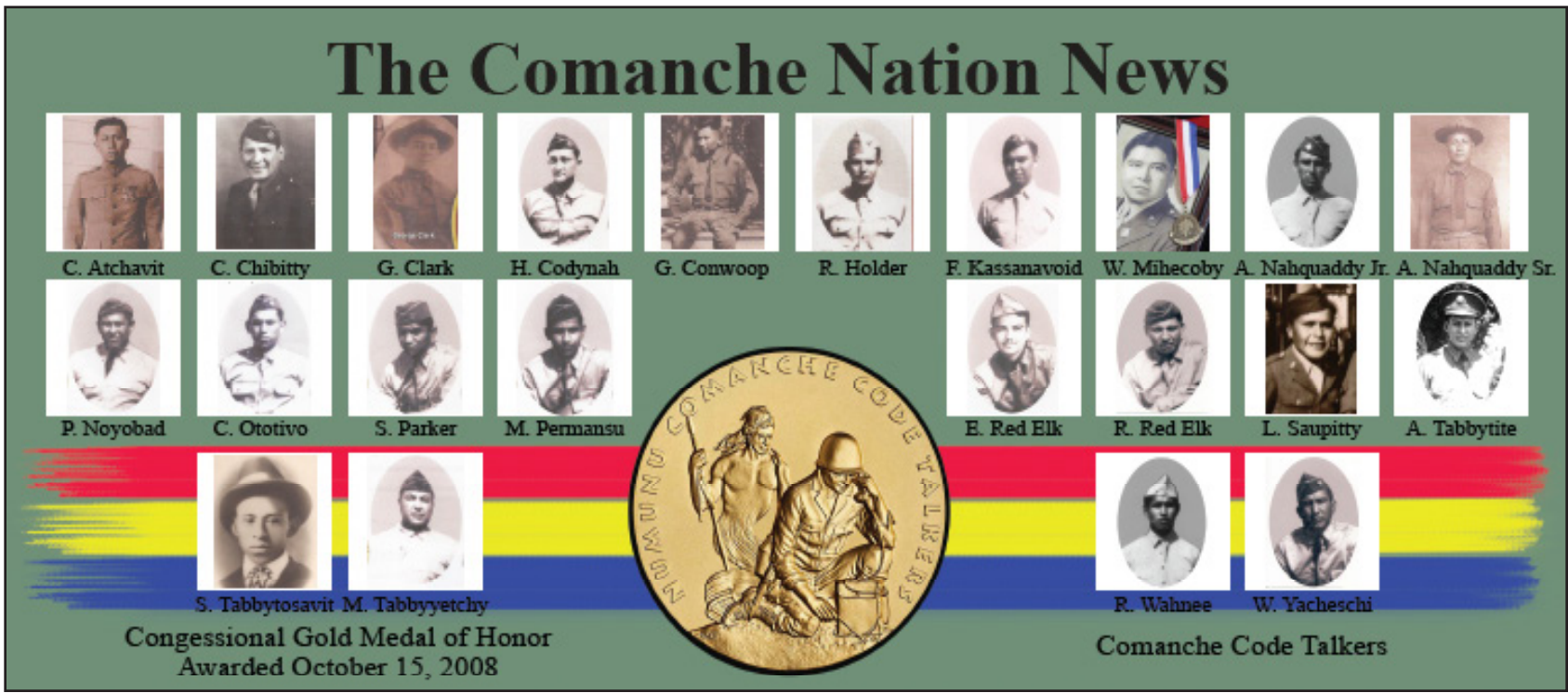




VOLUME 26 EDITION 11

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

᠋ᠠᠷᠠᠪᠠᠨᠢᠨᠠ ᠮᠤᠠ (November) 2025



Three Comanche Veterans will be Inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall or Honor on Veterans Day

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy/Comanche Indian Veterans Association

Three Comanche Veterans will be inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor during the 49th Annual Comanche Indian Veterans Association Powwow (CIVA) on November 11 at the Comanche Nation Complex's Watchetaker Hall.

The three veterans are Leander Gerald Eckiwaudah, Richard Sapcut, and Stefano J. Ruiz.



Courtesy Photos

Eckiwaudah

Leander Eckiwaudah

Marine Sergeant Leander Gerald Eckiwaudah was born in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1967 and lives in Anadarko, Oklahoma. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation and also of Kiowa decent. Sgt Eckiwaudah served in the Marine Corps from 1989-93 and from 1995-98. He served both military obligations assigned to the 1st Force Reconnaissance Company. Sgt Eckiwaudah was a Rifleman and Recon Force Parachutists/Rigger. His overseas service includes the Gulf War (Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm), Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, and Okinawa, Thailand, Hawaii, Singapore, Australia, Kenya, South and Central America – many of his deployments are classified. Sgt Eckiwaudah graduated from Basic Airborne/Rigger and Survival, Evasion, Resistant and Escape Schools and numerous other military courses. His awards include two Meritorious Mast, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct with/Gold Star, Southwest Asia Campaign with/2 Campaign Stars medals, the Parachutists and Rigger Badges and numerous other

See HONOR, Page 4



Asepermy

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Lanny Asepermy was named a National Treasure on September 26, after grand entry.

"I've had many honors in my life in the military and then since I retired, and this probably rates as one of the top five honors I've ever received," he said.

As for Asepermy's military history.

"I went in the Army in March of 1966. I retired in October of 1990. I retired as a sergeant major," he said. "I served a year in Vietnam as a tank commander and a scout section leader. I've served overseas in Germany for 39 months. I served in Korea for 31 months. I served in Hawaii for 16 months. I've served at Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bliss, Texas, twice; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and I retired at Chula Army Depot in Utah. I had a good career. I enjoyed it. I probably met soldiers from every state in the Union and every race in the United States. And one thing about a soldier, most of us were willing to die for our freedom, bottom line, if we had to, most of us. Some of them went in for college money or this or that, but the majority of us were, that's what we were there for. So, I enjoyed my career, and if I was young enough, I'd go back, but I'm not."

Asepermy said there are many Comanches who could have received the honor.

"I happen to be the one they selected for this honor, but this honor represents the 1,000," he said. "I am representing 1,312 Comanche veterans who have served since 1883."

Still, the Comanche Nation Business Committee examined Asepermy's work to help all veterans, including Comanche, Native, and non-Native individuals, receive the care they need. Asepermy has also been injured.

"I'm 79 years old now. I've got some physical issues. I can't stand very long. I can't walk very far. These are called from neuropathy, Agent Orange Vietnam," he said. "I'm going to keep doing what I'm doing to honor our veterans until I'm



Heminokey

not able to anymore. So, I've been doing with my military time, and my time with the War Scouts and the CIVA; it's encompassed 58 and a half years of my life. So that's the way it is."

Asepermy dedicated the award to Comanche veterans and those who served in World War II, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I accept this honor on behalf of four of my very good friends who were my mentors," he said. "Master Sgt. Albert Clark, Jr., a Korean and Vietnam War veteran. Specialist Five Joseph Plata, a Vietnam War veteran and Purple Heart recipient and decorated for heroism. Capt. Ron Parker, awarded the Bronze Star with valor device. And Staff Sgt. George Riddell, who was awarded the Silver Star. They're all deceased, and I miss them very much."

Asepermy said the award is not for him, but for the veterans.

"It's a great honor, but like I say, it's for them, not for me," he said. "I will have recognition, but the recognition belongs to them. They are all national treasures."

Asepermy said the honor wouldn't have happened without his wife, Shelley, his 6 daughters, 16 grandchildren and a great-grandchild

Heminokey

Lloyd Heminokey Jr. received the National Treasure award after the grand entry on September 27 for his work in preserving the Comanche Language and Culture.

"Being a language consultant and a teacher, we've had individuals come in with our immersion classes and just had a few, maybe a year or two with this, and seen them speak, left us speaking, left us knowing," he said. "And not only that, I've brought everything that I could bring to that department for us, for the community, to share it. Some of them will accept it, some won't. Our language, our customs, our culture, and traditions, they all go hand in hand. There's meaning to our language. There's meaning to this and how we do things."

Heminokey said he doesn't want anything back, but for people to



Lopez

have results from what he's done.

"For them to get healed, for them to get well, for them to get what I had, they've come to me in a lot of ways mentally, having a hard time mentally," he said. "Females and males, they come that way. 'How can I do this?' or 'Can you help me with this? Through it?' 'Yes.' My friend, I've done a lot. I've done a lot and I'm not done yet."

Heminokey said it was overwhelming to receive the award, but he had always wanted to be a helpful person and didn't want to get into trouble.

"A lot of things have come to my life, have been in my life, that it showed itself," he said. "Not really realizing what it was about, but my sister told me...in the past, she said, 'Brother, you're different. You're different from others.' She said, 'I see that. Our mom sees it too.' Knowing that good things are coming my way, were coming my way, have come my way, it's not surprising. It's not surprising. It was just me realizing what I had and what I had to offer. I don't ask of anything. I've been given so much that I want others to share it and to be uplifted, to be encouraged, to not discourage for themselves. But this right here, it's just to add on to all that I've come through."

Heminokey said that not many people can receive the award.

"To me, for this national treasure, it's given to individuals or entitled to individuals that what they contribute to, not only their communities, but too such as what we have, our tribe," he said. "You contribute to them, and you do for them, and it's on a positive side of things."

Heminokey made sure to do his research before accepting the award and went to the sources of the award.

"I feel like I'm unworthy in some parts of it, but yet I know that I'm okay with it," he said. "Because I look around, and if you look up the 'What does it mean to be a national treasure?' It identifies me. It identifies me right down to the T of it, so I accepted it. If it wasn't that way, I wouldn't have accepted this

See TREASURES, Page 4

Comanche Nation News
PO Box 908
Lawton, OK 73502

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File Photo

The IAMNDN Youth Council sings Christmas Carols in the Comanche Language at the 2024 Comanche Elder's Day in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Annual Comanche Elder Day Set for December 5

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The annual Comanche Nation Elder's Day will take place on December 5 at the Great Plains Coliseum, 920 SW Sheridan Rd., Lawton, Oklahoma.

Doors will open at 9 a.m., and the event will begin at 10 a.m. A meal will be served at 11:30 a.m. There will be food, an array of vendors, and entertainment.

For more information, contact the Comanche Nation at (580) 492-4988.

In addition, the Comanche Nation Transit Department will provide two free rides for all Comanche elders on Elder's Day.

Contact the Transit Department at (580) 492-3389 to schedule a pickup.

The Comanche Nation Elder's Day is an annual event dedicated to honoring and celebrating the tribe's elders for their contributions and to provide a time for them to gather with family and friends. The annual celebration has been going on for decades, and it kicks off the Christmas events for the Comanche Nation.

Comanche Nation Transit to Provide Free Rides

November is National Native American Heritage Month. The Comanche Nation Transit will offer all Native American Passengers free rides on Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturdays for the whole month of November. Please provide Tribal I.D., to verify.

For more information call (580) 492-3389.

Tsaa Kuyuni Taka
Tabenį
Happy
Thanksgiving

COME PLAY WITH US THIS NOVEMBER!

STUFFIN' YO POCKETS

EXCLUSIVE!

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

NOV 7-29
7PM-11PM

DRAWINGS EVERY
30 MINUTES TO WIN ALL
THE CASH YOU CAN GRAB!



COMANCHE NATION
CASINO

SPIN TO WIN

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

NOV 7-30
8PM-MIDNIGHT



DRAWINGS EVERY
30 MINUTES TO SPIN
& WIN \$100-\$200
COMANCHE CREDIT.

GRAND PRIZE
DRAWING AT
MIDNIGHT TO
SPIN & WIN \$500-
\$2,000 CASH!

EXCLUSIVE!



COMANCHE NATION
CASINO

Turkey Trottin' Treasures

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

NOV 1-29 • 7PM-11PM

DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES TO WIN
\$50-\$200 COMANCHE CREDIT OR \$100-\$300 CASH!

RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 50 POINTS EARNED 8AM-10PM



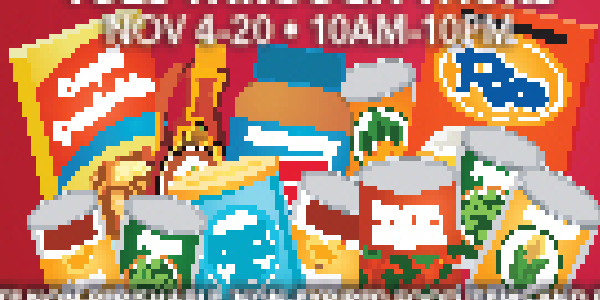
EXCLUSIVE!



COMANCHE NATION
CASINO

FOOD DRIVE

TUES THROUGH THURS
NOV 4-20 • 10AM-10PM



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

DONATE AT ANY OF OUR CASINO LOCATIONS!
Offer is redeemable once per month, per day, per property.

TOY DRIVE

TUES-THURS

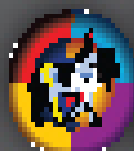
NOV 25-DEC 18 • 10AM-10PM



'TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING!

DONATE BRAND NEW TOYS AND
BRING IN YOUR NOV & DEC 2025
RECEIPT TO RECEIVE UP TO
\$50 IN COMANCHE CREDIT!

DONATE AT ANY OF OUR CASINO LOCATIONS!
Offer is redeemable once per month, per day, per property.



COMANCHE NATION
ENTERTAINMENT

ComancheNationEntertainment.com

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

🎵 @

The Comanche Business Committee has been working hard my entire term in office on both increasing gaming revenue and diversifying our businesses to generate non-gaming revenue. To counter the competition from Lonestar, we made improvements to the Comanche Red River Hotel and Casino, and I am proud that it is now clearly the best casino in the area. We also purchased a hotel and apartments to generate non-gaming revenue. We have yet to realize the potential of that property, but once renovated, I am confident they will produce significant profit. We are also in the process of opening our first clinic, currently scheduled for February 2026, which will generate revenue that can be used for programs that benefit the health of tribal members. In short, the Comanche Business Committee has planted every seed possible to ensure our economic prosperity. Now, we only need a little patience to wait for those seeds to blossom.

HONOR

Continued from Page 1

medals, ribbons and awards. Sgt Eckiwaudah has over 175 qualified parachute jumps. He was the American Indian Exposition Indian of the Year in 1998.



Courtesy Photos

Sapcutt

Richard Sapcutt

Marine Sergeant Richard Sapcutt was born in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1941 and lives in Yukon, Oklahoma. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. He served in the Marine Corps from 1963-66. Sgt Sapcutt was a Fleet Marine Infantryman who served in Vietnam, from 1965-66 with F Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 3rd Reinforced Fleet Marine Force Pacific. His unit was based in Quang Tri Province. As a Fleet Marine he served on-board eleven different Naval vessels. On 23 February 1966, during Operation Double Eagle II, he was wounded by small arms fire above the hip causing a fracture of a vertebra in his lower back – the bullet has never been removed and floats around his upper body. His awards include the Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Action Ribbon, Purple Heart, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Armed Forces Expeditionary, Vietnam Service, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device and the Fleet Marine Badge.



Courtesy Photos

Ruiz

Stefano J. Ruiz

Lance Corporal Stefano J. Ruiz was born in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1994 and lives in Lawton. He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. LCpl Ruiz served in the Marine Corps from 2014-20. After his Boot and M240 Machine Gun Training at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Center San Diego and Camp Pendleton, California he served briefly with the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, NC before deploying to Iraq with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Force in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. He concluded his service as a Combat Instructor with the Marine School of Infantry at East Camp Lejeune. His awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Inherent Resolve Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary and Humanitarian medals and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with/ Gold Star. He is the Sergeant at Arms for the Comanche Indian Veterans Association.

TREASURES

Continued from Page 1

when it was said to me, when they told me that ‘This is what we’ve done for you.’ And I had to look it up and make sure that I was okay with it to accept it, because that’s how I am. I’m not listening to whoever grabs something that I’m not worthy of.”

Heminokeky said that family was his most significant source of support, especially his sister, O’Neda.

Lopez

Tribal Member Teresa Lopez was named a National Treasure during the powwow after the grand entry on September 28 for her work educating the youth.

Modesto Schonchin was asked to speak on her behalf as he has been a youth dancer since he was little. Schonchin said Lopez has helped him get into the powwow ring more.

“I’ve joined her 13 years ago, so during that 13 years she has helped me build my confidence and the courage to get inside the arena and dance with everybody else.”

Schonchin said she teaches everyone what they need to know.

“She teaches the children how to respect the arena, the elders, the other dancers that are also in the arena too,” he said. “She teaches children what to do with the money if they get honored for gourd dance. She teaches them how to gourd dance. She just teaches everything that she knows about powwows.”

In her speech, Lopez said she supports the Youth Dancers without help from the tribe.

“This is all coming out of her own money,” Schonchin said. “She doesn’t get money from the tribe or [anything]. So, she really cares about us as a whole group, all the kids, the parents. She makes sure we’re all fed and everything at meetings. She makes sure we’re safe. She makes sure we’re like one big family.”

He said she deserved the award because Lopez has been here a long time.

“She was an honored elder at the homecoming powwow and like I said earlier, she’s been helping me for 13 years and she’s also [taught] generations before me,” Schonchin

said. “So, all the adults now, they’ve probably been under Miss Teresa and all the new ones too. She’s encouraging me to teach the young ones, too, just everything about powwows.”

He said Lopez is a hard worker.

“She makes regalia for the girls,” Schonchin said. “She helps makes everything for the little ones that don’t have [anything] and she makes sure they’re ready for the arena and she helps them what to do.”

She continues to help educate the students and enjoys travelling around to schools that don’t get to see the traditions of how dances are done.

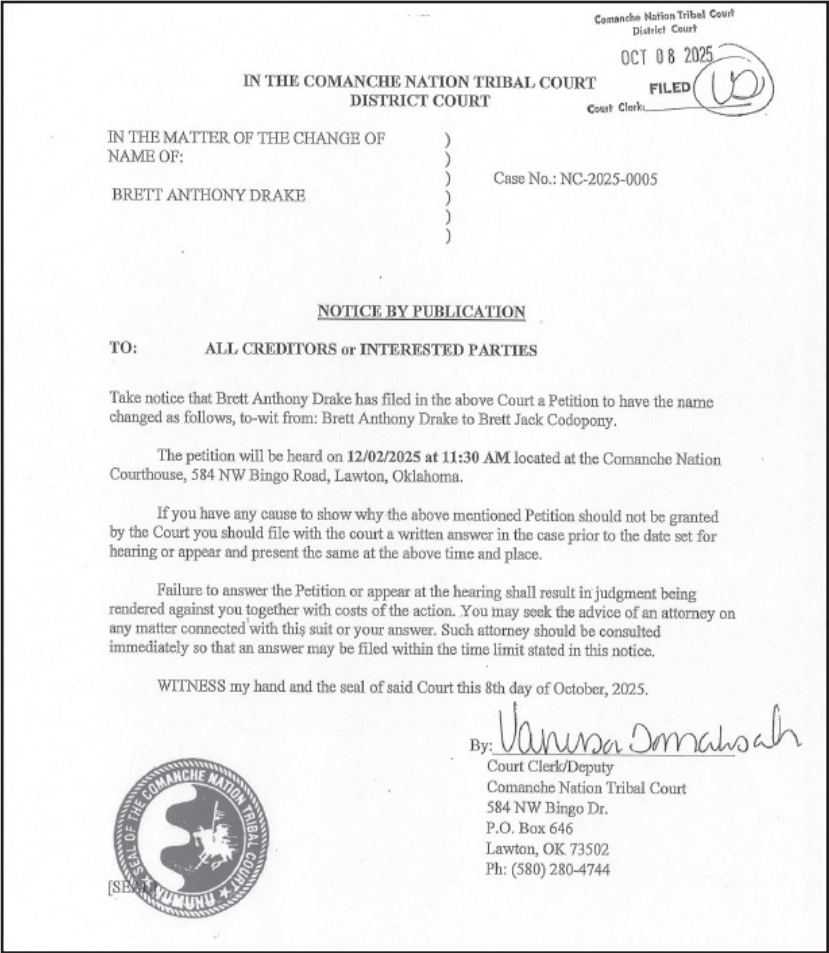
Comanche Nation Offices will be closed

November 11 for Veterans Day.

Offices will re-open November 12 for regular business.

Comanche Nation Offices will be closed

November 27 & 28 for Thanksgiving. Offices will re-open December 1 for regular business.



Comanche Nation Outreach Event - Bernalillo, New Mexico

Story/Photos by Stacey Heminokeky/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Outreach event was held August 22-23, at the Santa Ana Star Casino Hotel in Bernalillo, NM. The two-day event brought together a variety of tribal programs to serve and support enrolled members living in the area.

One of the highlights of this year’s outreach was the Nation’s dedication to education. A total of 64 students were served with backpacks filled with essential school supplies, helping prepare them for the upcoming year. This effort reflects the Nation’s commitment to investing in our youth and ensuring they have the tools and resources needed to succeed.

Throughout the event, families had the opportunity to connect with multiple programs, including Child Services, Diabetes, Enrollment, Higher Education, Housing, Language, Tribal Court, WIOA, and more. Staff members were on sote to answer questions, provide resources, and share program updates with the community.

The Comanche Nation extends gratitude to all who participated and made the outreach possible. Events like these strengthen the bond between the Nation and its people while ensuring services remain accessible to those living away from the main tribal jurisdiction.

Together, the Comanche Nation continues to move forward, building connections and supporting brighter futures for our Comanche people.



The Santa Ana Star Casino Hotel sign with the beautiful Sandia Mountains in the background.



The Comanche Nation Court are setup and ready to provide information to the tribal members.



Pictured from left; CBC No. 1, Hazel Tahsequah, Tribal Administrator, Lisa Dawsey, and Chairman, Forrest Tahdoohnippah; visits with a tribal member during the outreach event.



Tribal members came out to shop at the Comanche Nation Gift Shop.



Tribal members, exploring the booths and asking questions.



Martina Minthorn, with the Historic Preservation are ready to provide information to tribal members.



Tribal members stopping by the Tribal Court booth for resources.



The Comanche Nation Workforce staff was ready to help serve the tribal members with information about their program.

Programs

Adult Education Student of the Month Erik Woommavovah



Courtesy Photo

Woommavovah
Erik Woommavovah is currently enrolled in American Truck Driving School in Lawton, Okla., to obtain his Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

Woommavovah's goal is to start a new career in trucking in order to provide a better life for his family.

Woommavovah is fortunate to have a great support system with him every step of the way. Woommavovah is very thankful for his family and friends. He doesn't know where he would be without them.

He extends a 'thank you' to Comanche Nation Higher Education and the Comanche Nation Workforce Department (WIOA) for allowing him to begin this new and exciting path in life.

Graduate Student of the Month Carlen Figueroa



Courtesy Photo

Figueroa
Carlen Figueroa is a proud member of the Comanche Nation. she is the granddaughter of Marlene Cooper and the daughter of Michael and Kimberly Figueroa. Her family—Angie Garza, Cathie Parker, Michele Chavira, Mary Koweno, and Adolph Figueroa—has always been her greatest source of love and encouragement. Their strength and dedication inspire her to pursue her goals and to represent her family and tribe with pride.

Figueroa is currently teaching second grade at Santa Fe South Schools in Oklahoma City. She is earning her Master's degree in Educational Leadership at East Central University. Coming from a family of educators, Figueroa is passionate about creating a positive and inclusive learning environment that helps all students reach their fullest potential.

Figueroa's goal is to continue growing as an instructional leader and one day move into school administration, where she can support teachers and students alike. In the future, Figueroa hopes to open an early learning center that strengthens literacy, and fosters a lifelong love of learning.

Figueroa is deeply grateful to her family, mentors, and the Comanche Nation for their continued support and belief in her throughout this journey.

Higher Education Undergraduate Student of the Month Tyrus Rogers



Courtesy Photo

Rogers
Tyrus Rogers is currently attending Yale University, which is located in New Haven, Conn. His major is between Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics.

Following graduation, Rogers intend to further his education by pursuing a graduate degree. Rogers' top three institutions of interest are Yale University, Harvard University, and Stanford University, where he plans to continue advancing his knowledge and contributing to research in his chosen field.

A fun fact about Rogers is that he plays the viola and is a member of the Yale Trumbull House corn-hole team.

Tyrus is the son of Kara Mahsetky-Rogers, and Zach Rogers. Rogers has one sister, Emma Rogers. Rogers is fortunate to have many aunts, uncles, and cousins who have helped shape who he is and surrounded him with love. Rogers was named in honor of his grandfather, Tyrus Mahsetky

Job Placement & Training Student of the Month Klaire Downey



Courtesy Photo

Downey
Klaire Downey is 22 years old from Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.

Downey is attending Artisan Institute in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Downey has already learned so much! Downey plans to become a cosmetologist and serve the people in her community by bringing them confidence with her work.

Downey's parents are her biggest inspiration. They taught her to always work hard to achieve her dreams. Downey has an older brother and sister-in-law who have made two of her favorite people in this world: her nieces Ellie and Kollins Kate.

Downey loves all things beauty and she loves to spend her free time with family and friends.

Downey is excited to see what the rest of this journey holds for her and she is excited that she has the support of Comanche Nation through it all!
Thank you!

Behind the Scenes with the Comanche Nation Housing Authority Maintenance Team

Submitted by Nora Sovo/Comanche housing Authority

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA) maintenance team is more than just a group of skilled technicians. They are the heartbeat of the community, working tirelessly to keep residents safe, comfortable and cared for. With decades of combined experience, the crew handles everything from plumbing to painting while building meaningful relationships with the people they serve.

For most of the crew, CNHA has been a lifelong career. "I've been with CNHA for 23 years," said Kevin Suazo. "A friend told me they were hiring, and I've been here ever since. I like that I'm not stuck in one building all day because every day is different."

Eugene Mithlo, who has been with CNHA for 25 years, agreed. "I was a plumbing and apartment tech before this, and friends led me here," he said. "I love seeing the elders' faces when we finish a job for them. It's about making things safer for them, like adding handicap accessibility when needed."

Spending a decade on the team, Maintenance Supervisor Steve Parker brought his painting and dry-wall expertise from his youth to life

at the Comanche Nation Housing Authority.

"I worked for a painting company starting in junior high, then in apartment complexes before joining CNHA," Parker said. "What I enjoy most is problem solving. Every day brings a new challenge, and finding solutions that improve someone's home and make their life a little easier is what keeps me motivated."

Electrical specialists Nabor "JR" Villicana and Darren Asepermy both joined more than two decades ago.

"I've been here 25 years, and every day brings new circumstances. When something out of the ordinary happens, we always find a way to figure it out," said Villicana. "I enjoy meeting people, many of whom are family, and seeing the respect and gratitude for what we do."

"I started the same day as Kevin," said Asepermy. "What I enjoy most is finishing a job and knowing we helped a tenant. It is rewarding to see the immediate impact our work has on their comfort and quality of life."

Over the years, the team has grown alongside the community, supporting new housing and steady

development. Today, they operate as a tight-knit crew, working seamlessly together to meet residents' needs. With advanced tools and strong collaboration, they've become even more efficient, ensuring the community continues to thrive.

"We want residents to know we're the best of the best," Parker said. "Our team can do everything. We're knowledgeable, we take care of each other and we drive all over to make sure every unit is taken care of."

Whether it is handling emergencies, maintaining homes or simply lending a helping hand, the CNHA maintenance team does it all with skill, care and commitment. They are an indispensable part of the Comanche Nation community.

CNHA provides safe and affordable housing for Comanche Tribal members through financial aid programs including Down Payment and Closing Cost Grant, Elder Program, Home Improvement Program, Homeownership Lease Purchase, Rental Program and Student Housing Program. For more information about CNHA programs visit <https://comanchehousing.com/>.



COMANCHE NATION MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

September Highlights



Courtesy Photos

Richard Henson, Roxe Large, PBS productions, Caldera productions, Lucie Washakie, and Claudia Choney.



Roxe Large, Attorney General Gentner Drummond, Richard Henson

The Comanche Nation Missing, Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) hosted the MMIP documentary during the Shoshone Reunion on September 22, in the Comanche Complex's Code Talker room. The documentary generated awareness on four MMIW unresolved cases in Indian country produced by Caldera productions. Lucie Washakie (MMIW Advocate) joined us this year from Utah, as she shared her sister Abbie Washakie's story featured in the film. Producer Jordan Dresser also attended our screening while Sophie Barksdale gave CN MMIP exclusive access to showcase the film.

"It was a powerful testi-

mony providing a voice to the voiceless and allowing four Indigenous women's stories to be heard and remembered across Indian country"- Richard Henson, CN MMIP Victim Advocate.

On September 25, the MMIP Coordinator and Victim Advocate attended a roundtable discussion by special invitation to Comanche Nation from the office of Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond. The meeting focused on Missing & Murdered Indigenous People and how governments can work together to help find the missing and seek justice.

In attendance several Chair-

man from tribes across Oklahoma and representatives from Choctaw Nation, Kiowa Nation, Wichita and Affiliated Nation, Osage Nation, Cheyenne and Arapaho Nation, Quapaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation were in attendance. Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation Director Greg Mashburn and Special Agent Dale Fine shared their experiences and goals for the MMIP crisis. Each tribe shared their hardships of MMIP related issues and suggestions for resolutions. OSBI and AG Gentner provided an open ear and attention for the overall MMIP crisis among tribes across Oklahoma.



Courtesy Photo

FACILITATOR TRAINING.
Participants of Comanche Nation New Pathways Halfway House Medicine Wheel and 12 Steps complete their facilitator session on October 17 at Homewood Suites in Lawton, Oklahoma. The program from White Bison focused on personal growth and community involvement. The third and final session will take place in January 2026.

Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

NOVEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	Frederick 1st Day	Frederick 2nd Day	Walters 1st Day	Walters 2nd Day	Cache 1st Day	8
9	Cache 2nd Day	CLOSED Veteran's Day	Cache 3rd Day	Cache 4th day	Lawton 1st day	15
16	Lawton 2nd Day	Lawton 3rd Day	Lawton 4th Day	Lawton 5th Day	TRUCK DAY	22
23	Make-Up Day	Inventory	Inventory	CLOSED Thanksgiving Day	CLOSED Thanksgiving Friday	29
30						



LEGAL AID CLINIC

FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS

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

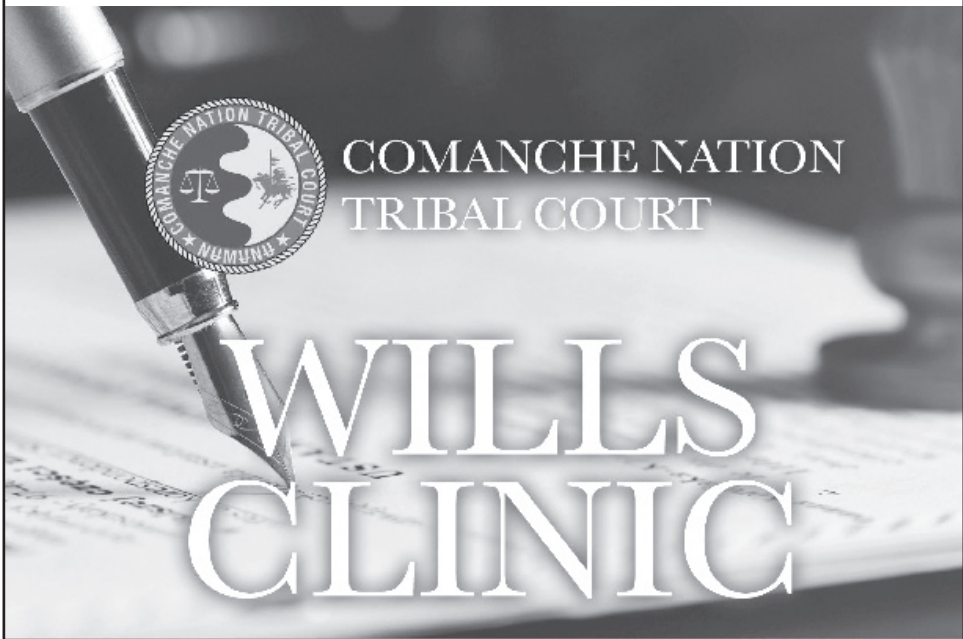
PROVIDED BY GREAT PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES

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

DATES

11/05/25	10am-2pm
11/12/25	10am-2pm
11/19/25	10am-2pm
11/25/25	10am-2pm

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



COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT

WILLS CLINIC

NOVEMBER 14, 2025
10am-2pm

Comanche Nation Tribal Courthouse
Comanche Nation Headquarters
584 NW Bingo Road
Lawton, OK

For more information please call (580)492-3822

DIVORCE? WRITS? WILLS/CODICILS? ATTESTATIONS?

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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

"Do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

-Matthew 28:19-20



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



By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

The Shoshone language reunion began on September 22, at the Comanche Nation Complex. The reunion lasted until September 25.

Comanche Nation Shoshone Reunion Committee Chairman Don Tosee said it's a gathering of Comanches and their Shoshone relatives.

"We came down south, and they stayed up north and about 20 years ago, 2000 or so, some of the elders got together, decided that it's an important thing to make sure that our language continues," he said. "So, one of their strategies was to put this language reunion together and bring our tribes back together. We all share the same Uto-Aztecan language, different dialects, different pronunciations, but it's all similar. And so that was the main reason is to preserve our language."

Tosee said they can build friendships and partnerships outside of learning the language.

"Maybe meet relatives that they hadn't seen in a while or make new friends," he said. "And what that does is just builds that bond even stronger. And then whenever they start talking and, well, 'Hey, so-and-so, I know so-and-so,' the next thing you know, you're talking to a relative that you may not have known even before that. And so that just strengthens that bond between each other."

There were breakout sessions throughout the day, and they included activities for all age groups.

"Our main objective is one: to help promote our language preservation. We have different activities, language classes, the breakout sessions, the panels between the elders of our Comanche

relatives and the Shoshone relatives," Tosee said. "They'll speak their different dialects, but then also that conversation, we'll be able to understand each other. And so that's one of our things is, we're trying to build that, strengthen that language bond. And then also with our youth and everybody we have different activities that they'll be involved in. And so, we're hoping that by including our youth, our language, that'll continue on."

Educational outlets, including charter schools, were invited. Tosee wanted to be more involved with the language.

"I wasn't taught really at home growing up, because our grandmother she was still in that era," he said. "She had come through the boarding schools, and it was kind of looked upon, as if you're going to continue that language, she didn't want us to get any type of persecution or anything that they may have went through back in the day. And so, I didn't really get to learn a whole lot. We know some phrases and some words and things like that; [we] can count number-wise, but to speak it fluently is something that I really would like to learn how to do and get that retain that. And I'd like to share that within my house with my family, with my son and my daughter, and be able to communicate with her."

Tosee said they began fundraisers earlier in the year and enjoyed showing the Shoshones the same type of respect.

The Shoshone Language Reunion wrapped its final day on September 24, at Comanche Nation; however, the last two days were filled

with activities.

Comanche Nation Shoshone Reunion Vice Chairman Vickie Sanders said it was great to see the Shoshone relatives. About 1,000 people registered for the event, which they weren't expecting.

"But we're glad that we did get that many people," she said. "We enjoyed our relatives that came in from all over the tribes of Shoshone, and it's really exciting to see every one of these because these are familiar faces that you see when you go to their area. Last year, we went to Fort Hall, and a lot of them came down this way. We get to see people from Fort Shane, the Paiutes, Duck Valley, and like I said, there's just so many more."

Sanders said there were a lot of events going on throughout the reunion, including shinny ball.

"The shinny ball is played like a stick and a ball, and they go with the two teams, and it's all girls team, and there's four on each one, and then we also had a teepee contest," she said. "I think we had maybe five teams at least, so that went really well. We weren't expecting that many, but we did."

There was also an all-ages archery, basketwork, handgame and a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples walk hosted by the Comanche Nation.

Sanders' favorite part was the morning ceremony on September 23, at Mount Scott, which was led by Fredrick Auck and Lloyd Heminokeky.

She said seeing people coming in was all new to her and overwhelming.

"A lot of our elders, even our



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Veterans from the Shoshone, Comanche, Ute and other tribes carry in the United States flag as well as flags representing their tribes during the opening ceremony of the Shoshone Reunion held at the Comanche Nation Complex.

own elders, for the Comanche coming out where they could visit with these people because they also know these relatives of ours," Sanders said. "So that was exciting."

She tried to ensure everyone was cared for and everything ran smoothly.

"Seems like they're all having fun, and we all laugh and joke around, and I like that," Sanders said. "That's something that you know I enjoy doing, and get to know these people that I have

not seen and now are coming in. Even our own Comanche members, for our own tribe, there's a lot of them that came out of town that got to come here, and it was good to know and see them too."

On September 24, several events took place, including a parade, giveaways and a fashion show.

Both days had several vendors, and Sanders was grateful for everyone who helped with the reunion.



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

BACK TO THE BASICS. On September 22, Comanche tribal member Mary Motah took people back on how to live off the land during her workshop at the 2025 Shoshone Reunion. Pictured on the left is a blanket woven out rabbit skins. The rabbits were used for food and the skins were used for warmth. Pictured on the right Motah demonstrates one of the many uses of the Yucca plant. Motah explains how to make a sturdy rope out of the Yucca plant. If the rope is woven right it can hold up to at least 50 pounds.



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



WALK TO REMEMBER. On September 23, the Comanche Nation Missing Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) and Natalie Wallace held the 9th annual MMIW Walk to Remember. The MMIW walk originated in 2017 and was attended to be a part of the Comanche Nation Fair. This year marked one of the largest attended events during the fair with 602 participants. Relatives visiting out of state for the Shoshone Reunion joined in unity. The speaker line up included Lucie Washakie, Brando Price, Carmen Harvey, Richard Henson, Roxe Large, Rochelle Redbone and several MMIP families who shared their personal stories. Riverside MMIP youth group sang a prayer drum song under the direction of Mariah and Victoria Nevaquaya.

For more photos of the 2025 Shoshonean Language Reunion, go to the Public Information's Facebook Page, The Comanche Nation News.

Generations of Pride: Celebrating a Shared Language and Culture

The Shoshonean Language Reunion ended with a Parade of Tribes



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Shoshone Tribes Demonstrate the Choke Cherry Dance and the Bear Dance During the Reunion

The Bear Dance demonstration took place the evening of 23. Both Comanches and the visiting Shoshone and Ute tribes gathered to watch and participate in the Spring dance.

According to the Southern Ute tribal website, some of the elders, the origin of the Ute Bear Dance relates the time when two brothers were out hunting in the mountains and as they became tired, they laid down to rest. One of the brothers noticed a bear standing upright facing a tree and seemed to be dancing and making a noise while clawing the tree. Ute legends or stories remember the time when the elders asked the hunters to go out and gather meat. As they were out hunting, they encountered some small people who ran into the rocks in the hills. They told the elders about them and the elders told them that they were called cliff dwellers which according to archaeologists were called Anasazi, the ancient ones. The one brother went on hunting while the other brother continued to observe the bear. The bear taught the young man to do the same dance and also taught the young man the song that went with the dance.

He told the young man to return to his people and teach them the dance and songs of the bear.

Choke Cherry Dance

The Choke Cherry Dance took place on September 22.

The Eastern Shoshone people have a sacred song and dance specifically to express gratitude to the Creator for blessing them with chokecherries.

Chokecherries are a traditional food for the Shoshone tribe. The most popular way of preparing the chokecherry within the tribe is chokecherry gravy, *Goetsaap*.



Shoshone dancer participates in the scared Choke Cherry Dance.

Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The music for the Bear Dance is provided by singers who use notched wooden sticks, musical rasps (or "growlers"), and drums to create sounds that mimic bear growls and scratching.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Dancers from the Shoshone tribe demonstrates their scared "Choke Cherry," dance, during the 2025 Shoshone Reunion held at the Comanche Nation Complex.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Dancers from the Shoshone Tribe extend their hand to except the gift that the creator gives during their sacred "Choke Cherry," dance.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Indiahoma Native American Club Jr. Princess, Charli Zollars, Bear Dances with Brantley Kerchee.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/NewsStaff

Ladies line up with their partners to participate in the Bear Dance.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Children quickly gather candy and treats during the dance demonstrations.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Bear Dance is a "ladies' choice" event, and some men dance with two ladies at once, which is acceptable and common..



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

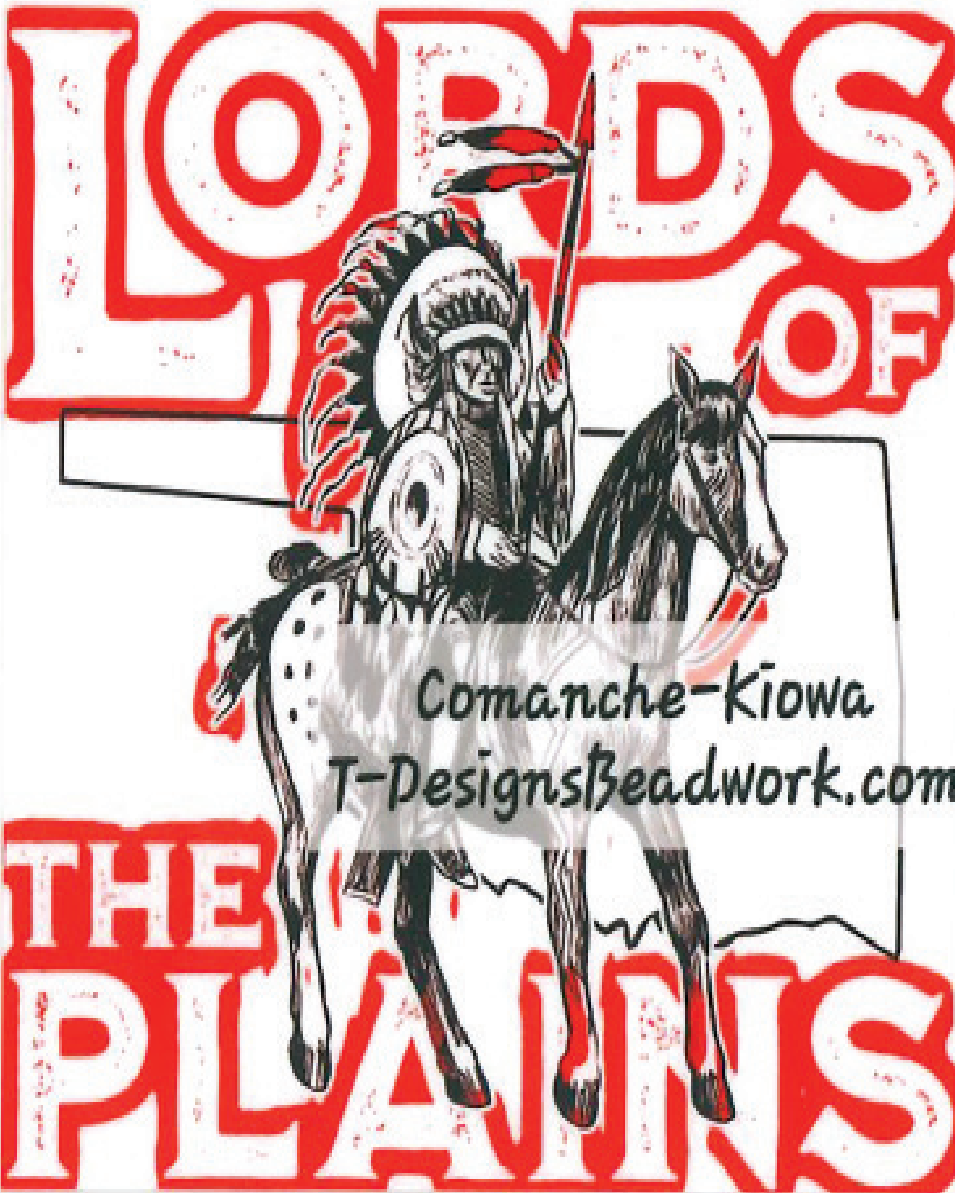
Comanche tribal members participate in the Bear Dance teh evening of September 23.

Fashion Woven Through Culture



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

Participants show their different types of regalia from their prespective tribes, during the 2025 Shoshone Reunion held at the Comanche Nation complex. Each participant proudly and respectfully represented their tribe as well as their families during the Fashion Show portion of the reunion.





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Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/CIVA

2025 Veterans Day Message:

Each year on November 11, is Veterans Day. It carries a special meaning, as Veterans Day approaches. We must never forget the sacrifices Comanche Veterans have made to serve this Great County in Peacetime and during a time of War. We as Comanche People must listen and take pride in our Comanche Nation Veterans and listen to the stories what his/her service meant to them. While Veterans Day will forever be a cause for celebration and a time to honor the sacrifices of Veterans, this day is regarded as a day of opportunity—a chance to remind our Comanche People about the challenges our Comanche Nation Veterans face during and after service, so that we can ensure they are properly taken care of not only physically but mentally.

On this Veterans Day, please continue to support our Comanche Nation Veterans. They are the backbone of our Great Nation. Celebrating their lives and sacrifices is an honor and privilege. This Veterans Day, we commemorate the sacrifices of those who continue to carry the wounds, both mentally and physically, from their fight for the cause of FREEDOM, some FREEDOMS we enjoy today, and sometimes take for granted not knowing the sacrifices they made and the scars they carry.

We (CIVA) Honor all our Comanche Nation Veterans on this upcoming Veterans Day. Here are just a few of our Comanche Nation Veterans who have answered the call to fight for the cause of FREEDOM, LIBERTY, and JUSTICE:



Courtesy Photo
Kenneth Ataovich
MSGT USAF 1986-2011



Courtesy Photo
Stormy M. Garcia Bennett
PFC USA
Aug. 21, 2002- Dec. 29, 2004



Courtesy Photo
Christopher L. Brady
ABH3 USN 1995-98



Courtesy Photo
Kyle F. Chalepah
PFC OKARNG 1986-92



Courtesy Photo
Charles Eatmon
ISG USA 2001-22



Courtesy Photo
Ronald Glindo, Jr.
SGT USAF
Mar. 3, 1987 - May 5, 1991



Courtesy Photo
Phillip Hendrix Jr.
SN USN 1967 - 1970



Courtesy Photo
Mathew D. Issac
SPC USA 2000-03



Courtesy Photo
Kenneth Looking Glass
LCPL USMC 1966-68



Courtesy Photo
Lucien J. Looking Glass
SGT USMC 1961-67



Courtesy Photo
Jackson Myers
MMI (NUC) USN



Courtesy Photo
Robert Alan Red Elk
SP4 USA 1970-72
CIVA Activities

2025 Pawnee Indian Veterans Princess Reception

On September 6, CIVA was invited by CIVA Associated Member, Keller Roaming Warrior who recently been elected as the Treasure for the Pawnee Indian Veterans Organization to the Pawnee Indian Veterans Princess Reception held in Pawnee, Oklahoma.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the reception was cancelled as a meal was prepared for this event. Veterans and their guests were treated to a meal instead as Pawnee Indian Veterans Organization Princess Skye Harragarra-Harms introduced herself to everyone present.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Advisor Kevin Pohawpatchoko welcoming the Pawnee Indian Veterans Organization Princess Skye Harragarra-Harms.

50th Anniversary Planning Committee Meeting

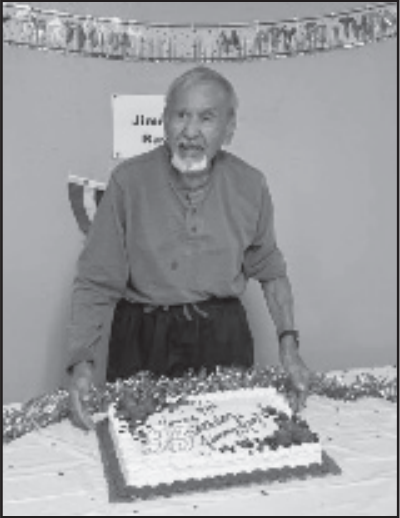
On September 8, CIVA 50th Anniversary Planning Committee Meeting held their second meeting in the Patriot Room.

Prior to the meeting a prayer was given followed by a pot-luck dinner. After the meal, the Committee were briefed on the first original CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary members. An open discussion on planning for a banquet and a celebration pow-wow as the dates will be determined.

CIVA Chaplain celebrates 93rd Birthday

On September 16, a birthday dinner was held for CIVA Chaplain Jimmy Ray Caddo at the Little Washita Dining Hall near Fletcher Oklahoma.

Comanche Veteran Jimmy Ray Caddo is the oldest living veteran of CIVA as he celebrated his 93rd birthday with family and friends. CIVA Officer's, Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary members would like to wish CIVA Chaplain Jimmy Ray Caddo a very Happy 93rd Birthday.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Chaplain Jimmy Ray Caddo standing by his birthday cake.

Color Guard Detail Cache High School Football Game

On September 19, CIVA was honored by the Cache Public Schools Johnson O'Malley Program to provide a Color Guard Detail for the Native American Pride Night in accordance with the Native American Heritage Month.

The Color Guard Detail presented the flags before the opening of the Cache and Sulphur football game, which was held at the Ulrich Football Stadium, in Cache, Oklahoma.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Color Guard Detail and CIVA Auxiliary

2025 Comanche Nation Fair

CIVA were honored to serve as the Color Guard and Co-Host for the 2025 Comanche Nation Fair. CIVA Officer's, Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary would like to thank the Comanche Nation Fair Board and the Pow-wow Committee for making this year's Comanche Nation Fair a big success.

Honorary Flags Flown

FRIDAY: The flag of U.S. Navy Veteran William Kerchee was raised and lowered and presented back to the family.

SATURDAY: The flag of U.S. Army WWII Veteran John Chasenah was raised and lowered and presented back to the family.

SUNDAY: The flag of U.S. Navy WWII Veteran Donald Wemy Jr. was raised and lowered and presented back to the family.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Veterans paying tribute to the Honorary Flags Flown.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Color Guard during Grand Entry.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Color Guard during Saturday's morning parade.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary group photograph with the 2025 Comanche Fair Celebrity and U.S. Army Veteran Raoul Trujillo.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie with the CIVA Auxiliary

CIVA Monthly meeting

On October 2, CIVA held its monthly meeting in the Patriot Room. CIVA Co-Chaplain Lymon Guy opened with a prayer as the CIVA Commander Roger Tehauno led the Pledge of Allegiance. Opening remarks were made by CIVA Commander, Roger Tehauno. The evening meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary members Linda Tehauno and Lenora Parker.

After the meal a roll call was conducted by CIVA Secretary, Dominic Pawlowski as a quorum was established. The September Monthly Minutes, Treasure Report and the Veterans and Auxiliary Reports were presented and approved. Old Business and New Business were discussed as well for the 49th Annual Veterans Days Celebration and Pow-wow.

Post Oak Days

On October 5, CIVA Veterans, Auxiliary provided a Color Guard Detail for the original historic site of the Post Oak Mission on Fort Sill.

All in attendance gathered at the Post Oak Mission in Indianhoma and caravaned to the front entrance of the U.S. Air Force, Falcon Bombing and Gunnery Range on Fort Sill, and escorted to the area where the original mission once stood. The Color Guard Detail presented the colors and afterwards several Comanche Hymns were sung followed by sermon at the historic Post site.

After the sermon, a meal was provided by members of the Post Oak Mission Church.

CIVA would like to thank the Post Oak Mission Church for the invitation for the Color Guard Detail and the lovely meal.



Courtesy Photo
Post Oak Mission Monument

Continued from Page 11



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Color Guard presenting the colors.

Funeral and Honor Guard Details

On October 7, CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary attended the funeral of Connor Andrew Ahtone. He is the son of Megan (Stone) Mahseet and Eagles Mahseet Sr., and brother of Trinity Ahtone. Megan (Stone) Mahseet is the former Comanche Nation Princess and CIVA Princess and Trinity Ahtone is the former CIVA Princess. The grandmother, Gwen Stone who is a CIVA Auxiliary member. CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary extend their love and condolences to the family.

On October 10, a Funeral/Honor Guard Detail was requested by Comanche Nation Funeral Home on behalf of Lori Rochelle Lyles-Hurt, the wife of U.S. Marine Corps Major Lewis Hurt III. He is the step-father of Roxie Kerchee and grandfather of CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie.

The burial was held at the Otipoby Cemetery on Fort Sill. Major Hurt III was a U.S. Marine Corps Pilot who served during the Vietnam War. He flew over 30 combat missions in the F-4 Phantom and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Major Hurt III was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1480, member of the Esa Rosa Descendants, Associate Member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association, and a member of the Native American Church.



Courtesy Photo
The flag of Major Lewis Hurt III presented to his wife Lori Rochelle Lyles-Hurt.

29th Annual Native American Marine Corps Dinner

On October 13, CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary received an official invitation by the Native American Marine Corps Veterans Princess Miss Kacey Atavvich to attend the 29th Annual Native American Marine Corps Dinner which was held at the Kiowa Tribe Red Wolf Building.

CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie had the honoring of signing the Pledge of Allegiance with other Veteran and Tribal Princesses in attendance. A delicious meal was served and afterwards CIVA Veterans and the CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie had the honor to wish the U.S. Marine Corps a Happy 250th Birthday.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie signing The Lord's Prayer.



Courtesy Photo
CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie and CIVA Advisor Kevin Pohawpat-choko with Commander David Anderson.

Calling for all former CIVA Princesses

To all the former CIVA Princesses, please contact CIVA Auxiliary member Linda Tehauno at (580) 678-2468 or by e-mail veloiswhitefeather@yahoo.com. CIVA is planning a 50th Anniversary event as we are extending an invitation to you. Thank you!

COMANCHE INDIAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION
49TH Annual Veterans Day Celebration and Pow Wow
Tuesday November 11, 2025 12:00 pm -10:00 pm
At Watchetaker Hall Comanche Complex – 8 Mi N of Lawton, Ok.

MC – Eugene Blackbear
Drum – Sovo Singers
Security – Brian Walnee

HEAD STAFF
Head Dancers – CIVA Veterans & Auxiliary
Ads Lonnie Haub-Gooah & Modesto Schouchin
Co-Hosts – VFW Post 1015, Anadarko, Ok & Comanche Homecoming

ALL GOURD DANCE NO SPECIALS



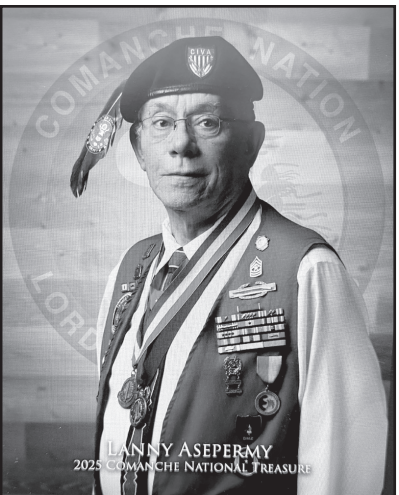
Flag Raising at 8:00 a.m. The Flag Of Robert Tippecoonie will be flown
Welcome by Commander Roger Tehauno
Opening Prayer by Lyman Guy
Posting of the Colors by CIVA Color Guard
Comanche Flag Song by Sovo Singers
National Anthem by CIVA Princess Clara Yazzie
Tu-Whie Dancers War Mothers Songs, Scalp and Victory Dances
OK Military Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony & Quilts of Valor Presentations
Gourd Dance
Flag Lowering at 5:30 pm
Blessing for the meal by Ramonah Davis
Retire the Colors
Resume Gourd Dance
CIVA Princess Special
CIVA Special
Closing Prayer by Dominic Pawlowski

Asepermy Selected as Comanche Nation National Treasure

In 2024 the Comanche Nation selected their first National Treasure. They were Geneva Wooma-voyah Navarro, formerly of Apache, Oklahoma, and the late Rance Hood. In 2025 Lanny Asepermy, Lloyd Heminokeky Jr. and Theresa Lopez were selected as the National Treasures of the Comanche Nation. The National Treasure designation is for people who have a lifetime of achievements to the Comanche Nation. They were recognized during the recent Comanche Nation Fair.

Asepermy lives west of Apache. He was born in 1946 in Lola, KS and was raised by his grandparents, the late George Sr. and Hattie Asepermy from age three months. His mother is the late Ruth Asepermy Myers. He graduated from Apache Public Schools in 1965 and served in the Army from 1966 to 1990. Asepermy retired at the highest military enlisted rank of Sergeant Major (E-9). His service included a year tour of duty in Vietnam and overseas assignments in Germany Korea and Hawaii. He also served at Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Bliss, Texas; Camp Marby, Texas; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and Tooele Army Depot, Utah. His awards include the Combat Infantryman, Drill Sergeant Identification and Imjin Scouts badges, Legion of Merit, Vietnam Service with/4 Service Stars and Lone Star Distinguished Service medals.

In 1992 he returned to Apache and became a member of the Comanche War Scouts until 1995. He has been an active member of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association since 1995. His accolades include selection as the City of Apache Man of the Year in 2007, selection as



Courtesy Photo
the American Indian Exposition Indian of the Year in 2007, selection as the first American Indian Ambassador for the Oklahoma Military Heritage Foundation in 2011, induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor in 2023, induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame in 2024, named Ambassador for the Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor Theadwell-Poolaw Chapter 17 and presented with a Honorary Doctorate for Public Service from Missouri State University in 2025.

During his 57½ years of military and public service he has conducted 315 military funeral honors for Comanche, non-Comanche and non-American Indian veterans in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Kentucky and California; helped place 301 military markers for the families of deceased veterans; established the Comanche War Scout Circle of Honor with dyes of the 13 Comanche Fallen Warriors and five Prisoners of War; upgraded the Comanche Indian Veterans Association Court of Honor by making it handicap acces-

sible and adding seven dyes with 756 names (there are now 13 dyes with 1312 names of Comanche veterans); lobbied, successfully, the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal (the highest civilian award of the United States) to the Comanche and Kiowa Code Talkers by making five trips to Washington DC; nominated, successfully, three individual Comanche veterans and the Comanche, Kiowa, Choctaw and Pawnee Code Talkers into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame; nominated, successfully, thirty-two Comanches, five Kiowa, one Navajo and one non-Indian veterans into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor; helped establish the City of Apache Veterans Memorial Park; nominated 418 Comanche veterans for military honors; participated in about 3,300 commitments at meetings, prayer services, weddings, parades, grand entries, flag raising and lowering ceremonies, conferences, special events, award ceremonies, pow-wows; etc., established Tahsequah Garden in honor of the only Comanche missing in action (LtCol Meech Tahsequah), established the Comanche Veterans Patriotic Room and Gallery which contains 778 individual veterans photos and bios and many other military artifacts.

He accepted the honor at the Comanche Nation Fair by saying “this honor is not for me but for all the 1,312 Comanche veterans and all veterans that have served, honorably in the US military.”

Asepermy lives west of Apache with his wife of 33 years, Shelley Klinekole Asepermy. They have six daughters, 16 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.



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Mari Lavatal, President
(580) 704-7516
Ann Quis Quis, Vice-President
(580) 647-4359
Eva Asenap, Treasurer
(580) 458-9458
Cecily Brigoli, Secretary
(580) 919-9666

Tentative Schedule
2PM: Opening Prayer
Gourd Dance begins
Contest registration opens
430PM: Scalp & Victory Dance
5PM: Supper Break
6:30PM: Supper Break ends
Prepare for Grand Entry
10PM: Powwow ends & Closing Prayer

HONORED VETERANS
Joseph Chebahtah & Lyndon Wahkinney

Club Princesses
Reyna Serna
Senior 2025-2026
Breanna Kerchee
Junior 2025-2026
Nahmi D. Poafpybitty
Li'l Miss 2024-2026
Drum Keeper
Jenathon Looney

2025 VETERANS POWWOW
Saturday, November 8, 2025
Watchetaker Hall - NW Bingo Rd - Lawton, OK

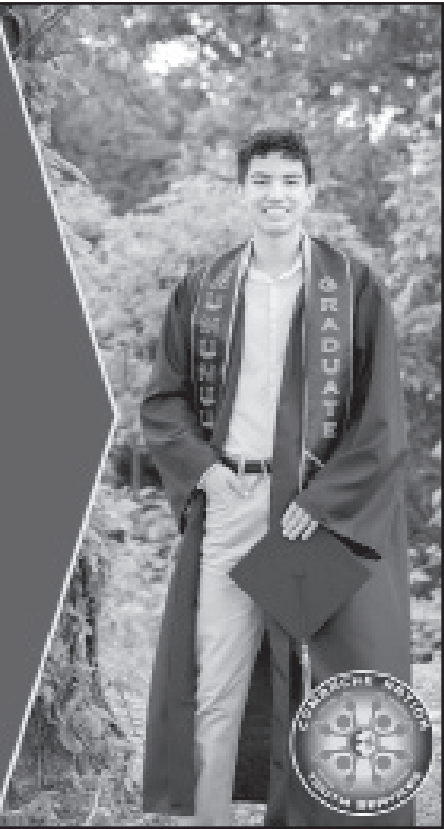
★★★★★
HEAD STAFF
Master of Ceremonies Martin Flores
Head Man Bruner Cable
Head Lady Kimberley DeJesus
Co-Host Esa Rosa Whitewolf Descendants
Head Singer Devon Wermey
Arena Directors Freddy Banderas
Travis Codynah
Security Jim Wade
Contest Coordinator Carla Whiteman

CONTESTS
Tiny Tots (0-6)
Sponsor: Reyna Serna & Family
Junior Boys Combined (7-12)
Sponsor: Walters Service Club
Junior Girls Combined (7-12)
Sponsor: Breanna Kerchee & Family
Teen Boys Combined (13-17)
Sponsor: Ann Quis Quis
Teen Girls Combined (13-17)
Sponsor: Nahmi D. Poafpybitty & Family
Women's Cloth & Buckskin Combined (18+)
Sponsor: Kimberley DeJesus
Men's Straight & Traditional Combined (18-54)
Sponsors: Betty Tippeconie, Penny Beaver & Eva Asenap

Pretty Shawl
Sponsor: Numu Crafts
★★★★★
Special Invitation
Comanche Nation Princesses-past & present, all Veterans, all Organizations & Royalty, Comanche Elected Officials & Tribal Administrator
★★★★★
The Walters Service Club is not responsible for any theft, damages, accidents or injuries. Alcohol & Drug-free environment. VENDORS: contact (call or text) Cecily Brigoli - \$30 fee w/donation item - 10x10 spot only - No Food Vendors.

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People, Places and Things Happening



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Students on the 2025 Eisenhower Homecoming Court

Ne’Vaeh Lord is a member of the Comanche Nation, and an senior at Eisenhower High School. She has participated in open doors program with Cameron University for two years, one year of fellowship of Christian athletes and regularly volunteers at her church. Lord plans to attend college to pursue a career as pediatric nurse.

Malachi Eli Large is a member of the Comanche Nation and is also Eastern Shoshone. He is a senior at Eisenhower High School, four-year varsity member of the baseball team, played basketball for one year, member of EHS student council for three years, Key club for one year, member of EHS student leadership, active member of I AM NDN youth group and has modeled in several Native American fashion shows. Large’s future plans are to attend college and receive a bachelor’s degree in Business.

Danielle Tomah is Comanche and a senior at Eisenhower High School. She has ran cross country and track for four years and qualified for state, academic team for four years, student council for three years, Native American club for four years, three year member of CIVA. Tomah plans on attending college and majoring in Native American studies.

Stumblingbear Places in Two Wrestling Categories



Courtesy Photo

Stumblingbear

Remi Evelyn Danell Stumblingbear, 11 years old, attended her first wrestling tournament in the Oklahoma Open 2025, held at Midwest City, Oklahoma, where she won two medals. She won 2nd in her weight division and won 3rd place in the next weight up division.

Stumblingbear, is a part of the 2025/26 Anadarko Youth Wrestling team and is couched by LaForce Bearbow, she attends Riverside Indian school she is in 5th grade.

Her Mother (Sayle Stumblingbear) and family are so proud of her and all her accomplishments and dedication of hard work.

Stumblingbear Recognized at his Middle School



Courtesy Photo

Stumblingbear

Koda Victor Royce Stumblingbear and his parents were recognized for exercising his school’s motto, daily, P.R.I.D.E (Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Empathy). A letter was presented to them, and stated that Stumblingbear is helping build a strong and determined community at Longfellow Middle School. Stumblingbear attends Longfellow Middle School in Norman, Oklahoma, and is in the 6th grade. He is also the Center and Lineman on Offense and Defense for the Jr. Jags Football Team, where they have played a total of 8 games and are undefeated. His team is getting ready for the playoffs, then on to the Super Bowl.

His parents (Kenneth and Lizette Stumblingbear) and family are so proud of him for all his accomplishments and dedication to hard work, setting an excellent example for others and making a meaningful impact on the school community.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

2025 COMANCHE HOMECOMING PRINCESS. Hannah Rose Owens was announced as the 2025-2027 Comanche Homecoming Princess September 24, during the Comanche Charter School Pow-wow in Lawton, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Lance and Sonya Owens. She attends Eisenhower High School in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Komancheet Places in Senior Golf Tournament



Courtesy Photo

Komahcheet Jr.

Congratulations to Comanche Nation elder, Robert “Juits” Komahcheet Jr., who finished 2nd in the Super Seniors (65+) Division at The Native American Open, held October 18–19 at Santa Ana Golf Club and Twin Warriors Golf Course in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.

With a combined two-day gross score of 164 (Net 70 & 72), Komahcheet Jr. played with determination and focus, battling the competition from all over the United States, as well as the wind at two championship-level courses. His steady performance also earned him two skins and two Closest to the Pins, highlighting both strategic play and sharp iron work.

“It’s more than just golf; we are proudly representing our Comanche people,” said Komahcheet. The photo shows Robert “Juits” Komahcheet Jr. proudly wearing his medal in front of the tournament banner.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

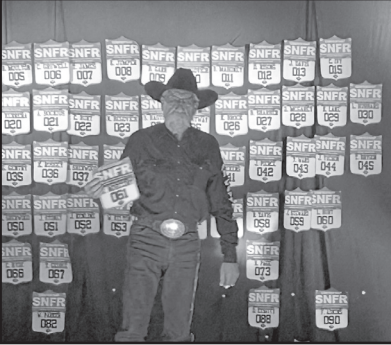
Tosee

Tosee is Crowned the 2025 Elgin Homecoming Queen

Congratulations to Comanche tribal member and former Comanche Nation Princess, Bluesky Tosee, who was crowned the 2025 Elgin High School Homecoming Queen at the October 23 game in Elgin, Oklahoma.

Tosee was the 2024 Comanche Nation Princess, and is the daughter of Don Tosee.

Mihecoby Wins Senior Rodeo Category



Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to Comanche tribal elder, Marty Mihecoby, at the age of 67, is the 2025 National Senior Pro Rodeo Association (SNFR) World Champion in 60's Saddle Bronc. The rodeo took place on October 7-11, at the Apache Gold Casino and Resort in San Carlos, Arizona.

Maruaweka Nu Nahnia tsa Wehwahn-oet Tatsinuupi (Shining Star).



Courtesy Photo

I would like to invite everyone to come out and enjoy our 29th Annual Native American Marine Corps Veterans Association Dance! We will be celebrating the 250th birthday of the United States Marine Corps.

It has been an honor to serve for three years as the Native American Marine Corps Veterans Princess. During that time, I represented the Marines throughout Oklahoma and even out of state. I am deeply thankful for all the support I received along the way — I met so many Marines, made new friends, family, and fellow princesses. I also want to thank my parents for always supporting me on this journey. Come be a part of a special day honoring and respecting those who have given so much for our freedom. Urako

-Kasey Atauvich



29th Annual
Marine Corps Veterans Gourd Dance
Celebrating the U.S. Marine Corps' 250th Birthday
Sunday, November 16, 2025
Red Wolf Community Center-Kiowa Tribal Complex, Carnegie, OK
A Special Invitation to all Veterans, Service Organizations and Princesses



USMC Honorees
Larry Roman Nose
Allen Roman Nose
Zachary McLeMore



Honored Family Member
Fran Sapcutt
Margaret Hernasy-Morgan

Schedule of Events

- 2:00 PM Flag Raising
- 2:30 PM Gourd Dancing
- 4:30 PM Cake Cutting
- 5:00-6:00 PM Evening Meal
- 6:00-10:00 PM Gourd Dance Resumes
- 10:30 PM Clean-Up

Honored Guests: American War Mothers, Kiowa Chapter 18, KCA Veterans Association, CIVA, Red Moon Gourd Clan, American Legion Post 401

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Honor Flag: | NAMCV Flag Herbert Switch |
| Honor Guard: | Native American Marine Corps Veterans |
| NAMCV Princess: | Kylee Robedeaux-Incoming Kasey Marie Atauvich-Outgoing |
| Master of Ceremonies: | Marshall Williamson |
| Head Singer: | Robert Tehauno |
| Head Man Dancer: | Juaquin Lonelodge |
| Head Lady Dancer: | Christiana D. Chalepah Kiowa name Kom-bau-Thaw-ah-Mah |
| Arena Directors: | Chris Whitewolf and Randy Whitewolf |
| Sponsor: | The Kiowa Tribe |

Information Contact and Vendor Information: Tonyelle Atauvich-Unah (580) 695-5105 NAMCV Secretary

Dear TCNN

Letters to the Editor

Letter to the Editor,

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my grandson, Gary Drew Lopez, for nominating me for the Comanche Nation Treasure Award. His thoughtful gesture has touched my heart and made me feel honored and humbled.

It is truly heartwarming to see young people appreciating their elders. This act of kindness from my grandson reminds me that love, respect, and family bonds are the greatest treasures one can possess.

Thank you, Drew.

Love you grandma,
Teresa Lopez



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

2025 SHINNY (NOYO) BALL CHAMPIONS. The 2025 Comanche Nation Princess, Isabela Ramirez is flanked by her Shinney Ball Team, the Lady Warriors, from Indianhoma, Oklahoma, who won the tournament at this year’s Shoshonean Language Reunion. From left: Charli Zollars, Tiana McClung, Isabela Ramirez, Skylar Guajardo, Brooklyn Whitfield, and Hadley Zollars. The team will travel to next year’s Shoshonean Language Reunion to defend their title.

Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday

September 28 - Brian Wahn-ee
September 28 - Brian Wahn-ee
October 1 - Aaron Jasinski
October 18 - Kiyou Kerchee
October 23 - Malachi Eli Large

Happy Birthday!



November 4 - Angela Rochelle Passi *"Praising God for blessing our family with your life."*
November 4 - Rosalind Nau-ni Asetamy *"God continue blessing you for being there for everyone."*
November 5 - Sweet Laurenzana
November 6 - Derrick Nauni
November 14 - Evelyn Clara Holtsoi Karty
November 16 - Brynlee McClung
November 18 - Daren (Toko) Paddyaker
November 19 - Penelope Gloria Tahdooahnippah
November 28 - Jaliana Ford
November 29 - James Paul Muncy
November 30 - Mariah Wahrockah

The Comanche Nation News
December Edition
Deadline: November 15
Email: pio@comanchenation.com
or
stacey.heminokeky@comanchenation.com
Mail:
Comanche Nation/PIO
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73501
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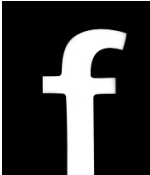
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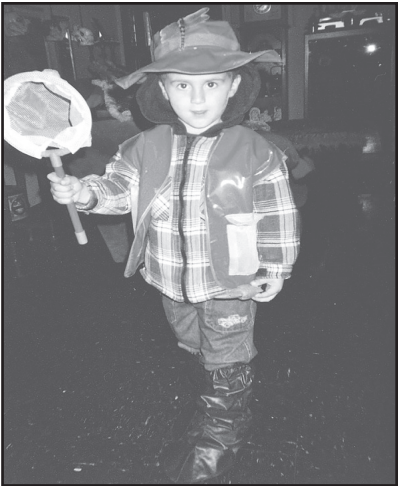
Happy 17th Birthday
Aaron Jasinski
October 1
~ Love Dad, Mom, Anthony, Koda, Whitney, Josie, Hannah, Aceson and the rest of the family.



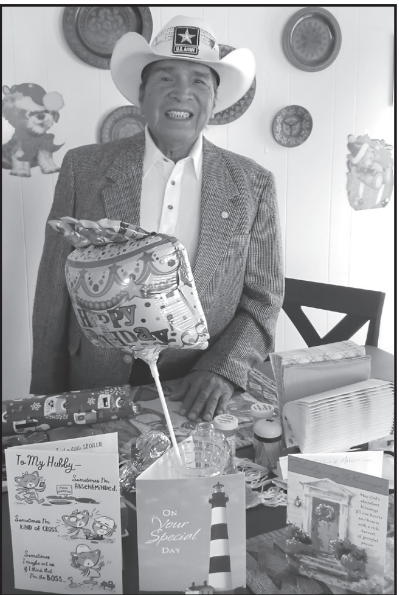
Happy 27th Birthday
Sweet Laurenzana
November 5
~ Happy Birthday Sweet! From the family.



Happy Birthday
Larry Monoessy Sr.
November 16



Happy Birthday
James Paul Muncy
November 29
~ Happy Birthday Bubba, ♥ Nana, Papa & Uncle Paco.



Happy Birthday
Melvin Kerchee Jr.
November 25



Happy Belated Birthday
Kiyou Kerchee
October 18



Happy Birthday
Sophie Suina
November 8



Happy Birthday
Ronald Monoessy Jr.
November 16



Happy 8th Birthday
Jaliana Ford
November 28

In Loving Memory
MAJ Lewis Carr Hurt III
March 20, 1946 - October 2, 2025

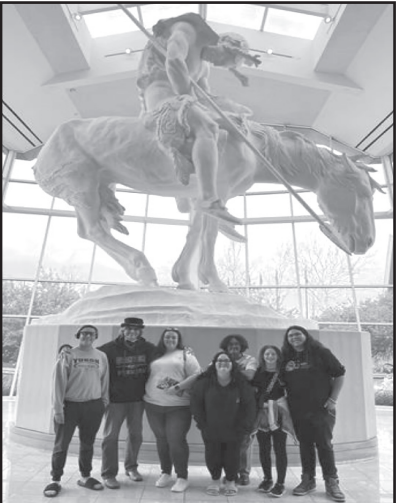




Happy Belated 18th Birthday
Malachi Eli Large
October 23
~ We love you Mali Bear. Dad, Mom, Micah, Grandma, Grandpa, Sunny, Fussy, Tallie, Alex, and Thupsey.



Happy Birthday
Larry Monoessy Jr.
November 15



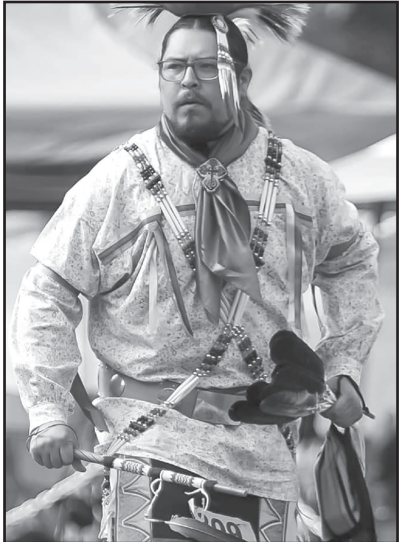
Happy Birthday
Daren (Toko) Paddyaker
November 18
~ Happy Birthday Dad/Toko! We love you! Tiffany M. Paddyaker-Fonseca & Kids!



Happy Birthday
Joseph
November



Happy Birthday
Brynlee McClung
November 16



Happy Birthday
Charles Tahah
November 24

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Native Spirit Suicide Prevention Project | 1-800-955-9848

Comanche Homecoming



**GOURD DANCE
BENEFIT POWWOW**

1 p.m. - 9 p.m.
November 23, 2025
Watchetaker Hall
2025-2027 Comanche Homecoming Princess - Hannah Owens

HEAD STAFF
Honored Elder - Arlene Poemoceah Wells

MC- Martin Flores
Head Singer - Victor Tahchawwickah
Head Lady Dancer - Bluesky Tosee
Head Man Dancer - Bubba Ed Tahhahwah
AD - Modesto Schonchin
Co-Host - Comanche Little Ponies
Comanche Youth Dancers

Cake Walk * Raffles * Concession Stand * Arts & Craft Vendors Only

Vendors \$25 set up fee. For more information call: Nolan Tahdooahnippah (580) 919-0868; Travis Codynah (580) 647-1561 Tanya Codynah (580) 585-1353 Jolene Schonchin (580) 583-2649

*This month's financial tip
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**Financial Planning:
Holiday Spending**



Now is a good time to start holiday planning to help prevent any last-minute budget breaking purchases.

Set aside a small amount each week to build a reserve and be less reliant on credit.

Make a plan to help you have a less stressful holiday season and not derail your long-term financial goals.

Set a specific holiday budget for:

- Halloween decorations, parties, and costumes
- Thanksgiving meal and travel
- Christmas gifts, travel, and parties
- New Year's Eve parties

Look for ways to save by:

- DIY costumes
- DIY decorations
- Costume swaps

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*Comanche Nation Elders Day
December 5, 2025
Great Plains Coliseum
Lawton, Okla.*

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Elder's Day
December 5, 2025

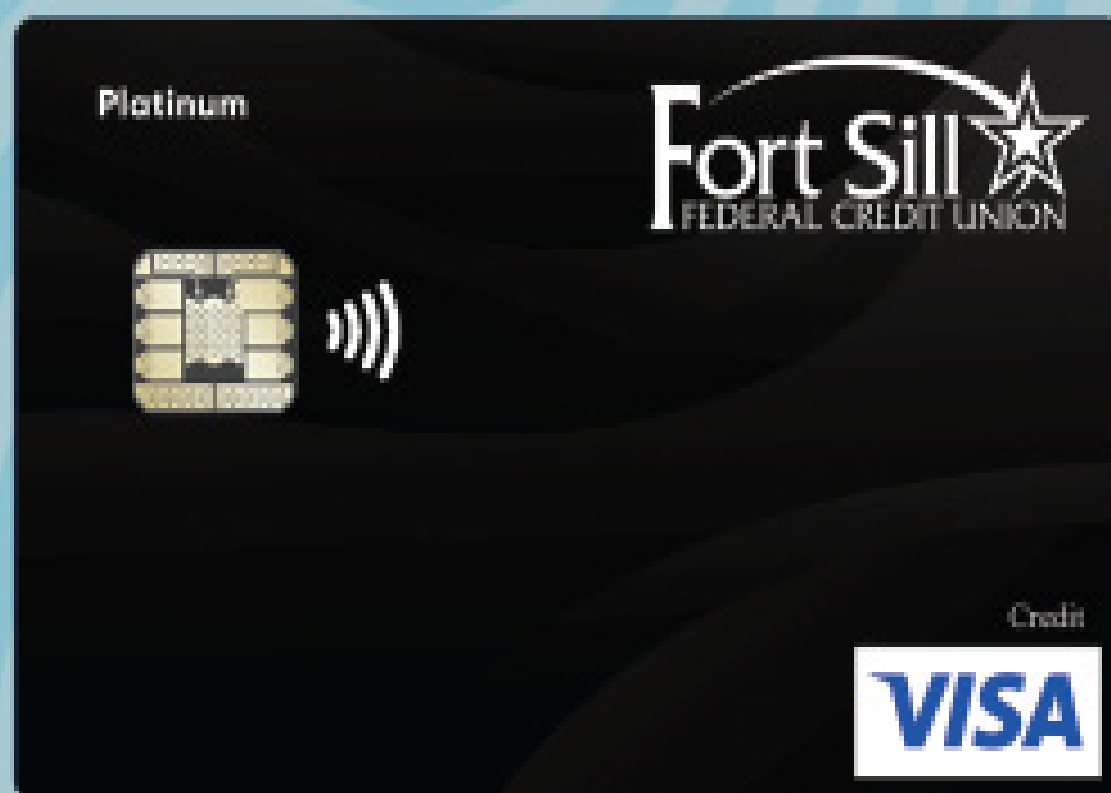
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