

Opening opportunities for Native American entrepreneurs



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana and Lt. Gov. Hershel Gorham share the scissors to cut the opening ceremonial ribbon, opening the new tribal Community Development Corporation offices in El Reno, Okla.

(EL RENO, OK) In a ribbon cutting ceremony, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes officially open their new Community Development Corporation offices Feb. 8 in El Reno, Okla.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Community Development Corporation (CACDC) is certified as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), providing financial services in low-income communities and to people who lack access to financing.

Entering the new offices, guests were able to tour the new offices and view the authentic, unique art pieces by Cheyenne and Arapaho artists, including, Brent Learned, George Levi, Gordon Yellowman, Harvey Pratt, Hunter Morgan, Chase Jackson, Nathan Pratt and James Black.

The tribes’ have chosen Cherokee citizen Shane Jett (Cherokee) as the new CACDC CEO. Jett is an Oklahoma Senator (R) from Senate District 17, Shawnee, Okla., and was a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives from 2004-2010.

The CACDC’s Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) application was approved by the U.S. Treasury in the amount of \$2.5 million. The funds are part of the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to provide access to capital for Native American entrepreneurs and small business startups. The tribes’ CACDC will include access to competitive rate interest business loans.

CACDC should begin making its first loans within 90 days. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., located at 107 S. Rock Island in El Reno, Okla.

To learn more about the program, contact CEO Shane Jett at shane.jett@cheyenneandarahocdc.org or CACDC’s loan officer Jordan Adams at jordan.adams@cheyenneandarahocdc.org.



Shane Jett has been named the new CACDC CEO.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune
P.O. Box 38
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Museums to close exhibits featuring Native American artifacts, as new federal regulations take effect

Museums across the United States will begin closing or adapting exhibits featuring cultural artifacts from Native American tribes, in response to new regulations from the Biden administration.

The regulations, which went into effect on January 12, require “museums and Federal agencies to consult, collaborate, and, in the case of scientific study or research, obtain consent” from descendants of Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian Organizations, according to the Department of the Interior (DOI).

The goal is to speed up the process of returning Native American remains, objects of cultural patrimony, funerary objects and other sacred items to tribes, the Department of the Interior said.

In response to the regulations, the American Museum of Natural History in New York said it will be closing two halls that featured Native American objects this weekend.

Sean Decatur, president of the museum, told museum staff in a letter obtained by CNN that the Eastern Woodlands and Great Plains Halls will be closing because they contain artifacts that, under the new regulations, could require consent to exhibit.



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Gov. Reggie Wassana and Lt. Gov. Hershel Gorham attend the National Congress of the American Indian State of Indian Nations Address, Feb. 12 at the 2024 Executive Winter Council Winter Session in Washington, D.C.

The 2024 Executive Council Winter Session is the annual meeting of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Executive Council, one of NCAI’s three main governing bodies. This meeting presents an opportunity for Tribal delegates to hear from members of Congress and the Administration and helps to further the government-to-government relationship between Tribal Nations and the federal government. (Courtesy photo)

Voices Unheard: Teen Dating Violence and Domestic Abuse Awareness

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

With the month of February celebrating love and relationships during the Valentine’s holiday, February is also a time to bring awareness to safe and healthy relationships as part of teen dating violence and domestic abuse prevention.

Bringing awareness to domestic violence and dating, February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM).

On Feb. 7, the Voices Unheard event was held at the Concho Emergency Response Center (ERC) in Concho, Okla., as part of a collaboration by Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Health, Department of Social Services, Lucky Star Casino and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) chapter. The event brought awareness to dating violence, domestic violence and human trafficking.

Guest speakers for the event included Kara Lehman, Lucky Star Casino public relations manager and survivor, Tatum Escott, survivor in recovery, Billie Sutton, domestic violence survivor and Mona Condulle-Hill, Tradition Not Addiction prevention specialist and domestic violence survivor.

The event lined with booths filled with information and resourceful handouts for the public. And while community members made their way from booth to booth, the event continued in discussion with various speakers who spoke on the topic of teen dating and domestic violence. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) also held a presentation on how to report to their agency on missing person cases.

LaRenda Morgan, MMIP chapter chair was the mistress of ceremonies for the event and called upon Kendrick Sweezy, Arapaho chief to open the event with a traditional prayer.

Kati William-Sullivan was called upon next to address the public and welcome attendees.

“Today we come to amplify voices, raising awareness on MMIP, and bring awareness to these grave issues that native men and women are facing. I do believe together as a whole, the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, the programs and every department that we can be a catalyst for positive change and for the communities that we are in all the time,” Sullivan said.

Susan Geary, MMIP board member and with the Pathways to Community Living program, discussed how the MMIP



Guest speaker Tatum Escott shares her story of teen dating violence and domestic violence with the audience during the Voices Unheard event in Concho, Okla. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

chapter can be of assistance and who its members are.

“Domestic violence is a big motivator for me, I endured it as a young mother, I know a lot of my classmates, a lot of my people that I grew up with have also been in that situation, the main thing that we want to express to you is that you have resources, these prevention programs weren’t here when we were here, there was nothing like this on this caliber that you have now, so utilize them, they are very personable, they respect you and they care for you,” Geary said.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Wassana welcomed attendees to the event and spoke on the importance of taking part in the information and resources that are available.

“I consciously believe there’s a breakdown in our families that makes some of these incidences occur, some of the physical abuses, mental abuses occur because there’s a break down in families, there’s a lot of issues and some of the tribal programs you see lining the wall, they’re here to help and try to figure out if we can do maintenance on our younger kids at an early age, that we’re not going to get into those things that happen,” Wassana said.

Guest speakers for the event were then called upon to share their stories involving teen dating violence and

domestic abuse. As all eyes and attention shifted to each speaker, stories of personal abuse and violence flowed in words that echoed throughout the building.

Lehman shared her story with the hope that it would help other survivors or someone going through a similar experience, especially the youth.

“I wanted to reach our young women in their early 20’s and teens who may be just starting to date and in their first serious relationship and hopefully that they can learn from our stories today,” Lehman said.

Growing up Lehman said she saw instances of domestic violence from family members and also witnessed it from friends who entered the dating scene, however she always thought she would never be in that situation herself.

Lehman was big on her academics in school and went to college. She said she soon found that she was lacking something within herself and so then she started to seek the attention of men.

“Shortly after I graduated, I moved to Tennessee to be with a guy that I was dating at the time and that was my first experience with an unhealthy relationship and he didn’t hit me or anything it was just really unhealthy and so that lasted for about a month and I decided to go back home,” Lehman said.

When Lehman went to college she said she started hanging around the wrong crowd until eventually she met a man that she said would say all the right things an 18-year old girl wanted to hear.

“I really clanged on to that man that I was seeing at the time and so we entered a relationship, I started missing class on Monday and then Monday turned into Tuesday, Tuesday turned into Wednesday and I just eventually dropped out and stayed in Watonga with him,” Lehman said.

Lehman said it was then that the abuse began and would escalate over time. It didn’t start physically it started with verbal and emotional abuse.

VOICES UNHEARD / pg. 7



Guest speakers for the Voices Unheard event include, from l-r: Tatum Escott, Kara Lehman, Billie Sutton and Mona Condulle-Hill.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Day to be held February 19

(Oklahoma City, OK) – Cheyenne and Arapaho Peace Chiefs, elders, youth, citizens, employees, business associates, tribal leaders, state representatives and state senators are invited to the Oklahoma State Capitol for Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Day on Monday February 19, 2024.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe is a united federally recognized tribe consisting of two separate tribes, the Cheyenne people and the Arapaho people. The tribe is located within the northwest part of the State of Oklahoma with citizenry of 14,595. Historically the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes ancestral lands span from Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado. They were nomadic people until 1867 when the U.S Government enacted the Medicine Lodge Treaty placing them on Fort Reno at the Darlington Agency in Oklahoma Indian Territory, now present day El Reno, Oklahoma. The Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes headquarters are located two miles north of El Reno in Concho, Oklahoma. Concho was once home to a U.S government boarding school named Concho Indian School which operated from 1903 to 1983.

The Tribe currently operates a success-

ful tribal government with four branches of government, Executive, Legislative, Judicial and Tribal Council. There are also 44 traditional Peace Chiefs.

Over the past century the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes faced, and lived, through extreme adversity but overcame and survived, showing great resiliency. The Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes are partners in rural northwest Oklahoma communities, supporting small towns, schools and providing jobs and economic growth.

The Cheyenne Arapaho people value honor, healthy lifestyles, cultural identity, education, language revitalization, and economic self-sufficiency and our history and culture enrich Oklahoma communities, On this day, February 19, we will acknowledge the accomplishments and progress of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes over the past 157 years in Oklahoma.



Attendees may arrive at 12:30 p.m. and be seated in the Oklahoma House of Representatives Gallery. Session begins at 1:30 p.m. where the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes will be recognized. A program presented by the Tribe will begin on the second-floor rotunda at approximately 2:15pm.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Day

Oklahoma State Capitol

2300 N. Lincoln Blvd,

Oklahoma City, OK 73105



Monday, February 19, 2024

Schedule

1:30 pm

OK House of Representatives

5th Floor Gallery

2:15 pm

2nd Floor Rotunda

Opening Prayer by Chief Gordon Yellowman

Flag Song by Elder Fred Mosqueda

Welcome to State Capitol by Rep. Anthony Moore & Rep. Mickey Dollens

Reading of Cheyenne and Arapaho Day Proclamation

Keynote Address by Governor Reggie Wassana

Remarks by Lt. Governor Hershel Gorham

Cheyenne and Arapaho Legislature

Special Recognition

Closing Prayer

Questions or Inquiries, please contact LaRenda Morgan
at lmorgan@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

Special Session of the 10th Legislature

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

(CONCHO, OK) On Feb. 8 a special session was called by Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana in Concho, Okla.

The public hearing portion of the special session was called to order with invocation given by Diane Willis. Present at roll call was A1 Diane Willis, A2 Kendricks Sleeper, A4 Rector Candy, C1 Bruce Whiteman, C2 George Woods and C3 Thomas Trout. Absent was A3 Travis Ruiz with C4 Byron Bird later joining the special session after roll call.

On the agenda, seven items were to be discussed and voted on:

A resolution confirming Supreme Court Justice nominee D. Colby Addison.

Addison presented himself before the legislature. Addison formerly served as the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes legislative attorney from May 2022 to September 2023. Addison left the tribes to work at the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department as a general counsel.

“I am honored and humbled to be nominated for supreme court justice position here at the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes. I’d like to express my gratitude to Gov. Wassana and Lt. Gov. Gorham for nominating me ... I know that I have worked with you all over the years and I look forward to serving the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes in this role as well,” Addison said.

The resolution stated that Justice Enid Boles term was coming to an end and her appointment would not be renewed. Addison’s nomination would replace Boles as the new supreme court justice.

The resolution passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to approve additional funding for insurance.

The resolution reads that there is a need for additional appropriation of funding for the Blue Cross Blue Shield, VSP and Symetra insurances due to being improperly billed by the Indian Health Service (IHS) as well as underbudgeting in previous years and the Tribe’s insurance policies provides important benefits to tribal employees and added family members.

The additional funding needed from Tax Commission to cover the balances for the insurance bills is estimated to be \$1,000,000.

“I’m requesting additional funding for the insurance, what we noticed over the last year is that IHS is charging the tribes for the tribal citizens going down to get medical assistance from IHS, they’re actually charging us and so Hershel and his group has went out and talked with IHS and they have come to an understanding that that should no longer be done,” Nikole Upchego, Treasurer for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Treasury said.

Because of those charges, Upchego said

when the project was signed back in 2021, they were under the understanding with IHS that that should not have happened, but it did.

“Because of that I need these funds to be able to pay for the current insurance, so it doesn’t get stopped and to be able to have a have a little bit of cushion to pay for these bills that are coming in,” Upchego said.

Wassana said they have met with IHS and anticipates that the funds will be sent back.

“They kind of said if things worked out we would have those funds back but I’m not anticipating that because I don’t think as much as I’d like to think the federal government works, that it will be two weeks so I’m anticipating the six weeks but we are receiving those funds back, they’re just trying to work out details right now,” Wassana said.

The resolution passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to appropriate three hundred thousand (\$300,000) dollars for the construction of two outdoor fitness courts within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Jurisdiction.

As the Diabetes Wellness Program aims to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and diabetes-related health disparities within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and its communities by promoting health and wellness among the Cheyenne and Arapaho communities, the resolution on the item read regular exercise can lower the risk of developing type 2 diabetes and metabolic syndrome, which is a combination of health conditions like high blood pressure, high triglycerides, high blood sugar, low levels of high density lipoproteins. Regular physical activity has numerous benefits for individuals.

The National Fitness Campaign with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma has awarded the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Diabetes Wellness Program two grants totaling \$100,000 towards the construction and assembly of two outdoor fitness court.

“I am asking for \$300,000 to construct two outdoor courts, one of those will be placed in El Reno at the Adams Park and the second location would be at the Geary ERC, so the purpose of the fitness courts is to provide tribal members with other avenues to utilize, physical activity equipment rather than having to pay for outdoor events,” Marcos Baros, Diabetes Wellness program director said.

The city of El Reno has agreed to support the construction of the fitness court at the Adams Park that will also spearhead the park revitalization that El Reno is planning.

Baros said the city of El Reno has also agreed to donate the lot of land needed for construction of the fitness park.

“They’re willing to donate the land for the fitness court to spearhead their revitalization of the park, we don’t have to purchase the land, they’re going to donate it, we have a resolution of support that they’re willing to

support for that and we also have a memorandum of understanding that kind of says they’re giving us land but we’re going to have to upkeep the maintenance, for allowing us to use the land to use for the fitness court,” Baros said.

Baros said the locations were based off health assessment studies that scored high on the two locations.

“They utilized a metric system that’s based off population, access to the location and what amenities are provided so there’s walking trails at those locations, that kind of boost the score up at the park or any type of recreational areas at those locations that boost the score up and then the population based on location boost the score up for those as well,” Baros said.

The Diabetes Wellness program plans to facilitate community fitness classes regularly for ages 14 and older once the courts are completed. Baros said the fitness court will be open to the public however there will be measures in place to identify how many tribal citizens are utilizing the fitness court.

The total estimated cost to build the fitness court plus additional expenses will cost around \$363,900.

During the voting portion for resolution number three, Bird made a motion to go into discussion over the item before voting where he addressed concerned for financial reports on the resolution.

“There’s not a financial report on this, with the very minimum of \$300,000 and there’s not enough for me to vote on this so maybe if it was on regular session with more documents yes, but I know things are the way they are sometimes, I don’t know if this would’ve been better on a regular session or not,” Bird said.

Woods then made a motion to table the resolution and a call was made to vote to table the resolution.

The resolution was voted to be tabled with a vote of 5 yes and 2 abstaining.

A resolution to approve an easement for the Canton Head Start.

Ellisa Perez with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Head Start presented the resolution stating the need for better internet services for the Canton Head Start location through fiber optics.

“They’ll have higher internet speeds, better services, right now they just have regular cable internet,” Perez said.

The resolution passed unanimously by a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to amend resolution No. 7L-SS-2018-0227-005 to authorize Gov. Wassana to execute certain contracts.

The resolution on the item reads that the constitution authorizes the governor to negotiate contracts and sign contracts that have been approved by either the Legislature or

the Tribal Council. The Tribes operates numerous enterprises in addition to carrying out their governmental functions in the day to day business of the Tribes, the governor is required to negotiate contracts for routine goods and services and litigation settlements.

In facilitating a timely executive of contracts, the resolution authorizes the governor to execute certain contracts without further intervention of the legislature.

“We’ve had this every year all the governors in the past has had it, Darrell Flyingman always had \$500,000 and it’s less now but it’s kind of the same as we do every year but as of Dec. 31 it expired of the year to year so it’s just another agreement for anything less than \$250,000 to be able to process,” Wassana said.

“It’s always been there since there’s been a new constitution and you can go back as far as when Darrell was the first governor to Eddie Hamilton and Janice Boswell and everybody’s had that authority so they wouldn’t have to run to the legislature every single time somebody wanted assistance,” Wassana said.

The resolution passed with a vote of 4 yes and 3 no.

A resolution to authorize Gov. Wassana or other designee to executive any and all documents with Bank of Oklahoma.

Wassana stated the resolution was to only change and update signatures as there was a need to update signatures as some were more than 10 years old.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Lt. Gov. Hershel Gorham stated the only account at the Bank of Oklahoma currently is the Education Trust Fund.

“Ever since the tribes have had it, we haven’t really had to utilize those funds so it’s growing a little over time but when we talked with the bank it was hardly being invested at all so that’s when we discovered there were outdated signatures on there,” Gorham said.

The resolution passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to approve membership to the Indian Gaming Association.

“That’s just a normal every year annual fee for members of the gaming association and they assess a fee according to the size of casinos, the dollar amount is what we made ,how they assess the actual fee to be a member in the gaming association but every year we have to renew it, I think they require a resolution to be members,” Wassana said.

The payment of dues for IGA Tribal Membership is \$25,000.

The resolution passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to amend the Museum Foundation Act.

SPECIAL SESSION / pg. 4

Parties agree to settlement in Election Commission case

(CONCHO, OK) The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Election Commission reaches a settlement agreement in the 6 year old case.

On Jan. 30, 2024, in the matter of Election Commission v Governor Reggie Wassana, both parties agreed to a settlement agreement in the amount of \$250,000.00 for back pay to the Election Commissioners.

The case was first filed in 2018 by the Election Commission as a challenge to the 2018 Mileage and Per Diem Act changing the Election Commissioners employee status. Moving the Election Commission under the Mileage and Per Diem Act classified the Election Commissioners as vendors and as such, paying them only mileage and a per diem with no benefits or salary pay as elected officials of the tribe. The “Act” was challenged in court by the Election Commission and was deemed to

be unconstitutional.

“The Election Commission is pleased with the resolution of this case and appreciate the hard work of the attorneys involved. The legislature and the governor have agreed to treat the Election Commissioners as elected officials in recent legislation and this settlement finalizes the back pay amount owed to the Election Commissioners,” Election Commission Chairwoman Sarah Orange said.



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Election Commission Chairwoman, and Election Commission Attorney Clint Cowan attend the Jan. 30 court hearing in Concho, Okla.

MUSEUMS

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“The number of cultural objects on display in these Halls is significant, and because these exhibits are also severely outdated, we have decided that rather than just covering or removing specific items, we will close the halls,” Decatur wrote in the letter.

He also acknowledged that the Halls and exhibits “are vestiges of an era when museums such as ours did not respect the values, perspectives, and indeed shared humanity of Indigenous peoples.”

“While the actions we are taking this week may seem sudden, they reflect a growing urgency among all museums to change their relationships to, and representation of, Indigenous cultures.”

SOLD! Cheyenne and Arapaho real estate agent assists fellow tribal citizens with home buying

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter



Mariah Youngbull

Helping Cheyenne and Arapaho citizens find their potential homes to purchase as first-time buyers is what fellow tribal citizen and real estate agent Mariah Youngbull strives for.

Born and raised in Rochester, Minn., Youngbull officially moved to Hammon, Okla., when she was in the seventh grade and graduated from Hammon High School in 2012.

Youngbull found her calling in real estate when she was interested in purchasing her own home over two years ago and has since become a licensed real estate agent.

Youngbull said she found the process of home buying fascinating and felt compelled to help other tribal citizens like herself.

“I was the one that printed off every single page of the

contract and read through them and I just found that whole process fascinating and I found out that our tribe offers down payment assistance and we wasn’t aware of it until we started digging around and asking questions,” Youngbull said.

Youngbull wondered why other people didn’t utilize the down payment assistance and who was familiar with the program.

“That was kind of my main goal with this is to educate our tribal members on what sources there are available for us,” Youngbull said.

Since becoming a realtor, Youngbull has successfully helped a handful of tribal citizens with their home buying experience. And while she strives to help fellow tribal citizens, Youngbull does real estate for everyone as she

works at a real estate agency called Exploration Realty and Auctions in Elk City, Okla.

“This is for everybody not just for tribal citizens ... I have also helped the housing department purchase homes for people that have gotten closer to the top of their waiting list so they were able to go and pick their own home in the tribe, the housing department helped them purchase it,” Youngbull said.

With the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Dept. of Housing’s mission to provide affordable, safe and decent housing to income-eligible Native American families, there is down payment assistance available for families to apply for along with the Mutual Help waiting list.

According to the Down Payment Closing Cost Grant Policy, the purpose of the grant is to provide the opportunity of homeownership for tribal citizens that can qualify for financial funding from private sector lending or mortgage companies. For Native American families living within the service area of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Housing Authority, the policy states Native American families must possess acceptable credit history and financial potential to acquire home loans from the available lending market and although financial stability for a mortgage payment has been identified, many times families need assistance with the initial down payment and closing cost required.

Youngbull said the down payment assistance varies. Elders ages 55 and up are eligible for up to \$20,000 and for anyone under 55, they can get help with up to \$15,000 at the maximum.

“This amount does vary and sometimes it might be \$5,000 sometimes it might be \$10,000 because it goes off your income and your

household size and these amounts are per HUD guidelines and not a number that the tribe is coming up with. It is per HUD guidelines that they’re getting their information from,” Youngbull said.

Apart from the down payment assistance, there is the mutual help waiting list for the acquisition project where tribal citizens are placed on the waiting list until homes become available for them. Youngbull said the wait could be over 10 years.

“Being on the list and choosing your own home is the acquisition project and that is where somebody would wait on the list for years until a home finally becomes available in their area and the ones that I have helped have been elders and they told me that they’ve been on the list for years before they finally got to pick their own home,” Youngbull said.

If tribal citizens want to be placed on the waiting list for the acquisition project, Youngbull said there are still guidelines that must be abided by.

“I believe there is income criteria, household criteria that you do have to meet but you don’t have to go through the pre-approval process and the down payment assistance is where you do have to go through the down payment process, you still have to be on the housing wait list but you don’t have to wait years and years, you can buy a home relatively quickly,” Youngbull said.

One of the main criteria for applying for the down payment assistance is it is required to be placed on the housing wait list first.

“There is no timeline on how long you have to be on it, you could be on it for one day and then go get a pre-approval from a lender and then apply for the down payment

HOME BUYING / pg. 7

Communities Care Outreach


On Saturday, Feb. 10 the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) Project, in partnership with the City of Watonga, host a Communities Care Day of Reach Resources event. The event was held at The Armory in Watonga, Okla.


Over 40 program booths were set up to provide resources to tribal citizens.

In one day the TOR distributed over 450 fentanyl tet kits and 150 Narcan kits to members of the Watonga and Canton communities.

(Courtesy photos)



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FAMILY WINTER CLOTHING
KIDS JACKETS - FREEZERWEAR
MEN'S INSULATED WORK WEAR
If You Can Buy The SAME Item
We Sell For Less Elsewhere
You Will Get Our Item FREE (Must show receipt)
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2409 S. AGNEW AVE - OKC
405-636-1486
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Internet Price
About \$60
OUR PRICE
About \$40-\$53

SPECIAL SESSION

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Gorham stated that he had asked Dayrah Elizondo, Deputy General Counsel to amend the resolution. The original resolution was previously passed by legislature and has had more members nominated and confirmed since. During their annual meeting it was pointed out that there is a need for additional staff for clerical work.

“They’ve been utilizing the attorneys and the office of tribal attorneys but they need someone to do clerical work and so the original act had a restriction where they cannot hire staff and I asked Dayrah to remove that description so they can hire a staff assistant,” Gorham said.

The resolution passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution of tribal government certification of unserved areas per the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) – Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Round 2.

On the resolution, it states per the Notice of Funding Opportunity Round Two, a tribal government may certify that locations within its own tribal lands are unserved and declare certification that the areas where last mile service is proposed are not served by qualifying broadband service.

“In there they wanted a resolution that the tribes said that there’s no connectivity or lack of connectivity and that is major on a different basis, sometimes we don’t get connection, we drop our calls and if you are dropping your calls and you’re not getting a good connection then that’s not considered being served,” Wassana said.

The resolution passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A bill to create the Cheyenne and Arapaho Office of Development and Advancement Act of 2024.

Gorham said the office of Development and Advancement will be utilized to formalize all the Tribe’s fundraising efforts.

“The goal is to create a formalized office of development and advancement that will be there to start fundraising at a higher level such as online giving, annual giving, planned giving creating endowments like education endowment that way we can get relations to create those endowments,” Gorham said.

According to the resolution, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Office of Development and Advancement for fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026 will cost a total of \$300,000 for expenditure under this act and the primary funding source will be Tax Commission.

The resolution passed with a vote of 5 yes and 2 abstaining.

Cole and Davids Announce H.R. 7227 - a Bill To Establish the Truth & Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2024

(Minneapolis, MN) The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) returns to Washington, D.C. next week, to educate and bring awareness to the impacts of Federal Indian boarding school policies on Tribal Nations. Marking this historic initiative, NABS will host briefings to update partners, allies, and the public about S. 1723 and H.R. 7227, a bill to establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States.

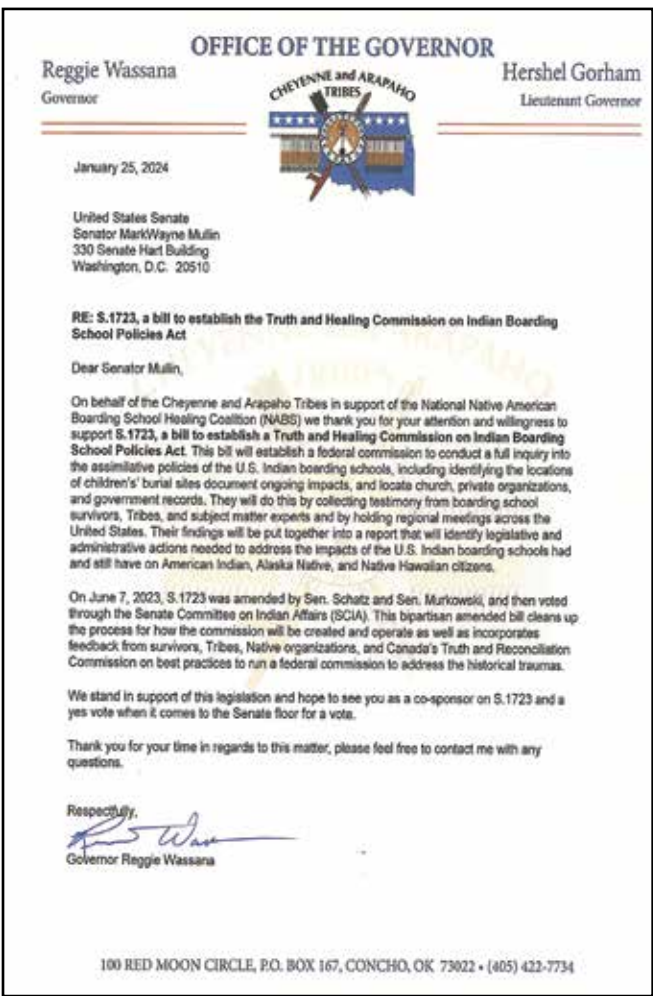
“For too long, the stories of Native children stripped of their heritage, families, and lives were hidden. We must bring the light of truth to this dark chapter in our nation’s history and establishing this commission is imperative to that,” said Congressman Cole, Member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma and Co-Chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus. “It will provide needed answers and build a pathway to healing for survivors and tribal families. Turning acknowledgment into action will help ensure the harms of the past are never repeated.”

“My grandparents are survivors of Indian boarding schools, but many other children never returned to their families or their communities. Those that did lost generations worth of cultural knowledge, stories, and traditions,” said Congresswoman Sharice Davids, Member of the

Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin and Co-Chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus. “Establishing a Truth and Healing Commission would bring survivors, experts, federal partners, and Tribal leaders to the table to fully investigate what happened to our relatives and work towards a brighter path for the next seven generations.”

NABS Board President Ruth Anna Buffalo (Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation, Chiricahua Band of Apache descent), former North Dakota State Representative, shared, “Native children were forcibly taken from their parents, from their Tribal Nations, and their traditional territories. Many never returned nor lived to tell their story. The passage of S. 1723 and H.R. 7227 is paramount, as there has never before been a federal commission created to investigate and document the colonization and assimilation of Native children.”

“The time is now to pass S.1723 / H.R. 7227,” said Deborah Parker, Chief Executive Officer of NABS and a citizen of the Tulalip Tribes. “We applaud Representative Davids and Representative Cole for their leadership in bringing forward this historic legislation to address the devastating legacy of the United States Indian boarding schools. This Federal Commission will investigate the long-term effects of what happened to Native children at the hands of the United States government.



Ultimately, we will work with Congress to promote truth, justice, and healing.”

The Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act will establish a Federal Commission initiating a full investigation into the impacts and ongoing effects of the U.S. Indian Boarding School Policies (federal policies under which American Indian and Alaska Native children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in boarding schools).

The Federal Commission will establish a Truth and Healing Commission

on Indian Boarding School Policies, (1) to formally investigate, document, and report on the histories of Indian boarding schools, Indian Boarding School Policies, and the systemic and long-term effects of those schools and policies on Native American peoples; (2) to develop recommendations for Federal participation based on the findings of the Commission; and (3) to promote healing for survivors of Indian boarding schools, the descendants of those survivors, and the communities of those survivors.



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

Storm Shelter Program

APPLICATION DEADLINE

MARCH 29, 2024

Who Qualifies:

Enrolled Tribal Member 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 challenged, 55 years and older, and remaining membership

Required Documents:

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)
Deed/Proof of Ownership in applicants name
Bureau of Indian Affairs Title Status Report (TSR)

To receive an application or to check to make sure all your documentation has been received from a prior application, please call Mary Youngbull at 405-422-7525

COMPLETED APPLICATION DEADLINE

March 29, 2024

APPLICATIONS WITH REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR



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TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Teens and young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most at risk for intimate partner violence, experiencing violence at a rate that is almost three times greater than the national average.

What is Teen Dating Violence?

Teen Dating Violence is a type of relationship violence that occurs between young people. It is defined when a person uses a pattern of abusive behavior toward their partner to gain power and control over them. Dating violence can include one or more types of abuse such as: physical, emotional, sexual, digital, and financial abuse.

Facts about Teen Dating Violence

- About 1 in 8 female and 1 in 26 male high school students report having experienced sexual dating violence in the last year.
- Nearly 1 in 11 female and 1 in 14 male high school students have reported experiencing physical dating violence.
- More than 40% of Native American children experience two or more acts of violence by the age of 18.

Teen Dating Violence Prevention

- Teach healthy relationship skills and habits to teenagers.
- Spread awareness of TDV to families, parents, and peers so that they are aware what the warning signs are.
- Create protective and trusting environments where survivors are comfortable coming forward to seek help.
- Support survivors and making resources, therapy, and services readily available to victims of TDV.

National Helpline: 1-866-331-9474

Oklahoma Safeline: 1-800-522-7433

Love is Respect: www.loveisrespect.org

The Safe Space: www.thesafespace.org

Victims Services Social Service Program 1-833-488-4887



This product was supported by grant number 2022-ISPOVC-22-GG-01320-TVAG, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this product are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

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JODI MARQUETTE

American Indian Wills Clinic

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

- ☐ Driver's license or Tribal or State-issued ID.
- ☐ Full names and dates of birth of children and grandchildren.
- ☐ Any paperwork regarding your Indian land.

Friday, April 5th

Redlands Community College

El Reno, OK

Friday, April 19th

OCU School of Law

Oklahoma City, OK

- No Walk-Ins will be accepted. Appointments must be made in advance, scheduled by phone.
- The American Indian Wills Clinic provides no-cost estate planning services to Tribal Members who live in Oklahoma.
- Wills and other estate planning documents are drafted by appointment only.

For more information on your Indian land, contact the OST Beneficiary Call Center at 1-888-678-6836



OKLAHOMA BAR FOUNDATION

Law. Education. Justice.

This project was made possible in part by a generous grant from the Oklahoma Bar Foundation



To make an appointment or learn more about your options for your Indian land, call Lori Harless, Program Coordinator, at 405-208-5017

ATHLETES' SPOTLIGHT

Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

Aubrey Bridges, Watonga High School

(WATONGA, OK) Scoring her way through the season, Cheyenne and Arapaho student athlete Aubrey Bridges, 18, has become unstoppable on the basketball court in her senior year surpassing 1200 points.

Standing 5'4, Bridges plays point guard for the Watonga High School girls basketball team.

Born and raised in Watonga, Okla., Bridges began playing basketball with her brothers at an early age and by third grade, she was playing on a traveling team and has been playing ever since.

“My brothers always played basketball, and my dad and my mom, so I think it just ran in the family,” Bridges said.

What Bridges loves the most about playing basketball is the rollercoaster of emotions she experiences alongside her teammates.

“What I love the most is going through the ups and downs with my teammates and when we come out on top it’s like the best feeling,” Bridges said.

Bridges said her dad motivates her the most when it comes to playing basketball.

“He keeps on pushing me to be better and keep on practicing,” Bridges said.

And what Bridges looks forward to the most this season is finishing out her last season of basketball as a senior with her teammates and making it to state.

“I don’t think about it too much I’m just living in the moment with my teammates but also I know when the moment comes, I’ll be sad about it,” Bridges said.

While the regular season is coming to an end before districts, Bridges had already surpassed 1200 points. Bridges said she looks forward to trying to score 1500 points and finish the season winning games.

“It was pretty big because last year I hit 1000 points and I didn’t know it because I was just trying to play the game and assist and help my team win, so I wasn’t really thinking about it much but when it came it felt pretty good,” Bridges said.

Playing basketball, Bridges said what she hopes to accomplish the most is obtaining a scholarship to continue playing basketball at the college level and be the best she can be on the court.

“In my eyes I can do anything, and our team can beat any team,” Bridges said.

With hopes to attend college one day, Bridges has maintained a 3.8 GPA, which she credits her father for reminding her to be a student before an athlete.

“I do as much work as I can school wise and then I have basketball practice and then I go home and then I do my work and sometimes I come back up to the gym, my coaches and my dad always told me to be a student before

an athlete,” Bridges said.

As a basketball player, Bridges said she’s grown on the court by involving her teammates more and stepping up as a leader when needed.

“Getting my teammates involved more each year and not just shooting the ball every time I get it and telling them when to step up to be a leader, I think I’ve grown in that position,” Bridges said.

Continuing to work on her game by staying late in the gym after practices, Bridges said the best way to improve herself was to also be crafty.

“Bringing in things to my game that I haven’t done before, getting craftier with my game,” Bridges said.

In finishing up her senior year of high school basketball, Bridges said she wants to be remembered as a leader and someone who helped keep her teammates heads up during difficult times.

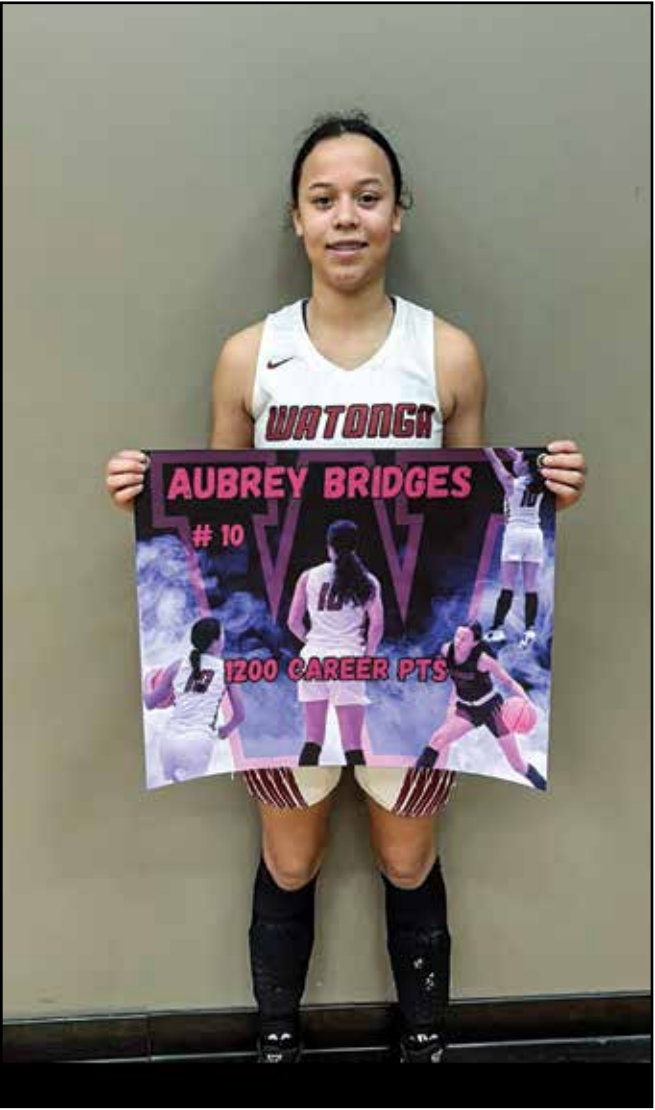
“I’d want to be remembered as a leader and someone that the little kids can always look up to in that way,” Bridges said.

For Bridges, she said basketball has taught her discipline overall. And with discipline comes accountability.

“I would say like with discipline comes accountability and you have to be, like if you want to be the best you have to train for it, practice for it everyday, you can’t just come in and slouch off,” Bridges said.

Looking back on her moments of playing basketball, Bridges said basketball was a gateway for her.

“It feels like when I step on the basketball floor, anything happening in my life, it just all disappears it’s just me and the basketball there



and no distractions,” Bridges said.

Watonga High School head girls’ basketball coach Lauren Campo describes Bridges as a hard worker on and off the court.

“Aubrey has led the team in points and steals since she was a freshman, she can take over a game, for as small as she is. She also leads the team in rebounding ... she is an all-around great player,” Campo said.

Campo said the team has had some big wins over ranked opponents and while there were games where the team did not perform well, they always bounced back with good attitude and effort.

Bridges has averaged an overall EFG of 48.2%, shooting 76% on free throws, and scoring 17.8 points per game with 5 assists and 6.9 rebounds.

Camp said Bridges scored her 1000th point in her junior year.

“Often times she is double and even triple teamed, so to be able to still score that many career points is pretty amazing, she is currently sit-

ting at 1259 career points,” Campo said.

Graduating in the spring, Bridges hopes to attend college and further her basketball career. While she has some colleges looking at her, she hasn’t committed to a school officially.

Aubrey’s parents are Dionel Bridges and Annie Walker. Her siblings are Ian Bridges, Stefan Walker and Dionte Walker and her grandmother is Mary Ann Bridges.



Congratulations



Congratulations to the Calumet Basketball District Champions heading into playoffs with a perfect season.



Congratulations to the Darlington Boys Basketball team on a tremendous season.



Congratulations to the Darlington Girls Basketball team on being named first runner up in the state playoffs.



Congratulations to Nazhoni Sleeper on her commitment to further her education and basketball career at Seminole State College.



Congratulations to Carter Roman Nose, El Reno High School Basketball team for joining the 1,000 career points club.

W

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wildcat.apparel3@gmail.com

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CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
Vocational Rehabilitation Program

CAAIVR

ANNUAL POLICY
REVIEW

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

WHEN:

MARCH 6TH

WHERE:

DOL CONFERENCE RM

TIME:

10:AM-11:AM

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

CONTACT

To RSVP please email response to
CAAIVR@cheyenneandarapaho-
nsn.org Thank you

VOICES UNHEARD

continued from pg. 2

“He would make fun of my appearance, make fun of my heritage and just really tear me down and I should’ve paid attention to that, I should’ve thought this is unhealthy for me but at the time I didn’t know about domestic violence and I didn’t know even my own self-worth,” Lehman said.

Lehman continued her story of how her daughter would eventually help her make the decision to leave the abuse behind. Lehman said being in a domestic violence situation, there is never a lack of intelligence, it was a lack of self-love.

“It was a lack of not knowing what you’re worth, I can support survivors by standing beside them and helping them to find their word, loving them through that and guiding them and just being there to listen, domestic violence survivors or people that are in that situation are not stupid they are some of the smartest most beautiful, most kind people, they just need help,” Lehman said.

As the mic was then handed to Escott, she thanked everybody for the opportunity to share her story and hoped it would touch at least one person in the room.

“I was told that one person is all it takes, my story with domestic violence starts as young as 14 years old, I met a boy in school and I thought that he was going to be the love of my life, I thought we were going to spend the rest of our lives together, at 14 I knew nothing,” Escott said.

At the age of 14, Escott said she was controlled, manipulated and isolated from friends and family. And no matter how many times she tried to leave, she always went back

for comfort.

“At 19 I finally left and I found the next abusive relationship shortly after with no time to heal or recovery, I carried so much trauma into my next relationship. I spent two years building a home and a family with this person, it was daily mental abuse and lots of physical abuse,” Escott said.

Facing abuse over time, Escott turned to substance abuse to cope but admitted although it helped with the pain it left her more broken.

Escott said she became sober in 2022 so that she could truly heal from the years of trauma.

“It’s been 546 days I’ve spent looking inward, working through those wounds that are still with me today, I can stand tall and know that people can only hurt me if I allow it, I know it’s scary and super uncomfortable but the only way to heal is to sit with those emotions that make you uncomfortable and work through them alone. I am in control of my life today and you are too,” Escott said.

Condulle-Hill spoke next as a victim of domestic abuse and as a survivor. Hill admitted it was her first time sharing her story to the public.

“I worked for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tradition Not Addiction program and I’m out there telling my story about substance abuse and how I overcame that and so I’m telling it over and over again, so for me to share this story, it’s a little bit sensitive to me so I just want to say that thank you for giving me this opportunity to be here to bring domestic abuse and daily violence awareness to this community, to

our native people,” Hill said.

Sitting beside fellow guest speakers, Hill said they are there because they are survivors and there are women and girls out there that aren’t there because they are either missing or have been murdered.

“They can’t speak for themselves so just being here sharing our story, I just hope and pray it brings awareness for you guys, the topic that I want to talk to you about actually is a question, it’s a question that is asked by everybody and when I say everybody I mean everybody who has never been in a violent relationship with their significant other and that question is why doesn’t she just leave?,” Hill said.

Hill continued to say that victims have a different mindset whether it’s fear, being trapped, having nowhere to go or no resources or even simply not knowing what to do. For Hill, it was too dangerous.

“It was too dangerous, I was in the relationship for 13 years with my ex-husband and I met him in the early 80’s and we were all friends, it was during the break-dancing era so he was a break dancer, everyone was a break dancer,” Hill said.

Hill said she was smitten at first as he was nice, they would continue their relationship for the next two years partying and have a great time.

“Everything was fine and I was partying, he was partying, but there was another sign that would be jealousy, at that time I was only 18, but I took that jealousy the wrong way I took it as I was flattered, oh he really loves me. He doesn’t want anybody looking at me, I took it

the wrong way that should’ve been a sign, but I ignored it and I ended up pregnant by the time I was 20,” Hill said.

When Hill knew she was going to be a mother, she said it completely changed her life and since then she has never picked up an alcohol beverage or did drugs. She left it all behind to be a mother.

“Being pregnant we didn’t live together but eventually we did and that’s when the physical abuse started and I should’ve left him then but I didn’t,” Hill said.

After moving out and moving on from the abuse, Hill said she’s glad to bring awareness to the topic because you never know what someone is going through.

“You don’t know if your daughter is in a violent relationship because she may be hiding it from you, or maybe your son, there are men victims out there too and but I just want to say that I’m here because I just wanted to share my story with you and just to tell you to just be aware, check on your kids, check on your mom because you don’t know what’s going on behind closed doors,” Hill said.

Sutton shared her story that began at an early age and continued on all throughout her teenage years and up to being an adult where she’s experienced different situations and incidences.

“When I was 15 I met my ex, I had just barely turned 15 but it was exciting and I was flattered because he was older, he was 21 years old and he was a marine, he was somebody and I was just showered with attention ... there’s a term for it that’s called love bond where they just shower you with attention and

you’re the most important thing in the world,” Sutton said.

Sutton continued to share several incidences that occurred from her teenage years into her adult years of unwanted gestures from men.

“But the biggest help that helped me on several incidences was going to law enforcement, going to the courts, BIA dispatch number is 405-247-6712, get help, scream if you have to ... that’s going to help you in situations, get up and heal,” Sutton said.

Sutton said there’s been times when she wonders if she’s ever been paranoid and the answer is no.

“No, you’re not and there’s a lot of people that are off, there’s no reasoning with them, get a gun and get trained to use it, we need to all be warriors, be available to help others, especially our younger people we need to be the ones to stand up for them because they don’t know what to do, when I was younger I had no clue what to do, no clue who to go to so you have to be open to make yourself available, find your voice and speak up,” Sutton said.

Rosanna Tallbear, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes 9-8-8 project coordinator said the overall goal of the event was to educate and promote awareness of teen dating and domestic violence.

“Since it’s February, we wanted to give them ideas, to learn from our elders or survivors for domestic violence and we wanted to get the message out there that you can get out and you can learn from it and move on, we wanted to promote this event for them and to work with our MMIP program,” Tallbear said.

HOME BUYING

continued from pg. 4

assistance,” Youngbull said.

The first step in the home buying process for tribal citizens interested in purchasing a home as a first-time buyer is getting pre-approved through a lender.

“To purchase a home, lenders are going to be one of the first people you talk to, you’re going to talk to real estate agents and lenders and the lender is going to be the one who will be able to give you that pre approval amount to say yes you can afford to buy a home or no you can’t but let’s work on these things to get you to buy that home,” Youngbull said.

And one requirement that lenders are going to look at for pre-approval is credit scores. Youngbull said lenders are usually going to require at least a 580 credit score but they really want to see a 640 credit score, along with two years of consistent income and two years of tax returns and bank statements.

Once a preapproval letter is issued, the letter can

be presented to a real estate agent and they will begin the search for potential homes.

“The lenders will put your information into their system and see how much you are pre-approved for, once you get that letter, you’ll come to a real estate agent and they will start searching the market for properties that fit your budget along with your wants and needs and then after that, once we found a home you like, we write up the contracts, we negotiate if we have to and within 45 days you’re usually moved into your home,” Youngbull said.

When it comes to choosing a lender, Youngbull said there are many options. She also has lenders that she works with for recommendations.

“I have some lenders that I work with very frequently and I can recommend those lenders, some of them have worked with the tribe and tribal citizens and so they know about their policies

and the ways they want things to be done or if you’re going to your bank, that’s also a great option, I always recommend to try your own bank if you already have that bond with them and they can offer a service that another lender might not,” Youngbull said.

Youngbull said one of the main contributing factors keeping tribal citizens from pursuing to purchase their own home is the nervousness and doubt that citizens face. Youngbull understands as she too also felt the same. That buying a home of her own wasn’t an option.

“Having that mentality of thinking that they can’t do it because I was one of those people that thought I couldn’t do this, it was always a dream of mine but it was never something I could accomplish and just one day I talked to my husband and we were tired of renting at that point and we talked to a lender and we got our pre approval amount and it by far

exceeded our expectations,” Youngbull said.

Youngbull said she was surprised because she had thought they weren’t going to qualify.

“We got into a home and we love our home and it’s going to be our forever home at this point, but I really think that was just one of the biggest things that I had talked to other tribal citizens on, they thought they wouldn’t be able to qualify, I’m like no, let’s try it,” Youngbull said.

With Youngbull licensed all throughout Oklahoma, she said a majority of her services are specialized in western Oklahoma.

“I’ve traveled to Shawnee before, Woodward, down to Altus, I’ve been in many places and so it just kind of depends on the area if I can get there in a quick amount of time or not,” Youngbull said.

While a realtor is not required to purchase a home, there are benefits to having

a real estate agent help guide someone through the home buying process with their knowledge.

“There’s a lot of things that we do in the background as realtors and one of them is scheduling all the inspections, we communicate with the title companies, we make sure the contracts go in as it needs to be, there’s going to be hiccups here and there but that’s something where we handle it on the back end and we make sure that it’s an easy smooth process as much as it can be,” Youngbull said.

Youngbull said the benefits of purchasing a home are having more freedom with your own house opposed to renting a home.

“I’ve showed a client a home before, the walls were lime green and they walked in and were like this is not the house for us, just because of lime green painting, I was like well it’s their home, they made it how they wanted to and that’s something where

you come in and make this home how you want to,” Youngbull said.

“If you’re in a rental you can’t do that and one of my favorite things to say is you’re already paying a mortgage, it’s just not yours,” Youngbull said.

In her journey as a realtor so far, Youngbull said what she enjoys and looks forward to the most is meeting her clients and creating bonds.

“It’s just getting that communication, that bond established right away with my clients and seeing the happiness on their faces when they walk into a home saying that they did it, that’s one of the biggest things that I have looked forward to in this job every day,” Youngbull said.

To reach Youngbull call 580-210-8821 or by email, mariaah@ucexploration.com. For the Mutual Help application or Down Payment Assistance application visit, cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov/housing.

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED JAN 08 2024

IN THE TRIAL COURT

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IN THE TRIBAL COURT FOR
THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA

COMANCHE NATION CHILD SUPPORT
PROGRAM, EX REL,
KYLIE SAPICUTT,

PETITIONER,

vs.

ERIC LEVI,

RESPONDENT.

Case No: CIV-2023-0691
FJN: 96819819601

ERIC LEVI:
OBLIGOR

KYLIE SAPICUTT:
CUSTODIAN

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: ERIC LEVI

TAKE NOTICE that you are a named party in a Petition to Register Order Under Full Faith and Credit and Motion for Income Assignment Order on Per Capita Income filed in the Court listed above by Comanche Nation Child Support Program. You must appear in the Tribal Court for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes (100 Red Moon Circle, Concho, OK) on the 8 day of March, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Your failure to appear may result in the Petition to Register Order Under Full Faith and Credit and Motion for Income Assignment Order on Per Capita Income being taken as true and the requested relief sought being granted.

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICIAL SEAL

By: *Tammy Melendez*
COURT CLERK
Comanche Nation Tribal Court

Prepared by:
Comanche Nation Child Support Program
P. O. Box 1947
Lawton, OK 73502
Telephone: (580) 280-4641
Facsimile: (580) 280-4628

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED JAN 30 2024

IN THE TRIAL COURT

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DEPUTY

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

In the Matter of the Dissolution of Marriage of:

WELDON H. HUCKEBA
Petitioner,

and

VERA A. HUCKEBA
Respondent,

Case No. JFD-2023-0022

NOTICE OF HEARING
BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: VERA A. HUCKEBA
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 30 day of MARCH 2024, 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=S2RCenUwVDVhOEFhMzI0Rkxlc0hQOT09>
<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 30th day of January, 2024.

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

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF OKLAHOMA
FILED FEB 07 2024

IN THE TRIAL COURT

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DEPUTY

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

In the Matter of the Dissolution of Marriage of:

JESSICA LEEANN BOTONE
Petitioner,

and

KEITH CASEY BOTONE
Respondent,

Case No. JFD-2023-0024

NOTICE OF HEARING
BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: KEITH CASEY BOTONE
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2024, 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=S2RCenUwVDVhOEFhMzI0Rkxlc0hQOT09>
<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 7th day of February, 2024.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday
Brandon!!
I am very proud of the man you have become & even prouder to be your mother. We love you and hope this is your best birthday yet!
Love you lots,
Gi, Papa, Kris & the kiddos

forever & always



Happy Birthday
Christian
We all love you and are so proud of all your accomplishments!
Love all your family



Happy Birthday
Reggie!
May you have more celebrations ahead.
Love all your family & friends

Happy 2nd Birthday
Thyri
Our Forever Valentine!
Lots of love from, mom, dad, grandparents & great-grandparents
Thyri is the great-great-grandson of MSGT Timoty Nibs Sr.

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Hooxei Hiis (sun wolf) is grateful that his grandparents Choppa and Marlene Pratt go above n beyond to get his regalia together to participate in the arena representing his family and tribe.



In Loving Memory of Jason Michael Goodbear
Jan. 28, 1977 – Aug. 28, 2015

Heavenly birthday! We all miss you so much. Not a day goes by that we are thinking of you and how you are so loved and missed.
Your mom, Annette, brothers Robert and Brian and your bother Steven, that is there with you in heaven.

Mariah Youngbull
BROKER ASSOCIATE

580.210.8821
mariah@ucexploration.com
ucexploration.com
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IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

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FILM IMAGE
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In the Matter of:)
SHAELENN SHELBURNE)
VS.)
DEMARCUS DUPREE)

Case No. CIV-2023-0033

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **DEMARCUS DUPREE UNKNOWN ADDRESS**

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the **28th** day of **FEBRUARY 2024**, at **10:00 A.M.**, in the courtroom, 109 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=S2RCcmU2WDV0OEhMcU15Q3RxcTl6OEt09o>
<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 **7th** day of February, 2024.

Lafreda Whitecrow, Chief 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

DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In the Matter of:)
J. D. T. B, DOB: 11/3/2022)
Alleged Deprived Child)

Case No. JFJ-2022-0006

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **UNKNOWN FATHERS**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Juvenile Petition and Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Unknown Father has been filed in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging that the above named minor child is neglected or dependent as to her alleged father, and requesting the Court to terminate the parent-child legal relationship between said child and her natural Father, all as more fully set out in the attached motion filed in said cause.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal District Court, Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **19th** day of **March 2024**, at the hour of **10 o'clock a.m.**, and to remain and answer the allegations contained in the Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Unknown Father and state whether you admit or deny the allegations of the motion.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said Motion at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by counsel, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deny the allegations contained in the Motion and the right to object to the granting of the Motion and to show why your parental rights to said minor child should not be terminated. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in an order of the Court terminating your parental rights to said child in accordance with law.

Dated this **10th** day of **February**, 2024.

Smelendx
Court Clerk/Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

Harmoniey Kinchion, OBA #32979
Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O. Box 32
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 422-7414

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
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:)
J. D. T. B, DOB: 11/3/2022)
Alleged Deprived Child)

Case No. JFJ-2022-0006

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **Andrea Beaver P.O.B. 172 Geary, OK 73040**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Juvenile Petition and Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Mother has been filed in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging that the above named minor child is neglected or dependent as to her Mother, Andrea Beaver, and requesting the Court to terminate the parent-child legal relationship between said child and her natural Mother, Andrea Beaver, all as more fully set out in the attached motion filed in said cause.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal District Court, Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **19th** day of **March 2024**, at the hour of **10 o'clock a.m.**, and to remain and answer the allegations contained in the Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Mother and state whether you admit or deny the allegations of the motion.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said Motion at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by counsel, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deny the allegations contained in the Motion and the right to object to the granting of the Motion and to show why your parental rights to said minor child should not be terminated. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in an order of the Court terminating your parental rights to said child in accordance with law.

Dated this **10th** day of **February**, 2024.

Smelendx
Court Clerk/Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

Harmoniey Kinchion, OBA #32979
Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O. Box 32
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 422-7414

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
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:)
R. T., DOB: 09/13/2022)
Alleged Deprived Child)

Case No. JFJ-2022-0005

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **Hawley Tsoodle 221 N. Hoke, Apt. 3 Stillwater, OK**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a *Petition to Terminate Parental Rights* as the father has been filed in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging that the above named minor child is a neglected or dependent child as to her alleged father, Hawley Tsoodle, and requesting the Court to possibly terminate the parent-child legal relationship between said children and their alleged father, Hawley Tsoodle, all as more fully set out in the attached *Petition* filed in said cause.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal District Court, Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **19th** day of **March 2024**, at **10 o'clock a.m.**, and to remain and answer the allegations contained in the *Juvenile Petition*.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said *Petition to Terminate Parental Rights* at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by counsel, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deny the allegations contained in the *Juvenile Petition* and the right to object to the granting of the *Petition to Terminate Parental Rights* and to show why your parental rights to said minor child should not be terminated. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in an order of the Court terminating your parental rights to said child in accordance with law.

Dated this **1st** day of **February**, 2024.

Harmoniey Kinchion, Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O. Box 32
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 422-7855 or 256-8554

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
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:)
R. T., DOB: 09/13/2022)
Alleged Deprived Child)

Case No. JFJ-2022-0005

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **Hawley Tsoodle 221 N. Hoke, Apt. 3 Stillwater, OK**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a *Petition to Terminate Parental Rights* as the father has been filed in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging that the above named minor child is a neglected or dependent child as to her alleged father, Hawley Tsoodle, and requesting the Court to possibly terminate the parent-child legal relationship between said children and their alleged father, Hawley Tsoodle, all as more fully set out in the attached *Petition* filed in said cause.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal District Court, Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **19th** day of **March 2024**, at **10 o'clock a.m.**, and to remain and answer the allegations contained in the *Juvenile Petition*.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said *Petition to Terminate Parental Rights* at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by counsel, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deny the allegations contained in the *Juvenile Petition* and the right to object to the granting of the *Petition to Terminate Parental Rights* and to show why your parental rights to said minor child should not be terminated. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in an order of the Court terminating your parental rights to said child in accordance with law.

Dated this **1st** day of **February**, 2024.

Harmoniey Kinchion, Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O. Box 32
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 422-7855 or 256-8554

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
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:)
M. W. DOB: 10/09/2017)
C. W., DOB: 12/20/2018)
E. W., DOB: 09/20/2020)
E. W., DOB: 07/5/21)
Deprived Minor Children.)

Case No. JFJ-2022-0028

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **Unknown Father**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a *Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Unknown Father* has been filed in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging that the above named minor children are neglected or dependent children as to their father who is unknown to Petitioner, and requesting the Court to terminate the parent-child legal relationship between said children and their natural father all as more fully set out in the attached *Motion* filed in said cause.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal District Court, Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **2nd** day of **April 2024** at the hour of **10 o'clock a.m.**, and to remain and answer the allegations contained in the *Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Unknown Father* and state whether you admit or deny the allegations of the *Motion*.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said *Motion* at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by counsel, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deny the allegations contained in the *Motion* and the right to object to the granting of the *Motion* and to show why your parental rights to said minor children should not be terminated. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the children, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in an order of the Court terminating your parental rights to said children in accordance with law.

Dated this **10th** day of **Feb**, 2024.

Harmoniey Kinchion, OBA# 32979
Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O. Box 32
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 422-7414

OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Axeonehe Cedar-tree

Axeonehe “Axeo” Cedar-tree, passed away Jan. 24, 2024, in Tulsa, Okla. Axeo was born Aug. 2, 1977 to Edward Cedar-tree and Ramona Warledo in Seminole, Okla.

Axeo moved to Tulsa, where he worked for several years in the oil and gas industry. He married Biasney Mojica. Axeo’s favorite pastimes were playing basketball and travelling, which he was able to do extensively with his company.

He was preceded in death by his father Edward Cedar-tree.

Axeo is survived by his son Axeonehe Cedar-tree, brother Tony Ahaisee, sisters, Ella Martinez and Cheryl Ahaisee; and many other family members and friends.

Casket bearers will be Tony Ahaisee, Tony Gibson, Dylan Gibson, Tommy Ray Gibson, Norman Island, Bud Harjo, Mike Walker, Kyle Porter, and Chevy Motley.

Wake service was held Jan. 30 at the Swearingen Funeral Home in Seminole Okla. Funera; services were held Jan. 31, at the same venue, with Nathan Howard



officiating, followed by an interment at the Vamoosa Cemetery under the direction of Swearingen Funeral Home.

Leslie Martin Hawk

On the evening of Jan 27, 2024, Leslie (Cida Wica-Hawkman) Hawk, 24, passed away.

Leslie was born in Wolf Point, Mont., on Nov. 21, 1999 to David J. Hawk and Sonia Martell. His brothers were David Hawk Jr., John Henry Hawk and one older brother, name unknown. His sisters were Cheyenne Autumn Hawk, Mewissa Rivas Beale, Davetta Jo Hawk Crittenden and Deann Jeanette Hawk.

Leslie made it between 10th and 11th grade. He then got his GED and also did one semester of college. During his time in school, he enjoyed playing football and wrestling. He had many fond moments of these times. When he spent time in California, going to school he got to go to a Lakers game, he loved that.

Leslie’s occupations were not many, he was a bagger at Albertson’s, he worked at Stoney Paths and helped out at the liquor store.

Leslie traveled with his

friend Neal and family to Arizona. For Les that was a very interesting trip and he got to see the Grand Canyon. Leslie enjoyed having friends come over to jam out while smoking, having drinks, gaming and playing cards or throwing dice. He and his friends would go for walks, if not cruising, to get out and enjoy the day. He would really like it when he ran into someone he hadn’t talked to in a long time. Leslie would feed his dad’s dog, Lil Bear. He made sure his mother got breakfast, lunch or supper as he said his dad told him to make sure his mom eats. When it came to groceries, he made sure to help in that way too.

Leslie was preceded in death by his dad David J. Hawk Sr., his aunt Antoinette L. “Doll-Doll” Hawk, his grandmother Frances “Toni” Allrunner Hawk, his uncle John Henry “Hank” Hawk, his cousin Nathaniel Sean GreyBear, and his aunt Kelly J. Azure.

Leslie is survived by his



mother Sonia, his brothers, David Jr., John Henry and an older brother, name unknown, his sisters, Cheyenne A. Hawk, Mewissa Beale, Davetta Hawk Crittenden and Deann Hawk, fur bro Lil Bear and a sister Kitty, Ariel and a son, Jayce Jaxon.

We would like to thank all those that helped us out during our time of grieving.

Wake services were held Feb. 8 at the New Community Hall in Wolf Point, Mont. Funeral services were held Feb. 9, at the same venue, followed by an interment at the King Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel.

Col. John T. Levi Jr.

Colonel (Ret.) John T. Levi Jr, passed away peacefully at his home January 8, 2024. He was 95 years old. He was born to John and Helen Levi in Lawrence, Kansas (Haskell). He attended various Indian Schools in Kansas, New Mexico, North and South Dakota. He graduated from Wahpeton, North Dakota High School. He was an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes of Oklahoma.

Col. Levi proudly served his country for 32 years. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was assigned to the U.S. Marine Corp as a Fleet Marine Force Navy Corpsman. He saw combat with the 1st Marine Division in Korea and participated in battles at the Inchon Landing, Seoul Recapture and at the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. After serving in the Navy, John received a commission in the U.S. Army Reserve and served 27 years in various areas of command retiring as a Colonel, Infantry, USAR.

John received his Bachelor and Master’s degrees in Education and Education

Administration from the Wichita State University. He taught school and coached at USD 259 (North High and Hadley Jr. High) in Wichita KS for 35 years. He was active in the American Legion baseball, Greater Wichita Football League, and Little League programs.

In Wichita, he was active in Native American affairs and ceremonies. He was one of the original Board members of the Mid-America All Indian Center and an original member of the Wichita Inter-tribal Warrior Society (Veterans). John was proud of his Native American heritage.

In 1991, he and his wife Mary Ann retired to Green Valley, Ariz. He became a member of Risen Savior Lutheran Church serving in various positions including Elder. He also was a member of the Marine Corp League, American Legion, VFW, Arizona Korean War Veterans and “The Chosin Few”.

John is survived by his wife Mary Ann, Green Valley; sister, Julianne Barnes, Askwasne, NY; daughters,



Lynette Vignatelli and Sally Levi, Wichita, Kansas, granddaughters Perrine Vignatelli, Wichita, and Julian (Daniel) Perez, Bronx, N.Y., great-grandson Kash; step-children, JR Modlin and Tiffany (Curt) Macey; five step-grandchildren, Natasha, Damon, Ryan, Tyler and Jacob; as well as a host of loving relatives and friends.

A celebration of life was held Feb. 10 at the Lutheran Church-Risen Savior in Green Valley, Ariz., under the direction of Angel Valley Funeral Home

A Military memorial service and internment will be held a Rest Haven Mortuary in Wichita, Kansas at a later date.

Akai Lahti Oldcrow

Akai Lahti Oldcrow (Bear Boy), 30, of Weatherford, Okla., was born Oct. 5, 1993. He is the son of John Matthew Oldcrow III and Dianne Renae Sanders. He passed away Jan. 23, 2024, at the OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City.

Akai was raised in McLoud, Okla., and graduated from McLoud High School, Class of 2012. He was very active in football, baseball, and soccer. He later continued his education at the Choctaw Vocational Technical School where he received his Certified Welding Certificate. He worked at various locations doing industrial work and working on oil rigs.

Akai was a member of the Koinonia Mennonite Church in Clinton, Okla. He enjoyed fishing bowling and he was an avid sports fan. He especially loved the Oklahoma Sooners and the Dallas Cowboys.

Akai loved to dance, loved to play pranks, he loved to make you smile especially on days you didn’t want to. He had this bright and infectious smile that lit up the room when he entered and had a

laugh that simply brightened your day no matter what. He was a good soul inside and out and would give you the shirt off his back if he knew you needed it. He definitely had one of the most kindest, softest hearts any of us has ever known.

He is survived by his mother Dianne Sanders and her husband Daniel Blackwolf of Clinton, grandparents, Wilma Redbird of Weatherford, Dwane Sanders and Carol Sanders of Newalla, Okla., Helen Botone of Moore, Okla., Mary Lou Stonerod of El Reno, Okla., and Irene Deer of Kingfisher, Okla. Son Kholt Oldcrow of McLoud, cousins, Krista Blackwolf and her husband Brandon Whiteman of El Reno, Conley Blackwolf and his wife, Chelsi Blackwolf of Shawnee, Okla., Ashley Griffin and her husband Corey Griffin, of Tecumseh, Okla., Todd Blackwolf of Fountain Valley, Calif., Blake Worlund and his wife Annie Worlund of Shawnee, Shayla Dyer of Clinton, Adeas Oldcrow of Weatherford, Joseph Dyer Jr. of Weatherford and Sage



Dyer of Weatherford, and several nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles and friends.

Preceding him in death were his father John Oldcrow III, paternal grandfather John Oldcrow, II, brother Parrish Blackwolf, maternal aunt Terrisa Sanders, paternal uncles Gaylon Oldcrow and Joseph Dyer, and cousin Christian Blackwolf.

Wake services were held Jan. 25 at the Koininia Indian Mennonite Church in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held Jan. 26 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center, officiated by Rev. Susan Hart, followed by an interment at the Clinton City Cemetery under the direction of Kiesau Lee Funeral Home.

Judith Christine Patterson

Judith Patterson was born in Farmington, NM on June 2, 1947 and passed at her home in Albuquerque on January 11, 2024. She attended Bloomfield Public Schools and graduated in her 12th year. She was a student at Eastern New Mexico University and obtained her Associates Degree in Business.

Judith was a long time employee of the NM Dept. of Vocational Rehabilitation and retired at a young age. She studied and became a medical transcriptionist at different medical facilities.

She traveled often and

shared her experiences. She shared her live with Glen Fowler for many years. Glen passed in 2020.

She is survived by her sister, Patricia (Pat) Smothers of Clinton, Oklahoma, nieces Elizabeth Velasquez and her family of Coyote, NM, Jessica Kelley and family of Bloomfield, NM, Paula Snyder and her children of Fruitland, Oregon, and Trena Bozarth of Colorado. Judy was blessed with many nieces and nephews and 2 great nieces.

Judith was a proud member of the Cheyenne and



Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma.

Judith will be laid to rest on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mount Calvary Cemetery in Albuquerque, NM.

JoAnn Reynolds

JoAnn Reynolds (Indian Name “Meonestooh” Morning Holler) was born Aug. 8, 1965, to Roger Reynolds and Janice Oldcrow in Lawton, Okla., and passed away Feb. 2, 2024, in the Oklahoma University Hospital in Oklahoma City.

JoAnn was raised in Clinton, Okla., and attended school both at Clinton Public School and Riverside Indian School. She started working at an early age and has been employed at numerous casinos, Bar-S Foods, Dave’s Stop and Shop and other locations.

She was a member of the Indian Baptist Church, and

enjoyed playing cards, working puzzles, cooking, and going to casinos.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brother Alvin Rush Reynolds.

She is survived by three sons, Kendall Ray West, Anthony Kim Reynolds, and Roger Reynolds, two sisters, Angie Lime and husband, Gary, and Barbara Reynolds, all of Clinton, four brothers, Toby Standingbird, Albuquerque, N.M., Tony Reynolds and wife Karen, Clinton, Sheldon Reynolds Sr., and wife, Jackie, Clinton. She is also survived by 14 grandchildren.

An all-night traditional



wake service was held Feb. 6 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held Feb. 7, at the same venue, officiated by Pastor Gerald Panana and Pastor Delfred (Bunny) Whitecrow, under the direction of Kiesau Lee Funeral Home.

Oklahoma Missing Persons Day 2024

WHEN: Saturday, April 27nd, 2024 10:00am – 3:00pm
WHERE: University of Central Oklahoma Forensic Science Institute, 801 East 2nd Street, Edmond, Oklahoma

All families and friends of Missing Persons are encouraged to attend anytime between 10am-3pm to initiate missing person reports, provide additional investigative leads, enter or review the missing person information in NamUs, and submit family reference DNA. All resources are available at NO COST to families.

Families may bring photographs, dental and medical records, and any other pertinent information about the missing person.



Please RSVP to okmissingpersons@gmail.com
For information or questions - okmissingpersons@gmail.com Missing In Oklahoma 2024 | Facebook



PRO DRIVE
CDL ACADEMY

Eric Guy
Director Of Community Outreach
Instructor

T- 405-489-2727
C- 405-371-0983
eric@prodrivercdlacademy.com

5725 S High Avenue
Oklahoma City 73129

[illegible]