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Custer County, its name likely here to stay, but other new names are happening

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

It's likely that nobody put up a fight when Custer County was named in 1896, just a couple months short of the 20th anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Gov. Reggie Wassana said his ancestors "were just worried about living."

"I doubt that they would have made waves," Wassana said. "They were probably afraid of repercussions."

Wassana said he never heard his grandparents mention the fact that a county and a city named for George Armstrong Custer lie in the heart of territory that until

1892 was their tribal reservation and continues today under tribal jurisdiction.

He wonders if his Cheyenne forebearers thought the naming of the county might have been payback for the killing of Custer. But he likely will never know.

"The old people didn't like to talk publicly about certain events," Wassana

Cheyenne Peace Chief Gordon Yellowman had a similar experience as a child.

"I remember my grandmother telling me that the leaders at one time had come to a decision that they

weren't going to talk about Sand Creek and other massacres. They said it would bring back emotional pain, and feelings of hurt and suffering."

Custer City, Yellowman said, "was just a name. It didn't have any meaning. It was just a town we passed through to go to the Indian hospital at Clinton."

Custer County Sheriff's Deputy Kenneth Cross once worked at the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site. The name was ratified in 1996 by the U.S. Con-

NAME CHANGES / pg. 4



Administrative Assistant Ashlee Culliver has been with the sheriff's office for less than a year so she never worked across the room from the likeness of George Armstrong Custer. A portrait of Arapaho Chief Moses Starr now hangs in its place. (Photo / Kimberly Burk)

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National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition kick-starts oral history project in OKC

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

(OKLAHOMA Hearing the many experiences of boarding school survivors and descendants, the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) strives to collect the told and untold stories of American Indian and Alaska Native community members across the United States through a new grant provided by the Department of Interior (DOI).

The first of its kind, the grant is part of the DOI's Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative. NABS will be conducting video interviews with Indian boarding school survivors to create a permanent oral history collection that will be made available to the public.

Starting the project in Oklahoma, NABS began the project off with an opening ceremony and community dinner on March 18 at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City.

Setting the tone for the events to come for the week, the opening ceremony held a traditional song and prayer for all participants to take part in as they came together for the purpose of sharing oral histories of boarding schools.

Sandy Whitehawk, NABS elder in residence said the project is the first of its kind and is creating history by taking oral history into media.

"The major importance of it is that our relatives who endured years of separation and some experienced violence and violations and not knowing when it was going to come to an end, they came out of



The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition staff kick-start the oral history project at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

that experience and had us," Whitehawk said.

Through years of prayer, Whitehawk said here we are now beginning the process of lifting survivor's voices and validating their experience.

By having an opening ceremony, Whitehawk said in all that has been taken from Indigenous peoples, there are those who still remember the language and know the spiritual ways.

"We always begin in prayer and gratitude in everything, so for the start of this project, it was exceptionally important that we acknowledge all that we are as Indian people, which is why we thanked those from Oklahoma."

"First we asked permission to be here, in the old days that's what you always did, you respected another nation's territory and once it was granted then we said thank you for trusting us with your precious relatives, we'll treat them well, we'll nurture them, validate them, take care of them, that is the part that's healing," Whitehawk said.

In the days to come, the week's activities would involve scheduled interviews that would take place at Skirvin for boarding school participants to share their oral histories and experiences.

"We have three oral historians who will be visiting with our relatives asking them some questions, but really what we want is, 'what do you want the world to know, what do you want your relatives to know,' so whatever that will be, we're looking forward to that," Whitehawk said.

NABS deputy chief executive officer, Samuel Torres said nothing has ever existed like the oral history project before and will be an historic and important moment.

BOARDING SCHOOL 1 pg. 9

Cheyenne and Arapaho Child Care **Development Center Achieves Five-Star Rating**

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

(CONCHO, OK) Choosing a quality child care center for families is one of the biggest decision they will make early in their child's life when returning to the work force.

The teachers and staff at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Child Development Centers know this and strive to make their centers the very best they can be.

Since its inception in the late 1990s, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Child Development Center in Concho, Okla., has been providing quality child care services to many children and parents, both for tribal citizens and non-tribal citizens.

While the Concho Child Care Development Center has assisted children in their developmental stages, the center has also achieved milestones of its own.

Licensed to care for 40 children with 11 staff members, the Concho center recently received a five-star rating after years of being rated a two-star child care

Megan Hart, Child Care Development director said one of the barriers that kept the center from becoming a three-star previously was getting a national accredita-

"We just didn't get to that point, not because we weren't qualified for it, it was just at the time we didn't have much funding so it was a cost barrier. There was just different reasons why we hadn't gotten our three-star at that time which then was the highest level but that primarily was because the cost of it," Hart said.

In 2022 the state of Oklahoma decided to revamp their quality rating improvement system (QRIS), which is a systematic approach to assess, improve and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care.]

As part of the program's standards, the stars program awards different quality rating to early childhood programs that meet a set of standards, which include curriculum, child outcomes, learning environments, teacher-child interactions, professional development and training.

Updates were made to the program after the QRIS standing subcommittee reviewed and suggested to restructure the program and that became effective June 2022. The changes included an upgraded, five level system with more incentives, a new path to accreditation for providers seeking to attain a four or five-star rating, staff retention criteria and a simplified online application.

"And under that the one thing they did change was based upon merit, being staff and center directors, qualifications on what you provided for families, what kind of resources you have within your facility, what kind of supplies, equipment, just different levels of health and safety that you have within your facilities, we could apply and we applied for that full five star rating," Hart

Hart said the center worked on obtaining those

qualifications for a year to have everything they needed to have in place for the application. And while the center was already doing everything at a five-star level, a few things needed to be revamped.

"We had to do more on checking our curriculum and making sure our curriculum was lined up within the states requirements for early learning guidelines, which we were. We actually had to put a lot of this basically on paper, so just really having checks and balances in place, it was a tedious task but it was very attainable for us, so we went ahead and pushed through rating January of 2023," Hart said.

said the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS) come multiple times a year, to do unannounced visits to the center.

"They'll do a partial stars visit and then I believe the next visit will be a full star's visit where that licensing will come through and do a full star's visit to ensure we're implementing everything that needs to be in place for that five star rating," Hart said.

Some of the benefits of being a five-star center, Hart said is not just about babysitting children, but include providing quality childhood education services for children at their center, along with actually educating and working with the infants on up.

"On the subsidy side



Chevenne and Arapaho Child Development Center's Concho staff includes, front row and got an official five-star 1-r: Intake Specialist Lacey Gray, Master Teacher Jackie Ingraham-Jenkins and Center Manager Jennifer Riggles. Back row l-r: Teacher Charlie Littleaxe, Teacher Quin Elkshoulder, Teacher Angela Spottedwolf, CACFP Marissa Sam, Program Director Megan For the first year, Hart Hart, Master Teacher Brandi Bigfoot, Teacher/Culture & Language Lauryn Redhat and Master Teacher Sylvia Rodriguez. (Photos / Latoya Lonelodge)



Cheyenne and Arapaho Child Development Center's Clinton staff includes, Master Teacher Jennifer Tapaha, Teacher Stephanie Villanueva, Master Teacher Felicia Hernandez, Cook Susy Sambrano, Teacher Jasmine Ruiz, Center Manager Laci Snider and Teacher Halei Hines.



of it, the center that had a five-star receives the highest compensation for childcare

subsidies also," Hart said. Along with the Concho location, the Clinton Child Care Development Center has also received a five-star rating and progressed at the same time as Concho. With both locations being five-star facilities, Clinton facility had to go through the same process.

In addition to receiving the highest five-star rating, the Concho center will be making additions to their facility with an expansion including three new classrooms. The expansion was introduced as part of a resolution that was brought before the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes legislature and approved in May 2023. Soon after, the center officially broke ground for construction in July.

Due to unforeseen circumstances and some setbacks, the expansion has been a long and tedious process keeping it from officially beginning construction. However, Hart said hopefully within a year's time the expansion will be completed.

The expansion was made possible through childcare funding that was set aside. With the additional classis a need.

rooms, Hart said the expansion is long overdue as there "The need for Concho has high demands, we get calls weekly for parents searching for childcare and we do actually have our subsidy program, which a lot of our children that are on childcare

subsidy go to different child-

care centers, but their prefer-

ence would be to come out

here also," Hart said.

Hart said when extra funding became available, they jumped on the opportunity to secure funds for an

expansion. "We've never really had that opportunity to have a little bit of extra funding to set aside for it and because it was an allowable cost under the covid funds we jumped on it and so we set it aside," Hart said.

Hart said the center did a partial construction application, which took some time because of Covid-19 and different reasons to get the full construction approved, once that was approved they took it over to the legislative branch and put it through as a resolution and got it approved.

"Now we're just kind of having some bumps in the road with our construction getting off the ground, we did break ground in July, obviously there's nothing going on yet but we're hoping within the next six weeks that we'll be up and going again on that," Hart said.

With the expansion and additions made to the center, Hart said the center looks forward to serving more children and providing services.

"I feel the center was always too small for the need here, so that is one of the biggest benefit we'll continue, hopefully, then once we get our expansion we'll be hiring more staff, that'll hopefully bring more jobs out to Concho and it's just a great benefit for our parents," Hart said

With childcare being a challenge for a lot of families, Hart said that's why their program is there to help parents to have quality child care services.

Cheyenne dancer chosen for regalia presentation at Red Earth Festival

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

(OKLAHOMA CITY) The regalia worn by dancers "is a very powerful expression of our individual identity as well as our heritage," Cheyenne dancer Domingo Whiteman told his audience during a workshop at the Red Earth Festival.

Whiteman's presentation, "Understanding Regalia," was part of a series of lectures and musical and dance performances offered throughout the three days of the festival held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Center in Oklahoma City.

Danny Sands, art center manager for Red Earth Inc., which presents the festival, said the lecture is also being taken to local schools to help young people learn more about the Native culture.

"Our regalia is handmade by the wearer or someone close to the wearer," Whiteman said. "The materials used can vary from tribe to tribe and person to person."

Whiteman competes in the Prairie



Cheyenne dancer Domingo Whiteman describes his regalia during a lecture on March 22 at the Red Earth Festival in Oklahoma City. (Photo / Danny Sands)

Chicken Dance and the Grass Dance, and he said he created his multicolor beadwork to represent both dances. He said he spent about six months making the beadwork he was wearing during the lecture.

"I knew when I finished that it would feel good," he said. "I didn't do it to

show off."

Whiteman said he learned how to bead from his mother, who grew up in Montana and was a dancer, and from his wife, who is a Fancy Shawl dancer.

When he was younger, he admired a particular senior division dancer, Whiteman said, and eventually was able to meet him. Later on, the man gifted his hoop to Whiteman and "told me to take care of it."

During his early days of competing, an elder told him that as he traveled around to the dances, he would receive more regalia, and that has happened, Whiteman said. He said the dancers are like a family.

"They compete, but they do it respectfully, and don't talk bad about each other," he said.

Whiteman provided for the audience the names of various parts of the regalia, including the bustle, the porcupine roach, which is a headpiece, the shirt, pants, headband, eagle feather fan and bells. He said his sister gave him his eagle fan, and his shirt was given to him by a fel-

low Grass Dancer during a tournament in Lawrence, Kan.

"When I started dancing, it was like a light switch was turned on," he said. "It just comes to you. It's just amazing how that spirit is there."

Indian Child Welfare Act faces another constitutional challenge in Minnesota

By Nancy Marie Spears, The Imprint

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

A case now before the Minnesota Court of Appeals revives debate over the nation's 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act and a local version of the law, alleging that the legal statutes protecting Indigenous children, families and tribes racially discriminate against white foster parents.

Legal scholars familiar with the case describe it as the most significant challenge to ICWA since it was upheld last summer by a 7-2 majority of the U.S. Supreme Court. But the broad outlines are not unfamiliar to the countless defenders of the 45-year-old law ensuring that tribal children receive every opportunity to remain

close to kin.

The appeal of a lower court ruling out of Martin County was filed by a couple who fostered Native American twins after their birth in 2022. In accordance with the federal ICWA law, the siblings, who are descendants of Red Lake Nation members, were eventually moved to the home of a relative who is also caring for their older sister. They have lived together, close to tribal kin, for

the past year.

But the foster parents want the twins returned to their Fairmont, Minnesota, home, where they live with their seven biological children.

Mark Fiddler, the attorney for Kellie and Nathan Reyelts, said in an email that the couple was "harmed by ICWA by having medically fragile twins placed into their care removed from them based upon ICWA's discriminatory preferences for placement with a relative they had never met." Fiddler also said the children's biological mother "was harmed by ICWA because the court disregarded her wishes" to have the infants remain with the foster parents. And "the children were harmed by ICWA by being removed from a loving home where they were thriving and attached to their caregivers."

The Red Lake Nation, or Miskwaagamiiwi-zaagaiganing, defends the rights of the two siblings to remain with their mother's cousin. (In some court documents she is identified as their aunt.) Attorneys for the tribe state in court filings that there have been no concerns about their well-being in her home. The foster care placement was arranged by the tribe last year and approved by Judge Michael D. Trushenski of the Martin County District Court, who described the relative's household as being in the

twins' "best interests."

The placement conforms with the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA), both of which require that relatives or Indigenous people be prioritized as caregivers for foster

children who are members of tribes or those who are eligible for tribal membership such as the twins, who turn 2 in April.

The Minnesota Attorney General's office is backing the tribe to defend "the constitutionality of MIFPA," according to court filings.

"The best interests of an Indian child support the child's sense of belonging to family, extended family and tribe," Red Lake Nation states in its filing to the courts. And in the case of the twins, "the children have smoothly transitioned to their new placement. They've slept well, eat well and attended all of their medical appointments."

The Reyelts have informed the court that the twins' mother wants them to be her children's foster parents. Court documents also state that she is "truly adverse" to the "sweeping constitutional challenges" raised in the foster parents' appeal.

The Imprint is not publishing the name of the mother or her children to protect the family's privacy.

Is ICWA 'race-based?'

Fiddler's two main targets in the pending appeals case center on the Indian Child Welfare Act and the 1985 Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act, which strengthens ICWA provisions in that state. ICWA was upheld by the Supreme Court in June 2023 in the Brackeen v. Haaland case, and in 2013 in Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl. Fiddler represented

white adoptive parents seeking custody of Native American children in both of those cases; and in both, his clients finalized their desired adop-

But in the Brackeen case for which Fiddler served as co-counsel, the plaintiffs failed to overturn ICWA on the constitutional grounds they sought.

And their Supreme Court challenge left one key matter unresolved: Is ICWA a "racebased" law that discriminates against non-Indigenous foster or adoptive parents? Fiddler argues that it is, and thus it violates his clients' equal protection rights under the constitution.

The 14th Amendment's equal protection clause, originally enacted to protect Black people from discrimination, has since been more broadly applied to racial discrimination in any form. In the Reyelts' case, Fiddler, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, describes the white foster parents as the victims. Their appeal of the lower court's ruling to place the children with tribal kin is based on what Fiddler described as ICWA's "blatant racial preferences."

Hundreds of tribes, Indigenous rights activists, child welfare leaders and state attorneys general have fought to preserve the 45-year-old ICWA law, enacted to repair harm caused by the U.S. government's centuries-long assault on Indigenous families.

ICW CHALLENGE / pg. 4



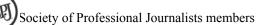


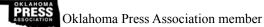
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gress; Native peoples believe it was a massacre rather than a battle.

It's just a 45-minute drive from the county seat of Arapaho to the site in Rogers Mills County where Custer and his 7th Cavalry made an early-morning attack on Nov. 27, 1868, on the Washita River Valley encampments of Chevenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, Comanche and Plains Apache.

"I took care of the trails," Cross said, "and I wondered what it would have been like, living in a tipi on that river."

Cross, who is Arapaho through his mother, said he "grew up in the white world" but loves to hunt and fish. He likes to imagine what the river valley was like more than 150 years ago, rich with wild game.

"It's a little more comfortable living now," he said, "but I still put deer meat on my family's table."

Cross once hoped to become a game warden, even though it meant he would be working rather than hunting during the open seasons. But he suffered permanent damage to his left hand in a car accident at age 2, and not until he was in his 40s and had completed law enforcement certification did he find work in law enforcement.

He's spent much of his life proving to himself and others what he is capable of, Cross said, a trait he ascribes to his Native DNA. And he said it's a good attitude for people to have as they go about their daily lives in a county named for a man who was happy to go along with Maj. Gen. Phillip Sheridan's scheme to attack during the winter months, when the tribes were most vulnerable and their horses weak.

Cross's co-worker, Louis

Flowers, grew up in Texas and knew little about Native history until he moved to Oklahoma and married a Choctaw woman whose fifth-great grandmother was on the Trail of Tears. Now he's more of an activist than many of his neighbors.

"I don't want to ever forget the past," said Flowers, who retired in 2022 as Weatherford police chief before going to work for Sheriff Dan Day. "It should never have happened. I want my grandkids to know this history. Custer was a ruthless

Cheyenne Peace Chief Harvey Pratt is an artist who also had a career in law enforcement. He served in the U.S. Marines and was chosen to design the National Native American Veterans Memorial at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

"Custer had a history of attacking sleeping camps," Pratt said. "That's what he did here in western Oklahoma. There is a good chance that he thought of the Indians as less than humans."

But Pratt also acknowledged that "when I served in Vietnam, I looked upon the enemy as less than human. I didn't look upon them as equals. Guys from World War II and Korea did the same thing. It was war, we had to kill them."

Michael Grauer, who is the curator of cowboy collections and Western art at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, has spent more than 30 years studying and interpreting the history and culture of the American West.

In 2016, he visited the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site in Colorado after a National Park



Service renovation that he said resulted in "a much more respectful treatment."

"Driving in, I noticed the towns of Sheridan and Chivington," he said. "Chivington was a maniac who was upbraided by the federal government."

But when the Colorado towns were named, he said, they were populated by white people.

Custer County was organized by white settlers after the land run known as the Cheyenne-Arapaho Opening in April 1892, which was preceded by land allotments made to individual tribal cit-

"There was nobody to push back," Grauer said. "To the victor goes the spoils."

Grauer said Col. John M. Chivington, who led the attack at Sand Creek in 1864, 'was very much celebrated in Colorado, but there were also white people who had great admiration for the

skills of the Northern Chey-

While name changes are unlikely for any cities or counties that memorialize Custer, other re-namings are happening. In September, the U.S. Board of Geographic Names approved the renaming of Mount Evans to Mount Blue Sky, a move celebrated by the Northern and Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho whose ancestors were murdered and their bodies mutilated. John Evans was the Colorado territorial governor complicit in the Sand Creek Massacre.

"We changed Squaw Creek to Indian Creek in Kingfisher County," Yellowman said, though hundreds of bodies of water across the United States still bear that offensive name.

In 2021, Squaw Mountain in Colorado was renamed Mestaa'ehehe Mountain, for Owl Woman, who was Pratt's second-great

grandmother. Owl Woman was marred to William Bent, a white trading post owner. She served as a translator and negotiator who helped maintain peaceful relations between local tribes and new settlers in the early 1800s, and in 1985 she was inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

Yellowman continues to advocate for changing the name of the Washita Battlefield. His great-grandmother Long Face survived the massacre at the age of 8, having already been traumatized at age 4 at Sand Creek.

"I think we now have an opportunity to make that change, with our leadership in D.C., with Deb Haaland as secretary of the interior," Yellowman said. "We need to be having those discussions, not just for Washita, but throughout the United States."

In December 2021, a portrait of Gen. George Armstrong Custer was removed from the Custer County Jail. In its place is a likeness of the Arapaho chief Moses Starr, who died in 2017.

"We can't erase history, and we don't want to," Sheriff Day said during the ceremony, which Wassana attended.

"A lot of bad things happened with Custer, but we have learned from those mistakes.3

Day said Custer's participation in the Indian campaign is "still fresh on the minds" of tribal citizens, and that replacing the portrait "is turning a new chapter of healing."

"That small gesture was big in itself," Yellowman

"For us, it meant something," Wassana said.

"You had to walk in and see Custer's picture staring at you, big as day. It was in a public area."

ICWA CHALLENGE

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ICWA defenders strongly object to any characterization that it is a law based on racial preferences. They maintain that it is instead an agreement between the U.S. and tribal governments that are sovereign nations with significant interests in their citizens.

Race-based challenges to ICWA are "fundamentally wrong," Shannon Smith, the executive director of Minneapolis-based ICWA Law Center, told The Imprint. "ICWA is based on the political relationship between a child and their tribal nation."

The Indigenous twins' journey

The toddlers at the heart of the recent ICWA challenge came to the attention of child welfare authorities after they were born in April 2022. According to court records, their mother tested positive for drug use at the hospital and admitted to using heroin and methamphetamines during her pregnancy. In an emailed statement. the Reyelts said one of her babies was released to them from the hospital 11 days after being born. The other twin left a nearby neonatal intensive care unit for the couple's home about five weeks after birth.

Kellie Reyelts has a master's degree in education, and Nathan Reyelts is a physician's assistant at Dulcimer Medical Center. Married since 2008, the couple live in Fairmont with their biological children,

are active members of their church. Since 2010, they have provided emergency and respite care for more than 30 children from Martin and Faribault counties. The couple state that they are "very active in all their children's sports and extracurricular activities, enjoy spending time outside on their acreage, gardening, bee keeping, and spending time with friends and fam-

Court records show that shortly after the twins were placed in the Reyelts' home, a qualified expert witness for the Red Lake Nation said the siblings should be placed in a "culturally appropriate" foster home until they could move in with relatives or a foster home approved by the tribe.

A year and a half later, Red Lake Nation notified Martin County that it intended to remove the children from the Reyelts' home and place them with their mother's cousin, Rayjean French, a tribal member raising the twins' older sister. The Reyelts filed a motion to intervene in the foster care proceeding, arguing in part that the mother of the children wanted them, not a relative, to care for her children. But the placement change to French

Since then, the twins have thrived in her home, their court-appointed guardian ad litem (GAL)

informed the court.

Legal filings also state

was nonetheless approved.

that French "began the process of enrolling the children with their Tribe. They have attended tribal events and are able to live in the same home as their other sibling."

The judge's order also notes that "while the children were in the Reyelts' care, they did not attend a single tribal event. They never met their older sister or many of their other extended family members." The order dismisses as "unfounded allegations" statements that their relative did not take the toddlers to medical appointments, noting "there have been no concerns raised about Ms. French's home or ability to care for the children."

Judge Trushenski ruled that the twins should remain with their mother's cousin, which afforded them the quickest path to finalizing their child welfare case, he concluded. The Reyelts appealed

this decision on Nov. 20, 2023. They're seeking to get the twins back by having the lower court order reversed or sent back for reconsideration. They are asking for

"standing" in the case, because they have cared for the twins in their home. And they object to the lower court overruling the wishes of the children's mother, which they say was to have the twins remain in the first foster home and not

be placed with a "blood rel-

ative."

The Imprint could not independently confirm the mother's wishes for her

children.

In their emailed statement to The Imprint, the Reyelts also said they did not keep the children disconnected from their community.

discussed their "We culture with the ICWA appointed GAL at every monthly visit and created a cultural plan for the twins." they said. When the couple brought the twins home from the hospital "we were told that no one, including the current relative foster care placement, or any other native relative, was able to take them."

Who 'stands' in ICWA court cases?

To be granted "standing" in legal cases, plaintiffs must have suffered a real or threatened injury caused by the defendant. What's more, the harm caused must be reversible, or "redressable" in legal terms, by a favorable court decision: there must be something tangible the courts can repair or address. In the Brackeen case, the

Supreme Court did not rule on whether the adoptive parents were discriminated against based on their white race,the justices did not grant the adoptive parents standing because they failed to state a claim that could be "redressed" by the court.

against critique of these backers in his cases. Yearslong efforts to dis-"Who pays for the law-

mantle ICWA yers, who offers pro bono Attorney Fiddler has help, these are all issues that long described his legal are red herrings if the idea

work as not only defending the rights of non-Native foster families, but the rights of Indigenous children as well, kids he says are too often unfairly removed from otherwise safe and caring homes. He has challenged ICWA in state and federal courts throughout the country.-

Dismantling ICWA on the basis of race has been a years-long effort by broader special interest groups as well. They include the Goldwater Institute, a conservative Arizona-based think tank that has argued against ICWA in court more than a dozen times, and Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, a corporate law firm that has fought tribes over land, water and gaming rights. Both parties provided legal support to the Brackeen plaintiffs.

In the Reyelts' case, Goldwater Institute the has signed on to Fiddler's brief, and the think tank's counsel, Timothy Sandefur, has been added as co-counsel. Sandefur is a well-known ICWA critic who has repeatedly challenged its constitutionality. He represented Goldwater's interests in the 2013 and 2023 Supreme Court cases supporting white adoptive parents' rights.

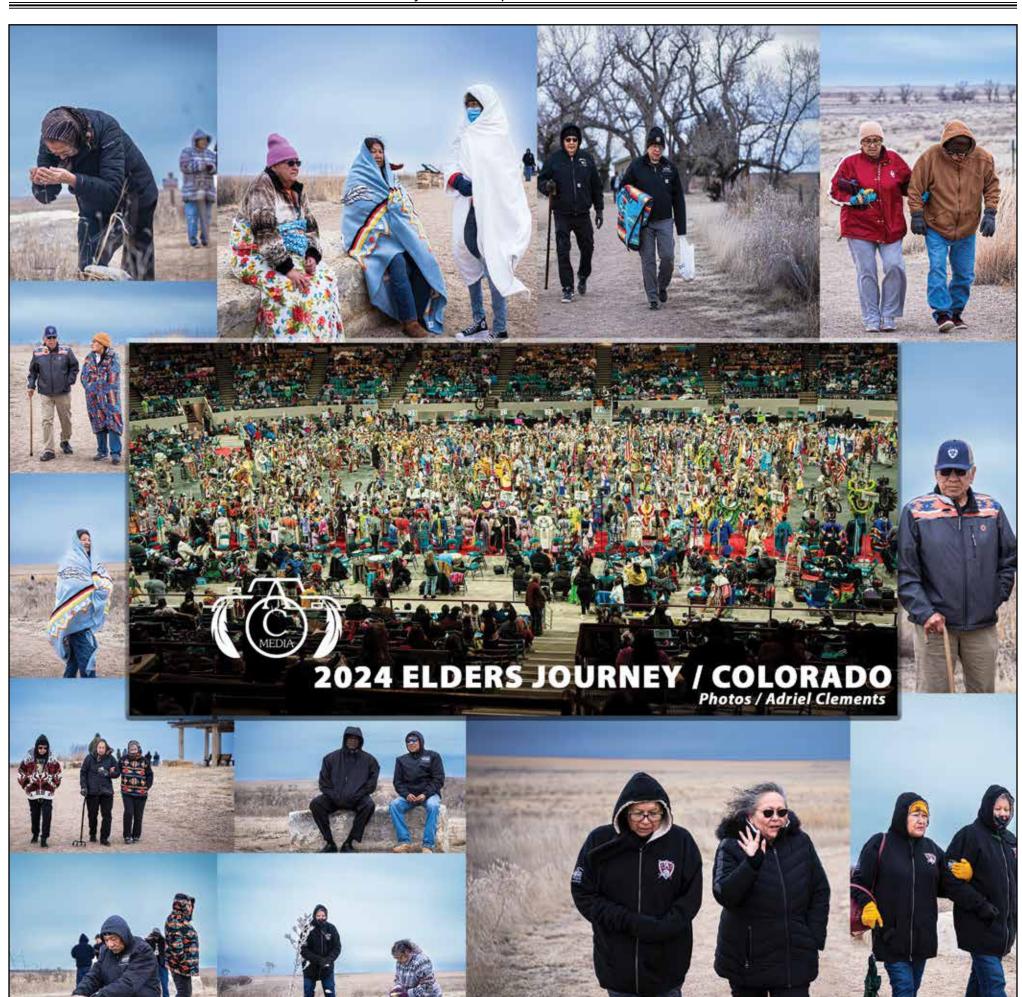
Fiddler pushed back

is somehow the clients are mere tools for larger, more sinister interests," Fiddler said in an email. "Our firm Fiddler Osband Flynn absolutely believes in the justness of the Reyelts' cause. And any person or interest that supports us in this cause is a friend of ours, which is why we are proud to call Goldwater a friend in this (despite the fact I am a staunch liberal)."

Smith, of the ICWA Law Center, said the latest attempt at an equal protection argument represents yet another threat to ICWA. But while her direct knowledge of the case is limited, she also questions whether the foster parents will be successful in achieving standing in the case. "Foster care is temporary

and in the context of child welfare the intent is reunification," Smith said. "In a child welfare proceeding, a foster parent is agreeing to serve a role to keep a child safe and well cared for while understanding the hope is the child is able to reunify with their family."

Because of that, she added, "for the foster provider to have standing they actually need to experience their own harm, their standing is not justified in their belief that the child was hurt by not being with them permanently. Instead, they need to show they are harmed by not being able to permanently care for the child they agreed to care for temporarily."







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Congratulations to LaRenda Morgan, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Government Affairs Officer for being honored at the quarterly meeting of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma (UINO) for her work in politics and advocacy. The quarterly meeting was held March 19 at the Osage Casino in Bartlesville, Okla. Topics for the meeting included, but not limited to, legislative barriers in

Indian Country, legislative updates in the Oklahoma Legislature impacting Tribal Sovereignty and Tribal communities, Sports Betting Bill, healthcare, Tribal Taxation State Bill 1907 and education issues surrounding Native American history in public schools. learn more about UINO viswww.uinoklahoma.com. #WomenHistoryMonth2024



CACONO OBITUARIES CACONO CACONO OBITUARIES CACONO

Lu Ann Bearbow Monroe

Lu Ann Bearbow Monroe was born Aug. 14, 1956, to Calvin Bearbow and Cordelia Morton in Clinton, Okla. She passed away March 10, 2024, in the Clarity Hospice of Baton Rouge, LA.

Lu Ann was raised in Clinton and Arapaho, Okla., graduating from Arapaho High School in 1975. She married John Monroe on Feb. 15, 2009, in Maurepas, LA. She has made her home in Louisiana for the past several years. She was a homemaker and traveled with her husband on his job.

Her past time was listening to music and spending time with family and friends, and she loved dogs.

She is preceded in death

by her mother Cordelia Bearbow, dad Calvin Bearbow, three brothers, Ronald Bearbow, Stephen Bearbow and Jeffery Bearbow.

She is survived by two daughters, Samye Adams and husband, Marc of Grangeville, LA and Patrica Whynot and husband, Steve of Allen, Texas, son Doug Kodaseet and Taryn O'Neal of Hutchenson, Kansas, and sister Sandra Sam of Oklahoma City. She is survived by numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

An all-night wake service was held March 14 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were



held March 15 at the Swapping Back Church in Geary, Okla., under the direction of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

Okla. Funeral services were held March 15 at the Swapping Back Church in Geary, Okla., under the direction of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

Lillie Renee Martinez

Lillie Renee Martinez (Indian name" Moose" Moehdah) was born June 4, 1975, in Clinton, Okla. She passed away March 10, 2024, in the Ryan Hospice House in Phoenix, Ariz.

Lillie was raised in Hammon, Okla., where she graduated high school in 1993. She continued her education at the Pima Medical Institute and received her Certified Nurses Aid Certificate. She worked as a CNA in Mesa,

She moved to Arizona in 1994 and worked for Honeywell, and later she worked for the Salt River Project. Then she changed jobs, working for Wells Fargo from 1995 until 2000. She became very close to her co-workers, and some became family.

She married Franciso Martinez, on Aug. 7, 1999. To this marriage she had three children, Alyssa, Alexandra, and Franciso Martinez Jr. She became a stayat-home mother for the next 29 years.

In November 2022 she was stricken with Large B Clinton, Lila Kauk of Leed-Cell Lymphoma and spent time at the Mayo Clinic, and they were successful in shrinking her tumors. She was able to move to her childhood home in Hammon in June 2023. After moving home her tumors surfaced again and she began treat-

ment at the Oklahoma University Hospital in Oklahoma City. Lillie's children wanted her back home in Arizona to get further treatments at the Mayo Clinic. She fell ill to Covid and had minor heart surgery while her cancer progressed. Surrounded by her children, all her sisters and other family members, Lillie took her journey home on March 10, 2024.

She loved to play basketball, she was an avid seamstress and enjoyed doing arts and crafts and making t-shirts for her kids and family members. She was a pool player and enjoyed competing in small tournaments. She was preceded in death

by her parents, sister Lorette Higgins, and brother Lawrence Higgins and brother in law, Dane Kauk.

She is survived by daughters, Alyssa Martinez-Higgins and Alexandra Martinez, and son Francisco Martinez Jr., all from Arizona, sisters, Bridget Higgins of Hammon, Mary Jo Higgins of Clinton, Okla., Jennifer Higgins of ey, Okla., Kathrine Higgins of California, and Sona Higgins of Portland. She is also survived by aunts (mom) Irene Hayes of Hammon and Margaret Howlingwolf of Seiling, Okla., adopted sisters, Shannon Littleman, Veronica Candy and Alisun



Little Coyote.

The family wants to give a special thank you to Veronica Candy for always being there by Lillie's side during the early part of her fighting the B Cell Lymphoma, Dr. Loren of the Cheyenne Emergency Room for Lillie's care and praying for her during her difficult stay in the E.R. Her Hospice nurses in Phoenix, Jessica, Michelle and Kim and Chaplain Frank and a special thank you to Troy Lee for bringing our beloved mother, sister and auntie home to Oklahoma.

Wake services were held March 15 at the Kiesau Lee Funeral Chapel in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held March 16 at the Hammon High School Auditori um, officiated by Jan Phillips and Bobby Stewart, followed by an interment at the Hammon Indian Cemetery under the direction of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

Grace Elizabeth Scabby-Everett

Grace Elizabeth (Scabby) Everett was born Sept. 29, 1960, to Rueben Scabby and Edith (Candy) Scabby in Guymon, Okla., and passed away March 15, 2024, in her Snyder home.

ton, Okla., where she attended Tipton Schools. She married at a young age and her husband, and his family operated a carnival. They traveled all over the United States. She was involved with the carnival until the late 1980s. She later married David Everett in 1992, in Wichita Falls, Texas. Her husband was in the autobody repair business, and they made Wichita Falls their home. She moved to Snyder, Okla., in 2014, to be close to her family.

She was a member of the

Church of Christ, she loved to garden, cook, watch her granddaughters play softball, she was an avid sports fan and was a supporter of the Oklahoma University Football, Dallas Cowboys, Grace was raised in Tip- and the Thunder Basketball

> She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, son Dustin Whiteman, and sister Virginia Ann Michael Scab-

She is survived by daughter Sandy Coleman, and husband Jac of College Station, Texas, two sons, Gregory Whiteman and wife Roxanne of Bryan, Texas and Jimmy Whiteman of Waco, Texas, and sister Lillian Sandie Scabby of Snyder. She is also survived by

10 grandchildren and several nieces, nephews, and a host



of other family members.

A traditional wake service was held March 21 at the Hammon Emergency Response Center in Hammon, Okla. Funeral Services were held March 22, at the same venue, officiated by Joe Waugh, followed by an interment at the Hammon Indian Mennonite Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

Garfield West Hamilton

Garfield West Hamilton was born Feb. 7, 1945, to Alfred Hamilton and Juanita (Heap-of-Birds) Hamilton in Wichita, Kansas. He passed away March 13, 2024, in the Winfield Veterans Center in Winfield, Kansas.

Garfield was raised in Wichita and graduated from Wichita High School in 1963. He continued his education as Haskell Indian Nations University where he met his soon-to-be wife, Josephine Whiteskunk.

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force Feb. 7, 1968, and served in Vietnam for one year, February 1970, until February 1971. He served four years in the Armed Forces and was honorably discharged in 1972.

He was employed as an

electrician by Boeing Aircraft in Kansas. He has made his homes in Kansas, Oklahoma City, and Weatherford, Okla. He was a member of the American Legion and the Veteran of Foreign Wars, he enjoyed playing competitive pool and bowling. He is preceded in death

by his parents, two brothers, Robert Hamilton and Fenton Hamilton. He is survived by his son

Garfield Lee Hamilton of Oklahoma City and daughter Garnita Hamilton of Weatherford and sister Theda Hamilton of Weatherford and brother Norman Hamilton of Florida. He is also survived by several grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

A traditional all-night



wake service was held March 20 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Funeral services were held March 21, at the same venue, officiated by Rev. Gerald Panana, followed by an interment at the Concho Cemetery under the direction of the Kiesau-Lee Funeral

Home.

Bonnie "Red Needle" Nelson

Bonnie "Red Needle" Nelson, 63, of Monroe City passed away surrounded by her family on March 19, 2024. She was born in Thermopolis, Wyo., on Oct. 25, 1960, to the late James Franklin Chalcraft and Aileen Haskins Page and grew up on the Wind River Reservation. Bonnie worked for 25+ years as a private caretaker. She married Jason Nelson on July 1, 1994.

Bonnie was a one-of-akind person who loved to care for people especially when it came to cooking for people. She was always willing to help anyone in need and never asked for anything in return. Bonnie was a member of the Vincennes Eagle Lodge. In her free time, she enjoyed rock collecting, cooking, camping, being outdoors, flower gardening, and spending time with family and friends. Bonnie had a wonderful sense of humor and always enjoyed cracking open a cold one. She was very proud of

her heritage as being Native

American and was a citizen

of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. Bonnie will be deeply missed by all and remembered as the special soul

She was preceded in death by her parents, siblings Jesse "Payne" Fisher, Lawrence Gambler, James Chalcraft Jr., Cornelia Page and granddaughter Theodora Elizabeth

Bonnie is survived by her husband of 29 years, Jason Nelson, children Colby Keener, Rachel (Tyler Robinson) Grimm, Roxanne (Adam Lett) Grimm, Bryan Grimm Jr., Cheyenne (Jourdan) Hakes, Katelynn (Tim Schultz) Carter, Tanna Nelson; grandchildren Mackenzie Bolding, Addison Catt, Tristan Grimm, Keesten Like, Everleigh Hakes, Fynlee Daugherty, Oakleigh Hooks, Brynlei "Honey" Daugherty, Brody Terrell, Gatlin Hakes, Nolan "Chicken Wing" Carter, Blakely "Bluebird" Nelson, Raelynn Aileen Grace Schultz; siblings Ann (Dan) Laabs,

Mary Montoya, Shirley Fish-

er, Tina (David Casey) Stag-



ner, Diana Chalcraft, Hope (Moses) Urrutia, Ginger (Joe) Troester, Craig Frazier, Sarge Frazier, Peanut Frazier, Sandy (Steve) Williams, Randy (Linda) Chalcraft, Bonnie (Bo) Strickalnd, and Connie Stalter; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Visitation was held March

24 at the Goodwin-Sievers Family Funeral Home in Vincennes, IN. Funeral services were held March 24, at the same venue. The family would like

to give special thanks to the Good Samaritan Oncology group for their exceptional care of Bonnie.

LEGAL NOTICES

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILEDMAR 2 2 2023 IN THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET.... __PAGE_ IMAGE IN THE TRIAL COURT CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022 In the Matter of ANNA KAYE ROWLODGE, et al. Case No. CIV-2024-0024 GILBERT LEE PIPER

CIVIL SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES TO: GILBER LEE PIPER

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN ANSWER to the Petition fo Protective Order which is filled in the Office of the above-named Court. A copy of the Petition is available through the Court Clerk's office and to file your Answer with the above-named Court. A copy of the Petition is available through the Court Clerk's office and to file your Answer with the above-named Court within twenty (20) days of service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service. Whitia the same time, a copy of your Answer must be delivered or mailed to the Cheyenne and Ampaho Trial Court P.O. Box 102 Concho, OK 73022.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR before the Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court on the date set for hearing; a Judgment by Default can be entered and the Plaintiff shall be awarded the relief asked for in the Petition.

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY on any matter connected with this sait or your at your own expense. Such Attorney should be consulted immediately so that an Answer may be filed Answer at your own expense. Such Attorney should be consulted im within the time stated in this summons.

Dated this 22nd day of March, 2024.

ho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OF DELAHOMA
FILED MAR 0 5 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET PAGE
FILM MAGE Case No. JFJ-2023-0005 L.D., DOB:06-13-2021 SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: Luther Daukei Sr. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of has been filed in the Cheyenno and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging a shove named minor child is a neglected or dependent child as to his father, Luther Daukie requesting the Court to terminate the parent-child legal relationship between said child and ural father, Luther Daukiel Sr., all as more fully set out in the attached motion filed in said YOUARE FURTHER ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal Black Kettle Boulevard, Conche, Oklahoma, on the delication of the delication of the delications contained in the Motion for Termination of Parental Rights of Father and state until or deny the allegations of the motion. YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will bear evidence in support of and YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will bear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said Motions at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by coursed, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deep 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 asid minor child should not be terminated. Your failure to appear at said bearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the helid, 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 home. Dated this 5th day of March . 2024. Harmonniey Kinchion, Assista Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes P.O. Box 32



The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Chevenne and Arapaho Tribes on

the 10th day of APRIL 2024, at 10:00A.M. in the courtsoon, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklah YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR, on the above date and time indicated for pr

ar case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through

To appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or e. Your smart device will need a camera, microphose, and a stable internet connection. If you do no

have access to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional telephone

ies must use the following in order to log in or join the mo conferencing for smart device of Zoom link:

- https://us02wch.zoom.us/j4524251494?pwd=52RCenU2WDV/00FMhMnI5Q3RXeTdElQT09 or
- o Moeting ID: 452 425 1494 o Passcode: Court2021
- Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799 Morting ID: 452 425 1494 Passeode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 12th day of March, 2024

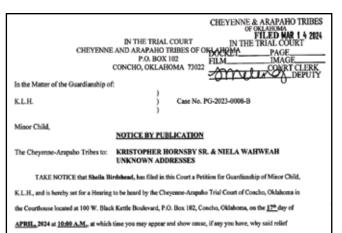


You are hereby notified that Larry Yarbrough II has filed in this Court a Petition to

Establish Paternity requesting a court order be issued to name Larry Yarbrough II on the birth certificate as father of L.R.Y., a minor child. Any interested parties may appear at the hearing set on the 1st day of MAY, 2024 at 10:00 A.M., in the courtroom of said Trial Court of the Chevenne Arapaho Tribes, 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said relief should not be granted.

Dated this 12th day of MARCH, 2024.

Melency Court Clerk Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Cheyenne-Arapaho Trial Court

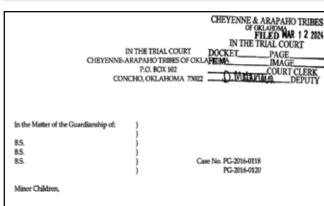


YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR on the above date and time indicated for the of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or

ust use the following in order to log in or join the n ideo conferencing for smart device users:

https://us02web.zoom.usij/4524251494?pwd=S2RCenl/2WDV00FMvMnlSQ3RXeTdHQT09 or

- Meeting ID: 452 425 1494 Passcode: Court2021
- conferencing for non-smartphone or tra Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799 Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
- o Passcode: 854454251 ted at the Trial Court this 14th day of March, 2024.



NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: CARIN MITCHELL UNKNOWN ADDRESS

Appointment of Guardianship of a Minor Child and that petition will be heard by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court of Concho, Oklahoma in the Courthouse located at 100 West Black Kettle Boulevard, P.O. Box 102, Concho, Oklahoma, 73022, on the 10th day of APRIL, 2024 at 10:00 A.M., and any written protest may be filed in the case prior to the date set for the hearing.

TAKE NOTICE, that ROSEMARY ARMENDARIZ has filed in this Court a Petition for

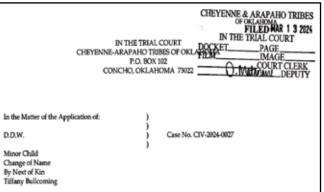
Issued this 12th day of MARCH, 2024



The Cheyerme-Anapaho Tribes to: ANY INTERESTED PARTIES TAKE NOTICE, that TIFFANY BULLCOMING has filed in this Court a Petition for

Name Change on behalf of K.M.W., a minor child, as follows, to wit; from K.M.W. to K.M.B. and that the petition will be heard by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court of Concho, Oklahoma in the Courthouse located at 100 West Black Kettle Boulevard, P.O. Box 102, Concho, Oklahoma, 73022, on the 1st day of MAY, 2024 at 10:00 A.M., and any written protest may be filed in the case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Issued this 13th day of MARCH, 2024.

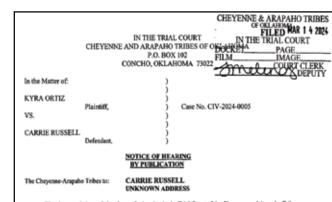


NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: ANY INTERESTED PARTIES TAKE NOTICE, that TIFFANY BULLCOMING has filed in this Court a Petition for

Name Change on behalf of D.D.W., a minor child, as follows, to wit; from D.D.W. to D.J.B. and that the petition will be heard by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court of Concho, Oklahoma in the Courthouse located at 100 West Black Kettle Boulevard, P.O. Box 102, Concho, Oklahoma, 73022, on the 1st day of MAY, 2024 at 10:00 A.M., and any written protest may be filed in the case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Issued this 13th day of MARCH, 2024.



The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Azapaho Tribes on the 17th day of APRIL 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 pres

of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or the appear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or

must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting. Video conferencing for smart device users:

- Zoom link: https://ws02web.zoom.us/j45242514941yuud=S2RCcol.2WDV00FMvMnl5Q3RXcEdHQT09.or
- Meeting ID: 452 425 1494 o Passcode: Court2021
- conferencing for non-smartphone or tax Telephone muriber: 1 (346) 248-7799 Meeting ID: 452-425 1494 Passcode: 854454241

Dated at the Trial Court this 14th day of March 2024.

Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk Cheyerne and Arapaho Trial Court



the 17th day of APRIL 2024, at 10:00 A.M. in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma

case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through

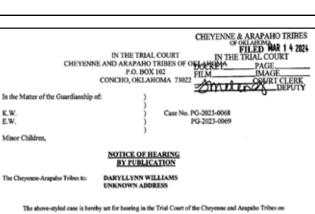
ear via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or Your smart device will need a camera, microphone, and a stable internet connection. If you do not ess to a smart device, you can use a non-smartphone or traditional teleph

ics must use the following in order to log in or join the m ideo conferencing for smart device us o Zoom link:

- https://usil/2web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?psi.d=S2RCepU2WTX/BOFMvMeISQ3RXeTdHQT09 or
 - https://zoom.us/join Meeting ID: 452 425 1494 Passcode: Court2021

Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799 Meeting ID: 452 425 1494 Passcode: 854454251 Dated at the Trial Court this 14th day of March, 2024.

Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court



the 17th day of APRIL 2024, at 10:00A.M. in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO APPEAR, on the above date and time indicated for present of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court. You have the option to appear in person or through ar via Zoom, you will need a smart device such as a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or 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

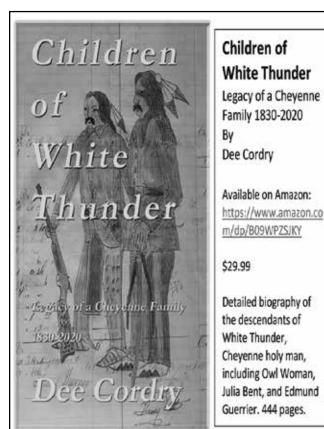
Parties must use the following in order to log in or join the meeting.

Video conferencing for smart device users:

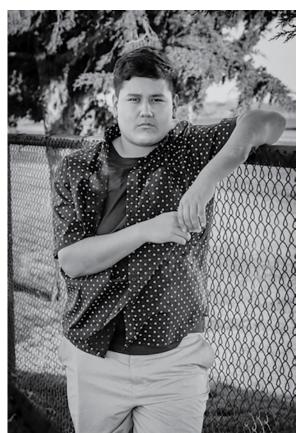
Zoom link: https://usit2web.zoom.us/j45242514947pmd=S2RCenU2WDV00FMvMell5Q3RXeTdHQT09 or

- https://zoom.us/join Moeting ID: 452 425 1494 Passcode: Court2021
- Conferencing for non-smartphone or trac Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799 Meeting ID: 452 425 1494 Passcode: 854454251

Duted at the Trial Court this 14th day of March, 2024.









"Happy 18th Birthday **Hunter Navanick**" We are so proud of the young gentleman you have turned out to be. You bring so much joy, pride and love into our lives. We hope you have a wonderful day!

In Loving Memory of Steven **Albino Goodbear** July 1, 1988 – April 8, 2022

Steven, the day you went away your brothers and I find it just as hard to face the fact you've gone. This is the 2nd anniversary of the day you went away. You'll never be forgotten and every year is just as hard as you not being here with us. It gives us some peace that your older brother Jason Goodbear is there with



you in heaven. We love you and miss you so much. Love your mom, Annette Murray.



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.

Communications/ **Special Projects Tribal Transit Closing Date: Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS: Associate's degree in web communications, design, digital media and/or general studies with at least two years experience in administration, management and/or website design is required. Experience may be acceptable equivalent to the degree requirement. Must possess current Oklahoma driver's license and have reliable transportation and willing to provide a Motor Vehicle Report for insurance purposes. Must be willing to take prehire drug and alcohol test, COVID-19 tests and possibly a background check. Must provide copy of CDIB for consideration of Tribal preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

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

QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor's degree preferred or four years experience in security, law enforcement or legal services. Strong typing and hands on computer skills. Must abide by confidentiality policies. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license, 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 screenings.

SALARY: Negotiable

Outpatient Counselor **Substance Abuse Closing Date: Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS:

Master's or bachelor's degree or similar work experience in behavioral science field, such as substance abuse, psychology or counseling. Knowledge of mental health and substance abuse recovery. Must keep licensure current and be sober a minimum of 12 months. Must be at least 21 years of age, have valid Oklahoma driver's license and ability to pass a background check and drug screenings. Must be willing to work occaweekends/holidays if needed, have a working phone and COVID vaccination/COVID testing requirements. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Healing to Reentry Case Manager **Judicial Branch Closing Date: Until Filled**

QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor's degree preferred, experience in case management and knowledge of applicable software applications to include word processing, spreadsheets and database management. Proficient in typing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. Must have good working knowledge of Tribal Codes and Court policies. Must have valid driver's license with dependable transportation and able to pass alcohol and drug screenings. Must be able to pass OSBI background investigation and complete and pass the OK Dept. of Corrections Volunteer and Certified Instructor training. Native American preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Galendar of Events

Birthday Dance for Haley Marie Panana

Saturday, April 13 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Dinner at 5 p.m. with dance to follow. Haley is the daughter of Dyrone Panana and Lea Panana of Weatherford, Okla.

Head Staff: MC Eugene Blackbear Sr., HS Kendall Kauley, HMD Moses Starr, HLD Winona Youngbird, HLBD TouchCloud Watan, HLGD Genevieve Goodblanket, Honored Veteran Kinsley Heap of Birds, Host Red Moon Gourd Clan and AD Cody Zimmer.

Buffalo Runners Gourd Dance Fundrais-

2 p.m. Sunday, April 14 at the Geary Emergency Response Center in Geary, Okla. All proceeds will go to assist Buffalo Runners basketball team with food, drinks, travel and tournament fees. Arts and crafts vendors welcome. For more information contact Skyler Reyes at 580-819-2745.

Head Staff: MC Alan Fletcher, HS Al Santo, HMD Duane Harris, HLD Nelsie Kaudlekaule and HLBD Tahlo Gray.

Graduation Dance for Juliana Farias "Night Killer" - Class of 2024 Clinton High School

April 27 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Gourd dance 3 p.m., supper at 5 p.m., with program to follow. Juliana's parents are Mary Rios and Noel Farias. Her grandparents are Tony and Tammy Rios, great-grandparents are the late Mary Seger, Manuel and Betty Rios and great-great granddaughter of the late Arthur and Bessie Seger.

Head Staff: MC Burl Buffalomeat, HS Billy Youngbird, HMD David Strong, HLD Sophia Big Goose, HLGD Genieve Goodblanket, HLBD Julian Mark Harvie, AD Joshua Farias, Honored Chief Roy Dean Bull Coming, Honored Veteran Norene Starr, U.S. Army, special invited guest Cheyenne District 3 Legislator Tommy Trout.

Graduation Powwow for Hannah J. Blackbear - 2024 Graduate of John Marshall High School

Friday, May 10, 2024 at the Watonga Emergency Response Center in Watonga, Okla. Gourd dance 3 p.m., dinner 5 p.m., with social dance session immediately following.

Head Staff: MC Willie Bullcoming, HS Phoenix Whiteshirt, HM Alfred Whiteshirt, HL Helen Sheridan, HTB Joran Fingernail (17), HTG Cameron 'Hamster' LittleCoyote (14), HLB Tanner Blackbear (11), HLG Arya Eaglenest (4) and AD Nate Charley.

Vendors welcome with donation of raffle item. For more information call 405-618-2640.

Comanche Little Ponies 54th Annual Cel-

May 10-11, 2024 at the Comanche County Fairgrounds, Expo Center, 920 S. Sheridan in Lawton, Okla. Arts & crafts vendor fee \$50. Contests in all divisions, event live-streamed via LoneTipi Productions. Comanche Little Ponies 2024-25

Princess, Garison Yellowfish. Head Staff: MC Martin Flores, HS Kelly Cable, HGD Danny Niedo, HLD Madison Fixico, HWD Asa Ace Samuels, ADs Travis Codynah and Charles Tahah

For vendor information call 405-400-4124 or email margwall1960@gmail.com. For powwow general information call 580-583-5279 or email lowellnibbs@yahoo.com.

Graduation Gourd Dance for Merlin Big-Medicine, Kade and Nanibaa LittleThunder

May 11, 2024 at the Concho Emergency Response Centerin Concho, Okla. Please call 405-412-9774 for specific time/ details. Teen and Junior Boys Straight Dance Combined and Teen and Junior Girls Cloth and Buckskin Combined contests, first place \$300, second place \$200, third place \$100.

Head Staff: MC Wilber Bullcoming, HS OT Sankey, HM Kelly Loneman, HLD Jill Primeaux Hunter, HB Ace Boone Lopez, HG Sequoyah Ann WhiteThunder, Honored Family Farley and Arnita Pewewardy, and AD Daniel Baker.

Mother's Day Dance in Honor of Diane WhiteThunder Hawk - Buffalo Walking

May 11, 2024 at the Watonga Emergency Response Center in Watonga, Okla. Gourd dance 3 p.m., supper 5 p.m., with dance to follow. Contests: Tiny Tot sponsored by Emily La'Miyah Gray Family, Jingle Dress-Teen & Adult (2 categories) sponsored by the Hawk Family, Men's Traditional sponsored by Cedar & Rivers Shirey, Mother/Daughter Contest-choose your style, sponsored by Jacques Moss and Junior Girls Fancy sponsored by Kierah Thunderbull Family. Vendors are welcomed with a donated raffle item.

Head Staff: MC Alan Fletcher, HS Amick Birdshead, HMD Kendricks Sleeper, HLD Lanette Franklin Bassett, HGD Emily La'Miyah Gray, Honored Veteran TBA, Honored Elder Karen LittleCoyote, Co-Host Red Moon Gourd Clan and ADs Brian and Kasen Fielder.

Graduation Dance for Jordan Trout and Brenna Maley, 2024 Class of Clinton High School

Saturday, June 1, 2024 at the Clinton High School Tornadodo Dome, 2130 Gray Blvd., in Clinton, Okla. Gourd dance 3 p.m., supper 5 p.m., with evening program to follow.

Head Staff: MC Isaac Rhoads, HS Whiteagle Watan, HL Angela Littleman, HTB Rufus Ellis, HTG Anessa Blackbear, Honored Veteran Gerald Panana, Honored Elder Sharon All Runner, Honored Chief Thurman Starr, AD Billy Youngbird

and Co-Host Red Moon Gourd Clan. For more information call 580-445-0035 or 405-201-0521.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WILL BE

ENFORCING PENALTIES AGAINST THOSE ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL DUMPING

In an effort to protect one of our most valuable resources, the Tribes' land, the Department of Justice will be increasing their enforcement of the Law and Order Code's Section 407.

Section 407 makes it illegal to deliberately discard any garbage, trash, waste, or debris on any tribal public property or on any tribal private property of another within Tribal jurisdiction without consent of the property owner. Penalties for violating Section 407 include incarceration of up to Thirty (30) Days for tribal members, or fines up to Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars for both tribal and non-tribal members. The Tribes' Environmental Protection Agency have plans to assist the Department of Justice by strategically placing trail cameras in areas which have been consistently violated. All perpetrators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Any tribal employees or members wishing to report violations may visit https://www.cheyenneandarapahonsn.gov/executive/department-of-justice to fill out a complaint form.

Please lets work together to protect our Tribes' valuable resources. Hohóú/Né-á'eše!



Ofelia LaRue Yellow Eagle, Mountain View-Gotebo High School

Full of hope and ambition, Cheyenne and Arapaho youth Ofelia LaRue Yellow Eagle, 18, gives her all in every sport she participates in. With each passing season, she continues to be an inspiration.

Born in Weatherford, Okla., and raised in the rural community of Mountain View, Okla., Yellow Eagle attends the small school of Mountain View-Gotebo where she, like most kids in the community, participates in several sports and school activities.

"Mountain View is such a small school so at small school so at small schools everyone plays everything and I enjoy everything I do, I just like being busy, I just can't ever stay still, I just like to go, I'm a very outgoing person and it just keeps my schedule going," Yellow Eagle said.

Yellow Eagle participates in cross-country, basketball, cheer and track and field. She is also active in Future Farmers of America (FFA) for the school where she holds an officer position.

Coming into the spring season of track and field in her junior year, Yellow Eagle participates in the shot put and discus throw. Yellow Eagle said she's been doing track and field since the sixth grade.



"I've just kind of fell in love with it, it's taught me life lessons and to always just try your best even when things aren't going your way, because I still struggle with that to this day when I can't throw right but you always have your off days, so it's important to know you can have an off day," Yellow Eagle said.

Throwing an eight-pound metal ball, the sport involves strength, speed and balance. Yellow Eagle quickly became inspired when she saw older students participating in the shot put and discus throw. She said she looked up to the seniors at the time and wanted to give it a try.

"I just seen some of the seniors doing it and I just looked up to those seniors at the time and I thought it would be pretty good for me to try out and if I didn't like it, I wouldn't go on with it but I ended up enjoying it so here I am going into my junior year with it," Yellow Eagle said.

Yellow Eagle said what she loves the most about playing the sport is the friends she made along the way.

"Just the friends you get to meet along the way, I've met so many throughout my journey and the experiences you get to have," Yellow Eagle said.

And Yellow Eagle's motivation for pushing through the season is to meet her goal, which is to set a new school record before she graduates. Yellow Eagle's personal record is 31 feet and the school record is at 34 feet.

In getting one step and foot closer to beating her personal record, Yellow Eagle said what she looks forward to the most in the season is meeting new friends and spending time with the incoming freshmen.

"Getting to meet new friends that come up, meeting freshmen and spending time getting ready for this season as it approaches and hopefully punch my ticket to the state track meet," Yellow Eagle said.

Throughout the school year, Yellow Eagle has maintained a 3.2 GPA and said she stands by ensuring she's always a student before an athlete.

"To me I always stand by to make sure to always put the student before the athlete, got to make sure to get everything done in the classroom before I put my athletics first and that's what I always stand by," Yellow Eagle said.

When she's not focused on academics or sports, Yellow Eagle is active in her duties with FFA as she said it has opened up opportunities for her.

"FFA has really opened up so much experiences that I hadn't known was out there, I've met so many friends going to these leadership conferences, camps, getting to expand my comfort zone because thanks to FFA I've met lifelong friends that I'll know forever," Yellow Eagle said.

Preparing for the season, Yellow Eagle said the best way to improve her strategy on the field is to just come into it with a positive mindset.

"I hope that I will just improve, just keep improving by each meet, break the school record and just have a positive mindset behind it all," Yellow Eagle said.

Being a part of track and field, Yellow Eagle said has taught her discipline the most.

"I remember first starting I wasn't really good but those seniors that I looked up to told me you got to want it, that's really how bad you want it so you have to put the time in order for you to have good results," Yellow Eagle said.

And when she's in the zone mentally preparing for her turn in the shot put and discus throw, Yellow Eagle said everything cancels out and she's in her own world.

"I get to be myself in that ring when I enter and know that I can do it and that God is right there beside me and my mom is one of my biggest cheerleaders up in Heaven," Yellow Eagle said.

Moutain View-Gotebo Track and Field Coach Ken Bohanan said Yellow Eagle is a very popular person on and off the field and court.

"On the field she works very hard. She runs cross-country for me. She runs about 2 miles at each meet. Even though she is not in first place, she runs her heart out," Bohanan said.

Bohanan said in the beginning Yellow Eagle would be discouraged and would want to quit. But she has matured and realized that it's not about first, but about testing and pushing yourself to do things that many cannot.

"It's important to finish things that you start. On the court she is a fan favorite. She doesn't start but goes to practice every day and works hard," Bohanan said.

And when she's on the field for track and field, Bohanan said she works hard in those two disciplines as well.

"LaRue is for sure our leader for the track and field events, younger throwers look to her for a good role model and she displays her willingness to put in the extra effort to succeed. I know she is active in a lot of activities such as FFA and that in itself is a load of work," Bohanan said.

Bohanan said they do not have students that only run track or cross country, they play other sports as well. He said the numbers have doubled since last year and hope to see the team continue to grow as the few that have joined have been successful so far.

"LaRue can do anything she puts her mind into, she has matured now to continue to strive to finish whatever she sets her mind to," Bohanan said.

With Yellow Eagle raised by her grandparents, grandmother Elizabeth Tartsah said Yellow Eagle was diagnosed with scoliosis at a young age, but with physical therapy and encouragement of former coaches and prayers, she had overcome scoliosis.

Planning to graduate in the spring of 2025, Yellow Eagle said she hopes to get the opportunity to do track and field at the next level, however if not, she plans to attend Oklahoma State University to major in agriculture education and have an impact on other students.

Yellow Eagle's mother is the late Anita Yellow Eagle and her grandparents are Elizabeth and Garrett Tartsah, as well as Yolanda Yellow Eagle. Her siblings are Chris Tall Bear and Pavenah (Tall Bear) Vaillancourt.

BOARDING SCHOOL

continued from pg. 1

"To not only document the living experiences of those that attended Indian boarding schools as a result of the federal Indian boarding school policy, but this is a really important moment to honor our elders, to honor those individuals that have experienced often traumatic experiences as a result of these institutions," Torres said.

Torres said the project is an opportunity for the United States citizens to learn what has been deprived and for boarding school participants to be heard.

"This is an opportunity for our relatives to be able to be heard in a social and political consciousness that has not really come to terms properly and addressed the impacts of Indian boarding schools," Torres said.

Projected to be a twoyear project, NABS is looking at developing a schedule to visit 20 different locations.

locations.

"We will be releasing those states as we get clos-

er to those times but we are working with our friends and our partners in a variety of different locations and really taking their lead, we want to make sure that these encounters and visiting moments reflect the needs and the desires of each tribal community that we're in," Torres said.

Kicking the project off in the state of Oklahoma, Torres said there is no other state that has experienced more Indian boarding schools than Oklahoma. Research has indicated that there are at least 95 Indian boarding schools in Oklahoma itself.

"We think it's really important to initiate that here, given the brutal realities of relocation of termination, of the stark contrast that nearly 100 boarding school institutions have existed on these lands, meanwhile in areas such as Texas and Louisiana, there are no instances of boarding schools that we have seen to this

point," Torres said.

Torres said as a result of relocation and extermination, there is an important cross road of correcting that social historical narrative for people outside of Indigenous nations that are not aware. In addition, DOI Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland initiated the road to healing site visit in previous years in Anadarko, Okla.

With NABS conducting the oral history project, the goal is to get roughly 20 interviews per week, which Torres said will increase as time goes on as Oklahoma is only the first site visit of the two-year project endeavor.

Wanting to start the project off in a way that they are confident and have ability to be able to hold and carry that volume, Torres said it's been the experience of the healing coalition that telling one's story is crucial to walking down that healing journey.

"We think that it's so integral that for generations we know that we have been compelled to just sweep it under the rug ... if we can't speak about them then we can't heal from them, so the approach that we take is though it can be very painful to speak about, the impacts that often we have heard and been traumatic, it's important for us to be able to hold them in a container of safety to be able to treat each other as good relatives," Torres said.

As survivors are encouraged to share their oral histories of boarding school and their experience, many of the NABS staff have emotional ties to the histories and what they hope to achieve through the project.

NABS programs coor-

dinator, Lacey Kinnart said being a part of the project as a whole and it being historic is fulfilling to her because her grandmother also went to boarding school.

to boarding school.

"She's no longer here and me and my gram were super close, I was her favor-

ite and she was never able

to talk about it," Kinnart said.

Kinnart said her grandmother shared three things with her about boarding school.

"If she ever started talking about it she would never be able to stop crying, that she'll never forget the smell of a burning body based off of all the babies they threw in the furnace and that's where she learned how to sew," Kinnart said.

Kinnart said she does this type of work in honor of her grandmother as she learned how boarding school impacted not only her people, but her family as well.

"I just wanted to be a part of NABS and the work that we're doing, this project came along and it's just right in line with the gifts that I have, like all of us on the team we have special skills or gifts and it's like we were chosen to be a part of this work and it just feels right, so I look forward to

empowering, validating and

hoping the survivors share their story," Kinnart said.

As an historic project, Kinnart said the oral histories will be around for a long time as the interviews will be stored in a public domain afterwards.

"It's going to be around long after we're gone and it deserves to be told, heard, shared, NABS made sure that these interviews are going to be stored in a public domain so when we're all gone it doesn't matter whose in presidential administration, it's there no matter what, stored and accessed by the public," Kinnart said.

For sharing their oral histories, boarding school participants will receive incentives for giving their time. Each participants will get an honorarium, gas money, possible hotel stays if they are traveling from afar, and a care package filled with Native made items or items from Native organizations and businesses.



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.

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



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



Friday, April 5th

Redlands Community College

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.



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

LIVE IN CONCERT

AT CONCHO



SATURDAY,





WILLIE NELSON & FAMILY

TUESDAY,



FRIDAY, AUGUST 9TH



AT CLINTON

JOSH ABBOTT



FRIDAY, MAY 10TH



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