



# THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS

## Lords of the Plains

VOLUME 27 EDITION 7

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mtra (July) 2026

### Comanche MMIP Dedicates Mural at Comanche Nation Watchtaker Hall



#### Tax Commission Enforces 2019 Resolution to Protect Comanche Seal

Submitted by CN TaxCommission Staff

In 2019, the Comanche Business Committee passed a resolution to protect the official seal of the Comanche Nation from individuals or businesses who were using the image, in some cases to make a profit, without the consent of the Nation. The Tax Commission has been tasked to oversee the use of the logo.

#### COMANCHE NATION SEAL PROTECTION

Adopted and approved by the Comanche Business Committee on September 7, 2019 by Resolution No. 136 – 19.

Purpose:  
“It being necessary to regulate the conduct of sales, manufacture, display and replication of the Seal due to its inconsistent use amongst governmental departments, agencies, commissions, businesses and other entities affiliated with the Comanche Nation, along with regulating the Seals appropriation by entities not affiliated with the Comanche Nation. Therefore, the Comanche Nation Seal Protection Act of 2019 shall set licensing requirements, taxation requirements, standards and enforcement for failure to comply with requirements and standards.

The Comanche Nation Seal is a protected symbol that represents the history, culture, and sovereignty of Comanche Nation. The Tax Commission actively monitors and investigates potential unauthorized use of the seal; however, this work often involves online searches and investigations that do not always produce immediate results. The absence of identified violations during a search does not mean monitoring efforts have not taken place.

Many potential cases of misuse are first brought to our attention by tribal members who encounter the seal being used in their communities, or on social media. We encourage tribal members to help protect the integrity of the Comanche Nation Seal by remaining vigilant and reporting any suspected unauthorized use.

If you observe the Comanche Nation Seal being used by an individual, business, or organization and are unsure whether the use has been authorized, please notify Shanin Toles (Enforcement Agent) at the Comanche Nation Tax Commission and provide any available information, such as screenshots, photographs, or business name.

Your assistance helps ensure that the Comanche Nation Seal is used respectfully and in accordance with Nation policies.

Thank you for helping protect this important symbol of our heritage and identity.”



Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Nation Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Program dedicates a mural in Watchtaker Hall On June 18. The mural features red handprints, butterflies and female figures. Verizon, Comanche Nation and the community worked to create and complete the project. The mural honors Nation MMIP Awareness Day and was brought from Texas.

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Nation Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) dedicated a mural in Watchtaker Hall on June 18.

The mural is designed as a tribute to missing and murdered Indigenous women and features the message “No More Stolen Sisters,” red handprints, a red dress, butterflies and female figures standing in unity.

According to MMIP Coordinator Roxe Large, they were notified in May by Comanche Nation Dallas Outreach Coordinator Kristy Moses-Parkinson that Team Bonding and Verizon wanted to donate an MMIW mural in honor of National MMIP Awareness Day.

The department traveled to Irving, Texas and brought the mural back for the community to complete the painting.

“It was exciting to watch the community come together and help us finish painting,” Large said. “It was also therapeutic while listening to music and let people take a break while painting.”

Her favorite part was watching the mural come together with the teamwork of Verizon, Comanche Nation and community members.

“We have many projects in the making this year as we hold many outreaches throughout the

year to generate awareness in the community,” Large said. “We are planning for the MMIW Jam Fest in August in collaboration with Natalie Wallace. Also, the MMIW Walk to Remember during the Comanche Nation Fair and a grant outreach presentation.”

Comanche Nation MMIP wanted to thank the Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs for allowing them to collaborate. They also wanted to acknowledge Verizon employees, Comanche Nation employees and local community members for volunteering their time towards a meaningful project.

### Comanche Nation Fair Board Announces Date and Theme for this Years Event

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Nation Fair is the biggest celebration in Southwest Oklahoma, drawing tens of thousands of visitors locally and from around the world, and the Comanche Nation Fair Board has been meeting to organize this year's event to ensure it will be a successful festivity.

The Comanche Nation Fair Board President, Anthony Nauni, announces the date and theme for this year's Comanche Nation Fair.

“Maruaweka, The Comanche Nation Fair Board invites you to the 33rd Annual Comanche Nation Fair (Comanche Fair) in Lawton, Oklahoma. This year's Comanche Fair will bring over 30 family friendly events. The Comanche Fair has grown to be the largest tribal event in southwest Oklahoma bringing over 103,000 visitors to the Comanche Nation Fair.

The three day Comanche Fair will be taking place October 2, 3, and 4, which brings Comanche tribal members, and visitors from all across Indian Country to celebrate Culture, community, and tradition. We invite you to experience the Numunuu way of life through traditional song and dance featuring gourd dancing, competition dancing, and Comanche dances.



There is something for everyone at this public event from a massive parade, music festival, carnival and lasting family friendly activities like kid games, a fun run, art show, golf tournament, and camping. Browse unique Arts and Craft vendors from across the country, and savor a wide variety of delicious food from our food vendors.

We are proud to highlight our royalty through our theme: “Hon-

oring a Century of Comanche Nation Princesses (1926-2026). This theme will add a meaningful and elegant tribute to our cherished royalty. So, bring your family, bring your friends and immerse yourself in the rich culture of Comanche people. The Comanche Fair is more than an event, it's an experience you won't want to miss!

Coming soon, updates and full Comanche Fair details will be shared through our website [www.ComancheNationFair.com](http://www.ComancheNationFair.com) and follow us on Facebook to stay connected! We look forward to seeing you! *Ura, subetu ma...* (Thank you, that's all...)

Comanche Nation Fair Board”

The Comanche Nation Fair Board members are:

- President: Anthony Nauni
- Vice President: Rodney Parker
- Treasurer: Shannon Mowatt
- Secretary: Jolene Schonchin
- Board Member: Crystal Rodriguez
- Board Member: Jennifer Crow
- Board Member: Suzanne Patterson
- Board Member: Deedee Jozwiak
- Board Member: Nolan Tahdoahnippah

### Comanche Nation Enrollment Assists Probate Process; Announces Successful Audit

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is behind on 55,000 probate cases nationwide and has assigned a worker to the Comanche Nation to file for Comanche cases.

Sunny Walker is the new Probate and Estate Coordinator for the Comanche Nation through the BIA. This is currently a pilot program with growth potential.

“On a daily basis, I'm going through tribal member files trying to get the needed documents for the probate process,” she said. “Which is like their birth certificates, death certificates, CDIBs, and things of that nature.”

Walker works on as many cases as the BIA sends her and, at the time of publication, is working on 20 Comanche Tribal Member cases. Her main priorities include getting documents in order.

“To start the probate process, you do need to notify the BIA of the deceased, and it does help when you send out a death certificate to them or anything of the same,” she said. “...Or you can start sending those documents, and it'll speed up the process of the probate case.”

Walker began working with the BIA and Comanche Nation earlier this year.

“The enrollment files are very organized and very neat, and it's very simple to ask for documents, and everyone in there has been really able to help me if I need help,” she said.

The program does not deal with estate property, and anyone who needs help with that needs to go through Comanche Nation Realty.

BIA makes the final decision on documentation and triggers the probate process.

The pilot program is one of five in Oklahoma.

Walker can be reached at 580-890-1705 and [sunny.walker@comanchenation.com](mailto:sunny.walker@comanchenation.com).

Graham “Thomas” Hamilton is the Legal Administrative Specialist in the Division of Probates at the Anadarko Agency and can be reached at (405) 346-0746 or [graham.hamilton@bia.gov](mailto:graham.hamilton@bia.gov).

#### The Importance of Passing the Tribal Membership Audit

The Comanche Nation Enrollment Department Director, JD Wauqua, explains the importance of a successful tribal membership audit.

“As the director of the Enrollment Department for the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, I am extremely proud of our successful tribal membership audit. Passing this audit is much more than meeting a requirement; it demonstrates our commitment to accuracy, accountability, and compliance with Oklahoma House Bill 2208. The audit confirms that our tribal membership records are maintained correctly and that the information provided to the Oklahoma Tax Commission is accurate and reliable. This achievement helps ensure that our Nation remains eligible for important programs and services that benefit our tribal citizens throughout Oklahoma.

The audit process requires a significant amount of attention to detail and teamwork. Our department is responsible for maintaining accurate membership records, verifying eligibility requirements, and ensuring that all

See AUDIT, Page 3



### Happy Chiefs Day July 17th



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 See Comanche Rewards Club For Details.



**THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS**  
**Pia Nohi Tabeeni Mtra (July) 2026**  
**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.

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

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# Government

## 34 Resolutions and 27 Motions Pass in June 6 CBC Meeting

Submitted by Jennifer Lee/ Comanche Nation Administration

**Editor's Note:** This is an overview of the June 6 Comanche Business Committee (CBC) Monthly Meetings, and not the official minutes. To obtain a copy of the official minutes, please contact the Office of the Chairman, (580) 360-0623.

The Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoohnipah, called the CBC Meeting to order at 10 a.m.

### Resolutions

**Resolution No. 96-2026-** Enrollment Resolution Eligible List No. 1410 Minors - CBC No. 2, Darrell Kosechequetah, makes a motion to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1, Hazel Tahsequah, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 97-2026-** Enrollment Resolution Eligible List No. 1411 Adults. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. CBC No. 3, Harley Pennington, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 98-2026-** Enrollment Resolution Ineligible List No. 1412 No Allottee. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Secretary/Treasurer Benny Tahmahkera, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 99-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to FY26 Support for 988 Tribal Response Coop Agreements SAMHSA. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. CBC No. 3, Harley Pennington, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 100-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to the Medication Assisted Treatment SAMHSA. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution, CBC No. 4, Fred Codynah, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 101-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to the Strategic Prevention Framework SAMHSA. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahsequah, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 102-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs SSG Fox Suicide Prevention. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahsequah, seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 103-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to Tribal Behavioral Health Suicide Prevention SAMHSA. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 104-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to the Garrett Lee Smith State Tribal Youth Suicide Prev. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 105-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Resolution for Grant Application to the Mental Health Awareness Training SAMHSA. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Kosechequetah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 106-2026-** Prevention and Recovery Inpatient Resolution for Grant Application to the Tribal Behavioral Health Substance Use Prev. SAMHSA. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 107-2026-** Transit Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of FY25 Transit Program Funds. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 108-2026-** Transit Resolution for Grant Application to OK Rural Health Initiative. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 109-2026-** CHR Resolution for Grant Application RHTP Chronic Disease Mgmt. 2026.Kosechequetah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 110-2026-** Fitness Center Resolution to Amend Fitness Center CNG Guidelines. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 111-2026-** Agriculture Operations Resolutoin to Create LLC. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution. Kosechequetah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 112-2026-** Elder Center Resolution for Grant Application for Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 113-2026-** CIP Resolution CN Tribal Energy Department and Steering Committee. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Kosechequetah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 114-2026-** CIP Resolution CN Tribal Energy Steering Committee Grant Application for EMDP Grant HP. Pennington makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 115-2026-** CIP Resolution CN Tribal Energy Steering Committee for Grant Application for Unleashing Tribal Energy Development Program. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 116-2026-** THPO Resolution Grant Application for the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 117-2026 -** CBC Resolution to renew Comanche Academy Charter School Sponsorship. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 118-2026-** CBC Resolution Amending Nonprofit Corporation Code. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 119-2026-** CBC Resolution Amending Articles of Incorporation of the Comanche Nation Tuitua Foundation. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 120-2026-** CBC Resolution Authorizing Drawdown of Funds. Kosechequetah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 121-2026-** CBC Resolution Approving Equine Assisted Wellness Train-the-Trainer Agreement. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 122-2026-** CBC Resolution re CBC Supervision. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 123-2026-** CBC Resolution Appointing Harley Pennington and Fred Codynah to CNHA. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 4/0/1.

Continued on Page 5

*From the Chairman's Desk*



Maruaweka Numunuu:

Last month I had the privilege of attending the 38th annual Sovereignty Symposium. The Symposium was a great chance to learn about Indian law and also catch up with leaders of other tribes. By catching up with leaders of other tribes, we can share notes about the opportunities and challenges facing our respective nations. I was happy to learn that our tribe is taking advantage of many of the opportunities that other tribes have, and that the challenges we face are not necessarily unique.

Not only is the Comanche Nation keeping pace with Indian country generally, but I believe we are emerging as an innovator. Our nascent equine-assisted therapy program generated a lot of interest in particular. I believe that many of the seeds we've planted over the last two years—a new event center, the Red Berry Health System, the garden/greenhouse projects, to name just a few—will significantly enhance our reputation throughout Indian country.

As always, we must make sound decisions that present our tribe as both stable and progressive. One decision that I hope will percolate towards the top is constitutional reform. One way in which we have not kept pace with other tribes is by restricting our governance to three branches of government. At the symposium, I was impressed with how many tribes have now moved to this three-branch structure of government. I firmly believe it is time for us to do the same, and I hope that everyone engages in the upcoming discussions regarding the constitution.



Courtesy Photos

**CRYS DONATION.** On June 17, American Legion Post 306 presented a monetary donation to the CRYS Program during a special gathering in the Patriot Room at the Comanche Nation Headquarters. The presentation was led by Post Commander Lenniel Sovo, along with several members of American Legion Post 306, Comanche Nation Secretary/Treasurer Benny Tahmahkera Jr., Doyle Lonelodge, the CRYS Director and staff.

## AUDIT

Continued from Page 1

information is properly documented. Every tribal member counted in the audit must meet the established guidelines, and each record must be carefully reviewed. Successfully completing this process demonstrates the professionalism and dedication of our Enrollment Department. It also strengthens trust between the Comanche Nation, our tribal citizens, and the agencies with which we work.

Passing this audit is especially important because it allows the Comanche Nation to remain compliant with state requirements. Compliance helps protect funding opportunities and supports programs that provide valuable services to our citizens. It also reflects the integrity of our enrollment system and the hard work that goes into maintaining accurate records. By meeting these standards, we continue to uphold the responsibility entrusted to us by our tribal leadership and our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank every employee who contributed to this accomplishment. This success was truly

a team effort, and it would not have been possible without the dedication, hard work, and commitment of our staff. Each person played an important role in ensuring that our records were accurate and complete. Whether reviewing files, verifying information, updating records, or providing support throughout the process, every contribution helped us achieve this outstanding result.

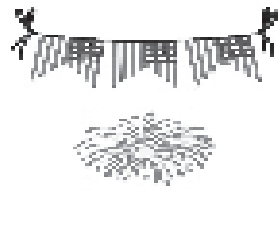
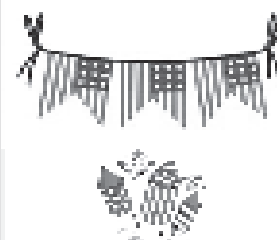
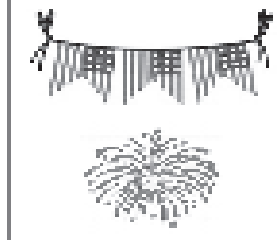

The quality of work performed by our team was recognized by the independent auditor. As Kimberly Furrh, CPA, stated:

“Congratulations!!! In my 28 years of doing these audits, I've never had those few errors. VERY WELL DONE!!!!!!” (Kimberly Furrh, CPA).

This recognition reflects the exceptional effort put forth by our Enrollment Department. Receiving such positive feedback from a professional with nearly three decades of audit experience highlights the significance of this achievement. It demonstrates that our team not only met expectations but exceeded them.”

# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

Comanche Nation Food Distribution Schedule for the Month of July 2026!

July 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>CLOSED!</b>	2 <b>CLOSED!</b>	3 <b>CLOSED!</b>	4
5	6 Frederick 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	7 Frederick 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	8 Walters 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	9 Walters 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	10 Cache 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	11
12	13 Cache 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	14 Cache 3 <sup>rd</sup> Day	15 Cache 4 <sup>th</sup> Day	16 Lawton 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	17 <b>CLOSED Comanche Chief's Day!</b>	18
19	20 Lawton 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	21 Lawton 3 <sup>rd</sup> Day	22 Lawton 4 <sup>th</sup> Day	23 Lawton 5 <sup>th</sup> Day	24 <b>TRUCK DAY!</b>	25
26	27 Make-Up Day	28 Make-Up Day	29 Inventory	30 Inventory	31 Inventory	

**Mini Recipes of the Month:**

**Fresh Watermelon Pizza**

**Ingredients**

- Watermelon: 1 large, round slice (1-inch thick) cut from the center of the melon.
- Yogurt "Sauce": 1 cup of vanilla Greek yogurt (or plain yogurt mixed with a drizzle of honey).
- Fruit "Toppings": 1.5 cups of assorted fresh berries like sliced strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries.
- Fun Extras: 2 tablespoons of mini chocolate chips (to look like extra seeds), shredded coconut, or granola.

**Directions**

1. Prep the crust: Pat the watermelon slice dry with a paper towel so the toppings stay in place.
2. Cut the slices: Use a knife or a

pizza cutter to slice the round watermelon disk into 8 even triangles.

3. Spread the sauce: Let the kids use the back of a spoon to spread a layer of yogurt across each wedge, leaving a little pink border near the green rind.
4. Decorate: Decorate the "pizza" slices with the fresh berries and fun extras. Serve immediately!

**Pesto Chicken Pasta Salad**

**Ingredients**

- 8 Ounces rotini pasta.
- 1 (6-ounce) Jar purchased basil pesto.
- 1/4 Cup red wine vinegar
- 2 Cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 Teaspoon salt.
- 3 Cups chopped cooked chicken.

- 3 Cups baby arugula or coarsely chopped baby spinach.
- 2 Cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 Ounces Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, shaved, divided.
- 1/4 Cup pine nuts, toasted, divided.

**Directions**

1. Gather all ingredients.
2. Cook rotini according to package directions. Drain and rinse well under cold water; set aside.
3. Stir together pesto, vinegar, garlic, and salt in a large bowl.
4. Add chicken, cooked rotini, arugula, tomatoes, half of

the cheese, and half of the pine nuts. Toss well. Serve at once or cover and chill up to 6 hours.

5. Top with remaining cheese and pine nuts before serving.

**July Tip of the Month**

**Smart Hydration Habits!**

July is often the hottest month of the year, making heat illness a serious risk. Don't wait until you feel thirsty to drink water—thirst is an early sign of mild dehydration. When spending time outdoors, aim for **one cup of water every 20 minutes**, and snack on hydrating foods like watermelon or cucumbers. Remember to apply SPF 30+ sunscreen at least 15 minutes before heading outside,

and reapply every two hours.

**Fun Fact  
Did You Know?**

**Hot Dog Mega-Day!** On 4th of July alone, Americans eat about 150 million hot dogs. Tied end-to-end, they would stretch from Washington, D.C. all the way to Los Angeles more than five times! **WE WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU ARE COOKING!**

Send us a picture of any recipe you try from the **Culinary Corner** page, and it may be featured in an upcoming issue of TCNN. As a thank-you, TCNN will mail you a small gift. Please include your **name**, your **photo**, and the **recipe you used** in your email. Email submissions to: [pio@comanchenation.com](mailto:pio@comanchenation.com)

**Child Support Program  
Announces Court  
Appearances**

CNCSP is giving complimentary notification for the following Notice of Publications to be published in the July 2026 Edition of the Comanche Nation Newspaper for:

- In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court
- Carleton Ahtone: CNC-SP-26-09; Petition for Establishment of Child Support
- Gabrielle Karty: CNCSP-25-18; 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 Support Hearings will be conducted in person.

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



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

**SENIORS RECOGNIZED, NEW PRINCESS CROWNED.** On May 23, the IAMNDN Youth Council honored its Senior Class of 2026 and crowned a new IAMNDN Princess at its annual powwow. **LEFT:** Honeylou Tahdooahnippah was announced as the 2026 IAMNDN Princess. Placing her official banner on her are Isabela Ramirez, the IAMNDN Co-President and Comanche Little Ponies Princess, and Arlene Schonchin, the 2026 Comanche Nation Princess. **TOP:** High school seniors and members of IAMNDN are honored and presented with Pendleton blankets. From left: Antonio Negrón, Elias Saupitty, Modesto Schonchin, Hannah Owens, and Malachi Large. The IAMNDN Youth Council empowers Native youth and families in Southwest Oklahoma by preventing substance abuse, suicide, and problem gambling through culturally and educationally responsive outreach.



**Comanche Nation Offices will be closed on June 29 - July 3 for Comanche Nation Wellness Leave Initiative, and will reopen July 6 for regular business and on July 17, for Comanche Chief's Day. Offices will re-open on July 20 for regular business.**

Continued from Page 3

**Resolution No. 124-2026-** CBC Resolution Pennington and Codynah Tax Commission Appointment. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Kosechequetah seconds the motion. The motion carries 3/0/2.

**Resolution No. 125-2026-** CBC Resolution BIA Signatory Form 4432. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahmahkera seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 126-2026-** CBC Resolution for Office of Trustee (OST) Signatories. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 127-2026-** CBC Resolution Changing Authorized Inquiries and Signatories on Financial Accounts. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 128-2026-** Tax Commission Resolution for Bank Signatory City National Bank. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution No. 129-2026-** Tax Commission Resolution for Bank Signatory Liberty National Bank. Kosechequetah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahsequah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Resolution 130-2026 -** CBC resolution for travel. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Kosechequetah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**Motions**

**MOTION** to move Sponsorship/Donation budget line items. Tahmahkera makes a motion to accept the resolution. Kosechequetah seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** re Accounts with Bancfirst. Tahsequah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahmahkera to add the Intertribal Laserfiche agreement to the agenda. Seconded by Codynah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made Tahmahkera to add Resolution 130-2026 (for travel) to the agenda. Seconded by Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Tahmahkera. Made by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve the April Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Tahmahkera. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to amend Resolution 103-2026 to include "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications." Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahmahkera to approve Resolution 103-2026 as amended. Seconded by Codynah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to amend Resolution 104-2026 to include "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications." Seconded by Tahmahkera. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1, to remove the typographical error and approve (Resolution 104-2026) with prior amendment and this amendment. Seconded by Pennington. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to add the clause "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications" and to approve (Resolution 105-2026) as amended. Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to amend and approve Resolution 106-2026 to include "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications." Seconded by Tahmahkera. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahmahkera to amend (Resolution 111-2026) to include "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications," and approve. Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to amend Resolution 113-2026 to include THPO in the list of programs and to approve. Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to amend Resolution 114-2026 to include "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications." Seconded by Tahmahkera. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Pennington to approve Resolution 114-2026 as amended. Seconded by Codynah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to amend (Resolution 115-2026) to include "Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Comanche Business Committee hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman to sign all necessary papers and instruments for such grant, including award agreements and modifications" and approve. Seconded by Pennington. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve (Resolution 118-2026) with amendment (correct 205 to 2025). Seconded by Tahmahkera. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahmahkera to amend (Resolution 122-2026) to correct typos "Comanche" in third Whereas, add "member" after Comanche Business Committee on first Be It Further Resolved clause, delete the (c) that doesn't have anything after it, delete the Be It Further Resolved clause that references the Tax Commission and to add "the" before Nation's Human Resource procedures. Seconded by Pennington. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve (Resolution 122-2026) with amendments. Seconded by Codynah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve (Resolution 124-2026) with amendments "elected" instead of appointed and add Codynah's first name to the Be It Further Resolved clause. Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 4/0/1.

**MOTION** made by Tahmahkera to amend Resolution 130-2026 to include all the outreach events (4th Whereas, Anadarko June 25, OKC June 26, Dallas, Texas June 27). Seconded by Tahsequah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve (Resolution 130-2026) as amended. Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahmahkera to approve the ability to make intra-Sponsorship/Donation budget modifications by the Tribal Administrator with approval of the Secretary/Treasurer. Seconded by Kosechequetah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Tahsequah to approve closure of the Bancfirst accounts and move to operating account. Seconded by Pennington. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Pennington for the Chairman to sign the project plan with One Intertribal Software. Seconded by Tahsequah. The motion carries 5/0/0.

**MOTION** made by Pennington to join the Intertribal Consortium. Seconded by Codynah. The motion carries 4/0/1.

**MOTION** made by Kosechequetah to adjourn. Seconded by Codynah. The motion carries 5/0/0.



Courtesy Photos

**SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS.** Three Comanche tribal students were the recipients of the Comanche Nation Higher Education's Dorothy Sunrise Lorentino Scholarship during the Youth Program's High School Graduation Banquet, held June 12 at the Comanche Nation Complex. The recipients, from left, are Modesto Schonchin, Mykkaa Coleman, and Wyatt Woods.

# Dear TCNN

## Letters to the Editor

Dear TCNN,

I am submitting my views about critical topics concerning the Comanche Nation:

Destruction of the Comanche Nation Government as of June 14, 2026

1. Gaming Market  
The CBC and the TA do not control the gaming market and have nothing to do with the decrease in our annual budget and per caps. Look at all the giant casinos on I-35 from the Texas Border to Newcastle by Oklahoma City and Duncan. Why destroy our government over decreased per caps and programs? There was no war last year and now gas and food are higher and everything else with less discretionary income, after taxes and living expenses.

2. The Chairman's Salary, TA Salary, and the CBC Stipends were not approved on May 16, 2026.

We voted to elect our Chairman, CBC and TA and later voted no salaries and stipends. The destruction of our government is the will of the supreme governing body. No one will want to do business with the majority of our supreme governing body, who vote. No one will want to be a CBC. This could result in no quorum, no CBC resolutions to operate. Let's hope our elected officials do not resign. We may have to give up hope for future economic projects and jobs, and revenue. Remember, our Council destroyed our government in 2012, when six CBCs were illegally recalled in two days. There were no CBC approvals of the petitions. We had no court, and the CFR Court is a federal court and had no jurisdiction on internal affairs. Ask any of the six who were refused their offices by our police, wrongfully.

3. Elected Government Officials of All Governments are Compensated.

The CBCs are not paid salaries and need stipends for our government to function. We need our government to continue to operate because we have made important progress and positive changes in our economic development area and in accountability. All CBCs need salaries because they need to support their families. Our CBCs need the required salaries in the Constitution, which cannot be reduced to Zero. We do not want to lose educated, experienced, qualified people in different areas who care for us and who are dedicated. Everyone says that we have young, educated Comanches who want to help our Nation.

4. Full Transparency

Our CBC published all contributions from every source in the annual budget. This level of transparency had never been provided before. The CBC also held budget community meetings in our voting districts. Since 2016, we have had successful audits of all programs. There is no unbudgeted gaming revenue being spent and no overspending on budgets and no disallowed costs.

5. Economic Development and Jobs.

Now, we need to continue

to do real, non-corrupt, economic development with Comanche interest, as a priority. There are no management contracts to manage our hotels, casinos and future hotel and convention center and no split of the profits or joint ventures. Loans are made with Comanche corporation entities, which pledge only assets of the business.

The Council approved TC02-2026 to authorize financing for a \$125 M expansion of the Lawton Casino to include an event center and hotel.

An important fact here is the number of 75 jobs to be created. The Convention Center can be expanded later, if feasible. Remember, economic development is not overnight.

The new hotel and event center will capture additional profits from our I-44 market. The purchase of our Comancheria Hotel, which will increase jobs and revenue, was set up by a financial entity with the assets as collateral. Montego Bay sponged off our Lawton Casino since March 2001. All Lawton hotels are sponging off us.

6. Indirect Cost Budget

Half of the Chairman's salary of \$92,500 is paid by the federal Indirect cost budget, and the other half is paid from tax revenue. Also, the TA's salary is an indirect cost item, paid by indirect cost. See the proposed 2027 annual budget in the

2026 Annual Meeting Report. They both benefit all programs and our government.

This budget is funded or derived from the indirect cost rate from all federally funded programs and the federal agreement in accordance with federal law. This federal approved budget does not need council approval. These amounts were put in the referendum vote in error or mistake, because they are already approved. The Chairman and CBC wanted full transparency. They could have put these two salaries in the voting for information purposes but only voted on the Chairman's one-half amount. NOTE: Add up the Tribal Government-10% Budget and you will see the \$5,809, 791 total amount does not include the TA salary of \$120,000. Off balance.

7. Stealing Law.

In October 2025, our CBC passed a Misuse of Public Funds Criminal Law, which includes a three-year imprisonment penalty, to protect our Nation and support future development. No previous CBC has taken this step. The CBC is also establishing our own accounting system for more accountability and oversight. This accountability, our criminal law and court and prosecutor will prevent stealing and protect all Comanches, now and in the future.

Thomas Narcomey

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Red Berry Health System would like to remind families to bring their children's Tribal ID or CDIB when coming in for registration, along with insurance information if applicable. Comanche Tribal members are a priority at Red Berry Health System. Tribal members who do not have commercial insurance can still be seen and receive services at no cost, as long as proof of Tribal enrollment is on file.

# Programs

## Men's Mental Health Awareness Month Seminar Supports Area Community

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery held a men's mental health seminar on June 18 at FISTA in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Medication-Assisted Program and Tribal Opioid Response Project Manager Marilyn Cater said the focus is on men's mental load.

"As someone who works in prevention and recovery, I've had many conversations with men who were struggling but didn't know how to ask for help. I've also seen the impact that silence can have on more than just the individual, but on their families, children, relationships and entire communities," she said. "Too often, men are taught to carry their burdens alone, to 'man up,' push through and avoid showing vulnerability. I wanted to create a space where men could

hear from others who have walked through addiction, depression, loss, suicidal thoughts, trauma and recovery and come out the other side."

Cater said it's important to discuss men's mental health for the well-being of families and communities.

"Men's mental health affects everyone. Fathers, sons, brothers, husbands, friends, coworkers and community leaders all carry responsibilities and expectations that can become overwhelming. Yet many men have been conditioned to believe that asking for help is weakness," she said. "The reality is that men often struggle in silence. They may express emotional pain through anger, isolation, substance use, or risky behaviors rather than openly talking about depression or anxiety. Unfortunately, we see the consequences of that silence in

high rates of suicide, addiction, broken relationships and untreated mental health conditions. The more we normalize these conversations, the more we give men permission to seek support before they reach a crisis point."

According to Cater, the most powerful thing to do is show up.

"We don't have to have all the answers. We can simply check in regularly, practice active listening, be encouraging, normalize conversations about emotions and mental health, offer support, and learn the warning signs of depression, substance abuse and suicide," she said.

Cater wanted the event to focus on reaching out to the person and their family in need.

"I hope this event reaches the man who thinks he's the only one

struggling," she said. "The father trying to hold everything together. The young man questioning his worth. The person in recovery fighting every day to maintain sobriety. The husband overwhelmed by responsibility," she said. "I also hope to help the families who love them. When one person begins to heal, it creates a ripple effect that can strengthen entire families and communities."

It's important for people to understand that this event isn't about telling men they're broken, according to Cater.

"It's about reminding them they're human. You can be strong and still struggle. You can love your family and still battle depression. You can be successful and still need support. You can ask for help and still be the man your family needs you

to be. My hope is that The Weight Men Carry becomes more than just a one-day event," she said. "I hope it becomes the beginning of a larger conversation in our community, one where men know they are valued beyond what they provide, where vulnerability is met with compassion rather than judgment, and where no one feels they have to suffer in silence."

Some mindfulness tips included a few deep breaths before responding to stress, putting devices away and being present in the moment, as well as exercising, praying, meditating or reaching out to someone a person trusts.

The Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery Outpatient Office, located in downtown Lawton, offers support to anyone in the community seeking help and resources.

## Youth Exhibit on Display

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

On June 6, Comanche Nation National Museum and Cultural Center held a youth art show to exhibit younger talents.

Collections Manager Nikki Carlstrom said she's always wanted to host a showcase for younger groups.

"We have so many talented youth that I wanted to try and showcase their artwork. This year, I reached out to Youth Services, and we worked together to make this happen," she said. "Ed Hoosier, Tim Saupitty and Chairman Tahdooahrippah all came out to help us with the judging. It was fantastic to have our leaders and Comanche artists help out to make this exhibit a success."

She said it was wonderful to see the kids view their artwork at the museum's gallery.

"I truly hope they got with this experience that they are talented and can do anything," Carlstrom said. "Don't give up on their artistic skills and keep going."



Courtesy Photo

**Comanche Nation National Museum and Cultural Center hosts a student art show in collaboration with Comanche Nation Youth Services. The event was created to introduce youth to art and creative outlets.**

She said there was an amazing turnout and thanked the artists who participated and Comanche Nation Youth Services.

Carlstrom plans on making this an annual exhibit and will be on display until August 29. Their next exhibit will be for the Comanche Nation Fair.

## Sports Camp Focuses on Spiritual, Physical Health

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Nation held a student sports camp on Monday, June 1 and Tuesday, June 2, near the softball fields at Comanche Nation Tribal Complex.

Martin Flores, who is the cultural advisor for 988, said it's to bring in native and area youth in the community to participate in a sports camp. The days were centered around core values, including respect, commitment, discipline and hard work.

"We get to those values with sports, with sports activity," he said. "Now, not just any sports, we got football, we got soccer, we got softball, we got just different types of agility movements that these kids can learn out here. And physical activity brings happiness, it brings endorphins, and it brings mental wellness."



Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

**Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery as well as several other programs provides its student health camp in early June. Youth were able to learn a variety of sports and techniques from coaches around the country.**

Flores said it's beneficial for participants in many ways.

"A healthy body is a happy body. A happy body is a healthy mind," he said.

Several programs were involved, including the Comanche Nation 988 program, Prevention and Recovery and many others who provided snacks, canopies and medical services. Programs also helped with contacting coaches from universities and high schools across America.

"We brought those coaches in because they understand those core values, those four core values of respect, of discipline, of hard work, and those things like that," Flores said. "So, they understand those values, and they really love to teach those values. And this is the best of the best to come and teach our Native youth, to teach our youth of the community."

The two-day camp offered several stations for each focus area, covering various sports.

## Comanche Church Members Travel to Harvest Tipi Poles in Colorado

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Several Native American Church members from the 1918 Charter, including Comanche Nation Chairman Forrest Tahdooahrippah, went to Colorado to harvest tipi poles.

Martin Flores said they decided to go out and get log poles for the churches.

"And we went out to the Rocky Mountain National Forest, where we have partnered with them to go out and harvest our own tipi poles," he said. "And as long as I've been here, I've been with the nation for quite some time, and I've known of people to go out and get poles that we've purchased and bring them back. They're already cut and everything. Everything's all right. Okay. This is, I believe, this is the

first time that I know of that we've gone out and cut and harvested our own poles and brought them back."

The group brought back 500 tipi poles.

"The process is very, very hard. I mean, it was very hard work. We were working an elevation at 8,639 feet is the elevation we [were] at working. And we'd have to go into the forest, cut the tipi pole, and come walk back out of the forest. And there [are] stumps around. There [are] logs around. There [are] little branches around. There's stuff that catches your feet. And there [are] animals around. There's a moose. We encountered quite a few moose there. And these moose, they're not little creatures. They're way taller than us. Just at their, where their heads are at, way



Courtesy Photo

**Church members harvest 500 tipi poles from Rocky Mountain National Park. Martin Flores of 1918 Charter and several other members took the journey to Colorado for members of the community to use the poles at church sites.**

above your head," Flores said. "So, I mean, it was quite an experience. Beautiful scenery. Mountains, snow-

capped mountains all the way around us. And just being right there in the middle of a mountain and harvesting these tipi poles was very spiritual."

He intended to bring back something nice for his people and the churches.

"We have our church building that's getting built for the Comanche Nation, and we're going to put some sets over there so that if anybody needs to come and put tipi up over there, they can put, they don't have to worry about going and getting some poles or, you know, finding some poles," Flores said. "There'll be a set of poles there already, so they can just set them up, you know. And I was thinking about all that, you know, these poles like that, they're going to, people

are going to be underneath them like that, praying like that. I was thinking about that, you know, saying some good words underneath these poles, you know. So, I was having some good thoughts, you know, while I was gathering these things."

The terrain was difficult to navigate for some.

"And I fell out there, because it was dangerous, you know," he said. "There's stuff all around, you know, carrying big poles out, you know. Sometimes you lose your footing, you know. You know, you know, steep slopes. You got to go up and down, stuff like that."

Flores said it was a great experience to be a part of the journey to the Rocky Mountains.

## PROTECTING OKLAHOMA

Livestock Disease Preparedness & Agroterrorism Awareness

Presenters:

Special Agent John Kane  
FBI-Oklahoma WMD  
Coordinator

Dr. Mikka Larssen, DVM,  
USDA-AHPIS, AVIC

July 7, 2026

➔ Great Plains Technology Center  
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➔ 5:00 PM - Dinner

➔ 5:30 PM - Program

➔ FREE HAMBURGER DINNER



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# Comanche Nation High School Senior Yearbook

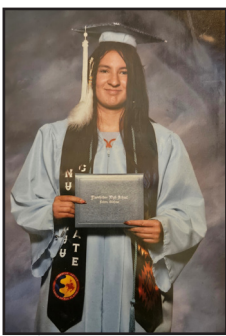
Submitted by Comanche Nation Youth Services



**Aaden Battiest-Carpitcher**  
Homeschool



**Aiden Morales MacArthur**



**Alexis Hancox Eisenhower**



**Alivia Stanley Enid**



**Amanda Pebeahsy Sequoyah**



**Angela Gee Walters**



**Annabelle Logan Southeast Polk**



**Antonio Negron Eisenhower**



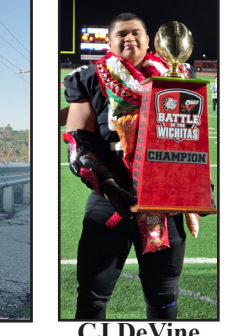
**Ava Woods Walters**



**Breanna Tonips Anadarko**  
Howlingwater Boone-Apache



**CJ DeVine Elgin**



**Danielle Tomah Eisenhower**



**Dasen Carattini Apache**



**Elias Saupitty Apache**



**Emilia Chasenhah Lawton**



**Eratere Keahbone Elgin**



**Erin Ahdosy Snyder**



**Faith Hinch Apache**



**Gabriel Tehauno Cyril**



**Gage Elam Elgin**



**Halle Andrade El Reno**



**Hannah Owens Eisenhower**



**Holli Jo Harvey Riverside**



**Ioleta Tahhahwah Elgin**



**Jakob Harvey Riverside**



**Jaxson Thiessen Snyder**



**Joe Zavala Velma**



**Joseph Wesley Anadarko**



**Julia Aguilera Walters**



**Lanai Tselee Ft. Cobb Broxton**



**Micaela Wermey Ft. Cobb Broxton**



**Mikalyn Hoahwah Cache**



**Miley Moore Walters**



**Modesto Mojo Schonchin Elgin**



**Mykka Coleman Cache**



**Nevaeh Lord Eisenhower**



**Nikoi Jarrett Poplar Bluff**



**Raymond Lewis MacArthur**



**Reality Gee Lawton**



**Roby Antwine Arlington**



**Rylee Smith Eisenhower**



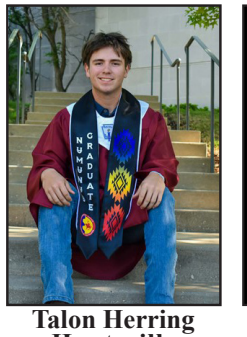
**Sabian Wolfe Walters**



**Aubrey Plumley Chapparral**



**Shooter Herr Walters**



**Sincere Dunn Eisenhower**



**Talon Herring Huntsville**



**Taylor Floyd Southeast Polk**



**Thamaroi Conneywerdy Norman**



**Treyten Ramirez Eisenhower**



**Vivien Parker Northwest Classen**



**Whitney Jasinski Oklahoma Virtual Charter Academy**



**Wyatt Woods Eisenhower**



**Xavier Hecker Eisenhower**

Adolph, Tatiana - Potomac Falls High School  
 Aguilera, Julia - Walters High School  
 Ahdosy, Erin - Snyder High School  
 Aitson, Aliayah - Anadarko High School  
 Alvarez, Rowan - Anaheim High School  
 Andrade, Halle - El Reno High School  
 Andrade-Niedo, Manuel - Walters High School  
 Antwine, Rocky - Arlington High School  
 Archey, Christian - Cache High School  
 Arwin, Zachary - Premier High School  
 Ayon, Alayna - El Diamante High School  
 Baker, Zane - Epic Charter  
 Baquera, Alexis - Junction City High School  
 Barr, Jaylee - Carnegie High School  
 Battist, Kole - Elgin High School  
 Battiest-Carpitcher, Aaden - Homeschool  
 Beavers, Cade - Cache High School  
 Bennett, Zoe - Cache High School  
 Bennett, Richard - Cache High School  
 Blackstar, Sky - Simon Sanchez High School  
 Bohay, Milena - Eisenhower High School  
 Bohay, Robin - Eisenhower High School  
 Bowen, Kiersten - Eisenhower High School  
 Bowen, Brody - Eisenhower High School  
 Boyd, Rianna - Eisenhower High School  
 Brinkley, Joshua - Covington, VA  
 Brown, Maurizio - Alcott College Prep  
 Bryant, Antonio - Boone Apache High School  
 Burgess, Mykah - Miyamura High School  
 Burk, Kayla - Cache High School  
 Cable, Gloria - Cache High School  
 Campos, Bianca - Joliet West High School  
 Cannon, Daniel - Eisenhower High School  
 Carattini, Dasen - Apache High School  
 Castro, Christopher - Cyril High School  
 Cerbantes, Juan - Capitol Hill High School  
 Chasenhah, Tommy - Lawton High School  
 Chasenhah, Emilia - Lawton High School  
 Chasenhah, Timothy - Tecumseh  
 Chasenhah, Derrick - Vo-Tech  
 Chasenhah, Danielle - Score Douglas Learning Center  
 Codony, Isabella - Shawnee High School  
 Cody, Naivee - Arrow Christian Academy  
 Coleman, Mykka - Cache High School  
 Conklin, William - Science Hill High School  
 Connywerdy, Thamaroi - Norman High School  
 Crane, Paxton - Hallsville High School  
 Cuellar, Arrian - Shawnee High School  
 Davidson, Kyleigh - Epic Charter School  
 Davis, Emory - Lawton High School  
 Davis, Wesley - Lawton High School  
 DeLeon, Viviana - Wichita South High School  
 Denney, Christopher - Putnam City North High School  
 DeVine, Kyleigh - Elgin High School  
 Diamond, Xane - Cache High School  
 Dowell, Madson - Cane High School  
 Duncan, Carsyn - Pawnee High School  
 Duncan, Ethan - Choctaw High School  
 Dunn, Jackson - Deer Creek High School  
 Dunn, Sincere - Eisenhower High School

Dunson, Briseis - Fouke High School  
 Duvall, Gaylyn - Eisenhower High School  
 Edmonds, Tay-Wisty - Mission Academy  
 Elam, Gage - Elgin High School  
 Eschit, Grant - Wilber-Clatonia  
 Esparza, Eva - Enid High School  
 Factor, Zoe - Santa Fe  
 Famerio, Mario - Cache High School  
 Felan, Braiden - Corpus Christi, Texas  
 Ferguson, Garrett - Mascoutah High School  
 Fite, Rowyn - Lookeba-Sickles  
 Fletcher, Jade - Midway Alternative  
 Flores, Gabriel - Eisenhower High School  
 Floyd, Taylor - Southeast Polk  
 Forsythe, Garret - Central High  
 Franco, Zachary - Vernonia High School  
 Freeman, Somyea - Lincoln High School  
 Fulton, Sophie - Mount Si High School  
 Gachot, Callie - MacArthur High School  
 Garcia, Isaiiah - Lawrence High School  
 Garcia, Antonio - Maize High School  
 Gaytan, Alana - Junction City High School  
 Gee, Reality - Lawton High School  
 Gee, Angela - Walters High School  
 Gomez, Audrina - Northglenn High School  
 Gonzalez-Torres, Kristian - Emerson South High School  
 Gooday, Shyan - Anadarko High School  
 Grubbs, Cameron - Northshore High School  
 Guevara, Brianna - MacArthur High School  
 Hamman, River - Mustang High School  
 Hancox, Alexis - Eisenhower High School  
 Hansen, Ava - Las Vegas Academy of the Arts  
 Harvey, Jakob - Riverside Indian School  
 Harvey, Holli Jo - Riverside Indian School  
 Haumpy, Christian - Lawton High School  
 Haumpy, Nevaeh - Moore High School  
 Hecker, Xavier - Eisenhower High School  
 Herr, Shooter - Walters High School  
 Herring, Talon - Huntsville High School  
 Hoahwah, Mikalyn - Cache High School  
 Hogan, Sia - Edmonson County High School  
 Holsted, Hunter - Mustang High School  
 Horne, Avarie - Will Rogers High School  
 Howe, Jade - Crow Creek Tribal School  
 Howell, Matthew - MacArthur High School  
 Howlingwater, Breanna - Boone-Apache High School  
 Huffman, Abigail - Geronimo High School  
 Hunt, Gabriel - Locust Grove Public Schools  
 Jacobs, Jaleigha - Moore High School  
 Jacobs, James - Moore High School  
 Jarrett, Nikoi - Poplar Bluff High School  
 Jasinski, Whitney - Oklahoma Virtual Charter Academy  
 Jocko, Bruce - Longfields - Davidson High School  
 Johnson, Timothy - Riverside Indian School  
 Jones, Meadon - International Leadership of Texas  
 Jones-Motah, Abraham - Douglas Learning Center  
 Kaulaity, Ayden - Anadarko High School  
 Kaulaity, Mary - Carl Albert High School  
 Kaulaity, Kunaw - Eufaula

Kawaykla-Hinch, Faith - Apache High School  
 Keahbone, Eratere - Elgin High School  
 Khorsand-Nia, Roman - Yukon High School  
 Killfirst, Joseph - Anadarko High School  
 Kindel, Jaylin - McLoud High School  
 King, Sandler - Madill Public Schools  
 Kingfisher, Nevaeh - Stillwater High School  
 Kingfisher, Jed'Cre - Norman High School  
 Kisner, Hayden - Wichita Southeast High  
 Komesetaddle, Talon - Elgin High School  
 Kopaddy, Makalah - MacArthur High School  
 Kopaddy, Frankie - U.S. Grant High School  
 Kopepasah, Aiden - Chickasha High School  
 Kosechequetah, Gabriella - Acellus Online Academy  
 Landers, Kayden - Morris High School  
 Large, Malachi - Eisenhower High School  
 LaRue, Derek - Fletcher High School  
 LaRue, Christian - Fletcher High School  
 Lebel, Alison - MacArthur High School  
 Lewis, Raymond - MacArthur High School  
 Lewis, Jayda - MacArthur High School  
 Linker, Michelle - La Sierra High School  
 Locke, Devin - Lawton High School  
 Locklear, Tristan - Indianoma High School  
 Logan, Annabelle - Southeast Polk Jr. High  
 Logan, Anyah - Boone Apache High School  
 Longhat, Alexis - Fletcher High School  
 Longshore, Talon - Warner Public Schools  
 Lopez, Faith - Westmore High School  
 Lord, Nevaeh - Eisenhower High School  
 Luna, Brooklynn - West Green High School  
 Lynn, Caleigh - Lawton High School  
 Mahsetky, Jorja - McLoud High School  
 Makes Cry, Hudson - Weatherford High School  
 Mann, Madison - MacArthur High School  
 Mann, Jayden - MacArthur High School  
 Martinez, Neken - Empowering Excellence  
 McCallie, Adyson - Mustang High School  
 McIntosh, Sarriyah - Elgin High School  
 McMenamin, Jeri - Lawton High School  
 McSwain, Kal-el - George Jenkins High School  
 Mendoza, Andres - Boone Apache High School  
 Mihecoy, Cole - Decatur High School  
 Miller, Michael - MacArthur High School  
 Mithlo, Aydan - Sterling High School  
 Moncivias, Gabriel - South Haven High School  
 Mondragon, Vicente - Rio Rancho High School  
 Monoessy, Ronald Jr. - Riverside Indian School  
 Monoessy, Dezirae - Riverside Indian School  
 Moore, Miley - Walters High School  
 Morales, Aiden - MacArthur High School  
 Moran, Reese - Savannah County Day School  
 Murdock, Cady - Chariton High School  
 Muse, Rivers - Home School  
 Nahquaddy, Harmony - Menominee Indian High School  
 Negron, Antonio - Eisenhower High School  
 Nichols, Logan - Willamette High School  
 Nichols, Logan - South Moore High School  
 Otovito, Madison - Cache High School  
 Owens, Hannah - Eisenhower High School

Palmer, Lorraine - Union High School  
 Parker, Vivien - Northwest Classen High School  
 Parker, Nami - Apache High School  
 Parker, Bobby - Riverside Indian School  
 Parker, Summer - Watertown High School  
 Parker-Fields, Sandra - Anadarko High School  
 Patterson, Elizabeth - Lawton High School  
 Pebeahsy, Amanda - Sequoyah High School  
 Pebeahsy, Phillip - Elgin High School  
 Pebeahsy, Kayla - Elgin High School  
 Pedersen, Lilith - Oklahoma School for the Blind  
 Pekah, Lily - Cache High School  
 Perez, Ramon - Epic Charter  
 Perez, Analia - West Moore High School  
 Perfect, Jayson - Wade Hampton High School  
 Peveard, Chisney - Pawhuska High School  
 Phillips, Hayden - Epic Charter  
 Plata, Qynn - Lawton High School  
 Pleasant, Stephen - Gateway Success Center  
 Plumley, Aubrey - Chaparral High School  
 Plumley, Christian - Frontier Public Schools  
 Poafpybitty, Romeo - West Springfield High School  
 Poafpybitty, Alexandria - Chickasha High School  
 Poafpybitty, Enaemakisah - International Preparatory  
 Poafpybitty, Michael - Idabel High School  
 Poco, Kobi - Chattanooga Public Schools  
 Pocomatch, Nani - Laguna Acoma High School  
 Pocomoach, Isaiiah - Eisenhower High School  
 Pocomoach, Devin - SCORE  
 Polite, Delvin Jr. - Epic Charter  
 Powell, Ayden - Douglas Learning Center  
 Pueblo, Adrian - Walters High School  
 Puente, Luis - Gateway Success Center  
 Quoetone, Ashlyn - Cache High School  
 Ramirez, Treyten - Eisenhower High School  
 Ramirez, Tuff - Cache High School  
 Red Elk, Skylar - MacArthur High School  
 Reed, Trinity - Walters High School  
 Rice, Rhoni - Aresene Academy  
 Richardson, Abrianna - Geronimo High School  
 Richey, Ally - Enid High School  
 Riffe, Owen - South Anchorage High School  
 Rivera, Pedro Jr. - Cache High School  
 Roberts, Zayden - MacArthur High School  
 Robles, Rylan - Eisenhower High School  
 Robles, Marlene - Epic Charter  
 Rodriguez, Jaely - Putnam City North High School  
 Rosas, Olivia - Pacheco High School  
 Russell, Kristin - Fort Vancouver International High School  
 Sadongi, Xavier - Riverside Indian School  
 Satoe, Joaquin - Gateway Success Center  
 Satoe, Theodore - Gateway Success Center  
 Saupitty, Elias - Apache High School  
 Saucz, Jade - Crow Creek Tribal School  
 Schonchin, Modesto - Elgin High School  
 Schroeder, Tuff - Score Great Plains Vo Tech  
 Schrod, Serenity - Epic Charter  
 Simmons, Kendal - Boone Apache High School  
 Smith, Rylee - Eisenhower High School

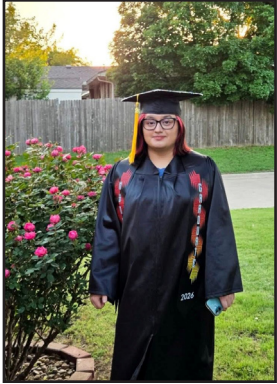
Smith, Dwayne Jr. - Eisenhower High School  
 Snell, Romero - Midwest City High School  
 Solis, Christian - Cache High School  
 Spear, Sophia - Eisenhower High School  
 Stanley, Alivia - Enid High School  
 Stevens, Kaylynn - Bartlesville High School  
 Swanson, Kate - Pryor High School  
 Tabhytosavit, Rosten - East Central High School  
 Tahdoohainippah, Isabella - Southmoore High School  
 Tahdoohainippah, Maurice - Woodbury High School  
 Tahhahwah, Ioleta - Elgin High School  
 Tahsequeh, Vaughn - Wapato, Washington  
 Talamante, Derek - Dulce High School  
 Tanequodie, Jeremiah - MacArthur High School  
 Tehauno, Gabriel - Cyril High School  
 Thiessen, Jaxon - Snyder High School  
 Todd, Talyn - Owatonna High School  
 Tomah, Jenni - Jenks High School  
 Tomah, Danielle - Eisenhower High School  
 Tomah, Isabella - Pryor High School  
 Tonche, Yessenia - Capitol Hill High School  
 Tonemah, Parker - Gilbert Christian High School  
 Tonemah, Dylan - Boone Apache Middle School  
 Tonips, Breanna - Anadarko High School  
 Torralba, Walter - Lawton High School  
 Torres, Faith - Clovis High School  
 Tosec, Jaylen - Elgin High School  
 Tosec, Samantha - Cache High School  
 Troutman, Kyle - Duncan High School  
 Tselee, Dason - Ft. Cobb Broxton High School  
 Tselee, Lanai - Ft. Cobb Broxton High School  
 Turner, Chase - Mustang High School  
 Valdez, Andrew-Jacob - Eisenhower High School  
 Villalobos, Cruz - Grove High School  
 Waggoner, Anthony - Betty Fairfax High School  
 Wahkinney, Lillian - Southmoore High School  
 Wauqua, Bryce - Unknown  
 Wauqua, DaShaun - Cache High School  
 Wauqua, Evan - Chattanooga Public Schools  
 Weakke, Wayne - MacArthur High School  
 Wermey, Richard - Grove High School  
 Wermey, Micaela - MacArthur High School  
 Wesley, Joseph - Anadarko High School  
 Whitecrow, Elijah - Claremore High School  
 Wilhelms, Tori - Epic Charter Schools  
 Williams, Elizabeth - Owasso Public Schools  
 Williams, Nevaeh - Boone Apache High School  
 Wilson, Sophia - Lawton High School  
 Wilson, Haley - Tahlequah High School  
 Wilson, Grace - Denton High School  
 Wise, Sage - Kingston High School  
 Wockmetoah, Brandon - Nevada Learning Academy  
 Wolfe, Sabian - Walters High School  
 Woods, Wyatt - Eisenhower High School  
 Woods, Ava - Walters High School  
 Woommavovah, Christopher - Tulare Union High School  
 Woottakewahbity, Presley - Kamiakin High School  
 Work, Lauren - South Moore High School  
 Ybarra, Leah - Sunset High School  
 Zavala, Joe - Velma High School

# Class of 2026 College Graduates

Submitted by Comanche Nation Higher Education Program



**Akhyka Pewo**  
Cameron University



**Amanda Long**  
Cameron University



**Autumn Conneywerdy**  
Oklahoma State University



**Brandon Burgess**  
Colorado State University



**Braxton Munn**  
University of Oklahoma



**Brianna Embry**  
Riddle Aeronautical University



**Casey Wilk**  
Cameron University



**Celeste Billy**  
Dallas College



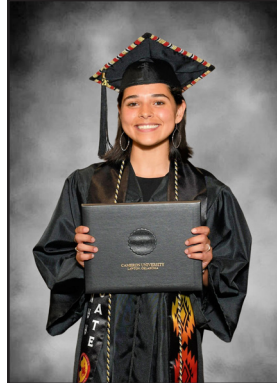
**Chance Parker-Perez**  
Fort Lewis College



**Christiaan Trapnell**  
University of California-Davis



**Cookie Pahcheka**  
SE Oklahoma State University



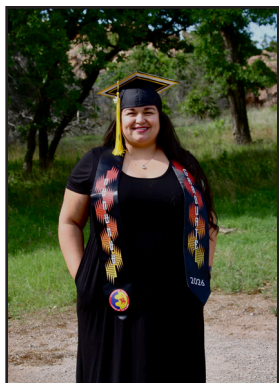
**Danielle Tomah**  
Cameron University



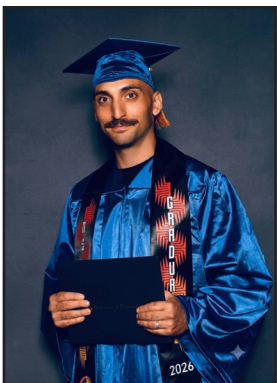
**Dena Landers**  
Cameron University



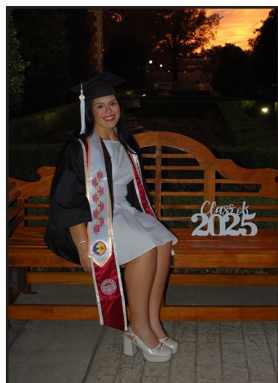
**DeRoin Motah**  
Cameron University



**Elizabeth Zollars**  
Cameron University



**Eric Herrera**  
Seminole State University



**Gracey Lewis**  
University of Oklahoma



**Guy Swadley**  
SE Oklahoma State University



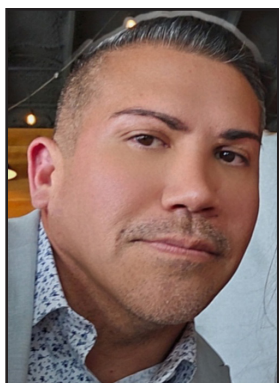
**Heather Lett**  
University of Phoenix



**Jamie Timbo**  
Rose State College



**Jaylen Swift**  
Cameron University



**JD Wauqua**  
University of Phoenix



**Kaleb Butler**  
Rose State College



**Karliey Parker**  
Coffeyville Community College



**Kasey Ataovich**  
Oklahoma City Comm. College



**Kassidy Kisner**  
Pittsburg State University



**Kierra Brown**  
University of Cent. Oklahoma



**Kinsey Groves**  
University of Texas Dallas



**Klaire Downey**  
Artisan Inst. Cosmetology



**LaCretia Vasquez**  
SW Oklahoma State University



**Madison Bailey**  
University of Oklahoma



**Mallory Blackstar**  
Oklahoma State University



**Margaret Blackstar**  
University of Oklahoma



**Nicholas Daukei**  
Cameron University



**Samantha Pewewardy**  
Great Plains Tech Cntr.



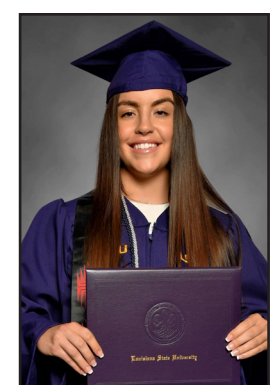
**Sheldon Wilson**  
SE Oklahoma State University



**Sierra Doesky**  
Haskell Ind. Nations University



**Tessa Caddo**  
University of Phoenix



**Veronica Fulnecky**  
Louisiana State University



**Kaylah Yazzie**  
University of New Mexico



**Piper Journeycake**  
Oklahoma State University



**Brooks Booker**  
University of Oklahoma



**Teresa Sumka**  
Redlands Community College



**Cheyenne Hill**  
Oklahoma City University



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**COMANCHE HOME COMING**

LIVE FROM SULTAN PARK IN WALTERS, OKLAHOMA

**JULY 17-19, 2026 & 2027**

**COMANCHE HOME COMING PRINCESS: HANNAH ROSE OWENS**

**HEAD STAFF**

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES:** MARTIN FLORES & KEVIN SOVO SR.

**HEAD AFTERNOON SINGER:** TIMOTHY MONOESSY

**HEAD EVENING SINGER:** JOEL MOTAH

**HEAD MAN GOURD DANCER:** DAVID PEREZ

**HEAD MAN WAR DANCER:** BILLY PEWO JR.

**HEAD LADY GOURD DANCER:** IISA BROWN

**HEAD LADY WAR DANCER:** ROXIE YAZZIE

**ARENA DIRECTORS:** ASHLEY KERCHEE & MODESTO SCHONCHIN

**WATERBOY:** JORDIN HEMINOKEY

**CO-HOSTS:** WALTERS SERVICE CLUB & CIVA

**COLOR GUARDS:** KCA VETERANS

**FLAG DETAIL:** CIVA

**CONTEST COORDINATOR:** CARLA WHITEMAN

**SECURITY:** IISA SAMABRIA

**RAFELE COORDINATOR:** KELSEY CODYNAH

**SPECIAL INVITATIONS:** COMANCHE NATION PRINCESS - ARLENE SCHONCHIN  
COMANCHE NATION JR. PRINCESS - CLARA YAZZIE

**INVITING ALL PRINCESSES**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION: IIZ BLACKSTAR**

**HONORED EIDERS**

FRIDAY - JULY 17: RON MAHSETKY

SATURDAY - JULY 18: SUE OLDHAM

SUNDAY - JULY 19: ADRIA RHOADS SUINA

**HONORED VETERANS**

FRIDAY - JULY 17: BENNY TAHMAHKERA

SATURDAY - JULY 18: LANETTE TAHCHAWWICKAH

SUNDAY - JULY 19: BILLY PEWO SR.

**FLAGS TO BE FLOWN**

FRIDAY - JULY 17: HENRY "HANK" TOMAHSAH

SATURDAY - JULY 18: MEAD CHIBITTY

SUNDAY - JULY 19: ROBERT TIPPECONNIE

**TOTAL PRIZE MONEY: \$21,000**

**SPECIAL CONTESTS**

- SUNDAY JULY 19TH: GOLDEN AGE WOMEN 65 YEARS IN HONOR OF ADRIA RHOADS SUINA \$300/\$200/\$100 SPONSORED BY WOCKMETOOAH FAMILY
- ALL WEEKEND DRUM CONTEST - \$2,000 SPONSORED BY IISA BROWN
- SATURDAY - JULY 18TH 49 CONTEST - \$2,000 \$1,000 SPONSORED BY IISA BROWN \$1,000 SPONSORED BY THE COOPER & YOUNGMAN FAMILY IN MEMORY OF TAHLI JAMES COOPER (TJ)
- GRASS DANCE \$800 PLUS CONSOLATION SPONSORED BY TRAVIS CODYNAH

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EVENT CODE: CN-HOMECOMING

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NOLAN TAHDOOAHNIPPAH - (580) 919-0868  
TRAVIS CODYNAH - (580) 647-1561  
TANYA CODYNAH - (580) 585-1353  
JOLENE JJ SCHONCHIN - (580) 583-2649  
VENDOR INFORMATION: BRIAN STILLWELL: (580) 583-0756

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**COMANCHE INDIAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

**August 22, 2026**

Comanche Nation Complex

Head Staff - TBA  
Honoring the Inaugural CIVA Officers:  
Edgar Monetathchi  
James Chasenah  
Cliff Ototivo  
Morris Sunrise  
Duran Tahhahwah  
Carl Tahah

Honoring: All former CIVA Princesses  
Flag to be Flown - Edgar Monetathchi  
Honoring: Lee Motah - Commander of the KCA Veterans Association

**ANNUAL JULY POWWOW**  
THURSDAY • 16 JULY 2026 • 2PM - 10PM

**CLUB PRINCESSES**

**SENIOR PRINCESS**  
REYNA SERNA

**JUNIOR PRINCESS**  
BREANNA KERCHEE

**LITTLE MISS**  
NAHMI D. POAFPYBITTY

**WALTERS SERVICE CLUB**  
EST. 1952  
Walters, Oklahoma

**SCHEDULE**

**2PM:** GOURD DANCE BEGINS

**5PM - 6PM:** SUPPER BREAK

**7PM:** GRAND ENTRY

**ALL GOURD DANCE**  
COMANCHE NATION COMMUNITY BLDG  
905 E MISSOURI AVE • WALTERS, OK

**HEAD STAFF**

MC  
LOUI POHAWPATCHOKO

HEAD SINGER  
DEVON WERMY

HEAD MAN  
JD WAUQUA

HEAD LADY  
SOPHIE MASON

CO-HOST  
COMANCHE NATION YOUTH DANCERS

ARENA DIRECTOR  
MODESTO SCHONCHIN

SECURITY  
JIM WADE

**SPECIAL INVITATION**

ARLENE SCHONCHIN- COMANCHE NATION SR. PRINCESS,  
CLARA YAZZIE- COMANCHE NATION JR. PRINCESS, COMANCHE NATION OFFICIALS,  
COMANCHE HOME COMING COMMITTEE & PRINCESS- HANNAH ROSE OWENS, & ALL ORGANIZATIONS AND ROYALTY

**ANN QUIS QUIS, VICE-PRESIDENT** (580) 647-4359  
**MARI LAVATAI, PRESIDENT** (580) 704-7516  
**CECILY BRIGOLI, SECRETARY** (580) 919-9666

VENDORS: \$35 fee (must be paid in order to set up), 10x10 spot available, no food or drink vendors, & vendors responsible for their own set-up equipment. Contact any officer to reserve your spot.

WALTERS SERVICE CLUB NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, THEFTS, AND/OR DAMAGES. THIS IS AN ALCOHOL AND DRUG-FREE EVENT.



# Yellowfish Descendants Powwow Held May 24

The Yellowfish Descendants held its annual celebration, May 24, at the Comanche Nation Complex’s Watchtaker Hall, nine miles north of Lawton.

*Pa-Que-O-Haw-Pith*, known as YellowFish, was born into the *Kwahada*, Antelope Eaters band of Comanches.

He survived the Second Battle of Adobe Walls and is remembered as the last traditional leader of the *Teh Da Puh Ku Nu* the Comanche “Little Ponies.”

In 1972, his grandchildren organized as the Yellowfish Descendants, originally holding their dances in Apache, Oklahoma, on original allotment land. Today, seven, eight, and nine generations of his descendants gather to honor and remember their leader. The Yellowfish Descendants Annual Powwow continues as a living celebration of *Numu* culture, history, and identity.



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

# Military News

Submitted by Kevin Pohawpatchoko/Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Vice Commander

## CIVA Monthly Meeting

CIVA held its monthly meeting May 7 in the Patriot Room.

A call to order was conducted by CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt followed by a prayer by CIVA Chaplain Ramonah Davis. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt as birthday blessing and recognitions were given to CIVA Veterans, Frankie Patterson, John McClung and Ramonah Davis, CIVA Auxiliary member, Betty Tippeconnie. The evening meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary members. CIVA Officer's and Veterans conducted their monthly meeting as old and new business was presented and discussed. The CIVA monthly meeting ended with discussion on French Delegation visit, CIVA's 50th Anniversary, Armed Forces and Memorial Day Events.

## Co-Host Kiowa War Mothers Chapter 18

On May 10, CIVA was honored to serve as Co-Host for the Kiowa War Mother's Chapter 18 Annual Mother's Day at the Kiowa Red Wolf Community Building in Carnegie. CIVA Veteran, Laura Wauqua served as the Head Lady Dancer during their annual event.



Courtesy Photo

## Kiowa War Mothers Chapter 18.



Courtesy Photo

## Gourd dancing enjoyed by all.

## CIVA Auxiliary Danielle Tomah Graduation



Courtesy Photo

## Tomah CIVA Auxiliary member Danielle Tomah.

CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary were invited to attend CIVA Auxiliary member Danielle Tomah graduation at Cameron University and Eisenhower High School in Lawton. CIVA officers, veterans, princess and auxiliary are proud of her achievements graduating and obtaining an associate of science degree.

## 2026 Armed Forces Day Banquet

On May 16, CIVA hosted the 21st Annual Armed Forces Banquet honoring our Comanche women veterans past to present at Watchtaker Hall. This year's guest speaker was Mrs. Jennifer Waters, Executive Director of United Service Organization (USO). After the meal, a Crowning Ceremony was conducted as Aalynn Codopony was officially Crowned as the 2026-2027 CIVA princess. The Oklahoma Military Heritage Foundation, Hall of Honor, Treadwell - Poolaw Chapter 17 of SW Oklahoma Ambassador Lanny Asepermy and Jr. Ambassador, Mesa Tahchawwickah hosted an Induction Ceremony with foundation president, Col. Kelly Zachgo, USA (Ret.) and

John Farris, former Capt., USA, Ambassador in Charge present honors to four Comanche women warriors as they were inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. Army Spc. Eleanor McDaniel, Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Donna Harris, Army Pvt. 1st Class Stormy Bennett and Army Lt. Col. Rhonda Williams. A Quilts of Valor Presentation Ceremony was also conducted and presented to Donna Harris, Stormy Bennett and Bennie Coleman.

## 2026 Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor Inductees



Courtesy Photos

## Stormy Bennett and family with Hall of Honor Delegation.



Courtesy Photo

## Eleanor McDaniel and family with Hall of Honor Delegation.



Courtesy Photos

## Donna Harris with Oklahoma Military Heritage Foundation, Hall of Honor, Treadwell - Poolaw Chapter 17 of SW Oklahoma Ambassador Lanny Asepermy and Jr. Ambassador, Mesa Tahchawwickah and Committeeman Kevin Pohawpatchoko.

Not Pictured: Receiving the Hall of Honor Induction was Lt. Col. Rhonda Williams.



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Veterans with Guest Speaker Jennifer Waters.



Courtesy Photo

## USAF Veteran Patterson Tahdooahnippah placing Eagle Feather on CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony crown.



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary with 2026-2027 Princess Aalynn Codopony.

## Co-Host IAMNDN Graduating Senior Honor Powwow



Courtesy Photos

## CIVA Veterans enjoying the Gourd Dance session.

On May 23, 2026, CIVA was invited to serve as Co-Host by the IAMNDN Graduating Senior Honor Powwow held at Watchtaker Hall. CIVA veterans, princess and auxiliary would like to thank IAMNDN in serving as Co-Host to honor all graduating high school seniors.

## CIVA 49th Annual Meeting Day Ceremony

On May 25, CIVA hosted the 49th Memorial Day Ceremonies at Watchtaker Hall, Circle of Honor and the CIVA Court of Honor. Welcome remarks were made by CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt followed by a prayer and posting of Colors. CIVA would like to thank the Sovo Singers for providing the drum, CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony and auxiliary for their hard work for getting things in order. During the ceremony, a Roll Call of our Comanche fallen warriors was conducted followed by a Roll Call of Comanche Veterans who died while on active duty and a Roll Call of Comanche veterans who died since Memorial Day 2025. CIVA Officer's and Veterans would like to thank CIVA members Ramonah Davis, Markie Davis, CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony and CIVA Auxiliary member Janet Tahah for setting up the Memorial Crosses.



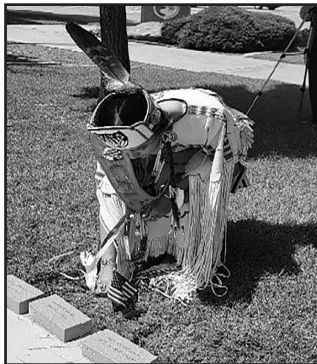
Courtesy Photo

## CIVA members Markie Davis, Ramonah Davis, CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony and CIVA Auxiliary member Janet Tahah setting up the Memorial Crosses prior to Memorial Day Ceremonies.



Courtesy Photo

## Remembering our Fallen Warriors.



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony placing flags at the Court of Honor.



Courtesy Photo

## Group photograph of CIVA Veterans, Princess, Auxiliary and Sovo Singers.

## Sunset Memorial Garden Cemetery Memorial Day Observance

Monday, May 25, CIVA veterans, princess, auxiliary and the

Sovo Singers were invited to the 37th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Sunset Memorial Garden Cemetery. CIVA Secretary Dominic Pawlowski serves as the Chaplain on the Memorial Committee. During the Observance, CIVA veterans and CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony participated in the Wreath Laying Ceremony.



Courtesy Photo

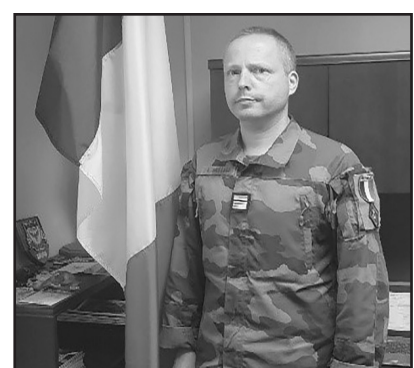
## CIVA Veterans and CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony participating in the Wreath Laying Ceremony.



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Princess with the CIVA Auxiliary.

## Meeting With French Liaison Officer



Courtesy Photo

## Lt. Col Alexandre Buttary

On May 27, CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt and CIVA Vice Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko met with the French Liaison Officer Lt. Col. Alexandre Buttard at Fort Sill. During the meeting CIVA discussed the upcoming visit from the France Delegation to attend this years Comanche Nation Fair.

## Vietnam Veterans Chapter 751 Benefit Indian Taco Sale

On May 27, Vietnam Veterans Chapter 751 held Benefit Indian Taco Sale at Bernard Kahrahrah Community Center in Lawton. CIVA auxiliary was asked to help make the frybread and to prepare the meal during their fundraising event.



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Auxiliary cooking frybread.



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony preparing Indian Taco orders.

## KSWO Interview



Courtesy Photo

## CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt and CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony with KSWO Morning News Anchors.

On May 28, CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt and CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony were interviewed by the KSWO Morning News Team as Aalynn Codopony was formally introduced as the 2026-2027 CIVA Princess. Other topics discussed were the upcoming CIVA 50th Anniversary and the France Delegation visit.

## CIVA Monthly Meeting

On June 4, CIVA held its monthly meeting in the Patriot Room. A call to order was conducted by CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt followed by a prayer by CIVA Chaplain Ramonah Davis. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Aalynn Codopony as birthday blessing and recognitions to CIVA Veteran Clifford RedElk, and CIVA Auxiliary members Wanda Czerniak, Christine Plata and Jared Kopaddy

The evening meal was provided by CIVA auxiliary members, CIVA officers and veterans conducted their monthly meeting as old and new business was presented and discussed. The CIVA monthly meeting ended with discussion on CIVA's 50th Anniversary and the upcoming France Delegation.



Courtesy Photo

## Birthday recognition to CIVA Auxiliary member Wanda Czerniak and Jared Kopaddy.

## Larry Monoessy Sr. Funeral Service

On June 9, CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary attended Larry Monoessy Sr. Funeral Services held at Watchtaker Hall. He set aside other commitments to sing for CIVA during any of the events.



Courtesy Photo

## Monoessy Sr.

## US Navy Send Offs

On June 13, CIVA veterans, princess and auxiliary received invitations from Negrón and Rodríguez (Plata) Families to help send off Antonio Negrón and Qyín Rodríguez (Plata) who both will be enlisting in the US Navy. CIVA will be sending prayers while they leave for training as well as serving the country.



## CIVA veterans, princess and auxiliary with Antonio Negrón.



Courtesy Photos

## CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt and CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony with Qyín Rodríguez (Plata).

# Milestones

### Happy Belated Birthday!

June 16 Julian Alcantara  
June 19 - Diane Parker  
June 29 - Ladonna Parker



Happy Birthday  
Joseph Randle KillsFirst, Sr.  
July 3

~ Happy Blessed Birthday! Love you FOREVER - Mom -



Happy Birthday  
Ruby Zavala  
July 8



Happy Birthday  
Arlene Schonchin  
July 8

~ We love you and are so proud of you. From, mom, dad, and Mojo.

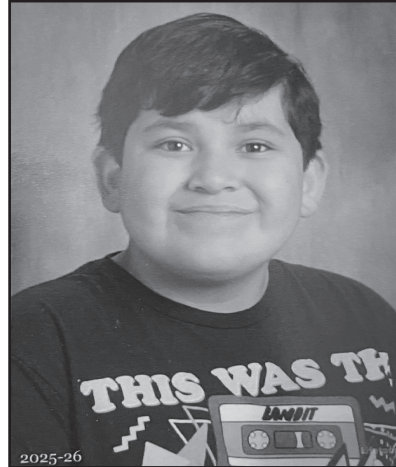


Happy 8th Birthday  
Kaytlynn Kalinich  
July 9

### Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday  
Valentine Zavala  
July 9

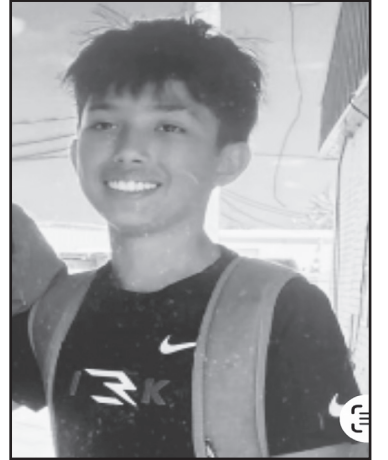


Happy Birthday  
Christian Gilliam  
July 16

~ We all love you very much! From, Dad, Mila, Grandma, Rachel, and Ariane.



Happy 10th Birthday  
Jordin Shayne Heminokiky  
July 22



Happy 12th Birthday  
Austin Zavala  
July 23

July 3 - Joseph Randle Kills-First, Sr.  
July 8 - Ruby Zavala  
July 8 - Arlene Schonchin  
July 9 - Valentine Zavala  
July 9 - Kaytlynn Kalinich  
July 16 - Christian Gilliam  
July 22 - Jordin Shayne Heminokiky

### In Loving Memory Jerald Henry Killsfirst, Sr. July 21, 1988 - July 19, 2015



~ I think of you in silence. Often speak your name. All I have are your memories and your pictures in a frame. Rest my grandson till we meet again. My loving grandson - My HEART forever again. From, Kaku Patti.

### The Comanche Nation News

August Edition  
Deadline:  
July 15

Email:  
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or  
stacey.heminokiky@comanchenation.com

Mail:

Comanche Nation/PIO  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73501

Contact: (580) 492-3385



Happy Birthday  
Diane Parker  
June 19



Happy Birthday  
Ladonna Parker  
June 29

### In Loving Memory Laverna Asenap July 12, 1949 - July 28, 2013



### In Loving Memory Happy Heavenly Birthday



Anthony "Butch" Parker  
June 10

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CORRECTION: In the Volume 27 Edition 6 edition of The Comanche Nation News, "CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to amend the moderator procedures for Social Media Policy on Page 2 to state members of the Comanche Nation Administration or Communications Team will serve as moderators ..."

## DIVORCE? WRITS? WILLS/CODICILS? ATTESTATIONS? Notary Services

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"As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

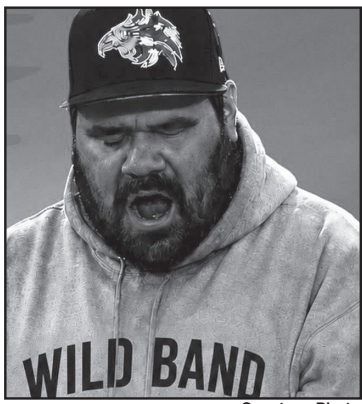
-Joshua 24:15

"Nothing gives me greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

- 3 John 1:4

# Obituaries

## Larry Lucious Monoessy Sr. Jeannie Colette "Parker" Peralta



Courtesy Photo

### Monoessy

Larry Lucious Monoessy Sr., age 46, of Walters, Oklahoma, entered into his eternal rest on Friday, June 5, in Wichita Falls, Texas, with his loved ones by his side.

Larry was born on November 16, 1980 to Neal Monoessy and Collette Tahah Otitivo.

He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and, also of the Kiowa Tribe.

Born in Lawton, Oklahoma and raised in the Elgin area, Larry attended Stoney Point where he played basketball until moving to Elgin Public Schools. While attending Elgin, he played football. Larry, Leroy or Larry Mo, as most would say, has been traveling the powwow trail most of his life as he has been dancing since he could walk. Larry danced straight, traditional and grass until he found his love for singing. What a voice he had.

He and his brothers would use buckets, pillows, sofas, the table and pretty much anything as their drum until he received one of his own. His love for singing truly shined, touched many hearts and gave him brothers and sisters in the powwow world.

Special Acknowledgement to Wild Band of Comanches, Southern Boyz, Cozads, Rose Hill, Thunder Hill, YoungBird, Blazing Bear and Wolf Robe.

He was also a member of the Comanche Youth Dancers as a young boy and in his adult life, he gave back and shared his love for singing and dancing by returning to Comanche Youth Dancers as a singer for their programs they take to schools and communities.

Larry met Mindy in the summer of 1992 and later married on January 7, 2000. They made their early life with their children in Fletcher, Oklahoma and eventually moved to Lawton, Oklahoma.

Still on the powwow trail, Larry would make the best of time by being the DJ/copilot. He knew the tunes and kept the music going from powwow music to Hank Williams to Afroman to Kiss to Dr. Dre. Every now and then he'd be the pilot instead of the DJ/copilot. There was never a dull moment when Larry was around. Larry and his family eventually moved to Walters, Oklahoma where he enjoyed being the Stay at Home Dad and Papa and traveled when he could. He was full of life, love and laughter, and was the one that knew how to have a good time. Those are lasting memories for all who loved him and knew him.

Larry is survived by his wife, Mindy, daughters Rita Monoessy and Kayala Funmaker, and sons Tyler Chasenah Monoessy and Spencer Ray Monoessy of the home. His son Larry "Lush" and wife Kelsey Monoessy of Washington and daughter Barbara Monoessy of Geary, Oklahoma. His grandchildren Daxton, Lennon, and Presley Monoessy; Francis and Scarlett Monoessy; and Singingbird Watan. His brothers, Ronald and wife Tish of Lawton, Oklahoma and his brother, Carl Monoessy of Lawton, Oklahoma. His mom, Collette and spouse Clifford Otitivo of Walters, Oklahoma and his Dad, Neal and spouse Sharon Monoessy of Michigan.

He is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Elrod "Crutch" and Barbara Jane Ahhaitty Monoessy and his maternal grandparents Carl and Pasquerita "Patsy" Wockmetooah Tahah.



Courtesy Photo

### Peralta

Jeannie Colette "Parker" Peralta entered into eternal rest on June 1, 2026. She was born on August 3, 1956, in Lawton, Oklahoma. She loved spending time with her family, cooking and singing. She had a kind heart and took care of everyone. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation Oklahoma.

She was survived by her partner, Gerald Neal, children Jerome Peralta, Alyssa Alderete, and Ashley Peralta, son-in-law, Chris Alderete; grandchildren, Julian Roacho, Jasmine Roacho, Isaac Roacho, Damian Franco, Juan Franco, Angelina Peralta; great grandchildren: Zaiden Roacho, Nikko Roacho. Brothers Keith Parker, Gary Parker, sisters, Diane Parker and Julie Moore.

She was preceded in death by her father Leonard Parker, mother Sunda La Rue "Martin" Parker, and brother, Michael, Lynn Parker.

## Everett Tahchaw



Courtesy Photo

### Tahchaw

Everett was born on Jan 19, 1976, at Lawton Indian Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Barbara and Allen Tahchawwickah, maternal grandparents, Norton and Margaret Tahquechi, Father, Patrick Allen Tahchawwickah, Mother, Lahoma Louise Tahchawwickah (Tahquechi), and sister, Kimberly Louise Tahchawwickah.

He is survived by his children Kaia Tahchawwickah, Kristen Tahchawwickah, and James Tahchawwickah; grandchildren: Brielle Tahchawwickah and Aaliyah Christmas and many cousins and extended family.

He accomplished many things in his life including learning the guitar, becoming a great auto mechanic, mastering web design, perfecting the IT Specialist role, and supporting his kids into a successful adulthood. Everett enjoyed spending time and creating memories with his children and grandchildren.

His favorite pastimes included playing guitar, enjoying video games and watching movies. He was a member of the Comanche Nation. He left amazing memories for all of us to remember him by and he will be greatly missed.

## Patrick Tahahwah



Courtesy Photo

### Tahahwah

Patrick E. Tahahwah entered into eternal rest surrounded by his loving family on May 19th, 2026.

He was lovingly cared for by his sister Jeanine at their residence in Cache, Oklahoma.

Patrick was born to Ray G. Tahahwah Sr. and Colleen WhiteBreast on December 3rd, 1965. He grew up in Chicago, Illinois where he attended Mulligen Elementary School. He then attended Riverside Indian School where he excelled in basketball under the guidance of coach Ron Red Elk. He graduated from Riverside Indian School alongside his sister Jeanine; Class of 1985.

Patrick was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and was of Meskwaki Nation descent.

Patrick loved his family, he enjoyed traveling to Tama, Iowa to visit his brother Ray and family. He loved his brother and his sisters immensely.

Patrick was proud of his heritage, in his younger years he was a Fancy War Dancer. He took after his Dad and they even had matching dance regalia. His love for singing around the drum allowed him the opportunity to sit with various family and friends in Wisconsin. He was also fortunate enough to travel to other areas to sing. Patrick was also an avid sports fan; his favorite teams were Chicago Cubs, Chicago Bears and Chicago Bulls.

Patrick moved to Chicago to work and met the mother of his children Angela Chitto, they were blessed with two daughters and a son. His children relocated with their mother in Mississippi. Patrick moved to Wisconsin where he met Carol Garza and regarded her family as his family. He made numerous relations within the Menominee Nation they were "his kind of people". He loved his life and all the friends he made while in Wisconsin.

Patrick is survived by his children daughters Monique Bell and Patrisha Tahahwah; son Justin Bell; mother of his children Angela Chitto; siblings Rebecca Tahahwah, Eileen Tahahwah, Ray Tahahwah Jr. (Mary Lasley), and Jeanine Tahahwah; adopted dad Anthony Waseskuk Sr. and adopted sister Georgia Sanache both of Tama, Iowa; one special brother Pamanet Sackatook; along with numerous nieces, nephews, friends, relatives and family all over Indian Country.

Patrick is preceded in death by his parents; sister Deborah Corbine; paternal grandmother Daisy May Tahahwah; maternal grandfather Horace WhiteBreast; uncle Edward Tahahwah Sr.; and nephews Colin Tahahwah and Holden Montanez.

## Milton "Big Un" Sovo



Courtesy Photo

### Sovo

Milton "Big Un" Sovo, Jr. 76, of Apache, Oklahoma went to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday June 10. He passed from this life in his Apache home surrounded by his beloved family and friends.

To know Milton was an honor, to love him was a privilege and blessing.

Milton was born on December 23, 1949, in Lawton, Oklahoma to Milton "Brownie" Sovo and Marjorie Diana Tahquechi Sovo.

His home for 45 yrs was Sterling, Oklahoma. Milton was the first of 7 children and as the eldest always looked after his younger siblings. Whether always giving of his time, money, attention, or energy, Milton made sure to look after them responsibly as the oldest son and lead with a gentle hand and huge heart. He was a beautiful blend of the Native traditions he was reared with and the Christian values he chose and exhibited daily. Always up for a good joke, he was famous for telling his Old Indian Tales, or OITs as they are referred to.

Milton graduated from Sterling High School and completed his Bachelor of Science Degree from Cameron University, while working full-time. He continued studying through his lifetime with various universities, resulting in his completion of his Ph.D. in Agricultural Sciences and proudly used his new title of Dr. Milton Sovo, Ph.D.

When he was with his family and decided to share some of his wisdom through OITs, he was quickly brought down to earth by his wife by saying, "Dr.

Sovo" in the tone of voice that made him laugh greatly.

Milton served on many Tribal, state and national boards of organizations. These included Comanche Nation Business Committee, Oklahoma Advisory Board Department of Transportation, Town Board of Apache, Oklahoma sitting as mayor, and the president of his own corporation. Milton was always willing to learn when young. As long as he had his beloved grandparents and parents he was learning of the Comanche culture and history.

He promised his elders that if he could complete his education, he would use his life to help his people learn to conserve and protect the natural resources so important to them for future generations. He fulfilled that promise. A Christian man with high moral and ethical values, Milton searched the Bible for the path to gain his promise of eternal life and obeyed those commands in his early 20s.

He lived a faithful life as a member of Christ's Church at Sterling and Elgin Church of Christ congregations. He led singing at Elgin, and anytime he was asked to do so.

Milton and Alice S. (Sue) Derby Sovo were united in marriage on June 27, 1995, in Lawton, Oklahoma. In doing so, he became "Dad" to Seanna. From that day forward, she was his daughter. Their bond could not have been stronger. Their love for each other was amazing. Because he waited until he was 45 years old to marry, being together and doing all together as "one" with Sue was a source of happiness.

He had hoped for a home of his own, and his own family for many years. He was always busy with his nephews and nieces and had decided he would be content in doing for them as long as he was needed, if that is what God wanted for him. As he loved saying to people, in telling the story of how he and Sue met, he often said, "Here she comes a walkin, talkin true love, sayin I've been lookin' for you love...out of the blue clear sky!"

Obviously, he was a lifelong lover of George Strait music and of his constant helpful deeds for the kids. Spending hours playing games such as Cowboys and Indians, at the insistence of the kids, he happily accepted a role reversal. He was always the Cowboy and they were the Indians. His thought was "I would have made a very good real life Indian!"

Milton was preceded in death by his parents, paternal grandparents Ernest Sovo and Sally Florence Nausuquas, his maternal grandparents, Norton Teddy "Sapo-Re-Ne" Tahquechi and Margaret Garrow Tahquechi, brother June Sovo, sister Denese Sovo, and nephew Rodrick Allen Sovo, his mother and father-in-law George K. and Ellen "Bea" Derby, and his sister-in-law Jewel Kathleen McCarty.

He is survived by his wife Sue of the home, daughter and son-in-law Seanna; Wesley Whisenhunt and grandson Collin of Rolla, Missouri, Kristopher Sovo of Lawton, Oklahoma and Renee Hill of Anadarko, Oklahoma both of whom he considered his children. Brothers Gene Sovo, Lennel T. "Ted" Sovo both of Sterling, Oklahoma, sisters, Donita Sovo, Sterling and Diana Gail Sovo, Sterling. Brothers-in-law and Sisters-in-law: Ken Derby and David Derby, Apache, Oklahoma, Kurt and Tessa Widmer, Maysville, Oklahoma, Sharon Cleveland, Lawton, Oklahoma and numerous nephews, nieces, great nephews, and great nieces and a host of dear friends and family.

## Roger Tenequer



Courtesy Photo

### Tenequer

Roger Wayne Tenequer Sr., "Nature Boy," passed away peaceful, comfortable, and happy on June 11, 2026 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He was born to Ray Tenequer and Beatrice Kowena-Mithlo on September 30, 1946. Roger was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

He was lovingly raised

and will be placed to rest beside his beloved grandmother Kate Heahkemah-Tahtooahnippah. Roger grew up around Geronimo, Oklahoma and attended Fort Sill Indian School where he earned his high school diploma. Roger went on to earn his CDL and worked as a truck driver. Roger met and then married Sandra Little Ghost; she preceded him in death on July 5, 2021.

Roger enjoyed watching football games, his teams were the Dallas Cowboys and Oklahoma Sooners. He also loved watching western movies. In quieter moments he enjoyed relaxing and drinking his medicine (Coors Light).

Roger is survived by daughters and their spouses Jacqueline Tenequer, Regina Twohatchet (Finis), and Diana Stickler (Charles); sons Ronald Tenequer and Roger Wayne Tenequer Jr.; 24 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren; aunts Cassandra Mithlo and Henrietta Beaver; brothers Randel Mithlo and Steven Swadley; sisters Sandra Rice and Pam Bingham; special siblings Marilyn Nestell, Weldon Simmons and Bonita Paddyaker.

Roger is preceded in death by his wife Sandra Tenequer; mother Beatrice Mithlo and father Ray Tenequer; sons Michael and Jeffrey Wayne Tenequer; grandchildren Candice Chavez and Derek Hicks; grandparents Kate Heahkemah-Tahtooahnippah and Mikey Tahtooahnippah.

## Joyce and George McSwain



Courtesy Photo

### McSwain

The McSwain family announces the passing of Joyce Ann McSwain, 79, on May 18, 2026, and George "Ander" McSwain, 78, on May 14, 2026, both of Indianola, Oklahoma. They shared nearly 61 years of marriage and a lifetime built on family, culture, and love.

Joyce McSwain was born on January 26, 1947, in Indianola, to Baldwin Parker Jr. and Marguerite Parker. She was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and carried deep devotion to her family, traditions, and community throughout her life.

George McSwain was born on June 4, 1947 in Coffee County, Georgia to Daniel Ambrose McSwain and Lavada Irene McSwain. He was known for living life by example, guided by fairness, hard work, and the philosophy that if all else fails, "hit it with a bigger hammer." His greatest pride and lifelong achievement was his family.

Together, George and Joyce built their life in Lakeland, Florida, where they lived and loved for nearly six decades. George retired after three decades as a glass blower. He was an avid outdoorsman, however he preferred to do most of his shooting with a camera and to toss the day's catch back, "so they'll be ready to catch again tomorrow."

Deeply rooted in their culture, George and Joyce enjoyed traveling the powwow trail with their family in their earlier years and later hosted Native American Church gatherings in their home—creating a place of fellowship, healing, and connection for many.

Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, George McSwain and her son, George McSwain Jr.

They are survived by their children, Prairie and Mark Tarrien, Donna McSwain, Ronnie and Tosha McSwain, and Don McSwain; as well as their many cherished grandchildren, including Oscar Hernandez, Julia Hernandez, Kal-el McSwain, Elaine Tarrien, Abigail Hernandez, Holly McSwain and Josephine Tarrien.

Joyce and George will be laid to rest together beside their beloved son.

Services to honor George and Joyce McSwain's enduring legacy will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery, in Lakeland, Florida, on June 4.

The family appreciates the prayers, support and kindness extended during this time.



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**July is a great time to start prep for fall activities, particularly for back to school in August.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>School Clothes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Make a list of who needs what.</li> <li>o Check out school uniform needs.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>School Supplies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Check the lists for your schools</li> <li>o Keep an eye out for sales</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>School Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Fall/Winter sport equipment needs</li> <li>o Have a list of what needs to be replaced.</li> <li>o New activity equipment needs</li> </ul> |   |
| <p><b>Back-to-school success starts with a plan. Preparing ahead can help you manage school expenses, reduce financial stress, and stay on track with your 2026 financial goals.</b></p>                           |   |

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