



THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Lords of the Plains

VOLUME 26 EDITION 3

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Tapookg Maa (March) 2025

Housing Authority Awarded \$6 Million HUD Grant and Awarded One-Time Funding for Down Payment Assistance Program

Submitted by Comanche Nation Housing Authority Staff

Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA), a Comanche Nation-affiliated organization that promotes self-sufficiency and provides affordable, safe and decent housing to low-income tribal members, recently received a one-time \$6 million grant from The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds will go towards the acquisition of 24 single-family homes to address the lack of affordable housing options for Comanche Nation Tribal members.

“We had 155 Comanche families on our waiting list for homeownership when we applied for this grant in August 2024,” Nora Sovo, Executive Director of CNHA said. “Today, that number has grown to 164 families. This grant enables us to acquire more homes to address this critical need for housing as we work toward our goal of ensuring every Comanche family has access to safe, affordable and quality housing.”

Out of 32 awardees, CNHA was the only one authorized for acquisitions. “Expanding our housing options means we can better meet the diverse needs of Comanche families and enhance all of our programs,” said Sovo.

The grant comes from HUD announcing a \$150 million investment toward affordable housing in tribal communities through the Indian Housing Block Grant (IDHBG) Competitive program. In total, 535 housing units across the U.S. will be assisted for the use of Native families.

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA) has set aside one-time funding to establish a Down Payment Assistance Program to help Tribal members achieve homeownership. The program is intended to increase the availability of affordable housing by combining CNHA funds with private first mortgages, making homeownership more accessible to a greater number of Comanche Nation families without service area restrictions.

“Our Board recognizes that owning a home is a foundation for financial independence and generational stability,” Sovo said. “With this funding, we can assist more Tribal members who may not qualify for low-income housing programs but still need support to overcome financial barriers in purchasing a home.”

The one-time Down Payment Assistance Program provides financial assistance to eligible Comanche Nation members 21 years of age and older who do not own a home. For those who qualify, assistance can be applied toward down payments, closing costs and other expenses associated with securing a mortgage.

Through the program, CNHA can provide funds to lower the first mortgage amount to an affordable level for the homeowner. Assistance is limited to 10% of the property’s purchase price, with a maximum grant of \$30,000 per homebuyer. The

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Comanche Cache Casino Reopens with Major Expansion and Oklahoma’s First Wahlburgers



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Cache Casino General Manager Brian Weryavah cuts the ceremonial ribbon to officially open the Comanche Cache Casino February 21. The casino is located at 16193 Hwy. 115 in Cache, Okla.

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On February 21, Comanche Cache Casino held its grand opening event.

The day began with the Lord’s Prayer performed by Comanche Nation Princess Bluesky Tosee and Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin. There was also dance demonstrations.

Comanche Nation Chairman Forest Tahdooahnnippah also gave opening remarks.

Comanche Cache Casino General Manager Brian Weryavah would cut the ribbon to the new casino.

“It’s huge. I mean...the anticipation for this property has been building for a couple of years. We’ve...put a lot of hard work, a lot of dedication, and to finally see everybody that came out to be a part of our grand opening was huge,” he said. “And it’s a testament to not only...Comanche Nation Entertainment, but also the Comanche Nation as a whole.”

Weryavah said it took a lot of hours and hard work to get the casino open.

“We put a lot of time and effort into getting us to this point and to finally see it come to life. And, you know, everyone showing up and just the excitement that’s been building up,” he said. “Our team members have been...talking about it for months, and for it to finally happen...I mean, I’m just overwhelmed today.” Weryavah said it was a learning experience working with many different companies and employees.

“It was exciting to open a

new property with everything being brand new and...getting to work with team members that I’ve never worked with before and also working with team members that, you know, that I have worked with before,” he said. “And then just all of our management team from my management team that’s on property to all of the other managers from all of our other properties coming together for this one goal in mind.”

Weryavah said the staff had made progress from the soft opening.

“And just the dedication of them being here for all of it...was a testament to how we’ve come together as a team,” he said. “It was also, you know, it shows the testament of all of the management team from other properties being here and working together. And personally, I mean...I want to thank all of them, all of our dedicated team members from Comanche Nation Entertainment as a whole. And then also...my family has supported me through...a lot of long hours of being here to make this happen. And then most of all to my people, the Comanche Nation has made this possible.”

Comanche Cache Casino unveiled an expanded gaming floor and new amenities as part of its phase two development.

“The reopening of Comanche Cache Casino represents a major step forward for our property, delivering more entertainment, dining and convenience to our guests,” said Steven Doyle, CEO of Comanche

Nation Entertainment. “The addition of Wahlburgers marks a historic moment for us as we introduce this family-friendly restaurant to Oklahoma for the first time.”

Comanche Cache Casino, located at 16193 OK-115 in Cache, Oklahoma, temporarily closed in February 2024 to commence its expansion. The re-grand opening will unveil a range of enhancements, including an expanded gaming floor featuring over 300 slot machines, a new open-air veranda and a convenience store and gas station, all designed to elevate the guest experience.

There was a meet-and-greet with actor Tatanka Means Then, at 6 p.m. on February 27, Wahlburgers hosted its grand opening and a meet-and-greet with Chef Paul Wahlberg.

About Wahlburgers

Founded by Mark Wahlberg, Donnie Wahlberg and Executive Chef Paul Wahlberg, Wahlburgers debuted in October 2011 in Hingham, Massachusetts. The subject of an A&E reality show, Wahlburgers offers a fun, casual and music-filled atmosphere where guests — like family — share great food, a few laughs and lots of love. While its walls celebrate the family’s story through photos and words of the Wahlberg brothers’ life journeys from Dorchester, Massachusetts, neighborhood kids to internationally recognized celebrities and a rising chef, the food at Wahlburgers takes

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Election Board Has Absentee Ballots Requests Available

Submitted by Comanche Nation Election Board

Because the General Council is coming up, the election board will have absentee ballot request forms available for tribal members to fill out beginning March 1 at the following places:

- Dallas Outreach
- Anadarko Outreach
- OKC Outreach
- Elder Center
- Comanche Academy

Tribal members can fill out the forms on-site and have them faxed (580) 492-3702 or emailed charlotte.niyah@comanchenation.com immediately.

Any questions please call (580) 581-9883.

Also, a reminder for tribal members to ensure that their mailing address is updated with enrollment to ensure they receive their absentee ballots on time.



Comanche Natgion 2024 Audit
Proposed FY26 Budget

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INSIDE

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Comanche Veteran selected to receive an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Missouri State University



Courtesy Photo

Asepermy

Dr. William (Bill) Meadows, Missouri State University, Department of Sociology-Anthropology and Native American Studies and author of the Kiowa, Apache and Comanche Military Societies and the Comanche Code Talkers of WWII, nominated Lanny Asepermy for an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Public Affairs. Dr. Meadows also serves as the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Historian and records keeper for our Comanche Veterans documents and biographies.

He will receive the doctorate degree in May during the University’s graduation ceremony.

Below is the Board of Governors of Missouri State University Citation:

“Senate Action Conferring Honorary Doctorate upon SGM (Ret.) Lanny G. Asepermy

WHEREAS, Mr. Lanny Asepermy has distinguished himself by his extraordinary contributions in the area of public affairs; and

WHEREAS, he served his country for 24 years in the United States Army and was awarded numerous honors including the Legion of Merit and two Meritorious Service Medals; and WHEREAS, his service to unrecognized veteran communities includes leadership roles in lobbying Congress for the Code Talker Recognition Act, becoming the first and only Native American Ambassador for the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame, fundraising and developing numerous Native American veteran monuments, and serving in leadership positions for various Native American veterans associations and color guards; and WHEREAS, he has served the university by lecturing in the MSU Honors program, participating in and helping with field schools, providing valuable historical documentation for research, and providing the opening ceremonies for the Smithsonian Institution Traveling exhibit “Why We Serve”; and

WHEREAS, he has distinguished himself as a historian, advocate, and leader;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Missouri State University, meeting on this fifth day of December in the year two thousand twenty four, recommend to

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THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS
Tapookꞓ Mṭaa (March) 2025
Cotton Wood 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 April Edition is 5 p.m., March 15.

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

PIO/TCNN Staff

- Jolene Schonchin**, Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com -Telephone Number-(580)492-3382
- Paula Karty**, Assist. Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com–Telephone Number–(580)492-3383
- Stacey Heminokey**, Administrative Assistant- Email: Stacey.Heminokey@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 Tahdoohnippah
Email: Forrest.Tahdoohnippah@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 Kahrarah
Email: Ross.Kahrarah@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 19 Resolutions Presented at the February CBC Meeting

Editor’s Note: This is an overview of the February 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.

Resolutions:

- Resolution No. 13-2025-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1356 Minors. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 14-2025-** Enrollment Eligible Resolution List 1357 Adults. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 15-2025-** Enrollment Ineligible Resolution List 1358 Does Not Meet Blood Quantum. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 16-2025-** Realty Resolution Werickah Allotment 489. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 17-2025-** Realty Resolution Werickah or Pahahbo Allotment 490. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 18-2025-** Realty Resolution Attocknie Allotment 533. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 19-2025-** Realty Resolution Renewal of Existing Natural Gas Transmission Line ROW. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 20-2025-** CNOEP Resolution for Grant Application to BIA Invasive Species Program. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 21-2025-** CNOEP Resolution for Grant Application to BIA Natural Resources Tribal Youth Initiative. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 22-2025-** Prevention & Recovery Resolution for Grant Application DOJ. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 23-2025-** Prevention & Recovery Resolution for Treatment Court. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 24-2025-** Prevention & Recovery Resolution to Contract Carlos Taylor. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 25-2025-** Resolution for Grant Application to Dept. Health Human Services (SAMHSA). The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 26-2025-** CBC Resolution on Tribal Identification Cards. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 27-2025-** CBC Resolution for Operating Transfer. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 28-2025-** Comanche Homecoming Resolution to Set Annual Celebration Location. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 29-2025 -** CBC Resolution Appointing Lisa Otipoby as Associate Judge. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 30-2025-** CBC Resolution Authorizing Vice-Chair as Temporary Shared Signatory. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 31-2025-** CBC Resolution Setting Stipends for Gaming Commissioners and Comanche Nation Entertainment Directors. The motion carries 6/0/0.

Motions

- Motion for Letter of Support MMIP Traverse Project Task Force Red Hand. The motion carries 6/0/0.

HOUSING

Continued from Page 1

funds will be awarded in the form of a soft second mortgage with no monthly payments, which is gradually reduced each year and ultimately converted into homeowner equity.

“Expanding access to homeownership strengthens our Tribal communities and empowers members to invest in their futures,” Sovo said. “This program is an important step in ensuring that more Comanche families have the opportunity to secure stable housing.”

The program will operate on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to the availability of funds. Non-low-income tribal members currently leasing a home owned and operated by CNHA are eligible to apply. Homebuyers will also be required to complete a CNHA-approved home-

ASEPERMY

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the Board of Governors of Missouri State University that the degree of Doctor of Public Affairs (A.P.D.) be conferred upon Mr. Lanny Asepermy at the Commencement Ceremony in May two thousand twenty five in recognition of his extraordinary achievements in the area of public affairs.”

“It is my honor and pleasure to recommend Lanny Asepermy for Doctor of Public Affairs, Missouri State University,” Dr. Meadows said.

“Lanny Asepermy is an incredibly dedicated and generous colleague. He is a mentor, counselor, advisor to Veterans and Non-Veterans. The Comanche Nation and CIVA are grateful to have a person such as Lanny Asepermy. He is very devoted and dedicated to better serve our Veterans and their families. He volunteered his time to help Veterans and surviving spouses file their disability claims, and direct Veterans to seek better health care.”

“Lanny Asepermy is very deserving of the Doctor of Public Affairs from Missouri State University, former

buyer counseling class to prepare for the responsibilities of homeowner-ship. Applications will open April 1 on CNHA’s website at www.comanchehousing.com.

CNHA also offers several other services to provide safe and affordable housing for Comanche tribal members such as their Homeownership Lease Purchase Program, Rental Program, Elder Program and Student Housing Program, among others.


The housing authority currently serves five counties in Southwest Oklahoma, including Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Kiowa and Tillman, for their federal grant programs. To learn more about their programs visit www.comanchehousing.com.

CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpat-choko added. “ His dedication and service to our Veterans goes un-noticed. Here are some examples:

- Recipient of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Hall of Honor and the Major General Douglas O. Dollar Distinguished Public Service Award.
- Served with the Oklahoma Military Heritage Foundation, Oklahoma Hall of Fame Ambassador-in-Charge and nominator responsible for induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame for the late Comanche Nation Code Talker Charles Chibitty, WWI & WWII Comanche Nation Code Talkers along with U.S. Army Staff Sergeant George RedElk, U.S. Army Captain Chuck Choney.

Publications: Researched and published over 400 military biographies of Comanche, Kiowa, Apache Nation veterans and non-Native veterans. Established Comanche Nation Patriot Room and Gallery on May 13, 2013.”

From the Chairman's Desk



Maruaweka Numuntuu:

One of the greatest powers the Tribal Council holds is the purse. It is the Tribal Council’s responsibility to approve the Annual Budget. To allow the Tribal Council to approve a budget, the Constitution tasks the Comanche Business Committee with the duty to prepare a proposal for the Annual Budget. This year’s proposal is complete and was the result of much hard work and many hours of deliberation.

This year’s proposal is going to look very different because of a campaign promise of mine that was very important—full financial disclosure. This year’s budget fully discloses all sources of funding a program receives—not just the funding coming from the Tax Commission or Net Gaming Revenue under the Revenue Allocation Plan (colloquially called the “RAP”). There is now a column that discloses the federal, state, and local funding (from any source, but usually from either grants or Public Law 638 contracts). There is also now a column that discloses income earned by the program, such as rent from land leases, fares from transit rides, income from tribal ID fees, or the like. Finally, another column discloses any indirect costs that a department receives (some departments like Property & Procurement or Finance are fully funded by indirect costs and thus have not previously appeared on the budget). The budget is also color coded to show which programs have indirect costs taken out of their budgets and which do not.

I hope that full disclosure fomenters more informed discussion. I do not want disclosure to sow any confusion due to the very different look of the budget. It is important to remember that most all of the budget numbers are projections—as we’ve seen recently, grants can be frozen or rescinded, and program income can dip. It is also important to understand that the indirect costs, program income, and federal grants are all funding that programs have always received. While this is the first time the Tribal Council will be fully informed, it is not the first time these programs or departments have received the funding. Slashing funding based on this funding would, therefore, probably be unwise as gaming revenue provides an important supplement to other sources of funding. However, I did want to disclose that revenue so that Tribal Council members may ask the important question of how programs use gaming revenue, and how they use their other revenue, to ensure that we are being as efficient as possible in spending your money.

Unfortunately, this year’s budget will once again be tight. Projections for gaming revenue are not significantly better than the current year, which is low. However, we do have some alternative sources of revenue. In 1976, we received a settlement and 20% of the settlement was invested. We previously used the interest to fund tribal operations, but have not for some years. That money is still invested and still accruing interest (along with other money invested from oil and gas leases). We can again tap this interest (without depleting principal) to help continue services at a high level. The funeral home has also generated income and we can use some of that revenue as well. However, no matter how creative we get, the fact remains that due to inflation and rising costs we will either have to reduce services across the board or cut some programs entirely. In order to discuss all these important issues with Tribal members, I plan on hosting several community meetings. I look forward to seeing you there.

CASINO

Continued from Page 1

center stage. Crafted by Chef Paul and served with heartfelt hospitality, Wahlburgers’ menu features a variety of premium burgers made with 100% Certified Angus Beef, house-made condiments, seared salmon, and other signature items such as The Super Melt, Housemade Chili, Bacon Mac N’Cheese, Parmesan Truffle Tots and housemade shakes. The restaurant also offers entree salads, vegetarian and gluten-free options. Wahlburgers’ full-service bar is also a popular gathering spot to enjoy delectable Adult Shakes, cocktails, wines and beers, including the signature Wahlbrewski – an unfiltered Pale Ale draft beer. Dedicated to giving back, Wahlburgers is active in every community it serves: The Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation, which aims to raise and distribute funds to youth service and enrichment programs, was established in 2001 by Mark and Jim Wahlberg, who are lifelong members and advocates of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Open daily, Wahlburgers offers full-service dining, counter service, takeout and a full-service bar. For locations and more information visit Wahlburgers.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 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 or follow the company on Facebook.

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COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
September 30, 2024
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (“MD&A”)
The Management’s Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of the Comanche Nation Governmental Programs Department (the “Department”), located in Lawton, Oklahoma, provides an overview and overall review of the Department’s financial activities for the year ended September 30, 2024. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the Department’s financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore, be read in conjunction with the Department’s financial statements and the notes thereto.
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
Total governmental net position increased by \$1.4 million, or 2% from the prior year. Net position classified as unrestricted represents \$39.3 million or 42% of the total governmental net position and may be used to meet the Department’s ongoing obligations to its Tribal members and creditors.
Total governmental assets decreased by \$3.9 million, or 3% from the prior year. This is primarily due to a decrease in cash and amounts due from other Comanche Nation entities, partially offset by an increase in capital assets.
OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
The basic financial statements presented include the Department’s government-wide and fund financial statements.
Government-Wide Financial Statements: The government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities present information about the Department as a whole, divided into the following activity:
<div><div><div>Governmental activities: Most of the Department’s basic services are reported here, including the general government, public works, education, public safety, public health and welfare, culture and recreation, and environmental management. State and federal grants, gaming revenues, and taxes finance most of these activities.</div><div>The Department’s government-wide financial statements are designed to provide a broad overview of the Department’s Governmental Program finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The statement of net position presents information on all of the Governmental Program’s assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position.</div><div>The statement of activities depicts how net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.</div><div>Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities).</div></div></div>
(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors’ report.)
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COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED
September 30, 2024
OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED
Fund Statements: The accounts of the Department are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, net position, revenues, expenditures, or expenses, as appropriate.
The Department uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.
Governmental Funds: Governmental funds are used to account for the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Governmental fund financial statements help determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Department’s programs.
Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances. A reconciliation is presented to facilitate this comparison between governmental programs department funds and governmental activities.
The Department maintains individual governmental funds separately. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the major governmental programs department funds. The major governmental funds are the General Fund, the American Rescue Plan Fund, the Highway Planning and Construction Fund and the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund.
(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors’ report.)
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COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED

September 30, 2024

GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net Position

Following is a comparative summary of net position as of September 30, 2024 and 2023:

	Government Activities	
	2024	2023
Current and other assets	\$ 72,669,017	\$ 77,858,029
Capital assets, net	45,638,429	44,338,424
Total assets	<u>\$ 118,307,446</u>	<u>\$ 122,196,453</u>
Current and other liabilities	\$ 24,212,390	\$ 29,451,977
Long-term liabilities	678,215	736,616
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 24,890,605</u>	<u>\$ 30,188,593</u>
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 45,525,484	\$ 44,158,933
Restricted	8,617,579	7,594,831
Unrestricted	39,273,778	40,254,096
Total net position	<u>\$ 93,416,841</u>	<u>\$ 92,007,860</u>

For the year ended September 30, 2024, net position for the governmental activities increased by \$1.4 million. The results indicate the Department improved its financial condition from the prior year.

Net investment in capital assets reflects the Department's investment in capital assets, less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. As of September 30, 2024, the net investment in capital assets amounted to \$45.5 million.

The unrestricted net position of \$39.3 million at September 30, 2024 may be used to meet the Department's ongoing obligations to its Tribal members and creditors.

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

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COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED

September 30, 2024

GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, CONTINUED

Change in Net Position

For the years ended September 30, 2024 and September 30, 2023 the net position of the Department's governmental programs department changed as follows:

	Government Activities	
	2024	2023
REVENUES		
Program Revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 1,014,997	\$ 764,868
Operating grants and contributions	25,350,370	37,083,443
Investment gain	752,781	346,823
Other	1,723,679	3,636,087
Total Revenues	28,841,827	41,831,221
EXPENSES		
Coronavirus relief	6,176,875	14,540,444
General government	26,049,243	24,117,627
Public health and welfare	10,385,838	11,928,469
Culture and recreation	3,582,935	3,833,868
Environmental management	500,387	265,857
Public safety	1,899,616	2,248,813
Education	6,749,096	6,590,536
Public works	2,911,988	2,495,373
Total Expenses	58,255,978	66,020,987
Decrease in net position before transfers	(29,414,151)	(24,189,766)
Net transfers	30,823,132	31,039,498
	\$ 1,408,981	\$ 6,849,732

The Department's governmental activities include a decrease of \$11.7 million, or 32%, in operating grants and contributions revenues and a decrease of \$8.4 million, or 58%, in Coronavirus relief expenses that were primarily due to decreased funding and expenses related to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Department's net transfers decreased by approximately \$0.2 million primarily due to decreased transfers from the Nation's gaming entities offset by decreased transfers to the Nation's Economic Development organizations.

(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors' report.)

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Continued on Page 6

Comanche Nation Schedules Community Meetings About FY26 Proposed Budget

A series of community meetings are scheduled to discuss the proposed Comanche Nation 2026 Fiscal Year budget. The meetings are:

March 5 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Comanche Nation Community Center of Walters 905 E. Missouri Ave. Walters, Okla.	March 25 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Watchetaker Hall Comanche Nation Complex Lawton, Okla.
March 11 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Cahoma Building 752 NW Quanah Rd. Cache, Okla.	April 3 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Oklahoma City Outreach Office 8014 N Western Ave. Oklahoma City, Okla.
March 18 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Comanche Nation Community Center of Apache 309 Julia Mahseet Rd. Apache, Okla.	

MEETINGS
<div><div><div>MAR. 1 - 10:00 A.M. CBC MONTHLY MEETING CODE TALKER CONFERENCE ROOM</div><div>MAR. 5 - 6:00 P.M. COMMUNITY MEETING WALTERS COMMUNITY CENTER 905 E MISSOURI AVE, WALTERS, OK, 73572</div><div>MAR. 11 - 6:00 P.M. COMMUNITY MEETING CAHOMA BUILDING 752 NW QUANAH RD, CACHE, OK, 73527</div><div>MAR. 18 - 6:00 P.M. COMMUNITY MEETING APACHE COMMUNITY CENTER 309 JULIA MAHSEET RD, APACHE, OK, 73006</div><div>MAR. 25 - 6:00 P.M. COMMUNITY MEETING WATCHETAKER HALL</div></div></div>
EVENTS
<div><div><div>MAR. 22 - 10:00 A.M. DALLAS OUTREACH GRAND OPENING 1261 RECORD CROSSING RD, DALLAS, TX, 75235</div><div>MAR. 22 - 2:00 P.M. COMANCHE NATION PRINCESS HONOR POWWOW WATCHETAKER HALL</div><div>MAR. 29 - 2:00 P.M. COMANCHE NATION JR. PRINCESS HONOR POWWOW WATCHETAKER HALL</div><div>MAR. 30 - 1:00 P.M. CHAIRMAN TAHDOOAHNIPPAH BIRTHDAY POWWOW WATCHETAKER HALL</div></div></div>
LEGAL AID
<div><div><div>MAR. 5 - 10:00 A.M. LEGAL AID CLINIC COMANCHE NATION COURTHOUSE</div><div>MAR. 12 - 10:00 A.M. LEGAL AID CLINIC COMANCHE NATION COURTHOUSE</div><div>MAR. 19 - 10:00 A.M. LEGAL AID CLINIC COMANCHE NATION COURTHOUSE</div><div>MAR. 21 - 10:00 A.M. LEGAL AID CLINIC COMANCHE NATION COURTHOUSE</div><div>MAR. 26 - 10:00 A.M. LEGAL AID CLINIC COMANCHE NATION COURTHOUSE</div></div></div>
UPCOMING MEETINGS
<div><div><div>APRIL. 3 - 6:00 P.M. COMMUNITY MEETING OKC OUTREACH OFFICE 8014 N WESTERN AVE, SUITE D, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK, 73114</div><div>APRIL. 5 - 10:00 A.M. CBC MONTHLY MEETING CODE TALKER CONFERENCE ROOM</div><div>APRIL. 19 - 1:30 P.M. ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING WATCHETAKER HALL</div></div></div>

Continued from Page 5

COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, CONTINUED
September 30, 2024
GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, CONTINUED
Change in Net Position, Continued
The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the Department. For the year ended September 30, 2024, the General Fund’s total fund balance decreased by \$0.1 million, or 0.2%.
CAPITAL ASSETS
Capital Assets: The Department’s investment in capital assets for its governmental programs department as of September 30, 2024, amounted to \$45.6 million (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization). The investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, and equipment.
ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
The economy in Lawton, Oklahoma and the surrounding areas appears to be stable due to the presence of Ft. Sill and other industries. The U.S. Treasury has provided relief in the form of federal grants in recent years to assist state, local and Tribal governments in dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic. Due to considerable uncertainty, management is unable to reasonably estimate the ultimate financial impact of the pandemic.
The Department continues to look for other opportunities in the business sector to bring additional funds to the Department to serve the membership.
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
This financial report is designed to provide our Tribal members, creditors, government and regulatory agencies with a general overview of the Department’s finances and to demonstrate the Department’s accountability for the money it receives. Questions about this report or requests for additional financial information should be requested from the Comanche Nation’s Treasurer.
(Unaudited. See accompanying independent auditors’ report.)
v

COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

September 30, 2024

SECTION I--SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS

Financial Statements

a. Type of auditors' report issued

Unmodified

b. Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weaknesses identified

None

Significant deficiency(ies) identified

None reported

c. Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted

None

Federal Awards

d. Internal control over major federal programs:

Material weaknesses identified

None

Significant deficiency(ies) identified

None reported

e. Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major programs

Unmodified

f. Any audit findings required to be reported in accordance with
Section 2 CFR 200.516(a)

None

g. The federal award programs tested as major programs include:

Federal Program or Cluster	AL Number
American Rescue Plan	21.027
Indian Higher Education Grant Program	15.114
Food Distribution on Indian Reservations	10.567
Indian Health Service Behavioral Health Programs	93.654
Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program	11.029
Formula Grants for Rural Areas	20.509

h. A threshold of \$760,511 was used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs, as those
terms are defined by the Uniform Guidance.

i. For the year ended September 30, 2024, the Department met the criteria to be a low-risk auditee, as
described by the Uniform Guidance.

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COMANCHE NATION GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS, CONTINUED
September 30, 2024
SECTION II--FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS
Compliance Findings:
There are no findings reported under this section.
Internal Control Findings:
There are no findings reported under this section.
SECTION III--FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
Compliance Findings:
There are no findings reported under this section.
Internal Control Findings:
There are no findings reported under this section.
Questioned Costs:
There are no findings reported under this section.
PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
Compliance Findings:
There are no findings reported under this section.
Internal Control Findings:
There are no findings reported under this section.
Questioned Costs:
There are no findings reported under this section.
12

MAKING TRIBAL CDIBS AN OFFICIAL ID. At the February 1, Comanche Business Committee Meeting, Resolution No. 26-2025 was passed to allow the Comanche Nation Enrollment Department to place a 10 year expiration date on all Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) cards issued to enrolled members of the Comanche Nation, effective the passing of the resolution. By placing this on the tribal IDs, they can be accepted as an official form of identification to non tribal entities and businesses. It further mandates the Comanche Casinos and Comanche programs to accept the new CDIBs as an official form of ID unless a federal grant or self determination states otherwise.
Comanche Nation Resolution No. 26-2025
COMANCHE
RESOLUTION REGARDING TRIBAL ID CARDS
WHEREAS, the Comanche Nation is a federally recognized Indian Tribe with a Constitution approved by the Secretary of the Interior of the United States on January 9, 1967, to safeguard tribal rights, powers and privileges to improve the economic, moral, educational, and health status of its members; and
WHEREAS, the Comanche Constitution, Article VI, Section 7(f), provides that the Comanche Business Committee has the authority to implement, administer, and report on progress of programs adopted by the Tribal Council; and
WHEREAS, the Comanche Constitution, Article VI, Section 7(g), provides that the Comanche Business Committee has the authority to appoint such subcommittees as are needed to develop proposals for programs or any other worthwhile endeavors, including delegation of authorities to these subcommittees; and
WHEREAS, the Enrollment Office currently issues identification cards; and
WHEREAS, the identification cards may not be accepted as a valid form of identification by some businesses or organizations due to the lack of an expiration date on the cards; and
WHEREAS, the Comanche Business Committee wishes for outside businesses or organizations to accept Comanche tribal identification cards, and therefore desires to mandate a ten-year expiration date on all cards issued after the passage of this resolution; and
WHEREAS, the Comanche Business Committee has received additional complaints that tribal programs and the Comanche casinos do not accept Comanche tribal identification cards, and the Comanche Business Committee wishes to mandate that tribal identification cards be accepted to the full extent possible.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Comanche Business Committee hereby directs the Enrollment Office to include an expiration date of ten years from the card’s issuance on all tribal identification cards issued after the effective date of this Resolution; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Comanche Business Committee hereby directs all tribal programs to accept Comanche tribal identification cards as a valid form of identification, unless a federal grant or self-determination contract requires otherwise; provided, however, that the acceptable forms of identification for employment purposes (e.g., those required by Human Resources and WIOA) shall be those required by applicable employment laws, and nothing herein shall be construed as preventing programs, for which residency restrictions apply, from asking for additional verification of home address (such as a utility bill) in the event a Comanche tribal identification card does not have a physical address or a question otherwise exists regarding residency; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Comanche Business Committee hereby directs all Comanche casinos to accept Comanche tribal identification cards as a valid form of identification, unless federal law or, in the case of alcohol sales only, unless state law requires otherwise; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Comanche Business Committee, acting for and on behalf of the Comanche Nation, does hereby authorize this Resolution for such intent.
CERTIFICATION
The foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Comanche Business Committee held on the 1 st day of February, 2025, at the Comanche Nation Tribal Complex, Lawton, Oklahoma, by a majority vote of 6 for, 0 against, and 0 abstaining, a legal quorum being present.
Forrest Tahdoahnipah, Chairman
ATTEST:
Diana Doyebi-Sovb, Vice Chair

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TIM JOHNSON

Owner

Phone: 580-291-3256 • Email: bigtim50@live.com

JOHN TSOODLE

Owner

1313 Van Kirk Mtn. View, OK 73062

tel. (580) 375.9602
tel. (580) 375.9766
redtipiplumbing@yahoo.com
www.redtipiplumbing.com

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L I C E N S E D & I N S U R E D



Eight Tribes Unite for Resolution to Support an Exemption of Native Nations from Future Suspension

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

On February 3, a total of eight tribes gathered at the Comanche Nation’s Watchetaker Hall to discuss and create a resolution in response to the Trump Administration’s January 27 memorandum (M-25-13) under which all federal agencies were directed that they must temporarily pause all activities related to obligations disbursement of all federal financial assistance pending further review and analysis by the Trump Administration. Although the memo was rescinded January 29, the tribal leaders felt it was imperative to remind the United States Government of its treaty obligations. Leaders from the Caddo Nation, Delaware Nation, Apache Tribe, Comanche Nation, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Ft. Sill Apache Tribe, Kiowa Tribe and Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes were in attendance.

From Left: Lawrence Spotted-Bird, Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe; Deborah Dotson, President of the Delaware Nation; Durell Cooper, Chairman of the Apache Tribe; Kelly Factor, Vice Chairman of the Caddo Nation; Bobby Gonzales, Chairman of the Caddo Nation; Matt Tselee, Vice Chairman of the Apache Tribe; Forrest Tahdooahnippah, Chairman of the Comanche Nation; and Tasha Mousseau, Vice President of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes.

Courtesy Photo

Resolution

of the

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma, Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Comanche Nation, Delaware Nation, Fort Sill Chiricahua Warm Springs Apache Tribe, Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, and Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco, & Tawakonie),

To Support an Exemption of Native Nations from Future Suspensions of Federal Funding Programs or Reevaluation of Services to Tribal Governments and Citizens

WHEREAS, the signatories to this Resolution are the leaders of eight sovereign Native Nations, whose nationhood predates the United States of America, which are recognized by the United States government, and which are guaranteed the rights of self-government, self-determination, due process, and equal protection under laws, treaties, and inherent sovereign rights; and

WHEREAS, since time immemorial our ancestors have been resilient in the face of continual attempts to undermine our identities, our families, our beliefs, our ways of knowing, our land bases, and our governments, and these attempts have been manifested in a variety of ways—including through federal law and policy—which continue today; and

WHEREAS, beginning with the first treaty between a sovereign tribal nation (the Lenape) and the United States--the Treaty of Fort Pitt in 1778—the United States has

failed abysmally in honoring these government-to-government agreements, which are the supreme law of the land; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with treaties and laws, it is established that the United States government has undertaken a trust responsibility to Native Nations and people that includes numerous and important obligations, including those to provide financial support for tribal governments, programs, and operations, for law enforcement and public safety, for health care, for housing, for education, and for economic development, among many other areas, and accordingly it must honor those obligations; and

WHEREAS, despite the overwhelming needs in Indian Country, the United States has never fulfilled its financial and other obligations to Native Nations and people, and specifically, Congress has chronically underfunded programs for tribes, including those provided through or under the administration of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, with the result that the federal government’s promises made to Native people have not been kept; and

WHEREAS, although the program funds, grants, loans, and other financial assistance provided by the federal government to Indian country fails to meet the overwhelming needs of tribes and their citizens, such funding nevertheless provides essential support for the ongoing services provided by tribes to their members, and without such funds many or most tribes cannot sustain many operations beyond the ongoing pay period; and

WHEREAS, since about January 23, 2025, tribal governments and tribal organizations that serve tribal citizens have reported encountering escalating problems with obtaining access to federal accounts, and including but not limited to having their access to federal payment systems shut-off; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Management and Budget of the Executive Office of the President on January 27, 2025, issued a memorandum (M-25-13) under which all federal agencies were directed that they “must temporarily pause all activities related to obligation or disbursement of all Federal financial assistance” pending further review and analysis by the Trump Administration of such financial assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, even though it was characterized as “temporary,” the pause or suspension of financial assistance programs caused widespread disruption of tribal operations—as well as fear and concern across Indian Country—because many or most

Native Nations faced the prospect of having to limit or suspend services and operations, and to lay-off personnel; and

WHEREAS, even though the directive suspending financial assistance programs was rescinded on January 29, 2025, by a subsequent memorandum (M-25-14), the signatories hereto believe it is imperative that we remind the United States government of its obligations to Native Nations and peoples, and that the treaties with tribes and other laws are indeed the laws of the land, and that the federal budget processes must adhere to and conform with those legal obligations; and

WHEREAS, it is further necessary to remind the United States government that the receipt of federal monies by Native Nations is not a policy initiative, but instead is rooted in our government-to-government relationship with the United States, as memorialized in treaties and laws and enshrined in the federal trust responsibility, as described succinctly in *President Reagan’s January 24, 1983, Statement on Indian Policy*:

“This administration believes that responsibilities and resources should be restored to the governments which are closest to the people served. This philosophy applies not only to State and local governments but also to federally recognized American Indian tribes.

When European colonial powers began to explore and colonize this land, they entered into treaties with sovereign Indian nations. Our new nation continued to make treaties and to deal with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis. Throughout our history, despite periods of conflict and shifting national policies in Indian affairs, the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Indian tribes has endured. The Constitution, treaties, laws, and court decisions have consistently recognized a unique political relationship between Indian tribes and the United States which this administration pledges to uphold.

... In support of our policy, we shall continue to fulfill the Federal trust responsibility for the physical and financial resources we hold in trust for the tribes and their members.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the signatories hereto urge the Trump Administration to embrace President Reagan’s Statement on Indian Policy, and to show respect for the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native Nations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signatories hereto urge the Trump Administration to recognize and acknowledge that Native Nations are governmental and political entities—not racial groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signatories hereto urge the Office of Management and Budget to issue a broad exemption for financial programs for Native Nations from any future federal funding suspensions or freezes, and that specifically would exempt all existing federal obligations to tribal governments and any accounts paying to tribal governments or entities created to serve tribal citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signatories hereto urge the Office of Management and Budget to implement a presumption that any federal funding committed or being paid to tribal governments or entities created to serve tribal citizens is a legitimate federal expense, and need not be the subject of any further justification or paperwork by any federal agency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signatories hereto urge the Office of Management and Budget to direct the immediate restoration of access—including through electronic accounts—to all federal payment accounts for tribal governments or entities created to serve tribal citizens.

THE UNDERSIGNED, as representatives of their Native Nations, have been authorized to sign this resolution as a statement of their respective governments:

 <div><div> Durell Cooper (Feb 4, 2025 16:42 CST)</div><div>Durell Cooper, Tribal Chairman Apache Tribe of Oklahoma</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Bobby Gonzalez (Feb 3, 2025 14:44 CST)</div><div>Bobby Gonzalez, Tribal Chairman Caddo Nation of Oklahoma</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Forrest Tahdooahnippah, Tribal Chairman Comanche Nation</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Reggie Wassana (Feb 3, 2025 14:41 CST)</div><div>Reggie Wassana, Governor Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Deborah Dotson (Feb 4, 2025 09:14 CST)</div><div>Deborah Dotson, President Delaware Nation</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Jennifer Heminoksky (Feb 3, 2025 18:35 CST)</div><div>Jennifer Heminoksky, Chairperson Fort Sill Chiricahua Warm Springs Apache Tribe</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Lawrence Spottedbird, Chairman Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>
 <div><div> Tasha R. Mousseau, Vice President Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco, & Tawakonie)</div></div>	<div>Feb 3, 2025</div> <div>Date Signed</div>


Comanche Business Committee Release

Proposed FY 26 Budget

PROPOSED FY2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE COMANCHE NATION					
COMANCHE CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 5, SECTION 6 (d) AND REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN 25 U.S.C.SECTION 2710 (b)(2)(B)(3)					
Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget					
Elder's Payment/Per Capita Payment		\$22,400,000.00			
Tribal Government		\$5,540,000.00			
Economic Development		\$13,421,500.00			
Community & Education		\$14,638,500.00			
Gaming Contribution Subtotal		\$56,000,000.00			
Other Contributions					
Investment Income (fka 20% Funds)		\$1,182,000.00			
Funeral Home Income		\$450,000.00			
Tax Commission		\$3,568,000.00			
Other Income (Program Income)		\$1,793,326.00			
Total Tribal Funds		\$62,993,326.00			
Total State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants		\$30,455,362.52			
Total Budget		\$93,448,688.52			
Investment Income (fka 20% Funds) Contribution		State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants	Other Income (e.g., Program Income)	Indirect Cost Contribution	Total Funding
Assisted Living Vouchers and Edith Kassanavoid Building Maintenance †	\$307,000.00				\$307,000.00
CBC Salaries (if Constitution amended) ¹	\$380,000.00				\$380,000.00
CRM/Digital Transition*	\$150,000.00				\$150,000.00
Emergency Management Direct Services*	\$220,000.00				\$220,000.00
Missing, Murdered, Indigenous People (MMIP)	\$125,000.00	\$236,793.00			\$361,793.00
20% Money/Investment Income Total	\$1,182,000.00				
Funeral Home Income Contribution		State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants	Other Income (e.g., Program Income)	Indirect Cost Contribution	Total Funding
CN Fair/Carnival*	\$350,000.00		\$34,620.00		\$384,620.00
Language Incentive*	\$100,000.00				\$100,000.00
Funeral Home Total	\$450,000.00				\$450,000.00
Tax Commission Contribution		State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants	Other Income (e.g., Program Income)	Indirect Cost Contribution	Total Funding
Bereavement Assistance	\$315,000.00				\$315,000.00
Chairman's Salary*	\$75,000.00			\$75,000.00	\$150,000.00
Child Support Services	\$0.00	\$916,755.00			\$916,755.00
Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA)*	\$60,000.00				\$60,000.00
Comanche Tribal Princess*	\$4,000.00		variable		\$4,000.00
Comanche JR. Princess*	\$4,000.00		variable		\$4,000.00
Comanche Nation Language Department	\$625,000.00	\$349,000.00			\$974,000.00
Comanche Little Ponies*	\$30,000.00		\$10,000.00		\$40,000.00
CN Homecoming*	\$50,000.00				\$50,000.00
Princess/Director Expenses (fka Comanche Fair Director (Anadarko Expo))*	\$5,000.00		\$1,000.00		\$6,000.00
Elder Council	\$120,000.00		\$8,000.00		\$128,000.00
Tombstone Project*	\$10,000.00				\$10,000.00
Church Donations*	\$110,000.00				\$110,000.00
Shoshone Reunion*	\$55,000.00		\$10,000.00		\$65,000.00
Transportation	\$100,000.00	\$8,400,000.00			\$8,500,000.00
Optometry/Prescription Assistance	\$1,300,000.00	\$553,380.00	\$5,705.00		\$1,859,085.00
Family Assistance Center-Women's Shelter	\$60,000.00	\$1,835,350.00			\$1,895,350.00
Diabetes/Fitness	\$460,000.00	\$979,400.00			\$1,439,400.00
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	\$185,000.00				\$185,000.00
Total Tax Commission Contribution	\$3,568,000.00	\$13,033,885.00	\$34,705.00		\$16,526,590.00
Comanche Nation Gaming Contribution Funds:					
Revenue Allocation - 40%					Total Funding
Elder Payment	\$3,454,000.00				\$3,454,000.00
Per Capita Distribution	\$18,946,000.00				\$18,946,000.00
Total Revenue Allocation	\$22,400,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$22,400,000.00
Tribal Government - 10%		State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants	Other Income (e.g., Program Income)	Indirect Cost Contribution	Total Funding
Administration	\$600,000.00		\$507,520.00	\$496,532.00	\$1,604,052.00
Tribal Administrator Salary				\$115,000.00	\$115,000.00
Finance Department				\$3,412,561.00	\$3,412,561.00
Property & Procurement				\$533,308.00	\$533,308.00
Human Resources				\$468,805.00	\$468,805.00
Maintenance	\$50,000.00			\$640,448.00	\$690,448.00
Research & Planning (Grants)	\$70,000.00			\$141,894.00	\$211,894.00
Compliance				\$104,883.00	\$104,883.00
Elections	\$425,000.00				\$425,000.00
Info Technology - Complex	\$500,000.00			\$589,311.00	\$1,089,311.00
Law Enforcement	\$2,600,000.00	\$715,000.00	\$6,870.00		\$3,321,870.00
Legal Fees*	\$440,000.00				\$440,000.00
Enrollment	\$460,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$4,033.00		\$504,033.00
Public Information Office (PIO)	\$395,000.00		\$9,969.00		\$404,969.00
Total Tribal Government	\$5,540,000.00	\$755,000.00	\$528,392.00		\$13,326,134.00


Continued from Page 8

PROPOSED FY2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE COMANCHE NATION					
COMANCHE CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 5, SECTION 6 (d) AND REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN 25 U.S.C.SECTION 2710 (b)(2)(B)(3)					
Economic Development - 24%		State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants	Other Income (e.g., Program Income)	Indirect Cost Contribution	Total Funding
New Business*	\$790,000.00				\$790,000.00
Capital Improvement	\$2,134,500.00				\$2,134,500.00
Tribal Court	\$600,000.00	\$1,040,770.00	\$25,886.00		\$1,666,656.00
Grasshoppers (Elders Lawn Mowing)	\$705,000.00				\$705,000.00
Comanche Residential Youth Shelter (CRYS)	\$734,000.00				\$734,000.00
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity (WIOA)	\$3,050,000.00	\$465,454.00			\$3,515,454.00
Job Placement & Training	\$620,000.00	\$644,985.00			\$1,264,985.00
Museum Gift Shop*	\$50,000.00		\$283,474.00		\$333,474.00
Museum/NAGPRA**	\$710,000.00		\$3,865.00		\$713,865.00
Cow/Calf*	\$120,000.00		\$43,257.00		\$163,257.00
Natural Resources (Realty)	\$500,000.00		\$108,871.00		\$608,871.00
Land Acquisitions	\$400,000.00				\$400,000.00
Transit	\$1,350,000.00	\$350,915.00	\$271,297.00		\$1,972,212.00
Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC)	\$658,000.00	\$1,161,713.00	\$423,991.00		\$2,243,704.00
Comanche Nation Housing (Elder Home Rehab)*	\$1,000,000.00				\$1,000,000.00
Total Economic Development	\$13,421,500.00	\$3,663,837.00	\$1,160,641.00		\$18,245,978.00
Comanche Nation Gaming Contribution Funds:					
Community & Education - 26%		State, Federal, or Local Funding/Grants	Other Income (e.g., Program Income)	Indirect Cost Contribution	Total Funding
Community Programs					
Burial Assistance*	\$800,000.00				\$800,000.00
Tribal Historical Preservation Program (THPO)	\$327,554.00	\$93,000.00	\$4,500.00		\$425,054.00
Caregivers/Angels	\$625,000.00	\$131,180.00			\$756,180.00
Gravel-Tinhorns for Tribal Driveways	\$485,000.00				\$485,000.00
Family Enrichment (formerly Child Care Subsidies)	\$242,000.00				\$242,000.00
EMS/Fire	\$410,539.00				\$410,539.00
CHR/Injury Prevention	\$341,407.00	\$800,000.00			\$1,141,407.00
Community Centers*	\$135,000.00		\$7,500.00		\$142,500.00
Elder Center	\$440,000.00	\$189,000.00	\$3,155.00		\$632,155.00
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	\$415,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$3,272.00		\$668,272.00
Indian Child Welfare (ICW)	\$410,000.00	\$282,587.00	\$2,200.00		\$694,787.00
Home Improvement*	\$1,500,000.00	\$3,816,479.52			\$5,316,479.52
New Pathways	\$125,000.00	\$205,000.00			\$330,000.00
Outreach-Anadarko	\$100,000.00				\$100,000.00
Outreach-Dallas	\$110,000.00				\$110,000.00
Outreach-OKC	\$125,000.00				\$125,000.00
Reintegration	\$195,000.00				\$195,000.00
Food Distribution	\$30,000.00	\$483,566.00			\$513,566.00
Social Services- Emergency Assistance	\$1,127,000.00	\$547,773.00			\$1,674,773.00
Vocational Rehabilitation	\$90,000.00	\$406,000.00			\$496,000.00
Prevention & Recovery	\$790,000.00	\$3,483,458.00	\$14,341.00		\$4,287,799.00
Sponsorships/Donations*	\$140,000.00				\$140,000.00
Education Programs					
Student Services (K-12) and Youth Program	\$1,850,000.00	\$52,500.00			\$1,902,500.00
Comanche Academy*	\$150,000.00	\$964,000.00			\$1,114,000.00
Higher Education	\$3,415,000.00	\$760,000.00			\$4,175,000.00
Adult Education	\$260,000.00	\$538,097.00			\$798,097.00
Total Community & Education	\$14,638,500.00	\$13,002,640.52	\$34,968.00		\$21,589,011.52
Total Gaming Contribution		\$33,600,000.00			
Tribal Government		10%			
Economic Development		24%			
Community		26%			
KCA Reinvestment 1/3 of \$300,000		\$100,000.00			
* = No indirect costs assessed					
** = Indirect cost partially assessed					
† = Conditional on review of committee of experts					
¹ CBC Salary \$70,000 for Officers, \$60,000 for Committeemen					

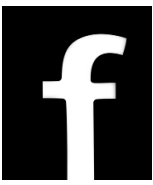


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SONIA AND PATRICK ATTOCKNIE
(580) 483-9326

Programs

Police Department January Service Report

- Calls for Service: 353 Total:
- Arrests: 2
 - Building Checks: 758
 - Controlled Dangerous Substance: 15
 - Citations: 7
 - Domestic Violence: 3
 - Emergency Order Detention: 10
 - Field Interview: 84
 - Missing Persons: 1
 - Assaults: 2
 - Reports: 104
 - Suspicious Activity: 20
 - Theft: 14
 - Casino Checks: 394
 - Welfare Checks: 9
 - Assist to Citizens: 40
 - Assist to Agencies: 29

Child Support Services Announces Court Dates

In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court:

- Dennis Jerman Jr.: CNC-SP-23-42; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Michael Zunk: CNCSP-19-12; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Michael Morales: CNC-SP-24-43; Petition to Register Order Under Full Faith and Credit

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 needs 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.

Adult Education Student of the Month Melanie Messner



Courtesy Photo

Messner

Melanie Messner is a descendant of Alice Pewo Miller. Her mother is Jackie Miller and her father is Donald Poafybitty and Louis Hutchens. Messner is a daughter, a mother, a sister, and an auntie. She has six children: sons Jay and Carl, Jr., and daughters Auhbie, Lashawna, Jayela, and EvahLynn.

Messner is currently a participant of Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery. The most rewarding part of her recovery has been reconnecting with her children, my family, and her people. She is proof that if you choose to love yourself and choose to walk the Red Road to Recovery, you can achieve anything.

Messner's goal was to obtain her CDL and she achieved that goal through hard work and dedication, as well as with the support of her family and many others working with Comanche Nation. Messner is a strong supporter of positively building up women and encouraging them to be the best versions of themselves.

Messner's future plans are to further advance her career in the truck driving industry, eventually becoming self-employed and opening her own business. Messner would also like to help encourage and mentor other tribal members to gain experience in the truck driving industry.

Higher Education Graduate Student of the Month Abigail Webb



Courtesy Photo

Webb

Abigail Webb, is the granddaughter of the late Donald Wermey III. Webb was born and raised in Northwest Arkansas, where she graduated from Bentonville High School in 2018. She then pursued her post-secondary education at the University of Central Arkansas, where she graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in Psychology in 2021. Soon after, Webb was accepted into the University of Central Arkansas' doctoral program for Occupational Therapy. She will graduate in August, and she hopes to work in rehabilitation with individuals with neurological conditions in the future.

Webb is extremely grateful to her family and friends, and to the Comanche Nation Higher Education Department, because she would not be where she is today without their support during her academic journey.

In her free time, Webb enjoys reading, walking her dog, playing games, and spending time with friends and family.



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche elder Mary Wade drops off her donation to the Riverside Indian School students on Jan. 25 at the Comanche Historic Preservation Office in Lawton, Okla. Director, Martina Minthorn, has 10 lbs. of buffalo meat in hand to give in exchange for the donation.

Riverside Indian School Students Receive Donations through Buffalo Meat Exchange

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On January 25, the Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Office held a coat drive for Riverside Indian School students in exchange for buffalo meat.

Historic Preservation Director Martina Minthorn said they were thankful for all the support from the community.

"It was an amazing morning just to see the excitement from everybody that came from far and wide to be able to help out," she said. "But also get the buffalo meat, and so it's just a beautiful experience for them to be excited to see about this food coming back into our community."

Minthorn said it was good to see everyone come and donate.

"So many people gave more than what was expected. And so, just to see all the hygiene items, all the hoodies, all the socks, hats," she said. "We've had some military, tribal members stationed here, so that was pretty cool for them to come through. And they brought so much to donate to these students, and so knowing that there's a need right here for these kids that come from across Indian country that don't have the support of family right here, so it's good to see everybody step up to the plate and help out."

Daniel Pewewardy, from

Wichita, Kansas, was one of those who donated and helped organize the donations.

"The reason we came down is because we feel that this is helping these kids now that attend these schools is a community effort, and... what I try to do in my life is when I see a need to help, and I just felt compelled," he said. "Because you know, like my dad was telling me when he was growing up, he would go, like when he went to boarding school, he didn't always have the clothes or supplies he needed, and so I just feel like this was a community effort that I felt I wanted to be a part of because I thought it was important. Because, given the history of boarding schools and what they have turned into now, I feel it's important for us to continue to help."

Pewewardy said the schools are now a place of opportunity.

"Where they weren't always like that, and when we have these places of opportunity that are intertribal for the whole community, I think it's important for the community to come together and help the kids as best we can," he said.

Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Arlene Schonchin was also at the drive to help.

Grand Re-Opening of the Comanche Nation Dallas Outreach Office



DALLAS OUTREACH

GRAND REOPENING

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- ELDER BLESSING
- OPEN HOUSE
- COMANCHE NATION & LOCAL RESOURCES
- FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
- FY26 BUDGET DISCUSSION
- GIVEAWAYS & RAFFLE

GRAND RE-OPENING

03.22.2025

AT 10:00AM - 2:00PM

LOCATION

1261 RECORD CROSSING RD
DALLAS, TX 75235

MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact (817) 876-5672 or visit www.comanchedallasoutreach.com



DALLAS OUTREACH

GRAND REOPENING

EVENT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Welcome

- Event Sign-In
- Welcome Bags
- Raffle Registration

10:30 - 11:00 AM

Reopening Ceremony

- Opening Remarks
- Elder Blessing
- Ribbon-Cutting

11:00 - 2:00 PM

Inside Texas Native
Health Community
Cultural Center
(Suite 1269)

Outreach Event

- Comanche Nation Programs & Resources
- Local Organizations
- Food & Refreshments

1:00 - 2:00 PM

CN Community Meeting

- Topic of Discussion: FY26 Budget

2:00 - 2:15 PM

Closing

- Raffle Winners
- Closing Remarks

For more information, contact (817) 876-5672 or visit www.comanchedallasoutreach.com.

Programs

Higher Education Undergraduate Student of the Month Christiaan Trapnell



Courtesy Photo

Trapnell

Christiaan Trapnell is pursuing a bachelor's degree in linguistics at UC Davis.

Trapnell is from the Rocha family and grateful to have their support during his studies. Trapnell would like to thank especially his grandmother for always being so proud of him.

Trapnell has a passion for language. After graduating he hopes to be able to work in the field of indigenous language revitalization, as he believes it is important to maintain language as part of our culture.

Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Alexandrya Tahdooahnippah



Courtesy Photo

Tahdooahnippah

Alexandrya Tahdooahnippah is a dedicated student pursuing a career in cybersecurity.

Tahdooahnippah is scheduled to graduate this spring with an Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Systems from Tulsa Community College.

Tahdooahnippah has been accepted into The University of Oklahoma's Polytechnic Institute to earn a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity.

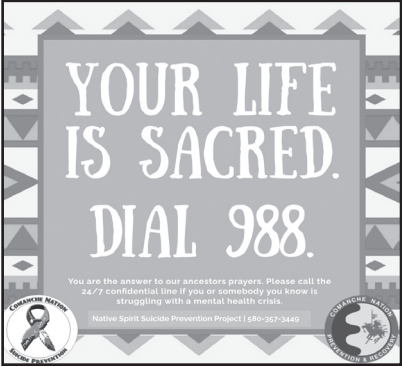
Injury Prevention Program Up and Running

The new Injury Prevention Program is back up and running again with a new team of Brian Jones and William Owens as the new Injury Prevention Technicians.

At the current moment they are issuing car seats, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers to Comanche Tribal members only, you have to be enrolled Comanche to receive these services. In order to receive these services you will need to fill out a application online or come into their office and get a application. Each application requires different documentation.

If there are any questions you can call their office.

Brian Jones
(580) 492-3493
William Owens
(580) 492-3275



Comanche Elder Council Honors Vickie Rutledge with A Lifetime Achievement Award



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche elder, Vickie Rutledge, leads her Karate class students through the 2023 Comanche Nation Fair parade.

TAA NANAWAPINUU?A NA'AKA
COMANCHE NATION
LISTEN TO THE ELDERS

The Comanche Nation Elders Council

With sincere respect and admiration for Lifetime Achievement

We present this Certificate of Honor to

Vicki Rutledge

In recognition of being Inducted into the United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame

Rosalind Asetamy, Chair

Lanora Parker, Vice Chair

Elizabeth Williams, Treasurer

Verna Burgess, Secretary

February 15, 2025

Submitted by the Comanche Nation Elders Council

Grand Master (GM) Vickie Rutledge earned her first Dan (black belt grade) in Kyokushin-Kai in 1992 and today holds an 8th Dan in the Art. For 33 years, she was the Chief Instructor at the American Bushido-Kai Karate Association, consistently over delivering for her students. When she's not teaching or training, GM Rutledge devotes her time to ongoing mission work in Guatemala, bringing hope to the indigenous people of this beautiful Central American country.

"Being so proud of our own Comanche Tribal Elder, Vicki Rutledge, we honored her with this Certificate of Honor on February 15, as she held a 'Self-Defense' class for Our Elders. *Urukoki!*" stated the Comanche Elder Council Officers.



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

COMANCHE NATION ENROLLMENT

Phone 580.492.3371 Fax 580.492.6389 enrollment@comanchenation.com

COPIES OF INFORMATION

- CDIB Letter - Free
- CDIB Card - \$10
- Birth Certificate - \$1
- Social Security Card - \$1
- Application - \$1 per page
- Family Tree - \$1 (8 ½ x 11)
\$2 (8 ½ x 14)
- Marriage License - \$1 (8 ½ x 11)
\$2 (8 ½ x 14)
- Divorce Decree - \$1
- Probates - \$1
- Adoption Papers - \$1 (8 ½ x 11)
\$2 (8 ½ x 14)
- Relinquishment - \$1
- Any other file related documents - \$1
- If asked to make copies - \$1 per page

AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2025

Comanche Nation Enrollment P.O. Box 908 Lawton, Oklahoma 73502
www.comanchenation.com



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



SWEARING IN. On February 1, the Comanche Nation Business Committee appointed Lisa B. Otipoby as an Associate District Judge to the Comanche Nation Tribal Court. Judge Otipoby, a Comanche Nation citizen, has over 27 years of judicial experience and has served several different tribes as a judge, including the Comanche Nation. Judge Otipoby received her undergraduate degree in Political Science from Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma in 1988. She received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1993. She then furthered her judicial education at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada in 2009. She has been active with the Oklahoma Municipal Judges Association since 1998, serving as a board member from 2005 to 2010 and is presently serving as President of OMJA. Judge Otipoby will immediately take the bench after she is sworn in on February 13.

LEFT: Judge Otipoby is sworn in by Ryland Rivas, with the assistance of Comanche elder, and retired judge, Rita Coosewoon. **TOP:** Judge Otipoby shows her personalized cakes at her swearing in reception.

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

Comanche Nation Missing & Murdered Indigenous People’s Program Updates



Courtesy Photos

Comanche Nation MMIP program was contacted by Community Manager for Traverse Project in January for inquiry of possible partnership with Task Force Red Hand project (TFRH). TFRH aims to provide a multi-layered approach to combating major epidemics in Indian country. This initiative involves enhanced law enforcement solutions and survivor care that aims to prevent the MMIP crisis.

Austin Shamlin is the CEO and founder of Traverse project, a nonprofit established in 2023 to combat human trafficking networks through data intelligence. He currently serves on the Advisory Board for the University of Houston’s Center for Research Excellence to Counter Human Trafficking and the Board of Directors for Operation Path Forward. With over 20 years of experience in law enforcement and security, Shamlin most recently served as the director of international operations for a counter-human trafficking nonprofit under the Tim Tebow Foundation. He is recognized as a geopolitical security subject matter expert on Haiti and has previously served as a special advisor to the Haitian Minister of Justice. Before his nonprofit work, Shamlin held a position as a police executive within the D.C. government and worked as a government contractor in Afghanistan, Haiti, Iraq, and Somalia.

Traverse Project’s Task Force Red Hand project has received support from Oklahoma tribes. Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Cheyenne & Arapaho tribe and Comanche Nation signed letters of support for TFRH. Shamlin’s mission to address the MMIP crisis aligns with the Comanche Nation’s Missing and Murdered Indigenous People’s program visions & goals. TFRH projects include generating vital data and technology, such as creating a database that bridge the gaps within law enforcement investigations.

Shamlin’s current plans are to meet with Oklahoma Congressmen Tom Cole. During the month of April, he will present to the United States Congress & address the need for MMIP funding in the state of Oklahoma. This opportunity could lead to financial support for Oklahoma tribal law enforcement and MMIP programs. We look forward to the potential outcome of this project and how this can support our tribal community.

In other news, justice has been served for one of our Comanche Nation MMIP families. Tevin Terrell Semien of Lawton has been sentenced to serve life in federal prison for second-degree murder of beloved Comanche Nation member Karon “Dinkers” Connywerdy.

The case was held in federal court due to the offenders being enrolled members of Comanche Nation. Due to the Major Crimes Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1153 (1885), Indians who commit offenses against the person or property of another Indian, the United States holds jurisdiction over those major crimes. This ruling was in response to the famous landmark case of Ex Parte Crow Dog, 109 U.S. 556 (1883) that involved the killing of Lakota tribal Chief Spotted Tail committed by Chief Crow Dog. These rulings, along with many other congressional legal doctrines, limits tribal sovereignty.

The Comanche Nation MMIP program would like send our prayers and thoughts to the MMIP families who have lost a loved one over the years. The MMIP program would like to honor their memory in times of hardship. You are not forgotten, *Unutsa Kenasuwatsikunu*.

New Business

Dapper and Company Barber Shop



Photo by Natascha Mercandante/News Staff

Participants in the Ribbon Cutting of the newly opened Dapper & Company in Cache, Okla. Pictured from left: Cache Area Chamber President Kristen Ward, Kirby Eastman, Kendra Clark, Carolyn Spencer, Cache Mayor Scott Brown.

In November 2024, an incredible opportunity arose when the perfect space became available in Cache, Oklahoma, which became the home of a newly opened business called Dapper and Company Barber Shop.

One of the co-owners of the shop is Comanche tribal member Kendra Clark. For months, the owners has been passionate about opening their own barber shop. Their team of stylists has worked together for years, sharing their vision of creating a space that goes beyond just haircuts. The team wanted to build a shop where clients feel at home, experience top-notch grooming and styling, and truly enjoy a relaxing, welcoming atmosphere.

Dapper and Company became Cache’s very own premier barber shop where men, women and children could go for top-quality hairstyling and grooming.

Dapper and Company is important to the community because Cache had no salons or barber services, requiring residents to travel to other communities for their grooming and hairstyling needs. By opening the barber shop the team can provide a convenient, high-quality option and become a trusted part of the Cache community.

Dapper and Company wants their clients to have that old-school, welcoming experience. They offer complimentary beverages as you unwind in their uniquely designed, western-theme shop, featuring authentic and vintage cowboy memorabilia for a touch of nostalgia and charm.

Dapper and Company offers full beard grooming, fresh cuts for men, women and children, ear and eyebrow waxing and styling products. Appointments are suggested, walk-ins are welcome. For booking you can go to <https://getsquire.com/discover/barbershop/dapper-and-company-cache>. Dapper & Company is located at 406 West C Avenue, Cache, Oklahoma., 73527. Hours of operation are: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Weekends: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Phone number: (580) 291-4303.

The goal for Dapper and Company is to blend skill, service, and ambiance to make every visit an enjoyable experience.

TICKET 271


TICKET 11219


TICKET 31221

Comanche Nation MMIP Fundraiser

Pendleton Blanket & MMIP Shawl

RAFFLE





1 ticket for \$5

3 tickets for \$10

*please state which raffle you would like to be entered in.

WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED

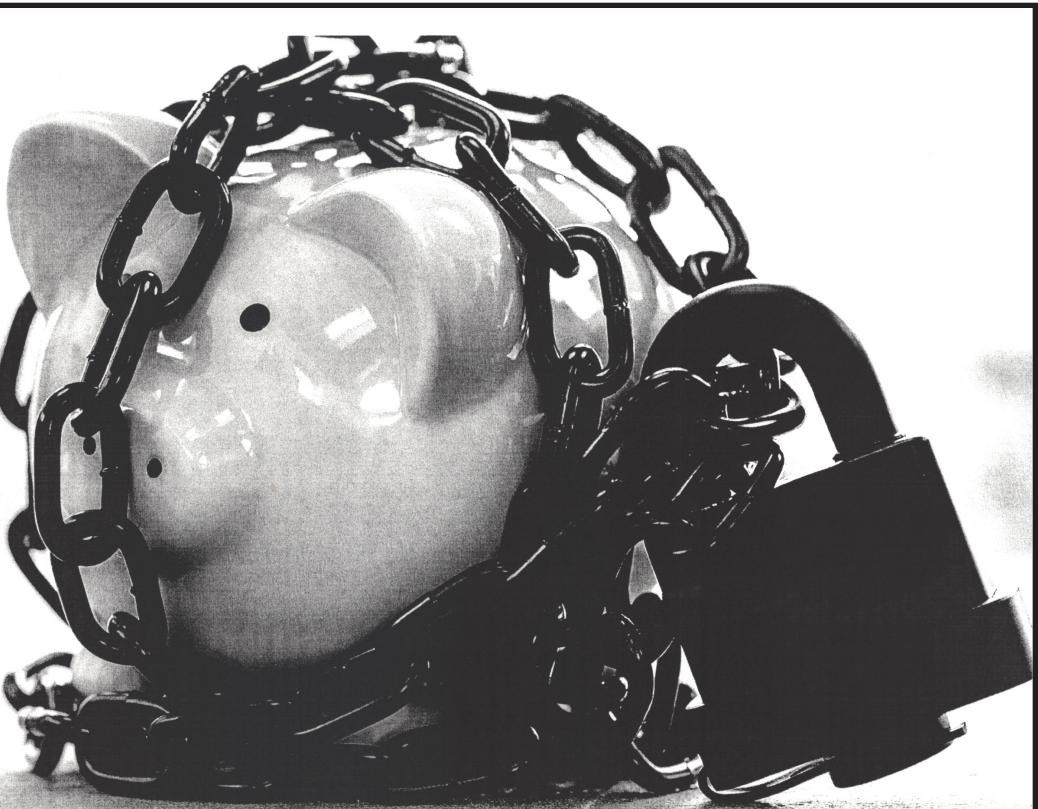
APRIL 12th AT THE MMIP RED RALLY BENEFIT GOURD DANCE

Cashapp - \$Shomanche

ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT 580-713-8999

MMIP@COMANCHENATION.COM

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Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

MARCH 2025

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

Cake Mix Cookies

Ingredients:
15 Ounce box of white cake mix
½ Cup melted butter cooled
½ Teaspoon grounded cinnamon
2 large eggs
¾ Cup colorful sprinkles, plus more on top


Directions:
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees—line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, butter, cinnamon and eggs. Beat until well combined. Stir in sprinkles.
3. Drop the dough by rounded tablespoons, two inches apart, on baking sheets. Top with additional sprinkles, if desired.
4. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes until lightly brown on the bottom edges. Let cool for two minutes.

Inside-Out Turkey Sandwiches

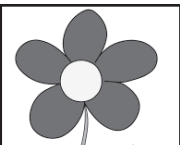
2 Tablespoons nonfat cream cheese
2 Tablespoons pasteurized process cheese spread
2 Teaspoons chopped green onions
1 Teaspoon prepared mustard
12 thin slices of fat-free turkey breast or smoked turkey breast
4 large pretzel logs or unsalted breadsticks

Directions:
1. Combine cream cheese, process cheese spread, green onion and mustard in a small bowl; mix well.
2. Arrange three turkey slices on a large sheet of plastic wrap, overlapping slices in the center.
3. Spread ¼ of the cream cheese mixture evenly onto the turkey slices, covering the slices completely.
4. Place one pretzel at the bottom of the turkey slices. Roll up the turkey around the pretzel, making sure to keep all three turkey slices together as you do so.
5. Repeat with remaining ingredients; makes four servings.


Connect the picture with the correct Comanche word



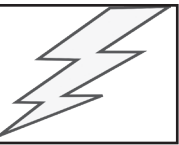
Cloud




Flower



Grass



Lightning



Rain

Sooní Émaarn Ekakwitsnbaitn Totsiyaa Tomobi



Happy Birthday

Birthday Pow Wow All Gourd Dance

Kimaka! Kimaka!

40th Birthday celebration for Forrest Tahdooahnippah

Watchetaker Hall
Sunday March 30th, 2025 @ 1pm

Supper break 5pm
concessions will be available

Head Staff
MC: Lloyd Heminokeky
Head man: Patterson Tahdooahnippah
Head lady: Isabella Tahdooahnippah
Head singer: Charles Tahah
Arena Director: Glen Heminokeky Jr.

Please contact: Brianna Tahdooahnippah, Brianna Tahdooahnippah@gmail.com

Not responsible for theft or accidents.

Vendors \$25
Limited spots
First come first serve

No Drugs/No Alcohol

FORT SILL INDIAN SCHOOL

Alumni Reunion & Powwow

2025

APRIL 4TH & 5TH, 2025

FORT SILL INDIAN SCHOOL, LAWTON, OK

APRIL 4TH EVENTS

• OPENING CEREMONY

• LUNCH

• SOCK HOP

• BBQ DINNER

• OTHER ACTIVITIES

THROUGHOUT THE DAY TBA

APRIL 5TH EVENTS

• 12:00 PM - STORYTELLING

• 2:00 PM - POWWOW

• 5:00 PM - SUPPER BREAK

• 7:00 PM - GRAND ENTRY

HEAD STAFF

• MC - EDWARD TAHHAHWAH JR., JR ROSS

• HEAD MAN - MARLIN TAHDOOAHNIPPAH

• HEAD WOMAN - GLENDA GOSEYUN

• HEAD SINGER - VICTOR TAHCHAWWICKAH

• HONORABLE ELDER - JIMMY RAY CADDO

• HONORED VETERANS - ALL FSIS ALUMNI MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS

• CO-SPONSOR - COMANCHE HOMECOMING COMMITTEE

• AD - FREDDY BANDERAS

For more information contact
Yolonda Ramos: 580-647-6740

Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy & Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Funeral Details and Marker Placements

Funeral Details
The CIVA has provided a Funeral Details for the families of 354 Veterans or CIVA Auxiliary members. A detail is requested by the deceased veteran's family.

The first documented funeral detail was on January 10, 1994, for Kiowa Warrior *Ye-a-hon-to* (Twohatchet) at the Twohatchet Family cemetery southeast of Fort Cobb. CIVA members attending were Richard and Patricia Bread and Lanny and Shelley Asepermy. The late Bubba Cannon conducted the ceremonial and in-memory service. Twohatchet's military marker was in place prior to the ceremony.



Courtesy Photo

Twohatchet (1849-1901)

The second documented funeral detail was on/about May 10, 1994, for Comanche War Chief *Esa Rosa* (Whitewolf) at his gravesite at the Cache Creek cemetery west of Apache.

The late Melvin “Old Man” Kerchee Sr. conducted the ceremonial service. CIVA members Lanny and Shelley Asepermy attended the service, *Esa Rosa's* marker was in place prior to the ceremony.



Courtesy Photo

Esa Rosa (1843-1925)

There was one other funeral detail in 1994; one in 1996, two in 1997; one in 2002; five in 2003; five in 2004; seven in 2005; 10 in 2006; 16 in 2007; 21 in 2008; 19 in 2009; 22 in 2010; 17 in 2011, 15 in 2012; 17 in 2013; 20 in 2014; 23 in 2015; 17 in 2016; 20 in 2017; 19 in 2018; 12 in 2019; 17 in 2020; a record 31 in 2021; 13 in 2022; six in 2023; 11 in 2024, and three so far in 2025.

Perhaps the most memorable funeral detail was on November 26, 2005, for Fallen Marine Joshua Jerald Ware at the Comanche Community Center in Apache.

The CIVA funeral detail worked closely with the Marine Corps funeral detail. Over 500+ people were in attendance at the service and the motorcade stretched over three miles long. Ware was only 20 years old when he was killed in action in Iraq. His final resting place is the Rainey Mountain Cemetery southwest of Mountain View.



Courtesy Photo

Cpl Joshua Jerald Ware Forever 20 years old

The 50th funeral detail was for **Wesley Mihecoby** on November 24, 2007, at the Walters Cemetery; the 100th funeral detail was for **Frankie Tahmahkera** on May 24, 2010, at the West Cache Creek Cemetery; the 150th funeral detail was for **Scott Parton** on April 25, 2013, at the CN Funeral Home and Cache Creek Cemetery; the 200th funeral detail was for **Lawrence Earl** on October 2, 2015, at the CN Funeral Home and Fort Sill National Cemetery; the 250th funeral detail was for **John Allen Pratt** on May 9, 2018, at the CN Funeral Home and Highland Cemetery; the 300th funeral detail was for **Aubrey Bread** on March 11, 2021, at the Post Oak Cemetery; and the 350th funeral detail (Memorial Service) was for **Lonnie Poco** on November 4, 2024, at the CN Funeral.



Courtesy Photo

Wesley Mihecoby



Courtesy Photo

Scott Parton



Courtesy Photo

Lawrence Earl



Courtesy Photo

John Allen Pratt

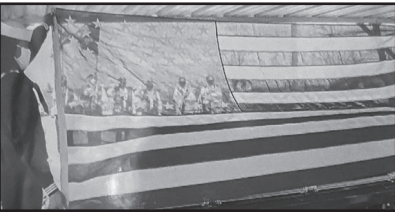
At the funeral service the CIVA displays the U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma and branch of Service flags of the deceased veteran. During the service a representative from the CIVA reads the deceased military bio. The bio is researched and written prior to the service. After the bio is read a Roll Call is conducted and then Final Honors are rendered when each veteran salutes the deceased veteran or the closed casket of the veteran, An “In Memory” Booklet is presented to the family with the veterans bio, DD 214, obituary and any other information about the veteran. A wreath is provided for each veterans.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA members Kent Tomah III, Mark Davis, Dominic Pawlowski, Lyman Guy and Jimmy Caddo preparing to give final honors at the funeral George Red Elk on April 1, 2023, at Watchetaker Hall, note the CIVA Wreath in front of Kent Tomah III.

At the burial site the CIVA can provide pallbearers and display, fold and present the casket flag of the deceased veteran if requested by the family, otherwise the active military funeral detail does these tasks. The CIVA provides Taps and a firing squad is provided by the Comanche Nation Law Enforcement who have provided a firing squad for 287 funerals. The CIVA also assist the Active Duty funeral details.



Courtesy Photo

Casket Flag of Don Mejia displayed by the Navy Funeral Detail shows the CIVA Funeral Detail images through the blue field of the flag.



Courtesy Photo

The Casket Flag of Edwin Chappabitty being displayed by the Navy Funeral Detail at Post Oak Cemetery on June 19, 2021, CIVA Members in the background saluting are Kevin Pohawpatchoko, George Red Elk, Cloyce Choney, Ramonah Davis and Lanny Asepermy.

A few funerals have been out of state in Sacramento, Cali.; Dennison and Irving, Texas; Mescalero and Farmington, N.M.; Bardwell, Ky.; Wichita, Kansas and overseas at the Normandy American Cemetery in France; the Brittany American Cemetery also in France; the Henri-Chapelle Cemetery in Belgium; and the Netherlands American Cemetery, the Netherlands.

Military Marker Placement

The CIVA has placed 320 military markers for the families of deceased veterans.

As mentioned earlier the first two markers placed were Twohatchet and Esa Rosa in 1994. Twohatchet's marker was placed by Lanny Asepermy and the late Richard Twohatchet. Esa Rosa's marker was placed by Lanny and Shelley Asepermy.

Military markers generally take 30-90 days, once ordered, to arrive. There are three types of markers, marble or grey granite upright, flat bronze and flat granite. All markers

at military cemeteries are upright, white marble.

Once the marker arrives at the funeral home the CIVA will load it up, take it to the grave site, dig an 18” deep hole for the upright marker or place the flat marker onto a concrete slab. The markers are leveled and the grave site cleaned. A hymn is sung and a prayer rendered after the marker is in place. On occasion family members of the deceased will be present when the marker is placed on May 11, 2013, 32 members of World War I Code Talker, Samuel Tabbytosavit, were present when his marker was placed.



Courtesy Photo

Military and CIVA marker at the gravesite of Samuel Tabbytosavit at the Walters City Cemetery.

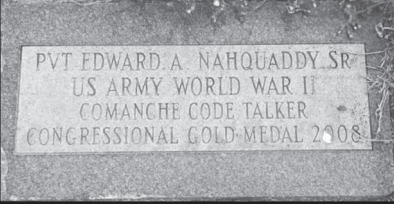


Courtesy Photo

Clifford Quoyah marker in place

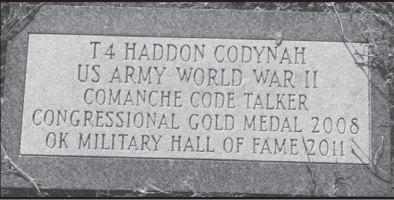
From May 10-12, 2013, grey, flat markers were placed for 19 Code Talkers identifying them as Code Talker, Congressional Gold medal recipients and for 14 as OK Military Hall of Fame inductees.

Markers for Haddon Codynah, Robert Holder, Edward Nahquaddy Sr. and Jr., Clifford Otativo Sr., Elgin Red Elk; Willis Yackeschi; and Samuel Tabbytosavit were placed at the Walters City cemetery. Melvin Permansu marker was placed at City of Fletcher cemetery. Perry Noyobad and Ralph Wahnee markers were placed at the Little Washita cemetery. Forrest Kassanavoid; Larry Saupitty; and Morris Sunrise Tabbyyetchy were placed at Post Oak Cemetery. George Clark and Gilbert Conwoop were place at Deyo cemetery. Simmons Parker marker was placed at the Saddle Mountain cemetery. Calvin Atchavit marker was placed at Highland cemetery. Roderick Red Elk's marker placed earlier at Deyo cemetery, Wellington Mihecoby marker was placed at Memorial Gardens cemetery in Farmington, N.M., Charles Chibitty was placed on the base of the Code Talker Memorial at the CIVA Court of Honor. No marker was provided for Anthony Tabbytite as he was cremated in California.



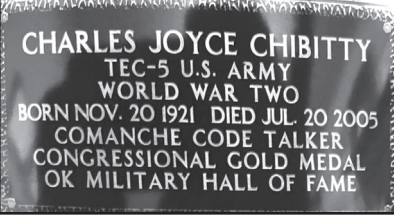
Courtesy Photo

World War I Code Talker Edward Nahquaddy Sr. marker



Courtesy Photo

World War II Code Talker Haddon Codynah marker

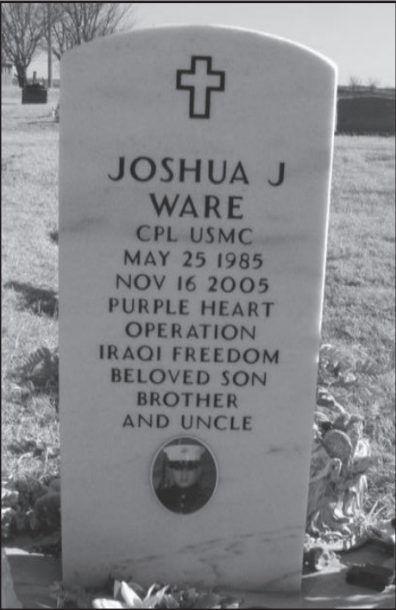


Courtesy Photo

Last living Code Talker Charles Chibitty

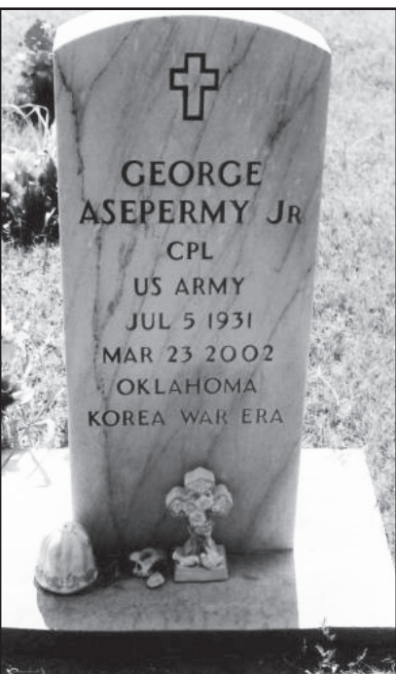
The CIVA has placed markers at 44 different cemeteries. The

cemeteries are Anquoe Family east of Mountain View; Beef Creek on Fort Sill; Brittany American in France; Cache City; Cache Creek west of Apache; Carnegie City; Cedar Creek SW of Carnegie; Concho Indian; Cyril City; Deyo Indian Mission west of Lawton; Fairview east of Apache; Fletcher City; Fort Cobb City; Gotebo Township; Hammon Mennonite; Henri-Chapelle American in Belgium; Highland in Lawton; Kaudle-Kaule Family; Laurenzana Family; Little Washita east of Fletcher; Mahseet Family in Apache; Memory Garden Farmington N.M.; Memory Lane in Anadarko; Mithlo Family west of Apache; Mount Scott KCA near Meers; Nahwooks Family south of Indianahoma; Netherlands American. The Netherlands; Normandy American in France; Otipoby on Fort Sill; Parton Family; Pawnee Indian; Post Oak in Indianahoma; Rainey Mountain south of Mountain View; Redbone Family SW of Fort Cobb; Red Stone north of the Apache Wy.; Ringling; Walters City; Rock Springs north of Anadarko; Saddle Mountain near Meers; Three Rivers, Tula Rosa N.M.; Twohatchet family SE of Fort Cobb; Ware's west of Anadarko; Watonga; West Cache Creek west of Cache.



Courtesy Photo

Joshua Jerald Ware marker at Rainey Mountain Cemetery



Courtesy Photo

George Asepermy Jr. marker at Cache Creek Cemetery

If you know of a veteran that DOES NOT have a military marker please contact Lanny Asepermy at (580) 678-4629 and he will submit a request for a marker. He will need the **veteran's DD 214 and death certificate.**

CIVA Activities

CIVA Monthly Meeting

On February 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. CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by birthday blessings and recognitions to CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie and CIVA Auxiliary member Nona Gail Mihecoby. The evening meal was provided by Tom and Sue Morris. CIVA Veteran Lanny Asepermy provided an update on upcoming CIVA

Continued on Page 15

Honorees and after the update, CIVA Veterans conducted their monthly meeting as Old and New Business were discussed.



Courtesy Photo

Birthday recognition to CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie and CIVA Auxiliary member Nona Gail Mihecoby.

Funeral and Honor Guard Details

CIVA conducted Funeral/Honor Detail at the request by family members and the Comanche Nation Funeral Home on behalf of John C. Parker, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

During the ceremony, his military biography was read as his flag was presented to the family. The Honor Detail consisted of Veterans and Auxiliary members. The United States, Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, CIVA, U.S. Marine Corp flags and the Comanche Code Talker flags were displayed.

**In Honor and Memory of
Lance Corporal John C. Parker
Sunrise December 7, 1954
Sunset January 20, 2025
Interment at Saddle Mountain
Cemetery,
Saddle Mountain Okla.
January 28, 2025**



Courtesy Photo

John C. Parker

John C. Parker, enlisted into the United States Marine Corps and earned the rank of Lance Corporal (E-3). He completed his Boot Training at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot, San Diego, California. Infantry Training at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina with the 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines 2nd Marine Division.

Lance Corporal Parker was a Fleet Marine and was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps. He was awarded the USMC Good Conduct Medal, U.S. Navy Sea Service Ribbon earned during a deployment in the Mediterranean Sea and the Expert Qualification Badge with/Rifle Bar.

The state of Oklahoma, Comanche Nation and the Republic thank Lance Corporal John C. Parker for his dedicated, faithful and honorable service to God and Country.

Veterans Visit

On January 31, CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary visited CBC Secretary/ Treasurer Bob Tippeconnie at the Encompass Health and Rehabilitation Center in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Everyone enjoyed the good fellowship as Comanche Hymns were sung which ended with a prayer for a speedy recovery and healing to Tippeconnie.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno holding a conversation with Bob Tippeconnie with CIVA Auxiliary in the background.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Mascot, Command Sergeant Major Bob Plata with Bob Tippeconnie.

CIVA Supporting the Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society Fundraiser

On February 8, CIVA Veterans & Auxiliary supported a fundraising event hosted by the Kiowa Black Legging Warrior Society which was held at the Farmer's Market in Lawton. The event consisted of an Oldies Dance to raise funds to travel to Bernadillo N.M.

The DJ and Co-DJ was USAF Veteran Eddy Onco assisted by Auxiliary member Mary Pinezaddeby-Zumwalt. It was a fun evening as door prizes, cake walks were given out during the dance.



Courtesy Photo

DJ's Eddy Onco and Mary Pinezaddeby-Zumwalt.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno with CIVA Auxiliary member Linda Tehauno receiving a gift (Big-foot) from the Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society.

Comanche Veteran Spot-Light and Honoring

On January 23, U.S. Army Veteran, Sgt. David Amparan was honored with CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno who presented him with a CIVA Gift Bag in the Patriot Room. Sgt. Amparan lives in Lehi, Utah, as he is on terminal leave from the U.S. Army and came home to be with his family.

Sgt. Amparan enlisted in the Army in August 2020 and completed his Basic and AIT (as an Infantryman) at Fort Benning, Ga. He served with Company D, 1st Battalion, 127th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, HI.

CIVA Commander, Officer's, Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary would like to thank Sgt. Amparan for his dedicated service to God and Country. (Please note)

Fort Benning is now Fort Moore named after Brig Gen Hal and Julia Compton Moore who are both buried on Fort Moore. You may remember Brig Gen Moore from the movie "We Were Soldier Once - and Young" in which Mel Gibson played Moore and Madeleine Stowe played his wife, Julia. Sam Elliott played his Sergeant Major, SGM Plumley.



Courtesy Photo

David Amparan being presented with a CIVA gift bag from CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno and CIVA Veterans Lanny Asepermy.

Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 observing March 29, 2025 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day

CIVA would like to Honor our Vietnam War Veterans and Officially welcome them HOME!

Vietnam War was highly controversial, with widespread anti-war protests and demonstrations. Many Americans questioned the rationale for the war, the heavy casualties suffered by U.S. troops. Veterans were treated poorly with no welcome home parades or honors. Society during that time did not care for them as they were verbally abused and spit on.

It is estimated 64 Comanches served during the Vietnam War.

Known Vietnam War Veterans of the Comanche Nation

**Lanny Asepermy
Bruno Badillo
Felix Badillo
John Badillo
Joseph Badillo
James Blackshear
Oliver Blackstar
Donald Burgess
Gerard Burton
Jimmy Caddo (oldest living Vietnam War Veteran)
Scott Cato
James Chebahtah
Joseph Chebahtah
Eddie Chockpoyah
Cloyce Choney
Darrell Chrismon
Benjamin Clark
Mark Clark
Pete Coffey Sr.
Wilbur Red Elk Ellis
Lonnie Henderson
Melvin Kerchee Jr.
Donald Koassechony**

**Calvin Kosechata
Rudolph Kosechequetah
Larry Laurenzana
William Lewis
Lucien Looking Glass
Kenneth Looking Glass
Ludolph Lorentino
Ronald Mahsetky
Amos Makes Cry
Belva Miller
Michael Monatoboy
Jack Mullen
Richard Tiddark Ortiz
James Parker
Leland Parker
Roderick Parker
Elton Permansu
Richard Sapcutt
Clifford Red Elk
Gene Red Elk
George Red Elk
Robert Allen Red Elk
Phillip Rogers Jr.
Allen Schwerer
John Tahah
Pat Tahdooahnippah
Clifford Takawana
Roderick Takewahpoor
Paul Tate Sr.
Malcom Taunah
Roger Tehauno
Vernon Tehauno
Johnny Tiddark
Michael Waddle
William Waddle
Billy F. Wermey
George Wermey
Chad Winnerchy
Otto Mahsetky
Eddie Mahseet
Mike Blackstar
Charles Kerchee
Calvin Pohawpatchoko**

Vietnam War Medals



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

MARCH 29
National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Today and every day, we are thankful to Vietnam Veterans for answering the most noble call. Join us today as we commemorate our heroes.

People, Places and Things Happening

Erin Nees Places in Four Art Categories



Courtesy Photo

Oklahoma City Public Schools held their Native American Student Services Art Show at Penn Square Mall on Feb. 1. Erin Nees placed in 4 events.

- 1st place - Painting
- 2nd place - Pen and ink
- 2nd place - Paint on paper
- 3rd place - Paint on paper

Nees is a 7th grader at Capitol Hill Middle School and she Erin is the daughter of Aaron Nees and Evelyn Geimausaddle. She is the Grand Daughter of Winifred Tieyah and the late Terry Geimausaddle.

Dani Craig Announced as 2025 Valedictorian



Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to Dani Craig, Comanche tribal member, for being named Valedictorian of the Class of 2025 at Anadarko High School!

2025 Caddo County All-Tournament Team



HolliJo Harvey
Class of 2026

APACHE HIGH SCHOOL
Lady Warriors Basketball



500 REBOUNDS

Courtesy Photos

BASKETBALL STAR. Congratulations to Comanche Tribal Member, Holli Jo Harvey, a Junior at Apache High School. She made the 2025 Caddo County All-Tournament Team and hit 500 rebounds. She is the daughter of Wendy Koassechony and the granddaughter of Keith and Ann Koassechony.

Riley Flurry 2024 Little Miss Oklahoma City



Courtesy Photo

Riley Saumty Flurry, “*Ohn Bay Bahn Bohn Dah*” (She Brings the Light), is the daughter of Jason and Deidra Saumty Flurry. Flurry is a citizen of the Comanche Nation with Kiowa and Choctaw heritage. She descends from the Saumty, Daugomah, Mowatt, Pewo, Graman, and Work families. At 9 years old, Flurry is currently in the 3rd grade at Darlington Public School.

Basketball, softball, swimming, and piano are just a few of her extracurricular activities, and she has a passion for all forms of dance.

Flurry is honored to serve as the 2024 Little Miss Indian Oklahoma City. She was introduced to the area as soon as she could walk and has made the powwow circle her second home. The support and guidance she receives are helping shape her into a strong, confident Indigenous young lady who aspires to be a role model for other youth.

This remarkable achievement reflects her dedication, hard work, and leadership throughout her high school career.

Craig is the daughter of Patrick Craig and Tracy Walker and the loving sister of Adrienne Roughface, Sunny Walker, and Jerald Walker. She is the granddaughter of Arilla Sapcut and Kelly Craig, as well as Farrell Walker, Gladys Walker, and Jerry Davis.

During her time in high school, Craig has been an active member of the National Honor Society and Student Council while excelling as a talented athlete in both softball and golf.

Following graduation, Craig plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU). Her goal is to become a registered nurse and make a meaningful impact in the healthcare field.

ICE Raids Negatively Impact American Indians

Recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids have raised the alarms for Tribes whose citizens are being unjustly detained and questioned. The Trump Administration claims raids target illegal immigrants with criminal histories, however, at least some agents are making judgments based on appearance, including the skin color and language of an individual rather than concrete information about immigration status or criminal record.

There have been reports of Native individuals being detained by ICE based upon their appearance and ICE officers limited or non-existent understanding of the status of Natives as U.S. citizens. One Mescalero tribal member’s citizenship was questioned after providing proof of citizenship. To have Native people be harassed

by immigration officials, have their citizenship status questioned, or be mocked by online trolls saying to “send them home” speaks to the lack of education about Indigenous peoples by a large portion of the population. Proposed plans to eliminate or overhaul the education system in ways that would ignore accurate history around Native Americans won’t help this situation.

What can Natives do to protect themselves? American Indian College Fund President and CEO, Cheryl Crazy Bull offers these tips:

- Carry your Tribal ID. Tribes are urging the Trump Administration to direct ICE to accept tribal IDs as proof of U.S. citizenship. For some, especially elders who may have been born in remote homes and who struggle to obtain a birth certificate, this is the best option.
- Carrying a state ID along with a Certificate of Indian Blood in addition to a Tribal ID is advised for those who have them.
- Know you have the right to remain silent and refuse any search.
- You do not have to open the door of your home to ICE agents unless they have a valid warrant signed by a judge.
- Be sure to consistently check for updates from your Tribal government and organizations like the Native American Rights Fund to get updated information and tips to stay safe.
- Share this information. Help spread this message so it reaches as many people as possible.

Cache Johnson O'Malley Powwow

“Students Carrying on Traditions”

Sunday, March 30, 2025 12 PM - 8 PM

Multi-Purpose Building - Cache Intermediate School

HEAD STAFF

Master of Ceremony
Head Singer
Head Man Dancer
Head Lady Dancer
Head Boy Dancer
Head Girl Dancer
Arena Directors
Co-Host

Carla Whiteman
Kevin "Bubba" Sova
Kevin Pohawpatchoko (CO 1980)
Charlotte Niyah (CO 2000)
Avery Reyna (2nd Grade)
Alianna Horse (1st Grade)
Mickey Howell (CO 1999)
Aaven Howell (1st Grade)
Elgin JOM

HONOREES: *Cache High School 2025 JOM Seniors: Zara Baker, Christian Bennett, McKinley Chandler, Desirae Eagle, Shiloh Famera, Joseph Harris, Blaine Hoahwah, Talon Hoahwah, Kamille Komahcheet, Cullen Marlow, Morgan McKinney, Shiloh Mitchell, Carson Mullen, Jasmine Nelson, Payton Nunley, Jasmine Poemacoh, Alexa Pohawpatchoko, Christopher Roman, Ian Smith, Jasmon Surman, Jacob Tahseguah, Kyle Totte, Sebastian Wahnee, Gavin Williams.

SPECIAL INVITATION

Cache Johnson O'Malley Princess - Mikalyn Hoahwah
Comanche Nation Sr. Princess - Bluesky Tasee
Comanche Nation Jr. Princess - Arlene Schonchin
Any and All Tribal/Club/Organization Princesses

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

12:00 - 4:00 PM Gourd Dance
4:00 - 5:00 PM Dinner Break
5:00 - 8:00 PM Calling Song & Contest Dancing

CONTESTS

Men's Combined (18+) Women's Combined (18+) Jr Boys Combined (7-17)
Jr Girls Combined (7-17) Tiny Tots (0-7)

More event information: Carmen Glenn @ 580-429-8489, Carmen_glenn@cacheops.org, Host Concession; Native American arts and crafts vendors only; must provide own table and chairs; no smoking, alcohol, illegal substances, or weapons allowed on State property; BYOC; Cache Schools and the Host Committee are not responsible for any theft, accident, or personal injury at or during this event.

General public warmly invited.

“Comanche Academy: A Healing Journey” Sold Out February 14 at Great Plains Coliseum

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On February 14, the Comanche Academy Charter School premiered their documentary, “Comanche Academy: A Healing Journey” Entry was 5 dollars, and the sponsorship tables sold out.

Linette Amparan, a kindergarten teacher and wellness room coach, said the planning began about two years ago.

“After I was interviewed for the ‘Roadtrip Nation’ by Catherine Boyd Batstone, the connection just was there. We talked for many hours after the interview, discussing different types of needs that maybe the school might have. When she toured our school, she had a feeling, and she couldn’t explain it,” she said. “So, we left it at that. And then a couple of months later, she reached out. She emailed Dave and I. And David said, ‘Linette, if you want to run with this, run with it.’”

Amparan said it’s vital for people to see the premier.

“Community was taken away from us. So, we’re bringing we’re reclaiming that community. We want to have

unity within our community. As for people that are not a part of our community, I think the education aspect of it, a lot of these people that have seen the trailer or we go out, and we promote it,” she said. “They don’t understand it was taken away from us. You don’t know what it feels like if someone came in and took English away from you. It’s the same thing. Someone came in and said, ‘You can’t have your culture. You can’t have your family dinners. You can’t sit by the fire and play the piano.’ If that’s something you do in your culture, you have to go a different way. ‘You have to come over here, and you have to speak this, and you have to do this to some people.’ They take that for granted. But when you actually start working in the community and working with the kids, you see how that inter-generational trauma is trickled down even to this generation. And that’s why it’s vital that we change it. And I think that this film just is going to cause a ripple effect throughout the community and globally. To bring awareness to that, because it’s not just our community that it’s occurred in. It’s in a lot of other communities.”

Amparan said the educators at the charter school have delved into the culture and spirituality and have accepted what every kid has to offer. They also have their own wellness room as a dedicated lesson plan to help students reconnect.

ELGIN JOM 2ND ANNUAL SPRING POWWOW

HS GYM 520 I STREET ELGIN, OK 73501

04 MONTH

12 DAY

25 YEAR

MC Lloyd Heminokeky
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 away optional
Co-Host
Indiahoma
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 Churchill

Tiny Tots 0-7 yrs
Sponsored
Camilie Tasi 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

Straight Dance “School Age”
Sponsored by Ann Quis Quis

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
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

RAFFLE

50/50

3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

SPONSORED BY BROWN INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

REGISTRATION FEE: \$20.00 PER TEAM

BOY & GIRL DIVISION, AGES 10-18:

- 10-12 YEARS
- 13-14 YEARS
- 15-18 YEARS

** GUARANTEED 2 GAMES DOUBLE ELIMINATION**

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

WALTERS COMANCHE NATION COMMUNITY CENTER

NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

CONTACT:

George Tahdooahnippah 580-512-6410

Jeff Hicks 580-281-0928

Pam Fodder 580-704-8263



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Today!

2024 Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee Prepares to Pass Her Reign



Dear *Numuntu*,

As my reign comes to an end, my heart is filled with gratitude and pride for the time we have shared together. Serving our Comanche Nation has been an incredible honor, and I am deeply thankful for the love, support, and unity we have fostered.

Throughout my time as your Jr. (2022-2023) & Sr. (2024-2025) princess, I have witnessed the strength, resilience, and rich cultural heritage that define our people. Together, we have celebrated our traditions, embraced our history, and faced challenges with unwavering determination. I will always cherish the memories we have created and the bonds we have strengthened.

I would like to acknowledge Arlene Schonchin, the 2024 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess. She has been a wonderful representative for our people. I have enjoyed serving with her and I wish Arlene well in all that her bright future holds.

I also want to thank my princess director, Fiona Kerchee. With Fiona's encouragement, guidance, and direction; I have been able to better serve our people. Thank you Mrs. Fiona!

Though I have completed my reign as the Comanche Nation Sr. Princess, my commitment to my *Numunu* remains steadfast. I will continue to support and advocate for our people, and I look forward to seeing the continued growth and prosperity of the Comanche Nation. Thank you for allowing me to serve you, and may our future be bright and filled with many more blessings. "*Numunu* Strong, Stronger Together!"

With deepest respect and gratitude,
Bluesky Tosee

Outgoing Honor Dance for

BLUESKY TOSEE

2024 Comanche Nation Princess

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025
"Honoring the Comanche Children" 6pm-10pm
(All War Dance Program)

M.C.: Jesse Hamilton Head Singer: Bubba Soro
Head Dancers: Comanche Youth Dancer Arena Director: Hennie Yazzie

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025
2pm Thu-Wee Dance
Scalp & Victory Dances
5pm Supper Break
7 pm Calling Song
War & Social Dances

M.C.'s: Jesse Hamilton & Cy Abtone
Afternoon Head Singer: Gene Soro
Evening Head Singer: R.C. Conklin
Head Man Dancer: Ronald Monoessy Jr.
Head Lady Dancer: McKenzie Soro
Head Little Boy Dancer: Bryson "Catfish" Kerchee
Head Little Girl Dancer: Johnnie Shae Lynn Romo
Arena Directors: Ashley Kerchee & Hennie Yazzie

SPECIAL INVITATION TO:
Arlene Schonchin, 2024 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess
DaeLena Tsonetokoy, 2024 Kiowa Tribal Princess
Neveah Banderas, 2024 Apache Tribal Princess
Comanche Nation Princess Sorority
All Comanche Organizations
2024 American Indian Exposition Tribal Princesses

Vendor info: 10x10 space (2 table limit) \$25
Jame Lyn Hamilton 720-692-9735
Tosee Family & Comanche Nation are not responsible for accidents or thefts

Meet the Candidates for the 2025 Comanche Nation Princess



Barbara Monoessy



Isabella Ramirez



Isabella Tahdooahnippah

MARCH 2025

COMANCHE LANGUAGE COMMUNITY CLASSES

03 & 17

APACHE, OK
APACHE PUBLIC LIBRARY
6 - 8 PM 11 EVANS AVE

03 & 17

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

Vanessa Tomahsah
Independent Beauty Consultant

334 Rock Ridge Road
Elgin, OK 73538
580-917-5039

V.tomahsah@gmail.com
<https://www.marykay.com/VTomahsah>

Contact me for a complimentary virtual makeover

MARY KAY

2024 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess, Arlene Schonchin, Prepares to Pass Her Title



Dear Great Comanche Nation,

It has been an honor serving and representing all of our Comanche people as the 2024 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess.

As my year comes to an end my heart is filled with appreciation and love for all of your support throughout my reign. Words cannot express what this title meant to me. It allowed me to meet so many people and represent our Nation in various places. It gave me the chance to grow as a person. I just want to thank the tribe for the opportunities and your support.

I want to thank my family who was my number one supporter and helped me so much throughout my year. I cannot have represented our people without the help of my family and I want to thank them from the bottom of my heart.

I want to thank the Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee. She has become my big sister and I want to thank her for her love and kindness and I know she will do marvelous things throughout her lifetime.

I also want to thank my Princess Director, Fiona Kerchee, for helping me with her guidance to uphold my responsibilities as the Jr. Comanche Nation Princess.

I have made wonderful memories throughout the year that I will cherish.

In closing, I am humbled and grateful for being chosen the Comanche Nation Jr. Princess. One of my future goals is to run for Comanche Nation Princess and I'd appreciate your support and vote when the time comes.

Respectfully,
Arlene Schonchin



Honor Powwow

Arlene Schonchin

2024-2025 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess



No Specials or Giveaways
Lets just Dance!

2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
March 29, 2025
Watchtaker Hall
Comanche Nation Complex

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Gourd Dance
5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Supper
6 p.m. - Calling Song, Round Dance, Social Dance, Contests
8:30 p.m. Arlene's Special

Head Staff

MC - Martin Flores & Louie Pohawpatchoko
Head Gourd Dance Singer - Kevin "Bubba" Sova
Head War Dance Singer - Larry Monoessy
Head Man Gourd Dancer - Pat Tahdooahnippah
Head Man War Dancer - Donald Chasenah
Head Lady Gourd Dancer - Kelsey Codynah - 2014 Comanche Nation Princess
Head Lady War Dancer - Shelby Mata - 2010 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess & 2015 Comanche Nation Princess
Head Little Girl Dancer - Scarlett Codynah
Head Little Boy Dancer - Avery "BoiTsii" Reyna
Arena Directors - Charles Tahah & Ronald Monoessy Jr.
Co-Hosts - Comanche Little Ponies, CIVA, Comanche Youth Dancers
Security - Brooklyn Nauni

Special Invitation

Bluesky Tosee - 2024-2025 Comanche Nation Princess
Fiona Kerchee - 2024 Comanche Nation Princess Director
2025 Comanche Nation Princess & Jr. Princess Candidates

Contests

- Tiny Tots -Sponsored by Ann Quis Quis and Family
- Teen Girls Green Cloth Dress Contest - 13 yrs - 17 yrs - Sponsored by Motah & Suina Families
- Straight Dance - 16 years & older - Sponsored by Murray Rhoads Jr.
- Women's Buckskin Contest in honor of the late Anna Wockmetooah Tahmahkera - Sponsored by the Wockmetooah Tahmahkera Families
- Fancy Dance Contest in honor of Avery "BoiTsii" Reyna Sponsored by Kelsey Codynah & Family. Winner-Take-All plus two consolations. All ages.

Inviting all Princesses, Organizations, Dancers & Singers.

For more information- JJ Schonchin 580-583-2649 or Lynn Schonchin 580-483-7067

Not liable for accidents or thefts.

Wahlburgers Opens at Comanche Cache Casino

Chef Paul Wahlberg cuts the ribbon to officially open Wahlburgers February 27 inside the Comanche Cache Casino.
Story and Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On February 27, Wahlburgers opened at Comanche Cache Casino.

The event featured a meet-and-greet with chef and founder of Wahlburgers Paul Wahlberg, samples, cake and diners to enjoy the menu.

"Today is important to us, obviously, because of...the grand opening celebration here at Cache Casino," he said. "We're so happy to be out here, and everybody's just amazing, and our first trip into Oklahoma, it's just been, it's been fantastic."

Wahlberg said he was excited to open the location in Cache.

"All of the openings make us a little nervous because it's just that thing that, you know, each one comes with its own challenges and stuff like that, but I will tell you through the construction, the whole team that's been here has been amazing, and so we're just, we're super psyched to be here," he said.

Wahlberg said the meet-and-greet was a time to meet the community.

"It's amazing because it's an opportunity for us to say, 'Thank you,' you know, for all the people that come in and all the people that we meet and the people who support

Wahlburgers; we get to say, 'Thank you,' and that's hugely important to us," he said.

As for Wahlberg's own recommendation...

"If you're coming in, you got to get an Our Burger and some tots," he said. "To me, that's, that says it all, but there's all lots of opportunities, you know, we have chicken sandwich, we have all kinds of different things that people can have in different varieties, so there's lots of choices."

Wahlberg said he's enjoyed those he's met in the state.

"All the different people that we've met and obviously...the casino people and then the people around and the towns and stuff like that, everybody's been amazing, so we love it," he said.

Wahlberg said he and his family wanted to thank the Cache Casino and everyone at the Comanche Nation.

Comanche Business Committee members were also at the grand opening, as well as Comanche Nation Entertainment.

Meet the the 2025 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Tatum Burgess

Tatum Burgess

Courtesy Photo

2025 Comanche Princess Election and Powwow Voting will be April 4 and April 5 at Comanche Complex

2025 Comanche Nation Princess Election & Powwow

Out Going 2024-25 Comanche Nation Princess- Bluesky Tosee

Out Going 2024-25 Comanche Nation Jr. Princess- Arlene Schonchin

Election & Voting Info

April 4th, 2025
8am-5pm @ Watchetaker Hall

April 5th, 2025
8am- 5pm @ Patriot Room (old Conference Room)

Powwow Schedule

April 5th, 2025

12 pm- Cedaring Ceremony

1pm- Gourd Dance

5pm- Supper Break/ Polls Close

6pm- Gourd Dance Resume

7pm- Calling Song, Social Dances

Two Candidates for Vie Comanche Nation Princess Director



Courtesy Photo
Fiona Kerchee



Courtesy Photo
Mary Wade

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This month's financial tip brought to you by

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Financial Tip: LET'S GET TO SAVING!

Having savings is important whether you are old or young.

Here is a brief list of what you can save for:

- Vacation
- Purchase a new vehicle
- Getting your first place
- Retirement
- Emergencies

There are good reasons to have savings set aside:

- It's cheaper than using credit.
- Mixed with credit, such as a loan, long term expense may be less expensive.
- Less stress!

Here are some ideas of what tools may work for you:

- Traditional Savings: Short term or long-term goals where rate isn't a worry.
- High-Yield Savings Accounts: This type of account generally offers a higher rate but with some limitations.
- Certificate of Deposit (CD): There are limitations on withdrawals. Minimum deposit required. Terms run 30 days to 60 months in general.
- Kids' savings accounts: These are great to teach the kid in your life about savings.

But why is it better to save in a bank or credit union instead of putting the money in a jar or under the bed or buried in the back yard?

- The money goes to work and you earn money on your money.
- It can help you to save and not spend.
- It can help with emergencies.

So, let's put your money to work!



Automate Your Savings



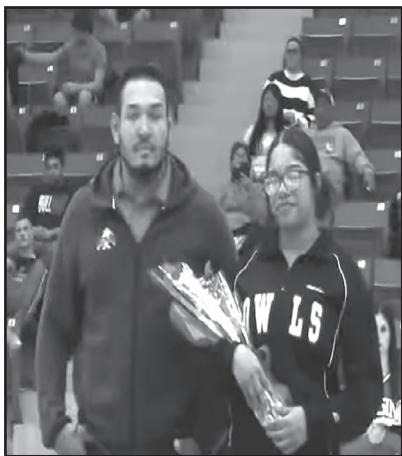
Teaching Kids To Save

Scan here to get more tips!

Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday

February 20 - Dakota Froehlich
February 20 - Mikela Garbee
February 28 - Justin Negron Jr.



Happy 18th Birthday
Kena Poahway
March 2



Happy Birthday
Darren Asepermy
March 2
Marta Asepermy
March 22
~ From all of us kids!



Happy 19th Birthday
Ricky Poahway
March 17

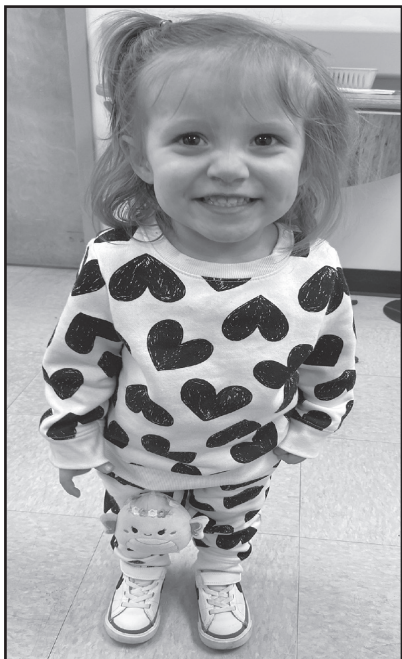


Happy Birthday
Doni Poahway
March 20

Happy Birthday!



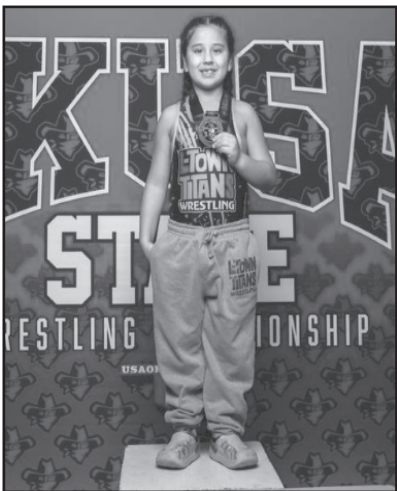
March - Dezz
March - Rachel
March 1 - Matthew Asetamy
March 2 - Kena Poahway
March 2 - Darren Asepermy
March 5 - Margaret Clark
"Happy Blessed 93rd Birthday."
March 11 - Rose Edith Nauni
"Happy 96th Birthday. Praise GOD for His Blessing our Nauni Family with your love and wisdom."
March 12 - Neda Heminokey "Happy Birthday! Love, your family!" ♥
March 17 - Ricky Poahway
March 20 - Doni Poahway
March 22 - Alyssa Wahah-rockah
March 22 - Marta Asepermy
March 23 - Cassandra Harrison
March 23 - Betty Sue
March 26 - Cheryl Tahpay
March 26 - Levi Negron
March 30 - William Platt
"Happy 64th Birthday!"
March 31 - Arlena Schrock



Happy Birthday
Betty Sue
March 23



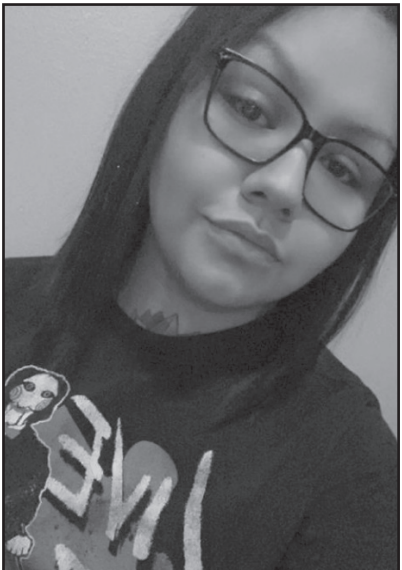
Happy Birthday
Cassandra Harrison
March 23
~ Happy Birthday from your siblings.



Happy Birthday
Levi Negron
March 26



Happy Birthday
Cheryl Tahpay
March 26



Happy Birthday
Rachel
March

~ We love you so so much! Love Mom, Ariane and Precious.



Happy Birthday
Dez
March
~ Happy 25th Birthday Dezz. We are proud of you. May creator continue to Bless and protect you!



Happy Belated Birthday
Mikela Garbee
February 20



Happy Belated 21st Birthday
Dakota Matthew Froehlich
February 20
~ Happy big 21st Birthday Koda. Love, mom and dad.



Darren and Marta Asepermy
March 12
Celebrating 33 years of Marriage!
~ From all of us kids!

In Loving Memory
Sandra Jay Trujillo
July 26, 1963 - February 14, 2022

REST IN PEACE

~ Love, your brother Arthur Trujillo. ♥

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

“In all your ways
be mindful of
him, and he will
make straight
your paths.
Do not be wise in
your own eyes,
fear the LORD
and turn away
from evil.”

-Proverbs 3:6-7

"I believe I
shall see the
LORD's
goodness
in the land of
the living."

-Psalm 27:13

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

Obituaries

Natalie “Nats” Renee Eckiwaudah



Courtesy Photo

Eckiwaudah

Natalie “Nats” Renee Eckiwaudah, entered eternal rest on January 13, in Cyril, Oklahoma.

She was born to Dennis and Gloria Marie (Simmons) Eckiwaudah on February 8, 1967, in Lawton, Oklahoma. “Nats” graduated from Cyril High School in 1986. She enjoyed sewing, watching Steve Wilkos, going to concerts and the casino with her mom, playing video games with her nephews, Alan and Kerry. She enjoyed playing with all her cousins’ kids, making paper airplanes. She was a member of the Comanche Nation and also of Kiowa descent.

She is survived by Alan Eckiwaudah, Stephanie Montanye and husband, Kurt Montanye, and Lynette Eckiwaudah, sister in-law; nieces Regina and Emma Montanye, aunts: Bonita Paddyaker, Marion Simmons and Sandra Tasso; uncles: Carl Paddyaker, and Weldon Husky Simmons; multiple cousins that were like her brothers and sisters to her; and her special baby “Snookems.”

She was preceded by her parents: Dennis Eckiwaudah and Gloria Marie Simmons Eckiwaudah; brothers: Dennis Eckiwaudah Jr. and Davi Eckiwaudah; grandparents: Ruth and Elton Simmons Sr. and Tennyson and Eva Eckiwaudah; uncles and aunts: Elton Simmons Jr., Betty Simmons, Arnold Eckiwaudah, Donnie Eckiwaudah, Margie Large, Betty Eckiwaudah and Colene Eckiwaudah, Sue and Tom Morris and Chubby Permansu.

Joneta “Joni” Sandy Tahmahkera



Courtesy Photo

Tahmahkera

Joneta “Joni” Sandy Tahmahkera, age 48, passed away peacefully on January 18, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Tahmahkera was a proud graduate of Western Heights High School, where she excelled in both cheerleading and track, particularly in running. She later earned a degree in Business Education.

Tahmahkera leaves behind her beloved mother, Patricia Tahmahkera McNulty; father, John Cunningham; and stepfather, Joseph McNulty. She is also survived by her brother, Thomas McNulty; sons, Memphis Blue Sandy and Sage Sandy; daughters, Alexis and Ashley Sandy; great-grandson, Memphis Blue Sandy II; and great-granddaughter, Atianna. Tahmahkera will be remembered fondly by her aunts, Pam Battese of Apache and Carla Wildcat of Nor-

man.

She is preceded in death by her sister, Teresa Frances McNulty, and her husband Wesley Sandy.

In keeping with her wishes, there will be no formal service.

John “Bear” Parker



Courtesy Photo

Parker

John “Bear” Parker, went to his heavenly home on January 20, with his family by his side.

He was born December 7, 1954, at Reynolds Army Hospital at Ft. Sill. He was the beloved son of Simmons and Ina Aunko Parker. Parker was also a Great grandson to Quannah Parker and Hunting Horse. He was an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. He was raised in a Military family and traveled extensively with his family. They traveled to Aschaffenburg Germany, Ft. Lewis, Washington, East Los Angeles, Compton, California and finally returned back to Oklahoma.

In 1973, Parker graduated from MacArthur High School. This was while he was boarding at Ft. Sill Indian School in Lawton. He also attended Haskell Indian University in Lawrence, Kansas, and SIPI, Albuquerque, N. M.

Parker made many friends from other Tribes nationwide. His career at General Motors was over a span of 28 years, beginning in 1978. He was also a caretaker of our mother, Ina Parker for 12 years.

Parker joined the U.S. Marines and served his country from December 1982 to May 1986. Parker was proud to serve in the United States Marine Corps. He was stationed at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. His work history was 44 years long. While in the Marine Corps he was able to see the world. For our mothers birthday one year, he took her to Hawaii. One of his best trips abroad was to visit his friends in Italy.

Parker made his profession of faith in April 2024. He loved the Lord and attended both White church and Botone church. His favorite scripture was 23rd Psalm.

Parker entered into a sobriety program in 2006 to 2025. He maintained his recovery and sobriety for 19 years. Among his many special interests, he loved to travel, dance, sing and loved all types of music and movies. He was a history buff and was knowledgeable about our entire family genealogy. He was a Comanche War, Gourd and Straight dancer. Throughout his adult life, Parker attended the Sundance in North Dakota where he made many friends of the Sundance.

He is survived by five sisters: Elaine Parker of Ft. Cobb, LaNora Parker of Lawton, Mary and Alan Moon of Anadarko, Martha Meat of Ft. Cobb and Elizabeth Parker Williams and Bruce Howard of Lawton. He had many nieces and nephews who he loved very much and they loved him: Donna and Diane Parker, David and Daniel Cox, Alana Loman, Nocona and Quannah Burgess, Stephen and Brian Nicholas, Alex Moon, David Meat, Lydia Yellowhair, Charley Williams, Axie Dorsey along with many relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ina Aunko Parker and Simmons Parker, Brothers Robert B. and Anthony W. Parker. HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED.

Tommy Parker



Courtesy Photo

Parker

Tommy Parker entered into eternal rest on January 28.

Parker was born on August 31, 1956, to Randlett and Maxine (Files)Parker.

Parker graduated from Lawton High School. He attended Cameron University and the University of Oklahoma. Parker found peace and solace while golfing. He was a PGA Class A Club Pro. He was also employed at the Doral Golf Club in Miami, Florida.

Parker was a beloved brother, uncle, cousin, and friend. And his absence is felt deeply by all whom had the privilege of knowing him. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. Parker worked as a dealer at the Comanche Casino.

Parker is survived by: brothers: Randy Parker Jr., Michael Parker and Steven Parker; and sister Ramona Parker.

Parker is preceded in death by: parents Randlett and Maxine (Files) Parker; grandparents Dan and Jimmy Parker.

Leona Lorene Johnson



Courtesy Photo

Johnson

Leona Lorene Johnson entered into eternal rest on February 9. She was born to Harold Johnson Jr. and Irene Lillie Johnson on December 24, 1962.

Johnson was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. She was also a descendant of the Seminole, Kiowa, and Delaware tribes. She was also a descendant of Millie Durgan and Esa Rosa White-wolf.

Johnson attended Lawton Public Schools and Fort Sill Indian School. She graduated from Riverside Indian School, Class Of 1981. She excelled in academics and proudly maintained straight A's and earned a place in the honor dorm. Johnson was a natural athlete and avid runner. She went on to graduate from Great Plains Technology Center with a certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics. Johnson worked as a medical transcriptionist at the Lawton Indian Hospital for many years. Johnson was an artist and expressed her creativity through beadwork. She loved vacations and traveling, her favorite destination was always the beach.

Johnson was a devoted mother, and trusted confidant to her children. She blossomed in her role as a grandmother and adored her grandkids.

Johnson is survived by sons Timothy Johnson and David Wait-scoo Jr.; daughters Shawna Garcia and Stephanie Harjo; mother Irene Goombi Johnson; 13 grandkids: Ty-

ler, Gabriel, Onalesiah, Timothy Jr., Stephanie, Leona, Tsaona, Jordyn, Jenasis, Derek, Ariyah, Layla, and Koda; great grandkids Avery and Prince; siblings Deana Johnson, Lemuel Johnson, Trella Louis, Lloyd Johnson, and Gabriel Johnson.

Johnson is preceded in death by father Harold Johnson Jr.

Nona Marie Tahpay



Courtesy Photo

Tahpay

Nona Marie Tahpay was born on February 26, 1955, in Lawton, Oklahoma. She passed away on February 15, at home with her family by her side at the age of 69, 11 days shy of her 70th birthday. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation.

She moved to Walters at a young age and graduated from Walters High School and attended Bethany Nazarene College in Bethany, Oklahoma.

In 1979 Nona gave birth to her only son Kyle Tahpay Sr. In the 1990s they moved to Dallas, Texas, where one of the highlights of her life was watching her son play his first football game at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium.

Tahpay enjoyed crocheting and sewing with her sister, Rose, making mask and phone purses for friends and family during Covid. She worked at Dairy Queen in Temple, Oklahoma, where she met so many wonderful people in Temple, she also worked at Four Seasons Sports, in Walters, The Red River Casino, in Devo where she loved greeting and talking to everyone while driving her OU Cart that she decorated. She was very appreciative of everything she had, if someone needed something she was always willing to help out one way or the other.

She was an avid OU Sooners and Walters Blue Devil fan. She loved to watch any basketball or football games especially when her grandchildren or someone she knew was playing. She loved everyone, especially her son and grandchildren. Tahpay never met a stranger and she

was loved by all and will be missed by many.

She is survived her son: Kyle Tahpay Sr. of Elgin; sister: Ronna (Richard) Jacobs of Walters; Brother: Charlie Tissychy of Lawton; Grandchildren: Jaylen Wayne, Madison Marie, Gracie Riann, Lilly Dawn, Kyle Everett Jr. and Kasen Eli; Niece: Yody and Michael, Doty Jacobs; Uncle: Videll and Isabelle Yackeschi, Many family members from Camp Seven in Cache; Special Friend; Greg Mallow; Two special sisters: Rose Chockpoyah and Sharlene Eschiti who will miss her very much; numerous uncles, aunts, cousins and many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents: Herschel and June Tahpay; brothers Kenneth Wayne Tahpay and James Tahpay. And numerous aunts, uncles, cousins.

Myron Wahnee




Courtesy Photo

Wahnee

Myron was born on May 28, 1968, in Jose, California to Myers Wahnee Jr. and Cora Thompson. He attended Anadarko High School. Myron was a music lover and well-known artist. He was a descendant of Kiowa and Comanche Tribes of Oklahoma.

He is survived by: father Myers Wahnee Jr. of Mt. View; mother Cora Thompson; brother Michael and Stephen both of Carnegie; children: Mylene, Malcolm, Mason and Morgan; six grandchildren; extended family Rhonda Wahnee, Colton and Zachary; many family members and friends.

He is preceded in death by: two brothers Robert Durgan Wahnee and Jason Gwynn Bryant; granddaughter Vanna Eckiwaudah Scott, maternal grandparents, Roy and Arletta Thornton, great grandparents Fritz and Florence Kaulay, paternal grandparents Myers and Maggie Wahnee Sr.



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- Did You Receive Your 2024 1099-Misc?
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FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
MARCH 1-29 • 7PM-11PM



7PM-11PM • DRAWING EVERY 30
MIN TO WIN \$100-\$2,000 CASH!

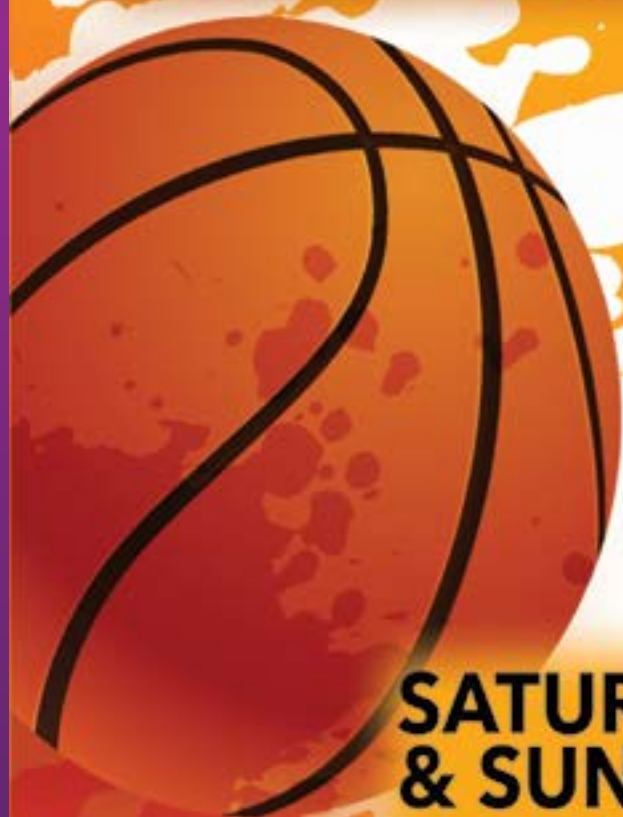
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THE \$100 & \$200 CASH PRIZES DOUBLED!

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



Comanche Rewards Club
EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details

SPUR MARCH MONEY MADNESS



SATURDAYS
& SUNDAYS
MARCH 1-30
7PM-10PM

DRAWINGS EVERY HOUR TO
WIN \$50-\$100 COMANCHE CREDIT!
11PM WEEKLY DRAWING WILL WIN \$300 COMANCHE
CREDIT AND CAN COMPETE TO WIN
\$1,000-\$4,000 CASH ON MARCH 30!



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EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details

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



MARCH



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BURGER
of the month

**FRIED GREEN
TOMATO DOUBLE
CHEESEBURGER**

March Special: \$13.50



Comanche Rewards Club
EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details



COMANCHE
Cares
FOUNDATION

FOOD DRIVE



TUES THROUGH
THURS
FEB 25-MAR 27
10AM-10PM

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE, NON-EXPIRED
FOOD ITEMS AND BRING IN YOUR
FEB 2025-MAR 2025 RECEIPT TO RECEIVE
UP TO \$50 IN COMANCHE CREDIT!



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See Comanche Rewards Club For Details

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



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