

Tearing Down to Build Back Better

By Ray Dyer, El Reno Tribune



Demolition crews took down the old Denny’s Restaurant and a nearby service station on South Country Club last week. The property is owned by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. (Photo / Ray Dyer)

(EI RENO, OK) A wrecking crew made quick work of a former restaurant and service station that had stood on South Country Club, just south of I-40 since the early 1970s.

First built as Hensley’s and later becoming a Denny’s, the restaurant and nearby service station were leveled last week as the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes move forward with plans to one day develop the area.

Gov. Reggie Wassana said nothing is “in black and white” as of now, but “at some point in time,” eventually a travel plaza as well as possibly a “strip shopping center, a trading post or western wear store”

could occupy the property.

“I’ve always thought a western store would be good in this area. People have to go into Oklahoma City for boots, jeans and coats, so I think a store that offered these would do well in this area,” he said.

The C&A purchased the property within the past couple of years. The tribes also own the Best Western Motel and more than 100 acres to the east of it. Nothing has been announced, but speculation has been a casino-type resort could eventually be built there.

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Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes hold third annual MMIP Honor Parade



Story/Photo / Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

Despite the rainy weather, tribal citizens’ spirits were not drowned out by the cloudy conditions as they marched down Black Kettle road holding signs and posters of loved ones that have been affected by the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People’s (MMIP) epidemic.

On May 4, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes held the third annual MMIP Honor Parade in Concho, Okla., where a ceremony was held at the Concho Emergency Response Center and a honor parade followed.

While the rain ensued during the opening ceremony, many showed up ready to partake in the parade in support of their loved ones who have gone missing or who have been murdered.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana made opening remarks and welcomed everyone to the event.

“Thank you to the drum group, color guard, welcome to the other

tribes that are here, our elders, our veterans and all those who are new in our attendance, we need to understand the importance of the purpose of why we gather and why we plan these events,” Gov. Wassana said.

Wassana said there were two pieces of legislation that were passed, Ida’s Law and the Kasey’s Alert Act that was passed on May 1.

“When we gather like this, that’s how we get those bills and the legislature to pass these laws because you make a difference when you come here and you show your support,” Gov. Wassana said.

Wassna said it shows congressman, elected officials and the governor that action needs to be taken.

“That’s what bring us all together to get those actions taken, so it’s very important that we keep remembering, we keep on getting those legislations passed, we deter that act of violence against our Native people because if we don’t show up people think it’s

okay to do some things it’s not okay to do,” Gov. Wassana said.

Honoring the lives who were affected by the MMIP crisis, Wassana said they need to be remembered.

“We have to remember those people we lost, we have to remember those people who were murdered and we have to remember to educate everybody that that is not the way we live and that is not acceptable to us as native people so always keep these things in your mind, keep educating people and keep telling people we’re going to keep gathering until we defeat this,” Wassana said.

Newly elected vice-chair of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes MMIP Chapter, Norene Starr, took the podium next to express her gratitude.

“I’m just here to tell you that this is what we do, we do these things in steps sometimes with tiny steps and sometimes in leaps and bounds, we’re grateful to the governor for signing those laws into effect and

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Clean Air Act Grant Helps to Promote Healthy Lives in Cheyenne and Arapaho Communities

By Rosemary Stephens and Robyn French

(CONCHO, OK) Clean air is paramount to healthy living.

In September 2020 the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes were awarded \$57,153.00 for the Clean Air Act grant under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6, Air and Radiation Division. Robyn French, Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizen was selected to serve as the Air Quality Specialist to develop, manage and carry out the grant requirements for the tribal EPA Program.

What is the Clean Air Act?

The Clean Air Act (CAA) is the comprehensive federal law that regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources. Among other things, this law authorizes the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and public welfare and to regulate emissions of hazardous air pollutants.

“The one-year grant project period began Oct. 1, 2020, through Sept. 30, 2021. The tribes former EPA Director, Damon Dunbar, submitted an application for the Clean Air Act grant on June 1, 2020,

and we were awarded grant funding on Sept. 4, 2020,” French said.

With COVID-19 still in full swing in October 2020, COVID restrictions affected the full development of the Clean Air grant program. In-person meetings, hands on trainings, and conferences were converted to virtual communications due to the pandemic and state-wide mandated restrictions. Outside organizations and agencies who would typically be of assistance in the development of new environmental programs were limited on the support they could offer. This limitation set the grant activities behind schedule, and due to this setback, the EPA program submitted a ‘no-cost extension’ request in order to complete required activities, being approved in August 2021.

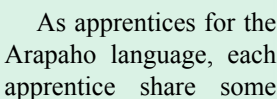
“Learning and adjusting to new ways of meeting, training and network through online Zoom, Webinars and Online Coursework commenced in order to fulfill grant mandates,” French said.

Projects initiated under the Clean Air Act grant will benefit the tribal citizens by increasing community awareness of environmental

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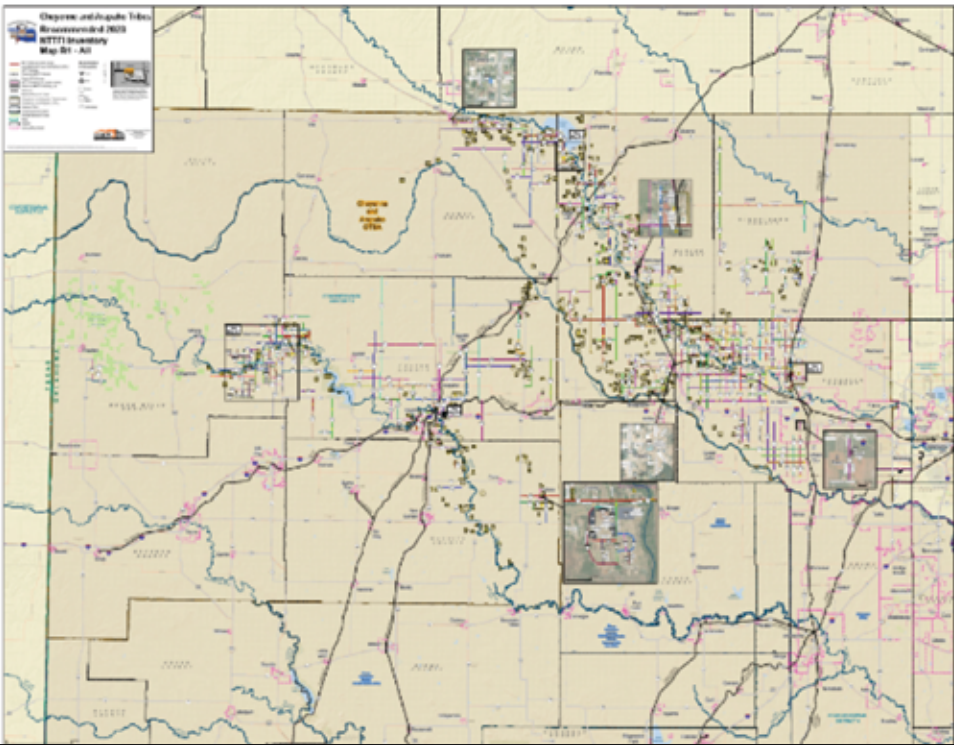
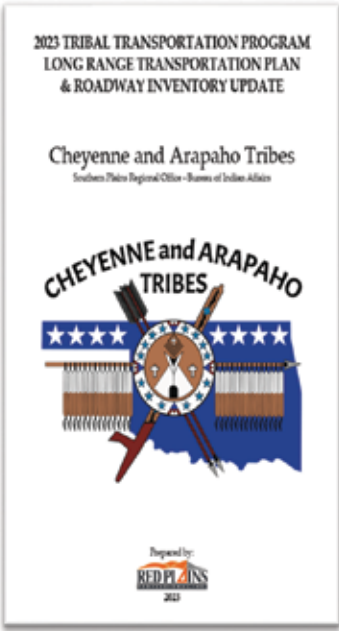
Latoya Lonelodge, *Senior Reporter*

“I got to meet some of the first language speakers in Wyoming and some of the ones



“I feel like I owe a lot to these first language speakers because of the time that they spent with us and the things that they share with us, we can’t put value on these things and so I feel like I’m responsible to share some of the language,” Sleeper said.

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First Native American Mayor of Geary, Oklahoma Strives for Unity

Rosemary Stephens
Editor-in-Chief

(GEARY, OK) Unity and moving forward together.

Those are the ideals the newly elected mayor of Geary, Okla., Waylan Upchego ran his campaign on and is bringing into his new four-year administration.

Taking office on April 24, 2023, Upchego is seen as the first Native American mayor of Geary, at least as far back as anyone in town can remember.

“I’ve always been told our city councils, our school boards, our county boards, whatever there is to be elected should reflect the community. As such I am the first Native mayor of Geary, at least as far back as anyone can remember I am the first Native. There may have been one way back and they just didn’t acknowledge they were Native because it was taboo back then, but as far as anyone knows I am the first Native mayor of Geary,” Upchego said.

Upchego said the struggles in his community motivated him to run for mayor, stepping down from the Geary School Board to do so. He has witnessed the dying of the town, an increased poverty amongst the town and the challenges his community faces.

“My whole platform and why I wanted to run was because our community lacks unity. I’d like to see the city, the schools, our civic groups, our business owners, the tribes be on the same page in Geary because we all have a stake in Geary, the city, the schools, the tribes ... everybody has a stake in Geary. I think all of us working together is the only way it’s going to be solved, bringing everybody to the table within our community and having a seat at the table,” Upchego said. “The government can’t

fix it and the schools aren’t going to fix it if they don’t have help from the community. If we aren’t all on the same page, with the same agenda of seeing all people thrive in Geary ... we want to leave it better than the way we found it. And that’s what motivated me to run.”

Upchego, Northern Ute, was born in Utah on the Ute Reservation and raised there up until about his sixth-grade year. His mother, Cynthia (Bates) met his stepfather in college, Melvin Bates, who was from Oklahoma.

“After my mother met my step-dad we moved to Oklahoma, around my sixth-seventh grade year, and I’ve been in Oklahoma since, living most of my life in Watonga, Okla., graduating from Watonga High School in 1987,” he said.

Upchego joined the National Guard at age 17 and spent 10 years in the guard, being deployed during Desert Storm and served overseas. Upon his return from deployment, his step-dad was a police officer in Watonga and he decided to continue on with law enforcement, serving 24 years as a law enforcement officer.

“As a little kid I just knew it was a calling of mine to be in the military like my grandfathers, uncles, it’s part of my heritage and to be a police officer. I spent the last seven years of my law enforcement career as the police chief in Geary and I started in 1993 with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes police force, spending nine years with them and then three years with Osage Nation,” Upchego said.

Upchego is also a pastor in Geary at the All Tribes Baptist Church, starting in 2010 with the Assembly of God. He said what got him into church came after the birth of one of his daughters.

“An evangelist from out

here at the Assembly of God kept asking us to come to church ... come to church, and we were like, ‘eh, naw, Sundays are our day off and stuff like that. But when she (daughter) was born we finally said, ‘okay let’s go to church,’ and God worked on me,” Upchego said as he smiled and sat back in his chair.

Attending a spiritual retreat in 2010 he felt a tug-ging on his heart to enter the ministry, starting as a youth pastor at the Assembly of God and eventually going to school through them to become an ordained minister.

In 2017 he was contacted by several members of the All Tribes Baptist Church asking if he would come and consider being its pastor and open the church back up.

“The All Tribes Baptist Church, which started out as an Arapaho Mission Church in 1896 with the American Baptist Home Mission Society, had actually shut down for three years. So when I was contacted, we went in there, it was a mess, but eventually we got it back up and running for the community. In 2018 I left law enforcement and went full time into the church,” Upchego said.

Over the many years Upchego said he has seen a lot of changes in his community, and the increase of addiction to methamphetamines and now seeing the influx of fentanyl coming into the community. He said to him crime is the end result of despair and poverty, with crime being more of a symptom and the core problem is poverty.

“People do what they have to do to survive, and then the other thing is drug addiction. Every small community has this challenge, and yes large communities also, but in large communities you don’t see it like you do in the small communities.



Waylan Upchego was elected mayor of Geary, Okla., taking office on April 24, 2023. He is the former police chief of Geary and previously served on the Geary School Board. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

It’s just a struggle for our law enforcement and here in Geary, law enforcement has started to lose the trust of the community because of some of the incidences that have happened,” Upchego said.

His vision is to see a flourishing community, a community where people are not living in poverty, businesses and families are thriving and there is unity among all the community.

“We need to come together where we don’t have those people, these people, we have us,” Upchego said.

With only a few weeks into his mayoral duties, he hopes to develop a strategic plan and evaluate where the town can move forward and start reaching goals.

“I have four years to do something, if the community is flourishing that’s the end result we want to strive for, get the crime rate down, get people out of poverty and we’ll be on the right tract ... that’s something every community can strive for,” Upchego said.

And part of his plan is to develop a better working relationship with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. He



Waylan Upchego pictured with his wife Nikole and family. (Submitted photo)

he hopes the community sees building a stronger relationship with the tribes as a positive step in providing much needed jobs and resources.

“The tribes do a great job working with our schools and our superintendent is doing an amazing job working with the tribes. Our schools are 40% Native and it’s important to build on that relationship,” Upchego said.

Although he is now the mayor of the community he loves, Upchego said it is not a full time job and a lot of his time will still be spent where he has always been ... inside

the church.

Geary’s population as reported for 2023 is approximately 956 with a reported poverty rate of 21.35 percent. Geary was named for Edmund Guerrier, Cheyenne and French descent, a scout and interpreter for the U.S. Army. Guerrier had an allotment three miles northeast of the town.

Geary, located in Blaine County, was originally part of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ reservation until it was opened for settlement in April 1892 by non-Natives. The town opened its official post office on Oct. 12, 1892.

Children of White Thunder

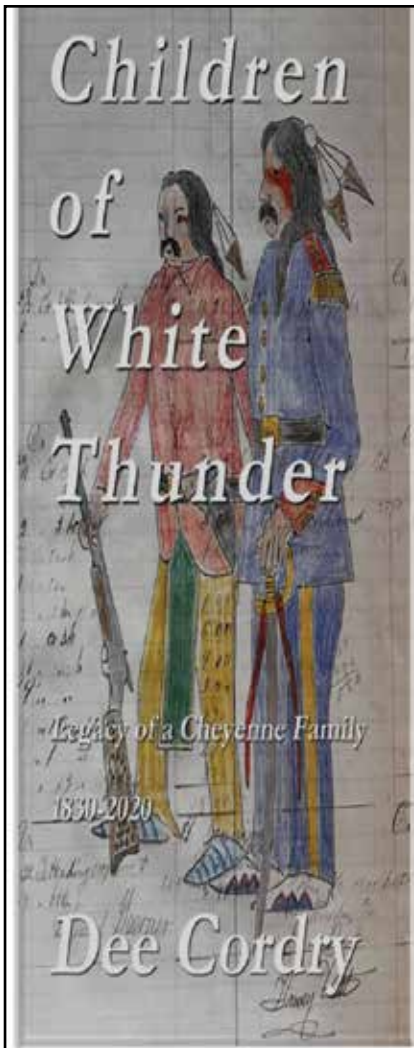
Legacy of a Cheyenne Family 1830-2020

By Dee Cordry



Available on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09WPZSJKY>

\$29.99

Detailed biography of the descendants of White Thunder, Cheyenne holy man, including Owl Woman, Julia Bent, and Edmund Guerrier. 444 pages.



Join the Cheyenne and Arapaho staff for our Annual Housing Fair at the Clinton ERC Building on Thursday May 25, 2023 from 11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. We will have a Scavenger Hunt, Demonstrations, Informational Booths, and Raffles. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided!



If you have any questions contact the Cheyenne and Arapaho Housing Authority at (580)331-2400.

THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO HOUSING AUTHORITY WILL BE OPEN WITH LIMITED STAFF!

Johnny Bench, Sam Bradford inducted into Native Sports Hall of Fame

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Contributor

OKLAHOMA CITY – You might call it a triple play. Two phenomenal Native athletes who are products of Oklahoma, inducted on the same night into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame. Johnny Bench and Sam Bradford were inducted on their own soil on April 28, in the stunning atrium of the First Americans Museum. And with the star-studded ceremony came the announcement that FAM is the new permanent home of AIAHOF.

“The two men we are inducting here tonight are as good as it gets,” master of ceremonies and longtime sports broadcaster Ed Murray said as the evening got underway.

Guests were welcomed by tennis great Yawma Allen, a 2013 inductee and member of the AIAHOF board of directors.

“My whole life I’ve had a really simple philosophy,” Allen said. “Before I played my last high school match, my grandmother said to me, ‘Be proud of who you are. You are an Indian, and an athlete, and you can be as good as anybody else.’”

Former University of Oklahoma head coach Bob Stoops, who introduced Bradford, reviewed how he and his assistants decided to offer a scholarship to the Putnam City North standout.

Bradford, a quarterback who went on to play for nine years in the NFL after winning the Heisman Trophy, said he spent a long time staring at a blank piece of paper before writing his speech, “because there is no way to express a lifetime of gratitude” for his parents and others who shaped his life and career.

Launching his athletic career as a 5-year-old T-ball player, Bradford said, “I would jump from season to season with pure joy and excitement.”

Bradford, who is Cherokee, said football “has taken me past my dreams. In the course of my lifetime, there has been no greater teacher than sport.”

Looking toward Stoops, Bradford said, “you were honest and fair at all times. You always put your players before yourself. You genuinely cared for us.”

But his parents, Bradford said, “have been the single greatest influence in my life.” His father, who also played for OU, and his mother, a physical education teacher, were tireless in their support of his youthful athletic endeavors, Bradford said.



James Pepper Henry, director of the First Americans Museum, is flanked by inductees Sam Bradford, left, and Johnny Bench. (Photo provided by First Americans Museum)

During his tough early years in the NFL, Bradford said, he gained an additional source of strength in his girlfriend and then wife, Emma. The couple live in Oklahoma City and have three children, and Bradford said he is “now a proud T-ball coach.”

Bench, a Choctaw who was introduced by childhood friend Sharon Kniffen, began his speech by poking fun at Bradford for the length of his remarks.

“For someone who doesn’t like to talk, you did a hell of a job,” Bench told Bradford.

Kniffen, who was Bench’s Binger High School classmate, said Bench has never missed a high school reunion and has helped raise money for many local charitable causes.

“Thank you, Johnny, for being a friend and never forgetting us,” Kniffen told him.

Bench described how his teachers and classmates laughed when he said he wanted to grow up to be a Major League Baseball player, but said they laughed a bit less when he grew nine inches in two years while in high school.

He launched his catching career at age 17 in the Minor Leagues and made the Cincinnati Reds roster in 1965.


“When you have nights like this, it means so much,” said Bench, who lives in Florida. “I am from Oklahoma. I am Indian. Thirty-nine tribes ... and we are all one. And we will remain one. To be a part of the AIAHOF is such a tremendous honor for us.”

Dr. Joseph “Bud” Sahmaunt of Pawhuska, a 1978 inductee who is Kiowa, said during the reception that preceded the banquet that AIAHOF is “a wonderful way to recognize all the Indian athletes who have made their names in all the various sports.”

Alan Simpson, who is Choctaw and serves on the AIAHOF board, said he would love to see more Indian youth pursue athletics.


“It helps them with their self-esteem,” he said.

Hudson Conrad, a senior at Mustang High School who will play for the University of Central Oklahoma in the fall, was among the Native youth invited to the banquet. Conrad, who is Eastern Shawnee, said the athlete he most looks up to is his father, J.R. Conrad, who played for OU and went on to an NFL career before coaching in Oklahoma high schools.




TIPi Demonstration

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Culture and Language
For more information please contact
Debra All Runner 405-422-7443
dallrunner@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov
Frank Medicinewater 405-422-7689
fmedicinewater@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



Mental Wellness Wednesdays – 988 Tribal Response





A nationwide initiative began in July 2022 to provide support and services to people experiencing a mental health crisis. After dialing 988 or texting 988, the caller will be connected with an Oklahoma call center to support individuals, provide resources, or help stabilize a person experiencing a mental health crisis. A mobile crisis team consisting of a licensed clinician, behavioral health aid, and/or a case manager can also be dispatched to your location to provide in person services for stabilization or transportation to a recovery center. There has been an increase in mental health crisis since Covid-19 and the numbers are even greater for AI/AN people, especially between the ages of 15-24. This number is even higher in rural areas where access to behavioral health care is limited. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Department of Health saw this disparity and received a grant from SAMHSA to form a new program, 988 Tribal Response, as a part of the Prevention program.

The new 988 Tribal Response team includes Rosanna Tall Bear, Zach Blackowl, Rachel Curtis, and Christina Sharp. The Cheyenne and Arapaho 988 team is here to provide care coordination to assist with receiving mental health services and support to anyone in the jurisdiction who is American Indian or an Alaskan Native, provide education and outreach events about mental health and the 988 initiative, and advocates for AI/AN equality and cultural awareness in behavioral health systems. The 988 team also collaborates with Red Rock Behavioral Health and Indian Health Services (IHS) who both provide behavioral health services and community support in times of crisis.

The 988 Team is excited to provide Mental Wellness Days in communities within the Cheyenne and Arapaho jurisdiction throughout the month of May from 11 am- 2 pm utilizing the Mobile Medical Unit (MMU). A team will be in a different community every Wednesday along with Native Connections, Community Health Res other tribal programs, IHS Behavioral Health, and Red Rock Behavioral Health. 988’s mental health specialist, Christina Sharp, an IHS behavioral health team member, and a Red Rock team member will be available to provide mental health screenings and answer any questions about mental health services. Information about the 988 crisis line will also be provided. Limited free lunch is available to those who attend along with door prizes. Come out and meet the team and begin your journey towards better mental health care.

We will be setting up at **Clinton ERC – May 17, 2023, Watonga ERC – May 24, 2023, and Elk City Indian Baptist Church – May 31, 2023.**

For more information about upcoming events, 988, or any mental health questions, please email 988-tribalresponse@c-a-tribes.org or call 405-365-7709.



LANGUAGE SERIES

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Walker said as an apprentice, they share some of the same viewpoints when it comes to responsibility.

“Our elders are so valuable and they mean so much to us and we create really close relationships with them and I think that’s why it’s important for me right now, they’re getting older and just like James said, ‘we got to prepare for the future,’ they’re not going to be here and that in itself is frightening,” Walker said.

Goljenboom said it’s important to her be a part of the efforts that the language program is doing to keep the language alive.

“I see it as if we don’t do it or continue to do it, then who will. That’s it,” Goljenboom said.

Sleeper said the apprentices on the Arapaho language side are currently learning five to seven words in vocabulary a week.

“We might learn five verbs, but we can create variations of that one verb around 54 times and so that’s been our focus for awhile for the new apprentices,” Sleeper said.

Sleeper said they are trying to be consistent with their sessions and learning the language by building their vocabulary every day.

“We’re trying to make sure that we make the most of our time over here and we also started to do twice a week work with William C’Hair and he’s a very knowledgeable elder ... he tells us stories and his-

torically significant stories of Arapaho culture every week,” Sleeper said.

Walker said the goal of their sessions are to keep the conversations going in the Arapaho language in their daily conversations.

“The verbs that we learn, it is our responsibility as apprentices to switch those out and use them conversationally not just to get one word and call it good, we use these conversationally to the best of our availabilities, I will say it’s a really difficult thing to accomplish because you know you’re going to say it wrong so that’s difficult too,” Walker said.

In speaking the language, Goljenboom said the speakers are trying to teach the apprentices to be more confident in themselves.

“I know it’s something I need to work on still and that just takes time with repetitions and being okay with saying it wrong and learning and repeating,” Goljenboom said.

Through their efforts in learning what it truly means to learn their language, the apprentices have come to terms with what they believe to be most challenging in their work.

Sleeper said being a language learner in and of itself is difficult while also trying to help others learn the language.

“It makes it way more difficult but to hear other people, new apprentices and their kids and relatives using some of the words that we

learned here in this office through our efforts as apprentices in the early years, to hear them utilizing the Arapaho language, makes it all worth it,” Sleeper said.

Walker said what is most fulfilling for her is the relationships she’s established with her coworkers and elders.

“All of us in the language, we have a passion for it and its difficult, I think that would be my pit, you run into really difficult days that you’re just drained, you get frustrated with yourself because you can’t say a word or mentally you’re just having a hard day, I ran into that quite a bit, I get frustrated with myself but the relationships that we have with one another, with speakers I think that really helps,” Walker said.

Coming into the language program, Goljenboom said she didn’t know a single word in the Arapaho language.

“Now I can kind of talk to the elders that we work with on a daily basis and also assist with teaching community classes or conversing with each other during the day,” Goljenboom said.

Goljenboom said she continues to struggle with confidence as an apprentice.

“Some days it’s there and you think you’re doing a really great job and then it’s like no you’ve been saying the word wrong the whole time, you got to learn to just pick yourself up and keep going,” Goljenboom said.

Along with cherishing their time spent learning from first speakers, Sleeper said what he also enjoys in his work is seeing the commitment and effort being put forth by the new apprentices.

“I really love it because I know how difficult this language learning experience is and so for these new apprentices to come in and commit to it, it means a lot to me, I really love my coworkers and I love our elders,” Sleeper said.

Sleeper hopes his experience in the apprenticeship with teaching others will produce future speakers of the Arapaho language.

Agreeing with Sleeper, Walker said she hopes to see more of the language in the communities.

“I really truly love working with our elders and my coworkers, we built really strong relationships and I’m thankful for that and where I hope it takes me is I would like to see more second language learners in the communities just to see more people speaking the language really,” Walker said.

Goljenboom said she hopes to see the program continue in their efforts in helping revitalize the Cheyenne and Arapaho languages.

“I really love the team that I’m apart of and the relationships and the experiences that I’ve had since working here, that being the elders, the coworkers and going to Wyoming,” Goljenboom said.

CLEAN AIR ACT

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issues through education and outreach. These issues directly impact the health and welfare of tribal and non-tribal community members.

“Air pollution is a concern in this area due to the prevalence of emission sources. These sources are then broken down into source categories, which include point, nonpoint, non-road and on-road, including sources related to the oil and gas industry, power plants, vehicle traffic, wildfires, prescribed burns ... just to name a few,” French said.

A 2017 Emission Inventory (EI) for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes was developed to identify sources of air pollution that may affect the tribes’ air quality. This EI is a Level 4 EI and is composed entirely of data already reported to EPA’s National Emissions Inventory (NEI). This inventory is intended to provide critical information on what sources in the tribes’ area emit what pollutants and the relative magnitudes of these pollutants.

“This is a recommended first step toward understanding what is in our air and where it came from,” French responded.

Preparing an EI that includes emissions calculated by the tribe with activity data the tribe gathers for specific sources on tribal land. The EI is limited to the following EPA criteria pollutants: Ammonia (NH3), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Oxides of Nitrogen (Nox), Particulate Matter ten micrometers in diameter or smaller (PM10), Particulate Matter two and a half micrometers in diameter or smaller (PM2.5), Sulfur Dioxide (SO2), and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs).

The tribes’ completed an emissions inventory last year in 2022. The Tribe also gave several presentations on the results of the emissions inventories to tribal community members as part of an outreach and education effort to educate community members on air pollution. The plan is to update the emissions inventory periodically as new data becomes available.

Every year the EPA Program plans outreach meetings inviting the public to come and participate as the staff presents PowerPoint presentations over important environmental topics related to issues currently affecting tribal communities.

“Educational booths are available at these outreaches for each environmental grant to educate individuals who attend,” French said.

Tribal citizens can combat air pollution by making an effort to decrease their individual footprint when possible. This could include using personal vehicles less often by carpooling, taking advantage of public transport, or using other alternative transportation methods for school, work, or personal errands and activities when possible. “Switching out older household appliances for newer, more energy efficient models could also help decrease air pollutant emissions,” French said.

There are numerous health impacts of air pollution. Exposure to air pollution can lead to respiratory problems, such as asthma or could make existing asthma conditions worsen. Almost every part of the body is affected negatively by air pollution.

For more information about the Clean Air Act grant or how you can help prevent air pollution, contact Robyn French, Air Quality Specialist at 405-422-7485 or email rfrench@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov.



CHEYENNE and ARAPAHO
TRIBES

Department of Labor

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2023 LODGE POLE RIVER MEMORIAL RUN



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
Culture Program are taking applications.

The deadline for running gear is September 16, 23023

Any applications after deadline will not receive running gear.

For more information please contact Culture office

Frank Medicinewater, Office 405-422-7689
Email: fmedicinewater@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov

Debra All Runner, Office 405-422-4773
Email: dallrunner@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov

Applications are also available on line @ The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes website

LEGAL NOTICES

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 0 1 2023
IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of the Estate of:)
)
JOHNATHAN MARK SWALLOW) Case No. P-2023-0002
)
Deceased member of the)
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes,)

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: Any and all Heirs of
JOHNATHAN MARK SWALLOW, Deceased

You are hereby notified that JOAN C. SWALLOW has filed in this court a Petition for Appointment of Personal Representative of the Estate of Johnathan Mark Swallow, deceased. That said petition is hereby set for a hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 14th day of June, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at which time you may appear to show cause, if you have, why said appointment should not be granted.

Dated at the Trial Court this 1st day of May, 2023.

Kendall Charley
Kendall Charley, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 0 3 2023
IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

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In the Matter of the Guardianship of:)
)
Z.D.) Case No. PG-2010-0039
)
)
A Minor Child,)

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: NATASHA RUSSELL & ASIONA RICHARD
UNKNOWN ADDRESSES

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 24th day of MAY, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. O'clock, in the Courtroom, 100 E. Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR, on the above date and time indicated for the 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=SZRCcmU2WDVVOFpMcjM5OjRlcTdhOTQ9> or
<https://zoom.us/join>
 - 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 8th day of May, 2023.

Dana Melanane
Dana Melanane, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 0 2 2023
IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of:)
)
JOSE SOTERO ROJAS CASTILLO) Case No. CIV-2023-0007
)
VS.) PG-2020-0002
)
)
GLORIA FLEMING)
ESPERANZA HERRERA)

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES TO: ESPERANZA HERRERA
GLORIA FLEMING
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 7th day of JUNE, 2023, 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.

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 - 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 2nd day of May, 2023.

Kendall Charley
Kendall Charley, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 0 3 2023
IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In The Matter of Guardianship of:)
)
R.I.T.) Case No. PG-2015-0075
)
)
Minor Child,)

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: ELIZABETH SCROGGINS
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes on the 31st day of MAY, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. O'clock, in the Courtroom, 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR VIA ZOOM, on the above date and time indicated for presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. 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=SZRCcmU2WDVVOFpMcjM5OjRlcTdhOTQ9> or
<https://zoom.us/join>
 - 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 8th day of MAY, 2023.

Tawny Melendez
Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 0 3 2023
IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:)
)
K.W.) Case No. PG-2021-0054
)
)
Minor Child,)

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: NICHOLE WELLS
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 7th day of JUNE, 2023, 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.

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 - 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 3rd day of May, 2023.

Tawny Melendez
Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 0 3 2023
IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:)
)
L.R.P.) Case No. PG-2023-0015
)
M.J.P.)
)
R.J.P.)
)
Minor Children,)

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: RACHEL DAWN TOATHY
AND
GILBERT LEE PIPER
UNKNOWN ADDRESSES

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 7th day of JUNE, 2023, 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.

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<https://zoom.us/join>
 - 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 3rd day of May, 2023.

Tawny Melendez
Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

LEGAL NOTICE

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IF YOU, A CHILD IN YOUR CARE, OR ANOTHER LOVED ONE WERE HARMED BY ENDO OR A RELATED COMPANY, INCLUDING PAR OR AMS, OR THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING OPIOIDS, RANITIDINE, OR TRANSVAGINAL MESH, YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY DEADLINES IN THE ENDO BANKRUPTCY.

The deadline to file a claim in the bankruptcy is July 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).
The deadline to object to Endo's sale is July 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On August 16, 2022, Endo International plc and certain of its affiliates filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. Certain Endo affiliates manufactured and/or sold, among other things, branded opioid medications (including but not limited to OPANA® (oxymorphone hydrochloride), OPANA® ER (oxymorphone hydrochloride extended release), and PERCOCET® (oxycodone and acetaminophen tablets)), generic opioid medications, generic ranitidine medications, and transvaginal mesh. This notice is intended to inform you of your rights in this bankruptcy regarding the bar date and proof of claim process and Endo's proposed sale of substantially all of its assets.

WHAT IS A CLAIM?

A "claim" means a right to seek payment or other compensation. If you, a child in your care, or another loved one were harmed by Endo or a related company, including Par or American Medical Systems (AMS), or their products, including opioids, ranitidine, or transvaginal mesh, you may have a claim against one or more of these entities. To make a claim, you will need to submit a proof of claim in the bankruptcy case. You may file a claim on behalf of yourself, a child in your care (including a child exposed to opioids in the womb), or a deceased or disabled relative. Examples of claims that may be filed in the Endo bankruptcy include but are not limited to:

- > **Opioid Claims:** Claims for death, addiction or dependence, lost wages, loss of consortium, or neonatal abstinence syndrome (sometimes referred to as "NAS"), among others.
- > **Ranitidine claims:** Claims for cancer, including bladder, esophageal, pancreatic, stomach, and liver cancer, among others.
- > **Transvaginal mesh claims:** Claims for pelvic pain, infection, bleeding, among others.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BAR DATE AND PROOF OF CLAIM PROCESS?

The deadline to submit your proof of claim is called a bar date. The bar date, or the deadline to submit your proof of claim, is July 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time). If you do not submit a proof of claim by the deadline, you will lose any rights you may have had to seek payment or compensation. You must file a proof of claim form so that it is actually received by the bar date. A proof of claim form can be filed by you, a legal guardian, survivors, or relatives of people who have died or are disabled. You do not need an attorney to file a proof of claim for you.

For a more complete list of relevant companies and products manufactured and/or sold by Endo and its related companies, including full prescribing information and BOXED WARNINGS for OPANA® (oxymorphone hydrochloride), OPANA® ER (oxymorphone hydrochloride extended release), and PERCOCET® (oxycodone and acetaminophen tablets), and for more complete details about the bar date and instructions on how to file a confidential personal injury claim, visit EndoClaims.com or call 877.542.1878 (Toll-Free) or 929.284.1688 (International).

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SALE?

Endo intends to sell substantially all of its assets in an auction and sale process in the bankruptcy case and subject to approval by the bankruptcy court. Endo is seeking relief that the sale will be free and clear of all claims, liens, and encumbrances.

If you disagree with the proposed sale, you must object to the sale in writing, so that your objection is received on or before July 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time). Any party in interest who fails to properly file and serve its objection by the objection deadline may lose its claim against Endo's assets if the sale is approved. Objections not filed and served properly may not be considered by the bankruptcy court.

Complete details about the proposed sale, including any auction for Endo's assets, the date of the hearing to consider the sale, and instructions on how to file an objection, are available at EndoClaims.com or by calling 877.542.1878 (Toll-Free) or 929.284.1688 (International).

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

CALL: 877.542.1878 (Toll-Free)
929.284.1688 (International)
VISIT: EndoClaims.com
EMAIL: EndoInquiries@ra.kroll.com

WRITE: Endo International plc Claims Processing Center
c/o Kroll Restructuring Administration LLC
Grand Central Station, PO Box 4850
New York, NY 10163-4850



MMIP State Chapters host National Day of Awareness at the Oklahoma State Capitol

Latoya Lonelodge
Senior Reporter

(OKLAHOMA CITY) Honoring the memories and lives of those who have been affected by the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) crisis is the goal of the National Day of Awareness at the Oklahoma State Capitol held on May 5.

Sounds of traditional drum songs and singing could be heard outside of the Oklahoma State Capitol as many tribal citizens, families and friends remembered loved ones who have either gone missing or have been murdered, with many families still seeking justice.

The event began with an opening prayer given by Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, vice chair of the Comanche Nation and a memorial walk followed to remember the lives who have been taken by the MMIP crisis.

As family and friends marched their way around the state capitol grounds, posters, pictures and murals with hues of red could be seen.

Carmen Harvie, president of the State Chapter of Oklahoma MMIP said the National Day of Awareness event is held each year at the state capitol to bring awareness to the community.

“A lot of people don’t know that there’s an epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous people in Oklahoma and across the nation, so we bring in



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana shares remarks in support of the MMIP movement at the National Day of Awareness event alongside Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes governmental affairs officer LaRenda Morgan, Cheyenne District 2 Legislator George Woods and Oklahoma State Representative District-93 Mickey Dollens. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

some speakers that are in the arena of missing and murdered indigenous people that their organizations are assisting and combatting the epidemic, so everyone comes and talks about what’s happening in legislation and what laws are being passed,” Harvie said.

Recognizing and remembering loved ones, friends and family were also encouraged to participate in a butterfly release as well as take part in traditional round dances.

Along with the MMIP chapters in Oklahoma present, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes were present to show their support.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana said as most MMIP cases were never solved, he always felt that if the tribes made the effort to rally and come together to talk to senators and congressmen at the state level, then something would be done.

“A lot of times it wasn’t a friendly atmosphere to get things done for the tribes in general, but when you have missing tribal citizens who were murdered and they put the cases aside they become cold cases, then who do you turn to and unfortunately nobody listens to us a lot of times so then we got up here, we lobbied to the state and we were introduced to some of the state officials, the representatives, they listened and kind of understood what our passion was with that,” Wassana said.

With the tribes in support of the two MMIP events back-to-back for the week, including the third annual MMIP honor parade held by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Wassana said the tribes want to portray the message that we now have




On the steps of the Oklahoma State Capitol, many participants of the National Day of MMIP Awareness partake in the butterfly release to honor the lives of those who have either gone missing or who have been murdered. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

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MMIP PARADE

continued from pg. 1

we’re also grateful for every one of you because without you we couldn’t do this. I can’t do this alone, we can’t do this alone with one tribe, we have to do it together,” Starr said.

Taking time to remember the missing or murdered lives of loved ones, a healing red dress dance was held, with jingle dress dancer Regina Youngbear and fancy dancer Skylene Beaver leading the ceremony.

“Let’s take the time to remember our loved ones and those that are our relatives and also our ancestors, the missing and murdered Indigenous people epidemic goes far back in our history to include those members of the Sand Creek massacre, Washita and all those lives that were lost in history of our people that have been murdered and went missing and have been mistreated,”

years ago, my niece Emily Morgan was in a double homicide near McAlester, I just recently found out that her case has gone cold. Her case has no justice,” Harvie said.

Harvie said with the MMIP chapters that are located in Oklahoma partner with different organizations to assist them in finding people.

“We partner with the BIA special agent Vincent Marcellino, we partner with Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation special agent Dale Fine and we partnered recently with the assistant US attorney for the southwest area but now more than ever have we been brought to the table,” Harvie said.

Harvie said she’s been nominated for the Not Invisible Act Commission and asked tribal leaders to send a letter to the Department of Interior for support.



Marina Berryhill and her daughters proudly hold a banner in honor of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women during the parade. (PHOTOS / LATOYA LONELODGE)

our people need and what

Red Alert for Indigenous people who go missing, over the four years it has expanded to this year, expanded to include all Oklahomans between ages 18-59, the law will go into effect as it was just signed by Gov. Stitt and so if anyone goes missing, there will be an alert put out for you,” Morgan said.

With the passing of the law, Morgan said every person deserves to be searched for and every case deserves to be investigated and they deserve justice.

“We have started this MMIP chapter to help bring a voice for our Cheyenne and Arapaho people, every person is welcome to join this chapter, we started out as an advocacy chapter

to bring awareness to the Cheyenne and Arapaho people that have gone missing and murdered, we had some events this last year and we need each and every one of you, those of you that are interested in doing something and you want your voice to be heard,” Morgan said.

The ceremony ended with MMIP Chapter secretary, Raven Morgan reading a list of over 40 names of individuals who have been missing or have been murdered in the Cheyenne and Arapaho community.

Following the ceremony, the parade commenced down the Black Kettle tree line where many walked with posters in hand and vehicles were decorated in shades of

red remembering the many lives of those who were affected by the MMIP crisis.

With the Tribe’s hosting its third annual MMIP honor parade, Wassana said he believed the event brought attention to what needed to be focused on.

“And that’s missing murdered Indigenous people in general, that we get it out there and in the public, we get it in print, get it in the media and people realize that there are people out there concerned and stand for what has happened in the past and these acts of violence against our Indigenous people will no longer be stood for because of the laws we have gotten passed at this point,” Wassana said.



Amanda Goljenboom and Rainey Faris lead the way with posters in hand during the MMIP Honor Parade held in Concho, Okla.

Morgan said. MMIP State Coalition President, Carmen Harvie spoke next to give an update on the state MMIP chapter’s

“I need to bill this commission to speak for the people. I’ve been doing this for eight years and I hear the cries, I hear the stories and

they’re going through,” Harvie said.

Through the Not Invisible Act, Harvie said it will identify, report and respond to instances of missing and murdered Indigenous people cases and human trafficking.

And with the passing of the Kasey Alert Act, Harvie said she was happy it passed, as she had contacted the 120 state representatives and 48 senators.

“I was happy, I cried because it takes a lot of work to have courage, to have that voice for our people. Nobody else is doing it so we have to join together and make our voices be heard because we are not invisible people. I see you,” Harvie said.

Morgan said the Kasey Alert Act has been ran through the Oklahoma legislature for four years. Kasey’s Alert is similar to the Amber Alert and Silver Alert.

“It’s a notification it goes out on your phone, four years ago when we ran Ida’s Law it was originally called the



Youth from Moore Public Schools Indian Education show their support at the MMIP Honor Parade.

efforts. “I’m honored to be here to be able to speak on behalf of those that can’t speak or don’t have a voice ... I started doing this work eight

I’m honored to have been selected, there’s three family members that are on this Not Invisible Act Task Force across the nation, so I still have more to tell them what



Regina Youngbear and Skylene Beaver, 8, lead the red dress healing dance as part of the MMIP Honor Parade opening ceremony.

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OKC - MMIP

continued from pg. 7

laws passed that can be enforced, including Ida’s Law that was signed into law on April 20, 2021 and the Kasey Alert Act that was passed on May 1, 2023.

“We’re not going to stand just to say that we don’t matter any more, that these laws will be enforced and people who may take these acts of violence against our tribal members, against Indigenous people in general, they’ll be prosecuted and we have a law, we have something to hang on to and we can prosecute them now,” Wassana said.

As part of the planning process for the event, LaRenda Morgan, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes MMIP Chapter member and governmental affairs officer for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, said the tribes’ MMIP chapter is showing support in bringing awareness to the MMIP crisis.

“We’re here to provide awareness, there was some people that showed up here that never even heard of this, they were non-Native so that’s what we’re doing here and especially with us having our event yesterday, it’s been covered by the news so that helps just spread the awareness about what’s going on,” Morgan said.

As a MMIP chapter board member, Morgan said she wants others to know that the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes care about people who have been affected by MMIP.

“They care about not only their tribal citizens, but they care about all people and we’re here to support other tribes and even other people that have families that have missing and murdered loved ones,” Morgan said.

Morgan said this is a crisis that happens everywhere and not only in Native communities.

“We see it all the time come across our phones, amber alerts for little children that have gone missing, but showing support and providing awareness and helping to educate everyone about how important these issues are I think is what the leadership, Gov. Wassana and our tribal legislators, we had George Woods here today and other

tribal leaders here as well, they understand how important this issue is,” Morgan said.

Being a part of the MMIP events, Morgan said she feels good knowing families can take the time to honor and remember their loved ones.

“Sometimes people grieve in private for their loved ones and this is a time for them to positively remember and also to bond with other people who have been in the same situation and give each other that support, just positive healing energy to know that you’re not the only one who has to go through this, there’s others who have felt what you felt who grieve just like you and we’re happy for those that have justice because a lot of people don’t have that,” Morgan said.

As the day’s event progressed, families stood nearby holding tightly to pictures of their loved ones that were on posters, murals and t-shirts.

Matt Eastep, with the Choctaw Nation was present on behalf of his brother, Tommy Eastep who went missing 10 years ago. Four years after his disappearance he was found deceased.

Eastep said he met Morgan at the Oklahoma Missing Persons Day that was held in April to help initiate missing persons reports. From there he said he plugged into the MMIP groups on Facebook as he wasn’t aware of them before attending the event.

“I just wanted to come and be a part of this and we weren’t aware of what they do until we kind of all came together at that event, so it was great to get to meet her and now just play a little part in this event and help support any and all Natives,” Eastep said.

By actively participating in MMIP events, Eastep said awareness is key.

“Me being Choctaw I wasn’t really



aware of all the different groups, we’re all Native and I still wasn’t aware so I think that is key, making people aware there’s so much information, at the Oklahoma event one of the ladies from News 9 said there’s so much information that I didn’t know and so that’s got to be an ongoing process making people aware of what’s happening,” Eastep said.

Speaking on behalf of his family at the Oklahoma Missing Persons event, Eastep said one thing that has become true to him in having a loved one affected by the MMIP crisis is that forgiveness is key.

“I held anger in different areas in different people and so forgiving that and letting that go was really critical in helping our family heal from such a traumatic event and I felt like that could be implemented in a lot of people’s lives ... letting that go can not only let your heart heal but help your family’s heart heal too and we’ve come a long way since my brother Tommy went missing and I’m so happy for that but it all goes back to forgiveness and love,” Eastep said.

Priscilla Ponce, with the Seminole Tribe was also showing support for her cousin,

Brandon Kaseca. Kaseca was murdered in his sleep during the late hours of Jan. 30, 2022.

“Last year our cousin was murdered, and the police still haven’t found who did it and we still have no answers and so we come out here and support him,” Ponce said.

Alongside Ponce was Christa McClellan, president of the MMIP Central Oklahoma, who said it’s been a year and three months since Kaseca’s murder and the family is still seeking justice.

“Not just to fight for justice for him, but he’s what got me started with the chapter, just knowing what it feels like I wanted to do all I can to help everybody else,” McClellan said.

McClellan said it’s been enjoyable watching and being supportive of other families at the event.

“I always enjoy being here but it’s always good to see the families come out, let them be heard because it’s not very often that they do get heard,” McClellan said.

The day’s event continued with congressional and legislative updates as well as remarks given by Oklahoma Grassroots Chapters.

Lucky StarCASINO

MONEYMAYNIA

CASH DRAWINGS UP TO\$10,000EVERY SATURDAY IN MAY!

DRAWINGS FOR\$10,000Every Saturday In May At 11pm at Concho and Clinton!

DRAWINGS FOR\$5,000Every Saturday In May at 11pm At Canton, Watonga, Concho TC and Hammon!

Earn entries starting Monday, May 1, 2023. Ten (10) points equals 1 entry. Five times (5x) entries on Fridays. See Player's Club for full details.

Promotions valid during Player's Club hours only. Management reserves all rights to cancel or modify any or all promotions without prior notice. ©2023 Lucky Star.

Veteran Spotlight: Rachel A. Kimbrough

Submitted by Jerry Levi, Office of Veterans Affairs



Rachel A. Kimbrough was born August 1987 in Claremore, Okla., to parents Cathy King and George Chouteau and hails from the Kaw Nation and Cheyenne Tribes. Rachel graduated from Sequoyah-Tahlequah High School. She is married to Master Sergeant Jared Kimbrough, stationed as Security Forces at Tinker AFB in Midwest City. Together they share three daughters, Amerie, Margot and Isa.

Rachel served nearly 11 years in the Air Force, being Honorably Discharged in 2019 at the rank of E-5 Staff Sergeant. She received numerous medals and commendations, including: Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, USAF NCO

PME Graduate Ribbon, and a host of others.

As a Services Airman, Rachel’s duty was broad and stretched the world with her supporting five major commands and six different squadrons that placed her in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. She said her favorite duty station was Gunsan Air Base, South Korea.

Rachel gained expertise in over 15 different employment roles, faced long hours, family separation and difficult work environments that helped her push back those hardships as an Airman and Non-Commissioned Officer that also revealed her work ethic, that has sustained her even in her post military life.

Rachel is a senior at the University of Central Oklahoma, studying Public Health and hopes to make up time away from home in the Air Force by staying active in the Native American Church, ‘an integral part of my life,’ she says, ‘and has brought me closer to my Cheyenne Chapter 1 community.’

Rachel is very thankful to be back in Oklahoma, reconnecting with everyone and would like to invite any women veterans to network with and to gain interest in forming a Women’s Cheyenne and Arapaho Color Guard. She can be reached via email at raykimb011@gmail.com.

We honor and remember her service to our country.



To honor a tribal veteran, living or posthumously, email jelevi@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov, with a short bio that includes their service history, life after the military, a verifiable DD-214 and two pictures, one military and one civilian. All submissions must be Honorable Service discharges only.

BUILD BACK BETTER

continued from pg. 1

Wassana said he expects the land will be placed into trust for the tribes within the “next five to six months.”

The governor said the motel will remain and plans are to make improvements to it. He said eventually a restaurant could also be added to the area.

“We’d like it to be something that could serve the travelers as well as the local community,” Wassana said. “There’s so much potential there. We just needed to get the site cleaned up and ready so when we are ready we can move forward.”

Wassana said Love’s Travel Stops was approached about building at the location, but with the recent expansion of Love’s at Radio Road, the Country Club site was not suitable for the Oklahoma-based company. He said other similar entities could be considered.

“We want to help El Reno, we have as much invested in El Reno as anyone does and we want to see the community grow and prosper,” Wassana said.

The possible return of Fort Reno to the C&A will continue to be a particular area of focus, Wassana said.

DEADLINE

JUST AHEAD

PER CAPITA

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

DEADLINE

JUNE 1

AUGUST “GAMING” DISTRIBUTION

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE GAMING PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTION, ANY CHANGES TO YOUR ADDRESS MUST BE RECEIVED IN ENROLLMENT BY JUNE 1, 2023

Change of Address Form can be submitted by mail or in person.

Form must be notarized.

W-9 must be submitted with Change of Address Form.

W-9 must match what is on the Change of Address Form.

Forms cannot be accepted by fax or email.

GET YOUR COA FORMS HERE

UNDER FORMS AND FILES

DEPARTMENT OF ENROLLMENT

(405) 422-7600

enrollment_dist@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

CHEYENNE and ARAPAHOTRIBES

PER CAPITA OFFICE

(405) 422-7725

percapita@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

Office of Veterans Affairs

Inviting all of our

Cheyenne and Arapaho

Veterans to our Memorial Day

Cookout

Thursday May 25th

11am-2pm

Concho ERC Parking Lot

Burgers Hot Dogs* Cornhole Game* Fellowship

Door Prizes OVA Memorial Day T-Shirt*

Call the OVA Office at 405-422-7724

for more info. Shirts are for Veterans only at this time.

Employment Opportunities

Submit Tribal Application, Resume, Transcripts, Diploma, Certifications, License and CDIB (if applicable) to: Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Personnel Dept. P.O. Box 167, Concho, Okla. 73022 or email to atisdale@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov. Local Office: 405-422-7498 / FAX: 405-422-8222 / Toll Fee: 800-247-4612, ext. 27498. To view a full listing of job vacancies visit www.cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov/careers.

**Administrative Assistant
Tribal Transit Program
FT/Perm
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

Location: Transit Weatherford Satellite Office / Weatherford, Okla.

QUALIFICATIONS: Requires responsible and reliable individual able to work independently with little supervision and make decisions concerning the organization of records and files. Applicants must be willing to obtain CPS Technician Certification within six months of hiring to assist with car seat check events. Knowledge in grant management and compliance desired but not required. Two years' minimal experience in office management or have received similar training. Minimum education requirement is a high school diploma, or GED Certification. Must demonstrate knowledge in the operation of various office machines. Demonstrate computer skills and/or knowledge, specifically Windows, Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and/or other various other applications. Must maintain a high level of confidentiality on all department matters and able to conduct self in a manner that brings credit to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. Must pass pre-hire drug screen/test and background check. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license, provide a good driving record to be insurable through the Tribes' Fleet Management insurance policy, and have dependable transportation. Knowledge in Cheyenne and Arapaho/ Native American cultures and values are preferred. Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Notice of Office Closure
Monday May 29,
2023 in observance
of Memorial Day.**

**Tobacco Education Specialist/Health
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Prior experience in a health related field. Experience in working with policies preferred. Bachelor's degree in health related field preferred. Must have driver's license and provide current motor vehicle report (MVR). Must be willing to obtain CPR and First Aid Certification. Familiar with organization policies and procedures. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference. Knowledge of Cheyenne-Arapaho Culture. Must be willing to work flexible hours including nights and weekends. Must be willing and able to attend various training opportunities as designated by the program coordinator and OSDH. Must pass background check. Maintain confidentiality. Must be in good physical condition and able to lift heavy items.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Arapaho Junior Apprentice
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Experience learning Cheyenne, Arapaho, or another foreign language. Experience teaching or leading a group of people. Ability to use language related technology, such as recording devices, video conferencing tools, and electronic dictionaries. Ability to track data and monitor progress using simple spreadsheets. Ability to work on a flexible schedule according to the availability of Master Speakers. Ability to work with children, adult learners, and elders. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Must be able to pass a background check. Must have valid driver's license. Must have clean driving record. Must have completed a minimum of one year of the MA Program.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Physical Fitness Assistant / Health
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Personal Trainer Certification or Group Fitness Instruction Certification preferred. Bachelor's degree in health-related field preferred. Two years experience in Physical Activity, Sports or Recreation. Prior experience in a health related field. Must have valid driver's license and provide current motor vehicle report (MVR). Must be willing to obtain CPR and First Aid Certification. Familiar with organization policies and procedures. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference. Knowledge of Cheyenne-Arapaho Culture. Must be willing to work flexible hours including nights and weekends. Must be willing and able to attend various training programs as related to position. Must pass background check. Must be in good physical condition and able to lift heavy items.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Paralegal Justice Dept.
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Cheyenne and Arapaho preference. Must have a minimum of High School Diploma/GED. Associate Degree/Paralegal Certificate (preferred but not required). Proficient with Microsoft Office, specifically Outlook, Word, and Excel. Strong oral and written communication skills. Excellent organizational skills. Must be able to effectively multitask, manage time-sensitive documents and have exceptional organizational skills in a fast-paced environment. Must be able to function in a busy, team-oriented environment. Must be able to pass pre-employment drug test and background check. Office administration experience (preferred).

SALARY: \$40-50,000 depending on education and experience



**Arapaho Language Teacher
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma or GED and 2 years of learning and speaking the Arapaho language; or an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job. Bachelor's degree is preferred. Ability to read and write the Arapaho Language at a level that would allow the incumbent to perform the duties listed is preferred. Ability to understand Arapaho is preferred. Must be able to pass an oral interview to establish language fluency. Must be an enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne or Arapaho Tribe. Must possess and maintain a valid Oklahoma driver's license. Must have dependable transportation, MVR, and be insurable with the tribes. Must have a current Level 1 Oklahoma Clearance Card or be able to obtain the Level 1 Oklahoma Clearance Card within 90 days of hire. Failure to maintain a current Level 1 Clearance Card will result in removal from this position. Must pass a background check and drug test; fingerprinting requirement determined by funding and sensitivity of position.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Travel Technician I
Accounts Payable
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Two years finance or accounting experience required. Proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word. MIP Software Experience preferred. Valid Oklahoma driver's license. High School Diploma or GED. Cheyenne-Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Teacher - Head Start
Concho
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: In consultation with supervisor, develops own professional work goals and training plan. Participates in training as requested. Associate's or Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education, with 2 years experience working in a preschool setting or an equivalent combination of training and experience. Computer experience a must. Knowledge of Head Start Performance Standards. Ability to clearly articulate the program's goals and philosophy and the role of the early childhood development. Leadership ability in the area of planning, organizing, supervising and implementing program design. Ability to work positively with parents and work cooperatively as a team member. Obtain and hold a current food handler's care/first aid and CPR. Maintain compliance with Criminal History Registry. Random Drug Testing. Fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Cheyenne and Arapaho Preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Court Bailiff II
Judicial Branch
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's degree preferred or 4-year experience in security, law enforcement, or legal services. Strong typing and hands-on computer skills. Must abide by confidentiality policies. Must possess valid Oklahoma driver's license. Must have reliable transportation and able to use personal vehicle for community supervision or address verification checks. Knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho culture preferred. Demonstrates moral integrity and fairness in business, public, and private life. No convictions of a felony. No misdemeanors within the last three years. Must pass pre-hire and random drug screening.

SALARY: Negotiable

**DREAMS Counselor
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Associates Degree in Education or related field preferred; or an equivalent combination of education and experience, substituting one year of experience in teaching for each year of the required education. Four years experience with federal, state, or tribal government. Must possess a valid state driver's license, dependable transportation, MVR, and be insurable with the tribes. Must be able to pass a level II Background Investigation. Must pass drug and alcohol testing. Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

**Family Service Coordinator
Head Start
Closing Date:
Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: An Associates or a credential/certification in social work, human services, family services, counseling or a related field. A minimum of three years teaching experience in early childhood program. Computer experience a must. Knowledge of Head Start Performance Standards. Ability to clearly articulate the program's goals, philosophy, and the role of the early childhood development and the family & community content areas. Leadership ability in the area of planning, organizing, supervising and implementing program design. Obtain and hold a current food handlers card/first aid and CPR. CDL license with bus driver's certification. Maintain compliance with Criminal History Registry. Random Drug Testing. Fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O.Box 38
Concho, OK
73022
**(405) 262-0345 /
(800) 247-4612**



Chiefs Whitehawk & Otterby Memorial Dance
May 20, 2023 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Gourd dance at 2 p.m., supper at 5 p.m.
Head Staff: MC Cody Zimmer, AD Adeas Old Crow, HM Chris YellowEagle HL Angie Littleman, HLB Isen Hartico, HLG Georgia Tapia, HGD Gerald Panana, Honored Veteran Darrell Flyingman, Honored Elders Merle Big Medicine & Margie Pewo, Host Drum Goodblanket Drummer, Host Red Moon War Mother's Club.
Painting and smudge by Max Watan, limited vendors, \$35 craft booth / \$50 food booth.
For more information call 405-706-2385 or 702-684-1454.

Office of Veterans Affairs Memorial Day Cookout
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Thursday May 25, 2023 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Hot dogs, hamburgers, cornhole games, door prizes and more. Inviting all Cheyenne and Arapaho Veterans. For more information call 405-422-7724.

Youth Football Camp - Ages 6-11
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. daily, May 27-28, 2023 at the El Reno Youth Football Field, 2000 W. Sunset Drive in El Reno, Okla.
\$30 per child, includes both days plus lunch. Covering all basic fundamentals of football while increasing speed and agility.
For more information or to register call or text Sam Powell at 405-519-6314.

51st annual Redmoon Memorial Day Powwow
May 27-29, 2023 at the Redmoon Powwow grounds, one mile north and two miles east of Junction Hwy. 33 & 34 in Hammon, Okla. Gourd dance daily 3-5 p.m. Nightly Grand Entries at 7:30 p.m. Vendor space available, for more information call 580-339-1946 or 405-637-6036 or 580-309-0042 or 580-799-4566.

Head Staff: MC Wilbur Bullcoming, HS Kendall Kauley & Billy Youngbird, HM Winslow Bigmedicine, HL Jocinda Walkingnight, LBD Cerone Goodblanket (7), LGD Kynlee Hart (9), Flag Bearers Chris Beach, U.S. Army & Edward Krapcha, U.S. Army, and ADs Kevin Oldman, Mileena Horse and Daniel Baker.

Fundraiser/Benefit Dance for the Western Oklahoma Indian Baptist Family Camp

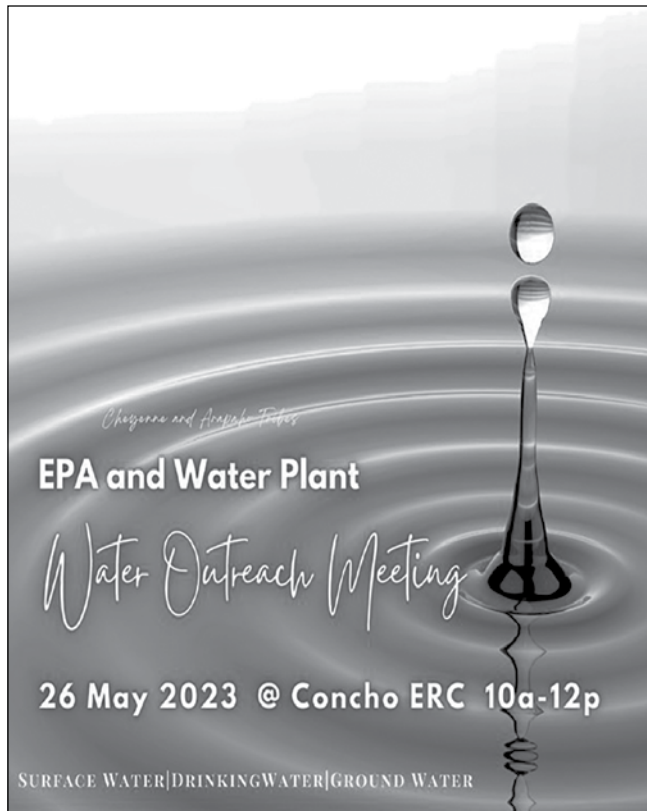
Saturday June 3, 2023 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Supper at 5:30 p.m..

Head Staff: MC Gerald Panana, HS Oklahoma Jammers, HM Earl Sleeper, HL Janelle Sharp, HLB Quinton Reynolds, HLG Avianna Oldman, Honored Elder Ona Etsitty, Honored Camp Pastor and wife, JC and Michelle Smith, Co-Host Elk River Whiteskunk Sisters and AD Billy Youngbird.

For more information call Ron Starr at 580-500-7786 or Angie Lime at 580-309-4165.

Tipi Demonstration hosted by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Culture Program

12 noon, Saturday June 10, 2023 at the First Americans Museum, 659 First American Blvd., in Oklahoma City. This will be in preparation for the annual First Americans Museum's Tipi Raising Competition held in October 2023. For more information call 405-422-7443.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy 16th Birthday Danika Bull Coming May 27

To our beautiful granddaughter – we can't believe you are 16, my oh my how time flies. It seems like only yesterday you were just a beautiful baby girl, now you are such a beautiful young lady. You are such a blessing. Grandpa and grandma are so proud of you, stay sweet and kind and just be yourself, always know anything is possible as long as you walk with the Lord. We love you today and always. Love grandpa, grandma, mom, sisters, Dezlynn & Dubray



Happy 4th Birthday DJ Bull Coming May 24

Enjoy your day grandson, you are such a blessing! Hope you have the best birthday every. Love grandpa, grandma, mom brothers, Kell, King and baby Kash



Happy 50th Birthday Eugene "Bobcat" Stonerod

Hope you Have the Bestest Day Ever Brother! Love You Always your Seester Amy Sage



Happy 17th Birthday Jayla Nicole Racelis May 17

Happy Birthday to daddy's little girl. I love you Jayla, you rule my world. Since day one you've always had my heart. Wrapped me around your finger from the very start. Seventeen years and you are beautiful as ever. Daddy's little Princess always and forever, Love dad Jason Racelis Sr.



Happy 18th Birthday Leniya Reed May 15

Wishing you a wonderful 18th birthday from your family, it is such a blessing to have adopted you and gotten to connect to your mom Tracy Sharp and The Fanman family who we appreciate dearly. We love you and we are so proud of you for making it this far. You are special to us and the rest of your family. Love, Donna and Roy



Birthday Girl Happy 11th Birthday Kierah Nicole

Birthday girl, we love you so much and we are very proud of you! Love always, mom, dad and all of your family and friends



Happy 1st Birthday Gertrude "Gertie" Sissom May 18

"Ma'me'ha'e"

You are a real blessing to our family Gertie. Love you forever Grama Quoint

Happy 1st Birthday Baby Thorin Bull Coming May 17

You are a sweet loving baby boy, you make our day when we see that beautiful smile. We love you so much. Love grandpa, grandma, mom, sisters, Kaya, Boo and big brother Trist, and the rest of the Bull Coming family



Cheyenne Word Search

J E L B M U Y V C A V E C L A
K S Y O A D U H O T G V S C A
U E T R E M M O E H N O H A L
H S M S H V J K V X K T X L K
C E R R O Q P X V P M O C F S
L N N I O B H W X S T Q O M I
O O O H H V W M Q Q Y N C H Y
Y V M O E T O G O W D D E U E
P O A N Q S T A B F J Q U Z Y
L T H E Q E S E V O N E E P W
U S E H L J K M H N V Q J G K
Y E V E K L Z H O C M A E N O
P B B W B O N A H K O H E G C
N B C H Y C T B T L H P N V L
F U O W Y Q Q Z F Q N B U X P

- Mo'éhno'ha (horse)

Ésevone (buffalo)

Hó'nehe (wolf)
- Ma'éhóóhe (fox)

Vóhkóóhe (rabbit)

Náhkohe (bear)
- Šéšenovötse (snake)

Nó máhe (fish)

Ma'ēno (turtle)

Arapaho Animal Word Search

K G E H B S L J K M M X Y V J M W Q
O H F E B I D Y K T R V J L S W Q Z
H W C E E I M J G Y Y X F V H Z C L
O V J T E S W J B S Y W O X E O O X
K Z W E N I V N N V X A K E N N S W
J H O S O I V B E E X O U J E O A A
H S X E O Y N O O K U R T M E W K I
K O H E M E K I Q A Z L I G C O J P
F Q O E X I L G N Z G M Q L E Q L Z
A K O I M W T B D L C E W F E L K H
G I X I T E K O O N I N E I H I A
E J Q T N Z H O O X E I H M P F J A

- woxhoox (horse)

heneecce (buffalo)

hooxei (wolf)
- beexou (fox)

nooku (rabbit)

wox (bear)
- siisiiei (snake)

nowo' (fish)

be'enoo (turtle)

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Storm Shelter Program

WHO QUALIFIES?
Enrolled Tribal Citizen Home Owners who reside in the following Oklahoma counties: Blaine, Beckham, Canadian, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Kingfisher, Roger Mills, Washita, Major and Woodward

PREFERENCE ORDER:
Wheelchair bound, physically handicapped, 55 years and older
All Remaining Tribal Citizens

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)
Deed/Proof of Ownership in Applicant's Name
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Title Status Report (TSR)

For Applications Call Mary Youngbull at 405-422-7525



ATHLETE'S SPOTLIGHT

By Latoya Lonelodge

Chaz Rivers, Clinton High School

(Clinton, OK) Nearing the end of his senior year at Clinton High School in Clinton, Okla., Chaz Rivers, 18, looks back on an enjoyable last season of basketball.

Standing 6’1, Rivers is a point guard and shooting guard for the Clinton Red Tornadoes basketball team.

Beginning his basketball journey in the second grade, Rivers began playing as he became influenced by the game at a young age.

“Really just by watching basketball on TV,” Rivers said.

And what Rivers has come to love most about basketball is helping other teammates.

“It’s really fun and I like doing stuff for my teammates and all that,”



Rivers said.

Rivers said his teammates have helped motivate him the most throughout the season.

“My teammates because they push me every day at practice to get better,” Rivers said.

Inspired to take on his goals for the season, Rivers said his parents are his biggest inspiration because they push him to stay on the right track.

“My goals were just really to get better every single day and be in the gym as much as I can really and just have fun,” Rivers said.

While he looked forward to competing in tournaments for the season because of the large crowds, Rivers said he feels some relief as his last season of high school

basketball has ended.

“It feels pretty relieving because I’m always used to playing like every single day and now I can finally like rest,” Rivers.

Rivers can now focus on finishing up the remainder of his school year academically as he’s managed to maintain a 3.1 GPA, which Rivers strived to keep up with his assignments throughout the season.

“I would just get home after every game and turn in some assignments and I’d stay up really late sometimes and do work,” Rivers said.

In his final season of basketball, Rivers said what he hoped to accomplish the most in playing was to just have fun while out on the court.

“Really just have fun and get better every single day and enjoy it while I can,” Rivers said.

It was the aura of the game that got Rivers most excited when playing.

“It made me really happy because you hear the crowds and it makes you so excited,” Rivers said.

What Rivers wanted to work on the most for the season was his ball handling on the court.

“I really wasn’t used to handling a lot, but I got a lot better now,” Rivers said.

And as a team player, Rivers said the two most important things to have

in basketball are communication and a feel for the game.

“If you have communication, you can be really good because it’s a team sport and a feel for the game is just like if you been playing a lot, it’s going to be a lot easier to do” Rivers said.

Despite the season being over, Rivers said he continues to practice staying physically fit.

“Just making sure I’m not eating a bunch of junk food and making sure I go on runs and I also lift weights every day during school,” Rivers said.

Thinking back on his time on the court, Rivers said he’s grown as player because he’s more invested as a team player.

“I used to just stay in the corner and wait for the ball to come to me, but now I’m way more invested and I like handling the ball way more now,” Rivers said.

Leaving behind his high school memories on the court, Rivers said he hopes to be remembered as a good teammate.

“Just have fun and get better every single day and enjoy it while you can,” Rivers said.

After graduation, Rivers plans to attend college and study business and looks forward to playing with the R.E.Sp.E.C.T. summer basketball team.

Chaz’s parents are Erick Fox and Lisa Fox and his brother is Sage Fox.



OBITUARIES

Charles McGill Madbull

Charles McGill Madbull, affectionately known as Chuck, passed away peacefully on May 3, 2023, in Antlers, Okla. Born on Oct. 12, 1955, in Clinton, Okla., Chuck was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend to many.

Growing up in Oklahoma, Chuck was a bright and ambitious young man. He pursued his passion for helping others by studying nursing at Paris Junior College. After graduation, he dedicated his career to serving the community as a nurse.

Chuck retired from Choctaw Nation Health Services in November 2022, after a long and fulfilling career in which he touched countless lives.

Throughout his life, Chuck was an avid sports enthusiast. He was well known for his basketball skills and loved playing softball. As a proud father and grandfather, he became the biggest fan of his children and grandchildren, often seen cheering them on at their games. This love for sports and family brought him immense joy and created cherished memories for those who knew him.

Chuck’s selfless nature and dedication to his profes-

sion as a nurse were evident in every aspect of his life. He never met a stranger and was always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. His love for his wife and family was unwavering, and his devotion to them was an inspiration to all who knew him.

In addition to his remarkable career, Chuck had a gift for making people laugh. His sense of humor and quick wit brought light to even the darkest moments, and he was a constant source of joy for his family and friends. He will be lovingly remembered for his ability to brighten any room with his infectious laughter and kind spirit.

Chuck’s life was a testament to the power of love, laughter, and selflessness. His memory will live on in the hearts of his family and the countless people whose lives he touched.

Chuck was preceded in death by his mother Wilma Madbull, father Joe Madbull, son Dawson Primeaux, brother Joel Madbull, sisters, Jesse Mae Madbull and Janice Madbull and granddaughter Haylee Mae Madbull.

He is survived by his devoted wife of many years, Ollie Madbull, daughters,



Misty Madbull and husband Mitchel Breger of Atoka, Okla., son Jeff Madbull, grandchildren, Mykol and Brittany Primeaux, Chloeaunna and Alexaunna Madbull-Jim, Sylie, Audrey, Ranaisha and Ethan Madbull, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

As we say our final goodbyes to Charles “Chuck” McGill Madbull, we are reminded of the laughter, love and joy he brought into our lives. He will forever be remembered as a selfless, funny and loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. His spirit will continue to live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

A celebration of Chuck’s life was held May 6 at Serenity Funeral Chapel in Antlers, Okla., officiated by Rev. Lucy Durant.

OBITUARIES

Barbara Sue Kester

Barbara was born in Duncan on Sept. 8, 1951 to Clarence Floyd and Betty Joan Richardson Allred and died April 8, 2023 at OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City.

She is survived by two daughters Diane Conkin and husband Joey of Thomas, Dena Myers, one son Leonard Dee Kester, Jr., both of the home; two sisters Lu Ann Allred of Dover, Jane Hicks of Norman; six grandchildren Derek Gonzales of Thomas, Zac Gonzales of Yukon, Bailey Conkin, Rae

Rae Broderick, Breylen Kester, all of Thomas, Braden Kester of Oklahoma City; five great-grandchildren Roper, Traden, Jayleigh, Bexleigh, and Liam.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, one granddaughter Shalee Kester, and Gary Ralston.

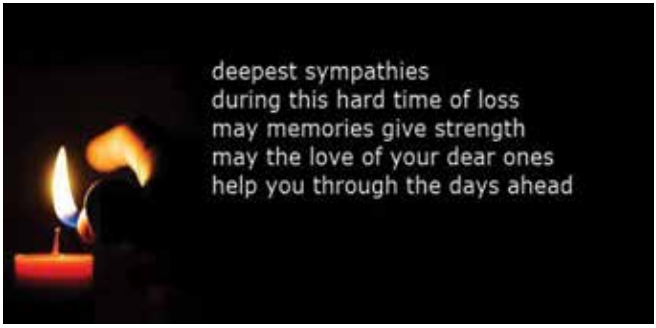
Funeral services were held April 29 at the Thomas Senior Citizens Building in Thomas, Okla. under the direction of Cordry-Gritz Funeral Home.



Tracy Lynn Zoeller

Tracy Lynn Zoeller was born June 8, 1973. She passed from this earth on Dec. 27, 2022.

A graveside service is planned for 11 a.m. June 10, 2023 at the Sunny Slope Cemetery in Mott, North Dakota under the direction of Bismarch Funeral Home.



BEFORE YOU GET
BEHIND THE WHEEL

MAKE SURE YOU
UNDERSTAND THE
RISKS OF DRINKING
AND DRUGGED
DRIVING.

***SCAN TO
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