



Charter School: Bringing ideas to the table

Latoya Lonelodge
Senior Reporter

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes State Tribal Education Partnership (STEP) program hosted their first charter school informational meeting on May 14 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Oklahoma.

With educators and community members attending the meeting, the objective was to get input from the community on what they picture in a graduate and share thoughts of what a Cheyenne and Arapaho based charter school might look like.

In 2020 the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Education (CADOE) had undergone restructuring in their strategic planning. In the process, the department's Executive Director Carrie Whitlow said goals were created in what the department wanted to accomplish collectively in education.

"What do we want for the picture? What do we want for our families? What do we want for our students? What type



Bernadette Anderson, Academic Development Institute addresses attendees of the charter school informational meeting at the Concho Emergency Response Center. (Photo / Latoya Lonelodge)

of education do we want to provide and what does that look like?" are some of the questions Whitlow asked those in attendance.

Being a part of Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA), Whitlow said she has also been able to see what other tribes are doing with their education departments. From there, conversations ensued on what

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When dreams become reality

Arapaho citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes takes her place in the field of medicine

Rosemary Stephens
Editor-in-Chief

Hanna Ott dreamed of becoming a veterinarian when she was a little girl. Her dream changed directions in middle school when she was impacted by her own health issues, and knew she wanted to grow up to practice medicine.

This year that dream was fulfilled when Ott walked across the stage at Louisiana State University, accepting her Doctor of Medicine degree.

"I knew early on I wanted to pursue medicine, and everyone tells you to have a backup plan, but I was pretty hard set on it," Ott said.

It was during her middle school years Ott was told by a friend she had a really big neck. Shocked by the statement, and at first offended, Ott said she told her mom and her mom said, 'well it kind of does look big actually.'

It would turn out Ott was diagnosed with thyroid disease and after that experience she began to learn more about her own health, about biology and how to take care of herself, which led to her interest to pursue medicine in college.

"I heard a lot of confusing words back then, but now I have figured them out," she said laughing. "I'll be on medication for the rest of my life, but it is manageable."

Ott would eventually end up being diagnosed with Graves' disease and undergoing radioactive iodine treatment. Graves' disease is an abnormal immune system response that



Hanna Ott graduated from Louisiana State University with a Doctor of Medicine degree. (Submitted photo)

causes the thyroid gland to produce too much thyroid hormone. It is a chronic condition, however manageable with treatment and medication.

From that experience Ott knew from that point on she would pursue medicine as her career. She grew up in Lafayette, Louisiana, and graduated Lafayette High School. Ott completed her pre-health major in college and graduated with a degree in biology and a

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Chief Harding Levi (center) is recognized during the Mustang Public School Board meeting on May 13 in Mustang, Okla. (Photos courtesy of Mustang Public Schools)

Cheyenne Chief Harding Levi graduates in regalia

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

MUSTANG – Thirty-one graduates representing nine Native American tribes wore regalia during Mustang High School's May 16 commencement ceremony, including Cheyenne Peace Chief Harding Levi.

Katy Patterson, coordinator of Indian education for the school district, said seeing Levi wearing his headdress and chief's blanket and carrying his fan "was a special moment for all of our Native students. It speaks for

Harding, but it was also huge for all the little kids who were in the stands at graduation."

Levi, 18, was also able to share his culture during the May 13 board meeting of Mustang Public Schools.

"This has been an exciting opportunity for our district, to recognize a student for his accomplishments and leadership skills, while also highlighting and honoring his traditional Cheyenne

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Alan Fletcher places Harding Levi's headdress upon his head while Cheyenne Chief Gordon Yellowman (l) and Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana (r) look on.

Cheyenne and Arapaho youth achieves co-salutatorian for Canton High School

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

(CANTON, OK) Following what has become a family tradition, Cheyenne and Arapaho youth Sariah Vargas, 18, will graduate the top of her class as co-salutatorian for Canton High School's graduating class of 2024, out of Canton, Okla.

In 2022, Vargas' brother Solomon Vargas received valedictorian for his graduating class at Canton High School and in 1999 Vargas' mother Karen Nicole Four Horns also received valedictorian for her graduation class at Canton. It came as no surprise to Vargas when she learned she would be co-salutatorian for her graduating class.

Striving to achieve top of her class success, Vargas said she put in a lot of work studying over the course of her senior year.

"I put in a lot of hard work and hours after school trying to get the work done that I had to do and I always kept track of my grades and made sure that they were up there," Vargas said.

As co-salutatorian, Vargas maintained a 3.96 GPA and will be graduating alongside over 20 other students in her graduating class.

"I was very happy about it because all that hard work paid off and I made it second in rank, in class rankings, I was really happy about it and grateful and I wanted to tell a lot of people at the time," Vargas said.

Vargas said she happened to find out the news when a friend told her, however she had already had a feeling she had a good chance of being top of her class in academics.

"I had a thought that there was a chance that I was going to be salutatorian, but I just wasn't sure yet because they hadn't figured out grades yet and processed all of that, I actually found out through my friend when she messaged me and congratulated me on it. I was surprised because I didn't know," Vargas

said.

Putting in the hard work over her senior year to ensure her grades were top of her class, Vargas' study habits required a lot of motivation.

"Whenever I got homework assigned to me I would always try to get it done as soon as possible, like in class because that's like where I'm most motivated to do my work and if not in class, I would of course bring any work home with me and just study a lot," Vargas said.

As co-salutatorian, Vargas will be required to deliver a speech at her graduation ceremony.

"I am happy of course, but I also have to give a speech in front of a lot of people and I'm kind of nervous about that, but other than that it's very exciting," Vargas said.

Throughout her time in high school, Vargas said what she enjoyed the most is communicating and getting to talk with others, interacting with fellow classmates and faculty.

"As a kid and I guess becoming a teenager in my school years, I was never really talkative much and towards my sophomore and junior year I started to get more out of my shell and during my senior year this year, talking has become like really big for me and I just enjoyed a lot of conversations I've had with teachers and classmates," Vargas said.

Teachers and faculty who've personally interacted with Vargas during her time at Canton High School also had much to say about Vargas and how she's made an impact.

Kayce Thompson, College Algebra and Trigonometry teacher at Canton High School described Vargas as a fantastic student, as she's had her in classes such as geometry, college algebra, trigonometry and algebra I.

"Since she has been a freshman I've had her for three different times, every time I've had her she has blossomed into a more confident student, she is extremely intelligent, very fair in all her dealings with her fellow students, I just really enjoyed having her in class," Thompson said.

And hearing the news of Vargas being co-salutatorian, Thompson said it's a great achievement.

"She is studious, so it was not really a surprise to me that she was going to get an honor like that, it's well deserved," Thompson said.

Canton High School Science Teacher, Ashlea Dowell said her daughter was a classmate of Vargas when she first met her in elementary school. Dowell became Vargas' teacher when she was a high school freshman in physical science, she also taught Vargas in earth science and chemistry.

"Sariah is an outstanding student and an ever better person, she is intelligent, but humble, she is kind and

respectful, I would say her strongest subjects are math and science, but honestly she is good at everything," Dowell said.

Proud of Vargas' accomplishment as a student at Canton High School, Dowell said Vargas has always maintained good grades and has earned high test scores.

"I am extremely proud of Sariah ... she is in a very academically competitive class and is one of the very best students," Dowell said.

Dowell continued to describe Vargas as a one of a kind student.

"Sariah is one of a kind, she is simply amazing and as a teacher, I was lucky to be able to be part of her educational journey. She is going to do great things in her life and is not only an excellent role model for all students," Dowell said.

Varga's worth ethic and sweet spirit are what come to mind when reflecting on her time at Canton High School, Angie Kemp, Canton High School Library media specialist said.

As Kemp did not have Vargas in class, she had developed a good relationship with Vargas when she got to know her at the beginning of the school year when Vargas was helping her work on the library page for the school website.

"Sariah is a positive light and an example for other students, she is very intelligent, but intelligence will not carry one through if willingness to work hard is not part of the equation. I believe Sariah will use her intelligence, work ethic, and positivity to take her far in life," Kemp said.

Apart from academics, Vargas has been in media and yearbook as well as the school newspaper for extra curricular activities and enjoys video gaming in her spare time.

During her time at Canton school, Vargas said what was most rewarding to her was participating in opportunities to learn and to also be of help to others.

"Like from the yearbook class that I've had, I was definitely given more opportunities to learn about Photoshop and website editing ... it's really nice to help others whenever they need it and help with their work," Vargas said.

And while being at the top of her class may have looked easy for Vargas, she said it was challenging at times. Especially when it came to procrastination.

"I used to be awful at that when we first started high school and I would get my work done on time but doing it last minute just made everything more stressful than it had to be, but I've started to manage my time better and I started to do work whenever I had free time or during class and that just made it a lot better for me and ever since then, it's gotten a lot better," Vargas said.



Sariah Vargas graduates top of her 2024 class as co-salutatorian for Canton High School. (Submitted photos)

Vargas' advice for other students wanting to be top of their class is to stay up to task.

"Staying up to task with work is a really good thing to keep track of and not procrastinating will also be really helpful and just focusing on schoolwork a lot of the time is pretty helpful with that," Vargas said.

Having the most impact on her and her academics, Vargas said her family has been her biggest supporter.

"First my mom because she always inspired me to do good in school and she was always there for me like helping me whenever I asked her for help, my brothers because they were always there for me too, gave me advice when needed and helped me with my work and my dad as well, for also helping me and giving me advice and just being there for me pretty much," Vargas said.

After graduation, Vargas plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) alongside her brother and will be majoring in computer science. Vargas' college scholarships include the Canton State Bank Scholarship, UCO Freshman Distinction Scholarship and Oklahoma Promise.

"I hope to maybe make my own company or work for one of the big technical companies out there," Vargas said.

Sariah's parents are Karen Nicole Four Horns and Solomon Vargas, Sr. Her maternal grandparents are Karen Williams Four Horns and the late Lester Four Horns, Sr., and her paternal grandparents are the late Reynaldo Vargas and Rosalie Vargas. Sariah has two siblings, Solomon Vargas, Jr., and Nakai Four Horns. Sariah is enrolled Cheyenne and Arapaho and also affiliated with the Lakota Sioux.



A touch of Cheyenne and Arapaho at the Oklahoma State Capitol

On May 13, 2024 a stunning art piece was installed in the Capitol rotunda depicting two wildland firefighters, Nate Charley and Rossi Harjo, both citizens of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. The painting was done by Lucas Simmons, an acclaimed artist from Shawnee, Okla.

Below are statements from both Nathan Charley and Rossi Harjo:

"Nii'ooke (good morning). I feel really honored and amazed that I'll be depicted in a mural for generations to come. Its surreal to me, that I was chosen to be a part of an historic art project. To be a model for Oklahoma State Motto Suite. Labor Omnis Vincit (work conquers all. I'll be representing the northwest quadrant of Oklahoma. I was born in Oklahoma City and raised in Geary Okla.

I'm a Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizen, Arapaho and Navajo descent. Also, I'm a wildland firefighter for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Fire management. I just try to make the most of everyday. With a willingness to learn and challenge myself. It's hard but you have to have a positive mindset to accomplish your goals, I'm really thankful, again, Hahou (thank you)," Nathan Charley stated.

"I want to give praise and thanks to Neixoo BeeTeen (God most high) first and foremost for allowing me the opportunity to be depicted in this beautiful painting. I also want to thank the artist Lucas Simmons for allowing me to work with him. I am truly honored, extremely blessed, and proud to represent not only my family but also our tribe. When I see my

self and my cousin Nate I see representatives of southern Arapaho people. I know it makes our family proud of us. I was on the Lame Deer fire in August 2021 helping our northern Cheyenne people and it's a great honor to see the hard work of tribal members be recognized. I just wish that my late grandmother Pauline Harjo could have seen this. It brings me joy to know that our tribal youth

can go to the state capitol and see this painting and actually have a connection with it. That is probably what excites me the most about this moment. I want to say thank you to our tribe for showing its love and support for us. This is a huge honor for us all as a community and as a People. Hahou," Rossi Harjo stated.



Rossi Harjo and **Nathan Charley**, both citizens of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, attend the installation of a painting depicting them both in their wild land firefighting uniforms. Pictured l-r: Cheyenne and Arapaho Gov. Reggie Wassana, Harjo, Charley, artist Lucas Simmons and LaRenda Morgan. (Submitted photo)

Redlands Community College graduates over 250 students

(EL RENO, OK) Redlands Community College recently celebrated the graduation of more than 250 students during its spring commencement ceremony that included a keynote address from college alumni Christian Wassana, actor and founder of the I am, I can, I will movement.

"We are proud of these graduates who have demonstrated the dedication and drive that will serve them well in the future," said Redlands President Jena Marr. "Redlands is a special college because of the students who have chosen to get their start on promising careers on our campus. Christian Wassana is one of those students who earned a degree here and then pursued a bachelor's degree at OU before embarking on an incredible career."

Wassana, a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and a graduate of El Reno High School, has spent the past few years working in television and film as an actor and director's assistant. His current project is the hit Paramount Network series *Yellowstone*. He is also the founder and owner of the I am, I can, I will movement where he uses his motivational talents as a tool to reach and impact the lives of youth and communities around the country.

"I take so much pride in my community, my people and my town," Wassana said. "Five years ago I sat in these seats and to see all of you graduating and to be in this atmosphere of success brings me such joy and so much happiness."

Redlands commencement ceremony recognized graduates who have earned degrees that have prepared them to continue their education at a four-year university or begin making an impact in the workforce. Over 50 of the students graduated with more than one degree or certificate. Graduates received associate degrees in Arts, Applied Science and Science, as well as Certificates of Mastery in areas such as Artificial Insemination in Livestock, Child Development, Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement, Enterprise Development, Human/Social Services Assistant, Personal Trainer and Sustainable Food Systems Technology.

Carlie Golden of Calumet graduated summa cum laude with an Associate of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and a Certificate of Mastery in Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement. With plans to double major in Forensic Science Investigation and Criminal Justice at the University of Central Oklahoma, Golden believes Redlands has prepared her well for the next phase of her education.

"I have had a wonderful time at Redlands connecting with other students and the teachers," Golden said. "I especially loved getting to become friends with Dr. Julie and having great mentors like Julie Lamb and Debbie Newberry."

A college degree is a significant investment of time and money, and although Redlands hasn't increased tuition in several years, many students work to save money and apply for scholarships to be able to earn their degree with very little to no debt.

"The financial aid I received has helped me tremendously," said Kayelyn Chalepah of El Reno. "A variety of financial assistance, including a grant from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, made it possible for me to focus on my classes, and now I'm prepared to transfer to a university to complete my education in radiology."

Bailey Denwalt of El Reno also benefited from financial assistance during her time at Redlands and is ready to continue her education at the University of Oklahoma, pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting.

"The scholarships that Redlands provided to me were a huge financial relief and have set me up to continue my education goals," Denwalt said.

While the graduates are ready to take the next step in their education or careers, many of them leave Redlands with fond memories of faculty, staff and courses.

"My experience was the best. Everyone treated people with kindness and respect," said Virginia Hartfield of Watonga, who completed a Certificate of Mastery in Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement.

Nursing graduates were honored during a pinning ceremony prior to commencement

exercises. For a complete list of graduates and their honors, visit www.redlandsc.edu/graduation.

Local graduates include Austin Arnold, Associate in Arts, Allie Harris, Associate in Arts, and McKinley Stilley, Associate in Arts, all of Calumet.

El Reno - Mindy Allen, Associate in Arts, Rilee Ashley, Associate in Arts/Certificate of Mastery, Bree Brewster, Associate in Arts, Lakesha Brown, Certificate of Mastery, Aaron Broyles, Associate in Science/Certificate of Mastery, Kayelyn Chalepah, Associate in Arts, Kristina Conner, Associate in Arts, Rebecca Craig, Associate in Science/Certificate of Mastery, Gavin Crawford, Associate in Arts, Bailey Denwalt, Associate in Arts, Boston Ellison, Associate in Arts, Ashlyn Evans-Thompson, Associate in Arts, Katherine Ferrell, Associate in Science, and Carlie Golden, Associate in Arts/Certificate of Mastery.

Also, Jasmine Harp, Associate in Applied Science/Certificate of Mastery, Hayley Hodge, Associate in Arts, Hannah Dustin, Certificate of Mastery, Madison Jones, Associate in Arts, Jessica Kanehl, Certificate of Mastery, Matthew Kasbohm, Associate in Arts, Joey Lierle, Associate in Arts, Lesly Lopez, Associate in Arts, Landon Moore, Associate in Arts, Measia Moore, Associate in Arts, Michael Moore, Associate in Applied Science/Certificate of Mastery, Avery Peffer, Associate in Arts, Deeanna Phillips, Certificate of Mastery, Nicholas Polasky, Associate in Arts, Yolanda Robb, Associate in Arts, Ashlie Schwab, Associate in Arts, Breagan Schweitzer, Associate in Arts, Elijah Shafer, Associate in Arts, Alixzandria Snyder, Associate in Arts/Certificate of Mastery, Grace Starks, Associate in Applied Science, and Emily Walker, Associate in Arts.



Christian Wassana, citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, delivers the commencement speech at Redlands Community College graduation. Wassana earned his associate's degree from Redlands and then went on to earn his bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Arts, Payton Kerby, Associate in Arts, Abigail McIlvain, Associate in Arts, Bryce Reese, Associate in Science/Certificate of Mastery/Associate in Science/Certificate of Mastery, and Harlie Smith, Associate in Arts, all of Okarche; Ethan Adcox, Associate in Arts, Cal Baker, Associate in Science, Caleb Dixon, Associate in Arts, and John Hilliard, Associate in Science, all of Piedmont; and Alexis Archer, Associate in Arts/Certificate of Mastery, and Jordan Schmidt, Associate in Arts of Union City.

National Native American Hall of Fame announces the 2024 Hall of Fame inductees

Hall of Fame will enshrine six contemporary Native American icons on Oct. 5 in Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY -- The National Native American Hall of Fame is pleased to announce the six outstanding individuals receiving induction into the 2024 Hall of Fame class. The 2024 National Native American Hall of Fame class's contributions to Indian Country span disciplines such as government, law, journalism, education, advocacy and the arts. They will be honored at a gala on Oct. 5 at the First Americans Museum in Oklahoma City.

The 2024 inductees include Henrietta Mann, Stanley Crooks (posthumous), Franklin Ducheneaux, Julie Kitka, Veronica Homer Murdock (posthumous) and "Te Ata," aka Mary Thompson Fisher (posthumous).

Henrietta Mann, Southern Cheyenne. Mann is a celebrated activist, educator, professor, and leading figure in developing programs devoted to Native American studies and education. As a former elected tribal official for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Mann helped

author federal legislation that resulted in a \$15 million settlement from the US government in 1967 as part of the Indian Claims Commission. Mann has been integral in developing Native American studies at colleges and universities nationwide. In 2000, she became the first Native American to hold the endowed chair of Native American studies at Montana State University and was honored with the Montana Governor's Humanities Award. In 2021, The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded Mann the National Humanities Medal.

Mann recently celebrated her 90th birthday.

Stanley Crooks, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Crooks became a national Native American leader during his twenty-year tenure as Chairman of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. He was a lifetime member of the National Congress of American Indians, helping establish the Embassy of Tribal Nations in Washington, D.C. Crooks served as the longtime chairman of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association and represented the SMSC at the National Indian Gaming Association.

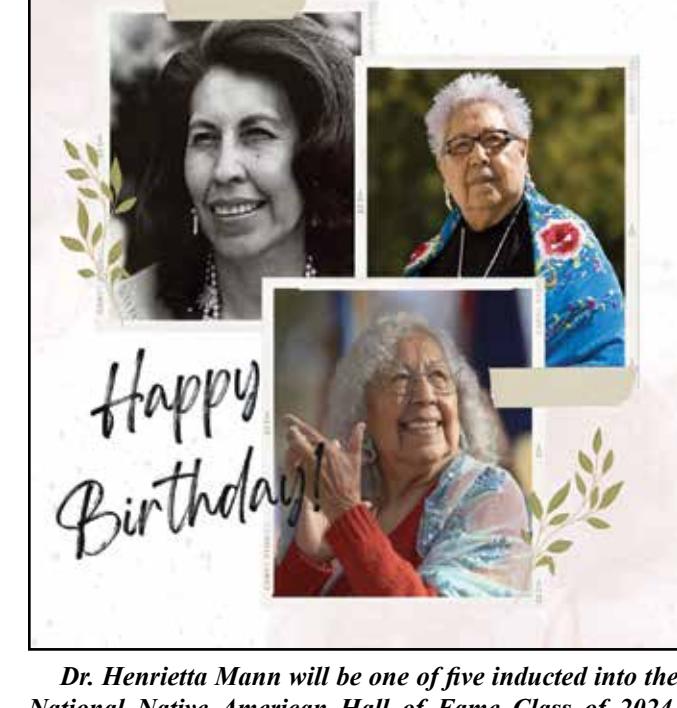
Franklin Ducheneaux, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. Ducheneaux played a crucial role in crafting virtually every landmark piece of Native American legislation before Congress, including the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, the Indian Child Welfare Act, the 1982 Indian Mineral Development Act, and, in 1990, the Native American Graves Repatriation Act.

Julie Kitka, Chugach Tribe / Alaska. Kitka was a long-serving president of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) and served on Chugach's Board for more than two decades. In 2021, Kitka received the Walter J. Hickel Award for Distinguished Public Policy Leadership. She also received the

2022 Ecotrust Indigenous Leadership Awards (ILA) for her tireless commitment to ensuring and advancing the rights of Alaska Natives.

Veronica Homer Murdock, Colorado River Indian Tribes—Mohave. Murdock was the first woman president of the National Congress of American Indians and one of the founders of Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations (WEWIN). She served in the tribal administration as vice chair of the Colorado River Tribes from 1969 to 1979 and between 1977 and 1979.

"Te Ata," Mary Thompson Fisher, Chickasaw Nation. Fisher was an award-winning storyteller and trained actress whose one-woman interpretations of American Indian folklore earned her national and international acclaim throughout her 70-year career. She traveled the world, performing for world leaders and heads of state, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Queen Elizabeth. Fisher was named the La-



Dr. Henrietta Mann will be one of five inducted into the National Native American Hall of Fame Class of 2024. Mann recently celebrated her 90th birthday.

dies' Home Journal Woman of the Year in 1976. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1957 and named Oklahoma's first Official "State Treasure" in 1987.

For more information on

the National Native American Hall of Fame induction ceremony or to purchase sponsorships, please visit nativehalloffame.org or contact CEO James Shield at james@nativehalloffame.org.

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minor in chemistry from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

"After college I had four more years of medical school and then the residency I chose was to do family medicine so I will be doing three years of residence training beginning July 1," Ott said.

Ott matched with her top choice of residency at South Baldwin Regional Hospital in Foley, Alabama. Her interest is doing outpatient primary care mostly but said she might do geriatrics and nursing homes as well.

"It would be very rewarding to hear all the life experiences from older patients," Ott said.

Growing up in high school Ott was involved in a lot of extracurricular activities including Key Club, Junior Beta, National Honor Society, and spending time with her family and friends were her biggest enjoyment.

When she began college she applied for a "Rural Scholars Track" offered at her university, where in exchange for five years of service in rural Louisiana, they would cover her tuition. After her residency in Alabama, Ott will return to Louisiana to fulfill her five years of service in a rural community somewhere in Louisiana.

According to 2022-2023 data from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), only 1% of total enrolled

medical students identify as American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN), compared to 2.9% of the 2021 U.S. population. The underrepresentation of AI/AN individuals is even worse among practicing physicians, according to the 2021 AAMC State Physician Workforce Report, only 4,104 (0.4%) of active physicians in the United States identify as AI/AN.

"If you are worried about finances, there are so many Native American organizations that provide financial aid resources, mentorship and unique opportunities. I am really grateful for all those opportunities I received and honestly, I would not be here without the grace of God, the support of my family, my tribe and my husband who has been my rock through everything," Ott said.

Ott, Arapaho, is a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. Her mother is Stacy Ott and her father is John Ott. She has two siblings, Abbey Ott and Mason Ott, who also just graduated with his Juris Doctor of Law degree. Her maternal grandparents are Robert and Carlene Beach. Her paternal grandparents are the late Edward Ott and Rochelle Ott. Her maternal great-grandparents are Mary Nita Lumpmouth and Carl Monroe Nowlin. She is married to Dylan O'Halloran.



Hanna Ott with her father John Ott, her sister Abbey Ott and her mother (far right) Stacy Ott.



Hanna Ott with her husband Dylan O'Halloran.

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Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Dept. of Education Executive Director Carrie Whitlow discusses the STEP grant and the possibility of a Cheyenne and Arapaho focused charter school.

enne and Arapaho focused charter school for youth. Putting their ideas on sticky notes, there were posters dotted with the colorful sticky notes full of recommendations and ideas by the end of the meeting, "knowing tribal education history" and "tribal history" or "tribal constitution."

With this being the first local charter school informational meeting, Whitlow said it's exciting to hear the input, whether it's insightful or critical. Having youth see a reflection of themselves in their education, Whitlow said is important when it comes to the tribe's representation in education.

"If you can step into a school and you can see teachers that look like you, you can see a curriculum that reflects the values that you value, the language that you value, the culture that you value and you can see a school that's reflected of your home, your community, your family, that's what important," Whitlow said.

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would be prioritized in teachings, such as language and culture.

"We want to teach that in our early childhood centers and head start, but how do we do that because it's easy to say a goal but when you have to sit down and execute that goal and asking how, you don't know how to do that, you have to be able to bring on people to show you how to do that," Whitlow said.

Whitlow said the department started working with consultants Mario Molina, Indigenous Solutions and Bernadette Anderson, Academic Development Institute, and in the process of conversations, the STEP grant notice had come out, with one priority being to focus on a charter school framework. Wanting to provide education for tribal citizens, the tribes' education department applied for the grant with that goal in mind as the bigger picture. The STEP grant would allow them to plan for a charter school and serve as a three-year grant with funding over \$1.2 million.

"Really that's just the big picture, big vision and things and so this grant is just essentially a three-year planning grant of answering those questions of what does a framework look like for Cheyenne and Arapaho families and students. Where do we want it, what type of curriculum, what's going to be innovative about this charter school?" Whitlow stated.

Coming into year two of the grant, the Department of Education staff, along with tribal leadership, have visited other charter schools across the U.S. to get firsthand experience and insight of what it takes to run a charter school. Some of the charter schools they visited included Wyoming Indian Schools and Arapahoe Schools in Wyoming, Old Main Stream Academy in North Carolina, the Native American Community Academy in New Mexico and Hawai'i charter schools.

"Myself and our staff that work with the grant, we aren't charter school experts, but we can bring to the table those type of people. We have been having these conversations, trainings about charter schools 101, so we know the basics and we've gone to these visits," Whitlow said.

Whitlow said what's unique about having the informational meeting is having commu-

nity members, tribal elders and educators present.

"We want to show them what we're doing, but then also getting their feedback right because we can want this all day long, but it has to go beyond us, we have to have community buy-in, we have to have elder buy-in, really seeing what's possible and saying that we're going to do this together," Whitlow said.

With the objective focused on a charter school that's centered on Cheyenne and Arapaho language, culture and worldview values, the department wants to be able to offer those things in the community. Bringing in help for building capacity for a future charter school was Priscilla Maynor, founder of ImaginEd Partners LLC.

"We partnered with Carrie Whitlow and her program to seek out a grant for a STEP grant for developing a charter school, we're doing the planning for a charter school and so we are partners in that project helping mainly to build their capacity, professional development, have a better understanding of the planning process and what to include," Maynor said.

Maynor said the discussion of the informational meeting was mainly focused on what the vision for the school would be and getting community input in terms of what a Cheyenne and Arapaho graduate would look like.

"Once we get the portrait of the graduate defined, that really becomes the north star and all the other decisions made about the school, what the school will look like, what the curriculum will look like, what the language will look like, all of those things will be driven by that portrait of a graduate," Maynor said.

The benefits associated with a charter school opposed to a traditional public school is it gives parents choices, as parents or guardians and grandparents know their children best.

"They know what works in terms of their learning, so I think having a choice of finding the right school and the right fit, lots of times students are bound to attending a school that is really based on their zip code and where they live and they're assigned a district and

they have no choice in terms of that educational program," Maynor said.

Maynor said the most important factor is it gives parents a choice of selecting a school that may be a better fit, and it's an opportunity for a tribe to really build out a model school that's centered around the Cheyenne Arapaho culture and values and traditions and customs so that those can be passed along, including a language passed along generation to generation.

After after the informational meeting, the design team will meet and look at the information and input that was gathered and prioritize what are some of the themes as it relates to what the portrait of a graduate should be.

"So that is the next step of prioritizing to create that and from there, the development of the vision of the school, the mission for the school and the goals for the school will be established," Maynor said.

Whitlow said many were invited to be a part of the team, including tribal educators, including Quinton Roman Nose, Dr. Henrietta Mann, Dr. Natalie Youngbull along with tribal leadership, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana, Chief of Staff Teresa Dorsett and tribal legislators.

Throughout the informational meeting, many questions were raised regarding the proposed charter school such as location, what curriculum will be taught and what would be the funding sources. Questions and community input would be further discussed during the design team meeting and Whitlow said there will be more informational meetings to come.

As the meeting ended, many of the attendees were encouraged to participate in group activities to provide insight and ideas of what they would want to see in a Chey-

“R.O.L.E.” - Recovering Out Loud Encourages

Submitted by Mona Condulle-Hill



Mona Condulle-Hill

My name is Mona Condulle-Hill. I'm a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. I am a mother of five children (ages 11-32), four grandchildren (ages 7-10), and I am married to Shawn Hill who is a citizen of the Kiowa Tribe.

In 2024, I turned 54 years old and I just celebrated 33 years of sobriety. Currently, I work for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Tradition Not Addiction (TNA) Prevention Program as an outreach specialist. The mission of the TNA program is to raise awareness of substance abuse and to reduce both underage drinking and non-medical use of prescription drugs within our service area.

Since working for the program, my desire to help native people, especially the youth, has grown tremendously. I constantly find myself thinking of new ways to help and to encourage our young people within our tribe or anyone in the community who may be struggling with drugs and/or alcohol, or any type of substance abuse.

You may have heard of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). If not, it's a fellowship of people who come together to solve their drinking prob-

lem by using the 12 steps of principles to maintain sobriety. When practiced as a way of life, they can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to recover from alcoholism. The primary purpose is to help alcoholics to achieve sobriety in anonymity. However, I want to be the first to announce my sobriety, openly. Why? Because my sobriety is nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, it's probably one of the most courageous and selfless things I can do if I know it can help and bring healing to others who may be on that same road I was on; the road of destruction. I am very proud when it comes to sharing my story with others. I have shared my story with hundreds of youth at schools, churches, and in the communities of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes service areas. It's not something I do because it's in my job description. It's something I do because I truly care about the future of Native people.

Unfortunately, alcohol and drugs have a strong hold on our native people. It can start at a very young age perhaps in the home or simply by peer pressure. It can also start by mental health issues. Many individuals with men-

tal health disorders turn to substance abuse as a way to self-medicate or cope with their symptoms; therefore, I want to encourage the youth that it's OK to say "No" to drugs and alcohol, and you can still be cool, and it's OK to ask for help if you think you may be struggling with mental health (i.e. depression, anxiety, suicide thoughts, etc.), you are not alone. But what about those who have been struggling for a long time and may feel like there's no hope or nobody cares? Well, I'm here to tell you someone does care and it's never too late to seek help until it's too late. All you need to do is take that first step in recognize "yes, I do have a problem" then reach out and ask for help. There is help out there!

The TNA program provides cultural classes to the community, we want our native people to KEEP the TRADITION and LOSE the ADDICTION. We provide resources as well for those struggling with substance abuse.

Once again, I am so happy to take this opportunity to announce my sobriety and perhaps be a role model to the youth in the Cheyenne and Arapaho service area.

JOHNTSOODLE
Owner

1313 Van Kirk
Mtn. View, OK
73062

tel. (580) 375-9602
tel. (580) 375-9766
redtipiplumbing@yahoo.com
www.redtipiplumbing.com



RED TIPI
PLUMBING
Veteran Owned

Office of Veterans Affairs

Robert K. Wilson Memorial

PACT Act Disability Event July 26th



Concho OK

RESPECT Gym 8a-5pm

- VA and their Mobile exam units will be here
- Submit Disability Claims and Increases
- Possible Disability Rating Given Same Day
- All Veterans Welcome, BBQ Lunch
- Screenings for Exposures to Toxins
- Enroll in VA Healthcare
- Over \$40,000 in Monthly Claims were granted at last year's event
- Widows and Families of Vets are encouraged to attend. Bring ALL Documents!



405-422-7724

OBITUARIES

Billie Koreen Williams-Gaines

Billie Koreen (Williams) Gaines of Canton (Indian name Ceheekuut meaning Lightning), passed away peacefully on May 9, 2024 at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, at the age of 68. Koreen was born July 20, 1955, in Clinton, Okla. to Kenneth and Ida (Nibbs) Williams.

She was raised in Canton and attended Canton Schools. Billie worked at Cheyenne Industries in Fairview, Okla. She moved to Oklahoma City and while living there she met her husband. She was married to David Gaines Sr. in on Dec. 22, 1975. She moved to Irving, Texas and worked as a cafeteria worker for Coppell Schools in Coppell, Texas. She lived there with her husband and seven children for 17 years. Since 1998, she moved back home to Canton. She served a year as a JOM Coordinator for the Canton/Longdale area. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and the outdoors. She enjoyed making



beaded teepees and wreaths for passed loved ones and was very creative.

Billie is preceded in death by her husband David William Gaines Sr., her parents, Kenneth and Ida Williams, four brothers, Seger Williams, Ted Williams, Tim Williams and William Williams and three sisters, Verne Lou Williams, Ida Mae Williams Little Coyote and Kathy Williams; nephew Lester Levi Four Horns Jr. and niece Amy Gould.

Surviving family include seven children, Monty Gaines of Oklahoma City, Melissa Gaines and John of Elgin, Okla., Michelle Bullcoming and Aaron of Enid, Okla., Markus Gaines and Holly of El Reno, Okla., David Gaines Jr. and Jeanine of Sacramento, Calif., Sheena Gaines and Russell of Mustang, Okla., and Silvia Hurlbut and Stephen of Oklahoma City, three sisters, Karen Four Horns, Gail Williams, and Anna Williams; two

An all-night wake service was held May 12 was the William's residence in Canton, Okla. A private family funeral was held on May 13, followed by an interment at the Canton Cemetery under the direction of Pierce Funeral Home.

Robert James Lunsford

Robert James Lunsford, aka "Bobo" was born May 26, 1987, to Lois J. Jackson and James Paul Lunsford in Clinton, Okla., and passed away May 20, 2024 in his Ft. Cobb home.

Bobo was raised in Colorado where he attended school. He moved to Oklahoma when he turned 18 years old so he could be educated and learn his Cheyenne and Arapaho traditional ways and heritage. He loved the native ways and traditions. He learned to bead and earned his income by making and selling his works of art.

He was baptized in the Catholic faith; he loved to fish, he had a love of horses and just cruising with his family and friends. He was an avid sports fan, and he favored the Denver Broncos,



Whiteskunk of Ft. Cobb, two sisters, ReNee Lunsford of Castle Rock, Colo., and Cheyenne Lunsford of Amarillo, two brothers, Jesse James Lunsford and Sam Lunsford both of Amarillo.

An all-night wake services was held May 24 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held May 25, at the same venue, officiated by Pastor Mona Bearshield.

He is survived by his mother Doris Loneman

OBITUARIES

Margaret Ann Howlingwolf

Margaret Ann (Hayes) Howlingwolf (Magpie Woman) was born April 20, 1942, to Lewis Littleman and Cootsie (Hayes) Littleman in Hammon, Okla. She passed away May 23, 2024, in the Bellevue Nursing Home in Elk City, Okla.

Margaret Ann was raised in Hammon and graduated from Hammon High School in 1960. She married Wesley Dean Howlingwolf March 1963 in Cordell, Okla. They made Arapaho, Okla., their home. She worked at the Clinton Elderly Nutrition Center for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. She cooked for several years before she retired.

She was a member of the Hammon First Baptist Church; she enjoyed going

to the casino, playing BINGO and cooking. She was well known for making good fry bread.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Wesley Howlingwolf Sr., daughter Jana Howlingwolf, sister-in-law Leona Hair and grandson Isaiah Blevins.

She is survived by three daughters, Rhonda Howlingwolf of Clinton, Okla., Anita Spradlin of Oklahoma City and Dena Howlingwolf of Clinton, son Wesley Howlingwolf Jr. of Eufaula, Okla., and Byron Howlingwolf of Arapaho, Okla., and sister Irene Hayes, Hammon. She is also survived by several grandchildren and three great grandchildren nieces, nephews and other relatives.



Wake services were held May 27 at the Clinton Indian Baptist Church in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held May 28 at the Hammon Emergency Response Center, officiated by Pastor Mona Bearshield and Past Gerald Panama, followed by an interment at the Hammon Indian Cemetery under the direction of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

Elda Mae Langley

Elda Mae Langley, 72, of Okarche, Okla. passed away on Sunday, May 12, 2024. Elda, the daughter of Elmer Von Woudenberg and Winona Bear Robe and loving wife of 54 years to George (Red) Langley was born on May 28, 1951. She was a hairdresser for 23 years before becoming a licensed RN, which she worked as

until her retirement. She is survived by her husband

George Langley, two daughters, Amy of Okarche, and Kim of Glenpool, Okla., five grandchildren (Tori, Logan, Trevor, Brock, and Sydney), and three great-grandchildren (AlexPayton, and Reese). She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Katherine Chance and great granddaughter Drew Katherine Castleberry.

Funeral services were held May 16 at the Kingfisher Emergency Response Center in Kingfisher, Okla.



fisher Emergency Response Center in Kingfisher, Okla.

Rutherford C YellowEyes

Rutherford C. "Babes" YellowEyes of El Reno died May 18, 2024 at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. Babes was born June 12, 1957 in Clinton, Okla. He was raised in Watonga, Okla., and attended Ft. Sill Indian School, Haskell Indian Nations University and Oklahoma University. He participated in the Sun Dance, enjoyed softball and was a avid OU fan.

He is survived by his mother Doris Loneman

Hamilton, brothers, Lamont YellowEyes Jr. and Samuel James YellowEyes and many grandchildren.

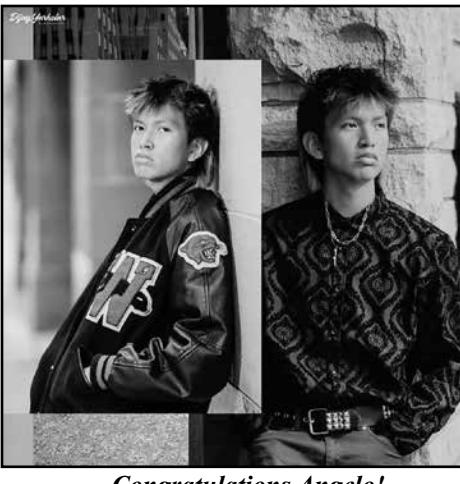
His family preceding him in death include his father Lamont YellowEyes Sr., stepfather Walter Roe Hamilton, wife Myra Whitebuffalo, daughter Narcissa Hoof and sister Thelma Lanum.

Wake services were held May 24 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Funeral services were held May 25, at



the same venue, followed by an interment at the Concho Indian Cemetery under the direction of Huber Benson Funeral Home.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations Angelo!

Angelo graduated from West Moore High School in Moore, Okla., with a 4.0 GPA and lettered four years in track and three years in cross country. He also won the Buffalo Run two years in a row at Concho.

His parents are Lloyd Jenkins and Nona Roman Nose, and his grandparents are Larry and Pauline Roman Nose.



Congratulations Colton Roman Nose! Colton graduated with a master's degree in computer science, from Eastern State University, Pennsylvania.

His parents are Jobe and Arlene, Boyd Roman Nose, grandparents are Larry Roman Nose and Priscilla Freeman.



Congratulations Catalina on your graduation from Pre-K! We love you - all your family.



Niini'iinwooheinoo Hisei Nookhooze
Niibei!
Biixoo3e3en, Dad & Mom.



Michaela Vivian Barcindebar
Watonga High School
Congratulations to My
Beautiful Baby! We are Super
proud of you, Love mom and
family



Leah Paddyaker
Douglass High School
Congratulations You Did It!
We Love You

2024 calendar

Summer Youth Employment Participant Schedule

May
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

June
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

July
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

EXCELSIOR CITY

- Tongva Sandstone - Cerrfield, OK - June 15, 2024 through June 16, 2024
- Tongva Sandstone - Galax, OK - June 1, 2024 through June 2, 2024
- Tongva Sandstone - Edens, WI - July 1, 2024 through July 4, 2024
- Tongva Sandstone - Selling, OK - June 14, 2024 through June 15, 2024
- Tongva Sandstone - Concho, OK - June 14, 2024 through June 15, 2024
- Tongva Sandstone - Bismarck, ND - June 14, 2024 through June 15, 2024

Event Transportation

- Bapture: \$86.00 - \$10.00/M
- Brute: 3.0MPH - 5.0MPH
- Pick-up Locations
 - 10001 Glaser Blvd, Building 1000 Watonga, OK 73772
 - 10001 Concho RESPECT Gym

DREAMS LOCATIONS:

- Concho DOL Building 10329 N 2274 RD, CLINTON, OK 73624
- Concho DOL Building 110 E White Rabbit Rd Concho, OK 73036
- Watonga DOL Office 409 W Main St, Watonga, OK 73772

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 2 4 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET # PAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In the Matter of:
JOSHUA WHITECROW Petitioner, Case No. CIV-2024-0031
Vs.))
ROSALINDA DELGADILLO Respondent,))

CIVIL SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES TO: ROSALINDA DELGADILLO
Address Unknown

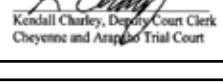
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN ANSWER to the Petition which is filed in the Office of the above-named Court. A copy of the Petition is available through the Court Clerk's office and to file your Answer with the above-named Court within twenty (20) days of service of this summons, exclusive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

AFTER THE TWENTY (20) days, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court shall set a date for hearing of this cause, and you will be notified of the time and date.

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 suit or your Answer at your own expense. Such Attorney should be consulted immediately so that an Answer may be filed within the time stated in this summons.

Dated this 24th day of MAY, 2024.


Kendall Charley, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 1 5 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA DOCKET # PAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY
P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
JOSEPH KEITH OLD BEAR, SR. Petitioner, Case No. PG-2024-0018
DOB: 02/10/1956 Respondent,))

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: JOSEPH KEITH OLD BEAR, SR. AND ANY INTERESTED PARTIES

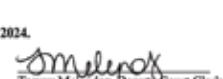
TAKE NOTICE that Roberta Hamilton, has filed in this Court a Petition for Guardianship and is hereby set for Hearing to be heard by the Cheyenne-Arapaho Trial Court of Concho, Oklahoma in the Courthouse located at 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, P.O. Box 102, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 26th day of JUNE, 2024 at 10:00 AM, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said relief should not be granted.

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:
 - o Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5424251494?pwd=S2RCe0l2WDV90FMyMn1501RXeT#HOT09> or <https://zoom.us/join>
 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
 - o Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 16th day of May, 2024.


Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 1 3 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA DOCKET # PAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY
P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
A.N. Petitioner, Case No. PG-2024-0009
M.N. Respondent,))
P.N.))

Minor Children,

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: AMY CHAPMAN NAVA & JUAN CARLOS NAVA UNKNOWN ADDRESSES

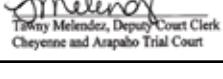
The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 12th day of JUNE 2024, at 9:45 A.M. in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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

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 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
 - o Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 13th day of May, 2024.


Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 1 3 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA DOCKET # PAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY
P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In the Matter of the Dissolution of Marriage of:
DANIEL WAYNE WHITEMAN Petitioner, Case No. JFD-2023-0025
and
JULIA WHITEMAN Respondent,))

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: JULIA WHITEMAN UNKNOWN ADDRESS

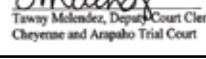
The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 12th day of JUNE 2024, at 9:45 A.M. in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
 - o Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 13th day of May, 2024.


Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 1 3 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA DOCKET # PAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY
P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

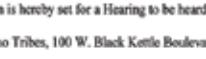
In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
N.S.D. Petitioner, Case No. PG-2024-0010
and
Minor Child,))

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: GERI DOSH UNKNOWN ADDRESS

You are hereby notified that CHEYENNE DEATHERAGE has filed in this Court a Petition for Guardianship of N.S.D., Minor Child, and that said Petition is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 12th day of JUNE 2024 at 9:45 A.M., at which time you shall appear on the above date and time indicated for presentation of your case before the above-entitled Trial Court.

Dated this 13th day of MAY, 2024.


Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
FILED MAY 1 3 2024
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA DOCKET # PAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY
P.O. BOX 102 CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:
A.L.C. Petitioner, Case No. PG-2024-0008
and
Minor Child,))

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: AMY CHAPMAN NAVA & TRUMAN SANCHEZ UNKNOWN ADDRESSES

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 12th day of JUNE 2024, at 9:45 A.M. in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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

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 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
 - o Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
 - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - o Passcode: 85

REGALIA

continued from pg. 1

ways," said Mustang Public Schools Superintendent Charles Bradley. "We are grateful to the Levi family for their willingness to take the time to meet our administrative team to share their cultural traditions with us."

Patterson, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, said the Indian education office asks students prior to graduation what regalia they will be wearing. The office then turns to the tribes to gain a greater cultural understanding "and to make sure anything done at graduation is done in a respectful way."

About 10 percent of Mustang's students are Native, representing 65 federally recognized tribes.

After learning that Levi would be

wearing his chief's regalia, the district reached out to Gordon Yellowman, director of the Language and Culture Program for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

"Gordon taught us about what it takes to be a boy chief, and how each piece of regalia symbolizes something," Patterson said. "He really gave us some great information."

Patterson said the Levi family then met with school administrators, including Bradley, and also Bailey Murrah, Title 6 academic adviser at the high school, "so we could talk through the logistics," such as how Levi would remove his headdress to participate in the tassel ceremony.

After that meeting, Patterson said, "Mr. Bradley was really adamant about honoring him at the board meeting. He wanted Harding's dad to have the opportunity at the board meeting to speak about the same things he had told us."

When board members heard George Levi speak from his heart about his son's position as a peace chief, "I think it was enlightening to them, and obviously heartwarming," Patterson said.

As for Harding Levi, "he has such a quiet presence," Patterson said. "He's not going to be the first one to jump into a conversation or tell you about all the awesome things he has done. But when he says something, it's going to be good."

Syphilis cases are on the rise

In June 2023, Dr. Christensen, Chief Medical Officer from the Indian Health Service, wrote, "there is a surge in syphilis cases in Indian Country."

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted disease; however, it can be transmitted through other routes. For example, transmission can occur when there is direct contact with an infected sore from a person who has syphilis. Syphilis is a treatable disease that can be cured in the early stages by antibiotics. When syphilis goes undetected and untreated, this bacteria continues to grow in the body.

Syphilis goes through primary, secondary, and tertiary stages. Complications from syphilis usually occurs in the tertiary stage. According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health website, a syphilis infection can cause "severe, debil-

itating and untreatable problems, including blindness, deafness, confusion, and personality changes."

Generally, a person who has syphilis does not have symptoms until the second stage. A person should get tested when they do risky behaviors that causes syphilis. Such risky behaviors like having sex with someone who has syphilis or other sexually transmitted disease, having sex without a condom, or having sex with more than one person.

Screening for syphilis usually involves a physical exam and a blood test. Remember you can get syphilis again after being successfully treated for an initial infection.

For an informational handout on syphilis, please contact the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Health Education Program at CAHED@cheyenneandrapaho-nsn.gov.



Congratulations to Hunter Navanick, 2024 Graduate of Calumet High School - who signed his commitment to continue his baseball career at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri

Hunter is the son of Joe Navanick & Sylvia (LaLa) Sandoval.

Congratulations
Vincent Aispuro!
2024 Class 2A State Runner-up
at the Territory Golf and
Country Club in Duncan,
Oklahoma.

Aispuro is a junior at
Thomas Fay Custer Unified
Schools. This is the second
season for TFC to have a
golf team.

His parents are Alfonso
and Alicia Aispuro and
grandparents are Charlie and
Dee Howlingwater.



PUBLIC NOTICE



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

PO. BOX 68

EL REBO, OK 73036

MAY 13 2024

Notice of Decision

Dear Applicant:

This decision is a result of our analysis of an application filed by CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES, OKLAHOMA for trust acquisition of fee lands. The property is described as follows:

See "Exhibit A" for legal descriptions.

Regulatory Authority

The applicable regulations are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 25, Part 151. The regulations specify that it is the Secretary's policy to accept lands "in trust" for the benefit of Tribes when such acquisition is authorized by an Act of Congress; and, (1) when such lands are within the exterior boundaries of the Tribe's reservations, or adjacent thereto, or within a Tribal consolidation area, or (2) when the Tribe already owns an interest in the land; or (3) when the Secretary determines that the land is necessary to facilitate Tribal self-determination, economic development, or Indian housing.

This acquisition facilitates Tribal Self-Determination. Therefore, it is within the land acquisition policy as set forth by the Secretary of the Interior.

Pursuant to 25 CFR Part 151, the Secretary will consider the following requirements in evaluating tribal requests for the acquisition of lands in trust status, when the land is located within or contiguous to the tribe's reservation, and the acquisition is not mandated:

(a) The existence of Statutory Authority for the acquisition and any limitations contained in such authority; (b) the nature of the individual Indian or the Tribe for the additional land; (c) the purpose for which the land will be used; (d) if the land is to be acquired for an individual Indian, the amount of trust or restricted land already owned by or for that individual and the degree to which he needs assistance in handling his affairs; (e) interest on the State and its political subdivisions resulting from removal of the land from the tax rolls; (f) jurisdictional problems and potential conflict of land use which may arise; (g) whether the Bureau of Indian Affairs is equipped to discharge the additional

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responsibilities resulting from the acquisition of the land in trust status; and, (h) the extent to which the applicant has provided information that allows the Secretary to comply with 516 DM 6, appendix 4, National Environmental Policy Act Revised Implementing Procedures, and 602 DM 2, Land Acquisitions.

Our review of the requirements to evaluate this Tribal request as set forth in 25 Code of Federal Regulations, § 151.10 (i) through (k), determined the following:

1. 25 CFR § 151.10 (a) Statutory authority for the acquisition of the property.

25 U.S.C. 5108 INDIAN RHOBG ACT JUNE 18 1934 (48 STAT. 984)

2. 25 CFR § 151.10 (b) - The need of the individual Indian or a Tribe for additional land.

The Tribes, having remote location of various tribal communities through out 11 counties in Northwest Oklahoma, has about 55.2 % unemployment, according to the 2013 BIA labor force report. Consisting of approximately 13,102 members and approximately 15,075 acres in trust, the Tribes need trust acquisitions to expand their "Trust land base, within the Tribe's jurisdiction, in order to enhance Tribal Self-Determination. There is, however a significant potential for development which would positively provide an economic impact for the Tribes and their members. The trust is located in Canadian County, within the city limits of the City of El Reno, just south of Interstate 40 and East of Country Club Road. The trust is within the exterior boundaries of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' reservation. Trust status is necessary to facilitate tribal self-determination.

3. 25 CFR § 151.10 (c) - Purpose for which the property will be used.

The trust is not subject to any mortgage, lease, or any contracted obligations regarding its use. As a potential for a positive impact to the Tribes and members, there are no future specific plans for the use of the property, and the Tribes do not intend to use the trust for gaming purposes at this time. The Tribes' general purpose for this application is to expand their trust land base within economically viable communities in the Tribes' jurisdiction, to enjoy tribal economic advantages established by Congress, such as the HEARTH Act, to provide services, benefits and to one day develop businesses to earn profits, including employing tribal members in order to realize true self-determination for the future tribal member generation.

4. 25 CFR § 151.10 (d) - If the land is to be acquired for an individual Indian, the amount of trust or restricted land already owned by or for that individual and the degree to which he needs assistance in handling his affairs.

N/A

5. 25 CFR § 151.10 (e) - Impact on State and its political subdivisions resulting from the removal of this property from the tax rolls.

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Enclosure(s)

R. D. Murphy
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

BIA Supervisors of the Year 2024 Awards



On May 1, 2024 Concho Agency Chief of Police David Conley and Lieutenant Patrick Keahbone were the recipients of the Supervisors of the Year 2024 awards presented by the Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

They were chosen based on their commitment and dedication demonstrated while ensuring public safety for the tribal citizens with Cheyenne and Arapaho jurisdictional lands.

"Chief Conley and I have worked hard to

make the actions of our Concho Agency transparent to our employees and to the tribal partners with whom we work with. We challenged our personnel to become better law enforcement officers and strive to help them become better people," Lieutenant Keahbone wrote it a memo dated May 6.

Both Chief Conley and Lieutenant Keahbone were presented with a ribbon pin, Employee of the Year medals, plaques and Challenge coins by the BIA.

This trust acquisition will have no significant impact on the state and its political subdivisions. In the event that the state or its political subdivisions assert any potential impact on them following their receipt of notice of the anticipated trust acquisition from the BIA, the Tribes will provide a more detailed statement in response to any such impact.

6. 25 CFR § 151.10 (f) - Jurisdictional problems and potential conflicts of land use.

There are no existing jurisdictional problems. There are existing roadways for ingress and egress to the subject tract adequate for local traffic, and the Tribes will pay all utilities to the utility providers. The Tribes do not currently perform law enforcement functions, which are performed by offices of the BIA Office of Enforcement Services and Security ("BIA OESS"). The BIA OESS is a party to a master cross-deputation agreement with the State of Oklahoma and those tribes, counties, cities, and state law enforcement agencies that join as parties to addendum. There are also no potential conflicts of land use between the Tribes and the City of El Reno. The tract is zoned by the City of El Reno as rural agricultural property. The Tribes will comply with applicable zoning requirements, if any, and when the Tribes develop the subject tract.

7. 25 CFR § 151.10 (g) - Whether the Bureau of Indian Affairs is equipped to discharge the additional responsibilities.

The Concho Agency is fully capable of handling any additional duties related to the requested trust acquisition. The subject tract is approximately three miles from the Concho Agency; therefore, the trust acquisition will not impose any significant travel burdens on the Concho Agency for purposes of any required oversight or inspection of the tract.

8. 25 CFR § 151.10 (h) - Environmental Compliance:

National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes consulted with several authorities regarding environmental and historic preservation. Those contacted were the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, Oklahoma Biological Survey, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. All remarks led to no discoveries and no effect to endangered species. The BIA made the determination of a "no effect" on threatened or endangered species per section 7(a)(2) of the ESA. This acquisition involves no change in land use; therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review. An exception review checklist was prepared to ensure the action remains categorically excluded and all twelve items received a negative response. The Superintendent, Concho Agency, signed a Categorical Exclusion Review on 4/11/2024 documenting his decision to categorically exclude the action. No further NEPA compliance is required.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Compliance

This action involves no surface disturbing activity; therefore, no Federal undertaking will occur. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer is not required.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) Compliance

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The BIA has made a determination of "no effect" on threatened or endangered species per section 7(a)(2) of the ESA as of 2/8/2024. No further compliance is required for the USA.

Hazardous Substance Determination

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (Phase IESA) dated 12/11/2023 identified the following Recognized Environmental Condition (REC) associated with the proposed acquisition: Former crude oil gas well and associated tank battery. A Phase II Environmental Site Assessment did not include the sampling needed to confirm the presence or absence of on-site contamination that could potentially be related to the RECs. Therefore, a Limited Phase II Environmental Site Assessment which included soil, surface water, and ground water sample collection and analysis was performed. The conclusion of the Phase II ESA is that the property does not appear to have been impacted by the analyzed chemicals of concern at levels above applicable regulatory screening/cleanup levels. The Phase II Assessment dated April 23, 2024, is within the 180 days of acquisition; therefore, no further action is required.

Conclusion

The application meets the requirements of Title 25 CFR Part 151. Conversion of this property from trust to fee is in the best interest of the Tribes.

Notice of Appeal

Any party who wishes to seek judicial review of this decision must first exhaust administrative remedies. The Regional Director's decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) in accordance with the regulations in 43 CFR 4.310-4.340.

If you choose to appeal this decision, your notice of appeal to the IBIA must be signed by you or your attorney and must be first postmarked and mailed (if you use mail) or delivered (if you use physical delivery, such as FedEx or UPS) to the IBIA within 30 days from the date of receipt of this decision. The regulations do not authorize filings by facsimile/fax or by electronic means. Your notice of appeal should clearly identify the decision being appealed. You must send your original notice of appeal to the IBIA at the following address: Interior Board of Indian Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy Street, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22203. You must send copies of your notice of appeal to (1) the Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, MS-4141-MIB, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, (2) each interested party known to you, and (3) the Regional Director. Your notice of appeal sent to the IBIA must include a statement certifying that you have sent copies to these officials and interested parties and should identify them by name or title and address.

If you file a notice of appeal, the IBIA will notify you of further proceedings. If no appeal is timely filed, this decision will become final for the Department of the Interior at the expiration of the appeal period. No extension of time may be granted for filing a notice of appeal.

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Sincerely,

FTN0001 Office Code: B-0-00-0004-A9 Number: 12020217004 Case: K204

Case Number: 43546
Applicant Name: CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES, OKLAHOMA

LEGAL DESCRIPTION EXHIBIT A

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Sovereignty Symposium gathers tribal and state officials

OKLAHOMA CITY

Deep discussions on important issues affecting Native American tribes will combine with a celebration of cultures during the 36th Sovereignty Symposium, June 11 and 12. The event is hosted by the Oklahoma City University School of Law and will be held downtown at the Skirvin Hilton.

This year's symposium, titled "A New Beginning," will feature panel discussions on various topics including business, education, property rights, cultural preservation, environmental concerns and more. Dignitaries from tribal and state governments will join topical experts in the discussions throughout both days of the symposium.

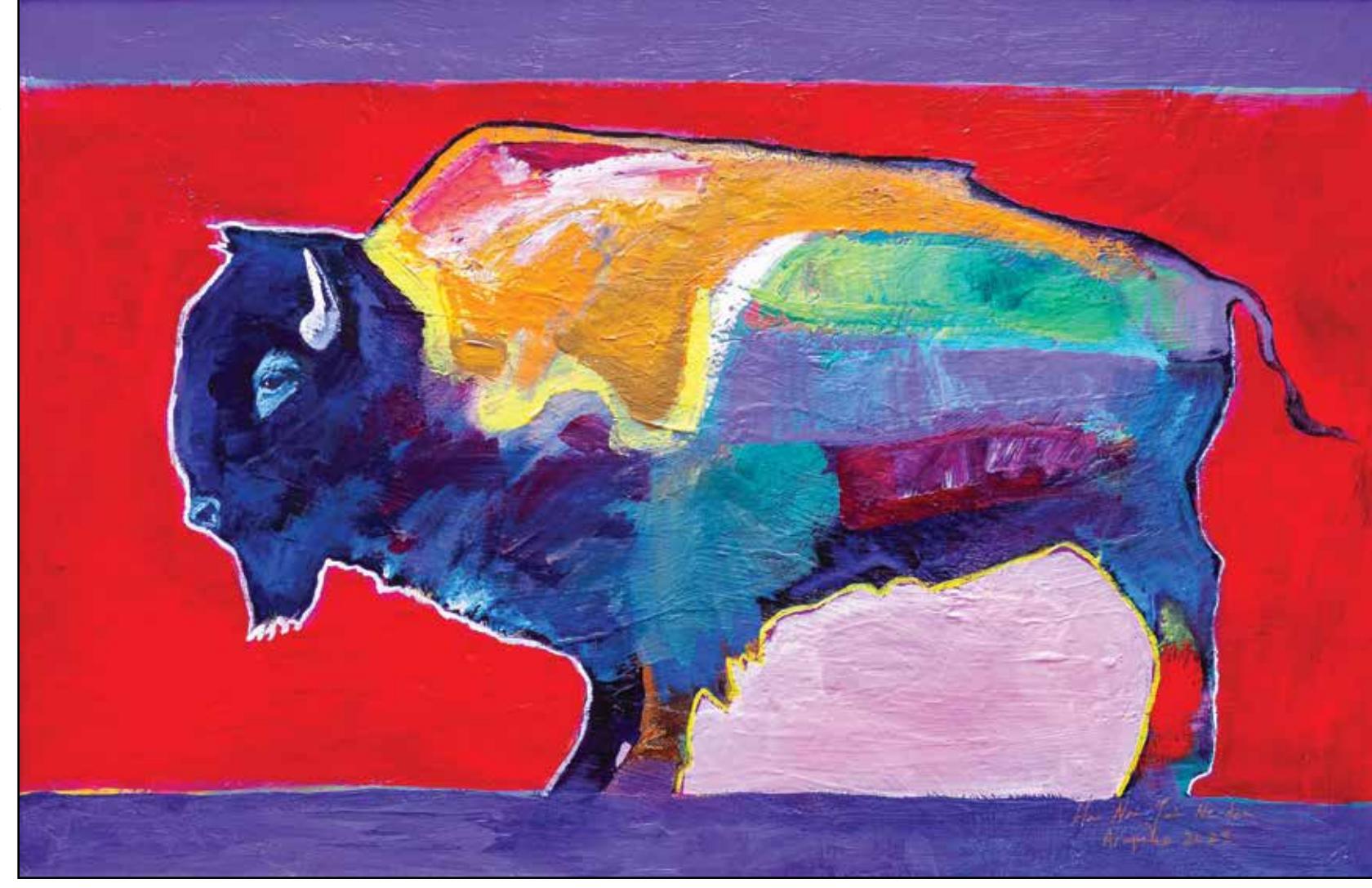
The keynote speaker is Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, who is in his third term as principal chief of the Osage Nation. Chief Standing Bear will speak at the opening ceremony on June 11, which will also feature the Kiowa Black Leggings, Southern Nation, Oscar-nominated composer Scott George and the Osage Tribal Singers.

OCU Law Dean David Holt (Osage) said the symposium offers a neutral space where the state's 39 tribes can discuss common legal and social issues, while sharing innovative ideas and accomplishments.

"While each tribe has its own distinct culture and government, our tribes face similar challenges and opportunities," Holt said. "This symposium offers tribes a chance to hold important discussions around those issues, promote our rich tribal cultures, and connect with other leaders."

The Oklahoma Supreme Court founded

"Love" by Brent Learned (Cheyenne Arapaho), was selected as this year's poster art for the Sovereignty Symposium.



the Sovereignty Symposium and transferred hosting duties to Oklahoma City University and OCU Law in 2023. The Sovereignty Symposium was established to provide a forum where common legal issues among federal and state officials and the state's Native American tribes could be discussed in a scholarly, non-adversarial environment.

OCU President Kenneth Evans said he is looking forward to engaging on important tribal issues.

"Sovereignty and cultural preservation have been points of emphasis throughout

our state and national histories," Evans said. "These topics have gained a pronounced importance in recent times. We hope this symposium will be a place where diverse cultures can unite under a banner of self-determination, where our collective futures can find roots in respect and justice."

Continuing legal education credits are available to attorneys through symposium attendance.

This year's event is dedicated to the late Dennis Arrow for his work and scholarship in the field of Indian law. Arrow was a law

professor emeritus at OCU who represented Native American interests in federal courts, including a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The college student poster competition, one of the symposium's traditional contests, was named in honor of longtime law professor and historian C. Blue Clark [Muscogee (Creek) Nation]. Clark died in December.

Registration and more information, including a schedule and draft of the agenda, is available at www.thesovereignsymposium.com.

Lucky Star CASINO

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WIN A
Blackstone 1935 On the Go Scissor-Leg Griddle
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(Valued at approximately \$299.99)

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Ten (10) points equals one (1) entry. Five times (5x) entries on Fridays.

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CHEYENNE & ARAPOHO TRIBES

LuckyStarCasino.org