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THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS
Tatsa M̃aa (August) 2026
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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 September Edition is 5 p.m., August 15.
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• **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

27 Resolutions and 11 Motions Pass in July 11 CBC Meeting

Submitted by Jennifer Lee/ Comanche Nation Administration

Editor’s Note: This is an overview of the July 11 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 Tahdoohnippah, called the CBC Meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Resolutions

Resolution No. 131-2026 - Enrollment Resolution Eligible List 1413 Minors. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 132-2026 - Enrollment Resolution Eligible List 1414 Adults. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 2 Darrell Kosechequetah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0
Resolution No. 133-2026 - Enrollment Resolution Ineligible List 1415 DNMBO. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 134-2026 - Enrollment Resolution List 1416 Dual Enrollment. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to accept the resolution. Diana Doyebi-Sovo seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 135-2026 - Enrollment Resolution List 1417 Removal. Enrollment Resolution Eligible List 1413 Minors. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 136-2026 - Enrollment Resolution List 1418 Relinquishment. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to accept the resolution. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo seconds the motion. 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 137-2026 - Valerie Eschiti Resolution for Food as Medicine Needs Assessment. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah [insert motion/accepting motion]. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 138-2026 - Valerie Eschiti Resolution for Partnering to Support Preconception Health. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 139-2026 - FAC Resolution for Grant Application OVW FY2026. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 4 Fred Codynah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 140-2026 - FAC Resolution for Grant Application HHS FY2026. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 141-2026 - Law Enforcement Resolution for Grant Application DOJ COPS FY2026. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 142-2026 - THPO Resolution for Grant Application FY2025 Historic Preservation Fund. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to accept the resolution. Diana Doyebi-Sovo seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 146-2026 - Agriculture Resolution for Grant Application USDA LFPP. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 3 seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 147-2026 - Elder Center Resolution for Grant Application ADPI Dementia Capability FY2026 Adults. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 4 Fred Codynah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 148-2026 - CNEP Resolution for Grant Application for Endangered Species. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 149-2026 - CNEP Resolution for Grant Application for BIA Tribal Youth Initiative. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 4 Fred Codynah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 150-2026 - Energy Committee Resolution for Grant Application for BIA TEDC. CBC No. 2 Darrell Kosechequetah motions to accept the resolution. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo seconds the motion. Passes. 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 151-2026 - CIP Resolution to Amend Res 115-2026 DOE Grant Application. CBC No. 2 Darrell Kosechequetah motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 152-2026 - CHR Resolution for Grant Application DHHS Center for Indigenous Innovation and Health. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 4 Fred Codynah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 1 53-2026 - CBC Resolution to Approve Health Act. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 154-2026 - CBC Resolution Erin Nelson. BC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 155-2026 - CBC Resolution to Appoint Gaming Commissioner CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC Secretary/Treasurer Benny Tahmahkera seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0. Motion to Post Recall Ordinance for Comment Motion to Extend Agriculture Leases
Resolution No. 156-2026 - Emergency Management Resolution to Amend CNG Guidelines. CBC Vice Chairwoman Diana Doyebi-Sovo motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahsequah seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0.
Resolution No. 157-2026 – Comanche Nation Entertainment Resolution to Approve Engagement and Fee Letter. CBC Secretary/Treasurer Benny Tahmahkera motions to accept the resolution. CBC No. 3 Harley Pennington seconds the motion. Passes 6/0/0. Withdrawn:
Resolution No. 143-2026- Emergency Management/Fire Resolution for Grant Application DHS FEMA AFG FY2025.
Resolution No. 144-2026 - Emergency Management /Fire Resolution for Grant Application DHS FEMA FP&S FY2025.
Resolution No. 145-2026 - Emergency Management /Fire Resolution for Grant Application DHS FEMA SAFER FY2025.

Motions

Motion made by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1, to add Resolution 156-2026 to amend the Emergency Management CNG guidelines, and was seconded by Benny Tahmahkera, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer. Motion carried - 5/0/0.
Motion made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to add Resolution 157-2026 from CN Entertainment to the agenda, and was seconded by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1. Motion carried – 6/0/0.
Motion made by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1, to approve May and June monthly minutes, and was seconded by Harley Pennington, Committeeman No. 3. Motion carried – 6/0/0.
Motion made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to approve the agenda as amended, and was seconded by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1. Motion carried 6/0/0.
Motion made by Benny Tahmahkera, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer, to go into executive session to discuss resolutions (from Karol Ann Coffey and CN Entertainment), and was seconded by Fred Codynah, Committeeman No. 4. Motion carried – 6/0/0.
Motion made by Benny Tahmahkera, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer, to come out of executive session, and was seconded by Diana Doyebi-Sovo. Motion carried – 6/0/0.
Motion made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to post draft Recall Petition Ordinance online for comment, and was seconded by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1. Motion carried – 6/0/0.
Motion made by Hazel Tahsequah, Committeewoman No. 1, to approve two lease extensions for Kaniatobe and Permansu, and was seconded by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair. Motion carried – 6/0/0.
Motion made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to enter into executive session with

See MOTIONS, Page 5

From the Chairman's Desk



Maruaweka Numunuu:

As I write this, we are preparing to celebrate another Chief's Day and the Homecoming Powwow, which causes me to reflect on the legacy of leadership in the Comanche Nation. The duties and obligations of our historical Chiefs ranged from bravery in battle to wisdom in negotiating treaties. They navigated challenges and hardships that rippled through generations, and we pause every summer to honor their memory and sacrifice.

Thinking about our historic leaders, of course, brings me back to considering how we lead the Comanche Nation in this era. It looks much different. Gone are the days when we use the title of Chief, replaced with the elected position of Chairman. Along with the Comanche Business Committee, we serve as the primary representatives of the people of this Nation. While most could likely identify the grand functions of our historic Chiefs—protector, warrior, and statesman—the daily responsibilities of the Chairman seem, by comparison, rather bland: meetings, legal and business matters, and the constant exploration of opportunities to grow our Nation. All of this comes with an endless parade of second-guessing, criticism, and, unfortunately, outright lies about me, my family, and the other members of the Business Committee.

I previously simply ignored the gossip and lies, thinking it was the price of being in politics. However, we are now at a crossroads as a Nation. In the recent budget vote, the salaries of the Chairman, the Tribal Administrator, and the Comanche Business Committee were zeroed out, meaning these positions will effectively become volunteer on October 1, 2026. Some social media commentators have even suggested that the positions of Chairman and Tribal Administrator are not worth paying, that directors can simply run the tribal programs without supervision. This is not only unconstitutional but reflects a complete lack of understanding of how our government operates and what will enable our Nation to thrive. If the Nation abolishes these positions—either in reality or in practice by eliminating funding for their salaries—it will leave our Nation without the leadership, coordination, and accountability that it takes to raise revenue and deliver services.

The Chairman is the leader of our Nation, this is recognized in our Constitution, and also is recognized by outside organizations, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State of Oklahoma, and others. This means it is the Chairman who must sign Indian Self-Determination Act contracts and reports, and it is the Chairman who receives "Dear Tribal Leader" letters, consultation requests, presentations of business opportunities, and other official correspondence. The Chairman is also charged with overseeing the Nation's legal matters, including pending lawsuits and administrative actions concerning our gaming operations and sacred sites.

Eliminating a Chairman means the following:

- More than \$20 million in federal funding would be in jeopardy.
- Our sovereign right to conduct gaming could be eroded in court.
- Sacred sites would be threatened.
- Local schools would not receive federal funding related to Native American students.
- Tribal members would not receive sanitation services for their homes through the Indian Health Service.
- Per capita distributions would not be sent to heirs of deceased members and would not be sent to minors upon turning eighteen.
- Federal policy changes affecting the Nation would move forward without our input.
- The Nation would lose valuable business and economic development opportunities.

Countless issues come across the Chairman's desk—and no one else's. The Chairman's responsibility is to ensure the coordination and oversight of a large and robust Nation with numerous initiatives that carry significant financial and governmental consequences.

The Chairman also serves as a member of the Comanche Business Committee, which the Constitution charges with administering the Nation's programs. Currently, I attend 14 recurring monthly meetings in order to ensure accountability, opportunity, and oversight:

1. Kiowa-Comanche-Apache Intertribal Land Use Committee
 2. Comanche Nation Entertainment Management
 3. Gaming Commission
 4. Tax Commission
 5. Red Berry Health System
 6. Comanche Nation Tuitua Executive Director
 7. Gift Shop
 8. Funeral Home
 9. Arrowhead Apartments
 10. Cow-Calf Operation
 11. Realty Department
 12. Comancheria Hotel and Convention Center
 13. Comanche Nation Housing Authority
 14. Indian Health Service Southwest Oklahoma Advisory Board
- In addition, I attend eight meetings on a quarterly basis, bringing the total number of recurring meetings to 22:
15. Liquor Control Board
 16. Comanche Nation Tuitua Foundation Board of Directors
 17. Comanche Nation Enterprises, Inc.
 18. Cultural Committee
 19. Edward Jones (Rainy Day Fund investments)

See FROM CHAIRMAN'S DESK, Page 4

FROM CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Continued from Page 3

- 20. Comanche Academy Charter School
- 21. United Indian Nations of Oklahoma
- 22. Western Oklahoma Eight Tribes

While these meetings may not be grand, they are essential. They help govern the Nation's primary revenue drivers—including our casinos, Tax Commission, health system, and other enterprises. As I have written before, through this oversight, the Comanche Business Committee: has recovered over \$1.6 million in overdue oil and gas taxes, has received over \$6 million in additional federal funding for a health system, is projected to generate over \$1 million in annual third-party billings from that health system, is projected to generate over \$100,000 in donations for charitable causes, has earned \$400,000 for the Nation from new investments, and is undertaking the largest gaming expansion in our history, to name only a few highlights.

These meetings also ensure coordination with the Tribal Administrator so that our programs and services are not redundant and are delivered efficiently to our tribal members. Without a paid Chairman, a Tribal Administrator, or a compensated Comanche Business Committee, we would simply have individual program managers operating without centralized oversight. A government of this size and complexity cannot function effectively through volunteer leadership alone. Governing a sovereign nation requires consistent accountability, continuity, and professional expertise. It is an idealized fantasy to believe otherwise, and the result would be confusion, inconsistency and ultimately, harm to the Nation.

Indeed, to me, the worst aspect of the vote to eliminate these salaries is not its impact on me personally. It is the ripple effect this decision could have on our people for generations to come. When someone is a paid employee, they have skin in the game. They grit through difficult times. Volunteers can just leave. Paid employees must be professionals, demonstrating expertise in a field, and have expectations of delivering results. Volunteer service is honorable, but volunteers serve because they are willing to give their time—not because they have experience or skill to govern a sovereign nation.

In the end, I worry about the wolf in sheep's clothing—someone who claims to be a servant, willing to volunteer, but whose true goal is personal gain, favoritism, or influence. Or, just as bad, someone who simply lacks the experience necessary to navigate the countless complex issues our Nation faces each year which can have devastating financial impact.

In short, you get what you pay for.

So we're at a crossroads,

and it's time to set the record straight. In recent weeks, I've heard unbelievable stories that twist and distort simple facts. One member of our Nation approached me after the vote and said, "I think you're doing a good job as Chairman, but I was told you were asking for a big raise." That is simply false. I was not asking for a raise at all.

I've also heard people say the Tribal Administrator is vindictive because she terminated employees with decades of experience. I have personal knowledge of those situations, unlike those who claim to "be in the know," and I can tell you that every termination was made for legitimate reasons. In every instance in which a person being terminated has come to the Business Committee for review, the Business Committee has taken a hard look at all the facts, asked difficult questions, and all seven members have come to the conclusion that the terminated employee violated the Nation's policies (even if they say otherwise for political gain later). Lisa is doing the hardest job in our Nation and, as I have written before, a Nation of our size and complexity needs seven Tribal Administrators, not one. She is making difficult personnel decisions that have resulted in her and her family being slandered. She has never given her family any sort of preferential treatment, any services that her family has received has been equally available to all tribal members.

The Comanche Business Committee also deserves fair compensation. Its members are the governing body of this Nation, and the responsibilities they carry require significant time and dedication. We should compensate those positions in a way that attracts qualified, capable leaders who are willing to devote themselves to serving the Comanche Nation.

Now it's your turn to act.

I urge every tribal member to attend the upcoming Special General Council meeting and to vote in the Special Election. We must ensure that the Chairman, the Tribal Administrator, and the members of the Comanche Business Committee remain compensated so these positions can continue providing the leadership our Nation depends upon.

Most importantly, I encourage you to read the materials for yourself and form your own opinions. Do not rely on rumors or misinformation circulating on social media. Our Nation deserves thoughtful discussion based on facts, not speculation. If these online commentators actually knew what they were talking about, they would be in my seat.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Chairman. It is a responsibility I never take for granted, and I remain committed to doing everything I can to strengthen the Comanche Nation for future generations.



Lead facilitator, Destiny Tosee, leads a horse on July 15, during the demonstration of the Equine Assisted Wellness Program. The Equine Assisted Wellness program is expected to begin serving tribal members in early 2027.

EQUINE

Continued from Page 1

their powerful role in healing, particularly for those facing mental health challenges and addiction.

While explaining artwork she had painted on one of the horses, Tosee described the traditional markings and the personal meaning behind each one.

Pointing to one of the markings, Tosee explained its significance. "I put a circle around its eye, and for that, it's alert and vision," Tosee said. "I did it in a way so my horse can see my body language and mirror it back to me. That way, it can see my feelings."

She also shared the significance of other markings symbolizing overcoming childhood trauma and surviving life's "ambushes," as represented by the double-cross.

Through tears, Tosee reflected on her own healing journey and the strength she has found through working with horses.

Tosee hopes this program can help tribal members who have also experienced abusive homes and struggled with addiction realize there is a way out and that they do not have

to face those challenges alone.

"With horses, you don't have to talk," Tosee said. "You don't have to say anything out loud. It can be said in your mind, and they will still feel that. They'll still let you know that it's going to be okay."

Following the demonstration, tribal leaders who attended and advocated for the program said it has been a long time coming, and seeing it come to fruition has been extraordinary.

Comanche Nation Secretary-Treasurer Benny Tahmahkera said that after hearing from staff members training to become certified in Equine Assisted Wellness, he is confident the program will be a success.

"It's already working," Tahmahkera said. "I mean, they [Equine Center staff] are overcoming some of their anxiety, some of their fears. It's already being set in motion."

The Equine Assisted Wellness program will work closely with Comanche Nation Prevention and Recovery, allowing this form of

therapy to make a positive impact on tribal members who are actively dealing with addiction and mental health challenges.

As the program continues to grow, it will expand to serve additional Comanche Nation programs and tribal members.

Comanche Nation Chairman Forrest Tahdooahnippah said he hopes the therapy will have a lasting impact on the younger generation.

"Some other target populations are our youth," Chairman Tahdooahnippah said. "I expect the program to work with local schools, JOM programs, and our after-school program so that we can address addiction and substance use disorders early."

The Equine Assisted Wellness program is expected to begin serving tribal members in early 2027.

Once fully operational, the program will offer tribal members a culturally grounded path to healing by strengthening connections among people, horses, and Comanche tradition.

REPORT

Continued from Page 1

established by the Tribal Council through the annual operating budget. This constitutional process ensures that compensation decisions are made openly, publicly, and through the governing body elected by the people.

The discussion before us is not about creating a new benefit or providing excessive compensation. It is about reviewing compensation that has remained largely unchanged for many years while the responsibilities of governing have grown significantly. During that same period, inflation has increased the cost of living, tribal government has become more complex, and the expectations placed upon elected leadership have continued to expand.

Today, elected officials oversee millions of dollars in grants, dozens of departments and programs, compliance with federal and tribal laws, economic development initiatives, strategic planning, public safety, emergency management, and services that impact thousands of tribal citizens every single day. These responsibilities require long hours, difficult decisions, and an unwavering commitment to serving our Nation.

It is also important for our tribal members to know that neither the Chairman nor the Tribal Administrator requested a salary increase. Our salaries remain the same as they were last year. This discussion has never been about personal financial gain. Instead, it is about recognizing that elected officials have not seen their stipends adjusted for many years, despite increased responsibilities, rising costs, and the continued growth of tribal government. It wasn't until the amendment was adopted on May 17, 2025, that there was a small increase in the one-time monthly payment for the Comanche Nation Business Committee. It is about ensuring that the compensation established through the constitutional budget process is reviewed periodically and remains fair,

transparent, and reflective of the responsibilities entrusted to those elected to serve.

Every adjustment to elected officials' compensation should continue to be considered openly, debated publicly, and approved through the annual budget process established by the Comanche Nation Constitution. The authority to establish compensation rests with the Tribal Council, ensuring that these decisions are made transparently and in accordance with our governing laws, not through unilateral action by elected officials.

While leadership provides direction, none of the accomplishments of this administration would have been possible without the dedication of our employees. Every department director, manager, supervisor, and employee has played a vital role in moving the Comanche Nation forward. Whether serving our elders, assisting families, protecting our communities, responding to emergencies, administering grants, maintaining our facilities, preserving our culture, supporting education, strengthening public safety, or providing countless other essential services, our employees are the foundation of this government. We extend our sincere appreciation to every employee who has embraced change, accepted new challenges, and remained committed to serving our tribal citizens with professionalism and pride. Your hard work, dedication, and willingness to adapt have allowed this administration to implement meaningful improvements that benefit our Nation. The successes we celebrate today belong to all of you.

We also recognize that change is not always easy. It requires commitment, teamwork, and the courage to challenge the way things have always been done. Our employees have risen to that challenge, and because of their efforts, our government is stronger, more

accountable, and better equipped to serve the Comanche people.

There will always be people who see change differently or have concerns about the path forward. Thoughtful, constructive criticism is an essential part of good government and helps us learn, adapt, and serve people better. At the same time, it is important that we approach one another with honesty, respect, and a shared commitment to the truth. Misinformation, fear, and personal attacks can divide us, but they should not shape the future of our nation. We cannot allow the voices of a few to overshadow the hard work of the many or discourage the dedicated employees who come to work every day to serve our people.

This administration will continue to focus on solutions instead of division, progress instead of politics, and service instead of self-interest. We remain committed to transparency, fiscal responsibility, accountability, and respect for the Constitution of the Comanche Nation.

The work before us is far from finished, but together we have demonstrated what can be accomplished when leadership and employees work side by side with a shared vision. We ask our tribal citizens to continue supporting positive change, to judge us by our actions and our results, and to remain focused on what truly matters, building a stronger Comanche Nation for our children, our grandchildren, and the generations that will follow.

Together, we have overcome challenges. Together, we have achieved meaningful progress. And together, we will continue moving the Comanche Nation forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Jina Dawson

The Comanche Nation Tribal Administrator

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Programs

Child Support Services Announces Court Information

In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Trina Bender: CNCSP-19-37; Motion to Modify Child Support
- Trina Bender: CNCSP-19-37; Motion to Modify Child Support
- Joshua Blake: CNCSP-19-37; Motion to Modify Child Support
- Antoinette Hernasy: CNC-SP-21-34; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Tyler Komahcheet: CNC-SP-24-19; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation
- Dewaye Kowena: CNC-SP-23-06; Application for Indirect Contempt Citation

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.

Healthy Boundaries Are Important to Set Early

Just as you can't blame yourself for your abuser's behaviors, you also can't necessarily prevent them. But if you're starting a new relationship, you can start by seeking and identifying safe people — those who make you a better person just by their presence in your life. These are people who are honest, on your side, and who make you and your feelings a priority.

When you're ready to enter a relationship with someone you feel is safe, you should set boundaries to establish expectations of mutual respect, identify when lines are being crossed, and spot signs that a partner may turn abusive in the future.

There are five types of personal boundaries:

Physical: Your body belongs to you. Don't use sex as currency (or allow your partner to) as a sign of love or "payment" for a nice dinner or gift. And don't feel pressured to get physical too fast. Your partner should respect your comfort level and timeline.

Emotional: You have the right to have any emotion you want. Don't let a partner tell you how you should feel.

Material: Set boundaries around sharing your possessions and lending money. You also don't have to share passwords or access to your social accounts, email, and devices if you're not comfortable with it.

SIGN UP FOR EMAILS

Spiritual: You are allowed to have your own faith-based beliefs, and you shouldn't feel pressured to share them with your partner.

Mental: You're entitled to your own opinions and thoughts. You should have the ability to decide what's important to you and to speak up for things you believe in.

If you would like additional information about healthy relationships please contact the Comanche Nation Family Assistance Center, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and ask to speak with a victim advocate.



Probation and Parole Program Recognizes National Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week

Comanche Nation Probation and Parole is located in the Comanche Nation Tribal Court Building at 584 NW Bingo Road, Building 700, Lawton, Oklahoma 73507. We supervise individuals placed on pretrial services, probation, or parole by the Comanche Nation Tribal Court District Court. The sole purpose of the Comanche Nation Probation and Parole is to maintain supervision, rehabilitation, offender accountability, and community protection. From January 2025 to the present day, thirteen individuals have been released from pretrial services, and fourteen individuals have completed probation.

In honor of National Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week, July 19-25. We would like to recognize the accomplishments of those individuals:

- One earned a high school diploma.
- Five have regained full-time employment after an extended period of time.
- One earned certification as an electrician at Great Plains Technology Center, Lawton, OK, with assistance from Comanche Nation Workforce.
- Two had their driver's licenses reinstated with assistance from Comanche Nation Reintegration.
- Seven have completed a 12-week Substance Abuse Education/Well-briety class with assistance from Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery.
- Four have graduated from inpatient treatment facilities.
- One has transitioned out of a sober living facility.

Comanche Nation Probation and Parole would like to express its sincere gratitude for the incredible partnerships of the Comanche Nation Law Enforcement, Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery, and Comanche Nation Reintegration. Each have simultaneously contributed to the success of the tribal members we serve.

Further acknowledgement to the following Comanche Nation programs who have assisted with community service opportunities for our probationers and parolees: Comanche Nation Food Distribution, Comanche Nation Grasshoppers, Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery, Comanche Nation Residential Treatment Center, Comanche Nation Reintegration, Comanche Nation Environmental Programs, Comanche Nation Capital Improvement, Comanche Nation Injury Prevention, and Comanche Nation Maintenance.

Comanche Nation Probation & Parole is available by phone at (580) 360-3215 or by email at probation.officer@comanchenation.com.

MOTIONS

Continued from Page 3

Mr. Suminski, and was seconded by Darrell Kosechequetah, Committeeman No. 2. Motion carried – 6/0/0.

Motion made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to exit executive session with [Mr. Suminski], and was seconded by Fred Codynah, Committeeman No. 4. Motion carried – 6/0/0.

Motion made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to adjourn, and was seconded by Benny Tahmahkera, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer. Motion carried - 6/0/0.



The New Drug Reality

What Parents & Teens Need To Know

September 1st 2026
Cameron University
McCasland Ballroom
6-8:30 pm

Join us for an informative and eye-opening event designed to help parents, caregivers, and teens better understand the evolving landscape of substance use, emerging drug trends, warning signs, prevention strategies, and available resources.

To be a vendor contact Marilyn Cater 580-360-0719 or email: marilyn.cater@comanchenation.com

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Youth Services Back to School Bash Aids Students



Arlene Schonchin, Alex Frekie and Jacobi Tenequer help distribute backpacks and supplies to middle and high school students for the upcoming academic year July 15 during the Youth Program's annual Back to School Bash in Watchetaker Hall.

Story and Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Youth Services held a Back-to-School Bash on July 15 and July 16, at Watchetaker Hall for school supplies.

Youth Services Director Dena Landers said it used to be a one-day event.

"So, this year we did a two-day event, and we did it during Comanche homecoming week," she said. "That way our tribal members who are out of state or not from this area could come and get their school supplies and backpacks for their students."

Landers said they're there to support all Comanche-enrolled students in pre-k through 12th grade, both local and out-of-area.

"Redberry Health Clinic, they did come and provide resources about the services they provide," she said. "And then we also had an informational booth with the Youth Services Department because we are an established boys and girls club, and we were given information out about

how students can be a part of our program."

Landers said they have partnerships with Eling, Walters, Apache and Cache Public Schools. The program does provide transportation from the school to the community centers or Watchetaker Hall, depending on the school location.

Their camp focuses on STEM, culture and overall well-being.

"I want our students to have a lot of life skills when they leave," Landers said. "I want them to have leadership skills. I want them to be able to go out into their own communities and be good citizens, contribute to their schools."

The application for the clothing assistance program started on July 8.

If a student missed the Back-to-School Bash, they can reach the program at (580) 360-0682 or for those who need more information about the services provided.



MEDICATED ASSISTED
TREATMENT PROGRAM

STIGMA STOPS HERE: MAT AWARENESS & LIFE-SAVING PREVENTION

**VENDOR
REGISTRATION**



AUGUST 31

FISTA BUILDING
200 SW C AVE
LAWTON, OK 73501

9:30 A.M.-4 P.M.

FREE & OPEN TO
INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES,
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS,
FIRST RESPONDERS,
EDUCATORS, AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- UNDERSTANDING MAT
- BREAKING THE STIGMA AROUND RECOVERY
- OVERDOSE PREVENTION
- RECOVERY RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT
- REAL STORIES OF HOPE, HEALING, AND RECOVERY

RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE EDUCATION SAVES LIVES COMPASSION CHANGES COMMUNITIES

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MAMA TEKWARU

THE COMANCHE TALK PODCAST

Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

AUGUST 2026

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

- Sloppy Joes**
Ingredients

 - 2 Tbsp. butter, plus more for buttering rolls
 - 2 1/2 lb. ground beef
 - 1/2 large onion, diced
 - 1 large green bell pepper, diced
 - 5 garlic cloves, minced
 - 1 1/2 cups ketchup
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
 - 2 tsp. chili powder, plus more to taste
 - 1 tsp. dry mustard
 - 1/2 tsp. red pepper flakes, plus more to taste
 - 1 cup water
 - Kosher salt, to taste
 - Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
 - 2 Tbsp. tomato paste (optional)
 - Worcestershire sauce, to taste
- Tabasco sauce, to taste (optional)
 - kaiser rolls
 - Kettle cooked potato chips, for serving

Directions

Save Print

1. In a large skillet or Dutch oven, melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the ground beef and cook until brown. Drain most of the fat and discard.
2. Add the onion, green bell pepper, and garlic. Cook for a few minutes, or until the vegetables begin to soften.

3. Add the ketchup, brown sugar, chili powder, dry mustard, red pepper flakes, and water. Stir to combine and simmer for 15 minutes, adding salt and pepper to taste. Also add

the tomato paste, Worcestershire, and Tabasco, if desired. Taste and adjust the seasonings as needed.

4. Spread the rolls with butter and brown on a griddle or skillet. Spoon the meat mixture over the rolls, topping with a slice of cheese if it makes your skirt fly up. Serve hot with kettle cooked chips!

Dear TCNN

Letters to the Editor

Dear TCNN,

Salaries of Chairperson, CBC and Elected Officials is Mandatory, required by our constitution by Council resolution and a Referendum vote.

Constitution, Article V- Tribal Council Powers Clause, Section 6. (f) provides for salaries for elected officials shall be established by the adoption of an annual budget, and shall receive no remuneration from its boards, commissions and other entities.

1. All CBCs need salaries to support and provide for their families. This has excluded young, educated Comanches who can help our nation and in the KCA development in Lawton.

2. The Constitution requires that salaries, of the Chairman and the CBC members and other elected officials, shall be established by the Council by the adoption of an annual budget. A vote of Zero Salaries violates the Constitution.

NOTE: If those who voted Zero want our elected officials to have no compensation, then they should do a petition to amend the Constitution.

They need to do a petition of 200 signatures to propose the Zero Amendment. Remember, elected officials of most governments are compensated. This would destroy our government

3. A Reasonable amount is easily determined by researching the salaries of other Indian nations

with comparable duties and responsibilities. The voting ballots for the amount of salaries cannot allow or permit for a no vote. We may have to approve the TA salary because the Council voted no salary and this salary was already approved by the federal indirect cost agreement.

Council approval was not required. We do not want to lose this federal funding and would have to use gaming revenue. The same goes for the ½ of the Chairman’s salary.

NOTE: The Chairman’s salary has not increased from 2012 to FY 2026 with ½ paid in the amount of \$75,000 by the approved federal indirect cost budget and ½ paid in the amount of \$75,000 by gaming or tax revenue. Former Chairman Mike Burgess was the 1st chairman to receive this amount.

4. The salaries should increase each year in accordance with the government inflation rate, like government workers and social security. We have made significant progress in transparency, accountability, oil and gas taxation, the approval of stealing laws, successful audits, no overspent budgets, strengthening prosecutorial authority and economic projects with Comanche interest first. We can approve a Council Resolution at the August 8 Special Meeting at 10 a.m.

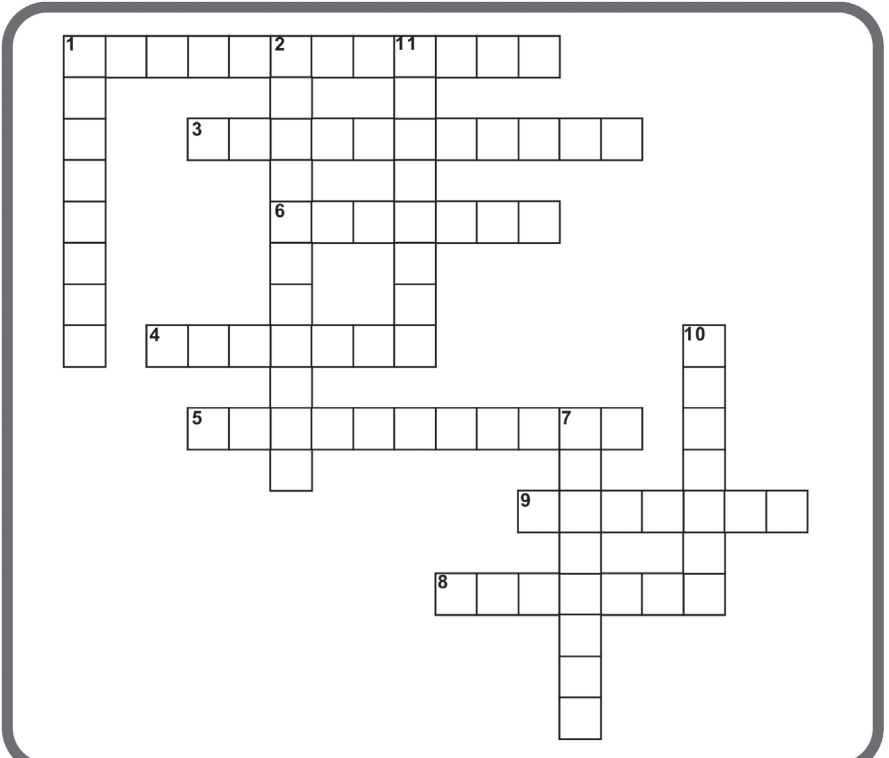
-Thomas Narcomey

See ANSWERS
Comanche Language CROSSWORD PUZZLE on PAGE 13



Colors CROSSWORD PUZZLE





ACROSS

1. PINK

3. ORANGE

4. BROWN

5. TURQUOISE

6. GREY

8. BLUE

9. YELLOW

DOWN

1. WHITE

2. PURPLE

7. BLACK

10. RED

11. GREEN

WORD BANK

TOSAPITᵀ OTUPITᵀ

PATIWAKETᵀ PUHIPITᵀ

EKAʔOHAPITᵀ ESIPITᵀ

TUHUPITᵀ EKAPITᵀ

TOSAʔEKAPITᵀ OHAPITᵀ

EKAʔEBIPITᵀ EBIPITᵀ



COMANCHE NATION
ENTERTAINMENT

ComancheNationEntertainment.com

HOT AUGUST WINS!

BACK IN THE SADDLE

WIN GRAND PRIZE GAME TICKETS FOR 2 EVERY SATURDAY AT 11PM FOR THE COWBOYS vs COMMANDERS GAME ON SEPT 20!

SAT, AUG 1-29 • 7PM-11PM

7PM-10:30PM • MATCH TO WIN \$1,000 CASH, UP TO \$750 COMANCHE CREDIT OR COWBOYS MEMORABILIA

RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 50 POINTS EARNED AUGUST 1-29.

Comanche Rewards Club EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details.



WIN A \$2,000 TRAVEL VOUCHER & \$500 COMANCHE CREDIT!

\$50,000 GETAWAY Giveaway

FRIDAYS AUG 7-28 • 5PM-11PM

DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES TO WIN UP TO \$1,000 CASH OR THE GRAND PRIZE TRAVEL VOUCHER & COMANCHE CREDIT!

RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 25 POINTS EARNED 8AM-11PM, AUG 1-28.

Comanche Rewards Club EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details.



MATCH TO WIN

WIN THE PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT OF \$1,000 CASH* OR UP TO \$500 COMANCHE CREDIT!

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS • AUG 7-29 • 7PM-11PM

DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES TO MATCH TO WIN PRIZES.
RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 50 POINTS EARNED 8AM-MIDNIGHT AUG 2-29.

*JACKPOT STARTS AT \$1,000 CASH AND INCREASES BY \$500 CASH UNTIL THE JACKPOT IS WON!

Comanche Rewards Club EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details.



FIRE UP THE FUN

WIN A PIT BOSS 1600 COMPETITION SERIES ROLL PELLET GRILL, UP TO \$200 CASH & UP TO \$150 COMANCHE CREDIT!

GRAND PRIZE SAT, AUG 29 • 11PM

WIN WEEKLY CASH AND COMANCHE CREDIT!
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AUG 7-29 • 7PM-11PM

COMANCHE REWARDS CLUB EXCLUSIVE! SEE COMANCHE REWARDS CLUB FOR DETAILS. DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES, RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 50 POINTS EARNED.

PHOTO MAY SLIGHTLY DIFFER FROM ACTUAL PRIZE.



PICK YOUR PACK

WIN UP TO \$125 CASH, \$200 COMANCHE CREDIT OR A \$250 WALMART GIFT CARD!

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AUG 7-29 • 7PM-11PM

DRAWINGS EVERY 30 MINUTES. RECEIVE 1 ENTRY FOR EVERY 25 POINTS EARNED FROM AUG 1-29.
LEGEND & SELECT MEMBERS WILL HAVE THEIR PRIZES DOUBLED ON CASH & COMANCHE CREDIT ONLY.

Comanche Rewards Club EXCLUSIVE!
See Comanche Rewards Club For Details.



Walters Service Club Celebrates Annual July Powwow

Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

The Walters Service Club Powwow took place on July 16, at the Walters Community Center in Walters, Oklahoma.

Walters Service Club Secretary Cecily Brigoli said the Walters Service Club was established in 1952.

“It was comprised of local community members and family members who wanted to get together to honor someone who was enlisted and returning from a war,” she said.

“And it has transformed into honoring code talkers, honoring our veterans and those of our servicemen and women that are enlisted and we always try to make sure that we’re servicing the Walters community since that’s where we originated out of.”

The powwow kicks off Comanche Homecoming and is another way to contribute to the community, according to Brigoli.

“I can remember being here during homecoming since I was just a young girl. I always was with my grandma. And my grandma, she was the late Nell Yvonne Wahahrockah Oberly, but a lot of people knew her as Yvones, like not just Yvonne, but Yvones,” she said. “And she always wanted to make sure that, being a representative of the organization, we try to give back to the community in some way by holding events, by holding these powwows. And that’s mainly what we like to do. We’re a small organization, but we’re, we’re all like family and we might all be family, you know.”

Brigoli said the powwow brings families and friends together.

“I think it’s a wonderful thing because I get to see people I haven’t seen in a while,” she said. “And specifically to kick off the Comanche homecoming, I know for myself and I know for a lot of others that we’re able to see relatives that come from out of state, we haven’t maybe seen since last homecoming or something like that. And I think it’s just a good thing that we’re able to start a little early and then lead right into Comanche homecoming.”



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

Walters Service Club princesses Nahmi Poafpybitty, Breanna Kerchee and Reyna Serna dances in the front while leading the congregation during the club special at the annual Walters Service Club pow-wow held in Walters, Okla.



Family of the late Robert Tippeconnie were honored by the Walters Service Club during the Service Club’s annual pow-wow held in Walters, Oklahoma.



Serving as head lady dancer Sophie Mason dances with her mother Monica during her special at the annual Walters Service Club powwow.



JD Wauqua leads the gourd dancers while serving as the head man dancer during the annual Walters Service Club pow-wow.



Gary Unah and Larry McCurtain dance together during as Unah is inducted as a new member of the Walters Service Club.



Comanche tribal elder Patterson Tahdoonippah and Comanche Nation Chairman Forrest Tahdoonipah participate in the gourd dance during the Walter Service Club annual pow-wow held at Walters, Oklahoma.

Royalty and Leadership Participate in Walters Rodeo Parade



Photos by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Homecoming Princess Hannah Owens waves to the crowd July 16 during the Walters Rodeo Parade in downtown Walters, Oklahoma.



Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin proudly waves during the Walters Rodeo Parade held in downtown Walters, Oklahoma.



Comanche Nation Tribal Administrator Lisa Dawsey smiles at the crowd while participating the Walters Rodeo Parade held in downtown Walters, Oklahoma.



Comanche Nation Chairman Forrest Tahdoohnippah gives a big smile while participating in the Walters Rodeo Parade held on July 16 in Walters, Oklahoma.

73rd Annual Comanche Homecoming Celebration

Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Homecoming celebrated its 73rd anniversary from July 17 to July 19 at Sultan Park in Walters, Oklahoma.

Comanche Homecoming Committee Vice President Travis Codynah said it was a wonderful pow-wow weekend.

“We were scared of the rain for a little bit, but fortunately we got blessed with a lot of sunshine, really hot, so I'm glad to all the programs at pretty much the CHR that came out here to help us. Oh my gosh, the water was wonderful,” he said.

Codynah said the homecoming powwow began when ancestors were returning from war.

“They wanted to do something to celebrate for their ancestors, for our people to come home, and they wanted to do something for them. So, they come out here and they set up a big arena and made it look nice, and then just from what people have been telling me around here that's been older, that's been here before me, kind of telling me...at one time this arena was just all dirt...when it first started...and then it progressively,” he said. “Then they start coming up and start being something...and then pretty soon, as we start getting older around my generation, people were looking forward to this place to come home. Not just our veterans and our people at war, but even that they were included that through...different, like, ‘Oh man, I can't wait to come home.’ People from all over...Florida, North Dakota, Colorado...we got people all over...that got married into different families and different jobs, carried them out, and...they look forward to this, and they know it's always the third weekend of July. So, a lot of our people, they come, and they plan, and they make this date, and a lot of reunions come into place, and you look at all these tents and all these areas around here, a lot of families come together, and they're rejoicing.”

Codynah said his own family also returns home during the weekend.

“The different families that come here that I haven't seen in a while, reunions and all that,” he said. “We got somebody that comes from Oregon...all the way from down here, just to come back here for the homecoming, just to visit, just to say that they're home, you know, and that's what we look forward to.”

Codynah said it's important for the youth to see where they come from as well.

“But we want to know who we are and where we come from, and then sometimes...as life, we get busy, and sometimes we get to tell who people, our children, who we are and where they come from,” he said. “But maybe we all come back together, we know we could rejoice and tell our children this is who we are, this is what we do, like that, and...it [goes] on a long time, but that's just my people look forward to this, you know.”

Codynah grew up around Walters and in the powwow environment.

“Since I was little, I was a member of Head Little Boy. I've been arena director all over...and here, I always look forward to being an arena director or doing some part,” he said. “So, when they asked me to be vice president, you know, and I wasn't even president when they asked me, ‘Would you like to do it?’ And I had a phone call, you know, and I was like, ‘Wow, that's remarkable,’ you know, out of all these people, you know, they asked me...so



Singers blast powerful songs during the Gourd Dance Saturday afternoon, led by Tim Monoessy, the head Gourd Dance Singer.



Walters Service Club Sr. Princess Reyana Serna, Walters Service Club Little Princess Nahmi Poafpybitty and Walters Service Club Jr. Breanna Kerchee being honored during the Comanche Homecoming Annual Pow-wow.



The Comanche Nation Princess, Arlene Schonchin, Clara Yazzie Comanche Nation Jr. Princess and Hannah Owens Comanche Homecoming Princess lead the July 18 Grand Entry in buckskin dresses.



KCA Veterans along with the CIVA serving as the color guard brings in the flags during the grand entry at the 73rd Annual Comanche Homecoming Celebration held at Sultan Park in Walters, Oklahoma.



Photo by Stacey Heminokey/News Staff



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Head war dance singer Joel Motah being honored at the drum during the annual Comanche Homecoming Pow-wow.



Singers take turns leading Comanche hymns the morning of July 19 during the Comanche Homecoming celebration.



Honored veteran Lenette Tahchawickah Chibitty dancing with a war bonnet during her special at the Comanche Homecoming Annual Pow-wow held in Walters, Oklahoma.



Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES. The KCA Sow and Grow Program and the Comanche Elder Council donated fresh fruits and vegetables to the Comanche Homecoming from their gardens, and the produce was distributed when camping rations were given the morning of July 18. The programs work hard to cultivate the gardens to produce fresh fruit and vegetables to distribute. TOP: Campers gather jalapeños, squash, tomatoes and bell peppers to take to their campsites. RIGHT: Comanche Nation Princess, Arlene Schonchin passes out watermelons to campers.



Strengthening Connections with Out-of-Area Tribal Members

Tribal Programs travel to Kansas, Texas, New Mexico and other towns to help out-of-area tribal members with services.



Photo by Natascha Mercadante/News Staff
Carlene Atauvich Collins from the Higher Education Program answers a tribal members' questions June 27 at the Dallas, Texas outreach event.



Photo by Jolene Sconchin/News Staff
JD Wauqua of the Enrollment Department, visits with tribal members in the Wichita, Kansas area on June 20, during the Comanche Nation Outreach event.



Photo by Jolene Sconchin/News Staff
Deborah Abbott of Childcare Services, Lennetta Davenport from the Elder Center and several programs line up outside of the Anadarko Outreach on June 25 to help area tribal members.



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

Students sign up to receive school supplies from Dena Landers of the Youth Services Program on June 26 at the Oklahoma City Outreach event.



Photo by Stacey Heminokky/News Staff

Teka Henry of the Optometry Departments helps tribal members choose frames July 25 at the New Mexico outreach event in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.

Comanche Indian Veterans Association

50th Anniversary

Celebration & Powwow

August 22, 2026

Comanche Nation Dance Grounds/Watchetaker Hall

2026-2027 CIVA Princess - Aalynn Codopony

HEAD STAFF

MC Louie Pohawpatchoko
Martin Flores
HS Bubba Sovo
Ronald Monoessy Sr.
AD Ashley Kerchee
Larney Silverhorn

SPECIAL INVITATION

2026 Comanche Nation Princess - Arlene Schonchin
2026 Jr. Comanche Nation Princess - Clara Yazzie

SPECIAL INVITED GUESTS

Comanche Nation NAC 1918 Chapter
Fletcher NAC
Comanche Man Dance
Comanche Little Ponies
Comanche Homecoming
Yellowfish Descendants
Wild Horse Descendants
Wahnee Descendants
Quanah Parker Descendants
SIA
Kiowa Blackleggings Warrior Society
Kiowa War Mothers
Tia Pia Society of Oklahoma
VFW Post 1015
Pawnee Veterans Association
NO SPECIALS

HONORED VETERANS

- Garrison Tahmahkera, USAF Veteran
- Lucien "Jimmy" Lookingglass, USMC-Veteran Numu Pukutsi
- Jimmy Ray Caddo, US Navy Veteran
- Vincent Pocowatchit, USMC Veteran
- Lonnie Henderson, USAF Veteran
- Richard Sapcut, USMC Purple Heart
- Lanny Asepermy, US Army Hall of Fame Inductee
- Eleanor McDaniel, US Army Veteran
- Jose Gallegos, US Navy Veteran
- Harry Mithlo, US Navy & US Army Veteran

Flag Flown-Pfc USMC Edgar Monetathchi Sr.

SPECIAL DANCE CONTESTS

In Honor of Lee Motah 1st Elected Comanche Nation Chairman instrumental of forming CIVA
Men's Straight/
\$300 \$200 \$100
(additional prize money and prizes to be announced by Motah family)
**

Men's Traditional
In honor of the Honored Veterans 18-54 years
\$300 \$200 \$100
**

In Honor of Pfc USMC Edgar Monetathchi CIVA First Commander
Men's Golden Age Straight/Traditional combined 55+ \$300 \$200 \$100
**

Special Veterans Contest
Men and Women combined
\$300 \$200 \$100
**

In Honor of Current and Former CIVA Princess
Woman's Cloth and Buckskin combined 18-54
\$300 \$200 \$100
**

In Honor of CIVA Auxiliary
Woman's Golden Age Cloth and Buckskin combined 55+
\$300 \$200 \$100
**

In Honor of CIVA Inaugural Officers, Edgar Monetathchi James Chasenah, Clifford Ototivo Sr, Morris Sunrise, Jerome Tahhahwah and Carl Tahah
Fancy War Dance \$500 \$200 \$100
**

Tiny Tots
Sponsored by Jared Kopaddy and Tavia Torralba
**

Jr. Girls Cloth/Buckskin Combined 12-17 yrs
**

Jr. Boys Straight/Traditional Combined 12-17 yrs

SCHEDULE

8 am Flag raising

12 pm Cedar Ceremony- Gene Sovo

1 pm - 4:30 pm Gourd Dance

5 p.m. Flag Lowering

5 p.m. - 6 pm Supper Break

7 pm Grand Entry
War Mothers Songs
Intertribal Dancing

Vendors and Food Vendors please contact CIVA Secretary Dominic Pawlowski
cell: (580) 695-9474, email: mymantees@gmail.com

People, Places and Things Happening

Barhydt Graduates from U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence



Courtesy Photo

Barhydt

First Lieutenant Ethan Barhydt, of the Bigbow family, earned his Army aviator wings with the graduation of Class 23-016 at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Novosel, Alabama. He trained as a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot.

The road to the wings is long. Flight school puts officers through months of academics, simulators, and flight hours before they ever pin on the badge. Lt. Barhydt finished it, and his family was on hand at the ceremony to see it.

He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, where he commissioned before reporting to flight training. Notre Dame to Black Hawk pilot is a steep climb, and he made it.

His next assignment takes him to Virginia, the first operational posting of his aviation career.

The Bigbow name carries weight in our communities, and Lt. Barhydt now carries it into Army aviation

Humphrey Inducted into the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society

Barrett Makes Cry Humphrey, a sophomore at Bethany High School, recently became a member of the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society. He finished the year with a 4.2 grade point average and is also a member of National Honor Society. Humphrey is a violinist in the school's orchestra and received superior ratings at the State



Courtesy Photo

Humphrey

Solo & Ensemble Competition his freshman and sophomore years. He also plays basketball and baseball for the Bethany Bronchos.

He is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation with Choctaw and Ponca descendency. He is the great-great-grandson of the late Reverend Amos and Rose Komah and the great-grandson of the late Albert Makes Cry Junior and Gloria Komah Makes Cry.

Comanche Academy Crowns New Royalty



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The 2026-2027 princesses and brave for the Comanche Academy Charter School were crowned May 31, during the schools powwow celebration. From left; Neahee Motah-Carpitcher, Brave, Arianna Horse, Princess and Loena Goodblanket, Lil Miss.

SCHOLARSHIP

Continued from Page 1

or figure something else out...I was also thinking about, if I were becoming a paramedic as well, there's RN bridge classes and stuff. And I was like, 'Oh, that'd be cool and all, but, like, I'd rather be out in the field doing something still.' And they brought [arson investigation] up, and I was like, 'That sounds fun.' It sounds like it'd be cool. I mean, I don't have much school left either. I can go and finish two or three more years, four years, get a degree. I mean, you got so much time being a firefighter, too. It's, like, what's, like, a few days of homework a week?"

As for how the career field was chosen...

"Whenever I put up the cleats playing ball, for, like, two weeks there, I was pretty lost...I didn't want to quit, but at the same time, I knew it was best because it wasn't healthy mentally. And my buddy Carlos had been trying to get on the firefighter for a long time. And...I was planning on just enlisting and going to the military. But my buddy Carlos was like, 'You should try out fire fighting.' I was like, 'Okay, well, tell me about it.' He's like, 'Oh, you know, firefighters, you run medical calls.

You work 10 days a month. You're at the station with the guys for 24 hours. It's a pretty cool career.' I was like, 'All right, well.' So, I signed up for the class," Love said. "I told my mom because I was still very much on the edge. I was like, 'I don't know, Mom. I just kind of want to go to the military and just call it a day.' And she was like, 'You know, give the class a week. Give it a week. Go try it out for a week.' I was like, 'All right.' So, I gave it that first week. I think within the first three days, I was like, 'Okay, yeah, I want to be here. This is where I want to be.'"

He said he can't wait to help the community.

"I want to be able to belong

somewhere, make a difference, especially in this community, because I know there's a lot of Comanches in this community. And I can see just being on some ambulance clinicals and things, and like seeing how they – like what goes on in their everyday life. You know, I would like to be able to help them," Love said. That's huge to me, staying around this area just because there's so many Comanches here. I want to be able to help my people as well, as well as help the people of Lawton."

His certifications include National Register EMT, Fire 1, Fire 2, Hazmat Operations, Hazmat Awareness, vehicle extrication and liquid pressurized gas or LPG.



Lil' Dartin's

HOME COOKING

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Courtesy Photo/ Nancy Smith @ Lightninghorse

COMANCHE SUMMER. The Texas Outdoor Musical production hosted the annual Comanche Summer on June 27 at the Palo Duro National Park in Canyon, Texas. Several members of the Comanche Nation, along with several members of other tribes participated in the annual affair.

New Business

Nacona Vision Offers Optical Care

Nacona Vision, based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, opened in 2023 and is run by Comanche Tribal Member Dr. Anthony Battese. He graduated from optometry school in 2014.

"I always wanted a job in the health-care field," he said. "Since both my parents worked at the Lawton Indian Hospital when I was growing up, and I liked the idea of helping people."

Battese provides primary eye care exams, prescribes glasses and/or ocular medications and refers to specialists when needed.

"I travel to different nursing



homes, mainly in northeast Oklahoma," he said. "The farthest homes I travel to are Bartlesville to McAlester and Stroud to Colcord. It definitely feels good to complete a nursing home visit."

Since Battese travels, he brings his own equipment and sometimes sees two or three homes in a day.

He chose to name his business Nocona Vision because "nocona" means "wanderer."

Residents Battese see don't have easy access to eye care, and he said they are usually very thankful.

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The Comanche Nation News of Oklahoma

Military News

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

CIVA Princess Spotlight



Courtesy Photo

Aalynn Hazel Codopony serves as the 2026-2027 Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Princess. She is the former 2025-2026 Cache Johnson O’Malley Princess. Aalynn Codopony attends Cache High School where she is a member of the BETA and Native American club. She takes Honor and Advanced Placement College Level Classes. She is an active member of the Cache First Baptist Church youth program, Cache High Schools Volleyball and Track teams. Codopony is concurrently enrolled at Cameron University with plans to attend the University of Oklahoma.

Headstone and Marker Placement

On June 11, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Veterans and Auxiliary traveled to Cache Creek Cemetery located west of Apache to place a military marker for fallen Comanche Veteran, Corporal Billy Joe Wermey who served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.



Courtesy Photo

Benefit Bingo

On June 20, CIVA held a Benefit Bingo at the Bernard Kahrahh Community Center in Lawton, Oklahoma. The Benefit Bingo was enjoyed by everyone in attendance as the money raised help offset the cost for CIVA 50th Anniversary.



Courtesy Photo

Bingo players supporting CIVA 50th Anniversary Benefit Bingo.

Funeral and Honor Guard Details

On June 22, a Funeral and Honor Guard Detail was requested by Comanche Nation Funeral Home on behalf of U.S. Navy Veteran Airman (E-2) Stephen Bruce Heath. During the Graveside Services, Airman Bruce Heath military biography was read and Military Honors were conducted along with a Final Salute and playing of Taps.

The Honor Detail consisted of CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary members. The U.S., Comanche Nation, Oklahoma, U.S. Navy and the CIVA flag were displayed.

In Honor and Memory of US Navy Airman Stephen Bruce Heath

Sunrise August 21, 1950 – Sunset June 10, 2026
Interment Post Oak Cemetery, Indianhoma, Oklahoma June 22, 2026



Courtesy Photo

Heath Navy Airman (E-2) Stephen Bruce Heath was drafted on October 23, 1970, and served, with Honor, until October 20, 1972, (1 year, 11 months and 28 days). He completed his Boot Training at the Orlando Naval Training Center, FL and served the remainder of military obligation, as a Tug Boat Operator, at Pearl Harbor Naval Center, HI.

Airman Heath was awarded the National Defense Service medal for service during a national emergency.

The U.S. Navy, Comanche Nation and the Republic thank Airman Heath for his dedicated, faithful and honorable service.



Courtesy Photo

The flag of US Navy Airman Stephen Heath being presented during the playing of Taps.



Courtesy Photo

John McClung, CIVA Sgt. of Arms sharing a biblical scripture.

75th Anniversary Korean War Veterans Memorial Service

On June 26, the Comanche Indian Veterans Association(CIVA) received an extended invitation to attend the 76th Anniversary Korean War Veterans Memorial Service held at the Korean Memorial located at Elmer Thomas Park in Lawton Oklahoma. The Korean War Association, Chapter 319 and the Korean New Light United Methodist Church were the organizers of this event.

After the ceremony, CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary were invited to have a meal at the New Light United Methodist Church.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Color Guard presenting the colors.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony leading the CIVA Auxiliary.

51st Annual Tonkawa Tribal Powwow

On June 26, the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) received an invitation from the Tonkawa Tribal Powwow Committee to attend their 51st Annual Tribal Powwow held in Tonkawa Oklahoma.

CIVA Veterans and Auxiliary would like to thank the Tonkawa Tribal Powwow Committee for the invitation.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Veterans in the arena during a Honoring.

Co-Host 59th Annual Tia-Piah Society of Oklahoma Powwow and Celebration

On June 27, – June 28, Comanche Indian Veterans Association(CIVA) were invited to be the Co-Host at the 59th Annual Tia-Piah Powwow and Celebration which was held at the Tia-Piah Park Dance grounds near Richards Spur.

CIVA also had the honor of raising and lowering the flags of U.S. Army Veteran, Robert Tippeconnie and U.S. Army- Air Corps Veteran, Gus Palmer.

CIVA Vice Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko served as the Head Man Dancer. Gourd Dancing and Celebration was enjoyed by all. CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary would like to thank the Tia-Piah Society of Oklahoma and the Bigbow family for their hospitality.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Veterans, Princess, Auxiliary with Kiowa Blackleggings Society and Auxiliary



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Vice Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko Head Man Dancer Special. Also in the photograph are CIVA Treasure Roger Tehauno and former Comanche Nation Princess and CIVA Princess Megan (Stone) Mahseet .

CIVA Monthly Meeting

On July 26, The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (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 given by CIVA Secretary Dominic Pawlowski. The Pledge of Allegiance is led by the Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin.

There were no guests to be recognized or announced as the CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt called for birthday recognition. Birthday recognition was given to Comanche Nation Princess, Arlene Schonchin.

The evening meal was pro-

vided by the CIVA Auxiliary which was enjoyed by all.

Old and new business was presented and discussed. The CIVA monthly meeting ended with discussion on CIVA’s 50th Anniversary and hosting the French Delegation visit for this year’s Comanche Nation Fair.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Treasure Roger Tehauno with Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin.

Color Guard Lawton’s Farmers Market

On July 4, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) were invited by Cindy Nocton, Lawton’s Farmers Market to open the 1st Indoor Farmers Market on July 4.

CIVA was featured in presenting the colors as CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony and Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin signed. CIVA Officer’s, Veterans and Auxiliary are very proud of our CIVA Princess and Comanche Nation Princess who did an outstanding job representing CIVA and the Comanche Nation. CIVA would to extend a big thank you to the Sovo Singers.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Color Guard Detail presenting the colors



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Auxiliary with Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin and CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony

Fund Raising Event

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Auxiliary made Indian Tacos for the Comanche Nation Work Force, Summer Youth Program. A contribution was made to help offset the cost of the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) 50th Anniversary. Not pictured are CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt, CIVA Auxiliary Suzzane Patterson, Janet Tahah, Linda Tehauno, Jolene Schonchin, Shirley Pohawpatchoko and Mindy Tomah.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony with Auxiliary members LaNora Parker and Elizabeth Plata, also pictured is CIVA Treasure Roger Tehauno.

Military Marker-Headstone Placement

On July 12, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) installed a Military Marker for U.S. Army, Vietnam Era Veteran, PFC Roderick George Holden Takewahpoor. This event took place at the Highland Cemetery in Lawton Oklahoma.

After the installation, CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt read his military biography and afterwards CIVA Auxiliary shared a Comanche Hymn.

The family of Roderick George Holden Takewahpoor shared a few words thanking the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) and Auxiliary.



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

The family is pictured with the Military Marker of PFC Roderick George Holden Takewahpoor.

Comanche Indian Veterans Association Veterans, Princess, Auxiliary members would like to thank all of all supporters and sponsors on our upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration and Powwow.



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Nation Veteran information is needed

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association are updating the Comanche Veterans Master List. If you are a Honorably Discharged Veteran and you would like your military service updated and documented, please email Kevin Pohawpatchoko at k_pohawpatchoko@yahoo.com . Your military service history, documents, records, photographs and your DD-214 will be forwarded to Dr. Bill Meadows, Missouri State University, Department of Sociology-Anthropology/Native American Studies. He and his staff will digitize your military documents and update our Comanche Veterans Master List. Our Comanche Veterans military history and documents received will also help in the event of a Veterans passing. In closing, this is voluntary for the Comanche Nation Veterans and their families. Thank you!



Courtesy Photos

CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt and CIVA Princess, Aalynn Codopony with Qynn Plata.

Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday!

June 16 - Julian Alcantara
July 3 - Theresa Robledo
July 13 - Justin
July 19 - Sharon Chibitty



Happy 10th Birthday
Samuel Lopez
August 2
~ Love, Mom, Dad, and Nathan Jr.



Happy Birthday
Jeryn "Bugsy" Anthony Flansburgh
August 2
~ Proud of you and love you dearly my beautiful son. ♥
Love, Sab, Gma, and Mombie.



Happy 13th Birthday
Elaina
August 3
~ As you step into your teenage years, May God's wisdom be your guide and His love be your strength. We love you!



Happy 2nd Birthday
Melody Jenice Dingman
August 8

Happy Birthday!



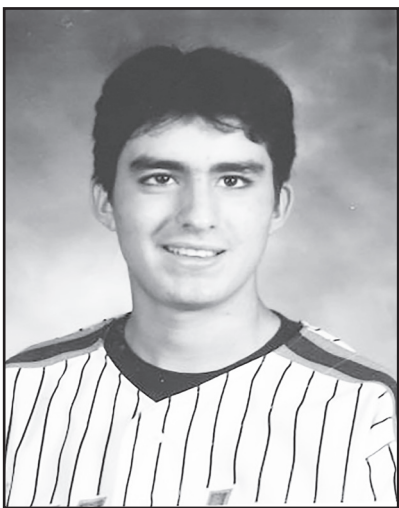
August - Lillian Wahkinney
August - Lori Kaulaity
August 2 - Samuel Lopez
August 2 - Jeryn Flansburgh
August 3 - Elaina
August 5 - Randy Tiddark
August 6 - ♥ Khylie ♥
Heminokeky-Gayton "Happy Birthday!! Love, your family!!"
August 8 - Melody Jenice Dingman
August 9 - Luca Isiah Watan
August 12 - Brooke Ototivo
August 14 - Jadon Ototivo
August 14 - Zayne Johnson
August 15 - Trae Alexander Wholf-Salazar "Happy 9th Birthday!"
August 18 - Charlotte
August 18 - Jim Parker
August 22 - Azure Gallegos
August 22 - Kaylani & Kala-ya Ramsey "Happy Birthday, Twins!"
August 26 - Robert Charles Knox "Happy Blessed 47th Birthday Saygee."
August 29 - Kaden Jay Crocker
August 31 - Lisa Looking-Glass



Happy 1st Birthday
Luca Isiah Watan
August 9
~ Happy 1st Birthday! From Auntie mommas, kaku, and cousins. We all love you and have a wonderful day handsome.



Happy Birthday
Brooke Rebecca Ototivo
August 12
~ We are so proud of you gorgeous girl. Love you dearly and wishing you a wonderful day and many more.
~ Love, Mom, Grandma, Bugsy, Aunt Hayley, and Sab.



Happy 50th Birthday
Justin
July 13
~ The Big 50!! We love you, Son, Mom, Dad and Brother.



Happy 13th Birthday
Zayne Johnson
August 14
~ We love you, Bub!



Happy Birthday
Jadon Heath Ototivo
August 14
~ Very proud of you handsome Son. Wishing nothing but the best. Love you dearly.
~ Love, Mom, Gma, Bugsy, Sab, and Aunt Hayley.



Happy 4th Birthday
Charlotte
August 18
~ Love, NaNa & PaPa.



Happy Birthday
Jim Parker
August 18



Happy 18th Birthday
Azure Gallegos
August 22
~ Love, Mom and Family.

The Comanche Nation News
September Edition
Deadline: August 15
Email: pio@comanchenation.com or stacey.heminokeky@comanchenation.com
Mail: Comanche Nation/PIO
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73501
Contact: (580) 360-0614

In Loving Memory
Happy Heavenly Birthday
Buddy Tiddark
July 25
~ Happy Belated B.D. in Heaven Brother. We love and miss you.
~ Sister Rose and Family. ~

Happy Birthday
Lebert Taunah
In Loving Memory
Jamie Tahchawwickah
1963 - September 28, 2024
~ Family, Sancey Barton.



Happy Birthday
Lori Kaulaity (Mimi) aka Poopsie
~ Xoxo Nivee, Nahmi and Taylor.

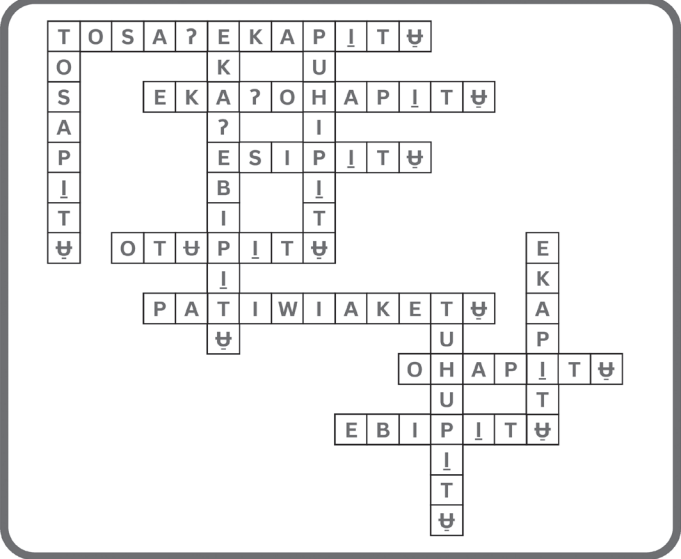
ANSWERS

Comanche Language CROSSWORD PUZZLE on PAGE 6



Colors
CROSSWORD PUZZLE





ACROSS

1. PINK
3. ORANGE
4. BROWN
5. TURQUOISE
6. GREY
8. BLUE
9. YELLOW

DOWN

1. WHITE
2. PURPLE
7. BLACK
10. RED
11. GREEN

WORD BANK

TOSAPITU OTUPITU
PATIWIAKETU PUHIPITU
EKA?OHAPITU ESIPITU
TUHUPITU EKAPITU
TOSA?EKAPITU OHAPITU
EKA?EBIPITU EBIPITU

“You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.
Nor do they light a

lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house.
Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

- Mathew 5:13-16

Obituaries

Joyce and George McSwain



Courtesy Photo

McSwain

The McSwain family announces the passing of Joyce Ann McSwain, 79, on May 18, and George “Ander” McSwain, 78, on May 14, of Indianhoma, 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 Indianhoma, 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 Andrew 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 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 and her son, George McSwain Jr. They are survived by their children, Prairie and Mark Tarrien, Donna McSwain, Ronnie and Tosha McSwain, Don McSwain, and son-in-law Greg Lizotte; as well as their many cherished grandchildren, including Oscar Hernandez, Julia Hernandez, Kal-el McSwain, Elaine Tarrien, Abigail Hernandez, Josephine Tarrien and Holly McSwain.

Joyce and George will be laid to rest together beside their beloved son at Oak Hill Cemetery, in Lakeland, Florida. The family appreciates the prayers, support, and kindness extended during this time.

Marian Mithlo



Courtesy Photo

Mithlo

Marian Mithlo passed away on June 19. Mithlo was born to Samuel Norman Simmons and Mabel (Atewooftakewa) Yellowfish. She attended and graduated from Apache High School and was a proud member of the Comanche Tribe. Mithlo enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. She especially loved watching the Oklahoma City Thunder play and was a devoted fan who enjoyed cheering them on. She will be remembered for her kind spirit, her love for her family, and the pride she carried for her Comanche heritage.

Mithlo leaves behind her children, Michael Mithlo and Lisa Mithlo; grandchildren, Christin Weston and Andrew Weston; great-grandchildren, Majesty Mithlo, Arianna, Sakowin, Mahpiya, and Inkpa Zi Weston; her sister, Carol Wermey (Billy), and her brother, Keith Simmons, both of Apache; nieces, Dale Rhea Simmons of Apache, Darla Tracy, and Jamie Simmons of Elgin; nephews, Donovan Heminokeky (Angel), Conan Heminokeky (Jennifer), both of Apache, and Chad Simmons of Elgin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Samuel Norman Simmons and Mabel Yellowfish; her grandmother, Maude Tishcoddody; her grandfather, Scott Yellowfish

Atacapap; four aunts, Annette, Anna Lee Parker, Marie Parton, and Viola Tate; one uncle, Franklin; two nephews, Darrell Keith Simmons, Jr.; one sister-in-law, Threase Simmons; and grandson Michael Lee Mithlo, Jr.

Mithlo will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her. Her memory will live on in the hearts of her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

Brian Allen Tonips



Courtesy Photo

Tonips

Brian Allen Tonips went home be with his Lord and Savior on June 24. He was born to Kevin Leon Tonips and Cheryl Ann Koppaddy on April 5, 1977, in Lawton. Tonips graduated from Riverside Indian School in 1997. He enjoyed going to car shows, bumping music and gatherings with his family and friends. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation and a descendent of the Kiowa- Apache Tribe & Kiowa Tribe.

Growing up he attended the New Rock Church of Lawton where he was involved with their youth ministry and had the opportunity to spend a couple of weeks in Bolivia, South America to help build a church. He worked as a mover/truck driver with different companies throughout his life. He cared about his family and helped out when and where he could. He enjoyed reminiscing with family and friends and teasing just

Martha Nadine Poindexter



Courtesy Photo

Poindexter

Martha Nadine Poindexter “Deanie” entered into her heavenly home on June 29, surrounded by her loving family. She was born to John and Myrtle Webb on April 2nd, 1958, in Hixon, Tennessee. She met Eldon Leon Poindexter in 1984, they married on January 31st, 1991. She was the love of Eldon’s life; and her absence is already felt tremendously.

Poindexter loved to cook, she was well known for her chocolate chip pie and porcupine ball. She always made new dishes, and it always turned out so good.

Above anything else Poindexter was a Mom, she adored her family and her children. Poindexter also welcomed her children’s friends; they always had a second family within her home. She enjoyed their time together and was always hugging and loving on everyone. She was the worlds best Mom and Nana.

Poindexter is survive by her husband Eldon Poindexter; children and their spouses Francis Perry (Jerald), Gary Hall, Sandra Darden (Chris), Johnny Hall (Heather), Kerri Hall, and Heather Watson; brother Buck Webb of Tennessee; 20 grandkids and 4 great grandkids; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Poindexter is preceded in death by her parents; her son John Poindexter; siblings Charles Webb, Shirley Webb; her sister in law Martha Webb and her nieces Angela Halley and Michelle Webb.



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8/12/26	10am-2pm
8/19/26	10am-2pm
8/25/26	10am-2pm

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Nation Elders

Day

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This month's financial tip brought to you by

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Financial Tip: Estate Planning



Last Will and Testament

ARTICLE I: Funeral expenses & payment of debt

ecutors to pay my enforceable unsecured debts and funeral expenses, the expenses

e expenses of administering my estate.

distributed. This clause gives your

What can you do to make this process easier on your loved ones?

Complete beneficiary forms for any asset you have that you can.

- o Per Capita & Elders Distributions
- o Retirement Accounts
- o Insurance Policies

Have a will.

- o Take advantage of any free resources that will help you draft your own.

Have Payable on Death (POD) designated for assets that offer this.

- o For example, your bank accounts

Document your assets and liabilities, like your house, car, loans and credit cards.

- o Update frequently
- o Include listing of any digital assets, such of cryptocurrency and digital wallets

Complete other important documents such as:

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- o Durable Power of Attorney
- o Health Care Proxy
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