



Lords of the Plains

VOLUME 27 EDITION 9

Comanche Nation Public Information Office, Lawton, OK

Kwi?eng M̄na (September) 2026



Comanche Nation Housing Authority Awarded \$1.5 Million HUD Grant to Improve Tribal Housing

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA) has been awarded a \$1.5 million Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help improve existing homes for Comanche families across southwest Oklahoma.

CNHA will invest the funding in critical home rehabilitation projects that make homes safer, more comfortable, and more energy efficient. The Housing Authority will also contribute an additional \$165,000 through its Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program, bringing the total investment to \$1.665 million.

The project comes at a time when more than 200 homes in the Comanche Nation service area have been identified as needing significant repairs due to aging infrastructure, severe weather and years of wear. Planned improvements include roof repairs, heating and air conditioning upgrades, electrical and plumbing work, foundation repairs, new windows and doors, insulation and other improvements that help extend the life of existing homes.

In addition to repairing homes, the project will improve accessibility for elders and tribal members with disabilities while helping lower energy costs through efficiency upgrades designed for Oklahoma's climate.

"This grant represents another important step in our commitment to providing safe, healthy and sustainable housing for Comanche families," said Nora Sovo, Executive Director of the Comanche Nation Housing Authority. "By investing in our existing homes, we are preserving valuable housing, improving quality of life for our residents and strengthening our communities for generations to come."

The grant supports CNHA's ongoing mission to preserve housing, improve living conditions and ensure tribal members have access to safe, reliable homes for years to come.

CNHA is currently finalizing plans for the rehabilitation program. Information about eligibility requirements, application timelines and how to apply will be announced once the program is ready to begin accepting applications.

For more information on CNHA, visit <https://comanchehousing.com/>.

ABOUT COMANCHE NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority remains dedicated to ensuring that Tribal families have access to safe, secure and dignified housing. Through its home rehabilitation and other programs, CNHA is making a tangible difference in the lives of countless Tribal members, ensuring that homes remain a place of safety, heritage and community for generations to come.

Historic Preservation and NAGPRA Travel to the UK to Reclaim Comanche Artifacts



Courtesy Photo

Comanche Nation programs visit the United Kingdom to reclaim Comanche artifacts under NAGPRA. They examined a painted buffalo hide, which THPO and Comanche Museum hope to bring back to Lawton, Oklahoma. NAME, Native American International Museum Exchange, is sponsored by the American government to help tribes bring back items historically significant to their people. The programs are still at work to recover artifacts from around the world.

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Martina Minthorn and several others from NAGPRA, Comanche Nation Museum and Historic Preservation went to the United Kingdom to reclaim Comanche artifacts.

"Our trip was sponsored by the NAME program. It's the Native American International Museum Exchange that is sponsored by the Department of Interior and also with the State Department," she said. "Our trip was to focus on consultation, to be able to work with these universities and museums that house Comanche collections."

Minthorn said "This opportunity of the NAME program came about to be able to help tribes get access to cultural items in different countries and to be able to foster that relationship with these universities and museums to be able to help start the repatriation process," she said. "And so, this trip gave us the opportunity to be able to build relationships with these museums and to

be able to open doors to actually seeing these collections. And so, we've had really good partnerships with all the various museums...libraries and universities there to be able to see these items in person and also human remains. So, we have ancestors that had been performed a lot of research on over the numerous years. And so, we want to be able to claim those and to be able to bring them back to the United States and hopefully be able to put them to rest."

Minthorn said they were given some collection items of what were housed in museums and universities. "And so, we do have some items that we are going to start the repatriation claims for. And so we do have a good relationship with Oxford University out of the United Kingdom," she said. "And they have a long process, but all the museums that we had spoke with were very open-minded for repatriation claims because they were like, 'these items belong to your people. They should go back with your people.' So, it's

pretty cool to understand that they understand the significance of us being having these items."

One of the items is a painted buffalo hide.

"I think it was like from 1860s. Beautiful, good condition," Minthorn said. "And so, we want to be able to utilize that. And that's one item that we think will be able to have a good rapport because it was taken in battle. Another item is a beautiful painted buffalo hide...There's moccasins. We did see some Native American church items. We had seen some that were documented as Comanche, but when we actually seen them in person, we've seen pictures prior to, but actually seeing them up close determined that they weren't Comanche. They were labeled as Comanche, but those weren't really our items. And so pictures don't do justice. And so that's what we want to be able to do is to get our research done to be able to put claims to those items

See THPO Page 4

Loan Participation Program helps Comanche citizens get Financing for Businesses

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Development Capital Networks (DCN), based in Oklahoma City, partners with banks to help Comanche citizens get business loans. The bank makes the loan, and the Comanche Nation Loan Participation Program provides part of the funding. By sharing the loan with the bank, the program can help make financing possible when a bank may not be able to fund the entire loan on its own.

The program can support many common business needs, including working capital, equipment, construction, and real estate.

The program creates more opportunities for Comanche entrepreneurs to build and grow successful businesses. Comanche citizens can use the program anywhere in the United States, so you do not have to live in Oklahoma to participate. If a bank is not currently a participating lender, simply share the program information with a lender and ask them to contact DCN.

When a Comanche-owned business grows, the impact extends beyond a single business owner. That business can create jobs, build family wealth, support the local economy, and create opportunities that can last for generations.

DCN said access to capital is one of the biggest challenges small business owners faces. An entrepreneur may have a good business, a strong plan, and an opportunity to grow, but still have difficulty getting all the financing needed.

That is where this program can help. By sharing part of the loan with the lender, the Comanche Nation Loan Participation Program can reduce the lender's risk and help make financing possible.

Most importantly, this is an investment in Comanche people. The program helps Tribal members build businesses, create jobs, own assets, and build long-term financial strength for themselves and their families.

"The first step is simple: talk to your local bank or lender about a business loan. Tell your lender about the Comanche Nation Loan Participation Program," DCN said. "If additional support is needed to make the loan work, the lender can contact our team. The business owner continues working directly with their lender, while our team works with the lender to determine whether the loan qualifies for the program."

If anyone has a business idea but is not quite ready to apply for a loan, there are also resources available to help someone prepare. Business advisors can assist with business plans, financial statements, loan applications and other steps needed to become bank-ready.

"We especially want Comanche citizens to know that this program is for you, wherever you live in the United States," DCN said. "You do not need to understand how loan participation works or know all the program rules before getting started."

If someone owns a business,

See LOAN, Page 4

2026 Special Election Calendar Dates

Sept 11

Early In-Person Voting (Special Election)

Sept 12

Special Election

Sept 12

Absentee Ballots due at the Lawton Post Office by 12:00 P.M.

Sept 15

Election certification by 5:00 P.M., Tuesday



2026 Comanche Nation Election Office



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THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS
Kwi?ena M̄a (September) 2026
When Leaves Turn Color 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 October Edition is 5 p.m., September 15.
Contact:
The Comanche Nation News
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, Okla. 73502-0908
Telephone: (580) 360-0614
Email: pio@comanchenation.com
PIO/TCNN Staff

- Jolene Schonchin**, Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com -Telephone Number-(580) 360-5442
- Paula Karty**, Assist. Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com–Telephone Number–(580) 360-3125
- Stacey Heminokey**, Administrative Assistant- Email: Heminokey@comanchenation.com Telephone Number (580) 360-3123
- Natascha Mercadante** -Online Reporter - Email: Natascha.Mercadante@comanchenation.com - Telephone (580) 360-3126
- News items** of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
- Photographs** will be copied and will become the property of *TCNN*. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
- The Milestones Page** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. Please submit a first and last name. The Passings/Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. *TCNN* publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. The Obituaries Page is for tribal members only.
- TCNN** will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations. The guidelines for flyer submission are: Pow-wow flyers have to be from an established Comanche organization. There has to be contact person and number on the organization's annual flyer.
- We reserve the right to edit all material. Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed. Letters to the Editor must be signed with a legible name, and have an 500 word limit.**
- The letters to the editor or articles contained in *The Comanche Nation News* does not reflect the views or opinions of the PIO staff.**

Comanche Nation Officials
Chairman
Forrest Tahdoohnippah
Email: Forrest.Tahdoohnippah@comanchenation.com
Vice Chairman
Diana Doyebi Sovo
Email: Diana.Sovo@comanchenation.com
Secretary/Treasurer
Benny Tahmahkera
Benny.Tahmahkera@comanchenation.com
Committeeman No. 1
Hazel Tahseguah
Email: Hazel.Tahseguah@comanchenation.com
Committeeman No. 2
Darrell Kosechequetah
Email: Darrell.Kosechequetah@comanchenation.com
Committeeman No. 3
Harley Pennington
Email: Harley.Pennington@comanchenation.com
Committeeman No. 4
Fred Codynah
Email: Fred.Codynah@comanchenation.com
Tribal Administrator
Lisa Dawsey
Email: Lisa.Dawsey@comanchenation.com
To contact officials:
Office of the CBC/Chairman:
Telephone: (580) 360-0623
Comanche Nation Address:
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, Okla. 73502
Toll Free: (877) 492-4988
Physical Address:
584 Bingo Rd., Lawton, OK 73505

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Government

August 5 CBC Meeting Passes 13 Resolutions

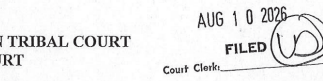
Submitted by Jennifer Lee/ Comanche Nation Administration
Editor's Note: This is an overview of the July 11 Comanche Business Committee (CBC) Monthly Meetings, and not the official minutes. To obtain a copy of the official minutes, please contact the Office of the Chairman, (580) 360-0623.
The Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdoohnippah, called the CBC Meeting to order at 10 a.m.

- Resolutions**
- Resolution No. 158-2026-** Enrollment Resolution Eligible List 1419 Minors. Vice Chairwoman Diana Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. CBC No. 1 Hazel Tahseguah seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 159-2026-** Enrollment Resolution Eligible List 1420 Adults. CBC No. 3 Harley Pennington makes a motion to accept the resolution. CBC No. 4 Fred Codynah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 160-2026-** Enrollment Resolution Ineligible List 1421 No Al-lottee. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahseguah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 6/0/0.
- Resolution No. 161-2026-** Compliance Resolution to Adopt Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Safety Plan. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 162-2026-** Tribal Court Resolution for STCJ Grant FY26. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahseguah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 163-2026-** Higher Ed JPT Resolution for No Cost Extension. Tahseguah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Pennington seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 164-2026-** Museum Resolution for BIA Tribal Tourism Grant Program. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahseguah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 165-2026-** ECDC Resolution for Elgin Land Dedication for New Facility. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 166-2026-** Agriculture Resolution for New Business Money and Line of Credit. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahseguah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 167-2026-** Realty Resolution Authorizing Section 105(1) Leases. Tahseguah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Sovo seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 168-2026-** CBC Resolution Appointing Harley Pennington to Comanche Nation Enterprise. Tahseguah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Codynah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 4/0/0.
- Resolution No. 169-2026-** CBC Resolution Appointing Benny Tahmahkera, Jr., to Comanche Nation Housing Authority Board. Tahseguah makes a motion to accept the resolution. Sovo seconds the motion. The mtion carries 4/0/1. Gift Shop New Business Money. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahseguah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.
- Resolution No. 170-2026 -** Election Comm. Sovo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Tahseguah seconds the motion. The mtion carries 5/0/0.

Motions
MOTION: Made by Harley Pennington, Committeeperson No. 3, for the Gaming Commission to work together and refrain from giving individual directives to the Executive Director. SECONDED BY: Hazel Tahseguah, Conunitteeperson No. 1. It passes 5/0/0.
MOTION: Made by Doama Doyebi-Sovo to appoint Baliente Herrera on a non-compensated basis to volunteer to serve as a temporary commissioner to assist with making a proposal to address the issues around the travel expense reimbursements. SECONDED BY: Hazel Tahseguah, Committeeperson No. 1. It passes 5/0/0.
MOTION: Made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to approve \$100,000 new business money to be given to the gift shop. SECONDED BY: Hazel Tahseguah, Committeeperson No.1. It passes 5/0/0.
MOTION: Made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to approve Chairman to sign the project letter and 2 MOAs from IHS. SECONDED BY: Harley Pennington, Committeeperson No. 3. It passes 5/0/0.
MOTION: Made by Benny Tahmahkera, Jr., Secretaiy/Treasurer, to approve July meeting minutes. SECONDED BY: Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice-Chair. It passes 5/0/0.
MOTION: Made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to approve Resolution 170-2026 as amended (6th Whereas).SECONDED BY: Hazel Tahseguah, Committeeperson No.1. It passes 5/0/0.

See MOTIONS, Page 4

Comanche Nation Tribal Court District Court

AUG 10 2026
FILED
Court Clerk: 

IN THE COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF:

ZENIA RUTH CHACON

An enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.

Case No.: NC-2026-0004

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

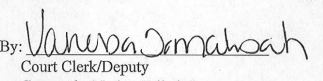
TO: ALL CREDITORS or INTERESTED PARTIES

Take notice that Zenia Chacon has filed in the above Court a Petition to have the name changed as follows, to-wit from: Zenia Ruth Chacon to Zenia Ruth Niedo.

The petition will be heard on 09/29/2026 at 10:30 AM located at the Comanche Nation Courthouse, 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton, Oklahoma.

If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Change of Name should not be granted by the Court you should file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing or appear and present the same at the above time and place.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 10th day of August, 2026.

By: 
Court Clerk/Deputy
Comanche Nation Tribal Court
584 NW Bingo Dr.
P.O. Box 646
Lawton, OK 73502
Ph: (580) 360-0618



From the Chairman's Desk



Maruaweka Numunuu:

Last month we had a Special General Council meeting to discuss compensation of the Comanche Business Committee members, the Chairman, and the Tribal Administrator. I am beyond grateful for all of those that showed up to participate in discussing this important topic. As a result of the ballot questions that were approved by the General Council members, our Tribal leadership will receive compensation next fiscal year. I cannot express the importance of that decision in promoting the stability of our Nation. Stability in government benefits not only ourselves but also future generations of Tribal members. With the ballot questions set, the question for voters this month is no longer whether to compensate leadership at all, but instead the task is now to determine precisely how much to compensate leadership. With respect to the Comanche Business Committee members, we have a fundamental question to address. Should we compensate them on a flat monthly basis? Or, should we pay them per day of meetings they attend? This is an important question that will set a precedence for years to come. Please vote carefully and deliberately.

The debate concerning compensation has been a difficult discussion, at times, especially as it concerns the spread of information. Sound decision-making requires accurate information. Despite my efforts at disclosure, it seemed like misinformation would continue to spread, especially on social media. A lesson that I have learned from this process is that social media, whether we like it or not, is how Tribal members are consuming information. Therefore, the Nation must make a very concerted effort to ensure that all the correct information is on social media, not merely on the website or in the newsletter. Accordingly, I plan to make social media PSAs more of a common practice. I received positive feedback on the pre-meeting PSA that I did, and I hope that using the power of social media platforms to spread accurate information, rather than simply trying to push back on misinformation, will provide a path towards progress for our Nation.



Comanche Nation Tribal Court District Court

AUG 19 2026
FILED
Court Clerk: 

IN THE COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF:

ALLYSON DIANE THRASH

An enrolled member of the Comanche Nation.

Case No.: NC-2026-0005

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

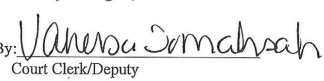
TO: ALL CREDITORS or INTERESTED PARTIES

Take notice that Allyson Diane Thrash has filed in the above Court a Petition to have the name changed as follows, to-wit from: Allyson Diane Thrash to Allyson Diane Pahckeka.

The petition will be heard on 09/29/2026 at 10:00 AM located at the Comanche Nation Courthouse, 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton, Oklahoma.

If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Change of Name should not be granted by the Court you should file a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing or appear and present the same at the above time and place.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 19th day of August, 2026.

By: 
Court Clerk/Deputy
Comanche Nation Tribal Court
584 NW Bingo Dr.
P.O. Box 646
Lawton, OK 73502
Ph: (580) 360-0618



THPO
Continued on Page 1



Courtesy Photo
From left, Nicholas Bruscato, Mary Motah, Nikki Carlstrom, Loui Pohawpatchoko, Amy Shakespear, Lloyed Heminokey, Morgan Tosee, Martina Minthorn at the American Museum in Bath, UK.
Continues from Page 1

and be able to, at the expense of the government, bring those items home.”

She said they’re going to meet with Senator Tom Cole.

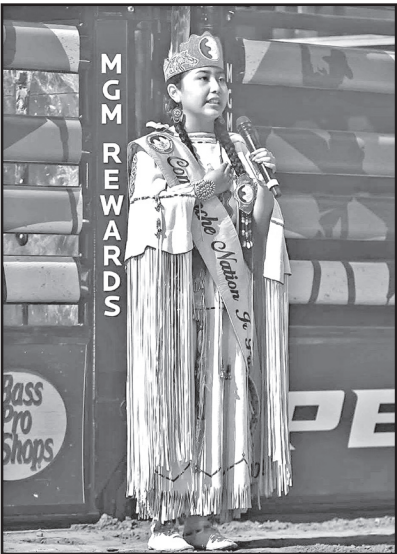
“And so, all the different congressmen that are going to be there trying to be able to start advocating for repatriation funding internationally,” Minthorn said. “So, it’s been a big offer, a big opportunity for us to be able to do this. And so, it’s a blessing to be selected for this program. But also advocate for the rest of the Indian country to understand the importance of what this means to our people, for all people, for our kids to see these items and to understand our history and how far back and our efforts are still to be able to get Chief Greenhorn’s headdress. He was killed in southern Colorado.”

Some of the artifacts ended up in Europe over time.

“When the Spanish killed him, they [took] his headdress off him, and they gave it to the king, and the king gave it to the pope. Well, the Vatican says that they don’t have it in their collections currently and that it could be in Mexico City or it could be in Spain. So, they’re helping us right now be able to try to track that item down for us. But yes, we will be meeting with the director of the Vatican Museums in D.C., come November. And so, our efforts are to also be able to get the items from the Vatican that they had taken during the missionary period. And so, we are working with the Vatican currently, still to be able to build and foster that relationship to be able to go to the Vatican on our next trip to be able to seek those items while we’re still in the NAME program.”

THPO is in the NAME program for the next three years and will continue using its funding to bring back Comanche artifacts.

Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Clara Yazzie
Sings National Anthem at Oklahoma City PBR



Courtesy Photo
Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Clara Yazzie Sings the Natinal Anthem at the August 2 PBR event in Oklahoma City

By Natascha Mercadante/News Staff

Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Clara Yazzie sang The National Anthem at Professional Bull Riders’ (PBR) event in Oklahoma City at the Paycom Center on August 2.

She said her auntie Laken Tosee, who works for PBR, nominated her.

“I love to sing. I grew up singing around the drum,” Yazzie said. “But I’m a current two-time All-State Choir Member. I have made All-State twice so far.”

She said it was important to be at PBR to represent her culture.

“Because wow, look where I am at. Honestly, look at where I am at and what I am doing,” Yazzie said. “It’s my hope that we move forward, and kids want to move forward, too. Broadway is an awesome stepping stone. With the right encouragement, it can be done.”

She also said there aren’t many people who can or will represent their tribal affiliation.

“I am [an] ambassador for the Nation, and I take that seriously,” Yazzie said. “It was instilled in me that I share what I know. That was passed down from my mother and my grandparents.”

Singing wasn’t her only favorite part at PBR.

“But shaking hands with different bull riders. Also, just singing and hearing people lulu in the stands,” Yazzie said. “Wow. That was awesome.”

She said she was nervous but overcame that, and Yazzie knew she had to “get it done.”

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Photo by Paula Karty/ News Staff
Tribal officials sign partnership agreement with the Natural Resource Conservation on August 5.

Partnership Created with the
Natural Resources Conservation Service

by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

August 5 was a milestone for the Comanche Nation as well as the tribe’s Agriculture Operations as a new partnership began with the Natural Resources Conservation Service with an agreement signing.

Timothy McIntosh, director of Agulture Operations, explains it importance and how it will help the Comanche Nation.

“Today, we are not simply signing an agreement. We are honoring a vision that began six years ago—a vision rooted in our responsibility to care for the land that has sustained our people for generations, McIntosh began.

“For the Comanche people, the land has never been just property. It is part of who we are. It provides for us, teaches us, and connects us to our ancestors and to the generations that will follow. As stewards of these lands, we have a responsibility to protect them, improve them, and leave them stronger than we found them.

This milestone would not have been possible without the dedication and determination of two remarkable individuals. We especially honor the late Dr. Milton Sovo, whose vision and leadership helped plant the seeds for what we celebrate today. Although he is no longer with us, his legacy lives on in this achievement. We also recognize Vice Chairwoman Diana Gail Sovo Doyubi, whose unwavering commitment, perseverance, and leadership have carried this effort forward over the past six years. Together, they believed that the Comanche Nation should have its own Conservation District—one that reflects our values, strengthens our

sovereignty, and provides opportunities for our people.”

He said that day the vision became a reality.

“This partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service represents far more than a signed document. It opens the door to new conservation opportunities, stronger partnerships, technical assistance for our producers, improved stewardship of our natural resources, and greater self-determination in how we care for our lands, he explained.

“As we move forward, this Conservation District will become a lasting investment in our future—supporting agriculture, protecting our water, improving wildlife habitat, strengthening our grazing lands, and creating opportunities for future generations of Comanche producers and conservation leaders.”

He also expressed his appreciation to the NRCS for supporting them throughout the process. “Partnerships like this are built on mutual respect, trust, and a shared commitment to conservation. We look forward to continuing this relationship for many years to come.

To everyone who played a role over the past six years—tribal leaders, NRCS staff, committee members, supporters, and all those who believed in this vision—thank you. Your hard work has brought us to this historic moment.”

He said they celebrate the past, honor those who made this possible, and embrace a future where the Comanche Nation continues to lead in the stewardship of our lands and natural resources.

LOAN
Continued from Page 1

wants to start one or is thinking about expanding, start the conversation with a lender and discuss the Comanche Nation Loan Participation Program. The DCN team can work with the lender from there.

Participating lenders include BancFirst, First Oklahoma Bank, First United, First Bank, First National Bank and Trust Co. of McAlester, Mabrey Bank, Mvsoke Fund CDFI, REI Oklahoma, Sovereign Bank, Liberty National Bank City National Bank and others.

MOTIONS
Continued from Page 3

MOTION: Made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to approve the agenda with the election board, gaming commission, and IHS sanitation services added.

SECONDED BY: Fred Codynah, Committeeperson No. 4. It passes 5/0/0.

MOTION: Made by Hazel Tahseguah, Committeeperson No. 1, to pay stipends (to Gaming Commissioner] for July 29 and July 30. SECONDED BY: Fred Codynah, Committeeperson No.4. It passes 4/1/0.

MOTION: Made by Hazel Tahseguah, Committeeperson No. 1, to provide Gaming Commissioner two weeks from today (Aug 15) to come up with a payment plan for travel expenses from July 28. SECONDED BY: Harley Pennington, Committeeperson No.3. It passes 5/0/0.

MOTION: Made by Diana Doyebi-Sovo, Vice Chair, to adjourn. SECONDED BY: Hazel Tahseguah, Committeeperson No. 1. It passes 5/0/0.

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FOR COMANCHE TRIBAL MEMBERS

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

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

DATES

9/02/26	10am-2pm
9/09/26	10am-2pm
9/16/26	10am-2pm
9/18/26	11am-1pm
9/23/26	10am-2pm
9/30/26	10am-2pm

FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION CALL
COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT AT
(580)360-0618

Programs

Higher Education Student of the Month Undergraduate



Courtesy Photo

Lowing

Alissa Lowing is a 19-year-old junior in college majoring in accounting. Her family consists of parents Tammy and Josh, little sister Emma, and her cat Jasper.

Lowing’s plan for the future is to become an attorney practicing either tribal law or international law. She is the treasurer for her college’s debate team, economics society, and pre-law club while also being the secretary for her college’s women in technology club.

In Lowing’s free time she enjoys crocheting and watching her TV show obsession of the week. Lowing loves caffeinated beverages and you can almost always see her with either a coffee or an energy drink in hand, as evidenced in the photo.

Lowing is extremely excited to see what this next year of college has in store for her.

Higher Education Student of the Month Graduate



Courtesy Photo

Amin

Elijah Amin is a direct descendant of Comanche Principal Chief Ten Bears through his family lineage. He has recently completed a Master of Software Engineering degree from Grand Canyon University in December 2025.

Amin currently works as a Software Developer at The Bankers Bank in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where he develops and supports software solutions that help meet the needs of the banking industry. His education and professional experience have allowed him to combine technical expertise, problem-solving skills, and a commitment to continuous learning in the field of software development.

His long-term goal is to continue growing as a technology leader and contribute to the development of innovative software solutions that create meaningful impact for organizations and the people they serve.

Amin is grateful for the support and encouragement of his family, especially his wife, Musarrat Amin, whose partnership has played an important role in his educational and professional achievements.

Higher Education Student of the Month Job Placement and Training

JPT student of the month is Giovanni Arellano. His grandmother was Hattie Tooahimpah, and she gave him the name Kwine Tua, meaning Winter's Son. He is 33 years old and from Apache, Oklahoma.

Arellano is currently enrolled at Caddo-Kiowa Technology



Courtesy Photo

Arellano

Center, where he studies Information Technology. Arellano always had an interest in this field, and finally decided to start the classes last winter. In his class, they are currently setting up a network and learning how to defend it from outside threats and prevent it from being venerable. This has been Arellano’s favorite part about the class so far. After he completes this program, his goal is to obtain a job within the IT field and build a better portfolio for himself.

Arellano has hopes of eventually working for the Comanche Nation’s IT Department so he can help serve our people and the Nation’s employees. Arellano would like to thank the Job Placement and Training program for their help throughout the class.

Higher Education Student of the Month Adult Education



Courtesy Photo

Poafpybitty

Adult Education Student of the Month is Mindy Poafpybitty. Poafpybitty is proud to share her journey in pursuing a career in healthcare. She attended the Phlebotomy Course at Great Plains Technology Center in Lawton, Oklahoma, where she successfully completed the program requirements and gained the knowledge and hands-on skills needed to pursue a career in phlebotomy. Poafpybitty is now preparing to take the NHA exam to become nationally certified. Balancing school, family, and everyday life has taught her the importance of perseverance and determination.

Poafpybitty is a proud mother of three and currently expecting another child, which has made this accomplishment even more meaningful because it represents not only my personal growth, but also a commitment to creating a better future for her children and showing them the value of hard work and dedication.

Completing the program is only the beginning of Poafpybitty’s journey, and she is determined to use the skills and continue learning, to build a rewarding career in the medical field. Poafpybitty is proud of how far she has come and excited for what the future holds.

Elder Council Holds a Gourd Dance Demonstration at August Meeting



From left,Biz Saupitty, IMNDN Treasurer Elias Saupitty and IAMNDN Co-President Dominique Komahcheet Gourd Dance for the Comanche Nation Elder Council.



IAMNDN Culture Coordinator, Modesto Schonchin dresses in traditional Comanche Gourd Dance regalia at the Gourd Dance Demonstration.



From Left Mikayla Hoahwah, IMNDN Co-President and Comanche Little Ponies Princess Isabela Ramirez and Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin Gourd Dance for the Comanche Nation Elder Council.

Story and Photos by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Elders Council held a Gourd Dance Demonstration at its monthly meeting on August 3 at the Comanche Nation Complex’s Watchetaker Hall.

The IAMNDN Youth Council demonstrated the dance and concluded with the Round Dance.

Comanche Elder and former Chairman of the Comanche Nation, Ron Burgess, shares his memories of the Gourd Dance and the regalia used.

“When I was a young man I remember being told about the Gourd Dance. This dance and the songs are our Original *Numuntu* War Dance. The Gourd is used to mimic the sound of horse hoofs on natural rock gravel. Warriors danced with a gourd and a weapon, lance, bow, rifle, etc.

The song starts slow and the dancers shake the Gourd at their side and begin stepping and moving side to side and slowly moved forward, toward the drum.. This is to mimic horses lined up and prancing from side to side before they charged. When the song speeds up, is when the riders are charging, the dancers bounce up and down as if riding fast on horseback. When the song slows down again, the dancers move back from the drum and once again shake the Gourd and begin stepping and moving side to side, slowly moving forward toward the drum.

With our forced move to Ft.Sill, we were not allowed to have our gourds. They believed by us using the Gourd and singing our songs it would cause us to rebel against the government. Secretly our people began taking the metal salt and pepper shakers and made gourds and would secretly sing and dance our War Dance.

These days dancers are going around the drum and shaking the Gourd all over, up and down and in all directions. Most Indian tribes today try to do our Gourd Dance.

Most *Numuntu* my age can remember the proper way to dance the Gourd. Tell your children and grandchildren to honor our ancestors by dancing the right way. Ura

Regalia

Speaking of the *Numuntu* Gourd Dance, let’s discuss the regalia worn for this dance.

History tells us that our *Numuntu* leaders would not meet with

Spanish representatives unless they were dressed as well as the Spanish Officers. Therefore, the Spanish would send our leaders jackets, capes, sashes and bandoliers, etc . If you research the uniforms of Spanish Officers during this period, you will see the Red, Blue and Gold colors also.

We have adopted the colors and dress items similar to the Spanish Soldiers.

Gourd dancers wear a sash around the waist that hangs down with fringe attached, now beaded also. Red & blue blanket with a yellow or gold line separating the colors. A bandolier that is now made with mescal beads and tied at the hip with a medallion of some sort. This is similar to Spanish military uniforms. Our warriors kept these items that were taken or given to them by the Spanish and incorporated them into the Numunu War Dance or Gourd Dance.

The Spanish military was the most powerful in the world during the time we defeated them and ran them out of what is now the southern United States.

When I designed the *Numuntu* seal, I made sure to use these colors and separate them with a yellow snake design and place a horse in the circle also. The snake marking is also placed down the arms of the Black Knife Society Warriors. Red forehead and yellow in the part of their hair. The backward snake movement in sign language represents the *Numuntu*.

Tribal members who know about these things need to speak up and record what they know. It will all be lost if we ignore our responsibility. Gui-tain, also known as Heart Of A

Young Wolf
Date: 1850 - 1900

“The Comanche elder Post Oak Jim spoke about the Otter Cap headdress. According to him, the caps were assembled of otter skins which wrapped around the head and the tail which dangled behind.

Men who wore the otter cap could come and leave anytime as they pleased. It was seen as the highest badge of honor and was viewed as one point above the men who wore war bonnets. Wearers of this head-dress were greatly respected by others.

The ones which were decorated with buffalo horns were of the

highest stature.

The Comanche /kə'mæntʃi/ or *Numuntu* (Comanche: *Numuntu*, "the people") is a Native American tribe from the Southern Plains of the present-day United States. Comanche people today belong to the federally recognized Comanche Nation, headquartered in Lawton, Oklahoma.

The Comanche language is a Numic language of the Uto-Aztecan family. Originally, it was a Shoshoni dialect, but diverged and became a separate language. The Comanche were once part of the Shoshone people of the Great Basin.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, Comanche lived in most of present-day northwestern Texas and adjacent areas in eastern New Mexico, southeastern Colorado, southwestern Kansas, and western Oklahoma. Spanish colonists and later Mexicans called their historical territory *Comanchería*.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, Comanche practiced a nomadic horse culture and hunted, particularly bison. They traded with neighboring Native American peoples, and Spanish, French, and American colonists and settlers.

As European Americans encroached on their territory, the Comanche waged war on and raided their settlements, as well as those of neighboring Native American tribes. They took captives from other tribes during warfare, using them as slaves, selling them to the Spanish and (later) Mexican settlers, or adopting them into their tribe. Thousands of captives from raids on Spanish, Mexican, and American settlers were assimilated into Comanche society. At their peak, the Comanche language was the lingua franca of the Great Plains region.

Diseases, destruction of the Buffalo herds, and territory loss forced most Comanches on reservations in Indian Territory by the late 1870s.

In the 21st century, the Comanche Nation has 17,000 members, around 7,000 of whom reside in tribal jurisdictional areas around Lawton, Fort Sill, and the surrounding areas of southwestern Oklahoma. The Comanche Homecoming Annual Dance takes place in mid-July in Walters, Oklahoma.

Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Comanche Nation Language Puzzle
See ANSWERS on Page 14



Autumn Season Word Match

Match the Comanche words and their pictures.



puhip̃

sona

tabukina

pohpi

haniibi



waani

huupi

kuyunii

kwahi noor̃

nakw̃si





OCT 30TH

10AM-1PM

COMANCHE NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY

FALL FEST

SNACKS
GAMES
PRIZES
CANDY



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CIVA Celebrates 50 Years

Story by Natacha Mercadante and Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

On August 22, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) held its 50th Anniversary Powwow at Watchetaker Hall.

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony said she visited with older officers, auxiliary and princesses whom she’s never met before.

“Getting to know kind of what who I represent and what has come before me has been really cool to meet with people,” she said. Codopony was most excited to meet the first CIVA princess.

“It’s really cool to see that, like, I’m coming from her legacy, kind of, and that she started the princess of CIVA, and I like that she’s like watching everything,” she said. “She may not be dancing, but you know her seeing everything, and I bet it feels great for her too.”

However, it took a lot of work to get to the powwow, including meetings and a banquet.

“The amount of people [who] have come to support this powwow and the banquet overall for CIVA’s 50th anniversary has been

very surprising,” Codopony said. “Because you know, like being supported by so many people, it’s very welcoming and loving,” she said. “I feel like and like you never really know how many people enjoy our community and our people’s culture until you come to one of these things and you realize how many people actually enjoy them.”

She has enjoyed being CIVA princess and being surrounded by the prestigious organization.

“They’ve really helped me come out of my shell, and they’ve led me to new experiences,” Codopony said.

Several organizations were at the powwow along with honored veterans and royalty.

Marine Corps Pfc. Edgar Monetathchi Sr.’s flag was flown

History of CIVA.

The first Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Officers were: Commander Edgar Monetathchi; Vice Commander Clifford Ototivo; Service Officer Morris Sunrise; Secretary Jerome Tahhahwah;

Treasurer James Chasenah; Chaplain Horace “Taylor” Noyeabad; Color Guards Carl Tahah and Howard Whitewolf

The first active members of the CIVA were the entire above mentioned plus James Baricindebar, Franklin Cable, Herbert Cable, Stacey Pahdopony, Roderick Red Elk, Strudwick Tahsequah, Lawrence Tomas and Algernon Tonips.

The original Auxiliary members were Mae Cable, Marie Carr, Jean Jenkins, Lillie Tieyah, Barbara Miller, Alma Ototivo, Rosalie Pennah, Helen Red Elk, Bea Sau-pitty, Jolene Tahah, Loraine Tahmahkera, and Martha Weryavah.

The first Indian Veterans Organization stated after WWI in 1919 and was called the American Indian Intertribal Veterans Association (AIIVA). It was made up by WWI veterans Calvin Atchavit, Bluehorse, Toacesy, Edward H Clark, George Clark, Gilbert Conwoop, Phillip Lookingglass, Alfred Mahseet, Carl Mahseet, Lee Mahseet, Sam Mullen, Albert Nahquaddy Sr., Hugh Otipoby,

James Pekah, Saw Pewewardy Sr., Preston Pohocsucut, , Guy Peywetowaup, Frank Red Elk, Lyon Sau-pitty, Samuel Tabbytosavit, Mikey Tahdooahnippah, Lawrence Tomah Sr., John Wakhahquah, Jacob Wakinney, Thomas Wermey, American Indian Veterans Association (AIVA). The first gathering to honor Comanche WWI veterans was held in Cotton County on the farm of Herbert Homovich, who was a Comanche WWI veteran.

After WWII, in 1946 the AIVA remained active throughout the Korean War. Lee Moran served as the Chairman for the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache (KCA) tribes from 1956-1964 and was the first elected Comanche Nation Chairman from 1964-1976. Although not a veteran, Lee Moran was highly respected by all Kiowa, Comanche and Apache tribes and the Cheyenne and Arapaho (C&A) tribal veterans. He is the only Comanche (non-veteran) who served as the AIVA Commander.

Between the periods of 1947 and 1975, Comanche veterans

continued affiliation with the AIVA. The KCA participation in the AIVA appears to have continued until the late 1950s. The Kiowa revived the Kiowa Gourd Clan, Kiowa Veterans Association (KVA) and Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society, which incorporated the “Ton-Kon-Gah, Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society. The Apache revived the Manatidie Blackfeet Society.

Comanche veterans predominantly remained with the AIVA until 1976. With the vision of Lee Motah, the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) was formed from the AIVA. Any member of the Comanche tribe who was honorably discharged from the armed services was automatically a member.

On August 18, 1976, the CIVA was chartered as a veterans organization. The three principals on record are Clifford Ototivo, Edgar Monetathchi, and James Chasenah.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Members of CIVA salute the flag of the late Edgar Monetathchi, who was the inaugural Commander of the CIVA when it was created in 1976. His flag was flown during the CIVA 50th Anniversary Celebration Powwow.



Photo by Stacey Heminokey/News Staff

Navy Korean War veteran Jimmy Caddo was honored during the CIVA celebration powwow. He is the oldest member of the CIVA and a former CIVA officer.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Active duty veteran Alex Akonetop places second in the special Veterans Contest August 22 at the CIVA 50th Celebration Powwow.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Motah family dance in honor of Lee Motah, founder of the American Indian Veterans Association and the first Chairman of the Comanche Nation.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

CIVA color guard stands at attention while holding the flags while the Comanche flag song was being sung at the CIVA 50th Anniversary Banquet held at Watchetaker Hall.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Tim Monetathchi reads the biography of the late Edgar Monetathchi during the family special.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Lannette Chibitty places first in the special Veterans Contest August 22, at the CIVA 50th Annual Celebration Powwow.

August 8 Special General Council Meeting Votes to Place Leadership Salaries on Special Election Ballot

By Paula Karty/News Staff

On August 8, a special general council meeting was held at Watchetaker Hall. The meeting was solely held to discuss the compensations of the Comanche Business Committee (CBC), the Chairman’s salary and the Tribal Administrator’s (TA) salary and to set ballot question for a special general election.

The meeting was called to at 10:03 by Chairman Forrest Tahdooahnipah with a quorum of 214. The opening prayer was rendered by tribal elder Gene Sovo.

As the meeting began tribal member Nolan Tahdooahnippah made a motion to stick with the agenda, the motion was second by tribal elder Ron Burgess.

The first item on the agenda was the CBC compensation.

A constitutional amendment was approved in 2025. The way that the CBC was done has been changed. Before 2025 CBC members appointed themselves to serve on different boards and get paid up to \$400 if they were committee persons 1-4, if they were the Sec/Tres. or Vice-chairman they would get paid up to \$600. Sometimes they would get a Christmas bonus of \$500 or sometimes \$1000. They would get different amounts depending on how many boards they served on. If you divide by these amounts by 12, that would be their monthly salary.

In 2025 the general council voted to amend the constitution so that this style of payment is prohibited. So now it’s up to the general council to approve something on how the CBC will get paid.

Last year it was suggested the the CBC get paid \$5000 a month, that was rejected. Last year a special general council held and it was approved that the CBC get paid \$3000 a month, that was a one time monthly payment, they did not get paid any extra for serving on any of the boards. This year it was proposed that the CBC get paid \$4500 a month, but that was rejected. So that means the general council has to come up something to vote on concerning the CBC salaries.

The Proposed Ballot Question 1.

How do you amend the FY2027 Annual Budget concerning CBC Compensation?

- Pay the CBC \$500 per meeting or work session (no more than ten meetings or work sessions per month)
- Pay the CBC \$4500 a month

Each Business Committee member was given the opportunity to speak to the congregation.

The people went to the poll to vote wether to put Ballot Question 1 on the special election ballot.

The results were 221 in favor and 75 against. That motion passes and Ballot Question 1 will go on to the special election.

The next item up for discussion was the Chairman’s salary.

Chairman Tahdooahnippah turned the meeting over to the Vice-Chairman Diana Doyebi Sovo so that he can speak on behalf of the chairman’s salary.

Chairman Tahdooahnippah pointed out that he is not only speaking on behalf of his own salary but he is speaking on behalf of the next chairman that comes after him.

Chairman Tahdooahnippah was told to keep his speech in-personal but he chose to do the opposite and make his speech personal. Chairman Tahdooahnippah said that he did not grow up with a silver spoon in his mouth. When he was a kid he visited his father and sleep in a shed because that’s where his father lived.

Tahdooahnippah said, that he as blessed to be able to run long distances and he turned that ability to go on to Stanford University where he graduated with honors, he turned that ability to go on to law school where graduated in the top 10% of law school. Tahdooahnippah said that he graduated to become a lawyer not because he wanted to something

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Tahdooahnippah said, that he as blessed to be able to run long distances and he turned that ability to go on to Stanford University where he graduated with honors, he turned that ability to go on to law school where graduated in the top 10% of law school. Tahdooahnippah said that he graduated to become a lawyer not because he wanted to something for himself, but because he wanted to do something good for the Comanche Nation and his folks because that is where he came from and that is the humble begins of what he wanted to do.

When he was a lawyer, he was making \$300,000 a year, that was the peak. He sacrificed all of that money, he sacrificed his wife’s job, he sacrificed all that they had because he wanted to move here and do something good and positive. He set himself up to do just that. He has been here every single day, he comes in every morning and stays late, he works on weekends and he is trying his best to listen to what people has told him about what needs to happen in the tribe.

When he started there was a couple of things that were very specific, every single person he talked to, all the elders he talked to said, “We need non-gaming revenue,” that is what he started to do.

Chairman Tahdooahnippah said, “Anyone can do this job, but it takes a lot of day to day grind.”

For some reason no one was doing the job the way Tahdooahnippah thought it should have been done until recently. He doesn’t know why that is but he thinks its because there is no staff. There are seven business committee members including the chairman and between the seven there was only one executive assistant, he said that he had to fight to get a second executive assis-



Photo by Stacey Heminokey

Comanche Nation Chairman, Forrest Tahdooahnipah addresses General Council members during discussion of the chairman’s salary agenda item.

tant. He was accused of creating a job for one of his family members or one of his friends. He disqualified everyone he ever met and hired an executive assistant that he never met before, and she is doing a great job. Now there two people to help with the day to day work of the tribe. All other tribes has entire departments and our tribe only has two people that are trying to help out seven, so what does that mean for the chairman.

The chairman has to come in every single day and has to take the leading and the laboring and do all the work himself to get things passed and moving forward. He has to research every single thing, he has to make a plan on every single thing then bring it back to the CBC, then sit down with them two or three times a week and explain it and answer their question so that they will understand, then bring it to the people and answer all the questions so that the people will understand.

Chairman Tahdooahnippah looked at other tribes to see what they are doing to get their non-gaming revenue. You got tribe making 50 to 60 million dollars a year on health care, let’s start there. Chairman Tahdooahnippah brought in 6 million dollars to start a clinic, that clinic is on pace to make over a million dollars in it’s very first year. A charitable foundation was started, in the first month over \$15,000 was donated from the casino customers. That is going to make \$100,000 a year. That is a brand new revenue that is coming in to support veterans organizations, it is supporting children activities, it is supporting culture activities and its supporting the Homecoming Pow-wow, Little Ponies, CIVA and important organizations for culture activities.

Another thing that was brought up is the tribe needs to have an event center in Lawton at the Comanche Nation Casino, where we can do bingo, we can have concerts where we can do events. Chairman Tahdooahnippah started working and the event center is planned. The important thing about that is that anything controversial what so ever, anything has controversy has been voted on by the general council.

Chairman Tahdooahnippah stated that he tries with the best of his ability to do what the constitution says. With all the training that Chairman Tahdooahnippah has he doesn’t ask for anything, he has never asked for anything other than not to cut his pay. He doesn’t want a raise, he never asked for a raise. Chairman Tahdooahnippah said that it hurts so bad that his own relative said, “I hope you get your raise brother.” Chairman Tahdooahnippah said that doesn’t want a raise and never asked for a raise, what was on the ballot this year was exactly the same as last year. He sacrificed \$35,000 last year. There was a motion on the floor to raise his salary to \$220,000 last year and he purposely put it back on the ballot to bring it down to \$185,000. \$185,000 was what was approved, \$185,000 was what was on the ballot this year. Chairman Tahdooahnippah said that he never wanted a raise all that he asked was not get a pay cut.

Tina Emahoolah made the motion to put the proposed ballot question 2 on the ballot of the special election, second by Santos Iruegas the motion went to vote.

The Proposed Ballot Question 2.

How do you vote to amend the FY2026 Annual Budget concerning the Chairman’s Salary?

- Keep the salary the same as FY2026 (total salary = \$185,000)
- Provide a 3% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the FY2026 salary (total salary= \$190,550)

The results were 236 in favor and 39 against. Motion passes Ballot Question 2 will be go on to the special election.

The final item up for discussion is the Tribal Administrator’s (TA) salary.

The TA’s salary was never voted on previously. It is unknown how the TA’s salary was set. Chairman Tahdooahnippah purposed that the general council approve the salary. Last year the

general council voted to have the TA’s salary at \$120,00, there was no increase, no raise it was set to be exactly the same as it was before, \$120,000. The business committee purpose as to what was fair, but that was rejected.

The current Tribal Administrator Lisa Dawsey said that she wasn’t the normal student that went to college after high school, she chose to have a family, so it was a struggle to finish her college degree. When she did finish her college degree she finished with Business Administration with the concentration on Management.

TA Dawsey said that she has worked outside of the Comanche Nation in executive director position with the Comanche Nation Gaming, she has also worked other places as a correctional officer, she also worked with the City of Lawton and she worked with the Kiowas in HR.

Dawsey said that over the years she has learned there are policies and procedures in every location and accountability.

Dawsey said that when she ran for the TA position she ran for her people to make things better. She didn’t do it to be self serving, she didn’t do it to look out for her family, she did it to look out for our people. To make processes more easier and to make it fair for everyone, because all she kept hearing is that we look out for our families and only certain ones get help, so she wanted to make sure that everyone had a fair opportunity. It was never personal, it was strictly business. Dawsey said that she never had a personal agenda like everyone said, she never came in to terminate anybody, just like they do in the government. I kept it professional with every director. I set expectations and with those expectations we started having monthly meetings. There wasn’t monthly meetings with the directors, there wasn’t any accountability or shared information. Dawsey said, “I’m not perfect, I make mistakes, but I own up to my mistakes as well.

When I was put into this position you wanted me to be accountable for the budget. When you’re accountable for the budget you have to stay within those guidelines of the budget. Yes, we have certain areas that are categorized to spend out of. Just because your department goes negative we shouldn’t be relying on other departments to cover that cost when we’re in the negative. We have to be accountable for that budget.

During the past there was a lot of AARP money, people got use to having that AARP money for extra help. That AARP money was supposed to be spent by the end of this fiscal year by December of this year. There is no more AARP money, so many people got use to getting that extra help or getting their house done, we don’t have it anymore. The budget that we are working on is the budget of CNG, the budget that you voted on last April. It’s a wish list budget, it’s not a guarantee that the casino is going to make that amount. When people are out there saying, Oh you pulled back the money or you spent the funding, it wasn’t that we spent any funding, we didn’t make the budget, our quarterly draw downs are not meeting on what you voted on, so we have to make adjustments within the programs.

Currently, there are 387 employees, Dawsey looks over 54 departments administering 31.9 million of operating budget of this year and she oversees over 77 grants.

Instead of depending on our federal funding, its easy to use CNG funding, so with this administration we had to go back and look at the cost that we’re spending and apply that cost to the federal grant, because it easy to say lets go spend the CNG money, but that actually hurts us with our funding. We had to make these corrections. This is a working progress to get these directors to understand that work on your federal spend your federal, don’t spend the CNG money.

When Dawsey first get here there was employees making \$7 per hour, \$8 per hour, back when she was working for the Kiowas they sent out a federal letter that said by a certain

time we need to be making \$15 an hour. When she got here we were still paying our people minium wage. Dawsey said that she pushed for employees to be paid \$15 per hour.

Accountability was to stop misuse of funds and making sure everyone got a fair opportunity. We lowered the price of Social Services because we had to, so everyone got a fair opportunity.

There are more programs being brought back to the tribe. When she got here there were programs paying rent through their programs, Dawsey said, we need a one stop shop and we are trying to reach that. Some of these programs were brought back to the tribe to save money there.

The fair grounds has been expanded. The fair grounds was so small, so it was expanded and covers were put on the tops in the Comanche colors. These are some of the things that were done. People wanted the rodeo back for the fair so we’re bringing the rodeo back.

The module buildings. The academy need a bigger place they were growing out of the module building, so we gave them the Lorentino building, so they can have the kids go to that area because their place that they had was not adequate for the children. We gave that building and moved the programs back to the complex. Now there are module buildings at the complex, there are certian departments the need to be in the module building se we are going to get those departments in those buildings.

Dawsey said, “I’m not really here to sell myself, I’m here for the person who comes after me. They need a reasonable wage because when you’re dealing with every problem, because it doesn’t just come to the directors sometimes the directors don’t solve the problem then it comes to the chairman or it comes to me, we have to solve these problems. We make the best to make sure everyone’s happy, but we can’t make everyone happy. So when you vote on the salary, don’t vote on it for me, vote on it because the next TA that comes in here after me because she’s going to need to be paid a reasonable amount of wage. At the end of day there’s people out here saying, Oh well you terminated all these employees. When the employees are there they have directors, they have to deal with their problems, they correct their problem, there’s correct action, there’s training. We established training. One of the things being complained about is customer service, we just had customer service training. We hired a grant writer. People don’t understand all my employees, they are amazing employees without them I couldn’t do this job. I know its hard but you guys are great.

At the end of the day when it comes to this, overtime. We are spending overtime, like you wanted overtime, pay me pay me. That isn’t in the budget, anyone that knows that, that cost is time and a half, your budget is gone. Its not that I’m taking away those things, its the amount of business, its that we have to stay within our budget, but we are trying to find other avenues with grants to pay these employees.

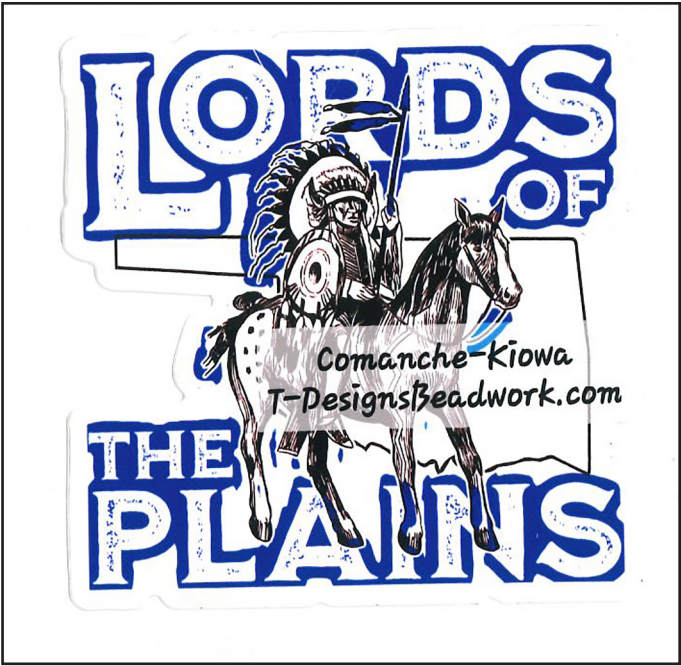
A motion was made to approve Ballot Question 3 for the special election. The Proposed Ballot Question 3.

How do you vote to amend the FY2027 Annual Budget concerning the Tribal Administrator’s salary?

- Keep the salary the same as FY2026 (total salary = \$120,000)
- Provide a 3% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the FY2026 salary (total salary = \$123,600)

The results were 203 in favor and 57 against. Motion passes Ballot Question 3 will go on to the special election.

The meeting was adjourned.



91st Annual American Indian Exposition Brings Hundreds to Anadarko, Oklahoma August 12-15



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Riding on horseback Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin waves to the crowd while being lead by her brother Modesto Schonchin, during the August 12 American Indian Expo parade in downtown Anadarko, Okla.



Photo by Paula Karty/News Staff

Comanche Nation Jr. Princess Clara Yazzie bears the heat attempting to throw out a handful of candy while participating in the 91st Annual American Indian Expo parade held in downtown Anadarko, Okla. on August 12.



Photo by Stacey Heminokey/News Staff

Comanche Nation Princess, Arlene Schonchin and Arapaho Tribal Princess, Eryn Roman Nose exchange gifts August 14 at the AIE Expo Princess Reception.



Photo by Stacey Heminokey/News Staff

Guests make their way around the princess booths, where snacks and treats were offered during the Princess Reception.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Arlene Schonchin places a Pendleton Blanket on Francine Monenerkit as a thank you for showing the princesses ediquette skills during her tea party on August 13.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Arlene Schonchin and other tribal princesses read to the daycare children on August 13.



Photo by Stacey Heminokey/News Staff

The 2026 Comanche Nation Princess, Arlene Schonchin hosts a reception table of Ice Cream Sundae Bar on August 14 at the American Indian Exposition.



Photo by Stacey Heminokey/News Staff

The Apache Tribal Princess, Ana'-Rose Whitewolf and Otoo-Missouria Tribal Princess, Rayna Eahlame Dent exchange gifts.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) was the Color Guard for the American Indian Exposition (AIE) Powwow on August 14 at the Caddo County Fairgrounds.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

The 2026 American Indian Exposition Tribal Royalty are, from back left; Cheyenne Princess, Arapaho Princess, Otot Missouri Princess, Ponca Princess, Ft. Sill Apache Princess, Ft. Sill Apache Jr. Princess, Delaware and Caddo Princess, Princess, Pawnee Princess, Kiowa Princess, Apache Princess, Wichita Princess, Comanche Princess, and Osage Princess.



Photo by Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Comanche Princess Director Fiona Kerchee and Comanche Nation Princess Arlene Schonchin dance in the flags with the CIVA Auxiliary Cheyrl Takawana and Betty Tippeconnie on August 14 when CIVA was the color guard for the AIE Exposition Powwow.

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Military News

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

CIVA Activities

73rd Annual Comanche Homecoming Celebration

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) kicked off the 72nd Annual Comanche Homecoming by serving as Co-Host for the Homecoming Powwow and Celebration. Each morning a flag raising was conducted in honoring and remembering Comanche Veterans, Henry “Hank” Tomahash, Mead Chibitty, and Robert Tippeconnic. During the 3-day event, CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary enjoyed Gourd and Social Dancing at Sultan Park in Walters Oklahoma. CIVA would like to thank the Comanche Homecoming Committee for serving at Co-Host.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Commander Dr. Thomas Boyt being honored by CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony with CIVA Auxiliary.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Veterans raising the flags of Fallen Comanche Veterans, Henry “Hank” Tomahash, Mead Chibitty, and Robert Tippeconnic.

Headstone and Marker Placement

On July 27, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Veterans and Auxiliary traveled to Deyo Misson Cemetery located west of Lawton to place a military marker for the late Comanche Veteran, Robert Tippeconnic.



Courtesy Photo

Military marker installed by CIVA Veterans.



Courtesy Photo

Pictured are CIVA Veterans with the family of Robert Tippeconnic.

August Monthly Meeting

On August 6, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) held its monthly meeting. CIVA Secretary Dominic Pawlowski opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by CIVA Commander, Dr. Thomas Boyt.

Introduction of Special Guests was made by CIVA Commander, Dr. Thomas Boyt and CIVA Historian, Lanny Asepermy. The guest included MSG (Ret.) Robert Atchavit who is the son of WWI Veteran, Calvin Atchavit, KSWO News Reporter SFC (Ret.) Keegan Mattick, Paula Chibitty, and French Liaison Officer, Lt.Col Alexandre Buttard. Birthday recognition was given to CIVA Veterans Roger Tehauno, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Lanny Asepermy, Robert Atchavit.

The evening meal was provided by CIVA Auxiliary members, Tavia Torralba and Shirley Pohawpatchoko.

A tour of the Patriot Room was given to Lt. Col. Buttard and interviews were conducted on CIVA Veterans Lanny Asepermy and Richard Sapcut by KSWO News Reporter Keegan Mattick. After the meal, a roll call was conducted by CIVA Secretary, Dominic Pawlowski and a quorum was established.

The July Monthly Minutes, Treasure Report and the Veterans and Auxiliary reports were presented and approved. Old Business and New Business were discussed along with planning for the CIVA’s 50th Anniversary Banquet and the 50th Anniversary Celebration & Powwow. Other topics discussed was planning for the French Delegation visit to this year’s 2026 Comanche Nation Fair.



Courtesy Photo

Col Alezandre Buttard shown photographs of Comanche Veterans. Lanny Asepermy with Richard Sapcut and Robert Atchavit.

Co-Host / Color Guard 48th Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Powwow

On July 7, – July 9, Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) were invited to serve as Co-Host and Color Guard for the 48th Annual Wichita Annual Dance held at the Wichita & Affiliated Tribes Dance Ground north of Anadarko. CIVA also had the honor of lowering the flags of US Army Veteran, Leslie Standing. Gourd Dancing and Celebration was enjoyed by all. CIVA Veterans, Princess and Auxiliary would like to thank the Wichita & Affiliated Tribes Powwow Committee for their hospitality.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Color Guard parading the colors during Grand Entry followed by the CIVA Princess and Auxiliary.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Color Guard doing what they do best during Grand Entry



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony with CIVA Auxiliary.

Lawton’s 125th Birthday Celebration & 91st Annual American Indian Exposition Parade

Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) Princess Aalynn Codopony has been very busy as she signed the National Anthem for Lawton’s 125th Birthday Celebration on August 8. She then later returned to the 48th Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Powwow. On August 12, and on August 15, CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony represented CIVA during the American Indian Exposition Parade. CIVA Officer’s, Veterans and Auxiliary would like to thank our CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony for her dedication and for her hard work supporting the Comanche Indian Veterans Association!



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony during the American Exposition Parade.



Courtesy Photo

CIVA Princess Aalynn Codopony during Lawton’s 125th Birthday Celebration.

Comanche Veteran Spotlight
During the Comanche Indian Veterans Association (CIVA) monthly meeting on Thursday, August 8, 2026. KSWO News reporter Keegan Mattick conducted an interview with US Marine Corps Veteran (Purple Heart Recipient) Richard Sapcut. He told his personal stories about how and why he received his Purple Heart. What the Purple Heart means to him and why it is so important to have a Purple Heart Day to recognize all Purple Heart recipients.



Courtesy Photo

USMC Veteran Richard Sapcut during KSWO interview.

Comanche Nation Purple Heart Veterans

On August 7, 2025, National Purple Heart Day is to honor and remember the men and women who have been wounded or killed in action while serving in the US Military.



Courtesy Photo

PURPLE HEART MEDAL AWARDED FOR “Being wounded or killed in any action against an enemy of the United States or as a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces”

Comanche Veterans have been awarded the Purple Heart, including those who were killed in action, died of combat wounds, died in captivity or were declared dead while missing in action. These Sixty-Five (65) Numunu Warriors are:

World War I (8):

Calvin Atchavit, Army; Gilbert Conwoop, Army; Frank LeBarre, Army; Edward Nahquaddy Sr, Army; Samuel Tabbytosavit, Army; Mikey Tahdooahnippah, Army; Cleveland Tahpaya, Army; Jacob Wahkinney, Army

World War II (26), six killed in action, two died of wounds:

Henry Conwoop, Army (Posthumously); Eli Hosetosavit, Army (Posthumously); Thomas Chockpoyah, Army (Posthumously) ; Melvinyers, Army (Posthumously); Henry Kosechata, Army (Posthumously); Johnnie Rivas, Army (Posthumously); Ben Trevino, Army (Posthumously); Gilbert Vidana, Army (Posthumously); Floyd Paddyaker, Army (Oak Leaf Cluster) ; Larry Saupitty, Army (Oak Leaf Cluster); Meech Tahsequah, (Oak Leaf Cluster); Lawrence Tomah Jr, Army (Oak Leaf Cluster); Samuel Chahtinneyackque, Army; Clifford Chebahtah Sr, Marine Corps; Mead Chibitty, Army; Edward Louis Clark, Marine Corps; Lamont Howery, Army; Forrest Kassanavoid, Army; Gilbert Monatoboy, Army; Perry Noyobad, Army; Wilbur Parker, Army; Ralph Pewewardy, Army; Henry Tomahsah, Army; Herbert Vidana, Army; Myers Wahnee Sr, Army & Air Force; Willis Yackeschi, Army.

Korean War (5), one killed in action and one died in captivity:

Meech Tahsequah, Army Air Force (Posthumously); Dennis Karty, Army died in captivity (Posthumously); Fernel Mihecoby, Army; Roderick Red Elk, Army; Edward Yellowfish, Army.

Vietnam War (21), two killed in action:

Russell Pesewonit, Marine Corps (Posthumously); Robert Pahcheka, Marine Corps (Posthumous-

ly); Cloyce “Chuck” Choney, Army); Otto Tonips Jr, Marine Corps; Clifford Chebahtah Jr, Marine Corps; Milton Codynah, Army; Lawrence Kassanavoid, Army; Charles Kaudlekaule, Marine Corps; Kenneth Looking Glass, Marine Corps; Lucien Looking Glass, Marine Corps; Clifford Ototivo Jr, Marine Corps; Timothy Ototivo, Marine Corps; Leland Parker, Marine Corps; Joe Plata, Army; George Red Elk, Army; Philip Rogers Sr, Marine Corps; Richard Sapcutt, Marine Corps; Patrick Tahchawwickah, Army; Malcom Tau-nah, Marine Corps; Johnny Tiddark, Army; Ralph Wermey, Army.

Iraqi and Afghanistan War (5), one deceased, one killed in action:

Joshua Ware, Marine Corps (Posthumously); Charles Eatmon, Army; Christopher Chebahtah, Air National Guard ; Joseph Gonzalez, Army; Jeffery Almand, Air National Guard.

Note: Ten Comanches were killed in action, two died of wounds and one died in captivity; Tahsequah wounded thrice (KIA); (Christopher) Chebahtah; Choney, Saupitty, Tomah Sr, Tonips, Paddyaker and Eatmon wounded twice; four Father, son, grandson wounded Clifford Sr (WWII), Clifford Jr (Vietnam), Christopher (Iraq) Chebahtah; Fathers and sons wounded are Henry (WWI) and Gilbert (WWII - KIA) Conwoop; Forrest (WWII) and Lawrence (Vietnam) Kassanavoid; Roderick (Korea) and George (Vietnam) Red Elk; three sets of Brothers wounded are Gilbert (WWII - KIA) and Herbert (WWII) Vidana; Lucien (Vietnam) and Kenneth (Vietnam) Looking Glass; Clifford Jr (Vietnam) and Timothy (Vietnam) Ototivo.

Comanche Nation Veteran information is needed

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association are continuing to update the Comanche Veterans Master List. If you are an 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 as we will 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!



Milestones

Happy Belated Birthday!

July - Jackie Eagle Solis
July 2 - Jan Woomavoyah
August 2 - Robert Perea Jr.
"From Dad & Mom. Love you"
August 26 - Gabriel James Solis

Happy Birthday!



September - Joe Zavala
September 2 - Bear Berryhill
September 2 - Kamryn Rose Heminokeky ♥
September 3 -Jackie Bercian Solis
September 4 - Fernanda (Pi-hura) Bercian Solis
September 4 - Kalel McSwain
September 5 - Oscar "The Hammer" Hernandez
September 8 - Misty Red Elk
September 8 - Aaron Allen
"Happy 18th Birthday"
September 8 - Rusty W. Coffey
September 10 - Jerren Foreman
September 12 - Ayla Rose Knox
"Happy 20th Birthday. Grandpa Loves You."
September 15 - Destinee Chiana Rayne Red Elk
September 17 - Joseph Aitson Jr.
"Happy Birthday from Sister Sue."
September 17 - Georgetta Pocowatchit
"Happy Birthday from Family."
September 21 - Alice Parker
September 25 - Bryan Doyebi
September 26 - Mary Anna Julianna Bercian Gonzalez
September 30 - Kenneth Legend Red Elk



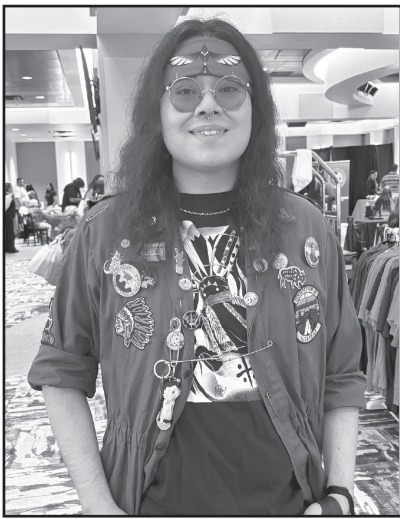
Happy Belated Birthday
Jackie Eagle Solis
July



Happy Belated Birthday
Jan Woomavoyah
July 2



Happy Birthday
Gabriel James Solis
August 26



Happy Birthday
Bear Berryhill
September 2



Happy 6th Birthday
Kamryn Rose Heminokeky
September 2



Happy Birthday
Jackie Bercian Solis
September 3



Happy 19th Birthday
Kalel McSwain
September 4



Happy Birthday
Oscar "The Hammer" Hernandez
September 5



Happy 59th Birthday
Rusty W. Coffey
September 8
US Army 90-92



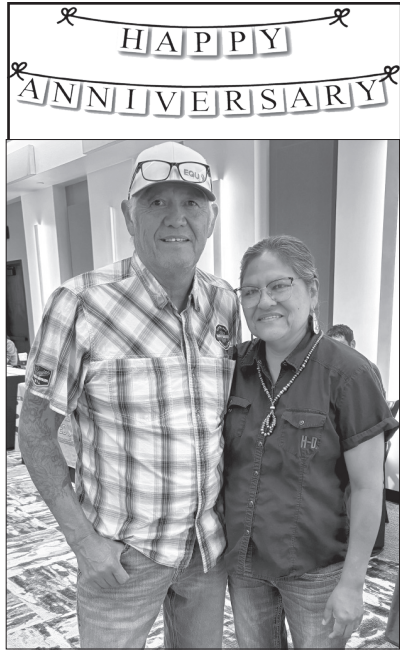
Happy 26th Birthday
Destinee Chiana Rayne Red Elk
September 15



Happy 3rd Birthday
Alice Parker
September 21



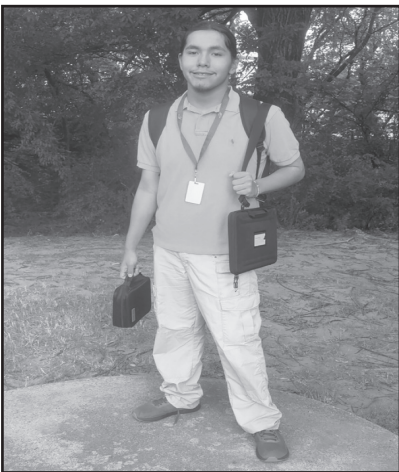
Happy 66th Birthday
Bryan Doyebi
September 25



Happy Anniversary
Victoria and Douglas Dutton
February 11

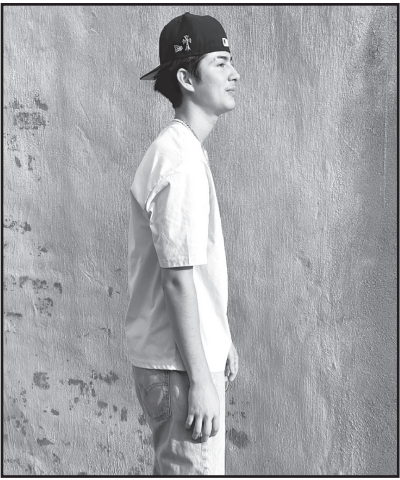


Happy Birthday
Mary Anna Julianna Bercian
Gonzalez
September 26



Happy 18th Birthday
Kenneth Legend Red Elk
September 30

~ With all our love, Aunt Jamie, Mom, Travis, Grandparents Nicole and Richard, & all of my siblings. Happy 3rd Birthday! We love you to the moon and back, today, tomorrow, and always!



Happy 18th Birthday
Joe Zavala
September

~ We love you Son!! From the family!!

Birth Announcement
CONGRATULATIONS!

Name: Shelly Eve Flores
Born: March 4, 2026!!
Weight: 7lbs 9oz
Parents: Shay Wiley & Jessie Flores
~ Welcome to the world!

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

1 Corinthians 15:58

"They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings; They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint."

-Isaiah 40:31

In Loving Memory
Judith K. Lester
Sunrise: September 4, 1945
Sunset: September 25, 2025



Obituaries

Donnie Lee McSwain



Courtesy Photo

McSwain

Donnie Lee McSwain, was 45 at the time of his passing. He was born Dec. 8, 1980, with his twin brother, Ronnie McSwain, to George and Joyce McSwain. He was born and raised in Lakeland, Florida, and passed away on July 11, at his home in Indianhoma, Oklahoma.

True to his Comanche heritage, McSwain was very nomadic in his personal and professional life. After graduating with some of his life-long friends from George Jenkins in '99, he embarked on a journey from being a manager at Steak 'n Shake in Lakeland, to working at the airport in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, to working at the post office in Oklahoma. His ambition led him to acquiring land for the Comanche Tribe and working toward a tribally owned brokerage with his experience in real estate.

McSwain had a generous nature, giving of his time and finances readily to those he cared for. Always the life of the party, he had an easy smile and a contagious laugh. His riches were the times he had and shared with friends and family. He made friends wherever he went

and had a deep connection with all of them. You never had to question where you stood with him. If you were his friend, you felt it—or you would receive a 3 a.m. text or call to remind you.

McSwain had no children but cherished his position as the favorite uncle. Lainey Tarrien, Josie Tarrien, Oscar Hernandez, Julia Hernandez, Abigail Hernandez, Holly McSwain, and Kal-el McSwain were some of his favorite targets whenever he was looking for someone to pick on.

McSwain is survived by his sisters, Prairie Tarrien and Donna McSwain; his twin brother, Ronnie McSwain; and more close friends than can be counted.

David Wahkinney



Courtesy Photo

Wahkinney

David Wahkinney was born in Lawton, Oklahoma, on June 23, 1956, to Russell and Dorothy Wahkinney. He lived most of his life in Lawton, Oklahoma, near his brothers and sisters.

Wahkinney married Pearl Altaha in 1975 and had two sons, David Wahkinney Jr. and Elijah Wahkinney.

Although he had various careers throughout his life, Wahkinney's passion was Native American artwork. He spent many hours creating beautiful pieces that you can find throughout Lawton and Oklahoma.

Wahkinney entered into eternal rest on July 19, surrounded by his loving family.

Wahkinney was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Dorothy Wahkinney; siblings, Edward Wahkinney, Randall Wahkinney, Kenton Wahkinney, and Kevin Wahkinney; granddaughter, Marissa Wahkinney.

Wahkinney was survived by sons, David Wahkinney Jr and Elijah Wahkinney; siblings, Edwina Wahkinney, Sue Macias, Darrell Wahkinney, Dennis Wahkinney, Jamie Wahkinney, Eileen Wahkinney, Dorothea Perkins, Kenneth Wahkinney, Dean Wahkinney, Lyndon Wahkinney, Christine Ruiz; granddaughters, Mariah Wahkinney and Ava Wahkinney; many nieces, nephews, in-laws, friends, and other family members.

Donald Lee (Donnie) Youngman



Courtesy Photo

Youngman

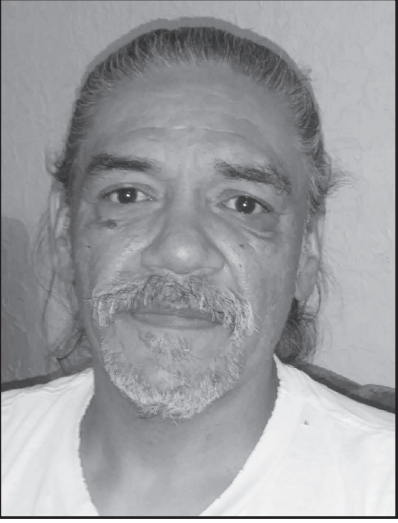
Donald Lee (Donnie) Youngman made his journey home on August 2. He was born to Erma

J. Youngman and Tyler Wahnee on January 19, 1960. He was a member of the Comanche Nation and Decendent of the Arapaho Tribe. He attended Cache Public School and Cushing Middle School in the 70's where he played football, baseball and basketball. He was a jack of all trades and could do almost anything you ask him to do. He was always there for anybody and everybody, and was always willing to help. He liked spending time with his co-worker and good friend, Nolan Tahdooahnippah. He also enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren of the home and great grandkids.

He is survived by his sister, Jody Youngman of the home, brother Brent Youngman and wife Lavonda of Cushing, Okla.; niece Paula Cooper; grandchildren Malie Cooper, Bella, Nashoba, Samyia and Tomihawk. His daughter Keela Cable and her children Trenton, Kailee, Bailee and Xavier of Cache, Okla.; son Adam and grandson Ayden Youngman of Cushing, Okla.; great granddaughters Kalyscia, Angelena, Nevaeh, Analiese of Lawton, Okla.; niece Brittany and daughter Kike Youngman; nephew Casey and daughter Kalynn Youngman of Cushing, Okla.; brother Jimmy Johnson Jr.; sisters Kendrith Johnson and Johnna Tahpay of Lawton, Okla. And many other friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his mother Erma J. Youngman; grandson Tahli James Cooper (T. J.); grandparents Bert and Lena Hoahwah Youngman; sister Lena Johnson (Jeanie); brothers Eddie Johnson and Wayne Tahpay; father Tyler Wahnee; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Stephen Lee Barrett



Courtesy Photo

Barrett

Stephen Lee Barrett, was born on April 21, 1972, in Lawton, Okla., to Garry Lynn Barrett and Karen Joyce Large. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. His hobbies include gaming and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his brothers: Jarvis Lynn Large, Christin Travis Large, and Stanley Large, III; sisters: Cheri Amor Large and Kara Barrett; numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and many friends.

He is preceded in death by his mother: Karen Joyce Large; father: Richard Ray Yeahquo; grandmother: Margie Large.

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GAMES START AT 8:00 AM

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ARCHERY

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TEE PEE BUILDING

HAND GAME

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Comanche Nation Language ANSWERS from Page 6



Autumn Season Word Match

Match the Comanche words and their pictures.



puihiṭṭ

sona

tabukina

pohpi

haniibi

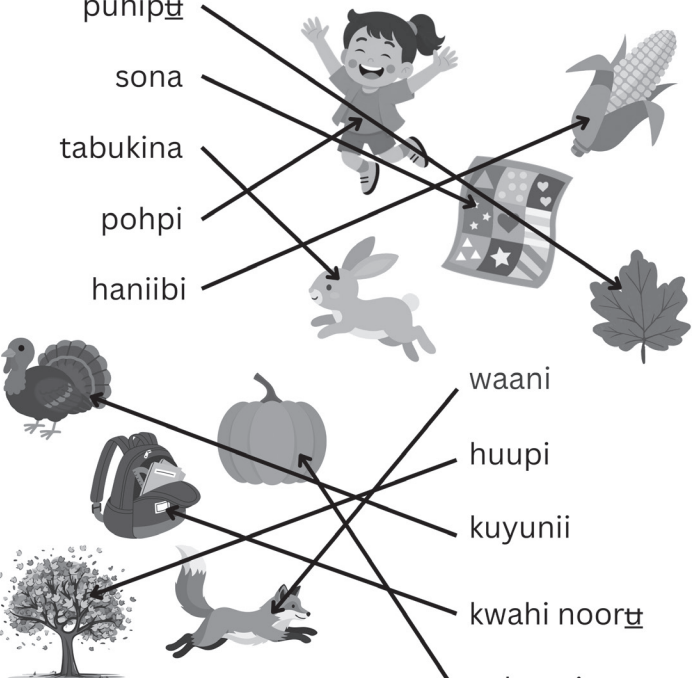
waani

huupi

kuyunii

kwahi noorṭ

nakwṭsi





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NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS



Dean's Drive-Thru Pawn Shop

2617 S. Robinson-OKC, OK

www.deanspawn.com

405.239.2774

"OKC's Oldest Pawn Shop"



REAL ESTATE EXPERTS

Elsie Tissychy

Real Estate Expert

580.713.1557

elsie@realestateexpertsllc.com

22 SW D Ave #1A, Lawton, OK 73501

580.713.1557

Fax 580.248.8513

CITY NATIONAL BANK

MEMBER FDIC

Set Your Direct Deposit Up And Get Your Paychecks, Government Checks, Tribal Benefits, Per Cap & Elder's Payments Faster!

The 2026 Per Cap Pre-mailing Packet were mailed in August.

Deadline to submit changes, including address updates is Wednesday, September 30th.

You may now update your address by going to the enrollment page at www.comanchenation.com and clicking on the Online Form.

If you did not receive a Pre-Mailing packet in the mail, contact Per Cap Assistance at 877-585-4177 to request your packet today.

More Than Banking, It's Family!

877-585-4177

CNB1901.COM/COMANCHE-PRIDE

This month's financial tip brought to you by

CITY NATIONAL BANK & TRUST

MEMBER FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



Financial Goal: WHERE IS YOUR MONEY GOING?

Small changes can make a big difference.

Take a look at the last 30–60 days of spending and ask:

- Are you paying for subscriptions you no longer use?
- Could any monthly subscriptions be renewed annually for less?
- How often are you eating out or ordering takeout?
- Are small "treat yourself" purchases starting to add up?

Then choose one or two expenses to reduce.

You don't have to cut out everything you enjoy. The goal is to understand where your money is going and make sure your spending matches what matters most to you.

KNOW WHERE IT GOES. DECIDE WHERE IT SHOULD GO.

HOT, HOT, HOT

September WINS!

THE PRIZE IS RIGHT



YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

\$100,000 CASH

OVER \$160,000 IN CASH & COMANCHE CREDIT UP FOR GRABS!

FRIDAYS • 7PM-11PM

Earn double points Tue & Thu. Drawings every hour, receive 1 entry for every 25 points earned 8AM-11PM, Sept 1-25.

COMANCHE NATION CASINO

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

HI-LOW CASH HARVEST



WIN YOUR SHARE OF UP TO \$54,000 CASH!

SATURDAYS • 7PM-11PM

Receive 1 entry for every 25 points. Legend Members receive triple entries. Select Members receive double entries on Wed & Thurs.

COMANCHE RED RIVER HOTEL CASINO

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

September Night Specials



FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS • 7PM-11PM

WIN \$1,000 CASH

Drawings every 30 minutes to win! Legend Members will have their Comanche Credit doubled. Receive 1 entry for ever 50 points earned 8AM-11PM, Sept 1-26.

COMANCHE SPUR CASINO

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

WIN IT. WATCH IT. CHILL IT



WIN A 75" 4K QLED SMART TV PLUS NINJA FROSTVAULT COOLERS AND MORE!

SATURDAYS • 7PM-11PM

Receive 1 entry for every 10 points earned Sept 1-26. Legend Members earn double entries on Thurs & Select Members earn double entries on Wed. Photos may slightly differ from actual prizes.

COMANCHE STAR CASINO

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

MONSTER MASH CAR BASH



WIN A 2026 CHEVY EQUINOX OR \$15,000 CASH!

SATURDAYS THROUGH HALLOWEEN • 7PM-11PM

WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$37,000 IN CASH & COMANCHE CREDIT!

Receive 1 entry for every 75 points earned 8AM-10:59PM, Sept 1-Oct 31. Double entries Mon & Tue. Photo may slightly differ from actual prize.

COMANCHE CACHE CASINO

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