

# Cheyenne & Arapaho TRIBAL TRIBUNE

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## In Prayer and Protest, People of Indian Country Gather Outside the Supreme Court to Defend the Indian Child Welfare Act

By Nancy Marie Spears

This article is being co-published with *The Imprint*, a national nonprofit news outlet covering child welfare and youth justice.

An Indigenous dancer from Canada, adopted into a white family along with her eight siblings. The grandson of several “stolen” American Indian generations from Minnesota. A Cherokee attorney from Oklahoma, with her small child in tow.

They joined hundreds of people from across Indian Country who gathered outside the Supreme Court today, vowing to fight for the Indian Child Welfare Act and its 44-year-old protections of the family bonds among tribal members. The law known as ICWA is being challenged in a Supreme Court case, *Brackeen v. Haaland*, with oral arguments being heard today.

ICWA / pg. 8



Cheyenne and Arapaho youth join in with Protect ICWA Rally outside the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C. Pictured l-r: Alaniyi Rednose, 13, Alicia Hoffman, 16, Michelle Hoffman, 10 and Alex Halfred, 9. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

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## National Native American Veterans Memorial receives long awaited dedication Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes honor Veterans at Reception

Rosemary Stephens  
Editor-in-Chief

The numbers speak for themselves.

Specifically, 42,000 Native Americans, one in eight, served in Vietnam, the highest per capita rate of any ethnic group in the United States. In turn, Native Americans suffered the highest per capita rate of wounded and killed. Many of them volunteered, to boot.

But in Washington, D.C., the city of monuments and memorials, nowhere was there anything commemorating the service and sacrifice of the country’s original peoples. Until now.

After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Native American Veterans Memorial (NNAVM) receives its dedication in grand fashion, with hundreds of Native American Veterans in attendance.

The NNAVM was completed and officially opened in 2019, with a formal dedication planned for Veteran’s Day 2020. Those plans quickly changed with the spread of COVID-19 throughout the country and little did anyone know the delay would last over two years.

But that’s the past ... looking to today ... many Veterans would say the “wait was worthwhile,” after visiting and experiencing the memorial for the first time, thanks to the generosity of the Cheyenne and Arapaho

Tribes.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes gifted over 70 Veterans, along with family members and guests, an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. to attend the Native American Veterans Memorial dedication and participate in a Veteran’s procession.

The NNAVM’s designer/creator, Harvey Pratt, is a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, as well as a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and Cheyenne Peace Chief, husband.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Gov. Reggie Wassana said the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes have long been supporters of Pratt and building of the National Native American Veterans Memorial, and it was their way of honoring not only Harvey Pratt, but the tribal Veterans as well.

“I’m glad to see everyone here, and it’s the first time I’ve gotten to address this many tribal members in D.C.,” Gov. Wassana said as he addressed Veterans and guest at the Veterans’ reception held Nov. 9 at the National Museum of the American Indian.

In his opening remarks Gov. Wassana acknowledged the importance of the month of November being Native American Heritage month and especially the significance of November for



Photo / Rosemary Stephens

the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes touching on the Sand Creek Massacre and the Washita Battle. “And that all led to the Little Big Horn and when I go to other tribes and they say stuff like the Cheyenne eating dogs, stuff like that, I always say, ‘yeah but we killed Custer and saved you guys,’” Gov. Wassana said sparking laughter from the audience.

A portion of the reception



Cheyenne and Arapaho Gov. Reggie Wassana accepts a gift presented to him by the National Museum of the American Indian Executive Director Cynthia Lamar during the Veterans Reception held Nov. 9 in Washington D.C. (Photo / Adriel Clements)

# How it Began - the team behind the National Native American Veterans Memorial design

Rosemary Stephens  
Editor-in-Chief

*Editor's Note: This story first published in 2019. In recognition of the official dedication of the National Native American Veterans Memorial I am choosing to republish in honor of Harvey and Gina Pratt and their team.*

In June 2018 the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian unanimously selected Harvey Pratt's design concept, Warriors' Circle of Honor, for the National Native American Veterans Memorial. Pratt, a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, along with his team, wife Gina Pratt and son Nathan Pratt said they were stunned when receiving the phone call informing them they had been selected.

"The first day they told us the Smithsonian called right after and already had six interviews lined up. When they called us I didn't have my glasses on and Gina said, 'I think this is the Smithsonian.' I ran over got my glasses and said, yes it is. I was kind of surprised. He (Kevin Gover) called us up and said, 'I have some good news and I have some bad news, which do you want first?' Gina said well the good news and he said, 'well the good news is you won, and the bad news is now you gotta do it,'" Pratt laughed and said they were both looking at each other stunned.

Pratt's design was first chosen as one of the top five out of 120 design submissions in an open blind competition and was selected the winner and announced June 26, 2018.

And to think Pratt almost didn't enter the competition.

"The first time I heard about it was from Russell Willey. He said they were going to have a veteran's memorial and they are sending some people around to talk to the Indians about it and asked me to go with him and listen. So we went to the Oklahoma City meeting, listened to what they were wanting and Russell kept saying, 'Harvey you need to enter.' I was like, 'nah, I don't want to do that. There are too many big companies with lots of money that will do that,'" Pratt said.

A short time later Willey called him again asking if Pratt wanted to go to another meeting being held in Shawnee this time.

"He kept saying you need to submit something on this ... well I got to thinking about it and thought, 'well I guess I'll send something in.' I tell people I thought about it. I dreamed about it, you know slept on it and came up with an idea," Pratt said looking over at his design team, Gina and Nathan.

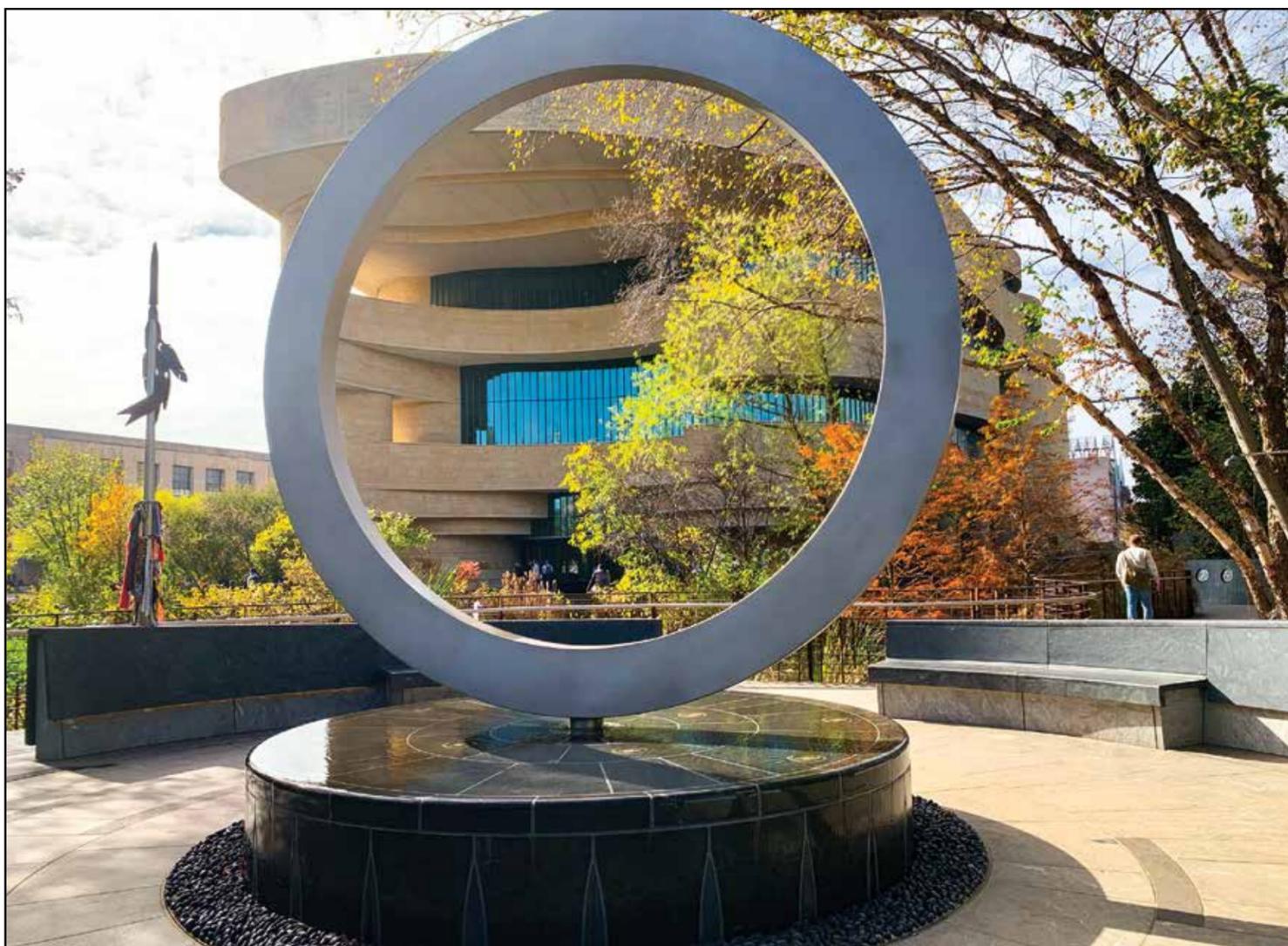
## How It Began

Jan. 7, 2018 was the official opening for blind submissions for the National Native American Veterans Memorial. There could be no names on the submissions, nor any name of any tribe on anything that was submitted.

"I was number 81 ... that was it, all I was, was number 81," Pratt said.

As Pratt sat at his kitchen table one evening, sketching on some old yellow notebook paper, he drew some rough designs and thought, 'hey those are pretty good.'

"I asked Gina do we want a circle or do you want it to



*After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the dedication for the National Native American Veterans Memorial was held on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, 2022 in Washington D.C. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)*

kind of go over and she said, real matter of fact, 'it's a circle Harvey.'"

Pratt gridded out the design and when his son Nathan came by and stood looking at the sketch he told his dad the design needed to be animated.

"I said animated? He (Nathan) said I know some guys who do that, let's go talk to them. I'm thinking I can't afford to pay someone to animate this thing," but Pratt said okay, and they took the drawing to Skyline, Inc. "I showed it to him and he said yea we can do that. I told him I didn't think I could afford him and he said don't worry about it we'll figure that out later."

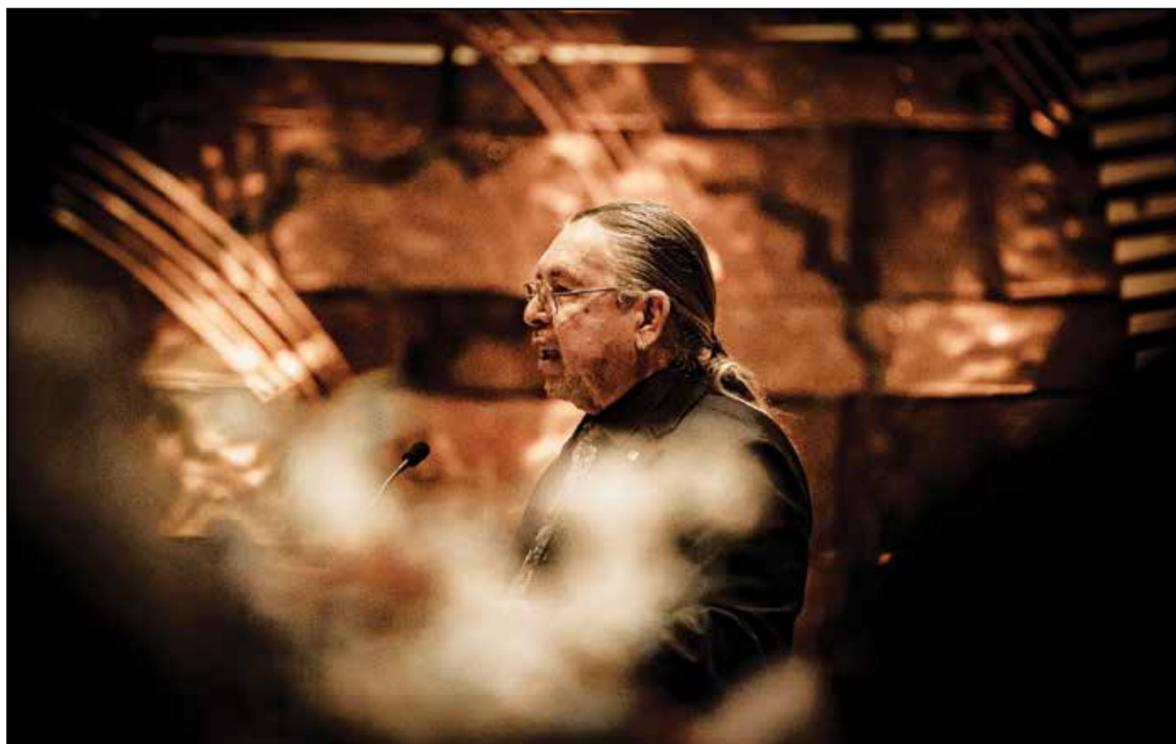
Jeff Johnson of Skyline, Inc. animated the drawing making it appear as if it was already there, already built and in place.

"I almost gave up on this project a couple of times because I thought there's too much bull shit. Too many rules to follow, do this, do that, you can't do this and you can't do that and I thought to myself I don't need that ... but then Gina would look at me and say, 'come on Harvey we're already this far along, hang in there.' I relied on Gina and Nathan to help me, this was a team effort and wouldn't have happened without these two people," Pratt said overcome with emotion.

They received a call informing him he was a finalist, and it was at that point Pratt, Gina and Nathan developed their design team, "So our design team was me, Gina and Nathan and at that point we tried to work out everything they said we had to have, like an architect and a builder."

Again, Nathan stepped in and told his dad about architects Hans and Torrey Butzer, who took one look at their design and said, 'we're in the fight, we're going to be with you on this.'

Hans Butzer, originally from Germany and his wife Torrey, from Oklahoma, both designed the Murrow Building Memorial. Hans is also



*Harvey Pratt at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' Veterans reception held Nov. 9 at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. (Photo / Adriel Clements)*

the Dean of Architecture at the University of Oklahoma (OU), and once they were on board the team they knew builders and other architects Nathan said.

"He contacted two other architects who designed the 911 Memorial and one of them was in lighting and one of them was in water. Then he found a Creek girl who does landscaping architecture, so he put it all together, we did the 34 page written documentation, included all our exhibits and we mailed them in by March 1," Pratt said.

Pratt was soon notified to come to Washington, D.C. and make a presentation, where the design team, including Hans, made the presentation at the Smithsonian National Museum, traveled home, and began the wait.

"They ended up notifying us on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, released the news on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June and it's been a mad dash ever since," Pratt said.

## Design Idea

One of the guidelines for the design concept was the design had to fit all 577 federally recognized Tribes, where all Tribes could relate to it without it being one spe-



*The dream team includes Harvey Pratt's son, Nathan Pratt (l) and wife Gina Pratt. Photo taken in 2019 at the Pratt's home in Guthrie, Okla. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)*

cific Tribe.

"I sat and thought about that and said what does all the Tribes have in common ... and what they have in common are the elements," Pratt said.

He stated all Tribes have in common the sacred fires, the sacred waters, the wind and the earth, and all recognize the directions.

"We all recognize those things and directions are so important to us. We all have cardinal points, so we includ-

ed cardinal points and we recognize the southeast as white, the southwest as red as the Creator and yellow is the northwest, Mother Earth, and then our ancestors are the northeast, so I included all of that," Pratt explained each concept with the team's design. "Someone can come in here and if they don't do prayer cloths they at least do sacred fires so rather than do a statute I would include

all those other things people recognize. I didn't want people to just stand back and look at it, I wanted them to come into it and when I did the center part, I call it the drum, that's where the water flows over top of and down the side."

Nathan said his dad invited both him and Gina to critique each step of the design, "so it was collaborative, he invited us and we were con-

# Walk of Heroes: Our Veterans

## Edward P. Wilson, U.S. Army



**Ed Wilson, 1965-1967**  
U.S. Army

Ed Wilson, 79, was born Aug. 2, 1943. He is an enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, and a U.S. Army Veteran having served during the Vietnam war from February 1965 – December 1967.

Stationed in Ft. Bragg, N.C., Wilson volunteered to deploy to Vietnam.

"I was a medic, which was a very interesting job. I chose the Army because of my family history, my uncles, my brothers, they all served," Wilson stated.

Wilson remembers when he first received his draft list. He was living in California working at a local newspaper when he received a notice to report to Clinton, Okla. He tried to have his draft board to relocate it but they wouldn't do it, so he either showed up for that induction arrangement or he would be in trouble, or at least that's

the story he had always heard.

"My local draft board was not flexible at all and if they had changed my board from Clinton, Okla. to Healdsburg, Calif., there might have been a greater amount of time before I went into the service," Wilson said.

Remembering back on his days in boot camp at Ft. Polk, Louisiana, Wilson said it was interesting being with so many people from so many different places, but what he remembers clearly is there were a lot of Texans ... and questionable characters.

"It wasn't a very nice place, but it was interesting because I got to meet so many different people, all types of all kinds and all nationalities. I enjoyed the training and I could do it all, but some of the characters that were around us at that time were questionable. That's what I say, questionable characters. It was a time where they tested you physically and mentally," Wilson said. "We would double time near the stockade almost every day and the sergeant would say, 'Wilson if you mess up that's where you're going to be,' or Jackson or anybody else, you know, he would point you out and say, 'if you mess up in my company, that's where you're going to be.' So I took him serious about ending up in that stockade," Wilson said laughing.

Wilson isn't quite sure how the Army did their rating process to get recruits to

the next training station after boot camp, but he ended up at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas for advanced training to be a medic.

Remembering his first nine months in Vietnam, Wilson said his base camp was in Bien Hoa (Ben-Wa) near the Bien Hoa Air Base in War Zone D.

"I was in a medical company, and we operated, what they called, an FAS Foreign Aid Station for the brigade. That small medical unit would set up an emergency medical triage tent series and when a man was wounded on the battlefield that was usually the first place he went because we had five or six doctors that worked there. I became a Medical Corpsman and that's what we did assist the doctors with the wounded and take care of the bodies," Wilson said.

He remembers it was so hot and the smell was pungent. There were different odors, different sounds, the language reminded him being like a singsong type of language

"I got to know some of the people there, and I used to feel like they didn't have a choice, you know, there wasn't much choice for them. I always had some compassion for them too," Wilson said.

Wilson was housed in the B Medical Company whose duty included providing the field medics for rotations and if a field medic was sick, wounded or killed, or

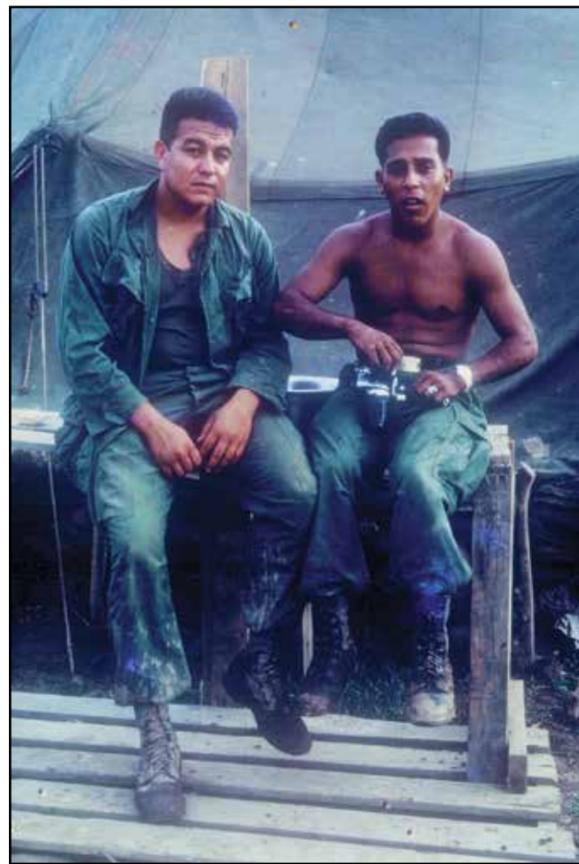
Rosemary Stephens, *Editor-in-Chief*

on R&R, they would fill that void.

"I would volunteer to go out with, what they called the Rifle Company and I was out quite a bit. I got, I wouldn't call it discouraged, but overused with B Med and what we did back there with the wounded, but it was the same out in the field, but out there, there was no doctor and you were basically on your own. You had, what they called a senior aid man, and he was usually an E5 or E6 or so. Supposedly they knew more than you did, but that wasn't always the case. So you relied or depended on each other to treat and so forth and get a guy and keep him alive until you could get him to a station," he said.

Wilson said one of the most memorable experiences he had while serving in Vietnam was the last big battle he was in on Nov. 11, 1967.

"The company I was in, it was called Task Force Black and we were in the central highlands, Dak To specifically, Dak To was our nemesis 173rd from June to the end of December of 1967, we really took a beating and the last battle I was in was on the 11th, subsequent firefight on the 13th and short firefight on the 14th, but on the 11th we had over 120 people wounded and 24 killed right there on the battlefield ... and I don't know how many died after they were put on the choppers. Several good friends of mine were killed. A good friend of mine, his



**Left: Ed Wilson while serving in Vietnam.**

name was Armando, got shot in the head early in the day and we kept him alive all day. We had to do compression a couple of times and mouth-to-mouth a couple of times. He was shot right on the top of the head and as the day wore on he lost a lot of blood and brain cells died ... you know he was in real trauma. We didn't get him on that medi vac until about 5:30 in the evening and I always thought if we could have got him out earlier and sustained him at the fort station and got him to a surgical hospital I always thought he

would have lived," Wilson said.

Through many dark nights and days Wilson would see so much death, he could go back to the time before he left when his family gave him a dinner and one of his uncles who was in the Native American Church gave him a little bundle, medicine of good luck that had gone through WWII and Korea, and now it was going to Vietnam with Wilson.

"Well I lost it, I lost it in that battle in Dak when we got surrounded and they

**ED WILSON / pg. 6**

## Col. John T. Levi Jr, U.S. Navy / U.S. Marine Corps



**John T. Levi Jr. while serving in the U.S. Navy in 1947.**

John T. Levi Jr. was born on Nov. 7, 1928 at Haskell Indian School in Lawrence, Kansas. He is an enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. Levi served from 1947-1952 in the U.S. Navy and 1957-1985 in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Growing up at the Wahpeton Indian School in North Dakota during World War II, Levi observed the young Sioux men going into the military service and returning as Warriors. They were esteemed by the tribe and looked up to as they carried on the traditions of a Native American Warrior. During this time he became acquainted with these veterans and would listen to their stories, their war stories. One

of these veterans, who became acquainted with was Woodrow 'Woody' Keeble, a Wahpeton Sioux who had fought in the battle of Guadalcanal in 1942. During the Korean War, he reenlisted in the North Dakota National Guard where he was awarded the Medal of Honor for his service in Korea 1951. Levi said that it was an honor to have known Woody Keeble.

As a child growing up during the Great Depression, Levi learned about discipline and military ways through an Indian mission school in South Dakota where he said, "You were on a schedule, you marched to classes and church services, you marched to dining facilities and ate in mess halls. You had military food, and this is where I learned about military life."

Levi had an uncle who served in the Navy during World War II. He and Wood Keeble had an influence on his enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1947. He attended boot camp and Navy Medical Corp School at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Ill., learning all necessary medical procedures such as first aid, anatomy, physiology and how to treat various wounds and caring for patients.

After completing his training, he was assigned to the National Naval Medical

Center in Bethesda, Maryland in 1949. While there, the Korean War broke out in June 1950. In July 1950, while stationed at the Naval Medical Center, he received orders to the U.S. Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Being a Navy Medical Corpsman, 'Doc,' (the Navy provides medical services to the Marine Corps), he was assigned to the First Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force. Headquarters and Supply Company, Second Battalion, First Marine Regiment. The commander of the First Marine Regiment was none other than Lewis 'Chesky' Puller, the most decorated Marine in Marine Corp history at the time. Upon his arrival at Camp Pendleton he went into training, but it was two weeks later they got their orders.

The First Marines boarded ship on Aug. 7, 1950 headed to Kobe, Japan. On September 13, they boarded their Landing Ship Troop (LST) for the Invasion of Incheon, South Korea on Sept. 15, 1950. Several units of the First Marine Division landed in the early morning of the 15<sup>th</sup>. The LST carrying Levi's unit had mechanical difficulties and had to be towed to the Incheon harbor.

As he waited to board the landing craft vehicle (LCV) he watched as others carried Marines into the beachhead.

The sounds of naval ships and of plan bombardment filled the air. Schedule to depart for the beach at 4:30, Levi recalled the thoughts running through his head as he watched planes dropping their ammunition on the battlefields.

"I had various thoughts running through my mind like is this going to be another Tarawa? Or Iwo Jima? I was hoping and praying that we would not be running into that type of situation," he said.

His prayers were answered. The previous units had already secured the beach by the time the Battalion arrived, ensuring the safety of the troops behind them. During the first couple of days, the First Marine Regiment was assigned the main road heading to Seoul, South Korea's capitol and tasked with the assignment to take the highway and secure it for the troops heading to Seoul. It was at a village called Yong Dong Po where Levi had his first encounter with any type of combat. Assigned to the battalion aid station Levi received many casualties from the battle.

er the city covered with roadblocks and enemy snipers. This was Levi's first real battle. His regiment fought from house to house, avoiding enemy fire from both the enemy on the streets as



**Col. John T. Levi Jr.**

well as snipers on rooftops. Their efforts were not in vain, and the regiment was able to secure Seoul. It was only a short time before they were on the move again. This time they board a ship and went around the Korean peninsula to Wonson, North Korea. When they arrived they learned that the South Korean Army and the U.S. Army units had pushed the North Korean Army towards its northern border.

The regiment boarded a train that would take them to Hamhung. Once they arrived, the troops headed north under Gen. MacArthur's instructions to secure Korea up to the Yalu River, along the Chinese border. It was November 1950, and on their way up, the troops spent Thanksgiving with a meal. The only downside was that by the time they received the food, it was half frozen.

The regiment Levi was

**JOHN LEVI JR / pg. 6**

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# 20<sup>th</sup> annual Elder's Conference Honors Moses Starr Jr. Honored Elder Award Recipient Marie Whiteman

Latoya Lonelodge  
Staff Reporter

(EL RENO, OK) For approximately 20 years, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe's Diabetes Wellness Program have held the annual Elder's Conference with various changes implemented over time. However, the goal has always remained the same, providing resources and information in health care, as well as decreasing diabetes among tribal Elders in the communities.

On Nov. 3, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Diabetes Wellness Program held its 20<sup>th</sup> annual Elder's Conference at the Canadian County Expo and Event Center in El Reno, Okla.

With the event open to 200 pre-registrants, Gloria Bellymule-Zuniga, SDPI program director for the diabetes program, said it was an exciting time because the tribes have had the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) diabetes funding for 20 years.

"Having this program here and working with the tribal citizens that are living with diabetes, it's decreased leg amputations by 54% and even though 1% doesn't sound like it's much, it's decreased diabetes by 1% and nationally that is exciting for Native Americans, so this is what we worked really hard for," Zuniga said.

In working with other programs for the conference planning, Zuniga said

Nearing the end of the day's agenda for the event, the announcement of the 2022 Moses Starr, Jr., Honored Elder Award was presented.

As Rosanna Tallbear, with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Health Education, announced tribal citizen Marie Whiteman and the winner of this year's elder award, a round of applause exploded from the audience.

"Marie is an esteem Cheyenne elder from the Watonga community who has dedicated her whole life to helping our tribal people, she is also very knowledgeable in tribal traditions and ceremonial way of life," Tallbear said in reading Whiteman's nomination form.

The award was created in 2019 to honor Moses Starr Jr., for his outstanding work and in being an inspiration to others among the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. The award recognizes an elder who is a tribal citizen for their outstanding achievement in one of three areas, which include advocacy in health, tribal engagement or addressing health disparities.

Born and raised in Watonga, Okla., Whiteman graduated high school in 1953 and after spending some time at home raising her children, she decided to go to nursing school.

"I knew I had to have something to raise my kids with so I went to nursing school and started work-

her community.

"I used to be really busy around this time giving flu shots all over, clear out to the panhandle and then after I retired I about went crazy, I'm so used to working and then of course the nursing homes and some clinics tried calling me, they wanted to know if I was really going to retire," Whiteman said.

It was then that Whiteman went to work for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Nursing Home in Geary, Okla., when it was in operation.

"So I worked at the Geary Nursing Home for three or four years, that was after I retired the first time," Whiteman said.

Whiteman said she was then approached by Darrell Flyingman and was asked if she wanted to come work for the tribes.

"I said it'll be something different, so I went to work at the elder care program and retired from there the second time. I was more ready for retirement the second time. I've just done nursing work all my life so I retired as a nurse," Whiteman said.

In her time working in health care, Whiteman thinks back to all the people she's helped along the way.

"I was able to help the children, the elders, just basically anybody and I didn't turn anybody down if they needed help, I'd get calls sometimes in the middle of the night that their kids were sick they didn't know



Marie Whiteman has over 30 years experience in the health related industry. Whiteman was named the 2022 Moses Starr Jr. Honored Elder at the 20th annual Cheyenne and Arapaho Elder's Conference held in El Reno, Okla. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

outside of the health field, Whiteman said she feels honored in being nominated for the Moses Starr, Jr., award as she's worked with Starr a lot back in the day with the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) program.

"I went to many workshops in state and out, to help our young people and we worked together, we'd always be at powwows together and I grew up in the Native American Church, I just feel like I fill his shoes, that's the way I feel, if that's what they want the award for," Whiteman said.

Whiteman was presented with her award along with a Pendleton that was presented to her by Juanita Trout, daughter of Moses Starr, Jr.

In closing the day's agenda, a recognition presentation for Clara Bushyhead was also held.

"We're honoring Clara Bushyhead because she was our champion for elders, even when she wasn't an elder yet and she was so excited when she became an elder, she called herself a baby elder but we're honoring her today because she's no longer with us," Zuniga said.

Among the speakers for the conference was keynote speaker Christopher Tallbear, with the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board, who was also the first to implement the diabetes conference on Dec. 7, 2022. Tallbear was the second coordinator for the dia-



betes wellness program, he came in and got the structure going for the program and started the elder's conference.

"Willie Fletcher was the chairman for the health board at the time and he got up and spoke, we had the first conference at Redlands Community College and it was good to have a lot of those people, the older ceremonial men, they're not with us anymore and the people that kind of helped

shape who I am, now we're here today 20 years later," Tallbear said.

In holding the conference every year and with each year successfully fulfilling registration for the event, Zuniga said she hopes to see more elders in control and taking responsibility for their health care.

"I'm just glad to see the turn out today and that our elders are taking their health care under control," Zuniga said.



Mary Youngbull receives one of many door prizes given out during the 20th annual elder's conference. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

they took into consideration the comments from last year's elders's conference to make changes and bring in speakers that elders wanted to hear.

"But like all disease processes with living with diabetes, foot care, eye care and just keeping track of your A1C's is very important so that's what we keep as our best practice and that's been at the forefront and we make sure that we bring on the physicians, the experts that do take care of our patients," Zuniga said.

Throughout the day, various speakers took the podium to discuss the different health needs and topics in elder health care.

ing," Whiteman said.

Whiteman worked at the Watonga Hospital, where she became interested in nursing and which also prompted her to go to nursing school.

After obtaining her LPN certification from the Woodward Hospital, Whiteman returned to Watonga and started her career with Opportunities, Inc., where she worked for 31 years. While there, Whiteman served tribal families by assisting with well child check-ups, family planning, flu shots and other duties.

In retiring after 31 years it wasn't long before Whiteman was called back into nursing and to serve

what to do and I just got a good full feeling out of helping people," Whiteman said.

Whiteman said she really enjoyed working with older people at the nursing home.

"It was just a good feeling that I could help somebody, I never did ask for pay or anything, I just really had an enjoyable life working as a nurse and then on the outside too even if it wasn't anything to do with health, people always came to me for help ... I helped people all the time so I never said no to nobody," Whiteman said.

In being recognized for her heartfelt work in and

# Domestic Violence: Bringing awareness of impact on children and communities

Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter

According to the National Institute of Justice, more than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native men and women have experienced a form of violence in their lifetime, whether it be physical violence or psychological aggression from an intimate partner, sexual violence or stalking.

Statistics continue to emphasize that Native Americans are disproportionately affected at higher rates than any other ethnicity as they face violence and or even tragedies involving the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) epidemic.

With the month of October declared as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Domestic Violence Program wanted to raise more awareness targeted at youth in their efforts to combat domestic violence in the communities.

On Oct. 28, the Impact of Domestic Violence on Children and Communities awareness event was held at the R.E.Sp.E.C.T. gym in Concho, Okla.

Special guests included Chance Rush, motivational speaker and Karen Kaniatobe, with Native Alliance Against Violence (NAAV).

With the color purple the official emblem of domestic violence awareness, the color is utilized as a means to raise awareness and sow support for survivors of domestic violence.

Beaming in shades of purple, the event was filled with booths and vendors decorated with resources and materials aimed at domestic violence awareness.

Youth from Darlington Public Schools were in attendance as well as tribal citizens from the community.

"We definitely want to do more prevention and get the word out there that there are services, programs, people that are here to help if a child has seen domestic violence or experienced it, anything along those lines, we definitely want to hit the youth first and foremost for prevention," Andrea Patterson, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Social Services program coordinator said.

In targeting the youth for this year's event, Patterson said the program wants to bring awareness to them to let them know that it is okay to speak up.

"It is okay to reach, that's what we're here for is to help," Patterson said.

Various artwork signifying the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) epidemic was also put on display for all to see. Patterson during the R.E.Sp.E.C.T. youth lock in fall break event, they had reached out and asked the youth to paint artwork in regards to MMIP.

"We had an advocate go in and just kind of go over what MMIP is, the significance of it, the reason why chapters are created and just ask them to paint what they think it means to them," Patterson said.

With Kaniatobe presenting information on what domestic violence is and how to spot it, NAAV is committed to increasing the awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and sex trafficking. They also assist tribes with promoting state, local and tribal legislation with policies that enhance best practices for responding to domestic and sexual assault.

Shelley Miller, executive director of NAAV, said their office is a tribal coalition who provides services, technical assistance, training and awareness materials and events around tribal communities.

"We have 26 tribal active programs that have domestic violence and sexual assault services and so those are the ones that we are unifying and providing culturally appropriate services to," Miller said.

Miller said it's extremely important to target the younger audiences as they could be seeing a lot of these issues as they grow up.

"In order to curve some of those traits and make our tribal families more positive, it's important for them to know what's happening in everything with substance abuse, with mental health, with domestic violence and sexual assault and how they all correlate together," Miller



said.

In bringing more awareness to the topic of domestic violence to youth, Miller said she felt the kids were really listening and even if they took one little piece of information back, it makes a big difference.

"It was wonderful to be here today in Cheyenne and Arapaho country to see all the youth take part in such a wonderful event and to learn about issues that pertain to their daily lives," Miller said.

As the event continued, other speakers included Theresa Faris, with the Cheyenne and Arapaho MMIP Chapter, and Hauli Gray, with the Native Youth Community Project, and Carmello Reveles, with the Tribal Opioid Response Project. Rush also engaged youth to participate in games and activities throughout the duration of the event.

After not having the domestic violence awareness event for the past couple years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Patterson said it felt great to bring everyone together again.

"I'm really happy that schools were able to bring some youth just to hear the effects that it could have not only on maybe their families but also on the communities," Patterson said.

Some of the services that



Speakers and participants of the Impact of Domestic Violence on Children and Communities event. Pictured l-r: Rudy Indigenous, videographer and DJ, Karen Kaniatobe, Native Alliance Against Violence, Chance Rush, motivational speaker, Carmello Reveles, Tribal Opioid Response Project, Theresa Faris, with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes MMIP chapter, Kevondra Fuller, with the Domestic Violence Program and Hauli Gray, with the Native Youth Community Project. (Photos / Latoya Lonelodge)

the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Domestic Violence Program provides are advocacy and supporting victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, teen dating violence and human trafficking.

"There's a lot of areas we can help with, we also have a family violence program that does some of the same services so domestic violence is more intimate partner but family violence can service actual family type violence, we are working with the

MMIP chapter to bring more awareness to our communities, we feel like it is important, we definitely don't want the cycle to continue," Patterson said.

In moving forward with domestic violence awareness, Patterson said she hopes to continue working more with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes MMIP Chapter.

"We also hope to try to partner with schools, get them there and speak to the youth in regards to domestic

violence, so we definitely hope that we can do this a lot more," Patterson said.

Patterson said the program hopes to see more people coming forward if they do witness domestic violence.

"We also hope to see a decrease eventually in the communities. Honestly it does start with our youth, we do feel like it is important to educate them as early as possible to where they do understand it's not okay," Patterson said.

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## ED WILSON

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overran one of our units, they went through our rough sacks and we lost watches, rings, pictures, rings ... they would take anything and I lost it during that time. I came back to the United States and I ran into my uncle in Albuquerque ... I just felt so guilty about losing that thing, I thought I've got to tell him, I've got to tell my uncle I didn't bring it back, so I went over to where he was camped and we had a cigarette and a cup of coffee and I told him there was something I've got to confess to you and he said okay. He listened and he never said very much, then he said, 'let me think about it, come back after dinner and I will tell you what I think.' So I did, but man I was on pins and needles because I thought I was going to get the worse

chewing of my life, but when I came back to him he said, 'you know I carried that during WWII and your uncle Bill carried it to Korea and now you carried it to Vietnam ... I think we used it up, it's there and you're here and I think it was a good trade.' Boy I was so relieved," Wilson said laughing.

Upon being discharged Wilson said he immediately enrolled in school, but in a short time would find himself angry and "fed up" with life in general ... not really being able to define why. Years later it would become clear to him.

"They had no transition program; they didn't know what to do with us. You know you are in the service one day and then they cut you loose and you're expected to be a productive member of soci-

ety ... it just doesn't work that way. Nowadays they have all these programs. Before you exit the service, you can have an exit strategy, some kind of transition preparation, but we didn't have anything like that and there were a lot of us coming out at that time. All of us probably suffered from PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), but that wasn't even a word we heard back then," Wilson said.

Today Wilson serves on the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Veterans Board and is a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho American Legion Post 401 chapter. He continues to advocate for Veterans.

"Nowadays a lot of our families have generation after generation of service to the United States. My grandfather, Harvey Good Bear,

was killed in France in WWI in 1918 or 1919, but we have had a lot of Indians killed in war and were not even considered citizens until 1924. The United States, I don't think, has ever recognized that we (Indians) have made a great sacrifice for this country and have received very little, except maybe a pat on the head every once in a while. I believe that it is still a big part of us because now we have more young ladies who have served ever since Desert Storm than we have ever had in service before."

*NOTE: Viet Nam War: Over 2 million Asian lives lost, 58,000 American lives lost, \$220 billion dollars spent, 10 million Americans air-lifted there by commercial aircraft, more than 5,000 helicopters lost, 6-1/2 million tons of bombs dropped.*



## JOHN LEVI JR

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with set up operations at a village Koto-Ri and was placed in reserve. The other two regiments continued on up to the Chosin Reservoir where they set up operations at Hagaru-Ri and Yudam-ni, only a short distance from Koto-Ri.

The weather had turned bitterly cold and the snow began to set over the landscape. The Marines learned that the Chinese had entered the war. Even worse? They discovered that they were surrounded by 120,000 Chinese troops. The Marines encountered stiff combat. British Royal Marines arrived to help the Marines fighting at the Reservoir. Casualties were high and Chinese were everywhere. The battalion aid stations Levi was at began receiving wounded Marines, a large majority of them with cold weather injuries from the extreme cold from temperatures reaching -20 to -40 degrees below zero. It was the coldest winter Korea had ever recorded.

However, it was not only the Marines that were affected by the cold weather. Chinese prisoners were brought in with little clothing and no weapons.

"I remember all the suffering and bloodshed of the casualties that were brought in by both sides. The freezing weather helped stop bleeding with those who had gunshot and shrapnel wounds," Levi said. "However, most of the casualties were from frostbite. You get them into warming tents or an aid station where they get warmth and you get blankets on them."

The Chinese headquar-

ters had instructed their troops to annihilate the First Marine Division and other units in the area. The Chosin Reservoir campaign would go down in history as one of the most ruthless battles of the Korean War.

"We lost a lot of good men, and we lost a lot of good corpsmen," Levi said.

Troops from the other two regiments made their way out of Hagaru-Ri and passed through Koto-Ri on December 7. With the division preparing for the march to the seaport of Hungnam 53 miles down the mountain with whatever equipment and casualties they could gather. Levi's battalion would bring up the rear coming out of the Chosin Reservoir. It was snowing heavily and behind them were thousands and thousands of Korean refugees escaping the Chinese.

"I looked at little children, the women with their little babies and the old people as they carried their only belongs as they fled through a snowstorm ... something I will always remember," Levi said.

As the 1st Marine Division moved down the mountain, a bridge had been destroyed by the Chinese. Planes had to drop equipment to repair the bridge, and the battalion walked over the bridge in the middle of the night.

On December 11, the division reached Hungnam and boarded ships for Mason, South Korea. They spent Christmas far from the Chosin Reservoir.

In January 1951, the 1st Regiment began their push up Central Korea to a vil-



Col. John T. Levi Jr. visiting the U.S. Marine Corps Chosin Few Memorial Dec. 5, 2019 at Camp Pendleton in San Diego, Calif.

lage called Hoensong with new replacements for those wounded and killed at the Chosin Reservoir. Due to the loss of many corpsmen, Levi was assigned to Fox Company, a company that would be fighting on the front lines. As they approached their objective, they ran into some Chinese units. That battle was Levi's first encounter with incoming artillery.

"When you are in a situation where you are receiving incoming shells, it's terrifying," he said.

Levi was able to survive and in April 1951 he gathered enough points to be rotated back to the U.S.

But even the comfort of his home could not stop the memories of the battles and trials he had gone through. He tried to keep busy as possible to block out everything he had gone through. He returned to the Navy and was stationed at the Naval

Hospital in St. Alban, Long Island, N.Y., where he was eventually discharged from the Navy.

During Levi's trips on ships going and coming from Korea he observed how the officers were treated and the privileges they had, and he said to himself, 'if I ever have to go back into the military again, I'm going back as an officer.'

Once discharged Levi went back to school on the GI Bill and enrolled in the school's ROTC program. He completed the program and received a commission in the U.S. Army Reserve Infantry Branch. He would spend 27 years in the Army serving in various positions of command and attending various military schools and completing the Army's Command and Staff college. After a long and memorable experience in the Army Reserve, Levi retired in 1985, achieving the rank of Colonel.

During all this time, Col. Levi had not forgotten about his Native American heritage and what it meant to be a Warrior. So many Native Americans had served their country and Col. Levi was proud of those Native Americans and the contributions they made to their country.

After his retirement, Col. Levi became involved with various Native American organizations and focused on culture and traditions. He became involved with an Indian Center in Kansas that focused on helping those off the reservations adjust to urban life.



Col. John T. Levi Jr. (kneeling far right) with some of his comrades holding a captured North Korean flag.

Before his service, Col. Levi hadn't known anything about Korea, except for the little information offered on the radio and in the newspapers. He said he didn't even know where it was located. But after serving in Korea, he returned in 2000 and was amazed at how the Korean people had progressed and risen from the devastation of their country.

When asked if he had any words of council for future generations, Col. Levi said, "Korea is known as the Forgotten War. There are people that don't know that there was ever a war in Korea. And I think that if the veterans that had found

in that war would let people of the younger generation know what it was and what it was like, there might be a better understanding and appreciation for what the servicemen did over there."

He said it was hard to believe that so many young Americans died over there.

"To this day I am proud that I served in Korea and proud to have served my country."

*John T. Levi Jr. was born Nov. 7, 1928 in Lawrence, Kansas to John Levi, Arapaho and Helen Duffina, Chippewa. In civilian life Levi was teacher, athletic coach and school administrator in the Wichita Public*



John T. Levi Jr. (right) during Operation Killer in the Korean War.



Cheyenne and Arapaho artists whose work is represented in "Oklahoma Genocide: Massacre at Washita River" include, from left, Harvey Pratt, Michael Elizondo, Brent Learned and George Levi. (Photo / Nichole Moan)

# Cheyenne and Arapaho Artists Represent at Exhibit, "Genocide: Massacre at Washita River"

By Kimberly Burk, C&ATT Correspondent

OKLAHOMA CITY -- As curator of the exhibit entitled "Genocide: Massacre at Washita River," Brent Learned had a vision from the beginning. But even he was overcome once the gallery show was in place.

"I was blown away," Learned said during a Nov. 3 artist reception at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. "It's pretty powerful. Each piece speaks volumes."

The exhibit includes paintings, drawings and artifacts from Cheyenne and Arapaho artists George Levi, Halcyon Levi, Harvey Pratt, Gordon Yellowman, Michael Elizondo, Brent Learned and Matt Learned and Northern Arapaho artist Robert Martinez. Also featured are objects on loan from the Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum in Woodward, Okla.

Learned, who lives in Oklahoma City, is a descendant of Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle, who had sought peace for his tribe but was killed in the early-morning attack in western Oklahoma on Nov. 27, 1868. Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer led the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry regiment of the U.S. Army in the attack on Black Kettle's sleeping village near present-day Cheyenne. Custer would be killed eight years later at the Battle of Little Bighorn.

"Any denial of the facts is a denial of the truth on what happened," Learned said. "I'm sharing the stories of my ancestors and telling their stories with art, giving them a voice so that their stories live on and to show the strength of



Harvey Pratt and George Levi (l) visit while Heather Levi and 17 year old Harding Levi stand nearby. (Photo / Nichole Moan)

the Cheyenne and Arapaho people that endure today."

George Levi, who lives in Mustang, said that as artists and tribal citizens, "It's an obligation, for us to give a visual aspect to the atrocities and the genocide that happened to Black Kettle and our Cheyenne people who were attacked at the encampment, and give light to the Arapaho and Kiowa and other Cheyenne who came from downstream to protect them."

Elizondo's oil and acrylic painting, "Washita Sunrise," is hung prominently at the entrance to the exhibit. Elizondo, who lives in El Reno, said he created the work several years ago, and "when Brett and George let me know about this show, this piece came to mind right away."

He made several trips to the encampment site and took photographs of the river and the sky behind it

just before sunrise, Elizondo said. He gave the water a textured look by mixing cold wax and paint, a technique he learned in graduate school at the University of Oklahoma.

Paintings and ledger art depict battle scenes, and several of the artists created portraits of their ancestors who were killed and those who survived the massacre.

Mattie Marlow, archives manager and registrar for the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, said she first approached Learned about doing a solo show of his own colorful Native art. But he instead suggested a group show about the massacre. She had not known the story previously.

Marlow said the exhibit has enriched the historical and cultural education of the thousands of students who visit the hall of fame every year.

Julie Finley of Oklaho-

ma City was among those who attended the reception.

"I love Brent's work, and his brother Matt's as well," she said. "I think that he does an excellent job of portraying his feelings, and you can feel those emotions in everything when you look at this work."

The exhibit continues through Dec. 15 in the Gaylord-Pickens Museum at the Hall of Fame, 1400 Classen Drive. The museum is closed on Sunday and Monday.



Michael Elizondo stands with his painting, "Washita Sunrise," during an artist reception for the exhibit. (Photo / Nichole Moan)

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# ICWA

continued from pg. 1

“The only reason why I’m alive today is because ICWA was applied in my case,” said law student Autumn Adams, a member of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakama Nation who grew up in foster care. “I carry it with me every day because that cultural connection I maintain through ICWA is why I stand before you and why I’m as successful as I am.”

The morning began with prayer and singing to the beat of animal-skin drums. The lyrics encouraged the justices and attorneys to “open their hearts and minds” so that they make the right decisions, and to “let the creator join them.”

The high stakes were clear.

“We’re talking about the future of our Native children,” said Misty Flowers, a member of the Santee Sioux Nation of Nebraska and executive director of the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Coalition. “This gets to be really emotional, because we’re still dealing with the effects of historical trauma.”

In cases involving children who are members of tribes or who are eligible for tribal enrollment, ICWA requires that child welfare agencies make “active,” rather than “reasonable” efforts to keep children with their kin or tribes. It requires qualified experts to testify in abuse and neglect cases, giving tribes the authority to decide the outcomes, and considers Indigenous homes as “preferred placements” for children in foster care.

Those protections — in a nation where Native American children are far more likely than other children to be separated from their families — is desperately needed, those gathered at the Washington, D.C., rally said today.

Flowers noted that despite the ICWA protections, “we’re still disappearing, because there’s so much damage that has been done.”

Today’s crowd was expansive, spanning geographies and generations — elders and toddlers and all ages in between.

Among the hundreds in attendance was Washington State’s Director of Tribal Relations Tleena Ives. She attended with that state’s top child welfare official, Ross Hunter. Others came from Maryland, Nevada and Nebraska. One hundred Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal members arrived on a bus from Oklahoma.

An elder in a pendleton jacket waved an American flag with the image of a Native American superimposed over the stars and stripes. It floated in front of the podium as speaker after speaker called for ICWA to be upheld.

“I want them to keep their hands off our sovereignty and our children,” said Jay Winter Nightwolf, a 75-year-old Washington, D.C., radio show host. “Because every time they take something from us it’s just another way of getting rid of us.”

Protesters stomped their feet to the drumming and bobbed in place. They waved signs that read: “Our sovereignty is more legitimate than their court,” “Our children, our culture,” “Stop colonizers, protect ICWA,” and “Stop stealing Native kids.”

The gathering took place today as oral arguments were heard in the *Brackeen v. Haaland* case, which challenges the constitutionality of the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act. The plaintiffs include Texas and several other states, as well as three white couples seeking to adopt Native children. They



**Angela Gladue stood — and danced — in support of ICWA outside of the Supreme Court.** (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

assert that Congress did not have the authority to pass ICWA, which they say violates equal protection guarantees and forces states unlawfully to enact a federal law.

Defenders of ICWA include 497 tribes, 24 states and Washington, D.C. They say the law — which celebrated its 44th anniversary Tuesday — is vital to ensuring protections for Native American children and tribes, who for centuries have been subjected to forced assimilation and family separation through foster care, adoptions and Indian boarding schools. Those in opposition to the *Brackeen* case assertions challenge the argument that ICWA is a “race-based” law that discriminated against white people seeking to adopt. Instead, they say it is based on the unique political relationships between Indian tribes and the U.S. government.

No opponents of ICWA appeared to be among the protesters outside the Supreme Court today.

The rally was organized by the “Protect ICWA Campaign,” a group of four national Indigenous organizations: the Native



**Lycia Maddocks of the National Council for Urban Indian Health stands with other demonstrators in support of ICWA.** (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

American Rights Fund, the National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Child Welfare Association and the Association on American Indian Affairs.

Angela Gladue, 37, came from Alberta, Canada. She wore a beaded chest plate and a bright yellow and orange shawl, her hair sporting a feather and tightly braided with decorative fabric.

Gladue said she grew up in foster care in a white family home, as did her siblings, who were also adopted into white families. She came to the rally to lend power through Native dance, but she lamented even having to attend such an event.

“There’s no ICWA in Canada,” she said. “So if ICWA gets overturned in the U.S., I worry we will lose hope for my communities back home.”

Gladue described watching her mother struggle to get her kids back from foster care as, one after one, they were adopted out. She noted her siblings’ struggles to stay connected with their Cree culture.

Now, she said, “they’re adults and can finally start learning about their culture.” But an ICWA-type law in Canada could have made all the difference in their lives.

Protester Angela Smith, an attorney and 44-year-old member of the Cherokee Nation, also grew up in foster care. She went on to work on another historic case challenging the rights of Indigenous populations to their children, known as *Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl*, or the *Baby Veronica* case.

“I want it to be clear that this is also about the legal interests of our children,” Smith said. “ICWA is constantly being challenged, what I want to see happen is protection at the ground level and that’s why I’m here today.”

It is expected to take months for a ruling in the *Brackeen* case. But at the protest today, many said they would continue to speak out.

Francis Keahna Uran, 25, from Hayward, Wisconsin said his father was ripped from his Indigenous community, as were his multiple siblings. And they are still finding each other.

“My father was stolen in the 1970s and all of his siblings were stolen,” he said. But later, a caseworker “went against



**Cheyenne and Arapaho citizens and family show support for ICWA among many other supporters at the Protect ICWA rally held outside the U.S. Supreme Court building on Nov. 9. Front, Maximus Morgan. From l-r: Norene Starr, Rachel Lynn, Gov. Reggie Wassana, LaRenda Morgan and Victor Morgan.** (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

the protocol,” and placed him with a new adoptive father from his White Earth Ojibwe tribe.

“He was one of the lucky ones,” he said.

Even if the *Brackeen* case strikes down some or all of the ICWA protections, as with *Roe v. Wade*, some states will still be protected because they’ve codified similar statutes into state law.

Many others echoed that theme. There are now 11 states that have codified ICWA protections under state laws, including California, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Wisconsin, and the list is growing.

ICWA has been before the Supreme Court three times, but this is the first time its constitutionality has been questioned at that level. And the case is now being heard by a court described as the most conservative in 90 years. One justice, Amy Coney Barrett, is the white adoptive mother of two Black children from Haiti.

Standing under the waving Native American flag, Winter Nightwolf said if the case does not come out favorably for ICWA, “we will continue to fight — because nobody’s trying to take your kids.”

Nancy Marie Spears is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and the Indigenous children and families reporter for “The Imprint.”



**Bobbie Hamilton (l) and Dale Hamilton (r) offer up prayers at the Protect ICWA rally in front of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C.** (Photos / Rosemary Stephens)

# VETERANS RECEPTION

continued from pg. 1

was also dedicated to honoring Harvey Pratt. As part of Gov. Wassana's introduction he said Harvey has done a lot of things for the tribes and possesses so much knowledge about the tribes' history that many can gain insight from listening to him.

"That memorial sitting out here is a beautiful piece of artwork and a great inspiration by Harvey, and I thought it was a really great thing to do for the tribes to step up, with some of the other tribes who stepped up to finance it. For one of our own to get selected to do something like this up here in Washington, that was a great honor," Gov. Wassana said.

As Pratt took the stage to applause he said he was so honored to be present with all the Cheyenne and Arapaho people.

"I think our history is so important to all of us. When this thing came about I had no idea I would even make a contribution to it because I figured they had already chosen somebody," Pratt said.

He reflected on the beginning of this journey that would change his and his wife, Gina's life for the past three to four years.

"Russell Willey asked me to submit a design, he asked me several times to come and submit a design. I finally said let me dream about this, we are a world of dreamers, let me dream about this to see if I can get an idea of what I need to do," Pratt said.

He shared he went home and he dreamed about it, he thought about it, and it (idea) came to him all at once, like people were putting were putting it in his head.

"I want people to be healed when they come here, I want them to feel good and be proud of their veterans. That was our dream and we are actually seeing that happening. It's going to be a healing place," Pratt said.

As he closed with a story, he received a standing ovation before sitting down.

"I am really thankful for my Cheyenne and Arapaho people, because that's where the inspiration came from, from my Cheyenne and Arapaho people.

Following dinner Veterans were called up one by one to receive a commemorative book and a medallion, specially designed by Pratt.

Gordon Yellowman offered up the opening prayer for the reception. The Buddy Bond Color Guard presented the colors while the drum group sang an Honor Song and Flag Son,



Above: Memo Valenzuela-Lira, plays a rendition of TAPS on the bugle. (Photo / Adriel Clements)

Below right: U.S. Navy Veteran Jerry Chebon Levi Jr. attends the Veterans reception in Washington, D.C. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)



Memo Valenzuela-Lira played a rendition of Taps. Executive Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, Cynthia Chavez Lamar, provided the official welcoming to the event and Darren Brown, Cheyenne and Arapaho Productions served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Right: The Buddy Bond Color Guard bringing in the colors during the opening ceremony of the Veterans Honor Reception held at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. The reception honored both veterans and specifically Harvey Pratt for his design concept / build of the National Native American Veterans Memorial on the National Mall. The first memorial on the National Mall, to commemorate the service of all American Indians across the country.

(Photo / Adriel Clements)



Denny Medicine Bird, acting Executive Director of Health and Aline Dickens, Office of Veteran Affairs, for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes attend the Veterans reception at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

# Calendar of Events

## Cheyenne and Arapaho Labor Day Benefit Dance

Nov. 20, 2022 at the Watonga Emergency Response Center in Watonga, Okla. Gourd dance at 3 p.m., supper at 5 p.m.

Head Staff: MC Willie Bullcoming, HS James Redbird, HMD Malcolm Whitebird, HLD Nay Nay Wahpepah, HLG Josephina Marie Lopez, HLB Halo Mateo, AD Cayden Brown, Co-Host Redmoon Gourd Clan & OKC Powwow Club, Honored Elder Eugene Blackbear.

Inviting all Chiefs, Headsmen, Societies and Princesses.

Labor Day Powwow Committee are Chairman Dwight Whitebuffalo, Vice-Chairman Danny Reyes, Treasurer Janelle Sharp, Secretary Carmen Sankey, Sergeants-at-Arms Ruben Watan & Sheldon Sankey.

For more information call 580-791-0351 or 580-613-0244.

## 2nd Birthday Dance for Josephina Marie Lopez

Dec. 3, 2022 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Gourd dance 3 p.m., supper 5 p.m., with dance to follow.

Head Staff: MC Wilbur Bullcoming, HS Kendall Kauley, HMD Melvin Miles, HLD Bobbie Hamilton, HLB Baby Jabo Medicinebird, HLG Nanami Brielle Whitethunder, Honored Family Moose Mia Family of Sylmar, Calif., AD Daniel Baker.

Tiny Tot contest, Grandmother & Granddaughter contest, Women's Buckskin contest and Prettiest Shawl contest. For more information call 405-412-9774 or 405-262-0002.

## Holiday Bazaar

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Dec. 10, 2022 at the Kingfisher Emergency Response Center, 400 W. Erwin in Kingfisher, Okla.

Bazaar will feature Pampered Chef, Native Wildflower, Blue Raven Designs, Native American products, Tupperware, Tastefully Simple, Gourmet Popcorn, Paulie Anna's handmade items and much more. Concession available.

## Memorial Dance for Diana Sue Cassio-Bull

Sunday Jan. 29, 2023 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Supper at 5 p.m., cake walk and Tiny Tot contest, and prizes. Head lady dancer's teen fancy shawl contest for ages 13-17, with \$200 for first place, \$100 second place and \$50 third place.

Head Staff: MC Austin Wayne Bull, HS Jason Goodblanket, HM TBD, HL Katelyn Ginger Whiteman, HLB Nathaniel Koshiway, HLG Sevana Harper, Honored Family James & Jamie Yellowfish and AD TBD.

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# ATHLETES'S SPOTLIGHT

By Latoya Lonelodge / Courtesy Photos

## Matthew Martin, Geary High School

Wanting to make a name for himself on the open-field terrain, Matthew Martin, 18, was the inspiration behind pushing for a cross-country team at Geary Public Schools.

Born and raised in Geary, Okla., for most of all his life, Martin was introduced to the sport of running when he was a part of the track team his junior year in 2021. That's where his love for running long distance began.

As Geary Public Schools didn't offer cross-country at the time, Martin saw a need to have a cross-country team implemented for youth, like himself, to participate in.

"This is our first year of having the program, I was the big inspiration for them to start it ... I always liked running and I did track last year which I ran the 800 and I started to realize I liked doing long distance running and I felt I would be good in cross-

country too," Martin said.

In beginning his senior year at Geary High School and with the help of his coaches, a cross-country team officially began for the season. As his first year competing in cross-country, Martin said what he loved most was just getting out there.

"I like the environment, the feeling after I'm done and just knowing I've done it and put in the hard work," Martin said.

And while any sport involving running may be difficult for others, Martin said the feeling of being out on the terrain running has made him feel good about himself.

"The feeling is just good, going out there running, it hurts but I try to push through it and once you're done, you've pushed yourself during that whole time and that just proves you can push yourself in anything as long as you put your mind to it," Martin said.

Martin said there are a lot of people that have inspired him.

"If I had to choose, it'd be my mom for always pushing me, I'm doing it all for her," Martin said.

In setting goals for the season, Martin said what he wanted to accomplish the most in the season was to break his 19-minute time.

"I've actually gotten really better with all the help from all the coaches, it being my first year I was pretty new to it and throughout the season I just got better, so I'd say I've come really far," Martin said.

Martin finished the season with 18:47 for his long distance running of 5k, a personal record-breaking time.

"No days off that's number one. The workout schedule included at least a three-mile run in the morning and then afternoon wise, at least four hours of training," Martin said.

Martin said what he worked on the most in running was his pace.

"I try to keep a good pace," Martin said.

And with keeping pace, Martin has maintained a 2.8 GPA at school. Besides cross-country,

Martin's hobbies include listening to music and enjoying activities that require physical activity. Martin also helps out with P.E. activities at school.

"I go help out with P.E., I'm basically the assistant, I go help and so I spend all my hours at the field house," Martin said.

As his first and only year on the cross-country team as a senior, Martin said what he looked forward to the most was just working hard.

"Working as hard as I can and trying to do my best and push myself as hard as I can," Martin said.

With the season ending and finally seeing the cross-country come to fruition, Martin said he felt pretty down at first.

"I just got introduced to it and I started loving it and it was my last year, it ended but I got to go for a visit actually to Northwestern, I was getting recruited by the head coach over there for cross-country. I'm just learning everything I can to better myself and others around me, seeking every tool to help me out," Martin said.

With seeking the tools that helped him the most, Martin said what every cross-country runner needs is confidence and mentality.

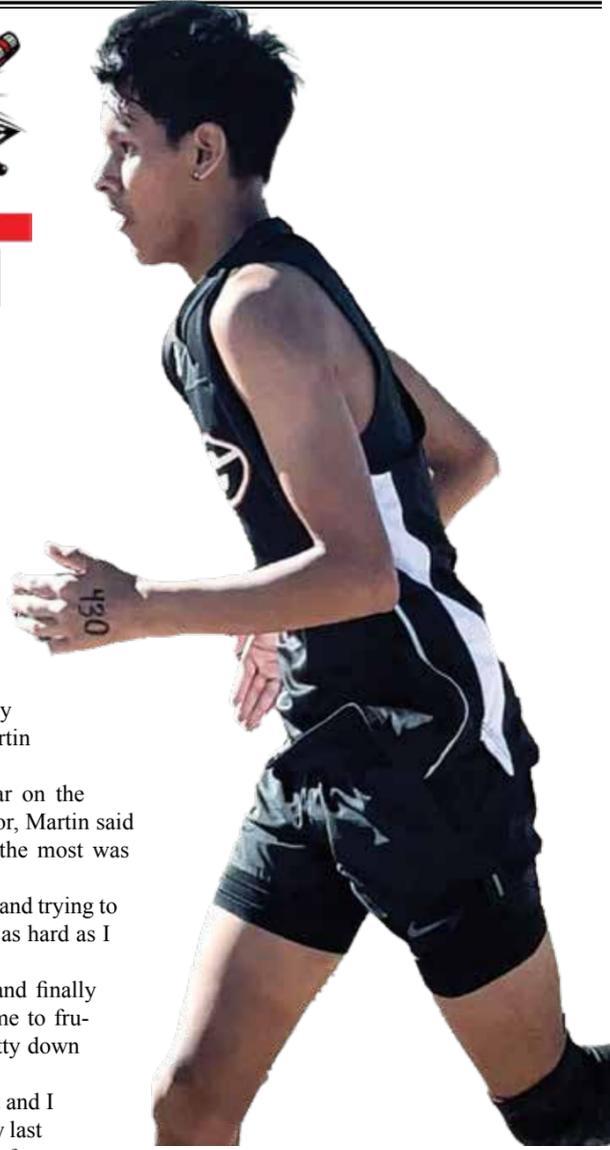
"Because you got to push yourself and if you don't have confidence you can't do that and without the right mentality, you can't do that," Martin said.

In ending the season, Martin qualified for state, which was a goal Martin had all season long.

J.C. Estep, with Geary Public Schools said the team competed in some tough meets this year.

"Although Martin was running good times, he never medaled until our last regular season meet placing 7th at the Chisholm OBA meet on Oct. 8, we mapped out what we thought would qualify him during the regional meet, he didn't have his best race that day but even on his bad day he was good enough to qualify for state," Estep said.

Last year was Estep's first year at Geary Public Schools, where he had Martin in off-season athletics. Martin had initially approached Estep with the idea for a



cross-country team.

"I promised him that I'd work to try to make that happen in the next year, so this year the administration allowed us to have cross country. But it wasn't just Matthew who participated, we had 20-30 4th through 12th grade runners each Saturday," Estep said.

Estep said Martin has truly opened up doors not for just himself but for other students.

"I can't wait to see what Matthew goes on to accomplish in his future and what these future cross country runners do here at Geary, he was a true inspiration to not only this year's runners but also to our future runners," Estep said.

Martin said what cross-country has taught him the most is that he can do whatever he puts his mind to.

"It's taught me that I can do a lot of things, if I put my mind to it I can do it, that's what it's taught me because I haven't been able to do that before and it's been good help," Martin said.

Expected to graduate in Spring 2023, Martin hopes to attend college and study business. After college, he hopes to return to Geary Public Schools and become a coach.

Martin's mother is Millie Pratt, his grandmother is Jewell Shawnee and his grandfather is Steven Pratt. He has one sister, Kelsey Pratt.

## Darlington teams sweep their season opener

(CONCHO, OK) Darlington Chiefs and Lady Chiefs basketball teams opened up their season on Nov. 1 against Banner Bombers on the road.

The Lady Chiefs, up first, came out to a hot start, shooting in the 1st quarter, with three 3-pointers to take a 19-2 lead after the first quarter. Livia Fourhorns led the way with two 3-pointers. The offense in the 2nd quarter slowed down a little bit but the defense stayed the same. RoseMary Sleeper scored all of Darlington's points in the 2nd quarter, off the bench as the Lady Chiefs extended their lead to 28-2 at halftime.

The second half of the game was just like the first half as Darlington controlled the game throughout. The Lady Chiefs outscored Banner, 16-4 in the second half to finish off a dominant 44-6 win. RoseMary Sleeper finished with 11 points to lead the way in the scoring column. Livia Fourhorns was the other scorer in double digits with 10 points. Dezee Beaver-Ware scored

7 pts, Sasha Elledge had 6 pts, Khadija Ba and Ryleigh Burns both scored 4 pts and Caitlyn Mendez rounded out the scoring with 2 pts.

Darlington Chiefs took the court next and jumped on Banner early as they started out 14-0 in the first minutes of the game. Shannon Russell and Ronnie Satepauhoodle each scored 8 points in the first quarter as the Chiefs opened the first quarter with a 24-7 lead. Darlington continued to build on their lead as they outscored Banner, 9-2, in the second quarter for a 33-9 halftime lead.

After the break, Jacen Bear scored 7 points as Darlington put it on cruise control and coasted to a 52-19 victory. Jacen Bear and Shannon Russell each had 14 points to lead the way. Ronnie Satepauhoodle was the only other player in double digits with 10 points. Antonio Baxcayaj led those in single digits with 6 points. Justyn Hawk hit a 3 pointer, Ross Island and Danny Sioux both scored 2 points each and Omar Trejo had 1 point.



On Nov. 3 the Chiefs continued their domination on the court with a 58-35 win over Grove, and Lady Chiefs held on to win over Grove with a final score of 20-18, making both teams

2-0. The Chiefs played at the Calumet Junior High Tournament during the week of Nov. 7-12<sup>th</sup> and hosted Riverside Indian School in Concho on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Office of Veterans Affairs**

**CHEYENNE and ARAPAHO TRIBES**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Special Tribal Council Meeting**

**Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022  
10:00am**

**Clinton Emergency Response Center  
Clinton, OK**

**Agenda Items:**

- 1. A Tribal Council Resolution to Approve the 2023 Budget**
- 2. A Tribal Council Resolution to Approve the Establishment of the Department of Language and Culture**

**Office of the Tribal Council**  
**Jennifer Bailey - Tribal Council Coordinator**  
**Office Phone: 405-422-7430**  
**Cell Phone: 405-215-4697**  
**Email: jbailey@cheyenneandrapaho-nsn.gov**

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES  
 ANNUAL TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING  
 DECEMBER 3, 2022  
 CLINTON ERC  
 CLINTON, OK  
 10:00am

A Tribal Council Resolution to Approve the 2023 Budget  
 Tribal Council Resolution No: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Posted: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Published: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS:** The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are a federally recognized tribe with their own form of self-government organized under a constitution approved by Tribal membership on April 4, 2006, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and

**WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution grants the Tribal Council the power to set policy for the Tribes and shall have other powers and duties specifically provided by the Constitution; and

**WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution provides the Tribal Council exclusive power to approve the annual budget for the Tribes; provided that if the Tribal Council fails to approve or disapprove the annual budget within thirty days of receipt of the annual budget as approved in the Legislative Process, then the annual budget shall be deemed approved. The annual budget shall include all revenue and funds controlled by the Tribes including gaming revenue, and all revenue and funds received by the Tribes from any and all sources; and

**WHEREAS:** On XXXXX XX, 2022, the Ninth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes passed 9L-SS-2022-XXXX-00X – A Bill to Enact the 2023 Budget; and

**WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 3 of the Constitution states in part that "Special Meetings of the Tribal Council may be called by five members of the Legislature"; and

**WHEREAS:** On XXXX XX, 2022, via Resolution 9L-SS-2022-XXXX-00X, the Ninth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes called a Special Meeting of the Tribal Council for December 3, 2022, at the Clinton ERC with one of the purposes being for Tribal Council to vote on the approval of the 2023 Budget; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES approves the 2023 Annual Budget of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes effective January 1, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Tribal Council Chairperson

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Tribal Council Resolution \_\_\_\_\_, which was voted on by the Tribal Council of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Annual Tribal Council Meeting on December 3, 2022, by a vote of \_\_\_ for, \_\_\_ against, and \_\_\_ abstaining.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Tribal Council Secretary

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES  
 ANNUAL TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING  
 DECEMBER 3, 2022  
 CLINTON ERC  
 CLINTON, OK  
 10:00am

A Tribal Council Resolution to Approve the Establishment of the Department of Language and Culture  
 Tribal Council Resolution No: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Posted: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Published: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS:** The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are a federally recognized tribe with their own form of self-government organized under a constitution approved by Tribal membership on April 4, 2006, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and

**WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution grants the Tribal Council the power to set policy for the Tribes and shall have other powers and duties specifically provided by the Constitution; and

**WHEREAS:** Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution provides the Tribal Council the power to approve the creation of additional departments within the Executive Branch;

**WHEREAS:** On XXXXX XX, 2022, the Ninth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes passed 9L-SS-2022-XXXX-00X – A Resolution to Approve the Establishment of a Department of Culture and Language; and

**WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 3 of the Constitution states in part that "Special Meetings of the Tribal Council may be called by five members of the Legislature"; and

**WHEREAS:** On XXXX XX, 2022, via Resolution 9L-SS-2022-XXXX-00X, the Ninth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes called a Special Meeting of the Tribal Council for December 3, 2022, at the Clinton ERC with one of the purposes being for Tribal Council to approve the establishment of the Department of Culture and Language; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES approves the establishment of the Department of Culture and Language.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Tribal Council Chairperson

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Tribal Council Resolution \_\_\_\_\_, which was voted on by the Tribal Council of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Annual Tribal Council Meeting on December 3, 2022, by a vote of \_\_\_ for, \_\_\_ against, and \_\_\_ abstaining.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Tribal Council Secretary

**RECRUITING  
 CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO  
 WOMEN VETERANS  
 TO JOIN THE  
 VETERANS AFFAIRS  
 BOARD**



**Veteran Board Meetings  
 are every second Tuesday of the month.**

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**The footprints of our ancestors**

In 1992 in Serbia, a brigade of serbians were stopped by a Russian observer, who asked them where they were going ... "We are going to take this mountain," they responded. The man asked: "what do you need this mountain for? There's nothing there, or is it a strategically important point?" "No, no," they answered, "strategically it is not at all important, there's absolutely nothing there, neither water, nor electricity. But this is our Serbian Mountain. This mountain does not want to belong to Croatia, this mountain wants to stay in Serbia. It calls us. Yes, there are numerous Croatia brigades there and Bosnian Muslims on the right. And we will go right now, and we will die there."

Sound familiar? It should ... Our connection to our land is important to remember. It is a close relationship of cohesion and symbiosis; of mutual love and respect. It is an awareness that it lives, breathes, and has a heartbeat. Sometimes it cries.

Our ancestors understood this, and they lived and died to demonstrate it. Somewhere inside us all, this awareness still exists. That means our connection still exists, therefore this land still belongs to us and we belong to it. We lose it only when we lose ourselves.

Because of inflation, it takes more dollars to buy a product today than it did yesterday. You don't need a degree in monetary theory to understand economics. The

dollar has a virtual, hypothetical and depreciating value, whereas land has an actual certain and appreciating value, and that is why it is called real estate; it is property that is tangible and real.

Investing in land is investing in our people; protecting the land is protecting our people and enriching the land is enriching our people. If there is food on the land, it is because it knows our hunger. If there is water on the land, it is because it knows our thirst; if there are trees, it is because it knows we need shade.

Knowing what and more importantly who divides us, will keep us together and make us stronger, for when the one become the many, the many become one. A circle had to be connected; otherwise it's just a curved line.

Anyone can steer a ship, but it takes a leader to plot the course. If who leads is not taking the course you agree with,, don't whine, complain or sow dissent. Find a new leader, or find another ship. We can't fight for our people by fighting with each other, so get in the real fight or get out of the way, otherwise its you who are wasting our time.

We should all be certain of our destination. If we're uncertain which path to take to get there, all we have to do is look down and follow the footprints of our ancestors.

*Respectfully submitted,  
 but not in submission,  
 Michael L. Coyote  
 El Dorado, Kansas*



**RESPIRATORY  
 SYNCYTIAL  
 VIRUS (RSV)**

RSV is a common respiratory virus that circulates each year in the United States, usually from late fall through early spring. RSV can be serious, especially for infants and older adults.



**SYMPTOMS**

Runny nose, decreased appetite, coughing, sneezing, fever, and wheezing



**PREVENTION**

Cover coughs and sneezes, wash hands often, avoid contact with sick people



**STAY UP TO DATE WITH VACCINATIONS**

COVID and flu vaccines

**HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF RSV**

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your upper shirt sleeve, not your hands
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid close contact, such as kissing, shaking hands, and sharing cups and eating utensils, with others
- Clean frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and mobile devices

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:**

[www.IHS.gov](http://www.IHS.gov)  
 or the CDC RSV Homepage  
<https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/>

In an emergency, dial 911 or your local emergency number immediately.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Happy 18th Birthday  
Maddie!  
November 16th  
Love you,  
mom, dad & the rest of  
your family

Happy 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday to  
my Marcella  
Sankey-Woods! I am  
so proud of the young  
woman you are becoming.  
Love you mom.  
Happy 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
to our Ophelia "Bugs"  
Woods! We Love you so  
much sweetheart.  
Love, mom & dad

In Loving Memory of  
Patrick Emhoolah II  
Nov. 15, 1977  
April 24, 2017

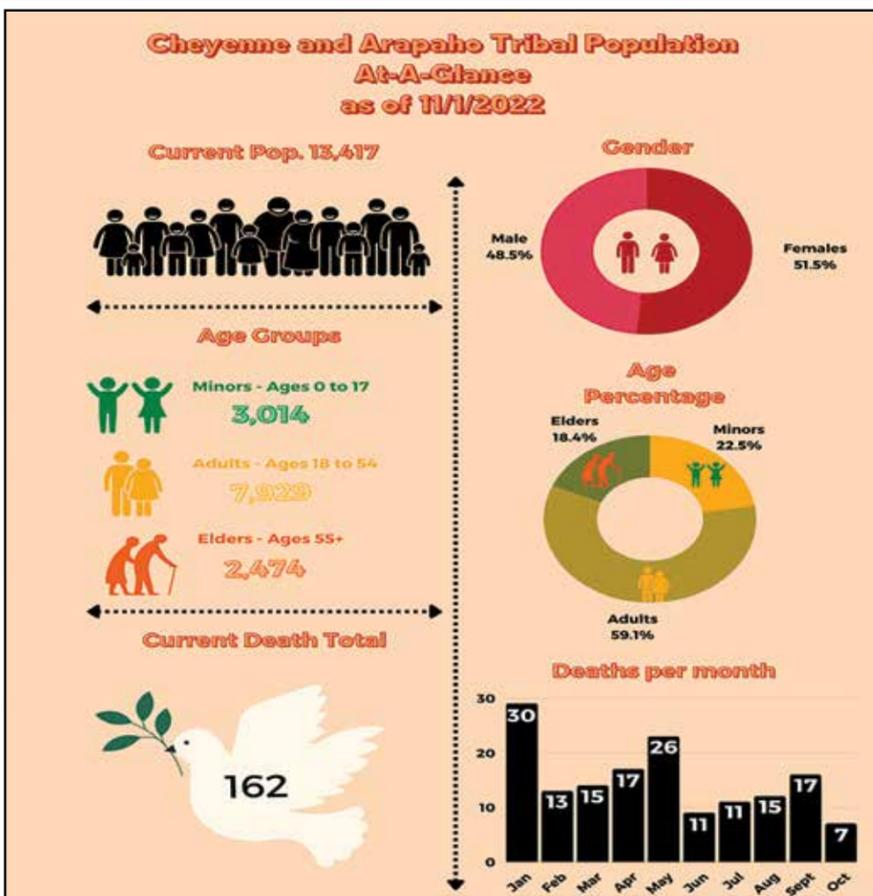
To our son,  
Happy Heavenly Birthday  
Forever 39 years old. You  
are certainly missed by your  
loved ones.

Mom talks to you all the  
time because she knows you  
hear every word.

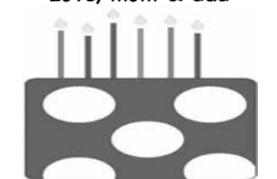
Dad is always remembering  
"when." Baby, keep watch  
over us. Until we meet for a  
joyous reunion.

Forever in our hearts, we  
just miss you! Enjoy your  
day with your love ones.

Mom, Georgia, Dad,  
Michael, sisters, Rayna  
Emhoolah and Stacy  
Fletcher, aunties Rita Oliver  
and Janice Maxwell, and  
your babies, Jaylon &  
Anastasia Emhoolah



EDIT: In the Nov. 1, 2022 issue of the Tribal Tribune we inadvertently left out the fact that Danny Reyes is an enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. He performed at the Native 66 Festival in his traditional regalia in Geary, Okla.



**NOTICE:**  
Cheyenne District 3 Elder meetings will be on hold after the Holiday Season. Meetings will resume in January 2023. Thank you.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

Don't miss your copy of the *Tribal Tribune*. Send address changes to Tribal Tribune, PO Box 38, Concho, Okla. 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED NOV 03 2022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of: )  
CASEY R. LEVI )  
V. )  
TIMOTHY RICHARD, JR. )

Case No. CIV-2022-0062

**NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: TIMOTHY RICHARD, JR.  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER 2022, at 10:00 A.M., O'clock, in the Courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR**, on the above date and time indicated for Presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through Zoom. To appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Your smart device will need a camera, microphone, and a stable internet connection. If you do not have access to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional telephone.

Parties must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting.

- Video conferencing for smart device users:
  - Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCaUJWVDVlOEMyMjM1OGRkTGh0Q09
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
  - Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2022.

Lafreda Whitecovey, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED OCT 25 2022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of Guardianship of: )  
TAMMY WOLFCHIEF )  
DOB: 02/17/1971 )  
An Alleged Incapacitated Adult, )

Case No. PG-2007-0035

**NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: TAMMY WOLFCHIEF

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of NOVEMBER 2022, at 10:00 A.M., O'clock, in the Courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR**, on the above date and time indicated for Presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through Zoom. To appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Your smart device will need a camera, microphone, and a stable internet connection. If you do not have access to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional telephone.

Parties must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting.

- Video conferencing for smart device users:
  - Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCaUJWVDVlOEMyMjM1OGRkTGh0Q09
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
  - Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

Lafreda Whitecovey, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED NOV 12 2022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of the Guardianship of: )  
S.A.B.C. )  
Minor Child, )

Case No: PG-2019-0067  
PG-2021-0045

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL REVIEW HEARING BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: FELICIA DAUKEI

The above-styled case is hereby set for Hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of NOVEMBER 2022, at 10:00 A.M., O'clock, in the Courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR**, on the above date and time indicated for Presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through Zoom. To appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Your smart device will need a camera, microphone, and a stable internet connection. If you do not have access to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional telephone.

Parties must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting.

- Video conferencing for smart device users:
  - Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCaUJWVDVlOEMyMjM1OGRkTGh0Q09
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
  - Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.

Lafreda Whitecovey, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED SEP 20 2022  
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES CONCHO OKLAHOMA

TRIBAL CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, )  
EX. REL., )  
KOHLONI BLACK, )  
PETITIONER, )  
vs. )  
MANUEL CARRIAGA, )  
RESPONDENT, )

Case No: CIV-2021-0948  
MANUEL CARRIAGA: OBLIGOR  
KOHLONI BLACK: CUSTODIAN

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

TO: MANUEL CARRIAGA

TAKE NOTICE that you are a named party in the Application for Indirect Contempt with the Court listed above by Tribal Child Support Services. You must appear in the District Court for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2022 AT 2:00 A.M. Your failure to appear may result in a bench warrant for your arrest and/or may result in a default judgment against you.

Given under my hand and seal this 20<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2022.

COURT CLERK  
District Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes  
By: [Signature]  
(Deputy)

Prepared by:  
Krista Blackwolf, Office Manager/Legal Assistant  
Tribal Child Support Services  
P.O. Box 37  
El Reno, OK 73036  
Telephone: 405-262-1119 Ext. 304  
Facsimile: 405-262-1125

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED NOV 03 2022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of the Guardianship of: )  
J.N.A. )  
A Minor Child, )

Case No. PG-2022-0014

**NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: SAMUEL AGUINA  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER 2022, at 10:00 A.M., in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR**, on the above date and time indicated for Presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through Zoom. To appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Your smart device will need a camera, microphone, and a stable internet connection. If you do not have access to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional telephone.

Parties must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting.

- Video conferencing for smart device users:
  - Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCaUJWVDVlOEMyMjM1OGRkTGh0Q09
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
  - Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2022.

Dana Matanase, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED NOV 03 2022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of the Guardianship of: )  
V.C. )  
R.C. )  
Minor Children, )

Case No. PG-2016-0105

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL REVIEW HEARING BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: AMBER BIGEAGLE  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER 2022, at 10:00 A.M., in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR**, on the above date and time indicated for Presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through Zoom. To appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Your smart device will need a camera, microphone, and a stable internet connection. If you do not have access to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional telephone.

Parties must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting.

- Video conferencing for smart device users:
  - Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCaUJWVDVlOEMyMjM1OGRkTGh0Q09
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
  - Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
  - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2022.

Lafreda Whitecovey, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FILED SEP 20 2022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES CONCHO, OKLAHOMA

TRIBAL CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, )  
EX. REL., )  
EDWINA WHITEMAN, )  
PETITIONER, )  
vs. )  
SHEENA SHARP, )  
RESPONDENT, )

Case No: PG-2020-0041/CIV-2021-0100  
SHEENA SHARP: OBLIGOR  
EDWINA WHITEMAN: CUSTODIAN

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

TO: SHEENA SHARP

TAKE NOTICE that you are a named party in the Application for Indirect Contempt with the Court listed above by Tribal Child Support Services. You must appear in the District Court for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2022 AT 2:00 A.M. Your failure to appear may result in a bench warrant for your arrest and/or may result in a default judgment against you.

Given under my hand and seal this 20<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2022.

COURT CLERK  
District Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes  
By: [Signature]  
(Deputy)

Prepared by:  
Krista Blackwolf, Office Manager/Legal Assistant  
Tribal Child Support Services  
P.O. Box 37  
El Reno, OK 73036  
Telephone: 405-262-1119 Ext. 304  
Facsimile: 405-262-1125

# First Native American WNBA Athlete Receives Fifth Hall of Fame Honor in Oklahoma City

## Former WNBA Player Ryneldi Becenti Hosts Basketball Clinics in Cheyenne and Arapaho Country

Rosemary Stephens  
Editor-in-Chief

In 1994, Becenti was playing professional basketball in Sweden. She also played in Greece. In 1997, she signed with the Phoenix Mercury in the WNBA as a free agent and played in their inaugural season. In 1998, she was drafted by the Chicago Condors in the American Basketball League. In 1996, she became the first and only female basketball player to be inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame, one of five. She has also been inducted into the Arizona High School Hall of Fame, Scottsdale Community College Hall of Fame, Arizona State University Hall of Fame and recently on Nov. 5, she was inducted into the National Native American Hall of Fame. She was also the first women's basketball player to have her jersey (No. 21) retired by Arizona State University.

"I'm excited to be here and excited to do a basketball camp and clinic here (Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes). I'm being inducted into my fifth hall of fame, which I'm excited about. How does someone get into five hall of fames?" Becenti asked the audience laughing.

She shared a story about running across Steph Curry when she attended a Suns game, and out of nowhere she said she just blurted out, "You've got four championships, but I have five hall of fames! And he just looked at me with that look of, 'who the heck are you?'" she said, again sparking laughter throughout the audience.

Becenti said at a very young age she developed an addiction, a passion and it was for the game of basketball. She said she dreamed of going to the Olympics because of watching Cheryl Miller play in the Olympics and she overheard someone saying, "look she's opening doors for African Americans."

"And when I heard that I had it in my mind I want to be the one to play basketball, to leave the reservation and be the one to open the doors ... I want to be just

like Cheryl Miller," Becenti said.

Becenti grew up watching her parents play basketball, referring to herself as a gym rat, going to little tournaments and watching them play.

"We would leave and they would have nice trophies or nice jackets. My dad would always say get up there and play. Back then my dad was kind of like a Navajo Phil Jackson ... he knew the ins and outs, the x's and o's of basketball and that's how another part of my basketball passion came through," she said.

Becenti's dad showed her the game, watching Larry Byrd, Magic Johnson and he would tell her to watch how they pass, how they moved.

"It was like art and he said they were painting a picture. That's what basketball is about ... painting a picture," Becenti said.

She shared a story of playing in one of the biggest high school tournaments one year, where several college coaches were at, remembering only one coach who came up to her after the tournament. One coach who took the time to talk to her, that one coach who took a chance on her and she saw it as her chance to leave the reservation.

"Not any of the other coaches even talked to me, or looked at me, just this one coach. But I will tell you after a couple years of playing I started to get offers from UCLA, USC and other places, but I really wanted to go to USC ... you know why? That's where Cheryl Miller had gone," Becenti said.

She said she found out that her dad really wanted her to attend Arizona State University (ASU), and she was told he was 'really bummed' that she had chosen to go to USC.

My dad wanted me to go to ASU - and he was really bummed out that I was going to go to USC. "My dad put a roof over my head, my dad had done everything for me, because my mom had passed away right before high school, so I went and signed with ASU and every-

er moved them to Bethany, Okla. He said he hated the school in Bethany so his mother asked him if he wanted to attend the St Patrick's Indian Mission School in Anadarko.

He later would join the U.S. Marine Corps, being sent to San Diego, Calif., for boot camp.

"My uncle Charles was a World War II veteran, Marines, so he has always, always been in my head, even when I was little, and we would go see him when he was stationed in different places. Mother would always take us to go visit him. He was a hero to me. I met other veterans and my mother would tell me to go shake their hands, all four of us boys growing up would do that. My grandfather would always speak of his son Charles, so when it became time for me to join the military there was no other choice for me but the Marine Corps. And I wasn't quite sure what was going to happen but I ended up going overseas with the Military



Ryneldi Becenti (center with 'Rally the Valley' shirt) poses for a photo with employees of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes after sharing her story in a special guest appearance. (Photos / Latoya Lonelodge)

one was like what are you doing you said you were signing with USC, and my dad asked me why.

I told him he had done everything for me, taught me everything I knew about basketball so I was doing this for him. And that's how I ended up at ASU," Becenti said.

Today, Becenti shares her story with youth and holds basketball clinics, as many as she can, to give back to the community, but also to honor a request her dad made before his death.

"My dad passed about 12 years ago, and he told me, 'when you get through playing professionally I want you to travel and give back to the kids, even if you have to do free camps. I want you to give back to the kids.' He wanted me to share my story, and that's what I do. I tell my story and hopefully inspire other young Natives to push for their dreams," Becenti said.

She strives to help other Native kids to know that can have the same opportunities she had, if they want it and want to work for it.

"I try to tell my story so they know if I can do it they can do. I want other Natives to be in the spotlight, to have hope. One thing I always share is my motivation, and for me that was my mom," she said.

Becenti's mother died right before she began high school, sending her into a depression so deep she



Ryneldi Becenti, former, WNBA player is a five time hall of fame inductee.

didn't want to play basketball.

"We had that mother/daughter bond and I lost that. About two or three months after she died my dad told me I could go to her gravesite and cry, cry as many tears as you want, but you want your mom to see you fail, and this and that. And the thing is, I felt so much better and I thought to myself I'm going to do this for my mom," Becenti said.

And that's what she did ... every day ... she said when she woke up each morning she would go outside and run ... for her mom ... she found her inspiration in her memories of her mom.

Police," Pratt said.

Pratt said being in the military wasn't hard for him because he had attended boarding school.

"Boarding school we had rules, you had to clean, do your own laundry, make your bed, do your chores. All those things I did at boarding school I did when I went into the Marine Corps and I thought, this ain't bad," he said laughing.

Pratt's love of the military and the honor he carries as a Marine Corps veteran helped in his decision to enter the design competition, but none of them, Pratt, Gina or Nathan fully believed they would win.

"I didn't see it coming, but once we were in the midst of it I became very passionate about the design and what we were doing, and the process," Gina said. "You know we're busy, it's chaotic but we are telling ourselves to enjoy the moment and not worry about the other things. To take things as they come, just be in the moment and enjoy it because it's a once in a

"You are going to find that inspiration, you go find what motivates you and do it. Mine was my parents," Becenti told the audience.

She said there were no words to describe the feeling of being inducted into another hall of fame and what she feels is gratitude to be honored as a Native American woman.

"The message I push to all young Native girls is why not you? Why not you be the one to go out there, not just in sports, but why not you? That's my message everywhere I go - why not you be the next one to go out there and play professional basketball or whatever it is you dream of doing."

lifetime thing that's happening for all of us. It's bigger than we are.

The groundbreaking for the National Native American Veterans Memorial is slated for September 2019 and a grand opening in 2020. The memorial will be an ongoing project, with changes along the way, but not to the core values instilled in the original design by Pratt and his team.

"We were so involved in this whole thing from the beginning that we didn't even think about where it was going. It didn't dawn on us that after they said we were the finalist we got an email from a somebody and he said, 'Harvey you guys will be there forever as long as there is an America your memorial will be there with the Washington Memorial and the Lincoln,' and I looked at Gina and said, 'Holy crap I never even thought about that.' We went to bed thinking about this and we woke up thinking about it and it hasn't quit."



Ryneldi Becenti is a former Arizona State University (ASU) women's basketball player. ASU retired Becenti's #21 jersey, becoming one of the first players to have number retired at ASU. (Photo courtesy of ASU Athletics)

## VETERANS MEMORIAL

continued from pg. 2

stantly exchanging ideas, comparing perspectives and I think that's what ultimately refined it. It has been an honor to be a part of the process," Nathan said.

Working collaboratively the team would define each and every detail of the design, tweaking here and there to fit the vision Pratt saw in his mind.

"We talked about changing things and the drum. We talked about sound. I wanted the people to hear the Flag Songs, the Veteran Songs, Honor Songs or Victory Songs playing very quietly above the whole inside area, where you can barely hear someone singing and the drum ... not loud, just very softly and quietly as people come into meditate."

The ideas for the design, Pratt said came from the ceremonies when entering the tipi.

"There are certain things you don't do, you don't run, you don't holler and I wanted

this place to be like that. The same peaceful, respectful way we are at ceremonies. Veterans can come in there and tell their war stories, War Mothers can come in there and pray for their husbands, sons ... be involved," Pratt said.

Closing his eyes Pratt seemed to go into the future describing what the inside of the memorial, from the footprints, to the sound of water, to the Eagle feathers and the prayer cloths, 'we have a vertical circle inside, to me represents the hole in the sky where the Eagle flies through and takes your prayers up there to the Creator and the Creator sends them back down ... it's everlasting, it's endless and that the way I see this memorial."

Harvey Pratt

Pratt, a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, has been one of the most well known Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations (OSBI) forensic artists

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES EMPLOYEE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE presents

CHECK OUT OUR EVENT ON **facebook.**

# Concho Christmas CRAFT FAIR

Where the buffalo roam

## THURSDAY DECEMBER 8, 2022

### 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

#### CONCHO RESPECT GYM 220 E BLACK KETTLE BLVD, CONCHO, OK

### Unique Christmas Gifts for Everyone on Your List

Native Jewelry | Costume Jewelry | Bath & Body Products | Clothing | Accessories | Art | Candles | Baked Goods & Candies | Homemade Jams & Jellies & Sauces | Blankets & Throws | Home Décor | One-of-a-Kind Toys | Pottery

EMPLOYEE COMMITTEE  
**CONCESSION BOOTH**  
no other concession-style vendors please

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**FREE PARKING**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

**VENDORS WELCOME**  
**\$50\* BOOTH FEE**  
INCLUDES 6' TABLE & CHAIRS  
\*\$25 for C&A Tribal Members

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: (405) 422-7531**

All proceeds benefit Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Employee Events

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## GRATITUDE GRAVY AND

# GIFT CARDS

## GIFT CARD DRAWING EVERY DAY IN NOVEMBER!

10 POINTS EQUALS 1 ENTRY. EARN ENTRIES  
BEGINNING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>



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