VOLUME 26 EDITION 7

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Comanche Nation Natural Resources Launches Online Store On June 16, Comanche Nation Land and Cattle launched an on-

Courtesy Photo Dawsey

One-Year Administrative Reflection Lisa Dawsey **Tribal**

Administrator, Comanche Nation July 2024 - June 2025

Submitted by Lisa Dawsey/Comanche **Tribal Administrator**

When I stepped into the role of Tribal Administrator for the Comanche Nation in July 2024, I inherited a government with strengths, but also a clear need for structural alignment, communication improvement, and transparent processes. Over the course of this first year, I have worked diligently alongside directors, department staff, and our governing committee to build an administrative foundation rooted in accountability, service delivery, and modernization.

Community outreach was one of our earliest and most critical priorities. We distributed over 1,179 backpacks and school supplies to tribal youth across five major locations, including Watchetaker Hall, Anadarko, Dallas, and Oklahoma City. The newly launched Dallas Outreach Center was not only opened on November 24, 2024, but also staffed and equipped through a meaningful partnership with Texas Native Health. Seasonal efforts were equally successful. During Thanksgiving, 185 food baskets were distributed to elders on fixed incomes, and propane assistance was coordinated for homes affected by winter storms. A tribalwide Fitness Center Survey also helped gauge support for converting our facility to 24/7 access, with over 200 responses collected and reviewed.

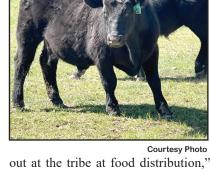
Staffing stability and tribal employment development remained at the forefront. At our highest count, Comanche Nation employed 383 people, with 67 percent identifying as Comanche. Over the year, we filled more than 25 positions, saw the departure of several others through resignation or termination, and celebrated long-serving employees with 13- to 28-year milestones. We revised policies to better define expectations, including dress code standards, comp time use, accruals for part-time employees, allow growth for our employees through education and a structure of due process. Through collaboration with HR, leadership, and staff, we finalized new employee resolutions and strengthened internal communications.

Financial stewardship was critical amid uncertain federal funding. We reduced operating costs by eliminating unused Verizon phone lines and transitioning IT services in-house while saving the Nation an estimated \$36,000 per month. In partnership with Finley & Cook and Rose Rock CPA, we completed the Nation's financial audit with no

che tribal member. CDIB is required.

added to the title and lien, they must be present and have a physically valid Oklahoma Driver's license.

The enrolled Comanche



McIntosh said. "We have our time set up from Mondays and Fridays from one to four in the afternoon, but if somebody has a special time that they need to pick up during the week, they can call the Realty Office, and we'll meet them out there."

He said last year they began processing beef.

"But I had a lot of people that wanted to buy smaller amounts because of the space and freezers and everything," McIntosh said. "So, that's why we went with the online meat sales so they can buy individual products like ground beef or steaks or things like that."

The beef is sold by unit, not by price, on the online store.

"But if they wanted to just come out and buy it by the pound, they can call the office, we can meet them out there, and then we can scan it and get it by the pound," he said. "So, if they want to just come and pick certain things out, they don't have to do it online, they can call here, and we can meet them out there, and they can buy it like that."

There are also packages for people who want a variety.

"It's like a grilling package, a hamburger package, where there's like a mixture of steaks or like a family pack of steaks, roast, and hamburger meat that you can purchase," McIntosh said. "So, just to try it... give everybody an example of things

See BEEF, Page 4

Comanche Nation News PO Box 908

Lawton, OK 73502

Comanche Indian Veterans Association 4th of July 2025 Dining-In and

OK Military Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony July 4, 2025 at Watchetaker Hall starting at 11 a.m.



Courtesy Photo **OK Military Hall of Honor**

Medallion **OK MILITARY** HALL OF HONOR

INDUCTEES MSgt Lonnie R. Henderson, Air Force, Vietnam War SGT Amos Makes Cry, Army

Vietnam War PFC Jimmy Horse, Army Vietnam War

Cpl Leland Parker, Marine Corps Vietnam War Sgt Ronald Mahsetky, Marine

SP4 Billy F. Wermy, Army Vietnam War

Corps Vietnam War

SP5 Joseph Plata, Army Vietnam War

1LT Thomas Boyt, Air Force, Air **Force Academy Graduate** SSG Gordon Whitewolf, Army & OKARNG Gulf War SSgt Lindsey Griner, Marine Corps Iraq War

June 14 Run-Off Election Results on Hold to Become Official

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The June 14 Run Off Election had a total of 717 Comanche voters cast their ballots for the final candidates.

line store for farm-to-table premium

beef. The product is available to trib-

Operations Timothy McIntosh said

they've been working on the website,

which can be found on the Land and

to us, and so there's liable to be some

things that people have questions

about, especially the pricing and ev-

erything else," he said. "So, they can

call up here to the Realty Office and

ask any questions they need to ask

pickup only, we're not shipping meat

right now because shipping is very

expensive, and there's also risk in

shipping meat. So, it's pickup only

Director of Agricultural

"It's all something very new

And that phone number is

"We have time set up, we're

al members and the community.

Cattle Facebook page.

(580) 699-3818.

The unofficial voting results

CBC No. 2 - Darrell Kosechequetah 362 votes (50.49%) and Gene Sovo 355 votes (49.51%). The seven-vote difference has Kosechequetah winning the CBC No. 2 position.

Tribal Attorney - Mike Mc-Bride 284 votes (39.89%) and Wilson Pipestem 428 votes (60.11%). The 144-vote difference has Pipestem, the tribal legal representative.

However, on June 18, the Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdooahnippah, addressed the Nation on the tribe's social media outlets, concerning not only the run-off election, but the overall election. He explained he received a letter on June 16 from the independent tabulator for the election, which is an independent third party that looks over the voting to ensure it is conducted properly.

Tahdooahnippah said the letter contained three concerns pertaining to the election. He added some of the concerns related to the run-off election and some of the concerns related to the general election, while some of the concerns related to

"The three concerns are, first, the number of absentee ballots that arrived for the general election after the May 24 deadline," he began. "The Election Board checked, and there was a protest hearing. The Election Board checked how many ballots arrived before the hearing.

Between the time the Election Board checked and the time they went to the Post Office to collect absentee ballots for the run-off election, many more ballots had come. The number of ballots that arrived after that deadline was a concern to the independent tabulator that relates to the General

In the run-off election, Tahdooahnippah explained the independent tabulator had a concern about a total of 16 ballots coming from one polling site that the Election Vendor failed to place in a sealed envelope.

"We did further investigation, and Law Enforcement Officers were there. We don't think there was anything athwart, but it was definitely a concern for the independent tabulator that the ballots were not See ELECTION, Page 4



MSgt Lonnie R. Henderson Air Force - Vietnam War

Air Force Master Sergeant (Retired) Lonnie Ray Henderson, was born in Stecker, Okla., in 1940. He lives in Cyril, Okla., and is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. He served in the Oklahoma Army National Guard from 1956-59 and Air Force from 1959-86. While in the Air Force he was a "Code Breaker" as an Airborne Cryptographic Linguist with the Russian, German and Vietnamese languages.

MSgt Henderson accrued over 6,000 air hours of combat and combat support missions on C-130 and RE-135 Reconnaissance aircraft. His missions were over Vietnam,

See Inductees, Page 14

Tax Commission Registration Information

General Revenue & Taxation Act of 1995- Section 205-Rule-making Authority

Submitted by CN Tax Commission

The Comanche Nation Tax Commission released updated information pertaining to Comanche tribal vehicle tags.

According to the General Revenue & Taxation Act of 1995-

Section 205a) The Tax Commission shall have the authority to prescribe, promulgate, and enforce written rules and regulations not inconsistent with this Act to provide for its internal operational procedures: or to interpret or apply any Tribal tax laws as may be necessary to ascertain or compute the tax owed by any taxpayer, or for filing of any reports or return required by any tribal tax laws, or as shall be reasonably necessary for the efficient performance of its duties, or as may required or permitted by law.

New Registration

To be considered eligible, you must first be an enrolled Coman-

If any additional names are

tribal member must have a Physical Valid Oklahoma's Driver's License (NO PERMITS or INTERMEDI-ATE) (Must provide a Motorcycle license if registering or renewing a motorcycle).

Valid Oklahoma Insurance (Digital or Paper Copy) Provide CDIB (If never reg-

istered before) Tribal member must be on

the Original title. Names cannot be written after the fact in a different handwriting or ink. The only way a name is add-

ed to the title is if their legal spouse (marriage license provided) is the enrolled tribal member or vice versa, without a lien or tribal to tribal.

If there are any liens on the title and you want to add your legal spouse, you must provide a notarized copy on letterhead from the lien holder stating permission to add the legal spouse (marriage license provided) to the title.

Tribal member listed on the title MUST be presented at the time of registration unless court documents are provided to handle personal affairs.

Registration is processed with the names provided on the title as is unless a marriage license is provided along with a notarized statement from the lien holder permitting to addition of a name to the title.

Once registered, you can fill out the add/delete form (considering there are no liens), and the other person must be present to verify both signatures in front of the notary, providing a valid Oklahoma Driver's License. (Additional fees do apply)

Non-notary states must provide a Bill of Sale along with the title. Title must be filled out to its entirety (Name of purchaser, address, city, state, zip code, mileage, purchase price, date vehicle was sold, buyers signature, and date).

All tags are property of The Comanche Nation Tax Commission. If not returned, there will be a \$20 fee per tag. Renewal

Must have the previous year registration to make sure we are renewing the correct vehicle.

When providing paperwork and you realize it's the wrong vehicle and everything was processed, THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS GIVEN. You will have to pay for your correct renewal.

See TAX, Page 4







Open Yours Here!

877-585-4177 CNB1901.COM/COMANCHE-PRIDE @cnb1901 We Can Help You Get Started Today!

THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mua (July) 2025

Fourth of July Month

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

Contact

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- News items of interest to the local and American Indian community are
- Photographs will be copied and will become the property of TCNN. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
- The Milestones Page (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. Please submit a first and last name. The Passings/ Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. TCNN publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. The Obituaries Page is for tribal members only.
- TCNN will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations. The guidelines for flyer submission are: Pow-wow flyers have to be from an established Comanche organization. There has to be contact person and number on the organization's annual flyer.
- We reserve the right to edit all material. Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed. Letters to the Editor must be signed with a legible name, and have an 500 word limit.
- The letters to the editor or articles contained in The Comanche Nation News does not reflect the views or opinions of the PIO staff.

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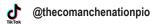
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TCNNPIO

The Comanche Nation News





Government

A Total of 18 Resolutions Presented at the June 7 **CBC** Meeting

Editor's Note: This is an overview of the June 7, 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 Tahdooahnippah, called the CBC Meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Resolutions:

Resolution No. 86-2025- Elder Center Resolution for Grant Survey. The resolution passed 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 87-2025- HR Policies and Procedures Resolution Amendment. The resolution passed 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 88-2025- Law Enforcement Amend Resolution-Cross Deputization. The resolution passed 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 89-2025- THPO Resolution for Programmatic Agreement with US Forest Service. The resolution passed 6/0/0. Resolution No. 90-2025- Tribal Court Resolution to Enter into Contract for

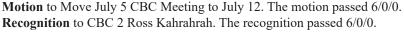
Appellate Justices. The resolution passed 6/0/0. Resolution No. 91-2025- Realty Resolution to Lease 909 SW D Ave. The

resolution passed 6/0/0. Resolution No. 92-2025- CBC Resolution Amending Stipends for Gaming Commissioners and Comanche Nation. Entertainment Board of Directors.

The resolution passed 5/1/0. Resolution No. 93-2025- CBC Resolution Approving MOU Between CN, CNE, Gift Shop. The resolution passed 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 94-2025- CBC Resolution Approving MOU With Comanche Nation Entertainment. The resolution passed 6/0/0.

Resolution No. 95-2025- CBC Resolution Appointing N. Tenequer Tax Administrator. The resolution passed 5/1/0. Resolution No. 96-2025- CBC Resolution TA Salary 2025. The resolution





Courtesy Photo

HONORING. During the June 7 Comanche Business Committee (CBC) meeting, the Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdooahnippah, presented a Comanche Pendleton to the outgoing CBC No. 2, Ross Brant Kahrahrah. He served as the CBC No. 2 from May 2022 to June 2025.





Maruaweka Numunuu:

If you watch the monthly CBC meetings or regularly read this column, then you may know that my 2025 New Year's resolution was to learn more Comanche language. I recently learned a new word from an elder—naruituahkaru. Both the elder and our official dictionary define naruituahkaru as helping one another. The particular elder that taught me this word was not trying to give me a language lesson, but was attempting to teach me Comanche cultural values. This lesson was complemented by another lesson that a different elder had given me—a long time ago, our Comanche bands did not fight one another. Comanche bands may have had their differences of opinions, but they would never resort to violence against one another.

These lessons struck a chord with me because I had just learned that one of our tribal officials had received a threat of violence against a family member through social media. This happened around the same time that I learned several elected officials from Minnesota has been assassinated. Unfortunately, it seems like more and more the cultural values of the mainstream society—greed, jealousy, pride—eclipse our Comanche cultural values—generosity, humility, and naruituahkaru. In my opinion, being Comanche is a privilege but also entails a responsibility of learning and living our traditional values.

Of course, translating traditional values into terms that apply to a modern organization like tribal government often leads to disagreement. And, unfortunately, it seems like people often invoke their own interpretations of traditional values just to support their own personal agendas. Nevertheless, in my own humble opinion, what naruituahkaru means in the context of tribal government is for tribal members to participate in the process.

During my time as Chairman, I have seen some very engaged tribal members, but I have seen too many tribal members that sit back and engage in "Vaguebooking" that bashes the Nation, a tribal program, or tribal administration. For those that do not know, "Vaguebooking" is making a post on social media, usually Facebook, that is intentionally vague or ambiguous but highly personal and emotional. "Vaguebooking" does not provide enough details for me (or anyone else) to fix or address any issues, but the emotional elements foster division and hatred that lead to fighting between families or other groups of Comanches. Each tribal member is empowered to come to meetings and speak, submit comments via email, call their elected officials, or otherwise participate in the process. If tribal members decline to use that power, but instead simply engage in "Vaguebooking," then we are not helping each other and are not fulfilling our responsibility of living our traditional Comanche values. Therefore, please help me (nu tuitua!), and the other CBC members, by submitting comments through officials means with specific details, rather than "Vaguebooking" into the ether, so that we can all naruituahkaru.

Southwest Indian Poly tech Institute Visits the Comanche Nation



From left: Adam Begaye (SIPI Chairman of the Board), Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi Sovo, Chairman Forrest Tahdooahnippah, CBC No. 3 Alice Kassanavoid, CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah, CBC 4 Jordan Fox, and **Bobby Wallace (SIPI Executive Director).**

The Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) Board of Regents Development Office visited the Comanche Business Committee on May 22. The Comanche Business Committee was delighted to host Adam Begaye (Chairman of the Board) and Bobby Wallace (Executive Director) and strengthen the relationship between SIPI and the Comanche Nation. SIPI is a National Indian Community College, based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and is tuition-free.

The Comanche Nation urges Tribal members to consider SIPI while making decisions regarding education and career development. SIPI offers various programs (certificates and Associates' degrees) tailored meet Tribal Nations' specific needs.

								F	ARM TAG	ONLY	
		REGULAR	HANDICAP	MOTORCYCLE	RV	COMMERCIAL	GREATER:	0.00	1.00	2.00	3.00
	YEAR	REGUERIA					LESS:	1.00	2.00	3.00 G	REATER
IST	2025	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$138.78	\$250.00	\$250.00		\$10.00	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$50.00
2ND	2024	\$204.00	\$102.00	\$48.60	\$102.00	\$102.00		\$8.00	\$12.00	\$24.00	\$40.00
3RD	2023	\$178.00	\$89.00	\$42.30	\$89.00	\$89.00		\$6.50	\$9.50	\$19.20	\$32.00
4TH	2022	\$154.00	\$77.00	\$36.60	\$77.00	\$77.00		\$6.00	\$7.75	\$15.00	\$25.60
5TH	2021	\$132.00	\$66.00	\$31.50	\$66.00	\$66.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$12.25	\$20.50
6TH	2020	\$112.00	\$56.00	\$26.70	\$56.00	\$56.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$9.75	\$16.50
7TH	2019	\$95.00	\$47.00	\$22.50	\$47.00	\$47.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$8.00	\$13.25
8TH	2018	\$79.00	\$40.00	\$18.90	\$40.00	\$40.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
9ТН	2017	\$67.00	\$33.00	\$15.90	\$33.00	\$33.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
ютн	2016	\$52.00	\$26.00	\$12.30	\$26.00	\$26.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
11TH	2015	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$9.66	\$20.00	\$20:00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
12TH	2014	\$32.00	\$16.00	\$7.50	\$16.00	\$16.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
OVER 12	2013	\$32.00	\$16.00	\$7.50	\$16.00	\$16.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
MSO (NEW) VEHICLES	2.5%	OF MSRP, PLU	S REGISTRATION	FEE, AND TITLE.							
00% DISABLED VET WITH VA LETTER OR DD-214	\$0.00										
10% - 99% DISABLED VET TH VA LETTER OR DD-214	\$10.00										
MINISTRATIVE CHARGE	\$20.00		COMPANY CELI	PHONE NUMBER: (58	80) 919-0228			-			
PERSONALIZED TAG	\$70.00		FAX NUMBER: (580) 595-3318								
PRINCESS TAGS	\$40.00		ENROLLMENT NUMBER: (580) 492-3371								
RETURNED CHECK		-									
TITLE											
LIEN ENTRY	\$30.00										
LOST/STOLEN TAG			POLICE REPORT.								
LOST DECAL NOTARY	\$30.00										

The Comanche Nation Tax Commission updated fees effective October 1, 2024.

TAX

Continued from Page 1

The above bullets apply to • every tag provided throughout the tag office.

Veteran Tags

- DD214 and/or Service Contration or renewal or nected letter stating the percentage to receive discount
- Five (5) vet tags per tribal member. We will not switch tags out to get discount on new registration if you already have five (5) (excludes 100% service connected)
- 100% is allowed (2) free tax forms. tags New Registration (green title) or renewal.
- Must have a Vet or a combat tag to receive discount. Should you have or request a personalize plate you will be charge regular fees. Exempt tags
- Exempt tags are only issued for vehicles owned by the Comanche Nation. (Excludes Casinos, Smoke Shops, and Entertainment)
- The department director must come register for the first time. Employee id (can obtain
- from enrollment if they do not have one)
- Valid Oklahoma insurance.

Farm Tags

- Farm tags can only be issued for trucks
- quired for a new registration and renewal, and the tribal member must be on it.
- Schedule F tax form is renewal, and the tribal member must be on it.
- Farm tags are priced by weight of truck (in tons) and by how many years registered (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) Refer to "tax imposed on farm trucks."
- TRIBAL MEMBER MUST BE PRESENT FOR NEW REGIS-TRATIONS AND RENEWALS. Commercial Tags

- Issued for trucks, cars, and vans.
- Must have Schedule C or Schedule K tax form for new regis-
- Name of the Business to be permanently affixed to each side of • said vehicle in letters or numerals at least one inch in height and in a color contrasting with the color of said vehicle.
- Tribal member must be on
- Commercial tags are half price. (Same as vet tags, refer to tax rate table for prices)
- BE PRESENT FOR NEW REGIS- be charged. TRATIONS AND RENEWALS.

Recreational Tags

- Issued to only recreational vehicles (Campers/Travel Trailers).
- Does not require insurance if a fifth wheel. (RV trailer that is towed by a vehicle).
- Copy of Oklahoma insurance for a Class A, B, or C.
- Recreational tags are half price. (Same as vet tags, refer to tax allowed to make any changes rate table for prices) Motorcycle tags
- Issued only to motorcycles. For prices, refer to the tax An agriculture card is re- rate tables where it says "MC" under each year for prices.

Physically Disabled Tags

- For physically disabled trib- cate quired for new registration and re- al members, and can be issued to cars, • trucks, and vans.
 - Must have the application filled out and signed by a doctor an-
 - Must provide handicap placard for new registration and re-
 - Physically Disabled tags are half price. (Same as vet tags, refer to tax rate table for pricing) Personalize Plates

All personalized plates are regular price.

- They cannot be substituted for VET, Commercial, Physically Disabled, Farm, Exempt, and Recreational Tags.
- Do not print out a title when registering a new vehicle. We will wait until the personalized plate comes in, then we will print out a title, and then send it to the lien holder.

RENEWALS

- Registration from the previous year is required to ensure we renew the correct vehicle.
- Administrative fee for those TRIBAL MEMBER MUST who only provide the insurance will
 - Person renewing vehicle must have a valid Oklahoma Driver's License. (No Permit or Intermediate)
 - Oklahoma Insurance Verification
 - Insurance must have an effective date and an expiration date.

SWITCHING TAGS

- Tag, title, and registration Only the tribal member is
- Tag does have to be current
- Request title from their lien holder or we can request if needed (admin. fee will be applied).

PROBATE/WILL/POWER **OF ATTORNEY**

- Provide the Death Certifi-
- Provide the proper docu-
- mentation Oklahoma Driver's License
- If you do not have any of the above, you can go to the Comanche Nation Court, request a Civil packet, and submit. Once granted in your favor, submit the required documentation to receive a duplicate title.

For more information, contact the Comanche Nation Tax Commission, (580) 595-3315.

ELECTION Continued from Page 1

secured in a sealed container, as they should have been."

Tahdooahnippah said that the final concern that was raised by the independent tabulator related to both the general election and the runoff election was the partiality and bias of the Election Board Members.

"The independent tabulator observed negative comments about the tribal chairman, about candidates in the election, about constitutional amendments, and ballot questions. The independent tabulator was concerned because these comments were made to the tabulator and not to voters. But if they were making these comments to the independent tabulator, had they made comments at other times during the electoral process, and did that influence any of the voters that went to the polls?"

After receiving the letter, Tahdooahnippah said he immediately notified the run-off candidates in the election to give them the information and file a protest if they chose to do so. He said they did not choose to do

After consulting with the Election Board, they did not take any

"I consulted with the CBC members. Some of them wanted to redo the election. Some of them did not want to re-do the election, and wanted finality of this election, which has been less than smooth," said Tahdooahnippah. "Some were concerned if the CBC had any authority to re-do the election because there is a 60-day clock in the constitution, which has already run."

He said there is nothing in the Election Ordinance that would allow to be a re-do of the election called by the CBC.

After consulting with the CBC and Election Board, Tahdooahnippah decided to have the Special Council that was retained from the prior protest file the letter from the independent tabulator with the Comanche Nation Court. He added he tried to emphasize at the prior CBC meeting that when a court is decid-

ing, it is important that the decision is made with the right facts.

"As long as they are the right facts, I think we can trust the court to come to a good decision, an independent decision, as a panel of three smart people, independent people who have no stake in the outcome of this case. I am trusting them to review the information and decide whether we need to do something, reopen the protest, whether we need to re-do the election, or whether we can finalize the results. But because we put it back to the courts, we are waiting to hear if we will do anything before we proceed in swearing in the candidates and having a final certification."

Tahdooahnippah concluded by apologizing for the inconsistencies that happened in this year's election process. He thanked tribal voters for their patience as everyone waits for the process to conclude.

As of press time, there has not been an announcement of the court decision.

REFLECTION Continued from Page 1

findings and published it for tribal review. Over the course of the year, we secured over \$6 million in federal and grant funding, including \$1.1 million from the Diabetes SDPI grant, \$701,830 for tribal transit, and \$1 million toward Orphaned Well Development. We also proactively worked to separate Gaming Funds from federal compliance paths, implementing new cybersecurity insurance as part of our internal reforms. Several departments under-

went major relocations to improve service delivery. The Public Information Office moved into Building 400, and Social Services temporarily relocated due to flooding and is located now in Building 300. ICW shifted to Building 1400, and the Gift Shop was returned to its original home near the Comanche Nation Casino. Meanwhile, Maintenance and Grasshoppers assisted in five departmental moves and just in the last month Fire responded to 185+ fires and 278 emergency calls. Emergency Management supported 115 families by distributing 2,750 sandbags and delivering 50 cases of water during emergency events.

One of the most impactful operational enhancements this year was the integration of modern communication tools. We launched the first season of the "Nuum Tekwatu

 The Comanche Talk Podcast," with episodes covering culture, community, and leadership updates. Another mass text messaging system was piloted for tribal alerts due to the previous one limiting our ability to send unlimited text message alerts, and a secure portal was created to give enrolled members access to livestreamed meetings, reinforcing transparency in government proceedings. Our Media Department also hosted a Candidate Forum for the 2025 General Election to allow members to hear directly from those seeking office.

From a policy and compliance standpoint, we coordinated 15+ staff trainings on CPR/First Aid, communication, diversity, and professionalism. We conducted tornado preparedness drills, refined the annual report process for departments, and helped finalize updated program guidelines and application forms. Law enforcement began enforcing no-parking zones at tribal facilities to ensure access for emergency responders. Across all areas, we prioritized the safety, organization, and efficiency of Comanche Nation operations.

As we navigated unexpected challenges, including flooding damage that impacted 14 buildings and 17 vehicles, I saw firsthand the resilience of our programs and volunteers. We responded quickly through emergency coordination, insurance claims, and interdepartmental support. These experiences underscored the importance of the systems we have built this year, systems designed not just for routine operations, but for crisis readiness and long-term growth.

Throughout my term, like other elected officials, I have faced ridicule and scrutiny from some tribal members. As leaders, we are not handed a manual when we take over a new administration, especially one that must rebuild or start from fragmented guidance. Despite these challenges, I have remained committed to leading by example, with responsibility, respect, and the determination to go above and beyond for all 18,002 enrolled tribal members. If we continue to tear one another down with lies and hatred, we hinder our own growth as a people. We must

learn to agree to disagree respectfully and move forward.

This administration has made transparency a cornerstone, from publishing budgets and discussing property acquisitions like the hotel and apartments, to holding community meetings that invited open questions. As a servant to our tribal members, we have worked to ensure that Standard Operating Procedures and clear guidelines are in place so that expectations and processes remain consistent and fair for everyone.

As we move forward as a nation, it is more important than ever that we uplift one another and work together with unity and purpose. Our strength lies not just in our diversity, but in our ability to support, respect, and empower each other through both triumphs and challenges. Let us choose to speak words of encouragement rather than criticism. While open and honest conversations are essential to progress, we must strive to be constructive rather than divisive. Words matter and the words we speak about one another should build, not break each other down. We cannot grow unless we walk together, rooted in truth, with the shared goal of building a stronger future for the Comanche Nation.

Looking Ahead: Vision for 2025-2026

In preparation for the upcoming Comanche Nation Fair, we have also worked to expand the width of the arena to better accommodate participants, spectators, and event logistics. This improvement ensures a safer and more accessible space for cultural events, dance contests, and community gatherings. These efforts reflect our continued commitment to enhancing tribal events and preserving our traditions in a way that honors both our history and our future.

As we enter the next chapter, our focus will be on securing additional funding through strategic partnerships with community organizations, nonprofits, and local businesses. These collaborations will help us expand services and build resilience, especially in areas where federal assistance may fall short. We will work to ensure that all programs and processes align with the mission and values of the Comanche Nation prioritizing service, sustainability, and sovereignty. One key initiative will be

enhancing the sustainability and revenue-generating capacity of existing programs such as the Funeral Home, Transit Department, Fitness Center, Museum, and Gift Shop. These entities will undergo strategic planning to grow their community impact while improving operational efficiency. We are also exploring innovative ways to support tribal members in Lawton and surrounding areas who may not qualify for Food Distribution. This includes developing food assistance partnerships with nonprofit agencies to reach those in need.

In anticipation of potential changes to federal funding due to the current presidential administration, we will proactively work to develop a contingency plan to protect essential services. By strengthening financial planning, diversifying income streams, and improving internal controls, we aim to preserve critical services for our tribal members, no matter the external climate.

The year ahead is one of continued growth, strategic vision, and unwavering dedication to our people. Together, we will rise, adapt, and continue building a stronger Comanche Nation for generations to

BEEF

Continued from Page 1

that they might want to try."

He said the online store is new, and it's a learning process for the department.

"None of us have ever done anything like this, so it's a learning curve and I'm sure we're going to run into some mistakes or something like that, so just if people just...bear with us we're trying to get it done because we're trying to get the product out there for people to try," McIntosh said.

However, he hopes to get the product out for everyone in the community to try and has done lots of donations at powwows and the Comanche Nation Fair.

Military News' Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

CIVA Activities Task Force Comanche Change of Command

The U.S. Army Reserve 961st Engineering Battalion from Seagoville, Texas, held a Change of Command Ceremony at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, during their Annual Training Exercise. A group of members of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) took part of the ceremony. A naming ceremony was held on November 9, 2018, at Watchetaker Hall for the 961st Engineering Battalion.



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Flag Song sung by Ronald Monoessy Jr., Hennie & Eli Yazzie and signed by CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie.



Courtesy Photo

Darrell Yazzie performing a blessing to the incoming and outgoing Commanders.

CIVA Monthly Meeting

On June 5, 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 Monah Davis. Mesa Tahchawwickah led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by birthday blessings and recognitions to Clifford Red Elk and Christine Plata.

The evening meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary members, Mindy & Danielle Tomah.

Lanny Asepermy, Ambassador Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor, Treadwell-Poolaw Hall of Honor Chapter inducted Rudolph Kosechequetah into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor.

After the induction, a Cedaring Ceremony was performed by June Sovo on Comanche Nation member Mikayla Taptto who enlisted into the U.S. Air Force. She will soon to be leaving for her training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

After both ceremonies, CIVA Veterans conducted their monthly meeting as Old and New Business were discussed.



Courtesy Photo Clifford RedElk and Christine Plata birthday recognition.

CIVA Color Guard Detail

On June 7, The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) provided a Color Guard Detail for the Opening of the Comanche Nation Higher Education Graduation Banquet which was held at the McCasland Ballroom- Cameron University.



ourtesy Photo

CIVA Color Guard Detail

Nevaquaya Veterans The Nevaquaya family ha

The Nevaquaya family has served, with Honor, since World World II. The first to serve was Malcolm Tate Nevaguaya Sr (1921-1986,) in the Army, from 1943-44, he was awarded the Purple Heart for combat wounds in Europe during World War II; Lindsay T. Bernard Tate Nevaquaya Sr (1928-2012) served in both the Army Air Force and Marine Corps during World War II and the Koren War; Kenneth Lee Nevaquaya (1940-2018) served in the Marine Corps; Malcom Tate Nevaquaya Jr (1946-2022) served in the Army from 1968-1970 including a tour in Vietnam; Lean "Sonny" Nevaquaya (1953-2019) served in the Army from 1979-1982; and Timothy W. Nevaquaya served in the OK Army National Guard from 1984-1990.

There are three more Nevaquaya descendants (two sisters and a brother) serving, two on active duty and one the the OK Army National Guard. They are the children of Audrey Whitefeather Herrera and Calvert Nevaquaya and Army combat veteran Baliente Herrera. They truly exhibit the "Spirit of a Warrior and heart of a Patriot."



Courtesy Photo

Senior Airman Nevaquaya

Air Force Senior Airman Alyssa *Nusooti* Nevaquaya, enlisted on October 8, 2019, and complete Basic Training at Lackland AFB, Texas.

On June 11, 2020, she completed her Tech School, as a Personnel Specialists, at Keesler AFB, Ms., and then deployed overseas to Ramstein AB, Germany from July 2022 to July 2024.

She is currently based at Seymour Johnson AFB in North Carolina.



ourtesy Photo

National Guardsman Corporal Nevaquaya

OK Army National Guardsman Corporal Aaron Tate Nevaquaya enlisted on July 29, 2021. He completed Basic Training at Fort Jackson, S.C. and Advanced Individual Training, as a Small Army and Artillery Repairman, at Fort Lee, Va. In addition to his military service he is a student at Oklahoma State University



Courtesy Photo

Navy Seaman Nevaquaya

Navy Seaman Kaylene Nevaquaya has been in the Navy for almost two years.

Asepermy and Boyt Guest Speakers at Higher Education Banquet

Comanche Indian Veterans Association members Dr. Lanny Asepermy and Dr. Thomas Boyt were guest speakers at the 34th Annual Higher Education Banquet on June 7, at the McCasland Ballroom on the campus of Cameron University.

Dr Asepermy was given an honorary Doctoral degree for Public Service from Missouri State University in May 2025. Dr Boyt is the only known Comanche with two Doctoral degrees, one from Colorado State University for Veterinary Services and one from the University of Oklahoma for Business.

Dr Boyt was born in Kingman, Ariz., in 1950 and is a decedent of the Tomahsah family. He is a 1973 Air Force Academy graduate as he graduated number 18 from a graduating class of 844 cadets. He served on active duty until 1976, in the Air Force, earning the rank of First Lieutenant until he was medically discharged due to tragic accident which caused partial loss of his legs. He has since had to use a walker or wheelchair. Dr. Boyt lives in Chickasha, Okla., where he owns and operates a small veterinary clinic.



Courtesy Photo
Dr Thomas Boyt with Dr Lanny
Asepermy sitting.

Code Talker Presentation

On June 9, CIVA Commander and Vietnam War veteran, Sgt Roger Tehauno; CIVA Treasurer and Air Force Academy graduate, 1LT Thomas Boyt, CIVA Ambassador and Vietnam War veteran SGM Lanny Asepermy; and OK Army National Guardsman and Comanche linguist, Ronald Red Elk were guest speakers at the Midwest City Chamber of Commence for the "Home Away From Home" veterans non-profit organization.

The Mission of the organization is to assist first-term Service Members by pairing them with civilian Host Families to help alleviate the anxiety of being alone or far from home. The organization was established, in 2012, by 2025 OK Military Hall of Fame Inductee Pam Kloiber who will received the Maj Gen Douglas O. Dollar award for Distinguished Public Service on November 1, 2025.

The event, attended by 50+ active-duty Airmen and one active-duty Sailor, all based at Tinker AFB,

and a number of Host families began with a buffet meal, the Pledge to Allegiance and opening prayer.

SGM Asepermy began the hour-long presentation with a history of the Comanche Nation and its veterans. Sgt Tehauno then spoke about his service in the Air Force, from 1965-69, including his combat service at Udorn Air Base, Thailand. ILT Thomas Boyt followed with his service as an Air Cadet at the Air Force Academy, from 1969-73 where he graduated 18th out of 844 Academy graduates. Mr. Red Elk spoke about the the use of the Comanche language by both the World War I & II Comanche Code Talkers.

Mrs Kloiber presented the CIVA with a \$200 donation at the conclusion of the event.



Courtesy Phot

From left, Roger Tehauno, Thomas Boyt, Pam Kloiber, Lanny Asepermy and Ronald Red Elk.

Wermy, Kosechequetah Inducted into OK Military Hall of Honor

On June 5, Army Corporal and Korean War veteran, Billy Joe Wermy, of Apache, Okla., and Army Sergeant Major (Retired) and Vietnam War veteran, Rudolph Kosechequetah, of Atlus, Okla., were inducted into the OK Military Hall of Honor (OKMHOH).

CPL Wermy served in the Army from 1951-53 including 12 months in Korea during the Korean War. He is only one of six living Korean War or Korean War era veterans – he is 93 years old. He was an Infantryman and 60mm Mortar Crewman with the 2nd Infantry Division.

CPL Wermy was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Korean Service with/3 Campaign Stars, Korean War Service and United Nation Service with/Korea Clasp. In 2019 he was also awarded the Korean Peace medal.

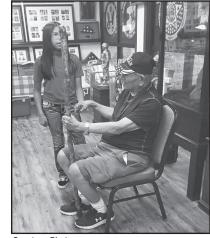
He and his wife, the former Maxine Weryackewe, live in Apache. Due to medical issues the induction was held at his home in Apache.

Also attending the Induction ceremony was OKMHOH President, COL Kelly Zachgo, OKMHOH Ambassador CPT John Farris, former CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, his wife Shirley, their daughter, former Comanche Princess and Air Force veteran, Lanette Chibitty their 11 year-old granddaughter, Mesa Tahchawwickah and Lanny Asepermy.

Tahchawwickah sang a couple of Comanche hymns to Honor Wermy.



Mesa Tahchawwickah singing Comanche Hymns to Billy Joe Wermy.



Courtesy Pho

Mesa Tahchawwickah singing Comanche Hymns to Rudolph Kosechequetah.

SGM Kosechequetah retired from the Army after serving from 1968-95. He served a 12 month tour of duty in Vietnam, from 1969-70, as a Military Policeman, with the 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division.

While in Vietnam he was awarded the Soldiers medal for heroism for action on July 13, 1969, in the Republic of Vietnam. His citation read, in part, "PFC Kosechequetah distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions when given the mission of apprehending Vietnamese who were throwing fragmentation grenades in the perimeter wire at Landing Zone Sharon. After he and Specialist Four Young identified the the Vietnamese at the crest of a small hill they parked their vehicle at the edge of a lake and started up a hill. At this time Specialist Young was blown from his feet by a mine. PFC Kosechequetah was thrown back to the edge of the lake by the concussion, receiving shrapnel wounds to the head and in the face. Specialists Young yelled that he was in an unmarked mine field. At this time PFC Kosechequetah, in spite of Specialist Young's pleas to stay away and with complete disregard for his own safety, entered the mine field, picked up Specialist Young, placed him on his shoulders, and carried him to safety. Here he administered first aid, treating the nearly unconscious soldier for shock. He stayed at the wounded soldier's side for twenty minutes, completely ignoring his own wounds, until trained medical personnel arrived to treat and evacuated Specialist Young. Private First Class Kosechequetah's bravery and compassion for a fellow soldier in the face of immense personal danger reflect the highest credit upon himself, the Military Police Corps, and the United States Army." SGM Kosechequetah later said that Specialist Young had his leg blown

Other awards include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service, two Army Commendations, eight Good Conduct, two National Defense Service, Korean Defense Service, Vietnam Service with/2 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device. He is one of four Comanches to earned the highest enlisted grade of E-9, one of two Comanches to earn the rank of Sergeant Major and one of two Comanches to graduate from the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy,

Kosechequetah became the 63rd Comanche awarded the NUMU WOUNDED WARRIOR medallion for combat wounds - he is 83 years old and lives east of Atlus with his wife, Audrey, of 62 years. His three sons and their wives and 10 other grandchildren and great grandchildren also attended the Induction ceremony. Kosechequetah is one of 30 Comanche veterans given the honorary title of NUMU PUKUTSI by the CIVA for either Gallantry, Valor, Heroism or Bravery or who fought and killed the enemy in Hand to Hand combat.

Programs'

Child Support Announces Court Dates for July

In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Ross Brandt: CNCSP-25-04; Petition for Registration of Foreign Order
- Michael Pocowatchit Jr.: CNC-SP-24-23; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Eastman Tahdooahnippah: CNCSP-20-29; Application for • Indirect Contempt
- Jacob Turtle: CNCSP-24-38; Application for Indirect Contempt

Section 609 (c) Rule 3 of the Comanche Nation Court Codes allows for service by publication in instances where the location of the subject is unknown, or when the subject of service has been unable to be served by traditional means. CNCSP is needing the above name(s) to be placed in our upcoming Comanche Nation Newspaper.

Please take note that all Comanche Nation Tribal Court Child Hearings will be conducted in person.

Please take note that all Court of Indian Offences Child Support Hearings will be conducted in person.

Gravel Tinhorn Releases 2025 Service Schedule

Applications for the Gravel Tinhorn program are organized by town or city, not by date. This means each town or city has a specific time frame for applications. It's important to submit your application during the designated period for your area, as applications received after the deadline will be reserved for the following year. Emergencies are handled on a case-by-case basis.

July 1 - July 31

Applications for Apache area (Service: August)

- August 1 August 31 Applications for Elgin area (Service: October)
- October 1 October 31 Applications for Anadarko - Ft. Cobb, and Carnegie areas (Service: November)

Eligibility and Requirements:

- If there are any changes in the contact number, it is your responsibility to notify the program office immediately. Please call and update your contact information to ensure timely communication.
- Must be enrolled Comanche Nation tribal member and 18 years of age or older.
- Provide Proof of Primary Residence or ownership of the property. Acceptable documentation • includes a utility bill showing the tribal member's name and • primary address, confirming residency with the Comanche tribal member.
- Must not benefit a business or non-Comanche Tribal Member (No rental homes)
- Services are available to tribal members who live within the Comanche Nation jurisdiction boundaries. Services are provided within our Comanche Nation

jurisdiction. (This includes the following counties: Comanche, Caddo, Cotton, Kiowa, Grady, Stephens, and Tillman)

- Driveways must have 15ft of clearance of all vehicles, or debris working or not.
- Not responsible for the trash truck damaging tinhorns.
- The Gravel Tinhorn Program will not put gravel under car-
- Out-of-State: tribal members are not eligible for services under this program. The program is specifically to assist those living within the Comanche Nation's

If you have any questions/ concerns, please call the office at (580) 492-3308 Monday-Thursday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. You can now submit applications through Email: GravelTinhorn@comanchenation.

Gift Shop Moves Next to CN • **Casino in Lawton**

The Comanche Nation Gift Shop has moved back to its original location at 410 S.E. I-44, in Lawton, •

The gift shop hours are Monday thru Friday 08 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The tribal discounts are: • Elders 20% off highest priced item; Public Service: tribal members get 15%; and military • and other tribes get 10% off highest •

To contact the gift shop, call (580)360-0109 or (580) 919-7413.

MMIP Explains Services and Requirements

The Comanche Nation Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) offers support to the family members of missing persons

The missing person is known to be a victim of kidnapping or to be in the company of a human trafficker.

Individuals' disappearance is under investigation by law enforcement. The missing person's family members fear that they may be a victim of crime.

The missing person has a history of being victimized, and their disappearance may be directly or indirectly related to that history.

The CN MMIP also provides support and assistance to family members who have lost a loved one to homicide.

Services

- Outreach activities to educate the community on the MMIP
- Help generate awareness about your missing loved one
- Emergency short-term assistance with food, clothing, transportation, etc.
- Referrals for individual, family, and group counseling

Requirements Member of a federally recog-

nized tribe

Oklahoma resident

For more information, call the MMIP at (580) 492-3501 or email: mmip@comanchenation.com

Accident/Vehicle 3 Alarm Activations 9 Animal Call/Bites 6 Arrest: 3

Police Department Gives

June Service Report

- Assaults: 1
- Assist to Agencies 31
- Assist to Citizens 48
- Building Checks 582 Controlled Dangerous Sub-
- stance 7 Citations 13
- Court Service (Paper Service)
- Court Service (Transport) 6
- Court Service (Court) 11 Criminal Mischief 0
- Damage to Property 10 Deaths:
- Attended 0
- Unattended 0
- Disorderly Conduct 1
- Domestic Violence: 8 DUI 0
- Embezzlement 0 EOD 3
- EMR 3
- Field Interview 70
- Fire S/M/A/O 1
- Fraud/Forgery 0
- Harassment / Threats 4
- Missing Person Adult 1 Missing Person Juvenile 0
- Property Check 3,491
- Public Intoxication 0
- Funeral Escort 9
- Recovered Property 2 Reckless Endangerment
- Reports 110
- Suspicious Activity 17
- Taser Deployment
- Theft 16
- Trash Dumping 1
- Traffic Control 1
- Traffic Stops 42
- Trespassing 4 Vandalism 0
- Vehicle Impound 0
- Casinos 198
- Arrowhead Apartments 2 Best Western Hotel 7
- Unwanted Guest 7
- Use of Force 0
- Welfare Check 7 Resisting Arrest Juvenile 1
- Total Calls for Service 419

Fire Department Fire report for June

The Comanche Nation Fire Department has achieved significant milestones in a short period. They are working to establish tone-out responses from Comanche County Dispatch, a first-time accomplishment. Additionally, they have implemented automatic aid agreements with surrounding fire departments in Comanche County, Cotton County, Grady County, and Tillman County. This month, they participated in a work site for summer youth workers, training three workers daily. They assisted with various calls.

The Comanche Nation fire department also helps with emergency calls in the Wichita Mountains refuge when requested. They have formed a rescue team, and the crew will receive SRT training, emphasizing water rescue operations, to respond to flooding incidents similar to last April. Considering the limited availability of water rescue teams in Comanche County, they aim to acquire a water rescue boat, pending favorable conditions, to provide support to surrounding areas.

Also, the department has devised a new design for shirts for a fundraising event that they would like to undertake.

Here is an overview of the Month, the department's activities included (6) Fire incidents, (3) EMR responses, (4) Vehicle wrecks, (3) Assists to CNEM, and (1) Structural fire. Furthermore, an overview from January 1st to June 24 reveals a total of 145 calls in a six-month time frame.

Also, please follow them on Facebook to be inspired by the pictures they post of different scenes and to stay connected.



Comanche Nation Offices will be closed

July 3 & 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Offices will re-open July 7, for regular business.

for regular business.

Comanche Nation Offices will be closed July 18, in observance of Comanche Chief's Day. Offices will re-open July 21



HIGHWAY TO HEALTH. An Employee Health Fair was organized by the Comanche Nation Administration and Human Resources Department, took place in Watchetaker Hall on June 4, to offer exams and door prizes for attending. Total Wellness was in attendance to do preventative wellness exams for each employee who attended that included blood pressure, glucose screening, CMP test, blood cell and platelets count, A1C, and lipid cholesterol. In addition to Total Wellness, other vendors set up booths: NFP insurance, Blue Cross Blue Shield/Prime Therapeutics, Delta Dental who conducted dental consultations, Aflac, Symetra, LoDo Chair Massage who provided 10 minute massages to employees, and Aaragon Chiropractor who conducted quick exams and small adjustments as needed. The event was well received by the employees, and another will be planned tentatively.

LEGAL AID CLINIC

FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS





ATTENTION COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE WE HAVE UPGRADED TO A

NEW MASS TEXT SYSTEM FOR OUR TRIBAL MEMBERS! SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE LATEST NEWS ABOUT COMANCHE NATION

EVENTS, CLOSURES, SCHEDULE CHANGES AND MORE! HOW TO SIGN UP:

1. TEXT "START" OR "OPT IN" TO (580)-232-4229 AND ACCEPT THE WELCOME MESSAGE.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY SUBSCRIBED TO THE PREVIOUS MASS TEXT SYSTEM,

YOU DO NOT NEED TO SIGN UP FOR THE NEW SYSTEM. ALL EXISTING USERS HAVE BEEN ROLLED OVER.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (PIO) AT 580-492-3381.

Programs

How to Protect Yourself From Post-Separation Abuse

By Stephanie Thurrott

Stephanie Thurrott is a journalist and trained domestic violence advocate who has contributed more than 50 articles and counting for DomesticShelters.org covering topics that range from the costs of escaping abuse to ending revenge porn.

If you're a domestic violence survivor, you probably realize that the threat of danger doesn't end when you leave the relationship. An abuser may escalate their tactics, especially since they may feel as though they are no longer in power or that they're losing control.

The best protection is a to have a plan—knowing what may come can help you feel some sense of control and better help you put a safety plan in place that can help you move forward.

Here are a few tactics many abusers try after their partner separates or starts divorce proceedings, and strategies you can use to combat them.

1.Trying to Convince You to Come Back

What can happen: An abuser may use **emotional abuse** and manipulation to try to make you stay in the relationship. They may threaten to harm you, your children, your family, your pets or your coworkers. They may threaten to kill themselves. They may try to **convince you that the abuse is your fault** so you feel guilty and return to the relationship.

What you can do: Minimize or eliminate contact as much as possible. Every time you communicate with an abuser, you create an opportunity for them to try to reconnect with you. They may try to use charm or pity to play on your emotions.

You can also connect with a mental health professional so you can talk through the history of your relationship and your former partner's actions with someone who is trained in understanding these behav-

2.Stalking You

What can happen: <u>Stalking</u> can take a lot of different forms. An abuser might follow you, either in real life or online. They may threaten or intimidate you or your family. They might drive by your home or workplace, or <u>track your car</u> or <u>phone</u>. They could manipulate situations so you feel that you need to contact them.

What you can do: Get an <u>order of protection</u>. Also called a <u>restraining order</u>, this legal document requires an abuser to stay away from you. You might think your ex won't respect this order, but research shows these documents reduce the risk of violence.

3.Blocking Your Access to Money

What can happen: Financial abuse is one of the leading reasons survivors don't leave. During your relationship, your partner may have managed all the finances and/or made it difficult or impossible for you to work. So, you might not have any savings or income. An abuser may prevent you from accessing money or credit cards, so you can't pay for housing or cover your needs.

What you can do: Separate your money from your ex's as soon as you can. Get a copy of your credit report, so you know exactly what credit cards and loans show up under your name. If you're listed as an account holder on a joint checking or savings account, you have the right to withdraw money from that account. If you and your ex have joint credit cards, you should be able to close those accounts by calling the bank. That way no new charges can get posted.

If you have questions or need additional information contact Family Assistance Center (Women's Shelter) (580) 492-3590. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. to speak with an advocate.

Adult Education Student of the Month Thersina Hope



Courtesy Photo

Hope

Hello! *Nu nahnia tsa* Thersina Hope. Hope is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. She is also Sioux and Chippewa. Hope's parents are Shirley and Glenn Omengebar, and Bert Laurenzana.

Hope is a current graduate of Great Plains Technology Center with her long-term Nursing license and Emergency Medical Technician certification. Hope's goal is to become a Registered Nurse with her advanced EMT certification.

Hope would like to travel to help out native communities that can't get access to medical care and give back where she can. Hope wants to become that 1.2 percent of native nurses and make her tribe proud.

Hope wants to thank her family and the Comanche Nation Higher Education Department for helping her to achieve her goals. Without her family and Comanche Nation none of this would be possible.

"Don't ever let anyone or anything stop you from achieving your goals. Remember you are important, valued, and loved." Thank you!

Higher Education Graduate Student of the Month Darlene Tate-Hayes



Hayes

My name is Darlene Tooahimpah Tate-Hayes. Hayes' parents are the late James "Shorty" Tooahimpah Tate and Eleanor 'Pagie' Tate (Parker). Her paternal grandparents are the late Ernest Tooahimpah Tate Sr. and Rev Virginia Wauahdooah Tate. Her maternal grandmother is Esther Parker. Hayes is descended from Chief Wildhorse and Quanah Parker.

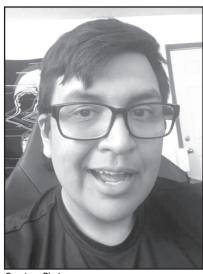
Hayes received her bachelor's degree in Business Management in January of this year from the University of Phoenix. On May 20, 2025, Hayes started her Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA).

Hayes is currently married and has two daughters and one granddaughter. Hayes retired from the Air Force in 2023.

In her spare time, she enjoys growing/ caring for her orchids and

raising her nine dogs, seven of which are Yorkies. Hayes' plans are to one day own a business with her husband.

Higher Education Undergraduate Student of the Month Pierce Stevens



Stevens

Hello this is Pierce Stevens. Stevens is the son of Dr. Andrew Stevens and Cynthia Tahmahkera-Stevens. He is a descendant of Quanah Parker and Wild Horse.

Stevens is earning his bachelors in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics at the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. Stevens plans to graduate December 2025.

Stevens is currently works as a cybersecurity specialist at the Oklahoma City Area Office. In the future, he wants to apply to the Department of Defense, Alias, and NATUV.

Stevens enjoys spending time with family and friends. He loves to work out and play guitar.

Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Alex Yellowfish



Courtesy Pho

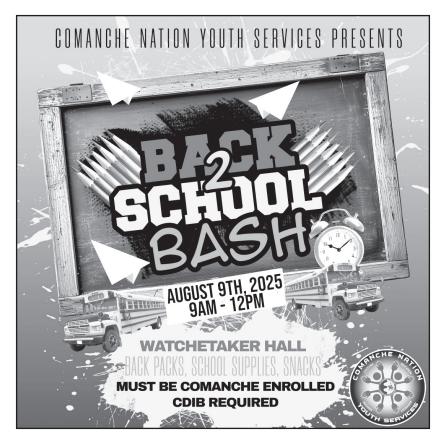
YellowfishAlex Yellowfish i

Alex Yellowfish is a proud member of the Comanche Nation. He is the son of Sonny Maldonado.

Yellowfish attended Great Plains Technology Center in Lawton, Okla., and recently completed the following classes under the Firefighter/EMT program: Emergency Medical Technician, Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations, and Firefighter 1. He has gained employment with the City of Lawton and works under the Fire Department as of May 2025.

Yellowfish enjoys skateboarding, many different outdoor activities, and loves spending time with his dog named Sarge.

Yellowfish would like to thank the Comanche Nation Higher Education Department for all of their help throughout his program. The Comanche Nation Higher Education Department provided invaluable assistance during the transition from the classroom to the working world.







Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

JULY 2025

						···
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Frederick ² 2nd Day		4 CLOSED Independence Day	
6	Walters 2nd Day	8 Cache 1st Day	Cache 2nd Day	Cache 3rd Day	Cache 4th Day	
13	Lawton	Lawton 2nd Day	Lawton	Lawton 4th Day	CLOSED 18 Comanche Chiefs Day	
20	Lawton 5th Day	Make-Up Day	Make-Up Day	Make-Up Day	Make-Up Day	
27	Make-Up Day	29 Inventory	Inventory	31 Inventory		

Answers on Page 16





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Glazed Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients:

1 lb. sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch-thick slices
Vegtable cooking spray or oil

- 1 then brown sugar
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 3/4 cup orange juice

2 tbsp lemon juice (optional)

Directions

Spray 1 quart casserole dish with cooking spray, or coat lightly with oil, and place potatoe slices in the bottom. Combine cornstrach and brown sugar in a small bowl and add orange and lemon juice, stirring well. Pour over potatoes and cover and bake at 425 degrees for 40 minutes or until potatoes are tender and glaze is thickened.

Apple Crisp

Ingredients:

- 4-5 medium apples
- 1/4 cup butter (or margarine)
- 1/4 cup quick cooking oatmeal 1/4 cup flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tbsp cinnamon
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Grease the bootm and sides of a square pan. Remove the cores from the apples. Slice the apples. Spread the sliced apples n the bottom of the pan. Cut the butter or margarine into small pieces and put in a medium-size bowl. Add the oatmeal, flour, brown sugar and cinnamon. Using two knives, cut the margarine into mixture until it looks like small crumbs. Sprinkle over the top of the





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2025 Comanche Nation Graduates



Adrian Garrison Lawton High School



Ahlijah Gipp Shawnee High School



Alissa Lowing Moore High School



Antonio Brown Newcastle High School



Ariona Martinez Cyril High School



Ava Burgess Lexington High School



Ayla Knox MacArthur High School



Borger High School



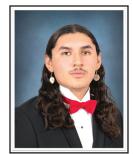
Chloe Scherer Exeter Twp High School



Anadarko High School



Eliana Gonzalez Elgin High School



Gavin Williams Cache High School



Gracelyn Pedro Apache High School



Hannah Keahbone Elgin High School



Ian Guerrero Wichita North High School



Isabell Autaubo Norman High School



Jace Gill Cleveland High School



Jacob Liles Central High School



Jade Airington Velma Alma High School



JaMarcus Jarvis MacArthur High School



Jasmine Poemoceah Cache High School



Javon Frederick Eisenhower High School



Jessica Machado



Jonas Floyd Southeast Polk High School



Joseph Daukei-Alvarado Norman High School



Kaleb Plata Lawton High School



Kamille Komacheet Cache High School



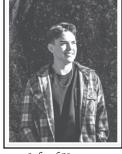
Kassidy Foster Fraser High School



Layla McGee Clinton High School



Leah Portillo Eisenhower High School



Leland Koweno MacArthur High School



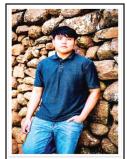
Lena Douglas Norman High School



Levi Currier Newcastle High School



Marlene Ahdosy-Robles Moore High School



Michael Blackstar Chickasha High School



Modesto Bosques Indiahoma High School



Nathan Hawzipta Lawton High School



Nellie Salinas Lawton High School



Nia Stayton Indiahoma High School



Noah Tecumseh Fayette High School



Olivia Hill



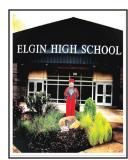
Onalesiah Johnson Indiahoma High School



Paisley Journeycake Minco High School



Raiden Tehauno Cyril High School



Ray Tomahsah Elgin High School



Schlal Mahsetky Lawton High School



Seth Pewewardy Lawton High School



Talia McCray Eisenhower High School



Tatum Howlingwater



Tehya Facundo Riverside Indian School



Tessa Outlaw Dimensions Academy



Tomoyake Tahchawwichkah Riverside Indian School



Tripp Burgess-Keel Elgin High School



Tyrus Rogers Coronado High School



Vivian Little Chief Newton Apache High School



Wesley Bennett Elgin High School



Zoe Goss Great Plains Technology



Devin Lopez Great Plains Technology





Sarah Harwood Texas A & M Engineering



Thersina Hope

Little Priest Tribal College



Julia Mantzke

Oklahoma City Community

Oklahoma State University-OKC



Debre'ona Wehmeyer-Gibson

Great Plains Technology

Tulsa Community College



Cydnie Desamais South Mountain Community College



Downey Adult School



Deja Tselee Caddo-Kiowa Technology



Alex Yellowfish Great Plains Technology





2025 Comanche Nation Graduates



Shauna James Cameron University

Bakersfield College



University of Phoenix



Destinee Red Elk-Williams





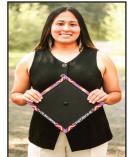
Katelyn Asenap Cameron University



Benjamin Caudill



University of Phoenix





Mary Laine









Cameron Richardson-Blum East Carolina University



Jake Valdez University of Oklahoma



Nia Weryackwe University of Oklahoma



Gracelyn Wilcox Cameron University



Leslie Cusic University of Oklahoma



Harrison Guy University of Oklahoma



Amber Hedge Southeatern Oklahoma State University



Kristina Luna Newman University



Josh Poahway



Lena Proctor



Michael Geffre



Tyson Powell



Janessa Raspante

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





Kellie McCarthy



Cameron University



Kenneth Payton Williams Cameron University





Georgia Southern University



Randall University



Cameron University



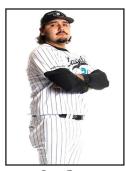
Sonoma State University



University of Oklahoma



Ashleigh Mithlo Cameron University



Cruz Perez Mid-America Christian



Iordan Poemoceah University of Oklahoma



Arkansas Tech University



Grand Canyon University



University of Oklahoma-HSC



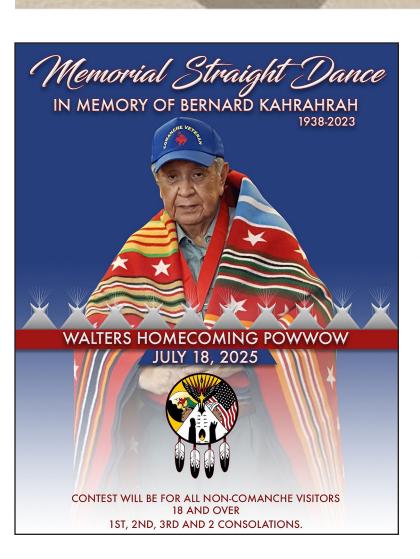
Touro University-Nevada



Northern Arizona University



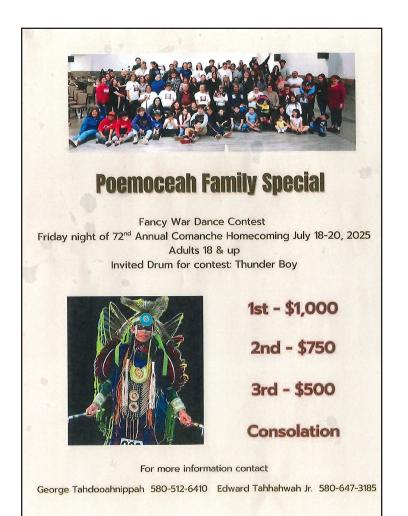




Comanche Homecoming Golf Tournament 2-Man Scramble July 11, 2025 **Lawton Municipal Golf Course 3401** SW 11th St., Lawton, OK \$150 Entry Fee (Includes meal, cart & green fee) Info: (580) 713-2011

Comanche Homecoming Horse Shoe & Cornhole Tournament Both begin at 10 a.m. July 20, 2025 Sultan Park, Walters, Okla. \$10 Entry Fee / 2-Person Team Info: (580) 512-6192.

> **Comanche Homecoming Turtle Race** 10 a.m. July 20, 2025 Sultan Park, Walters, Okla.



INDUCTEES

Continued from Page 1

Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Grenada and many other European, Asian and South American countries.

He earned 66 decorations, medals, badges, citations and campaign ribbons including the Meritorious Service, Air Force Commendation, Air medal w/Numeral 19, Vietnam Service w/3 Campaign Stars and Armed Forces Expeditionary (Grenada) medals, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award w/Valor Device w/8 Oak Leaf Cluster and the Chief Air Crew and Combat Air Crew Badges.



Courtesy Photo PFC Jimmy Horse Army - Vietnam War

Army Private First Class Billy F. Horse, was born in Lawton, Okla., in 1948. He is an enrolled member of the Kiowa Tribe. PFC Horse passed away in 1984 at age 34 years. His final resting place is the Mount Scott Kiowa-Comanche-Apache Cemetery.

(Posthumously)

He served in the Army from 1967-69. PFC Horse served in Vietnam, from 1968-69, with Company C, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division (Airmobile) as a Rifleman.

He was decorated twice, both on July 17, 1968, with the Bronze Star w/Valor Device for "heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile enemy force in the Republic of Vietnam." Other awards include the Combat Infantryman and Sharpshooter w/M14 Rifle Bar Badges, Air medal, Army Commendation, Vietnam Service w/2 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device medals and two Overseas Bars.



Cpl Leland Parker USMC - Vietnam War Numu Pukutsi

Marine Corp Corporal Leland Parker, was born in Lawton, Okla., in 1948. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. He served in the Marine Corps from

Cpl Parker served in Vietnam with Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division in the I Corps area of Operations. On March 23, 1968, he was wounded by mortar shrapnel to his upper leg near Con Thein.

Cpl Parker was awarded the USN/USMC Achievement medal w/ Distinguishing Combat Device "for heroism in connection with operations against the enemy om the Republic of Vietnam from November 2, 1967, to November 23, 1968." Other awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, Purple Heart, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service w/4 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device. Cpl Parker was given the honorary title of Numu Pukutsi (Crazy Dog Soldier) by the Comanche Nation.

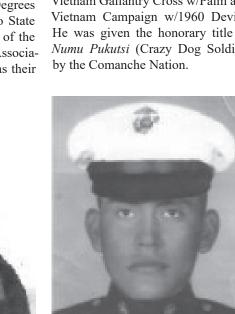


1LT Thomas Boyt Air Force **AF Academy Graduate**

Air Force First Lieutenant Thomas Boyt, was born in Kingman, Ariz., in 1950. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation and lived in Chickasha, Okla., from 1980-92 and since 2019.

1LT Boyt is the first on only five Comanche to graduate from one of three U.S. Military Academies. He graduated 18th out of 844 graduates, from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1973. After graduation he was sent to Vandenberg AFB, Cali., for Minuteman Missile training then to Malmstrom AFB, Mont., with the 490th Strategic Missile Squadron, as the Deputy Combat missile Crew Commander. He was medically retired in

His awards include the National Defense Service medal and Air Force Longevity and Small Army Expert Marksmanship ribbons. 1LT Boyt earned Doctorate Degrees from Oklahoma and Colorado State Universities. He is a member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association Color Guard and serves as their Treasurer.



Sgt Ronald Mahsetky

Army and National Guardsman Staff Sergeant Gordon Whitewolf, was born in Lawton, Okla., in 1952 and lives in Anadarko, Okla. He is an enrolled member of the Co-

SSG Whitewolf served in the Army from 1972-84 and the Oklahoma Army National Guard from 1989-96. While on active duty he served at Fort Bragg, N.C. with the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Hood, Texas, with the 2nd Armored Division and Germany with the 8th Infantry Division. During the Gulf War SSG Whitewolf served with A Battery, 1st Battalion, 158th Field Artillery (MLRS), 45th Infantry Division. He was an Artillery Crewman, Senior Gunner, Squad Leader and Assistant Section Chief.

SSG Gordon Whitewolf

Army & OKARNG

Gulf War

manche Nation.

His awards include the Parachutists Badge, Army Commendation, Army Achievement (2), Good Conduct (2), National Defense Service (2), Southwest Asia Service w/2 Campaign Stars, Saudi Arabian and Kuwait Liberation of Kuwait medals, the Army Service, Overseas and NCOPD with/Numeral 3 ribbons. SSG Whitewolf has 30 qualified parachute jumps.



SGT Amos Makes Cry Army - Vietnam War

Army Sergeant Amos Makes Cry, was born in Lawton, Okla., in 1948. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation and of Ponca Indian descent.

SGT Makes Cry served in the Army from 1968-69. After his occupation training, as a Artillery Crewman, he served in Vietnam with the 1st Battalion, 11th Artillery, 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery and 6th Battalion, 32nd Artillery (as a Radioman and Forward Observer) with the 9th Infantry Division.

On April 18, 1969, he was decorated with the Army Commendation medal w/Valor Device for "heroism in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam." SGT Makes Cry was awarded two other Army Commendation medals, the National Defense Service, Vietnam Service w/4 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device. He was given the honorary title of Numu Pukutsi (Crazy Dog Soldier)



USMC - Vietnam War Numu Pukutsi

Marine Corp Sergeant Ronald Mahsetky, was born in Lawton, Okla., in 1948. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.

He served in the Marine Corps from 1965-69. Sgt Mahsetky served two tours in Vietnam with the 1st Marine Division. He was an Infantryman, Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant. While in Vietnam Sgt Mahsetky served from I Corps to the Mekong Delta and Cambodia. In the book "Young Blood, a History of the 1st Battalion, 27th Marines" it is written that Sgt Mahsetky fought and killed the enemy in Hand to Hand combat.

His awards include Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Armed Forces Expeditionary, Vietnam Service w/1 Silver and 1 Bronze Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm, Vietnam Civil Action Second Class and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device medals. He was given the honorary title of Numu Pukutsi (Crazy Dog Soldier) by the Comanche Nation.



Courtesy Photo

SP5 Joseph Plata Army - Vietnam War

Army Specialists Five Joseph Rivas Plata, was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1949 and is is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.

He lived in Rush Springs, Okla., since 1993. SP5 Plata passed away in 2018. His final resting place is the Fort Sill National Cemetery.

He served in the Army from 1967-72. SP5 Plata served, from 1969-70, in Vietnam with B Company, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Air Cavalry Division as a Door Gunner. He was wounded on February 29, 1969.

SP5 Plata was awarded the Air Medal w/Valor Device on 12 August 1969 for heroism. Other awards include a second Air medal, Army Commendation, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service w/4 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm, Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device medals and the Air Crewman Badge. He was given the honorary title of Numu Pukutsi (Crazy Dog Soldier) by the Comanche Nation.



SP4 Billy F. Wermy Army - Vietnam War

Army Specialists Four Bil-Wermy, was born in Lawton. Okla., 1948. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.

SP4 Wermy served in the Army from 1970-71. He completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Lewis, Wash., and Advanced Individual Training, as an Armor Crewman, at Fort Knox, Ky.

After his training he served in Vietnam from August 1970 to August 1971 with I Troop, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as a loader, driver and gunner on the M551 Sheridan tank.

SP4 Wermy completed his military obligation with HQs & HQs Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, 6th Army at Fort Carson, Colo.

His awards include the Army Commendation, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service w/ Campaign Star, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device medals.



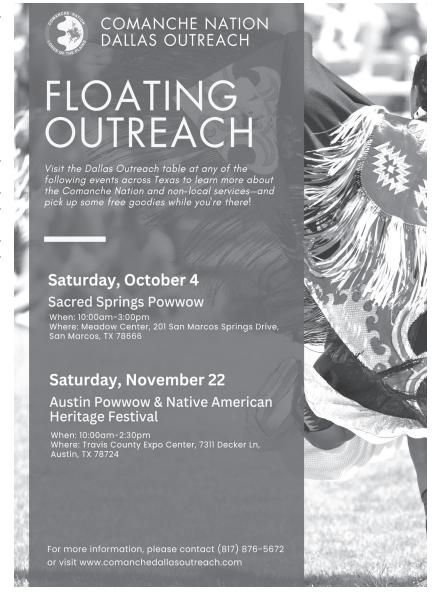
SSgt Lindsey Griner USMC - Iraq War Numu Pukutsi

Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Lindsey Griner, was born in Cedar Rapids, Neb., in 1982 and lives in Stafford, Va. She is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.

SSgt Griner served in the Marine Corps from 2003-07. She was promoted to Staff Sergeant while in the Inactive Reserve in 2008. From March-October 2006 she served with the 1st Marine Expeditionary (Forward) in Iraq. SSgt Griner was a gunner, driver and convoy commander.

On August 16, 2006, she was awarded the USN/USMC Achievement medal with/Combat Distinguishing Device by "displaying bravery in the face of constant danger on the roads of Iraq." She is the only female Comanche veteran decorated for heroism and awarded the Combat Action Ribbon.

SSgt Griner was also awarded numerous other service medals, ribbons and commendations. She is the only female Comanche veteran given the honorary title of Numu Pukutsi (Crazy Dog Soldier) by the Comanche Nation.



Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mua (July) 2025

The Comanche Nation News

People, Places and Things Happening





Courtesy Photos

YOUTH DANCERS. The Comanche Youth Dancers has a busy summer schedule, and kicked it off on June 12 at the Comanche Nation Museum and at the University of Science and Art (USAO) in Chickasha, Okla. On June 13, the group preformed at the Comanche National Museum, honoring Cynthia Ann Parker, mother of Comanche leader, Quanah Parker. The group has around 30 dancers of all ages, tribes and dance categorise. Comanche elder, Teresa Lopez, is the coordinator of the group, and has been instructing the youth for over 30 years.

Lopez Makes OSU President's Honor Roll



Courtesy Photo

Lopez

Congratulations to James R Lopez who received the president's honor Roll from Oklahoma State University. He is currently a sophomore going into to his Junior year, his major is in Finance.

His parents are Gary Lopez and Jodi Breeden He is the grandson of Teresa Lopez and Larry Lopez, the late James Eshiti and Susan Franklin.





CHAMPION ATHLETIC CAMP. The Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery's Native Spirit Project Suicide Prevention partnered with Day of Champions to have a two-day camp for football, fast-pitch, and multisport camp for 150 school-age children on June 2 and 3 at the Comanche Complex campus. Top coaches in every field trained the student athletes in conditioning, various drills, and practices.



Comanche
Reformed Church
Hymn Singing
6 p.m. - 8 p.m. , July 10
201 NW Mission Blvd., Lawton
Everyone is welcome.



Courtesy Photo

COMANCHE SUMMER. The Texas Outdoor Musical at the Palo Duro State Park presented the annual Comanche Summer on June 21 at the Pioneer Amphitheater. The nearly sold out event highlighted Comanche tribal dancers from various categories and they demonstrated dances, while the Master of Ceremonies, Wallace Coffey, gave historical facts about the Comanche tribe and its ties to Palo Duro. The 2025 Comanche **Nation Princess Isabela Ramirez** and the 2025 Comanche Little Ponies Princess, Arlene Schonchin were in attendance and per-



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

formed The Lord's Prayer to begin the event. TOP: The dancers for the 2025 Comanche Summer performance. RIGHT: Comanche tribal youth, five-year-old Neahe Carpencher, helps sing at the drum before his performance. The Comanche Summer is in its 12th year of being a part of the Texas Outdoor Musical.





Comanche Nation Youth Services honors the Class of 2025

The Comanche Nation Youth Services hosted a High School Graduation Banquet. This year's theme was "Makwaba Tanu Matu *Miarui* – Embrace the Journey.

A total of 58 graduates and their families attended the event, which was held June 13, at Cameron University's McCasland Ballroom in Lawton.

The 2025 Comanche Nation Princess, Isabela Ramirez, and the 2025 Comanche Little Ponies Princess Arlene Schonchin signed the Lord's Prayer to begin the evening honoring.

The keynote speaker was Tashina Tahdooahnippah of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma and a descendant of the Comanche Nation and Kickapoo of Kansas. She gave a moving oration about the struggles Native students face and to be proud of their lifetime achievement of completing high school.

Graduates Jonas Floyd and Lyle Logan were recognized as the students who traveled the farthest to attend the ceremony. They traveled from Pleasant Hill, Iowa.

The Valedictorian Anadarko High School, Dani Craig, also gave a short address to her fellow graduates.

Leann Tahsequah, the recipient of the 2024 Dorothy Lorentino Sunrise Scholarship, presented the scholarship to this year's recipients, Shiela Mahsetky and Lela Kowena.

The Comanche Nation Vice Chairwoman, Diana Sovo Doyebi, presented the students with certificates of achievement.

This year's graduation banquet was in memory of the late Jessica "Gracie" Machado, who passed away be-fore graduating. Her family was presented with a blanket in her honor.





Graduates Jonas Floyd and Lyke Logan traveled from Iowa to attend the graduation ceremony.





The Comanche Nation Princess, Isabela Ramirez and Comanche Little Ponies Princess, Arlene Schonchin, sign the Lord's Prayer to begin the evening events.



Dani Craig, who is the Valedictorian for the graduating Class of Anadarko High School, gave a speech to the fellow graduates.



The graduation banquet was in memory of the late Jessica "Gracie" Machado, who passed away before graduating. Her family was presented with a blanket in her honor.



Guest Speaker Tashina Tahdooahnippah, gave a moving speech to the graduates and their families.



Tyrus Rogers is the valedictorian of his class Coronado High School in Lubbock, Texas, graduating with a GPA of 4.84. He has been accepted to several prestigious universities, including:

- **Yale University**
- **Columbia University**
- **Rice University**
- **Tufts University Texas Tech University**
 - Colorado School of

Historic Preservation and Elder Council Welcome the First Day of Summer at Summer Solstice

By Jolene Schonchin/News staff

The Comanche Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) and Comanche Elders Council hosted a prayer vigil in observation of the National Day of Prayer for Sacred Site Protection at sunrise of the Summer Solstice on June 20, at the Medicine Bluff, which is a sacred site for the Comanche people.

A caravan left the Comanche Nation Complex at 6 a.m. with elders, tribal members, and the visiting Mescalero Apache tribe of Arizona.

The THPO Director and coordinator of the event, Martina Minthorn, welcomed the participants and gave a brief history of the Medicine Bluffs and other sacred sites of the Comanche people.

Prayers were given, and Comanche hymns were sung. The visiting Mescalero Apache tribe also offered their songs to the morning sunrise. The Comanche Little Ponies Princess, Arlene Schonchin, signed the Lord's Prayer. Comanche Native American Church 1918 Chairman, Billy Komahcheet, cedared participants. Many walked to the river afterwards to offer a prayer.

A breakfast awaited the group at Watchetaker Hall, provided by Comanche tribal member, Morgan Tosee. Gifts of cedar, sage, ekwipusa (red rock), and tobacco were given from the coordinators.



Comanche elders and tribal members gather at the foot of Medicine Bluffs on Ft. Sill, Okla., to participate in the National Day of Prayer for Sacred Site Protection at sunrise of June 20.

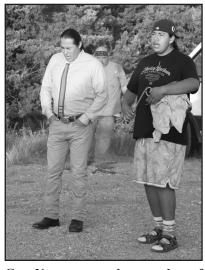


Tribal member Morgan Tosee catered a tasty breakfast at Watchetaker Hall following the sunrise

prayer ceremony at Medicine Bluffs.



A visiting Mescalero elder offers a morning hymn in her language during the National Day of Prayer for Sacred Site Protection at Medicine Bluffs, Ft. Sill.



Guy Narcomey and a member of the Mescalero Apache Tribe sing a traditional song June 20 at Medicine Bluffs, Ft. Sill for the National Day of Prayer for Sacred Site Protection

Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday

May 13 - Scarlett & Seth Garcia May 17 - Osiah Alverez Lit-

sey

June 1 - Olivia Zavala June 29 - Victoria Rose Gilliam

Happy Birthday!



July - Jett Lee

July 2 - CJ DeVine

July 6 - Thomas Hewett Jr. July 7 - Olivia Skeen "Happy 31st Birthday! From, your

children! July 8 - Ruby Zavala

July 8 - Arlene Schonchin

July 9 - Valentine Zavala

July 14 - Andre Pocowatchit July 14 - Ben Seveses

July 16 - Christian Berry Gilliam

July 18 - Lailah Kopaddy "Happy 10th Birthday! Mom-

ma and Kaku loves you!" July 19 - Emarosa Hodges

July 21 - John Barfield "Happy 24th Birthday! Momma and Kaku loves you!"

July 23 - Thotes Poemoceah

July 23 - Trevor Pewewardy

July 23 - Austin Zavala July 28 - Selina Rodriguez

"Happy Sweet 16! Momma and Kaku loves you!"

The Comanche Nation News August Edition Deadline: July 15 Email: stacey.heminokeky@comanchenation.

> Mail: Comanche Nation/PIO P.O. Box 908 Lawton, OK 73501 Contact: (580) 492-3385



Happy 18th Birthday CJ DeVine July 2nd



Thomas Hewett Jr. July 6 ~ Happy 60th Birthday! Love, your family.



Ruby Zavala July 8 ~ We love you. From, the fam!



Arlene Schonchin July 8 ~ We love you and are so proud of you. From, Mom, Dad and Mojo.



July 16



Christian Berry Gilliam ~ We all love you very much! From,

Kakoo, Rachel, Ariane, Mila and

Daddy.



Happy Birthday **Emarosa Hodges** July 19 ~ Happy Birthday baby girl! Love,

your cousins, Callie, Ariane and

Rachel.



Happy Birthday **Thotes Poemoceah** July 23



Happy 15th Birthday

Valentine Zavala

July 9

~ We love you. From, the fam!

Happy 11th Birthday Austin Zavala July 23 ~ We love you. From, the fam!



Trevor Pewewardy July 23 ~ Happy 24th Birthday, Trev! Love, Mom, Tristian, Trinity, Dre and Bellamy.



July ~ We are so proud of you and we love you so much! From you Dad, Mom, Brother (Dash) and baby sister (Lyanna)

Happy Birthday

Jett Lee



Olivia Zavala June 1 ~ We love you. From, the fam!



Osiah Alverez Litsey **May 17** ~ We love you! From, Grandma & Grandpa.

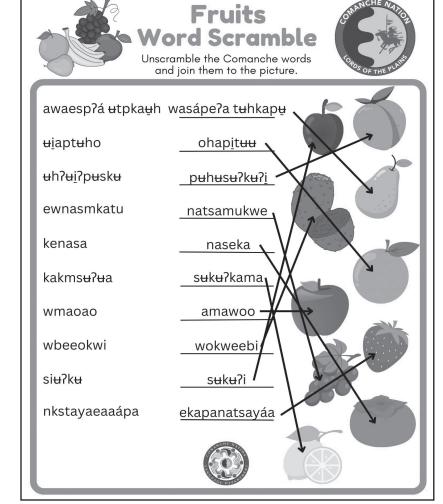


Victoria Rose Gilliam June 29 ~ Love, Grandma and Grandpa.



Happy Belated 12th Birthday Scarlett & Seth Garcia May 13 ~ HBD Twins! We love you!

Answers from Page 8



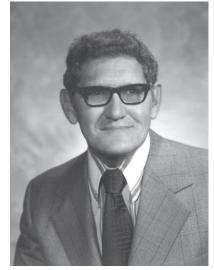
"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

-Mathew 5:13-16

rituaries

Leroy Esadooah



Esadooah

Esadooah went Lerov peacefully to be with his Lord on April 24. He was born August 25, 1922, in Lawton, Oklahoma to Julia and George Esadooah in a home that still stands today in south Lawton.

He attended Lawton Public Schools where he was a standout athlete in track and football. He played on a state championship football team with Lawton High and made the Daily Oklahoman and Tulsa World All-State teams. Esadooah was offered a football scholarship at the University of Oklahoma and enrolled as a freshman. Before he could fulfill his college athletic career he entered the United States Army Air Corps and served in Sicily and Italy with the 16th Troop Carrier Squadron during WWII. Having seen the suffering of Americans at home during the Great Depression and innocent civilians during wartime Esadooah was always concerned about the hardships and suffering of others.

After discharge he completed his college studies at Central State College. While at Central he met and married Betty Jo Haggard of Oklahoma City on November 24, 1948. Esadooah went on to teach and coach at Boise City, Oklahoma as well as Lamont, Oklahoma and Estancia, New Mexico. Esadooah completed his career as an educator at Seiling, Oklahoma where he was a teacher, coach and elementary principal. Esadooah was an Assistant Coach on the 1965 Seiling High School State Championship football team and ended his coaching career as coach of the girls tennis team which he founded. Esadooah loved sports, hunting and fishing spending many hours fishing on the North Canadian River and taking trips to New Mexico and Colorado with his family and was a regular member along with his wife at the Norman YMCA. He was also a charter member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association at its founding in 2007.

Esadooah was preceded in death by his wife Betty Jo Esadooah, his son, Kenneth Esadooah, daughter-in-law Evanna Hunt Esadooah, his mother and father, step-father Robert Boland, brothers George Esadooah and Fred Esadooah, and a sister Florene Esadooah Topetchy.

Esadooah is survived by a son Kevin Esadooah or Norman, Son-in-law Ralph Hunt, Daughterin-law Elaina Hunt and numerous nieces of nephews,

A visitation for Leroy was held April 29, at Primrose Funeral Service, 1109 North Porter Ave, Norman, Okla., 73071. A funeral service occured April 30. He was laid to rest at Sunset Memorial Gardens, Lawton, Okla.

Jane Rachael Crandall



Crandall Jane Rachae Crandall, was born on December 1, 1986, and placed into the arms of her mother, June Rogers. She was a member of the Comanche Nation and was proud of her heritage and the Native ways.

Crandall grew up in Cache, Oklahoma where she attended Cache Public Schools. She later earned her GED. In her younger years, she enjoyed time spent with her siblings and cousins who were more like sisters. She would often tell stories of their times spent together and times spent at Papa and MeMa's house.

Crandall proudly served her country by joining the United States Army on August 7, 2007. It was through this that she experienced many things across the big ocean, far from the small town in Oklahoma. While serving she earned the Marksmanship Award in AIT, also the Top GPA in AIT for both female and male

Crandall met the love of her life, Nick Conrady and through years of friendship, and twists and turns of events, their paths crossed again as adults. Together they ended one chapter and began a new chapter. It was one filled with hopes and dreams and a deep love for one another.

Crandall was born with a creative spirit and was very artistic. She enjoyed painting, writing poetry, music and making jewelry. With each bead she placed on the string it came with deep love for the person she was giving it to. She was a lover of animals and was gentle and kind. Crandall was also great with children. She had a special way of relating to them from a different Perspective. She always made them feel loved and heard. She shared her time with them by being "present" in the moment. She recognized the value in that. They all loved her.

She was an incredible cook, had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh. She also had a great skill with a jump rope. Crandall boasted of having been the "Jump Rope Champion" one year at school. She also professed she could still do it just in case an anyone asked. She had an intense desire for taking up those less fortunate. It is said that once she'd let you know she didn't appreciate what you've said or done, you knew not to do it again. She was fierce, she was mighty, but she was also gentle, and she was kind. Crandall was sometimes guarded, but if you were loved by Crandall, you were blessed indeed. It was important that you knew you were loved and cared about. She did that through her phone calls and her words of encouragement, and all the little special things she did for those she loved. Crandall's life experiences took her many places but eventually all the roads led back to "home." Back to the people who she deeply loved and this time bringing others along with her.

On May 17, our world got a little dimmer, but Heaven got a little brighter when Crandall joined her PaPa, sister Maddie and other loved ones in Heaven. She will forever be missed.

Today, Crandall, as we celebrate you, we want you to know in the same words that you used to tell us "In case no one has told you today...." This world has been a better place because you were here." I think Jane's message back to us would be to "Hustle through the Struggle."

Crandall leaves behind to cherish her memory, her Mother June Rogers and Step-Father James Rogers, Lawton, Okla.; Her Mema: Johanna Lambert, Lawton, Okla.; her brothers: Josh Lambert and wife Tawnya Lambert, Devol, Okla., and Truchee Paxton, Austin, Texas; sisters: Jenera Paxton, Carson City, Nevada and Tiffany Lambert, Oklahoma City, Okla.; her Fiancé: Nick Conrady and sons Yukon, Okla.; many aunts and uncles, cousins and friends.

Joe Elbert Sorrow



Sorrow

Joe Elbert Sorrow, went to his heavenly home on May 23, in Lawton, Oklahoma. He was born on May 23, 1967, in Lawton to Walton & Cody Sorrow. He graduated from Ninnekah High School.

Sorrow reconnected with the love of his life Michelle Roberts at Walmart where she was was employed. They where married August 12, 2022. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. He was an avid Sooners Fan, loved fishing, baseball, outdoors and loved his grandchildren and family.

He is survived by five siblings and their families, Kimmie (Randall) Shipman, Denis Wood, Claudia (Alan) Krone, Marceline (Joseph) Carroll, James Estes & Kristy Monson; Michelle's two son's Joseph Roberts and Shane Roberts which he considered his own son's; nieces and nephews: Shyann, Jennifer, Tamra, Joey, Brandon, Grayden, Carrie, Ryan, Clarissa, Jared, Jarika, Jaycee, Brianna & Jeremy his granddaughter Pamala.

He is preceded in death by his parents: Walton & Cody Sorrow; wife: Michell (Roberts)Sorrow; son: Mark Cochran; Maternal Grandparents: Joe Bigbow and Mae Bigbow Paternal Grandparents: Elbert Sorrow and Myrtle Sorrow.

Juliene Lois Motah Gutierrez



Gutierrez

Juliene Lois Motah Gutierrez, went to her heavenly home on May 28, in Espanola, New Mexico with her loving family by her side. Gutierrez was born on August 24, 1932, to Lee Motah and Daisy Perdasofpy. Gutierrez was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Okla-

Gutierrez attended school in Elgin and graduated from Elgin High School; Class of 1950. In her younger years she was a natural athlete, and excelled in basketball, tennis, and track. She was a sprinter for the Elgin High School track team her senior year. She obtained her Certified Nursing Assistant license through Comanche County Memorial Hospital in 1965.

Gutierrez married Frank Gutierrez Sr. and moved out west. They made their home and raised their family in the Santa Clara Pueblo community for over 75 years. She learned to make traditional Santa Clara Pueblo pottery and was an active member of the Santa Clara Senior Citizen Program. Gutierrez enjoyed completing word search puzzles and sewing in her free time.

Gutierrez is preceded in

death by her father Lee Motah; her mother Daisy Burgess and step father Earl Burgess; her husband Frank Gutierrez Sr.; son Frank Gutierrez Jr.; daughter Gloria Gutierrez Yback; granddaughter Fauna Gutierrez; son in law Calvin Tafoya; siblings James Lee Motah, Hamond Motah, Wayne Motah, Earl Burgess Jr., Teddy Burgess Sr., Sandy Karty, Carol Kahrahrah, Barbara Dankowski, and Jessie

Mendoza-Rosa. Gutierrez is survived by her daughter's Barbara Tafoya and Bianca Gutierrez. Grandchildren Tanya Sapcutt, Denise Tafoya, Christopher Tafoya, Glen Gutierrez, Shanna Gutierrez, Justin Dasheno and Aidan Guitierrez; great-grandchildren Janaya Tafoya Dominic Tafoya, Costa Tafoya; Summer Sapcutt, Elgin Whiteman, Asia Tafoya, Autumn Guiterrez, Amanda Tafoya, Cameron Gutierrez, D'Marko Gutierrez, Dominic Gutierrez, KemberLynn Guiterrez, and Kaydence Sapcutt; great-great grandchildren, Gloriana Guiterrez and Weston Chavarria-Tafoya; sisters Martha Irving, Betty Luna, Loera-Belle Ramos, Ruth Toahty; brothers Ronald Burgess, Donald Burgess, Gaylon Motah and extended Motah and Burgess family.

Russell Ray Satepauhoodle



Satepauhoodle

Russell Ray Satepauhoodle, 56, of Apache, Oklahoma, passed away on May 31. He was born on March 1, 1969, in Lawton, Oklahoma, and was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and of Fort Sill Apache descent. He was raised by Juanita Pewo Bentley ("Kahkoo") and Edward C. Palmer ("Bugaloo"), who he lovingly called Mom and Dad.

Satepauhoodle attended Apache High School and earned his diesel mechanic certification from Fort Cobb Vo-Tech. He was a skilled and dedicated mechanic, proud of his trade and always ready to lend a hand when something needed fixing. Satepauhoodle met Pamela Keeton in Apache, Oklahoma, and together they raised four children: Cory, Tanner, Nikki and Dusti. Satepauhoodle was known for his strength, his humor, and his deep love for his family. He spent his life working in construction and heavy equipment operation. He was unbelievably proud of all his children and their accomplishments.

He loved going on road trips, especially to Pensacola Beach, and was a lifelong OU fan who never missed the chance to shout "Boomer!" in any crowd. He took great joy in working outside, being the grill master for family cookouts — one of his happiest places. But more than anything, he loved being surrounded by his kids and family.

He was also a passionate firearms collector and looked forward to the Fourth of July every year. He set up launch pads for fireworks, and proudly competed with neighbors to see whose display was bigger and better.

He is survived by his children: Cory Satepauhoodle, Tanner Satepauhoodle, Nikki Satepauhoodle, and Dusti Satepauhoodle. He absolutely adored his grandchildren: Kodie Rose Satepauhoodle, Leighton Lee Killsfirst, and Inola Lynn Killsfirst; mother Gayle "Chee" Bearshield; two brothers: Douglas Goombi & Kendrick Satepauhoodle; two sisters: Deenita Ruiz & Tamra

Hughes

He is preceded in death by his son, Rusty Ray Satepauhoodle; mother: Juanita Pewo Bentley ("Kahkoo"); his father Edward C. Palmer ("Bugaloo"); his brothers: Kenneth R. Satepauhoodle Jr., Michael Satepauhoodle, Wayne Satepauhoodle; sister: Rose LeeAnn Kaulity.

Lavena Honea



Honea

Mrs Honea went to be with her Lord and Savior on June 1, at her home in Cache, Oklahoma with her loving family by her side.

Honea was born October 20, 1934, at the Kiowa Indian Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma to Day and Lela (Yellowwolf) Tahdooahnippah. She grew up in Cache, Oklahoma and attended Cache Public Schools and was a graduate of the 1952 class. She often spoke of her upbringing saying, "she was raised by her parents and grandparents Oscar and Wyma Yellowwolf who all lived in the family home."

When Honea received her LPN license, she dedicated 36 years as a nurse to the Lawton Indian Health Services, Choctaw Nation Healthcare Center and Southside Hospital, Oklahoma City, Okla.

On May 24, 1957, she married the love of her life, Benjamin L. Honea in McAlester, Oklahoma. They made their home in Cache, Okla., and devoted their lives to each other for the next 61 years. Honea adored spending time with her family whether it was camping, RVing, reading or simply just watching TV. She also enjoyed supporting her husband in his different activities with the Shriners International, Masons and different church activities. She was a lifelong member of the Post Oak Mennonite Brethren Church.

Honea is survived by her children: Benjamin Day Honea, Cache, Okla.; Patricia Ann Honea of the home; six grandchildren: Brandon Bear, Nathan & Julia Bear, Cache, Okla.; Stephanie & Willie Brown and Benjamin (Michaela) Honea; seven great grandchildren: Caleb Smith, Gabrielle and Branden Sherman, Haley Brown, River, Wavlon Honea, Brayden, Brooklyn Bear; two great- great grandchildren: Jazmin Smith and Giovanni Sherman; Siblings: Patterson and Charlene Tahdooahnippah, Marlene Cooper and many other family members and

She is preceded in death by her husband Benjamin L. Honea; her daughter, Elizabeth Bear; granddaughter Christine Rene Smith; her parents: Day and Lela Tahdooahnippah; siblings and spouses: Leroy & Sheila Tahdooahnippah, Videll & Louella Tahdooahnippah, Ferrill Codopony, Joyce & Alex Matthews, Albert Pahdocony, Vincent Tahdooahnippah; Brother-in-law: Benny Cooper; Nephews: Gregory Tahdooahnippah; Grandparents: Oscar & Wyma Yellowwolf, Tahdooahnippah & Towaucy.

Barbara Goodin



Goodin

Barbara Goodin, was born Barbara Christine Morris on July 15, 1944. She went to be with the Lord on June 4, at her home.

Her father, Hugh Morris was a non-Indian who met her mother while he was stationed at Camp Riley and she worked in Wichita during World War II. Her mother was Doris Basin Morris, who was the daughter of Frank Blackbear Basin, a full blood Kiowa, and Ada Tivis Basin, a full blood Comanche. Both were fluent speakers of their respective native languages. Goodin was the oldest of six children born to Hugh and Doris and was raised in Caddo County in the small community of Cyril.

Goodin graduated from Cyril High School with Honors in May 1962, and married Kenneth Jay "John" Goodin in July 1962. His father, Joe Goodin was also non-Indian and his mother was full blood Co

manche, Ellen Otipoby Goodin, who was a fluent speaker of the Comanche Language. Kenneth and Barbara spent most of their married life in Lawton, where he was employed by the City of Lawton Fire Department and retired after 20 years of service. They raised two sons, David and Robert Goodin, both of whom they are very proud of.

David was employed with Sears in Lawton for 34 years and later retired from Comanche Nation Casino in 2023, and is married to Tarri Taylor Goodin.

Robert, after graduating from Cameron University was employed with the Comanche Nation Casino for 15 years and then worked at the Apache Nation Casino and Hotel until the time of his death in 2021, due to complications of Covid-19.

Goodin was involved in community work all her married life with the Lawton PTA Council, Lawton Title IV Indian Program, Firefighter's Women's Auxiliary, Comanche Tribe's Community Participation Program, Indian Liaison for the Lawton Public Library, Board of Trustee for the Comanche County Tourism Development Trust, Board of Directors for the Southwest OK Genealogical Society, Board of Directors of the SW OK Historical Society, Editor of Prairie Lore Historical Journal for 14 years, contributing editor for Tree Tracers Genealogical Quarterly, guest columnist for Lawton Constitution Tree Tracers column, and Board of Directors for the Comanche Nation Housing Authority. In addition, she has authored several books on Indian History and research for several publications, including one national publication. In 1998 she was nominated one of five Outstanding Women in Comanche County, in 2001 she was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the Department of Justice in Oklahoma

City for her contribution in compiling information about the Comanche Code Talkers of World War II, and in 2007 she was honored in an Exhibit of Outstanding Comanche Women at the Comanche National Museum. In 2010 she was one of the 50 Native Americans in the state of Oklahoma that received an award from AARP for her work in preserving the language and culture of the Comanche Nation. In later years, Goodin shared her knowledge of Indian genealogy with others by giving workshops, presentations and holding genealogy conferences to guide others on the road she had already traveled.

Since 1993, she and her husband have been involved with the Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee. They feel their lives have been enriched by having the privilege to work so closely with many of the tribe's last fluent speakers.

In 1999, Goodin compiled a book of all the articles she has written during that time period and put them together in a book titled "Indian Research and History, with Biographies, Book Reviews and Cemeteries." Those books are in libraries throughout the country.

In 2004, she designed the home where she and her husband reside, on his grandmothers original Comanche Indian Allotment, north of Lawton in rural Elgin. They moved into the home in 2005 and have a cow/calf operation.

She is survived by her husband Kenneth of 62 years, 11 months and son David and wife Tarri, all of Elgin. Sisters: Shirley Hartline and husband James of Chickasha, Letha Morris of Cyril, Brothers: Rick Morris of Cyril, Mike Morris of Lawton. Nieces: Carla Russell, husband Scott and son of Miss., Janet Porter and Jane Antonio and their families of Va., Laura McGregor and family

of Elgin, Christy Hartline and family of Chickasha, Shauna Richards and family of Chickasha and Chelsea Travis Diaz and family of Cyril. Nephews: Bill Goodin, wife Sarah of Texas, Scott Hartline and family of Chickasha, Larry Travis, wife Robin and family of Cyril, Michael "Cody" Travis of Cyril, Bart Goodin and family of Cache. She also leaves behind many friends whom she cherished greatly.

She was proceeded in death by her beloved son Rob Goodin, mother: Doris Bosin Morris and father Hugh Morris, sister Sharon Goodin, grandparents Friday and John Morris, Ada Tivis Bosin and Frank Bosin, niece Valorie Newton, great-niece Cierra McGregor Moss, and several aunts, uncles, cousins and other family members.

Amber Maguire



Maguire

Amber was born to Michael Frederick and Kenberly Simmons in Lawton on February 19, 1989.

Maguire graduated from

Cameron University in 2019 with a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration. Maguire married Jimmy Maguire in Apache, Oklahoma on July 22, 2011.

Maguire loved attending Apache Warriors games and activities for her son Jared. Spending time with her family and friends. She took Part in the Ft. Sill Apache Tribal Ceremonies. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and also of Ft. Sill Apache and Kiowa descent.

Maguire is survived by: husband Jimmy Maguire and son Jared Maguire both of the home; mother Kenberly Simmons of Apache; father Michael Frederick of Lawton; grandmother Margie Simmons of Apache; sister Aryn Molina of Cement; stepson Jaylan Maguire and wife Shekinah; grandson Brightton Maguire of Cyril.

Maguire is preceded in death by: grandfather Kenneth Simmons; cousin Lauren Simmons; her beloved Tyrone; father-in-law Jim Maguire and grandmother Dorothy

Dear TCNN

Letters to the Editor



From left: Michael Benham (Choctaw - inmate), Breet Johnson, (Choctaw - inmate), Michael Roberts (Choctaw - guest), Micco Pohlemann (Kiowa/Seminole - inmate), and Jesse Ochoa (Cherokee - inmate).

Dear TCNN,

First, let me thank you for taking the time to read this letter. My name is Robert Barefoot. I am of the Comanche Nation and an inmate in the Department of Corrections here at Joseph Harp Correctional Center in Lexington, Oklahoma. The reason I'm writing this is that our Native Men here in prison have a club that is called the Confined Inter-Tribal Group. It is an organization that comes together once a week to learn about our culture, traditions, and the history of our people.

I have written an article about what it is we do here, and I ask could you please print it in the Comanche Newspaper along with the photos.

> Thank you for your time. Mr. Robert Barefoot

KEEPING CULTURE

As Native American Men, it is important for us to keep our culture alive in prison. Here at Joseph Harp Correctional Center, we have a Club called (C.I.T.G.) The Confined Inter-Tribal Group. Our Chairman, "Micco" Christopher Pohlemann, of the Seminole and Kiowa Nation.

Vice-Chairman Byron White of the Cherokee Nation, Itinerary Coordinator Brett Johnson of the Choctaw Nation, and Financial Coordinator Mario Saverwinnie of the Comanche Nation. Public Relations Jerad Gravitt of the Cherokee Nation & Sergeant at Arms Cooky Carbitcher of the Seminole Nation.

Each year, behind the fences at this facility we are allowed by the Warden and his Staff to have our Annual Gourd Dance & Pow-Wow, where family and guests can come and participate in the culture and traditions of our people. We celebrate many things on this day, especially the awesome changes that we have made to become better people and better men for our families and community. We work hard on staying committed to change and helping others to do the same, to treat all people with respect and dignity.

Our goals are to learn respect for our people who are women and children, to help men become free from their past, their addictions, no matter what they may be, so we all can go out and be a voice of influence to those we love. We are committed to learning and teaching others how to appreciate life and family. As you can see in the photo, we can wear are regalia, as the guests are also able.

The year is our 32nd Gourd Dance & Annual Pow-Wow, on October 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are proud to be the only facility in D.O.C. in Oklahoma to have this privilege. We would like to invite any dancers or just to come in as a guest. To learn more, contact our Head Sponsor, the Wardens Secretary (a member of the Choctaw Nation) Mrs. Kara Caskey at kara.caskey@doc.ok.gov

Robert Barefoot

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Nation News



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SINGING Champions!!! Singers from the Oklahoma Jr Handgame team won the 2025 Crow Jr Handgame Singing Champions held at Crow Agency in Montana. Pictured from left: White Eagle Watan, Brantley Kerchee, Hennie Yazzie, Eli Yazzie and Bryson "Catfish" Kerchee. Each singer won a brand new handgame drum.



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This month's financial tip brought to you by



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Financial Goal: Teen Checking

Parents and guardians can help their teen learn financial literacy by opening a teen checking account. This is a joint account that can be opened in person or online. Some institutions allow a teen to open an account as young as 14. Some financial institutions have an age limit for the account type.

For a teen, this is another step in having more responsibility as they mature into an adult. For a parent or guardian, this is an opportunity to help the teen understand how to manage their money.

The account can be funded with money from gifts, jobs, or an allowance.

There are many pros to having an account:

- Money in the bank is safe!
- 24/7 monitoring with online banking
- No check cashing fees

There are a few cons:

Mismanagement of the account can lead to overdraft fees

For the parent or guardian that is the joint owner, there are some skills you can teach your teen:

- **How to manage money**
- How to pay bills
- **How to protect financial information**
- How to build a relationship with a financial institution





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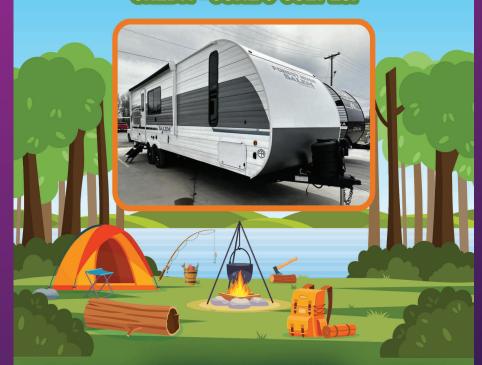
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