 10th 1979, known as Terrible Tuesday. An F4 tornado hit Wichita Falls, Texas, traveled north, and hit the south area of Lawton, Oklahoma.**

ing supplies, non-perishable foods, water, medical supplies and medication.

**Staying Safe During A Tornado**

- Immediately go to a safe location that you have identified.

- Pay attention to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.
- Protect yourself by covering your head or neck with your arms and putting materials such as furniture and blankets around or on top of you.

- In a car or truck: There is no safe option when caught in a tornado in a car, just slightly less-dangerous ones.

- If the tornado is visible, far away, and the traffic is light, you may

be able to drive out of its path by moving at right angles to the tornado.

- If you are caught by extreme winds or flying debris, park the car as quickly and safely as possible -- out of the traffic lanes.

- Stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows; cover your head with your hands and a blanket, coat, or other cushion if possible.

- If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, leave your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.

- Avoid seeking shelter under bridges, which can create deadly traffic hazards while offering little protection against flying debris.

**Staying safe after a tornado**

- Pay attention to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, and local authorities for updated information.

- Stay clear of fallen power lines or broken utility lines.

- Contact your healthcare provider if you are sick and need medical attention. Wait for further care instructions and continue to shelter in place.

- Wear appropriate gear during clean-up such as thick-soled shoes, long pants, and work gloves, use appropriate face coverings or masks if cleaning mold or other debris.

**Shelter in Place**

- Manufactured or mobile home: Evacuate to the nearest shelter site.

- Get out! Go to a safe room, storm shelter, or sturdy building as soon as possible. Manufactured structures such as mobile homes are unsafe during a tornado.

- Take your go-bag and critical documents with you.

- If you are in a two or three story building or multi level building:

- Go to the basement or lowest level in the structure. If you don't have basement, take shelter on the first floor.

- Go to a small, interior, windowless room in a sturdy building on the lowest level.

- Take your go-bag and critical documents with you.

- **Additional Safety Measures** Take additional cover by shielding your head and neck with your arms and putting materials such as furniture and blankets around you.

- Go inside as quickly as possible. Bring any pets indoors.
- Do not enter damaged buildings until you are told that they are safe.

- If you are trapped, cover your mouth with a cloth or mask to avoid breathing dust. Try to send a text, bang on a pipe or wall, or use a whistle instead of shouting.
- Take your go-bag and critical documents with you. Listen for current emergency information and instructions from authorities.

For more information on tornado safety from FEMA, go to the website: <https://www.ready.gov/tornados>

## April is Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

*Parkinson's Disease is prevalent among Native Populations; Increases with age*

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Parkinson's disease (PD) is prevalent among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people, with studies showing a high prevalence and age-adjusted rates, particularly in certain regions like the Southwest, Southern Plains, and Alaska. Here's a more detailed breakdown:

- Prevalence:

A study of almost 2 million AI/AN people found that 2,613 had a diagnosis of PD, with a crude prevalence of 143.8/100,000.

- Age and Sex: The prevalence of PD increases with age, and the age-adjusted rate is higher among men than women.

- Regional Differences: There's a significant difference in prevalence by region, with the Southwest, Southern Plains, and Alaska regions having the highest rates.

- Navajo Population: Studies have shown that Parkinson's disease appears to be common among the Navajo people, with rates as high as or higher than rates reported in many other populations.

- Genetic and Environmental Factors: Genetic or environmental risks could contribute to PD among the Navajo, including exposure to metals and pesticides.

- Racial Disparities in Treatment: There are disparities in access to care,

care delivery, and the receipt of medical, surgical, rehabilitative, and palliative therapies for people with PD, especially for non-White patients.

- Further Research: Community-based studies are needed to define incidence, examine risk factors, and determine reasons for sex and regional differences in PD among AI/AN people.

**What is Parkinson's Disease**

According to the Mayo Clinic, Parkinson's disease is a movement disorder of the nervous system that worsens over time. The nervous system is a network of nerve cells that controls many parts of the body, including movement.

Symptoms start slowly. The first symptom may be a barely noticeable tremor in just one hand or sometimes a foot or the jaw. Tremor is common in Parkinson's disease. But the disorder also may cause stiffness, slowing of movement, and trouble with balance that raises the risk of falls.

In the early stages of Parkinson's disease, your face may show little or no expression. Your arms may not swing when you walk. Your



Courtesy Photo

speech may become soft or slurred. Symptoms get worse over time.

Although Parkinson's disease can't be cured, medicines may help symptoms get better. Sometimes a healthcare professional may suggest surgery to help control parts of the brain. This surgery may help lessen symptoms.

Symptoms Parkinson's disease symptoms can be different for everyone. Early symptoms may be mild, and you may not even notice them. Symptoms often begin on one side of the body, and then affect both sides. Symptoms are usually worse on one side than the other. Some Parkinson's disease symptoms are similar to those of other disorders.

Parkinson's symptoms may include:

- Tremor.

This rhythmic shaking usually begins in the hands or fingers. Sometimes tremor begins in the foot or jaw. You may rub your thumb and forefinger back and forth. This is known as a pill-rolling tremor. Your hand may tremble when it's at rest or when

you're under stress. You may notice that you shake less when you're doing some sort of task or moving around.

- Slowed movement, also called bradykinesia. Parkinson's disease may slow your movement, making simple tasks more difficult. It may be hard to get out of a chair, shower or get dressed. You may have less expression in your face. It may be hard to blink.

- Rigid muscles. You may have stiff muscles in any part of your body. Your muscles may feel tense and painful, and your arm movements may be short and jerky.

- Poor posture and balance. Your posture may become stooped. You may fall or have balance problems.

- Loss of automatic move-

ments. You may be less able to make certain movements that you typically do without thinking, including blinking, smiling or swinging your arms when you walk.

- Speech changes. You may speak softly or quickly, slur, or hesitate before talking. Your speech may be flat or monotone, without typical speech patterns.

- Writing changes. You may have trouble writing, and your writing may appear cramped and small.

- Non motor symptoms. These may include depression, anxiety, constipation and sleep problems. They also may include acting out dreams, needing to urinate often, trouble smelling, problems with thinking and memory, and feeling very tired.

According to the National Library of Medicine, Parkinson's disease is prevalent among AI/AN people. The prevalence increases with age, varies by geographic region, and is higher among men than women. Community-based studies are needed to define incidence, examine risk factors, and determine reasons for sex and regional differences in PD among AI/AN people.

For more information on Parkinson disease, go to the Parkinson's Foundation website: <https://www.parkinson.org>



### COMANCHE NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOT LINE

**(580) 919-1098**

### 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 Tieyah  
**(580) 678-2052 or (580) 492-5455**

**COMANCHE NATION PREVENTION & RECOVERY**

# ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

**This event is free and open to the community. All ages are welcome!**

## APRIL 12, 2025 11AM-2PM

### JANICE PEWEWARDY SOFTBALL FIELDS

### COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COMPLEX

Egg Hunt Categories:  
Ages (0-2), (3-5), (6-8), (9-12), (13-15), (16-19) (20-49), (50-61), Elders 62 and up, and Special Needs/Disabilities

**The Comanche Nation will not be liable for any accidents, injuries, or theft that may occur at this event. Drugs, alcohol, and weapons are strictly prohibited.**



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MENTAL HEALTH LIFELINE



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## MMIP. Red Rally!

### BENEFIT GOURD DANCE

April 12, 2025 3:00pm-10:00pm  
Comanche Nation - Watchtaker Hall  
Lawton, OK

**Head Staff**

**MC: Carla Whiteman (Cheyenne & Arapaho)**  
**Head Singer: Larry Monoessy (Comanche)**  
**Head Man: Danny Niedo (Comanche)**  
*In Honor of Elvira Niedo*  
**Head Lady: Melanie McClung (Comanche)**  
*In Honor of Mikayla Cozad*  
**Head Boy: Micah Large (Eastern Shoshone /Comanche)**  
*In Honor of Stanley Large, Jr.*  
**Head Girl: Nova Greeley (Comanche)**  
*In Honor of Steve Cable, Jr. & Lindy Zotigh*

**Cohosts: Esa Rosa Whitewolf Descendants & Comanche Nation MMIP Program**

**Arena Director: Bo Little Cook (Kiowa/Ponca)**  
**Security: Don King (Ponca) & Toma Stands (Oglala Sioux)**

3:00 pm: Gourd Dance  
 6:00 pm: Supper  
 7:00 pm: Gourd Dance Resumes  
 10:00 pm: Closing

*Aunties Concession Stand*      *Raffles & Cake Walk*

**Drug & Alcohol Free Event**  
 Arts & Craft Vendors ONLY!  
 Powwow Committee is not responsible for accidents or thefts.  
 For more info: Gen Hadley (580)678-2423 or Rena Sankadota (469)835-6629

## LEGAL AID CLINIC

FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS

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

PROVIDED BY GREAT PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES

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

### DATES

APRIL 2: 10 AM - 2 PM  
 APRIL 9: 10 AM - 2 PM  
 APRIL 16: 10 AM - 2 PM  
 APRIL 25: 11 AM - 1 PM  
 APRIL 23: 10 AM - 2 PM  
 APRIL 30: 10 AM - 2 PM

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

# Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy & Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

## CIVA Activities Funeral and Honor Guard Details

On February 27, CIVA conducted Funeral and Honor Detail at the request by the Poco family and the Comanche Nation Funeral Home on behalf of Leonard K. Poco, U.S. Marine Corps veteran.

During the ceremony, his military biography was read, and a roll call was conducted. The Honor Detail consisted of Veterans and Auxiliary members. The United States, Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, U.S. Marine Corps, CIVA flags were displayed. At the Cache KCA Cemetery Funeral Honors were conducted by the U.S. Marine Corps Honor Guard as Sergeant Poco flag as displayed by the playing of taps. His flag was later folded and presented to the family.

**In Honor and Memory of  
Sergeant E/S Leonard K. Poco  
Sunrise September 3, 1954  
Sunset February 20, 2025  
Interment at Cache KCA  
Cemetery, Cache Oklahoma  
February 27, 2025**



Courtesy Photo  
**Comanche Nation Elder Lloyd Heminokky Jr. explaining the significance of the prayer and blessing.**



Courtesy Photo  
**Comanche Nation Vice Chairman Diana Sovo-Doyebi thanking the Iowa Tribe. Pictured also is CIVA Veteran John McClung.**



Courtesy Photo  
**CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno thanking the Iowa Tribe and the Grey Snow Eagle House.**



Courtesy Photo  
**CIVA U.S. Marine Corps Veterans Combat Veterans Dominic Pawlowski and Stephan Ruiz collecting the Eagle Feathers.**

## CIVA Veterans Participates in Operation Feather Give

On March 5, CIVA Veterans and the Comanche Nation Vice Chairman, Diana Sovo-Doyebi traveled to Perkins Oklahoma, to meet with Iowa Tribal Officials at the Grey Snow Eagle House. CIVA Veterans and the Comanche Nation Delegation were given a tour and were shown Golden and Bald Eagles housed at their facility.

## CIVA Monthly Meeting

On March 6, 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 by CIVA Co-Chaplain Ramonah Davis. Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by birthday blessings and recognitions to Maj. Kent Tomah, CIVA

Auxiliary members, Elizabeth Plata, Cheryl Takawana and Fran Sapcutt. The evening meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary members Linda Tehauno and Betty Tippeconnie.

CIVA Veteran and Historian Lanny Asepermy conducted an Honors presentation to U.S. Navy Veteran Alene Stumblingbear.

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



Courtesy Photo  
**Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin and CIVA Auxiliary member Shirley Pohawpatchoko presenting a Grateful Nation Blanket.**

## Comanche Veteran Honored

U.S. Navy Veteran, Operations Specialist, Petty Officer 2nd Class Alene Stumblingbear was honored as she received a Quilt of Valor from the Washita Chapter of the Quilts of Valor. The Veteran Quilt is handmade for her dedication and sacrifice. CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary presented a Grateful Nation Pendleton Blanket, Honor Certificate, Honorable Service Medallion, CIVA Challenge Coin and a Gift Bag in the Patriot Room.

The CIVA Commander, Officer's, Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary would like to thank Petty Officer Stumblingbear for her dedicated service to God and Country.



Courtesy Photo  
**Alene Stumblingbear is presented a Quilt of Valor and a Certificate from Regent Kay Hagermann.**



Courtesy Photo  
**Washita Chapter of the Quilts of Valor with Alene Stumblingbear.**



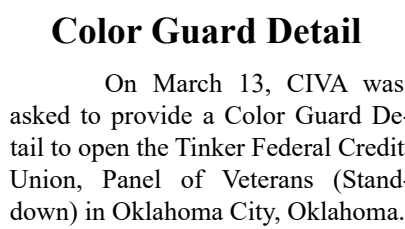
Courtesy Photo  
**Washita Chapter of the Quilts of Valor with Alene Stumblingbear.**



Courtesy Photo  
**Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin and CIVA Auxiliary member Shirley Pohawpatchoko presenting a Grateful Nation Blanket.**



Courtesy Photo  
**Alene Stumblingbear with her Honors Certificate.**



Courtesy Photo  
**Color Guard Detail**

**DENIM DAY**  
EST. 1999

In Honor of  
**Sexual Assault Awareness Month**  
The Comanche Nation FAC presents

*Denim Day 2025*

Wear your jeans with a purpose!  
APRIL 30, 2025 AT 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM  
WATCHETAKER HALL  
584 NW BINGO RD.  
LAWTON, OK 73507

In 1992, an 18-year-old girl was raped by her driving instructor in Italy. The instructor appealed the conviction in 1998, claiming the sex was consensual because the victim was wearing tight jeans. The Italian Supreme Court overturned the conviction, releasing the perpetrator. Denim Day is a campaign that takes place annually on the last Wednesday of April to raise awareness of sexual assault and violence.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A PRESENTATION ON  
SEXUAL ASSAULT IN INDIAN COUNTRY  
GUEST SPEAKERS  
AND REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW  
\*SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER OR CALL NUMBER BELOW\*

"I raise up my voice-not so I can shout but so that  
those without a voice can be heard...we cannot succeed  
when half of us are held back."  
- Malala Yousafzai

Presented by the Comanche Nation Family Assistance Center  
For questions please call 580-492-3590

Disclaimer: This product was supported by grant number 15DQW-21-GG-02362-TR18, awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this product are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Lil' Darlin's**  
HOME  
COOKING

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

# Elder Council Celebrates Mardi Gras in Style

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On March 3, Comanche Nation Elder's Council held a Mardi Gras party at Watchetaker Hall.

The night began with hymns, birthday celebrations and a meal from Lil' Darlin's.

Afterward, there was a balloon game, a dance competition and a parade to close the night.

Comanche Nation Elder Council Chair Rosalind Asetamy said they chose Mardi Gras because the organization didn't have a Valentine's Day party.

"In preparation, we had the committee and volunteers go to the Elder Council office, and we made masks," she said.

Asetamy said someone suggested they decorate Burger King crowns.

"That's what we made for the guys, but some of the women are wearing them, so that's fine," she said. "But yeah, we had a lot of fun, a lot of fun making those, and there are really creative volunteers that did excellent jobs."

Asetamy said it's important for elders to go out and be active.

"And a lot of them don't have family that take their time out of their lives to, you know, go and help grandma," she said. "And so, we plan these to get them out and to participate. Of course, not all of them will wear the mask, but that's fine. But they're here, and that's really our goal is to include them, have these little events. Kind of taking us back to childhood in a sense, but it's fun."

This was also Asetamy's first Mardi Gras.

"I've never attended a Mardi Gras, so this is my Mardi Gras first, but I know that today's weather has affected a lot of the elders," she said. "My mother did not feel up to coming...and my hands are killing me from the arthritis. But we're here, and this takes our focus off our pain, and we can enjoy the evening."

There were plenty of prizes as well for those who participated in the party.



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Nancy Alandzes participates in the Mardi Grass Line Up March 3 at Watchetaker Hall.



Brenda Soliz wins the ladies dance contest and shows her best dance moves at the Elder Council's Mardi Gras Celebration at the Comanche Nation Complex.



Richard Suminski relives his disco days on the dance floor at the Elder Council's Mardi Gras Celebration.



Verna Cable Burgess, Glenda Goseyun, Donette Peni and Sylvia Wermu dance their way through Watchetaker Hall at the Elders Council's Mardi Gras Celebration March 3, at Watchetaker Hall.



Ruth Pickup and Gary Tahmaka grab their partners for the Potato Dance.



Donald Chasenah prepares to pop his balloon in the Balloon Relay at the Elder Council celebration.



Elders participate in several line dances at the Elders Day celebration.

SPRING IS IN BLOOM

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COMANCHE NATIONAL MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS

# ONE DAY IN MARCH

**ON DISPLAY NOW!**  
MARCH 19TH - MAY 31ST

Marking 185 years since the significant and tragic event of the Council House Fight in San Antonio, Texas, learn about the Comanche perspective of an untold human dynamic in this historical event through Comanche oral history.

MARCH 19TH, 1840

701 NW Ferris Ave, Lawton, OK 73507 • (580) 353-0404  
Monday - Friday: 8AM - 5PM Saturday: 10AM - 2PM Sunday: Closed

## Comanche Nation Princess Honor Pow-Wow Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee Host Appreciation Pow-Wow

Story by Natascha Mercadante/ News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee, held her outgoing powwow on March 21, and March 22, at Watchtaker Hall.

She said being a princess had a lot of responsibilities.

"It's very responsibility-driven, but it's such an honor to be able to hold that position within my tribe," Tosee said.

However, the beginning was her favorite part.

"When we had the honor dance...and I found out I had won and I got crowned because right then I knew that I carried on my family's legacy of being Comanche royalty," Tosee said.

She said powwows had a special place in her reign and enjoyed meeting princesses from across the United States.

"My junior princess year, I was able to go to UNITY...and I have friends now, even as senior princess, that they're senior princess within their tribe as well, so, being able to meet a whole bunch of kids there, and that was in Minnesota," Tosee said. "So, from Minnesota all the way down to Oklahoma, I have friends all over the United States that are princesses as well and carried on their legacy, such as I did. So, to be able to build that connection and still have it to this day is really, really meaningful."

She said anyone who wants to be a Comanche princess should always be kind, open-minded and have a smile.

"Even if you're having a horrible day and nothing's going your way, maybe even though you won't see it as much, but a smile can change somebody else's day," Tosee said. "So, maybe they're having a bad day too, and that smile just changes their day."

She said her biggest support came from family and friends, especially her dad and grandma.

Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin, as well as royalty from across the state, attended the powwow.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee dancing across a Pendleton blanket which was to be given away during her special at her honor pow-wow held in Watchtaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee during her special while holding \$1,000 which was placed on the drum at her honor pow-wow.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Youth Dancers serving as Co-host for the youth pow-wow sponsored by Bluesky and her family.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee dancing with Bubba Sovo, who served as the head singer for youth pow-wow sponsored by Bluesky and her family.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Morgan Tosee emotionally addresses the crowd in honor of his granddaughter, Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee, at her honor pow-wow held at Watchtaker Hall.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee stands with her Great Grandmother, Tommy Leader, during her special at the Comanche Nation Complex on March 22 during her honor powwow.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee and Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin enjoy a day of dancing at the honor pow-wow for Bluesky Tosee.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Bluesky Tosee dancing with honored veteran Lanny Asepermy and his wife Shelly along with the Tu-wee dancer which was danced on his behalf at Watchtaker Hall during her honor pow-wow.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

The family of Bluesky Tosee being honored during her honor pow-wow held at Watchtaker Hall. Pictured from left: Donald Tosee, Jamie Lynn Tosee Hamilton, Tommy Leader and Lynn Tosee.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Girls of all ages enjoyed sharing a dance with the Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee.

# COME PLAY WITH US THIS APRIL!



## JOYRIDE

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS  
APRIL 4-MAY 24  
7PM-11PM

WIN UP TO \$150 COMANCHE CREDIT OR \$100 CASH! 11PM WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A GRAND PRIZE FINALIST SPOT! EARN DOUBLE ENTRIES ON TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS!



**GRAND PRIZE MONDAY, MAY 26 • 9PM**



WIN UP TO \$2,000 COMANCHE CREDIT FOR 2ND-5TH PLACE OR THE GRAND PRIZE OF THE CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 & BOAT!

Receive 1 entry for every 100 points earned. Management reserves all rights. Photo of truck & boat may slightly differ from actual prize.

## IT'S RAINING MONEY

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS  
APRIL 4-26  
7PM-MIDNIGHT

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RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 30 POINTS EARNED 10AM-MIDNIGHT.

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COMANCHE BURGER CO.

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APRIL 1-MAY 1 • 10AM-11PM

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# People, Places and Things Happening

### Exclusive Screening of Freedom for Leonard Peltier: A Celebration of Justice

The film, "Freedom for Leonard Peltier: A Celebration of Justice," will be shown from 3 p.m. - 9 p.m., May 9, at the Comanche Nation Complex's Watchtaker Hall.

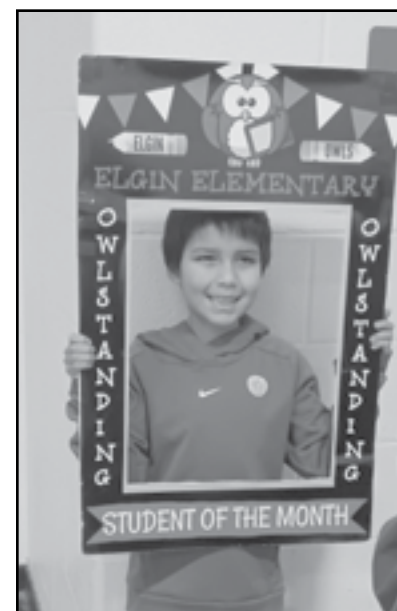
Members of the Comanche Nation are invited for an enlightening evening to raise awareness about the case of Leonard Peltier and the significance of his release.

Special guests are David Hill, who will be the Keynote Speaker, and Jhane Myers, a member of the Comanche Nation and producer.

- The Schedule of events
- Educational discussions
- Comanche tribal speakers and singers
- Music
- Dinner will be served
- Exclusive Screening: Free Leonard Peltier

Due to the production company, the movie screening is only for members of the Comanche Nation.

### Jovi Owens Student of the Week at Elgin Schools



Owens

On February 24, Jovi Owens was named Student of the Month at Elgin Upper Elementary School, and it was on his ninth birthday.

He is the son of William Owens and Adrienne Roughface.

### Sister Athletes in Dallas, Texas



Pahcheka Ybarra Sisters Basketball (Left - Christina/ Right - Leah)



Leah Isabella Pahcheka Ybarra Softball



Christina Pahcheka Ybarra Wrestling

Christina Elizabeth Pahcheka Ybarra (18) and Leah Isabella Pahcheka Ybarra (17) are students at Sunset High School in Dallas, Texas.

They are the daughters of Christopher Pahcheka Ybarra and Leticia Rangel, the granddaughters of Arturo Vargas Ybarra and Sonia Lyn Pahcheka, the great-granddaughters of Elton Pahcheka Jr. of Cache, Oklahoma, and Betty Chappabity Pahcheka of Indianola, Oklahoma.

They are also fourth-generation descendants of Quanah Parker, the last Chief of the Comanche Nation.

Christina and Leah have been distinguished athletes since elementary school. Christina and Leah have earned letters in volleyball, basketball, track and field, golf, softball, and wrestling since their freshman year. This year, their Lady Bisons basketball team finished second in the district, and Christina won the district championship in wrestling. She will graduate this spring and has accepted a wrestling scholarship to Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas for the fall. Leah will begin her senior year in the fall and begin planning her college journey.

Christina and Leah are active members of the Dallas Indian Mission United Methodist Church, where they participate in hymn singing, cultural exhibitions, community events, and powwows. Proud members of the Comanche Nation, embody the values of love, respect, resilience, and the warrior spirit, representing our people with honor in all they do.

**Petarsy Church**  
Free Men's Breakfast & Fellowship  
8 a.m.  
the 2nd Saturday of the Month  
266 Little Bear Loop,  
Richard's Spur



**Comanche Reformed Church**  
Hymn Singing  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
May 13  
201 NW Mission Blvd., Lawton  
Everyone is welcome.



Courtesy Photo

**10,000 VIEWS.** The Comanche Nation Youth Dancers performed at the Paycom Center in Oklahoma City, home of the Oklahoma City Thunder Basketball Team. They were the "Highlight of Halftime" during the Oklahoma City Blue Basketball game on March 7. Over 30 participants demonstrated the Comanche Snake Dance, Buffalo Dance and Intertribal Dances. The Facebook views of their performance hit over 10,000. The Comanche Nation Youth Dancers are made up of children from different tribal affiliation and ages. Teresa Lopez is the coordinator of the group.

YOUR LIFE IS SACRED.  
DIAL 988.

**ELGIN JOM 2ND ANNUAL SPRING POWWOW**  
HS GYM 520 I STREET ELGIN, OK 73501

04 MONTH 12 DAY 25 YEAR

MC Lloyd Heminokky  
HS Robert Tahauno  
HM Ben Chasenah  
HL Kendra Tosee  
HLB Amaras Karty  
HLG Bella Hilliard  
AD Hennie Yazzie, Ashley Kerchee  
Security Jim Wade  
Color Guard Riverside School

1pm-10PM  
Contest Coordinator Lynn Schonchin  
\*\*\* Give aways optional \*\*\*  
Co-Host Indianola Native American Club  
2025/2026 Royalty Will be Announced

1-5 PM Gourd Dance  
5-6 PM Supper Break  
6 PM Grand Entry  
7 PM Seniors 2025 Honoring  
Honoring Elgin Graduating Native American Students Class Of 2025

Girls/Teen Girls 8-17 Combined Sponsored by Kat Churchhill  
Appique Contest Sponsored by Forrest & Brianna Tahdoohinppah  
Straight Dance "School Age" Sponsored by Ann Quis Quis

Tiny Tots 0-7 yrs Sponsored  
Camellie Yasl Wetselline & Coleman Americanhorse In Honor of Joe Murphy Karty II  
Teen Boys Straight 13-17 yrs. Sponsored by Schonchin Family In Honor of Mojo Schonchin  
Men's 18+ Combined Women's 18+ Combined Golden Age Women 55+ Combined Golden Age Men 55+ Combined \$200 \$100 \$50

Vendors: Please call Don Tosse 580-447-109 \$25 Vendor fee  
RAFFLE 10x10 space MUST BRING YOUR OWN TABLE AND CHAIR NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFT, ACCIDENTS, OR INJURIES. Any other questions please call JJ Schonchin 580-583-2649 50/50

**LAWTON INDIAN EDUCATION PARENT COMMITTEE SPRING POWWOW**  
POWWOW STARTS AT 2PM SUPPER SERVED FROM 5-6PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME  
SUNDAY APRIL 6, 2025  
Central Middle School  
1201 NW Ft. Sill Blvd  
Lawton, OK 73507

Head Staff:  
MC Loui Pohawatchoko  
Head Singer Joel Motah  
Class of 2006 MacArthur High School  
Head Man Gourd Dancer Nathan Lopez  
Class of 2028 Eisenhower High School  
Head Man Dancer Cheyenne Pocowatchit  
Head Lady Dancer Mandy Zuniga  
Class of 1999 Lawton High School  
Head Boy Dancer Kade Vargas, Class of 2034  
Head Girl Dancer Lyfia Tehauno, Class of 2030  
Arena Director Corbyn Swift, Class of 2027  
Co-Host Corey Reeder  
Elgin JOM  
Anadarko Indian Club  
Cache JOM

Contests:  
Tiny Tots, ages 0-5, sponsored by LPS Native Clubs  
Jr. Boys combined ages 6-12  
Jr Girls combined ages 6-12  
Teen Boys combined ages 13-17  
Teen Girls combined ages 13-17  
Special Fancy & Women's Cloth  
Special winner take all hand drum contest, in honor of Russell "Russ" Cozad Jr, Class of 2010 Lawton High School

Recognition and Honor all LPS Graduating Class of 2025  
Honored Alumni  
Norman Clark, Class of 1991 Eisenhower High School  
Carla Whiteman, Class of 1980 MacArthur High School

ALL PRINCESSES & CLUBS INVITED  
SPECIAL INVITE TO LPS ALUMNI & STAFF  
Vendors welcome with a raffle donation.  
For more information contact,  
Frank Swift 580-695-4971.

# Milestones

## Happy Belated Birthday

March 25 - Mabel Johnson  
March 29 - Charlotte Ramos  
"Happy 26th Birthday from, your mom!"



Happy Birthday  
Ludociel Redbird  
April 3



Happy 1st Birthday  
Bentley James  
April 5



Happy Birthday  
Armando Zavala  
April 6  
~ Happy 25th Birthday Son!



Happy 15th Birthday  
Kade Komalty  
April 9  
~ Happy 15th Birthday Kaders, you are loved very much.

## Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday  
Karissa Dalby  
April 11  
~ Happy Birthday to you, my beautiful cousin! Love, Rachel.



Happy 16th Birthday  
Dalyiah  
April 13  
~ Happy Sweet 16th Birthday Dalyiah. We love you very much! Mommy and Ian.



Happy 10th Birthday  
Billy Fagan  
April 29  
~ We love you and are so proud of you! Love, your family.



Happy Birthday  
Natasha Pulesala  
April

April - Natasha Pulesala  
April 2 - Baby Sammy "Happy 1st Birthday! From, Gma Sheri!"  
April 3 - Ludociel Redbird  
April 5 - Bentley James  
April 6 - Armando Zavala  
April 7 - Samara Jones  
April 9 - Kade Komalty  
April 11 - Karissa Dalby  
April 13 - Dalyiah  
April 16 - Isabella Lujano  
April 16 - Sebastian R.R Perea  
April 20 - Rylen Furr  
April 23 - Lloyd Heminokeky, Jr. "Happy Birthday!! We love you so much!! From, your family!!"  
April 29 - Billy Fagan



Happy Belated 1st Birthday  
Mabel Johnson  
March 25  
~ Happy Late 1st Birthday Sweet Mabel, we love you so much!

The Comanche Nation News  
May Edition  
Deadline: April 15  
Email: stacey.heminokeky@comanchenation.com  
Mail: Comanche Nation/PIO  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73501  
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## Word Search Answer Key

From Page 5

**Clothing Word Search**  
Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?  
H U A S ? I K S O A ? E T U  
E T P A T O W U A P T U E R  
Y W M H I N A P U ? E T U P  
U U I O A U S K T I S U U S  
U W ? U ? P U T S O N I K A  
P E I A S O T ? H A E U I  
A P W A K I N ? A S T I U P  
N I I O W O E A ? B T K E I  
A A T T H I R R R H R U S H  
N K U ? S B U O T U E R U I  
A W M W I O ? W K A S Y R B  
W A H I R B K A N O M O I  
E S W U M I ? O U S U A I A  
T U S Y S I P A W O M O U I  
KWASU (SHIRT/DRESS) YUTAKOROKO (SCARF) TSONIKA (HAT)  
PITSOKO (PANTS) PUITSANIKI (EYEGASSES) PIHIBOA (SKIRT)  
NAPU (SHOES) MOTONARISO (GLOVES)  
PIAKWASU (JACKET/COAT) WANANAPU (SOCKS)

At daybreak on the first day of the week the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified, and rise on the third day." And they remembered his words. Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; the others who accompanied them also told this to the apostles, but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened.  
Lk 24:13-35



# RE-ELECT in 2025



# TRIBAL ATTORNEY & COUNSEL



Zane Anderson  
(Potawatomie)



Mike McBride III  
Chair, Indian Law & Gaming Practice



Randall Yates  
(Tlingit & Haida)



Logan Hibbs  
(Choctaw)

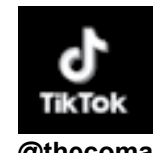
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The Comanche Nation News



TCNNPIO

- ✓ Ranked Band 1 for Indian Law by Chambers and Partners
- ✓ 2025 Benchmark Litigation Oklahoma Firm of the Year
- ✓ International Masters of Gaming Law Members since 2005
- ✓ Proven history of successes and victories for the Comanche Nation
- ✓ Strong protection of Comanche laws, businesses, language and culture
- ✓ Secured access for Comanche citizens to sacred resting ground of Comanche ancestors on Ft. Sill
- ✓ Won an injunction against Oklahoma on Comanche Tribal tobacco compact

\*Past results afford no guarantee of future results. Every case is different and must be judged on its merits.  
\*Crowe & Dunlevy provides no input for Benchmark Litigation or Chambers and Partners methodology. View information about the selection process online.

## Key Voting Dates: May 16-17



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918-592-9800

Dallas  
214-420-2163

Houston  
281-766-4607



# Obituaries

## Leonard Kirksey Poco



Courtesy Photo

nieces, and nephews; and special friends Rusty and Sylvia Johannes. Mihecopy is preceded in death by his parents; brothers Joe and Charles; nephews Gilbert, Kyle, and Joey Mihecopy.

## Asa Lee James Jr.



Courtesy Photo

Asa Lee James Jr. "Bull," departed this world on March 2, in Temple, Oklahoma. James was born to Asa Lee James Sr. and Marlene James on January 9, 1961, in Lawton, Oklahoma. James attended Cache Schools and graduated from Cache High School; Class of 1979.

James was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. James was a reserved person, whom enjoyed solitude. He loved to spend his free time fishing, hunting, and hiking.

James is survived by son Jacob James; brothers Mike Frickie, Gail Frickie, Chris James, Rob Asenap, and Chevonne Asenap all of Cache, Oklahoma; Timothy James of Walters, Oklahoma.

James is preceded in death by grandparents Carrie and Teddy Asenap; parents Asa Lee James Sr. and Marlene Joyce James; brother Ted Asenap and sister Lisa Wamak.

## Jo Neda Weryavah Sage



Courtesy Photo

Jo Neda Weryavah Sage, entered into eternal rest at home on March 2. Sage was born on May 7, 1949, to Andrew B. Weryavah and Geraldine Weryavah. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma and descendant of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe. She was also the great great granddaughter of Chief Quannah Parker and Sanapia.

Sage walked in obedience with her Lord and Savior; and was a member of Deyo Baptist Church. She attended school in Lawton and graduated from Lawton High School. She went on to attend Haskell Indian Nation University and graduated with an Associates Degree in Business. She met William "Bill" Levi Sage Sr. and they were married in 1985. Sage was employed with the Internal Revenue Service and retired after 35 years.

Sage was creative and expressed her creativity through decorating; she also loved gardening and listening to music (oldies and R&B.) She loved to collect art and built a collection of painted horse sculptures. Sage was proud of her culture; and was a champion buckskin dancer. She traveled across the United States to attend numerous pow wows. Through her travels she made life-long friends throughout the pow wow community and Indian country. Her greatest accomplishment was her family, she loved to watch them dance and carry on traditions. Sage was a matriarch; and

faithfully walked alongside her children and grandchildren as a trusted confidant and friend. Her absence is felt tremendously within her family and across the pow wow community.

Sage is survived by two sons; Bobby Rosas Jr. and Jessica Cable of Cache; Louie and Laura Sage of Ponca City; siblings Bert Weryavah, Sonny and Dana Weryavah all of Lawton; Phyllis White of Apache, Okla.; grandchildren Nicole, Tyler, Jordan, Makayla, Ricki, Whitney, and Catherine; six great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Sage is preceded in death by her parents; her husband; nephew Andrew Weryavah; and niece Jordan Weryavah.

## David Wayne Aitson



Courtesy Photo

David Wayne passed away on March 3, in Oklahoma City, where he had been in intensive care treatment following open heart surgery earlier this year. He had been ill for several months prior to being hospitalized for heart congestion. He had lived in Medicine Park for four years after moving there from Oklahoma City, where he had lived for much of his life.

He is survived by his mother, Claudette Geiogamah Narcomey and his step father, Clyde Narcomey of Medicine Park. Surviving brothers and sisters include Rae Saupitty, Clarence and Elsie Aitson, Joseph, Larry and Jr. Aitson. Aunts and uncles Margie Geiogamah, Robin Bledsoe, Lisa Diaz, Henry Geiogamah, Danny Geiogamah and Claude Geiogamah Jr. Other surviving family members include cousins Patrick Parker, Daniel Parker, James Antuna, Hope Long, Chris Long, Rochelle Moon, Dan-aht Geiogamah, Kirsten Geiogamah, Carrie Lnenicka, Mario Diaz Jr., Jose Diaz and Maisy Diaz, Joanna Castro, Travis Toipi and Iryon Poafpybitty. He is also survived by cousins and relatives who are members of the Poafpybitty family of the Comanche Tribe and the Aitson family of the Kiowa Tribe. Aitson was especially close to his cousins Charmagne Hood, her daughter Carly Cotter, and Marissa Hood. He was also very fond of his only nephew Daniel Saupitty Jr. whom he affectionately called "Sonny Boy."

He was preceded in passing by his father, Lavern Aitson, and his sister Diana Louise Aitson, and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Geiogamah of Anadarko.

Aitson was born on August 14, 1960, at the Kiowa Indian Hospital in Lawton and was raised in his earlier years in Oklahoma City. Aitson was devoted to traditional tribal music, singing and drumming and knew many old 49 songs. He was a student at Coneho Indian School and Riverside Indian School, among others. He proudly shared that he was the eldest grandchild of Claude and Lola Geiogamah and was especially devoted to his grandfather. He spent most of his childhood with his grandparents. He was loved by his whole family and will be greatly missed.

## Michael L. Blackstar Sr.



Courtesy Photo

Michael L. Blackstar Sr. went to his heavenly home March 5, with his children by his side. He made his lifetime home in Apache with his wife Lydia. He was a member of the Native American Church 1918 Charter. He was known by many names, the main one being "Midnight Mike" by his fellow peyote boys, "Daddy" by kids and "Pahpah" by all his grandkids.

He was born on July 6, 1952, at Comanche County Memorial Hospital to Thomas Sr. and Linda (Pahdopony) Blackstar. He attended Apache Public Schools, Elgin Public Schools and then graduated Chilocco Indian School in 1971, where he met his first wife Vivica Ava Pretty Weasel. From that marriage they had Michael Jr. and Lynda Darlene.

He enlisted into the United States Marine Corps in Jan 1972, in Oklahoma City. He shipped to basic training in San Diego, California and was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. He received the Rifle Expert Badge, and National Defense Service Medal when he was honorably discharged in Dec. 1977.

He later moved to Albuquerque, N.M., for BIA Law Enforcement training, where he met late wife, Lydia Margaret Lopez. On May 15, 1986, they married and from that marriage came Michelle, Ryan, Kimberly, Natalie, and Angelica. After residing in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a while they moved back to Apache where they made their home. He then worked and retired from the Department of Defense as a police officer. He was a proud Washington Redskins fan and lifelong supporter of the Apache Warriors Athletics, Apache.

He is survived by seven children: Michael Blackstar Jr. (Marites) of Yugo Guam, Lynda Darlene Blackstar-Whitecloud (Gary Jr.) of Redrock, Michelle Blackstar of Apache, Ryan Blackstar of the home, Kimberly Wakkinney (Stefan) of Elgin, Natalie Blackstar (Adrian) of Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico, Angelica Blackstar of the home, Brother Oliver Sr. (Della) of Ponca City, Sisters Carmela and Dorcus of Lawton, Special Brothers Larry Liles, Melvin Mithlo, Edmond Nevequaya, Special Aunts Ruth (Motah) Toahy and Ponka-we Victors-Cozad, Julene Gutierrez, and Uncles Wallace Coffey, Gaylon Motah, 21 grandchildren, seven great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents who raised him Oliver and Esther Pahdopony,

## Angel

*Tear drops, slow and steady, The pain so real and true, God took another angel, And that angel, dear, was you. Angel wings, upon the clouds, Your body softly sleeps, Hush now little angel, No more tears you have to weep. Little prayers are sent to you, The short life you led; Your family will never forget you, So rest your little head. I know God will look after you, Now you are truly alive, Your spirit soars beyond the moon, Your legacy will survive. You're beautiful, you're endless, Now stretch your wings and fly, You're loved by so many, It will never be goodbye. Close your pretty eyes, No more tears, just go and rest, Let your soul lie peacefully, We know you did your best.*

-Anon

Parents Thomas Sr. and Linda Blackstar, Brothers Tommy Lee Blackstar, Thomas Blackstar Jr., Sister Anna Rose Blackstar, and the love of his life Lydia Blackstar.

## Paula Lee Frederick



Courtesy Photo

Frederick Paula Lee Frederick, was born on August 16, 1960, in Fort Knox, Kentucky to George Frederick and Phyllis Apauty. Frederick went to be with the Lord on March 6, in Walters with her family by her side. She is a proud member of the Comanche Nation Tribe and a Kiowa descendent.

Frederick graduated from Walters High School in 1979 and then worked as a caregiver until her patients went to their heavenly home, she then worked at McDonalds in Walters from 2000 to 2006; She worked at Comanche Star Casino until 2024 and retired due to health issues.

Frederick loved being with her family, especially watching them play sports. She loved helping people, even if she didn't have it she would find a way to help them with whatever they needed. She was a very loving person to everyone. She loved watching WWE Wrestling, First 48, Storage Wars and Cooking Shows. Frederick was an avid Oklahoma University Sooner and Dallas Cowboys Football fan.

Frederick is survived by three sisters: Lorrie Frederick of the home; Patricia Shepherd(Elvis) of Ohio; Brenda Frederick(Cecil Sims) of the home; six nieces: Nicole, Stacie, Kristi, Cari, Debbie, and Lottie; two nephews: Shawn(Kiara Arceo) and Bob; great Nephews and nieces: Kirrah, Jaeden, Maisey, Mireya, Keenan, Amari, Treyson, Zaraya, Payton, Paige, Preslie, Sophia, Michael, Amelia, Nathan, James, Luke, Benjamin, Grant, Elaina and Natalie; one uncle: Roland Apauty(Ramona); one aunt/mom: Geraldine Gray; Special sisters: Ernestine Kopaddy, Cheryl Tahpay, Lauwana Woods and Diana Jones; Numerous cousins and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents: George (Fred) and Phyllis Frederick; sister: Debra Sue; brother: John; Grandparents: George and Ester Frederick, Vandal Apauty and Adaline Hahnee; aunts and uncles: C.V. Apauty, Velma Pohawatchoko and Calvin; Cora, Luther Pohawatchoko, Rhoda Mae, Jimmy Jack Tahpay, Eva Lois, Decker Kopaddy, Arnold, Rusty Apauty, Curtis Apauty and many cousins and friends.

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- Save for a down payment - This amount is a percentage of the purchase price. Example: A \$100,000 home and if you need 3%, then you would save \$3,000.
- Save for any upgrade or new home things you will need: For example, do you want to paint? Do you need a new washer and dryer?
- Set a budget for how much house you can afford. Don't forget to include homeowner's insurance, property taxes, homeowner's association fees, utilities. Just to name a few.
- Check your credit. A good credit history can save you money. If your credit needs some work, work on that. Pay bills on time. Bring past due bills current.
- Check and see what type of mortgage works for you.
- Compare rate and fees that are associated with the loan.
- Gather the documents you may need to provide the lender. Here are some examples: W-2s, Tax Returns, Bank statements, A list of what you owe
- Get pre-approved! This will be what you know you can borrow and how much house you can afford.
- Find a realtor. Make sure they have a good reference.
- Decide what you want (and can afford) in a house. The area you want to live.
- Look at homes in person. Online can't take the place of being inside the house.
- Get an inspection! You don't want problems to cause buyer regrets.
- Make an offer!
- Have good home insurance.

## Steve Mihecopy



Courtesy Photo

Steve Mihecopy "Steve - O" went to his heavenly home on February 27. Mihecopy was born to Virgil and Katherine Mihecopy on February 18, 1968, in Los Angeles, California.

Mihecopy attended school in Fletcher, Oklahoma, and graduated from Fletcher High School; Class of 1986. Mihecopy was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. He went on to attend Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology; he earned his certification in welding and auto body work. Mihecopy worked for Greyhound Lines Inc. from 1992-2025; he was the master body mechanic.

Mihecopy loved Nascar Racing and playing black jack. In his younger years he enjoyed hackey sack, rollerblading, bike riding, and hiking. He was a talented mechanic, and was passionate about his trade. Mihecopy utilized his knowledge and skill to convert buses into motor homes.

Mihecopy is survived by eight siblings; numerous cousins,

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